

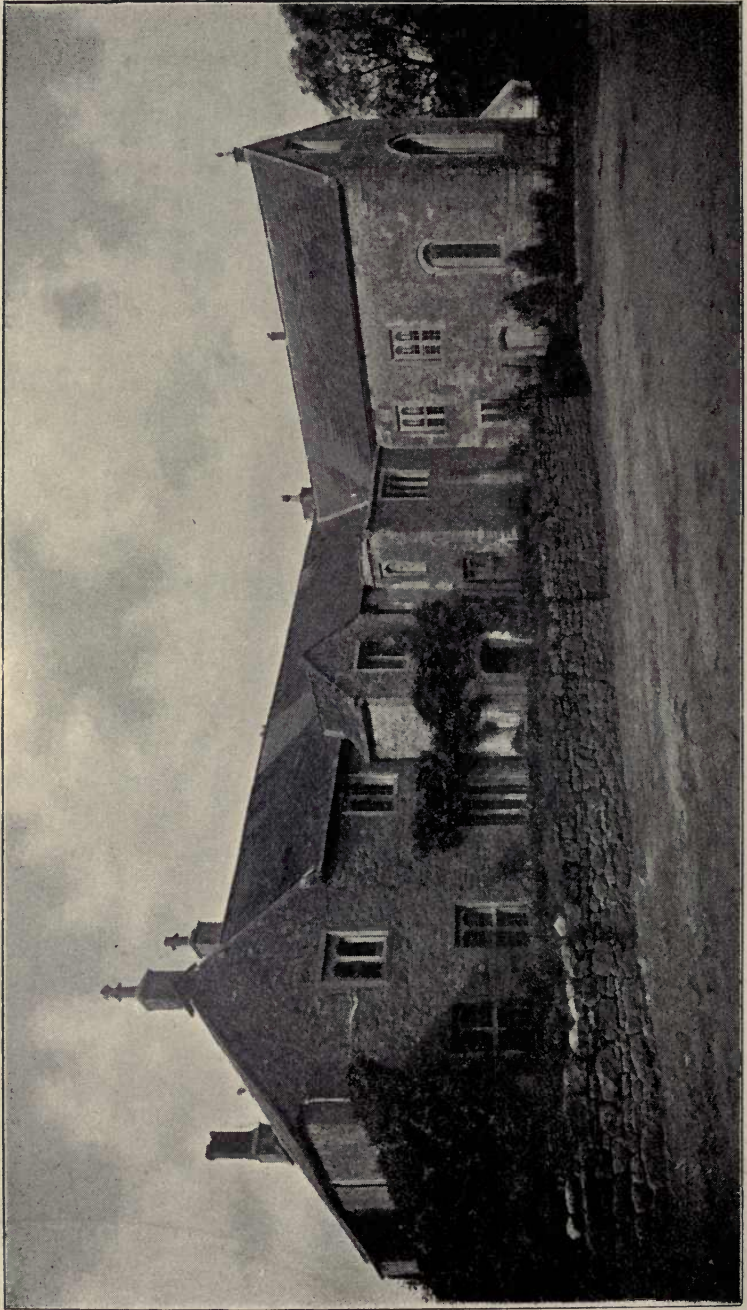


Somersetshire
Archæological & Natura' History
Society.

PROCEEDINGS
DURING THE YEAR, 1897.

VOL. XLIII.

The Council of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society desire that it should be distinctly understood that although the volume of PROCEEDINGS is published under their direction, they do not hold themselves in any way responsible for any statements or opinions expressed therein ; the authors of the several papers and communications being alone responsible.



BLACKMORE FARM, CANNINGTON

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Somersetshire

Archaeological & Natural History

Society

FOR THE YEAR 1897.

VOL. XLIII.



Taunton:

BARNICOTT AND PEARCE, FORE STREET

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BARNICOTT AND PEARCE
TAUNTON



P R E F A C E .

THE thanks of the Society are due to Mr. W. H. Hamilton Rogers for supplying the whole of the illustrations to his paper ; to the Rev. Dr. Penny, R.N., for "Blackmore Farm," of which interesting house there is no illustration among those in the Pigott collection ; to Dr. Nicholls, of Langport, for kindly taking the excellent photograph of Othery, from which our picture is taken ; to Mr. Charles Tite for pointing out where Hugo's "Athelney" was to be found ; and to Rev. E. H. Bates and Rev. D. Ll. Hayward for much help most kindly rendered.

F. W. W.

December, 1897.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
DURING THE YEAR
1897.

THE forty-ninth annual meeting of the Society was held in the Town Hall, Bridgwater, on Wednesday, August 4th. Mr. H. D. SKRINE, a former president of the Society, opened the meeting by introducing Mr. E. J. STANLEY, M.P., as their President. He said he had no difficulty in doing so, because he felt that the acquaintance that he had had with Mr. Stanley gave him the privilege of saying that that gentleman was likely to be a good President of the Society. He took a great interest in all matters connected with its neighbourhood, historic and otherwise; and living, as he did, near the Quantocks he was imbued with the history of that part. As a legislator, Mr. Stanley was a straightforward, loyal supporter of the Constitution and Church and State, and one of those men that certainly ought to be the legislators to guide the course of this great Empire.

Mr. STANLEY, M.P., who was received with applause, thanked the meeting heartily for the honour they had conferred upon him, but said he should defer any observations he had to make to a later time, when it was usual for the President to make some remarks.

Report.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE, F.S.A., Hon. Gen. Sec., then presented the annual report as follows :

“Your Committee beg to present their forty-ninth annual report.

“During the year forty-seven new names have been added to your list of members. On the other hand the loss by deaths and resignations has been twenty, leaving a net gain of twenty-seven members. The number is 604, as against 577 at the date of our last report. A County Society, numbering some 600 members, can undoubtedly claim a leading position, but there are still many names which your Committee would desire to see enrolled amongst their members, and they have to express the hope of a still further increase during the ensuing year.

“The debit balance on the Society’s General Account has during the year been reduced from £20 0s. 8d. to £9 6s. 9d.

“The cost of the volume of *Proceedings* was £77 16s. 5d., as against £108 12s. 6d. last year, and £192 4s. 5d. in the previous year.

“The debit balance of last year on the Castle Restoration Fund has now been reduced to £44 11s. 9d.

“Your Committee regret to state that the ‘Castle House’ still remains void.

“During the year ending 31st December, 1896, the number of visitors to the Museum was 4,610, as against 4,964 in 1895.

“The Index to Collinson’s History is making satisfactory progress. Upwards of one hundred pages have been already printed.

“The Committee have pleasure in announcing that Mr. F. T. Elworthy has prepared, and kindly placed at their disposal, a full and complete Index to volumes XXI-XL of the Society’s *Proceedings*. An index to the first twenty volumes was issued some years ago : the *Proceedings* are therefore now

indexed up to the end of the year 1894. This index now in the press, will be issued to subscribers at 5s. per copy.

“ The Bibliography of the county, prepared some years since by Mr. Emanuel Green, F.S.A., is also in the press, and will be issued to subscribers at £2 12s. 6d. per copy.

“ Subscribers to all or any of these publications are earnestly solicited.

“ A deed has been prepared for the purpose of formally carrying out the appointment of new trustees made at the last annual meeting, and is now in course of signature.

“ The additions to the library during the current year have been numerous and important. At the suggestion and on the application of your Hon. Sec., the Rev. F. W. Weaver, the Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records has forwarded twenty-one volumes of the publications of the Record Office in exchange for a complete set of the Society's *Proceedings*. Mr. John Batten, F.S.A., past president and one of your trustees, a staunch supporter of your Society, has presented a complete set of annual reports of the Deputy-Keeper of the Public Record Office, the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, 1839 to 1895, and other volumes. About fifty monographs on Natural History and antiquarian subjects have been received from the Royal University of Upsala, in exchange for a number of volumes of the Society's *Proceedings*. Numerous other volumes have been received by exchange, purchase, and donation.

“ Your Society has been fortunate during the past year in losing few members by death ; but amongst the number they deeply regret to record that of Mr. Edmund Chisholm-Batten, for a very long series of years one of your most active supporters and a constant attendant at the meetings of your Committee, where he frequently occupied the chair. The following resolution of sympathy has been passed and communicated to the family : ‘ That this Committee desires to put on record an expression of its great regret at the loss of Mr. Edmund Chisholm-Batten, whose keen interest in the work of

our Society made him a most useful member of the Council and a pleasant and instructive companion at our Annual Meetings: and whose well-informed mind has enriched the volumes of our *Proceedings* with many valuable and interesting Papers. It would also express its hearty sympathy with his sons and daughters in their natural sorrow on account of the departure from amongst them of so good and honoured a father.'

The late Sir Augustus Wollaston Franks, K.C.B., F.R.S., President of the Society of Antiquaries, was a member of your Society, and his death is a severe loss to the country generally as well as to the special pursuits with which his name is particularly identified.

"In their last report your Committee suggested that the annual meeting in 1898, when your Society will have entered upon the fiftieth year of its existence, should be held at Taunton, its head-quarters and birthplace, and that a strong and well-organised effort should be made on that occasion to provide a fund for the repair and preservation—not restoration—of the Castle. The numerous festivities which have marked the current year have rendered it undesirable, well-nigh impossible, that any steps should be taken in the direction indicated. Now it is time that the matter should be taken seriously into consideration, and your Committee trust that every member will do his or her best to render the Archæological Week of 1898 a complete success."

Mr. H. HOBHOUSE, M.P., in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought they would all agree with him that on the whole it was a very satisfactory document and one that they could adopt without hesitation. It showed that there had been a steady increase of members during the past year, and also, what was still more satisfactory, a steady decrease of the various deficits on the various funds. What was more, the report showed that the work of the Society—its permanent work as apart from the more temporary interest and satis-

faction of the annual meetings—was being steadily carried on. They had a record of progress in various most important though laborious pieces of work, such as the indexing of Collinson's History and their whole *Proceedings*, and the publication of that most valuable Bibliography of Mr. Emanuel Green's. Then they had had several important records of parishes. Mr. Hancock had brought out an interesting monograph on the parish of Selworthy, and Mr. Trask was engaged in writing a 'History of Norton-sub-Hamdon,' and there might be others. They had a Record Society steadily at work, increasing its valuable and interesting volumes year by year; and in all these ways they had continual accretions going on towards that great work, which, he sincerely hoped, would not be long delayed—a new and complete and satisfactory History of the County of Somerset. If there were any part of the Society's work to which full justice was not being done he thought it was the Natural History section. He thought there was a very interesting contribution to it a year or two ago in a Flora of the county, but he thought more might be done towards elucidating and introducing practical interest in the very varied and remarkable geological formations which prevailed throughout that county. He hoped that at every yearly meeting there would be some one member with a practical acquaintance of the subject who would be selected to inform the audience on the most striking features of the natural history of the district. With regard to their place of meeting that year, he would like to say that he and others who were present at the last meeting at Sherborne, rather suggested that this year the meeting should take place at Glastonbury. Their wishes had not been carried out exactly in the form they were expressed; but yesterday they had a very remarkable meeting of a very distinctive archæological character at Glastonbury, and he recommended every member of that Society to read the address of the Bishop-elect of Bristol, which was delivered within those suggestive and venerable ruins yesterday afternoon, and which

struck him at the time as a discourse most suitable to be delivered to the members of the Archæological Society, as well as to that larger and more august audience to which it was actually delivered. He dared say it was partly on account of that great gathering of bishops that it was thought better that the Society should meet at Bridgwater that day. It was twenty years ago, he thought, that that Society last met at Bridgwater. He had cast his eye over their *Proceedings* at that time, and he was somewhat painfully struck with the great gaps made during the last twenty years in the ranks of the leading men of that Society, by death and other causes. He had no doubt their President would say something on the subject, but they could not but remember with regret that twenty years ago they had there such great authorities as Mr. Freeman, Bishop Clifford, Mr. Dickinson and others, who were now no longer amongst them. They were glad to see such veterans as Mr. Skrine there that day; and they found that the permanent Secretaries of the Society had been replaced by such very active, useful, and comparatively young members as Lieut.-Col. Bramble and Mr. Weaver. Next year the Society would, as the report had stated, hold its Jubilee at Taunton. They had heard a great deal of Jubilee, perhaps, recently and during the last ten years, but he hoped that as the report recommended, some effort would be made during the next twelve months to clear off the debt on the Taunton Castle Fund, to put it in a proper position to do justice to what was, after all, a most important possession of the Society; and generally on the question of funds he thought that in a comparatively large and wealthy county, with such interesting and extensive archæological associations, all their funds ought to be placed, at any rate by the conclusion of the Jubilee year, on a perfectly satisfactory basis.

The Rev. E. H. BATES seconded the motion. He dwelt upon the fact that works relating to local history were now being produced in very considerable numbers, and said this

Taunton Castle Restoration Fund.

Treasurer's Account from 1st January to 31st December, 1896.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
1896.		£	s. d.	1895, Dec. 31st.		£	s. d.
	By Rents of Premises...	...	44 17 3		To Balance ...	...	69 11 9
	„ Rents of Castle Hall ...	...	42 11 0		„ Repairs to Property ...	...	39 5 7
	Balance ...	...	44 11 9		„ Commission on letting House, Legal, &c. ...	...	2 5 6
					„ Rates and Taxes ...	...	14 16 9
					„ Gas ...	...	1 8 9
					„ Castle Hall Expenses and Sun- dries ...	...	1 7 0
					„ Insurance ...	...	0 6 6
					„ Interest on overdrawn Account	...	2 18 2
			£132 0 0				£132 0 0

H. J. BADCOCK,
Treasurer.

July 28th, 1897. Examined and compared with the vouchers } W. M. KELLY,
and Bank Book, and found correct. } J. E. W. WAKEFIELD.

Prebendary BULLER, of North Curry, in moving the adoption of the accounts, mentioned that just about that time a most interesting ceremony was taking place at Wells Cathedral in the unveiling of a monument to one of their most respected ex-Presidents—the greatly-beloved late Bishop, Lord Arthur Charles Hervey. The only thing that could have prevented his being present at that function at Wells was the fact that that day was also the annual gathering of their Society, and his being there would be taken as a proof of his loyalty to the Society. He anticipated very great pleasure from their annual meeting this year, first because it was being held near where he had spent forty-seven years of his life, and secondly because it was under the presidency of his valued friend, Mr. Stanley. They were to hear some interesting addresses later on, and he anticipated a good meeting this year.

Mr. C. TITE seconded the resolution, and trusted that next year they would be able to do something on the lines suggested by Mr. Hobhouse, and improve considerably the condition of the Society financially. The resolution was carried.

The Rev. G. S. MASTER proposed the re-election of the Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Hon. Gen. and Local Secretaries

(being members of the Society), with the substitution on the latter of Mr. F. T. Elworthy and the Rev. Preb. Askwith for Major Foster and the Rev. W. S. Tomkins ; with Mr. W. Bidgood as Curator and Assistant Secretary.

The Rev. E. L. PENNY seconded the motion, which was adopted.

The Rev. JEFFERY WORTHINGTON proposed that the arrangements for the next meeting and the selection of the President for next year should be left in the hands of the Committee. He said that with regard to the place of meeting he thought they had for several years looked forward to the meeting of 1898 being held in Taunton, as in that year they would celebrate the Jubilee of their Society, and he hoped it would be most successfully carried out. He was quite certain that friends at Taunton would give a very hearty welcome to the Society, and that they would make the meeting as prolific of funds as of interest. He could not help recurring for the moment to the remark of Mr. Hobhouse with regard to those who had passed from them, and they would miss at Taunton the late Mr. Chisholm Batten, who would have been an excellent member of the Executive Committee had he been spared until next year.

Mr. E. A. FRY seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER proposed the election of thirty-four new members of the Society.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE seconded the proposal, and said he was very pleased with the increase which the Society was making. Some of the large societies which extended over the whole of the country thought they had done well when they had 400 members, but the Somersetshire Society had 600, and he hoped that when they held their Jubilee meeting at Taunton next year they would have a still larger number. They had a valuable property in Taunton Castle—a more valuable property, he thought, than any other Archæological Society in England ; and as they had a large building they

were in honour bound to fill it with a large library and a large museum. This was a matter for the whole of the county, and not for Taunton only. They should make Taunton Castle an honour to the county. The proposal was adopted.

Somerset Record Society.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER read a letter from the Rev. Preb. Holmes, Vicar of Wookey, Wells, who expressed regret that he was unable to be present, Mr. Weaver remarking that he was kept away by the ceremony at Wells. Preb. Holmes gave a short account of the proceedings of the Somerset Record Society, and mentioned that early in the autumn a volume of Somerset Assize Rolls, edited by Mr. Chadwyck-Healey, Q.C., would be published, and it was likely to be of great interest. Mr. Weaver said that some time ago the Town Clerk of Bridgwater kindly afforded him an opportunity of looking over the accounts of the Churchwardens of Bridgwater, which dated back to 1368, and were of a most valuable and interesting character. They were magnificently written and in a splendid state of preservation. They must have been kept in a peculiarly dry place. They often found that the old papers in Somerset were ruined by damp, owing to the humidity of the atmosphere, which was good for pastures and cattle, but bad for old documents. He hoped the meeting would result in the publication of the accounts. The Mayor and Corporation would naturally not allow them to go out of their custody, and the work of copying and preparation would therefore have to be done by a resident of Bridgwater. There were ancient accounts at Stogursey, which some years ago Sir Alexander Hood was kind enough to lend him. He copied them out and wrote a paper thereon.

The President's Address.

MR. STANLEY said it was the custom of the Society that he whom they honoured by electing President for the year should address a few observations to them on such points of the archaeological or other questions of the district as he might think desirable to bring to their notice. He must thank them, after twenty years, for having again invited him to become their President. On the first occasion he had to send an excuse to the Society, and he did it with great regret, although the circumstance which obliged him to be absent was one which he knew would give him great happiness, which had continued ever since. He had read as much as he had been able of the different opinions of different people regarding the antiquities of the neighbourhood, and he was sorry to find the opinion of one who said that they were not many in number and had been frequently described at great length. He did not think that was right, and he thought he could point out several features of special interest which were not included in their list of tours for the next three days. He believed they would find that the Natural History department had not been very much considered by the Society, and there were several quarries near Quantock Lodge which were of an interesting character. He had the authority of so well-known a geologist as Sir Roderick Murchison for stating that the quarry of green stone of which Quantock Lodge was built was of very great interest. Most people who saw the house considered that it was built of green sandstone ; but it was not so, for the stone used was a highly igneous rock which took a polish, and the party visiting Quantock Lodge on the next day would see a table of the polished stone. The late Rev. Mr. Lance, of Buckland St. Mary, had had some columns of the stone polished, with which he decorated his beautiful church which was still being adorned and beautified. There was another large quarry near Adcombe, in which the stone alternated very largely, and it

contained building-stone, and limestone, which when burnt produced lime as well as polished marble. From this quarry a large chimney-piece for Dunster Castle was carved for Mr. Luttrell.

Another object of interest was a cave at Holwell, which had never been thoroughly explored. There was a little difficulty in the exploration, inasmuch as to make further progress one had to crawl upon the knees, and as the ground was rather wet people shrank from further explorations. Some day, however, it might be completed, and it was rather curious that in a limestone district like the Quantocks it should be the only cavern of which they had any knowledge. There were also in the district the remains of the workings of upper mines, as he knew to his cost, because after heavy rains the soil fell in and he had to send several cartloads of soil to fill up. In addition there were a number of marble quarries to which a certain interest attached. If they had time on the next day some might like to visit the quarry from which the stone of Quantock Lodge was obtained. Sir Roderick Murchison had expressed the opinion that it was igneous rock from very near the crater of a volcano; but he reassured those to whom he told that, by saying that it was not likely that the volcano would break out again in the same place. There was one portion of their Natural History in which he would like to destroy a fallacy. There was a general belief that, as on Exmoor, which had been a Royal forest from time immemorial, so in the Quantocks red deer had been for centuries. These beautiful animals, however, were claimed to have been first turned out on the Quantocks by Mr. C. E. J. Esdaile's father, and this was confirmed by Lord Ebrington.*

* The Rev. W. Greswell has shown in a letter to *The Somerset County Gazette*, dated August 7th, 1897, that there were red deer on the Quantocks in early times. He writes, "Leland travelled through the Quantock country on one of his journeys (1538-40). Coming to Nether Stowey, he notices that here was a goodly manor house of the Lord Audley, who had a park of redde deere and another of fallow."

Mr. Greswell also brings forward evidence to prove that a large portion of this part of Somerset was accounted "forest" from Domesday downwards.—Ed.

Speaking of Admiral Blake's connection with Bridgwater, he said a large number of the Blake family from America and elsewhere often came to Plainsfield Farm to see a chimney-piece there, on which were carved the letters "E. B."; but the date 1668 or 1663 showed they were placed there long after the Admiral's death. What was the meaning of the initials would be an interesting question to solve. Then, again, in Over Stowey Church, in front of the Communion table, there was the tombstone of "Humphrey Blake, clothier, died 1619," while they knew that Humphrey Blake, the Admiral's father, lived to a later date. He had known the clergy a good deal worried by descendants of the Blake family for particulars as to the relations of the Admiral. One, after getting a copy of the register, wrote to know if any of the family had been omitted, and the clergyman wrote back saying he had forgotten to mention one Edward Blake, who was put in the stocks.

An interesting question which had come rather prominently before them of late years was the great part which ladies took in holding property in that neighbourhood. As to his own position he had himself bought a few farms, but the great mass of the Quantock Lodge estate belonged to his wife. Then close by at Brymore they all remembered the fact of Miss Hales leaving that property to Mr. Bouverie's grandfather; while the large estate of Fairfield descended to Sir Peregrine Acland's daughter. Further on there was Crowcombe Park, which belonged to the wife of Mr. Trollope; and next there was Mrs. Bisset, of Bagborough, and long might she continue to enjoy the beautiful property which she owned. A little further on was the Tetton property, which came to the Earl of Carnarvon's family by marriage with one of the Aclands, and which had previously come to the latter by marriage with the Dykes. Then there was the Portman property, which came to the Berkeley family by a marriage with the heiress of the Portmans. Pixton Park also came to

Lord Carnarvon through marriage with an Acland. Further west they met with the extraordinary fact of the Dunster Castle estate having been sold only once since the Conquest, and then by a woman to a woman. It was given to Lord de Mohun by William the Conqueror. One of the Lords de Mohun was known as Earl of Somerset, and the wife of a later owner, who had great influence over him, got him to leave the property to the Archbishop of Canterbury and others, who were to do with it as Lady Mohun desired. She desired them to make the property over to her, and then, retaining the use of it to herself for life, she sold it for a sum of money to Lady Elizabeth Luttrell, who had three daughters—the Duchess of York, the Countess of Salisbury, and Lady Strange of Knockyn. The Duchess of York and the Countess of Salisbury died without issue, and Lady Strange, of Knockyn, carried on the line. On the death of Lady de Mohun legal proceedings were taken, and an almost unprecedented thing occurred, for the House of Commons petitioned the Crown that it should be tried at bar. This was probably claimed on account of the influence of the Duchess of York, one of the claimants. The trial was ordered to take place at Ilchester, but he knew no record of the result, although the property remained with Lady Elizabeth's son. He (Mr. Stanley) was directly descended from Lord and Lady Strange, of Knockyn, and it was rather interesting to find himself settled in Somerset for twenty-five years, and then after all to find himself to be a Somerset man. There were other properties held in the same way. Halswell, for instance, came to the present worthy owners through an heiress; while an interesting fact was that the first document he ever signed as a Somerset magistrate was one brought to him by Mrs. Farthing, who was churchwarden of Dodington.

The MAYOR proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Stanley for the very able and attractive address he had given them on that occasion. He was sure they must have listened to it

with a vast amount of interest and pleasure. He (the Mayor) hoped time would enable them to visit the quarries alluded to by Mr. Stanley, for they were a very instructive and interesting feature of the neighbourhood.

The Right Hon. J. W. MELLOR, Q.C., M.P., seconded. He said there was no one better qualified than Mr. Stanley to preside over them. He (Mr. Mellor) had known Mr. Stanley for many years, but that gentleman had never previously told him that he was of Somerset descent. He was very glad indeed to hear that Mr. Stanley was a Somerset man, as that would give additional interest in the proceedings. The vote was adopted with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN briefly acknowledged the compliment, and this closed the meeting.

The members then attended a

Luncheon,

hospitably given to the Society by the Mayor of Bridgwater (Mr. M. C. Else).

St. Mary's Church, Bridgwater.

After luncheon the company paid a visit to St. Mary's Church, an interesting description of which was given by Mr. EDMUND BUCKLE. He said it was quite impossible to look at the church with any attention at all without feeling what an important place Bridgwater was in olden times. The church was really larger than it gave one the impression of being, and he believed that it seated something like 1,300 people. It was not surprising that Bridgwater should require a church of that size now, but it was really suprising that as far back as they could go there appeared to have been as large a church as the present one. There was nothing of Norman work left; but the foundations of the Early English building extended all the way round the north aisle, and along the end of the north transept. That appeared to make it plain that

in the thirteenth century there was a cruciform church, with aisles and nave of the same width as the existing ones. Mr. BUCKLE then pointed out the great width of the building across the nave and aisles, and remarked that in the thirteenth century it would have been unusual to find so wide a church. In the time of King John there was founded a hospital of Augustinian Canons in Bridgwater, and the church was appropriated to these canons, who served it partly themselves and partly by a secular chaplain. The only serious additions to the size of the church made since the thirteenth century, appeared to be the filling out of the space between the transepts and the north and south porches, and additions at the east end. The two side chapels were probably added later, and the chancel carried at least one bay further east than it was at the time of that Early English church. Mr. BUCKLE pointed out the early niches for monuments in the north aisle wall and also the piece of thirteenth century work in the north door, which, however, was not *in situ*. The tracery between the lintel and the arch marked the date at which this doorway was rebuilt in its present position in the outer wall of the north porch. Very little alteration had taken place in the general appearance of the church, except as regarded the removal of the cross arches from the centre of the church and the raising of the nave. The windows were of all sorts of dates. There were Geometrical windows, Decorated windows, and windows with reticulated tracery. In the north aisle they found the internal arch of the old windows remaining, whilst the windows themselves had Perpendicular tracery inserted all through. The arches of the Perpendicular arcade varied a great deal in width, and the capital of one pair of pillars dropped down quite a foot below the others. Another remarkable fact was that the clerestory windows were not over the arches but over the pillars. The old rood screen was now utilised as side-choir screens, and a remarkable thing was that in olden time there was in front of the rood screen another screen some six or

eight feet forward. This was a Jacobean screen, which now formed the front of the Corporation pew, and the mayor and corporation seemed to have been provided with stalls, placed between the two screens. Altogether the church must have been wonderfully rich in carved work, because the whole of the front of the stall work in the chancel was filled out with panels of ancient carved work. The pulpit was a pretty one, of Perpendicular date, and formerly stood against one of the pillars down the nave. Mr. BUCKLE spoke of the arrangement of the squint from the north porch. The view of the high altar from this porch was obtained by a four-light window opening from the porch into the church, a squint through the west wall of the transept (which wall has, in 1849, been replaced by an arcade), and another squint through the pier of the chancel arch. The purpose of these squints was generally supposed to be to provide for lepers. With regard to the furniture the most conspicuous thing was the picture presented to the church by Mr. Anne Poulet, who was christened Anne after Queen Anne, and was at that time member for Bridgwater. Beyond that fact no history of the picture was known, but it was generally ascribed to an Italian artist, Annibale Caracci, of Bologna. There were at one time at least seven altars in the church, as had been discovered by Mr. Weaver.* These were the High altar, Trinity altar, Our Lady's altar, St. George's altar, the Rood altar, St. Katharine's altar, and St. Soday's altar, and there appeared also to have been an altar to St. Erasmus. There was ample room for seven altars, and there might very well have been more. There were three chantries—of St. George, Our Lady, and the Holy Trinity, and there were seven guilds in connection with the church. All these things pointed to the great richness and importance of the town. The small arch leading into the tower showed that at the time it was built there was no clerestory. The tower was a massive building, consisting almost solely of rubble

* See "Downside Review," December, 1896.

stone work, without any free-stone where it could be avoided. Towers of this character prevail in West Somerset and part of Devon. The tower in contrast to the church showed poverty, but it had really a remarkable spire, being a great deal taller than the tower on which it stood, and it gave an individual character to the appearance of the building.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE spoke of the resemblance between St. Mary's tower and the tower of old Bedminster church, now pulled down. As to the roof it was of a style peculiar to Somerset, which had got to be known as Somerset waggon roof. There they had a Somerset waggon roof as a nucleus and a great deal besides.

The Rev. J. E. ODGERS spoke of the ceremonies which formerly took place in the church between Good Friday and Easter day. A sepulchre was set up in the church, and watchers were appointed until the Sunday, when a curtain was drawn back revealing the figure of the rising Saviour.

Mr. CHARLES MAJOR and Dr. WINTERBOTHAM also spoke. The latter dissented from the view of Mr. Buckle that the altar piece belonged to the Italian school. He considered it was a specimen of the Flemish school. It was said to have been taken from a privateer, and it had been inspected and valued by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

It was mentioned that the Corporation annually insured the picture for £10,000.

The Rev. H. BIRCHAM, vicar, said that the registers were very interesting indeed, and Mr. Lockyer, the Parish Clerk, would have great pleasure in showing them the Communion plate as well. The chancel, he added, did not belong to the Corporation, they were only lay rectors. With regard to the picture he did not believe that that belonged to them either. It had been there many years, and he doubted their having the slightest power over it, although he did not want to re-open the question.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER said the churchwardens' accounts,

which belonged to the Corporation, went back to 1368, and were some of the most interesting in the West of England.

Admiral Blake's House.

The party next wended their way to Blake Street, to inspect what is acknowledged to have been the birth-place of the famous Admiral Blake. For some years past it has been the residence of Miss Parker, niece of the late Mr. George Parker, author of a brief history of Bridgwater, and other works, who purchased the property in question. Mr. Parker, the present owner (a nephew of the deceased gentleman), received the party on their arrival and escorted them through some rooms, and into a garden at the rear, adjacent to what is locally known as "mill tail," and referred to as such in Domesday book. It was admitted that the premises had undergone very extensive alterations, but there were traces of ancient remains, and in particular Mr. Parker pointed out those of an old window and fireplace which undoubtedly constituted a portion of the original building.

The Castle.

The party next directed their steps to the Western Quay, and here they were shown the only remaining traces of Bridgwater Castle, consisting of a massive stone archway, formerly a portion of an old water gate, this being situate at the entrance of some bonded cellars in the vicinity of the Custom House. This was viewed with a good deal of interest, and although no public observations were offered thereon, several members indulged in a retrospect of recorded events connected with the siege of Bridgwater and its heroic defence, and expressed surprise that the castle had been so completely dismantled that all other traces of it had disappeared.

Afternoon Meeting.

At 4.30 the members again assembled in the Town Hall, at a meeting at which papers on local subjects were read and discussions took place. Mr. E. J. STANLEY, M.P., again presided.

The PRESIDENT first called upon the Rev. F. W. Weaver, M.A., to make a statement with regard to the index to Collinson's History of Somerset.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER said the Society was bringing out in a form uniform with Collinson's History an elaborate index to the whole of the three volumes. The index had now reached the letter M, and as Editor, he had received valuable help from the Rev. E. H. Bates. Those who used the index would find it valuable when they wished to see what Collinson really said. He hoped that those who had not subscribed would give their names to Mr. Bidgood. The price of the work was fifteen shillings, and he hoped it would soon be ready.

Mr. HOBHOUSE said they were indebted to the two gentlemen who had undertaken the work, and appreciation of their efforts should be shown by purchasing the work.

Mr. C. H. BOTHAMLEY read a paper on a Photographic Survey of the County of Somerset (*see* Part II).

Mr. HOBHOUSE thought it was a very proper object for the Society to take up, but the proper mode of procedure would be to refer it to the Executive Committee, to see if they would take it up in conjunction with certain other bodies, and whether it would be desirable for them to make a small grant to cover initial expenses. It was clear that no large grant could be made at present, but Mr. Bothamley had suggested voluntary subscribers if sufficient could be found to set the ball rolling. He would like to know the extent of Mr. Bothamley's proposition before referring it to the Committee to consider.

Mr. WINTERBOTHAM said if the Society did not see its

way to granting any large sum of money, it could give an expression of opinion that the suggestions thrown out by Mr. Bothamley were worthy of consideration. They had not the funds to make themselves a society for the purpose of protecting national monuments, great and small, in Somerset, but the idea that they could keep a faithful representation of what they had before the time of destruction came was one within their grasp and means, and although the Society might not feel themselves able to contribute largely, their protection thrown over the idea would enable it to advance, and many of them would be glad to form a subsidiary society which would aid such matters.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER said there was a valuable collection of photographs of old churches taken by Mr. Gillo, formerly of Bridgwater, in existence, but they were in possession of a certain firm, which, possibly, would part with them to the Society for a reasonable sum.

The Rev. J. WORTHINGTON said it was entirely a question of finance, but if common action were undertaken he felt sure the Committee and members would support the matter right heartily.

Mr. BOTHAMLEY did not anticipate that the expenses would be very large. Mr. Hobhouse wished to know the extent of his proposition. His suggestion was to first obtain photographs of domestic objects which were liable to disappear, and afterwards of those subjects which were less liable to alteration.

The Rev. J. E. ODGERS then read a paper on "The Bridgwater Academy, 1688-1748."

The Evening Meeting.

There was a large gathering at eight o'clock, in the Town Hall, to listen to a paper by Professor MONTAGU BURROWS, R.N. (Chichele Professor of Modern History in the University of Oxford, and Fellow of All Souls' College), entitled "The Life and Times of Robert Blake" (*see Part II*).

The PRESIDENT proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Burrows for his paper.

Mr. W. L. WINTERBOTHAM followed with a paper on "Blake's Charities." He said the few notes he had been able to make did not mean a history of "Blake's Charity," but he rather wanted to point out (while Professor Burrows had given them in his own eloquent language what the Empire owed to Blake), by just giving them a few items from Blake's will, what he had done for Bridgwater and its neighbourhood. He did not regard this subject as important as that which Prof. Burrows had laid before them, for after all it was a small thing what a man did for his successors, but it was a great thing what a man did for the nation. He wished to be an advocate for a memorial of Blake, whether his likeness was that of a saint or of a sinner. A memorial that would bring to their minds the fact that Blake was born, and lived in this place. Although in obtaining a statue they would wish to go as near the truth as possible, the ideal did not lie altogether in the value of the truth, but in what the man did and what he was to those who were living at the present day. What he had to say of the past and the connection of Blake with them was to show how humbly he was one of them; how his people lived there because in this world their neighbour was much more their friend than those who lived at a distance. They had a close connection with those in their own parish, their own county, their own country, and although they did not go to the extent that if a man was not born in the parish they would have nothing to do with him, they felt more kindly to those connected with them. Mr. Winterbotham alluded to the will of Robert Blake (grandfather of the great Admiral), who left in 1592 lands at Tuxwell, in Radlett, to William, and to his son Humphrey lands at Puriton and Crandon. Humphrey Blake (father) left to the Cathedral church at Wells 5s.; to Bridgwater church, 40s.; to Pawlett church, 20s.; and to the poor of Bridgwater, £5. The manor of Puriton and Crandon

was left to the son Robert, and silver salts, silver bowls, and a dozen of silver spoons with lions' heads. His chattel lease of lands in Puriton and Huntspill were left to the son William, towards his education and charges at Oxford; reversion and interest on lands in the manor of Hamp to his son Benjamin; the dwelling-house and garden, which the Society had visited that day in Blake Street, to his sons Robert and Humphrey. Extracts from the wills of William Blake (Bridgwater) and Margaret Blake (grandmother), dated respectively 1667 and 1599, showed that the former left £100 to the poor of Bridgwater, whilst the latter left £10 yearly for the poor, also 20s. at her burial for the same cause. Various gifts of goods were made to the almshouses of Bridgwater, and to the almshouses of Stogursey 5s., to the poor of Spaxton, 10s., the will also stating, "My late husband, Robert Blake, at his death left £240 in the hands of Richard Hodges and one Leonard Crosse, in trust, to pay £20 yearly for my maintenance, and also appointed that the said £240 should be paid to the Mayor, Aldermen, etc., of Bridgwater, to be employed by them to make a yearly gain of £20, to be distributed after my decease as follows: £16 yearly to the poor, and the other £4 for the repairs of the highways near Bridgwater, my son Humphrey (to whom the same is now assured) to see that this is performed."

By the will of Admiral Robert Blake, dated 1655, he left to the town of Bridgwater £100 to be distributed amongst the poor thereof at the discretion of Humphrey Blake, his brother, and of the Mayor for the time being. To the town of Taunton he also left £100; to his brother Humphrey the manor of Taunton and Crandon; to his brother Benjamin his dwelling-house in St. Mary Street, and the other house adjoining and eleven acres of land in the village of Hamp; and to the widow Owen, of Bridgwater, the relict of Mr. Owen, minister, he gave £10. Mr. Winterbotham also read an interesting letter which he had discovered written for the trustees of Blake's

charity to a descendant on February 2nd, 1736, stating that they observed by the writings there was left £100 to be laid out in land for the use of the poor, and that they could not find above £82 10s. laid out, so they desired the gentleman written to to be pleased to let them know to which of the trustees the remaining part of the hundred pounds was paid. It would be interesting to know where the difference between the £82 and £100 went. It seemed from all these wills that Admiral Blake and his family were persons who, by some means, acquired considerable wealth, and that when they died they did not forget their native town. Mr. Winterbotham concluded a highly interesting paper by again expressing a hope that in a town like that they might soon have a memorial of the great admiral. It was not every town that could boast of having a townsman like Admiral Blake, and he thought they would not only be commemorating the life and death of a great man, but would be adding to the welfare of their citizens in the future by putting up in the town an Admiral Blake statue.

The PRESIDENT also, on behalf of the audience, thanked Mr. Winterbotham for his interesting paper.

The Rev. E. H. BATES next read a paper of considerable interest on "An Inventory of Church Plate in South-East Somerset" (*see Part II*).

Thursday's Proceedings.

On Thursday the members of the Society had a tour through the district west of Bridgwater. The party, numbering about 150, left the "Clarence Hotel" in brakes and carriages at about 10.30, and drove direct to Stogursey. A visit was first paid to

Stoke Courcy Church

which is a fine one and possesses many interesting features which were explained to the members by Mr. E. BUCKLE. He said it

was a splendid example of Norman work, the tower arches being examples of the earlier Norman period and the chancel arcades of the later. There was every indication that the very large and handsome nave was (in its general outline) of the same date as the cross arches; for the west doorway was also of Norman date and of the same character as these four central arches, and the great width of the arch across the nave clearly implied that the nave must always have been as wide as it now is. In the case of many Norman central towers the nave arch was very small and narrow, with the result that the chancel was completely shut off from the nave. Here, however, exactly the contrary was the case. They would notice that while the arches across the nave were of this great width, those across the transept were decidedly narrow, and the form of the tower above was consequently very oblong. On the outside this irregularity in the plan of the tower was decidedly conspicuous. He then pointed out the varying shapes of the arches; those across the transepts being stilted, while the chancel arch was struck from below the level of the capitals, and only the nave arch was a true semi-circle. This was the way Norman builders had of getting over the difficulty of arching spaces of different widths; they either started the arch above or below the capital. The carved capitals of the four arches were worthy of attention. They were unusual examples of great decoration, and were founded upon a reminiscence of Roman Corinthian capitals. All this work must be put down to the earlier part of the Norman period, viz., before 1100, and the font was also of this early date. Then came a great change, William de Falaise gave the church to the Benedictine Abbey of Lonley, in Normandy, and they founded an alien priory here. The choir of the church was then enlarged by the addition of the side aisles, which were examples of the work of the twelfth century. There were two fine arcades on each side of the chancel, and they were quite of the latest period of Norman work, or rather, perhaps, of transitional character. On the south side of the

chancel there was a Norman window, which, however, was not in its original position, but was moved at the time of the restoration. While the restoration was in progress, the east wall was evidently entirely taken down and rebuilt, for it was all modern. The bases of the side arcades were at a very high level. He drew attention to the extraordinary number of steps in the church leading from the nave to the chancel, and from the chancel to the altar, and remarked that the arrangement of the floor of the transept was clearly not what was intended ; it was now too high and hid the bases of the pillars. After passing from the Norman work there was nothing of interest, until the Perpendicular period. The churchwardens' accounts, dating back to the reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII were of great interest, because they showed that there was about that time much work being done to the church, the materials being brought from Bristol, landed at Combwich, and carted to Stoke Courcy. Practically all the windows of the church were of the Perpendicular period. He next alluded to the peculiar position of the rood-loft door, some feet west of the tower arch, and to a curious arch near, intended as a recess for a tomb or perhaps to lead to a small chapel not now existing. The bench-ends, in the centre of the nave, were principally of the sixteenth century and of English character, but with some Flemish intermixture. The spire was an uncommon feature for a church in this district. Under the south arcade of the chancel, he pointed out a monument of Sir William Verney, of Fairfield, of the time of Henry VI, the bases of which had a series of niches all round, containing figures, and in the cornice over coats of arms of himself, his mother (Brent), and his wife (Broughton)—the coat of arms of the Verneys being three ferns, and the crest a panache of ferns. The plate was well worth looking at and was dated 1712. Collinson stated that there was a painting of Christ and the Twelve Apostles in the north aisle, and that the north aisle was dedicated to St. Erasmus. And from Mr. Weaver's

Wills it appeared that there were services of the B.V.M. and St. Anne, and that the high altar was being painted and gilded in the years 1533-1535.

The Vicar, the Rev. F. MEADE KING, in the course of a few observations, called attention to the "cable" band around the font and to a curious stone vessel supposed to be an alms box.

The company afterwards inspected the old registers of the church and the old communion plate.

From the church the party wended its way to

Stoke Courcy Castle

the only entrance to which was through the kitchen of the caretaker's house. As very few of the company knew anything of the history of the castle, Mr. BUCKLE was again requested to make a few explanatory remarks. He said he knew very little of the castle himself, but it was stated to have been fortified by one Falk de Brent in Henry III's time, and it was destroyed by Lord Bonville in the time of Henry VI. Judging from what remained the building seemed to belong to Henry III's time, or the Edwardian period. It consisted now of nothing whatever but the moat and a roughly circular wall with bases of towers at intervals. If it ever was a habitable dwelling-house there was no trace now in existence of the domestic buildings. They came in by the front entrance to the castle over a small bridge, which had evidently replaced the old drawbridge. It did not appear to him to have ever been a castle lived in by a great man to any extent, because if they looked at the small size of the enclosure they would perceive that if they had a number of troops there as well as a dwelling-house it would render the house very uncomfortable indeed. In conclusion Mr. BUCKLE alluded to the spring under an arch in the village, from which even to this day the inhabitants procured their water supply.

Stoke Courcy, or Stogursey as it is now better known, was very soon left in the rear, the party proceeding to

Dodington Manor House,

an interesting old residence now in the occupation of Mr. Alfred Berry, who had very kindly given the party permission to inspect the place, which, needless to remark, was taken full advantage of. Here again, Mr. BUCKLE'S services were requisitioned. He remarked that first thing that struck them about the house was the fact that they approached it through the farm yard. At the top of the farmyard there was another small courtyard at a higher level, forming a sort of terrace, which enabled the master of the house to keep an eye on the farm. The principal feature of the inside of the house was the small but interesting hall, complete with screens and gallery in spite of its tiny size. The roof was varied to some extent from the ordinary hall roof of the fifteenth century. There was a tendency for all the beams to be cut to wavy lines. To a large extent this was due to the natural curvature of the wood, the carpenter having cut his timber from bent branches; but in other cases a wavy outline had been deliberately given to timber cut from straight logs. The panels of the roof were all of different shapes, the carpenter having worked according to the shape of the timber to hand. The windows were very curious, having Elizabethan mouldings inside and Gothic outside. The mantelpiece, which bore the date 1581, was an elaborate piece of stone work, but of the crudest possible class, and was evidently the work of some uninstructed country mason. The fireplace was very like some they found further west: there was one at Dunster of very much the same crude style of work. Others, however, were carried out in plaster and not in stone. A small arch led to the oriel, which formed a quiet room, practically distinct from the hall, a private parlour for the master of the house. The withdrawing room at the end of the hall contained some interesting plaster work, with the Dodington arms worked in

at intervals. It was of the sixteenth century, or may be a little later, but it was a distinctly rough piece of work, giving one the same idea of the country workman as the rest of the work throughout the building.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE drew attention to the coat of arms over the mantelpiece of the hall, and remarked that the third coat was that of the Trivett family, which were marked on the old bridge in Bridgwater, which was to a great extent built by them.

Nether Stowey Castle.

The next move was to Nether Stowey to inspect the site of Stowey Castle, known as Castle Hill. Here the Rev. W. H. P. GRESWELL, Rector of Dodington, read a paper in which he stated that the position of Stowey Castle in former days must have been a strong one naturally, far stronger than the site of Stoke Courcy Castle. In vol. viii of the *Proceedings* of the Society, the Rev. F. Warre considered that this mound was one of a line of British earthworks held by the Dumnonii. He ranked it with Rowborough, in the parish of Broomfield, connected by beacon on Cothelstone with the earthwork on Norton Fitzwarren, commanding the Tone, and so on with the strong fortress on Castle Neroche. Castle Hill was the most northerly of them all and overlooked the Parret.

It may be instructive, therefore, to look out for any of the old features of a British earthwork existing here before the mound was occupied by a Norman stronghold.

In 1858 the Secretary of the Society announced that he had discovered the outlines of a Roman Camp on the Quantocks, not far from Ely Green, of which, however, the brief time allowed to the members for their drive, precluded a closer examination.

To the west lies the height of Danesbarrow, or Dousborough, no doubt, a Belgic fortress originally, and subsequently held by the Romans.

Just here, therefore, at the northern side of the Quantocks we get two or three distinct strongholds of very early date. It was somewhere near here that a subsidiary Roman road came over the Quantocks, and united the Vale of Taunton Dean with the mouth of the Parret and Caerleon on the Welsh coast higher up.

The exact point where this old road and trackway ascended the Quantocks is probably not far off the site of Stowey Castle. It can be traced very clearly from Cannington Park westwards, past Oakley Oak, and came up at the entrance of Ramscombe, near the chapel of Adscombe.

Thus we may possibly see the *raison d'être* in the beginning of Nether Stowey Castle—a stronghold commanding a line of communication.

It may have taken the place of Danesborough, as that was chiefly a *castra æstiva* of the Romans.

It is not recorded when the Norman stronghold arose. It would appear from Eyton (Somerset Domesday, vol. ii, p. 35) that *Alured de Hispania* succeeded to one portion of Stowey, *Estalweia* (in the Hundred of Williton), which was Count Harold's (Earl of Wessex) T.R.E., in Saxon times. Stowey Castle, I imagine, was this portion. The other portion belonged to Dodo de Cory, a Saxon, which I take it was Dodington, especially as I find that, in 1335, the Chapel of Dodington is described as being in the parish of Nether-Staweye, and paying 2*s.* to Mynchin Buckland Priory (Som. Arch. *Proceedings*, vol. x, p. 24).

Dodington does not appear in Domesday. Collinson says that Stowey belonged collectively to Ralph de Pomeri, but if we look at Eyton's comparative list and see who are the Saxon owners, Count Harold's portion, held as it was "in dominio," by *Alured de Hispania*, is more likely to have included the important stronghold of Stowey Castle. This is a point archæology may settle. Although Eyton is decisive enough (vol. i, p. 65) and says that Nether Stowey was the *caput* of

Alured's barony. Collinson fails, says Eyton, through not collating Domesday and the Gheld Inquisition, to find the Domesday type of Alured de Hispania's manor of Nether Stowey. I find that Collinson has copied the Palmer MSS.

Eyton says that the male line of Alured de Hispania vanished in an heiress, but the succession is not known for certain. She is called *Isabella*, and married Robert de Candos, described as a Norman, who came over with William the Conqueror.

II.—With the de Candos *régime* we come to more certain history.

From Nether Stowey, de Candos sets out upon his Welsh conquest at Caerleon, where he founds the alien priory of Gold Clive, in Monmouthshire. He died in 1120. We may picture from here the course of conquest, following the old route to Cannington parish, to the Parret, and thence to Caerleon, perhaps by boat.

This Welsh conquest from West Somerset is worth noting, as the Irish conquest from Stoke Courcy.

III.—The de Candos family ended very shortly in an heiress, Maude de Candos, wife, in 1166, of Philip de Columbers.

In King Henry II's reign (Collins *Peerage*, vol. viii, p. 36) the charter of Philip de Columbers, still extant in the Red Book of the Exchequer, shows that he held ten knight's fees, Nether Stowey being the head of the barony. Honibere was held under it, also Woolavington, Puriton, and Monksilver.

The Columbers family continued at Nether Stowey Castle for several generations, no fewer than four of them being called Philip. They formed connections with the Stawels, of Cothelstone, and the Vernais, of Fairfield, and many others.

In the Palmer MSS., I find that Fairfield was anciently held of the Castle of Stowey, and was originally part of the lordship of Honibere. In the same MSS., I find that the first Philip de Columbers, son of Maud de Candos, granted Fairfield to William Russell.

IV.—The fourth change is when Alicia de Columbers dies (17 Edw. III, 1334), and James Lord Audley, her nephew, succeeds. He is son of James Lord Audley and Joan her sister. These Audleys, or Touchets, were Norman by extraction, and a North Country family, from Boglatton, in Cheshire. The Audleys held also Heleigh Castle, in Staffordshire, and Red Castle in Shropshire.

The member of the family who is locally most interesting, who lived at Nether Stowey, was Sir James Touchet, in Henry VII's reign, who led the Cornish insurgents in 1497.

Mr. Palmer in his MSS., says that the particulars of the life of this Lord Audley deserve a book in themselves. He resided chiefly at Stowey, and at the time of the Cornish insurrection was enlarging a manor house at the place where the present Court House stands.

The same authority would appear to have been indebted to Leland, who, in his Itinerary (1540-1542), wrote "The Lord Audeley that rebelled in Henry the VII's time, began great foundations of stone work to the enlargement of his house, the which are yet to be seen half on perfect."

Leland says "Stowey a poor village standeth in a Botome among hilles. Here is a goodly manor place of the Lord Audleys standing exceeding pleasantly for goodly pasture and having by it a Park of redde deer and another of falow, and a fair brooke serving all the offices of the manor place." This would evidently be the present Court House.

I think somehow that both these extracts refer to the Manor House.*

(*) In vol. xxv of Som. Arch. *Proceedings* (1880) Mr. Batten, in his account of Henry VII in Somerset, gives several notices of the Insurrection, and of Lord Audley.

It is a surmise of Mr. Batten, that the names of the King's councillors, Cardinal Morton, Reginald Bray, were furnished to the Cornishmen by Lord Audley.

The petitioners marched through Devon and Taunton, and thence to Wells, where they were headed by Lord Audley, who was building his mansion at Nether Stowey at the time they set out.

Lord Audley was cousin of Sir Hugh Luttrell of Dunster Castle, and brother-in-law of Lord Daubeny. The battle took place at Blackheath, 17th June, 1497. The King executed Lord Audley, Flamanx, and Michael Joseph, the smith.

But why or when was the Castle dismantled? I do not think that it was because of the Cornish Insurrection, *i.e.*, before 1500, as some would suppose.

Would not Leland have mentioned the Castle if it had been standing? Why only the Manor House? Collinson thinks that it was garrisoned here for Charles I, in the Parliamentary War. I have not been able to find, as yet, any notices of the dismantling. Much of the stone at the Court appears to have been brought from the Castle Hill. Some of the stones in the arches seem too heavy for their object.*

Local traditions and names.—Old men have told me that “they beat down the Castle from Dowsboro, and then the Stowey men beat down Stoke Courcy Castle.” Stoke Courcy Castle was finally destroyed by Lord Bonville in Henry VI’s reign, for its lawlessness.

Could Stowey Castle have suffered the same fate? as local tradition connects the two together. As is usual with ancient encampments and hills, old people have told me that as children they used to be frightened at the giants under Castle Hill mound. Figures of men would appear and threaten them with their hands.

“Hack Lane” is the lane on the west of Castle Hill.

“Stow Here pat” is on the Quantocks.

“Cochley Lane” is on the south side of Castle Hill.

“Butcher’s Lane,” just under Castle Hill, on the north side. On the south side “Portrey Mead.” Perhaps something to do with the porta or portreeve, and the entrance.

(*) In Archbold’s Religious Houses the following interesting fact appears that, in 1538, John Dycensen, rector of Holford, goes down to Athelney from my master, the Lord Audley, as a messenger or commissioner about the surrender.

From the Audleys the property descends in a very mutilated condition to several proprietors. The last Audley lived here in James I’s reign. One of the families who inherited the Castle and “Red Deer Park,” and the farm of “Rowbear” was the Walkers, from 20 Henry VIII. He was a Staffordshire man, and probably obtained it through the Audleys. Of a member of this family Mr. Palmer says, “Edward Walker, third son to Edward and Barbara Tothall, was bred in the family of the Earl of Arundell, Earl Marshall of England,” and gives an account of the Walker family (1639). Related to *Bourne* family of Gothelney in beginning of eighteenth century (1730-40).

Close by was an old well, under a willow, at the turn of the road, where people used to wash their eyes. Also they fetched water thence. It was filled up within living memory, so old men say; but fifty yards nearer the mount, and near "Stakes Barton," the well has appeared again. The old man who lived at Castle Hill Cottage had a blind wife, over eighty, and she used to bathe her eyes in the water.

There is another well in the grounds of Castle Hill House, also Blind Well just to the east, all flowing north.

Down in Nether Stowey there is still "The Parks," in Mr. Govett's farm, to mark the old park, and also a "Deerleap," distinctly observable at intervals. It runs from the Court House westward, below Pinnacle Hill, and adjoins the glebe.

Just opposite is Tom Poole's farm, and the land below belongs to a Mr. Lansdown.

Yonder, on the Quantocks, are several hundred acres of "Customs," which have never paid rate or tax and on which the Stowey poor have privileges.

The parish boundaries are peculiar, just here the boundary line runs up to the cottage. The Castle stood in Nether Stowey, and, historically, Nether and Over Stowey are distinct.

Below is "Bincombe Tything" in two Hundreds, Williton and Cannington, and in two parishes, Over and Nether Stowey.

Close by was a bull-baiting arena. The Castle mound was used as a kind of amphitheatre when the local champions at fisticuffs met, the fame of whose encounters remain.

The ground plan of the Castle shows a small rectangular keep. Not many years ago the late Sir Peregrine Acland had the foundations cleared. The outside walls were six feet six inches in thickness, but the material has been constantly removed. There appeared to be an entrance on the north side, where it was supposed the church or chapel of St. Michael stood. The whole site is too small to be a residentiary castle. The Court House with the Church close by and the village Pound adjoining it, and the two parks stretching round it on

all sides, as Leland saw it, was probably always the dwelling-house of the chief family.

An error.—Camden writes “At Stowey, on the side of a hill above the church, rises a large spring which is never dry, which water, at about forty yards from its source, as it runs through the village, encrusts with stone whatever it meets with, but has no such effect at the source, nor within twenty yards of it.

Probably at Stowey in Chew Magna.

[Collinson, ii, 110, mentions this spring under Stowey in the Hundred of Chew.—Ed.]

The party next proceeded to

Quantock Lodge,

where the newly-elected president, Mr. E. J. STANLEY, M.P., most hospitably entertained them to luncheon, and some considerable time was spent in inspecting the interior of the fine mansion with its magnificent library, paintings, and statuary.

The first place visited after luncheon was

Sparton Church,

and here Mr. BUCKLE again acted as spokesman for the party. The first thing to which he drew the attention of the company was the east window, which was a specimen of quite the earliest Geometrical tracery, in fact of the very beginning of tracery of any kind. The only other fragment in the church which was of an earlier date than the Perpendicular period, was the little window facing the south entrance. That window was only half the height of the other two on that side of the church, and if they went to the outside they would see there was a clearly marked line where the character of the masonry entirely changed. At an early period the wall of the

church was only as high as the top of that little window ; and it was at a subsequent period, in the 15th or 16th century, that the walls were raised to their present height, and this window was blocked up ; but in recent times it had been opened again. Work was going on here in 1530 [*see* Wells Wills] and all else in the church was of the Perpendicular date to which the greater part of that Somersetshire architecture belonged. In that part of the country they had got out of the range of freestone. There was no proper freestone to be found in this neighbourhood, although there was a great quantity in other parts of the county. The chancel arch was built of sandstone from the Quantocks, and as sandstone did not lend itself to elaborate work, like freestone, they always found in the sandstone country work of a rougher character. In the chancel there was a rather curious little arcade with the carving carried round the bell of the cap, which was not at all usual in this county, although it was quite common farther west. The people of Spaxton did, however, think it worth while to import some freestone for the tracery of the windows, the parapets and the buttress slopes. The porch on the south side of the church, being carried to the full height of the aisle, added dignity to that side of the church. The tower was one of the rough class he was speaking of at Bridgewater, containing no freestone which it was possible to avoid. The majority of the windows of the tower were made of sandstone, and the general effect was a rugged mass carried up to a considerable height, which, however, was distinctly imposing on account of its simplicity and the excellence of its outline. Cannington was a tower of the same kind with great height, but no detail, and the tower of Stogursey, leaving out the spire, was a perfectly plain oblong mass, but with its character to some extent altered in its external appearance on account of the fact that it was plastered all over. But he took it that the towers of West Somerset were generally plastered over, and that it was a purely modern idea to show the rough sandstone.

Coming to the fittings of the church, which were perhaps in some respects the most interesting feature there, there was a great deal of oak carving. Some of the panels of the pulpit were of a distinctly English character of design, but the bench ends appeared to have been put in at a good many different times. One of the bench ends bore the date 1536. The set to which this belonged had a Renaissance character with a slightly Flemish feeling. On the other hand, some of the bench ends were clearly English, and in a very different style. Then there were others, dated 1561, which were emphatically Flemish in character. On one in the nave was a portrait of a fuller at work. This was interesting on account of the shape of a tool he was using—a mallet with two handles. The fuller was generally pictured with a large two-handed club. Here, however, he was using a heavy plank, apparently of wood, with two handles, which he lifted up and stamped down upon the cloth. At a later time when machinery was introduced, the fulling was done by means of similar mallets, but of greater weight. The purpose of fulling was to draw the cloth together, the finer class of cloth requiring more fulling than the coarse. Somerset was, of course, until comparatively recent times, one of the principal places in which cloth was made, and consequently they had indications of the power of the weavers and fullers in many Somerset churches. Another remarkable piece of oak carving was the alms box at the side of the door, which was dug out of a great chunk of oak, so as to form a box, and secured with three locks in the old-fashioned manner. One of the keys was kept by the rector, and the other two each by one of the churchwardens. There was in the chancel a monument of a knight and his lady, which appeared to belong to a period at the end of the 14th century. Outside the church there was another thing of great interest, a churchyard cross, which was remarkable, inasmuch as it had a representation of the rood on both sides—a most unusual thing.

After leaving Spaxton, the party drove to

Blackmore Manor Farm,

which was the next place visited, and the old domestic chapel and its surroundings, including some stone carving on the walls and a stone staircase, etc., were viewed with much interest. It was suggested that what is now requisitioned as a bedroom was formerly a pew for the use of the lord and lady of the manor, and was probably provided with a screen front, seating accommodation being provided below for neighbours during divine service.

An adjournment was then made to Brymore, where tea was most kindly provided by Mr. H. H. Pleydell Bouverie.

Cannington Church.

A start was afterwards made for home, but on reaching Cannington a halt was called for the purpose of inspecting the church. Mr. BUCKLE remarked that that church was something almost unique in their part of the world. The shape of the building was quite different from that which they generally found in their parish churches. In this church there was only one single slate roof, which covered the entire building—the nave, the aisles, and the chancel. There was no external sign on the roof to show where the chancel ended or the nave began. The result was a nave of great height, but without clerestory windows. There was a series of exceedingly lofty arches on each side of the nave, and above them there was nothing but bare wall, the effect thus produced being very grand indeed. The general effect of the church was in many respects foreign. They in England, and especially in the West of England, had a tendency to keep their roofs as low as possible. In any case they rarely had a church anything approaching the height of this one. There was nothing either inside or outside to divide

the chancel from the nave, except the screen across the front of the chancel. Norton-sub-Hambdon somewhat resembled that church, for the same roof covered both nave and aisles. But in Norton church there was a distinct chancel arch, and this chancel roof was a little lower than the nave roof. There was another such church at Winsford on Exmoor, but although the same roof covered both nave and aisles, it was not of any great height, as in the present instance. Here they had, without doubt, exceeding dignity inside the church, but the slate roof on the outside gave it a somewhat poor and modern appearance, but the great height of the chancel walls was very effective externally. There was a splendid large east window and a fine window on the south of the chancel. But the church was not, of course, always like this. The church they were now looking at was a late Perpendicular church, and on the tower they could see the original roof mark which indicated the height of the earlier church. They could see from that that the side walls of the old church were little more than half the height of the present ones. The tower, they would no doubt observe, was set at a very oblique angle to the rest of the building. That of course could not be produced by accident, and a very curious thing was that the present church was made at an even more oblique angle than the former building. In the vestry they would find a fragment of a Norman arcade, showing that the Norman church which occupied that site, was not in a line with the present church, but took a direction sloping more towards the north; so that on the rebuilding the pillar got left in the vestry, about two or three feet further north than the existing line of pillars. The Norman church then was not so oblique as the present one, but even then the church was not in a direct line from the tower, which was of course later than the Norman church, and must have been deliberately set at an angle with the existing church. When the old church was taken down, and the present church built, for some reason—there must have been a reason—they

deliberately shifted the church further round, and increased the divergence between the direction of the tower and of the rest of the church. There was only one suggestion he could make as to why this should have occurred. There was now a very fine building adjoining the church, with a 17th or 18th century front, occupying the site of the old Cannington nunnery, which formerly joined on to the parish church. The churchyard did not go all round the church: the nunnery occupied the whole of the adjoining land on the north side, and abutted on the east end of the church. In the year 1138, one of the de Courcy family founded a nunnery of Benedictines there, and the church was subsequently appropriated to that nunnery. The only reason by which they could account for the obliquity of the present church, was that the nunnery wanted more room for extensions, and so caused the parish church to be shifted three feet or so further to the south. In the chapel on the north side of the church they would find a collection of iron railings which had apparently belonged to a monument of the Clifford family, which previously stood in the chancel, but which he supposed was removed to make more room. They were fine specimens of the hammered iron work of probably 150 years ago. Another point about that church of unusual interest was the series of consecration crosses. If they walked round the outside of the building, they would find, starting from the west end of the south aisle, and going round towards the east, twelve such crosses. There were probably no consecration crosses on the other side, that side being practically inaccessible, and there were none on the tower, because the tower belonged to an earlier period than the church, and when the church was newly-consecrated there was no necessity to put one on the tower. The old form of consecration involved the anointing with chrism by the Bishop of twelve crosses on the walls. In the modern Roman use the crosses were marked on the inside, but in mediæval times these crosses were often on the outside. Generally speaking, the crosses were mere scrat-

ches, with little holes bored at the four corners to hold the chrism. Here, however, the crosses were formed in pieces of freestone, about 12 inches square, and they were all floriated.

Friday's Proceedings.

The members of the Society resumed their excursions on Friday, by visiting the site of the historic battle of Sedgmoor, and the churches in the neighbourhood. The party, numbering over 100, left the Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgwater, in brakes, and a char-a-banc. At the time of starting, 9.30, the weather was rather showery, and continued so throughout the day. The first place visited was the picturesque little village of Chedzoy, and Mr. BUCKLE gave a description of

Chedzoy Church,

the Rector of which, the Rev. G. R. Mullens, kindly met the party. Mr. BUCKLE said that the building was a fine specimen of the Early English style. The arcades were nice and simple examples of that style, and the south aisle was of the same date, and the porch, although it had been altered since first built, was also Early English. Over the arch were let in three blocks of stone, on one of which were the initials "R.B.," which were well known in that part of the county as being the initials of Richard Bere, the last abbot but one of Glastonbury. He died in 1524. On another stone was "R.F.," with the date 1579, which implied, he took it, the time when the porch was altered or rebuilt in its present form. On a third stone the initials "H.P." On the south side there had been from the first a very wide aisle, nearly as wide as the nave itself. On the north side there was a narrow aisle, and that aisle as they saw it now was entirely a piece of Perpendicular work. Still, it seemed that the earlier north aisle was never wider than the present one. At this early period there was a pair of transepts,

and the early half-pillars remained at the angles where the transepts joined on to the aisles. The chancel was also Early English. There used to be on the south side of the chancel a chapel, but this had been taken down. From the 13th century there had always been there a distinctly important church. There was practically nothing remaining of subsequent periods until they came to the 15th century ; then the clerestory was added to the nave, and there were considerable minor alterations. The north aisle had then been built ; also the tower at the west end, which had a fine arch opening to the nave, giving an impression of height to the building. They would notice that the tower was not a very lofty one, but it was highly finished, especially in the belfry storey, and here, just two or three miles from Bridgwater, they came to the freestone towers with their delicate finish. The buttresses were situated a considerable distance from the corners of the tower, as in many Devonshire towers. There were only two belfry windows instead of the usual three. In Westonzoyland they would find the tower of the church carried out on the normal Somerset lines. They would observe the perfect preservation of the nave fittings. The benches were exactly as they were put in : the width of the gangway was also worthy of notice. The pulpit was noticeable for its curious linen-pattern panels. The pulpit itself had, however, been considerably altered. Fragments of the old work of the church were to be seen in the screen, the great bulk of which, however, was modern. In the transept would be observed the Jacobean altar rails. But the most remarkable thing in the church was the embroidery. A magnificent cope was found there, which had been converted into three altar frontals. The work of this cope was of the period of about 1500, but the frontals contained a mixture of new and old work.

The frontals were shown by the rector, and were inspected with great interest.

Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE, F.S.A., Hon. Gen. Sec., made the fol-

lowing remarks:—In the north transept (Lady Chapel) lies the brass of a man in armour of the very end of the 15th or beginning of the 16th century. Mail skirt with invected taces *over*, and tuilles (?) *under*, the skirt. The latter is most unusual. The pauldrons are of two plates on the left shoulder, but of one only on the right. There are two plates above and below the genouillières or knee-pieces. The sollerets are still of the pointed shape, although they are broader than at an earlier date. The sword hangs straight down, but the dagger, on the right side, is at an acute angle with the body. The hair is worn long, as usual at this date. The head is resting on a barred helmet with the crest of a ram; “Sydenham” or “de Sydenham” of Sydenham, adjacent to the parish. Four shields of arms and an inscription are missing. I am informed that this brass was formerly in the chancel.*

A good deal of interest was taken in the exterior buttresses of the church, which in many places were worn away and indented, and bore palpable marks as if large blades, or weapons such as scythes, had been sharpened upon the stonework. It was stated that these were the marks showing where the peasantry had sharpened their scythes previous to the battle of Sedgmoor.

The next stopping place was at

Westonzoyland Church,

where the vicar, the Rev. C. M. Rogers, received the party. In driving there, the visitors passed very near to the site of the battle of Sedgmoor.

Mr. BUCKLE, in describing the church, said that whereas in Chedzoy church they had a building very largely in the Early

* For an account of the Sydenham Family *see* Collinson iii, 86. Since the visit to the church, my colleague, the Rev. F. W. Weaver, has informed me that the will of “Richard Sidenham of Chedsey” was proved 1499, and that of “Lady Joan Sidenham” (presumably his widow) in 1501. It may fairly be assumed that this is the monument of Richard Sidenham. [P.C.C., 6 Moore, and 22 Moore].

English style, the chancel of Westonzoyland was of the Early Decorated period of architecture, and the rest of the building belonged to the Perpendicular. It was a very fine, open, large church, with a magnificent tower, as they must have observed, at the west end. One feature remarkable at Chedzoy, was also noticeable there, and that was the amount of floor space. It was very much to be regretted that in modern churches the floor was regarded merely as a place to put seats upon. The nave was on a large scale, and lofty. The two transepts were also very large. The north transept was a lofty building, so high indeed, that the clerestory window looked into the transept instead of looking into the open air. Under the lofty north window there was a recess for a monument, and in it, but out of its true place, was now lying a rough figure of a priest. On the buttresses of the south transept were the monogram R.B., and the Courtenay badge, with the Glastonbury coat in the centre of the gable. The Abbots of Glastonbury, owned the land and the parish church. It was commonly said that they did nothing to help the parishioners, but simply confined themselves strictly to what was required of them in keeping up the chancels ; but in that church they had an example showing that Richard Bere, when abbot, did a considerable portion of the work in that transept. And they would not only find his monogram outside, but the same monogram occurred on a little fragment of glass in the chancel, and three ears of barley for Bere on another, and the initials were also to be seen on one of the bench-ends ; all which pointed to the fact that Bere did a good deal towards the rebuilding and furnishing of the church. The mouldings on the font were interesting. The tower of the church was nearly the finest they would be visiting that year as a society. It was enriched from the ground right up to the top. It was built of blue lias stone with Ham Hill dressings. Every stage of the tower was ornamented, and some, at any rate, of the niches had originally, statues. The angles of the tower were treated in a way very common

throughout Mid-Somerset. There were three buttresses at each angle, which interpenetrated. The parapets were almost always built later than the towers themselves, and with more ornamentation, and this was the case here.

Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE remarked that the church possessed one of the pre-Reformation bells with the inscription thereon :— “*Sancta Anna, ora pro nobis.*” He also gave the following description of the monument in the north aisle, to which Mr. Buckle had referred. “Against the north wall of the north transept, under a 15th century sepulchral arch, lies the stone effigy of a priest of much earlier date. He is represented in eucharistic vestments ; alb, with close sleeves and large apparels at wrists and foot ; stole and maniple, both very narrow, and with fringed ends ; amice, with apparel, and chasuble falling from the shoulders in graceful folds. The chasuble has a pallium, or Y-shaped orphrey (shaped like the pall, the distinguishing vestment of an archbishop). The embroidered apparel, or border, of the amice (which in later dates appears like an upright collar to the chasuble) lies almost flat. The hair is long and flowing, but with a large tonsure on the top of the head. The date of the effigy may be fixed as the end of the 13th or early part of the 14th century.”

Mr. W. GEORGE, of Bristol, said that it was in this village that the royal cavalry were quartered on Sunday evening, July 5th, the day before the battle of Sedgmoor, and that the Earl of Feversham had here fixed his headquarters. One of the parish registers, which the Rev. C. M. Rogers has kindly shown us, contains the following contemporary entry, written probably by the Rev. Thomas Perratt, vicar in 1685, who died in 1709, and was buried in this church :—

“Ann account of the ffight that was in Langmore, the six of July, 1685, between the King’s Army and the D. of M.

The Ingagement began between one and two of the clock in the morning. It continued nearly one hour and a halfe. There was killed upon the spott of the King’s

souldiers sixteen ; ffive of them buried in the church, the rest in the churchyard, and they had all of them Christian buriall. One hundred or more of the King's souldiers wounded : of which wounds many died, of which wee have no certaine account. There was killed of the rebels upon the spott aboute 300 : hanged with us 22, of which 4 weare hanged in gemmasses.* Aboute 500 prisoners brought into our church, of which there was 79 wounded, and 5 of them died of their wounds in our church."

"The D. of M. beheaded.

July 15, A.D. 1685."

The churchwardens' accounts contain the following entries :

"Expended when Monmouth was taken [July
8th] upon ringers 0 8 6

"Paid for Frankincense, &c., to burn in the
church after the prisoners was gone out ... 0 5 8"

From later entries in these accounts of payments for "beere" and "ringing when the King was in the more," and from statements in Bristol chronicles, Mr. George showed that King James II was in Bristol in August, 1686, and left it on the 27th for Sedgmoor, "to see the place where his army overthrew the Duke of Monmouth"; "the last fight," Macaulay says, "deserving the name of a battle that has been fought on English ground." Though the fact of the King's visit to Sedgmoor was not noticed by Macaulay, it was confirmed by contemporary authorities.

The next church visited was that of

Middlezoy,

where the party was welcomed by the Rev. R. Stokes, vicar.

Mr. BUCKLE described the church as being remarkable for the beauty of the geometrical tracery. In the east window

* "Gimmace: a hinge. When a criminal is gibbeted, or hung in irons or chains, he is said to be hung in *Gimmaces*, most probably because the apparatus swings about as if on hinges.—J. Jennings, "Dialect of the West of England," 1825.

HERE LYES THE BODY OF LOVIS CHEVALEIR
D^E MISIERS A FRENCH GENTLEMAN: WHO
BEHAVED HIMSELF WITH GRATE COVRAGE
AND GALLANTRY 78 YEARES IN THE ENGLISH
SERVICES AND WAS VNFORTVNATELY SLAINE
ON Y^E 6 OF IVLY 1685 AT THE BATTEL OF WESTON
WHERE HE BEHAVED HIMSELF WITH ALL THE
COVRAGE IMAGINABLE AGAINST THE KINGS
ENEMIES. COMANDED BY REBEL DUKE OF MVNMOVTH

BRASS IN MIDDLEZOY CHURCH

was most delicate tracery, the mullions of the tracery being only about an inch thick. It was charmingly refined work, and in a good state of preservation. Speaking from the exterior of the church, Mr. BUCKLE said that the work they were then looking at, belonged to the period of the 12th, or the beginning of the 13th century. He pointed out the low side window at the side of the aisle, and said that such windows were a great mystery. Many persons had explained their purpose, but in many different ways.

Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE remarked that in the east of England, such low side windows were common, especially near Peterborough.

Mr. BUCKLE further said that the tower of the church was exceedingly like that of Westonzoyland, but one storey less in height. In this class of tower there was little diminution in width from the ground upwards, so that the tower stood up bold and strong, whereas the tower of Othery, visible across the moor, was very decidedly pyramidal in outline. Proceeding inside the church, Mr. BUCKLE called attention to the good finish of the windows. There was a great delicacy in the work of the chancel. The screen, until quite recently, was placed further forward to line with the front edge of the chancel arch, but it had been shifted back to show the front of the chancel arch. The miserere stall in the chancel had been touched up in recent times, and it had been done in a way which showed that the modern carpenter had no conception how it was used, for he had made the top slope the wrong way, and so destroyed its usefulness. They would also notice the Jacobean pulpit. In the centre of the floor was to be seen a brass as a memorial of a Frenchman, Louis Chevalier de Misiers, who fell in the battle of Sedgmoor. This is given in our *Proceedings* (vol. xxiii, i, 55), but as that version is not correct, we reproduce the inscription, and hereby thank the vicar for giving us a rubbing.

Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE showed the communion plate, which in-

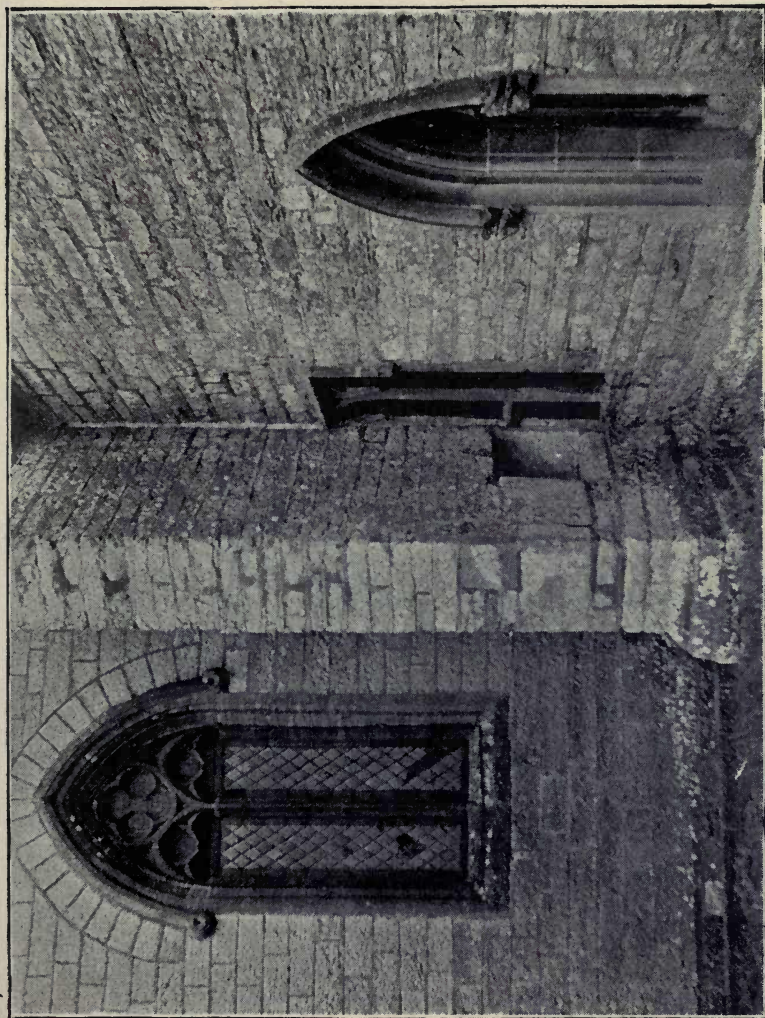
cluded a particularly handsome Elizabethan cup. The cover was used as a paten, and the date on the cover was 1573. They had there also one of the old pewter flagons.

Othery Church.

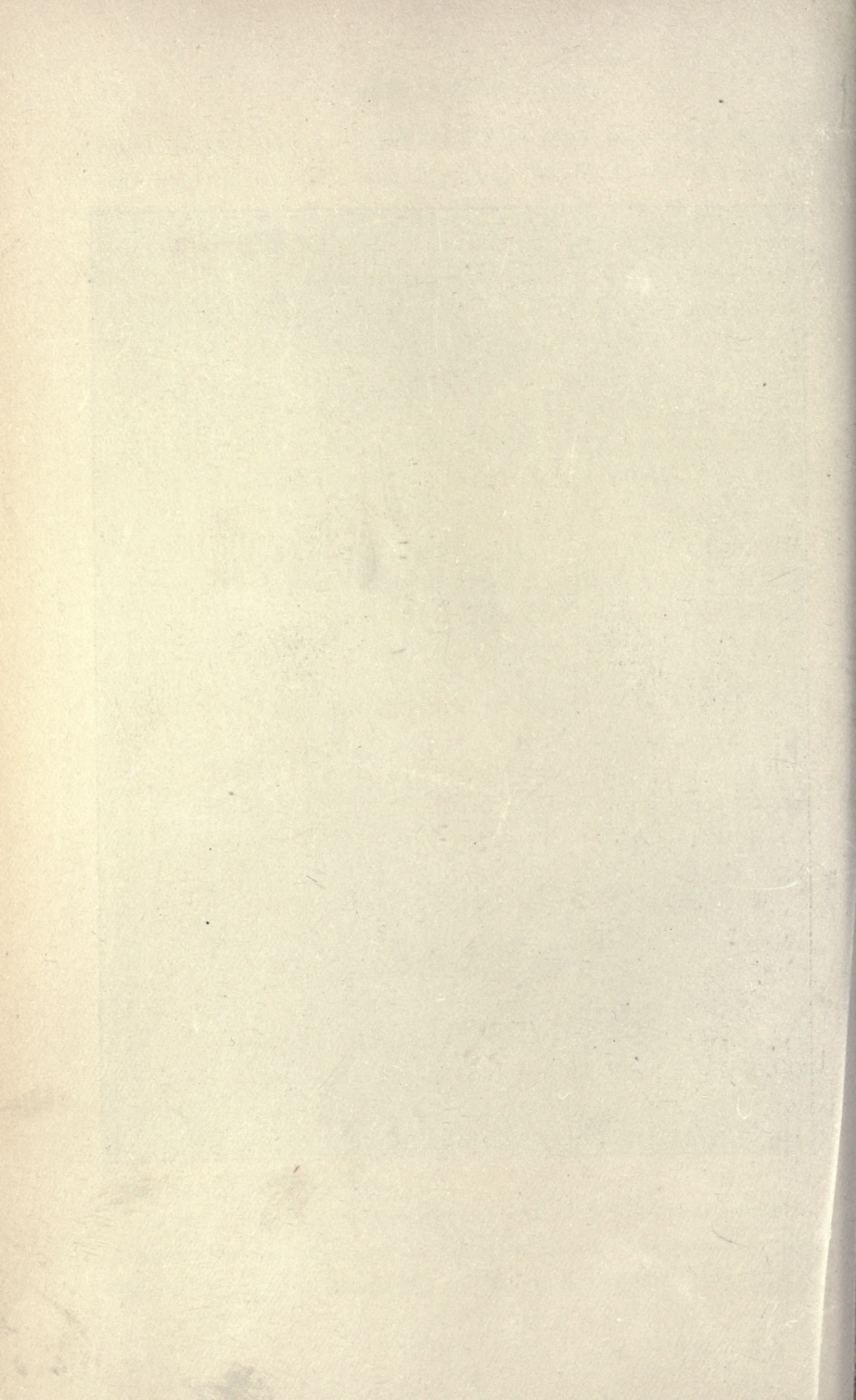
The drive was then continued to Othery, where the church was an object of much interest. The vicar, the Rev. C. M. de P. Gillam met the party in the church, which was undergoing a cleaning process at the hands of whitewashers. The church has a low side window which is situate just behind the great diagonal buttress of the tower, and is provided with a squint through the buttress.

Mr. BUCKLE said that this window was very peculiar and threw some light upon the purpose of these low side windows. If the object were simply to communicate lepers, the squint through the buttress would not be needed: it was clear that this window was constructed for seeing through or hearing through, and not merely for the purpose of handing something through. The tower was quite different from those they had previously seen, as there was a great slope in the buttresses, causing quite a pyramidal outline. The date of the tower was about 1500, or probably later. There were figures in the niches of the tower, which included one of the Virgin Mary and child, and one of St. Michael and the Dragon. The chancel was Early English, and was built in the thirteenth century. The most curious feature of the church was the way in which the wide nave was joined on to the comparatively narrow central tower: the west face of the tower was supported on two detached pillars connected by narrow arches to the side walls of the nave. A similar device was found in the neighbouring church of Aller.

Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE remarked as regarded the squint window, that it was the only one of the kind in existence, and it had figured on several occasions in the archæological papers. A



LOW SIDE-WINDOW OTHERY, SOMERSET.



number of theories put forth was that it was used for communicating lepers and others not allowed to go into the church. The priest came down to the window and handed the wafer through it to those who were outside. Having pointed out that this window did not look towards the altar at all, Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE said if it was simply used for communicating, why should they have made a hole through the buttress, as there was plenty of room without that? Another opinion was that it was meant to show a light from the inside of the church to the churchyard, so as to scare away any evil spirits. A further opinion held was that a bell used to be rung outside the window to notify the elevation of the host.* He called attention to the fine specimen of the Somerset waggon roof.

The VICAR exhibited a cope of the date about A.D. 1470, which was found concealed under the pulpit.

A short drive brought the party to

Boroughbridge

where the Rev. W. Arnold, the vicar of the parish, welcomed the visitors. Luncheon was partaken of in the Schoolroom.

The President, Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P., presided.

At the conclusion of the meal, Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE proposed a vote of thanks to all who had assisted at the annual meetings. First, they owed their sincere thanks to their President for his presence among them, and for his admirable address. Their thanks were also due to the Hon. Mrs. Stanley for having so hospitably entertained them. Likewise to the Mayor of Bridgewater, who had also entertained them; to the corporation who had afforded them kind facilities; to Mr. Bouverie, of Brymore; the Rev. A. H. A. Smith, of Lyng; and Mr. A. B. James, of North Petherton; also to the clergy who had

[* On the subject of "Low side windows," there is a most interesting article by the late Mr. J. H. Parker in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. iv, pp. 314-326, in which Othery is figured and is described as "the most remarkable specimen of these openings." Mr. Parker also gives no less than twelve theories as to the use of these windows.—ED.]

thrown open their churches to them, and to the owners and occupiers of houses who had permitted them to see them. It was anything but pleasant to have an invasion of from 100 to 150 archæologists who always wanted to see everything and afterwards to know the reason why. They must further thank the local committee and Dr. Winterbotham, who had been working for months in the perfection of the arrangements, and had made the meeting the success it had been. Then there was the Rev. W. Arnold who must be mentioned, and their heartiest thanks were due to Mr. Buckle for his description of the churches they had visited. For some years past he had come down and given them the benefit of his experience, and he (the speaker) felt sure they were all deeply indebted to him. He begged to propose that the cordial thanks of the Society be given to those he had mentioned.

The Rev. Prebendary BULLER seconded the resolution. He mentioned that he was one of the oldest members of the Society, and he had known their excellent president longer than anyone else in the room. Lt.-Col. Bramble had omitted all mention of himself, but he (Preb. Buller) did not know what the Somersetshire archæologists would do without him. Their gatherings became more and more pleasant year by year, and the fact that every place they had this year visited had been familiar to him from his earliest years, instead of detracting from his interest in the gathering, had very much increased it. He anticipated the greatest possible pleasure, if he were spared one more year, in receiving the Society in his own dear parish, which was not far from there.

The resolution was then carried.

The PRESIDENT, in acknowledging the vote, spoke of the deep interest which was taken in the Society throughout the county. He felt sure that there was no man, whatever his position might be, but would heartily welcome them and encourage the inquiries which they, as archæologists, were fond of making.

From Boroughbridge the party drove to

Lyng,

where the ancient church was visited. The Rev. A. H. A. Smith and his brother extended a hearty welcome to the visitors.

Mr. BUCKLE said that the church had been almost untouched by modern restorers, and taken on the whole it had been unaltered since mediæval times, except so far as keeping the building wind and weather tight. This also necessitated doing a little to the roof, and also some plastering, which had hidden the oak roof. It was one of those waggon roofs, specimens of which they had seen elsewhere that day. The building, taken generally, was of a period earlier than the majority of their churches, the main part of it being rather of a transitional character between Decorated and Perpendicular. The window to the north of the altar was on a very much smaller scale than the others. The other windows in the chancel had got the Perpendicular mullions. One of the most interesting features of the church was the very remarkable arrangement for the rood screen, of which the greater part had perished, but the base remained. The reason why the stone jambs of the chancel arch were so plain, was that the screen was carried up and fitted into the rebate round the arch, and filled up the whole of the arch space, so that the adjoining stonework was almost entirely hidden. There was a somewhat similar treatment at Winsham, where a painting of a crucifixion had been fitted into and filled up the arch over the rood loft. The pulpit was made of mediæval carved benches, and the whole of the seats in the nave were as they were originally put in. On some of the ends was depicted a stag-hunt. Mr. BUCKLE also pointed out a curious economy in the tower ; on three sides there are two windows in the belfry story, side by side, but on the south side, which is comparatively little seen, a single window was thought sufficient.

The VICAR remarked that the church up to the year 1337, was a chapelry of Athelney Abbey. Whether King Alfred resided at Athelney or not, and whether it was a resting-place for his children, he was intimately connected with Athelney, and they claimed him as the most famous parishioner of Lyng, in which parish Athelney was situated. He was glad they had been able to see the church in an unrestored state. It was his wish, however, to have it restored, and he intended to set about it before long, and when they received a circular appealing for funds, he hoped they would respond to it. The Vicar, in conclusion, alluded to King Alfred as a staunch supporter of the Church of England, and the founder of the British Navy.

A word or two having been said as to the derivation of East Lyng, the Rev. J. E. ODGERS expressed the opinion that it came from Ætheling.

The company was afterwards hospitably entertained to tea in the schoolroom by the Vicar and Major Smith.

The party next drove to Shovell Hill, North Petherton, the residence of Mr. James, C.C., who had very kindly invited the members and their friends to tea. After remaining here for some time, and Mr. and Mrs. James being thanked by Lt.-Col. Bramble on behalf of the Society for their hospitality, the carriages were re-entered, and the party proceeded to

North Petherton Church.

Mr. BUCKLE'S services were here once more requisitioned. He remarked that the great feature of this church was the tower. When he said at Westonzoyland that that was the finest tower to be visited this year, he forgot for the moment that they were coming to North Petherton. The Weston tower was an exceedingly fine one, but he thought it must be allowed by everybody that North Petherton was a still finer example, for they had there quite one of the most elaborate

and at the same time artistic towers in Somerset. In this case there was no question of taking a slice out of the tower, taking out or putting in a storey, or making it lower or higher, for the whole tower from bottom to top was a single composition. The top storey was one mass of ornamentation, and the panels over the belfry windows added greatly to the general effect. With regard to the interior of the church there was very little of importance to describe, but one of the most interesting features was, perhaps, the fact of the smallness of the piers which carried the chancel arch. Mr. Buckle at this point was reminded that there was no more time to spare, as some of the members wanted to return to their homes by an early train from Bridgwater, and in consequence he curtailed his description of the building.

The return journey was then made, Bridgwater being reached about 6.30, and thus ended what was generally acknowledged to have been one of the most successful and enjoyable of the annual gatherings that had been held under the auspices of the Society.

The Local Museum.

AN upper room of the Town Hall was utilised as a temporary Museum, and the following were among the objects of interest lent.

Rev. C. W. Whistler.—Ancient Sussex Ironwork, formerly preserved in Battle Abbey, consisting of a violin, flesh-hooks from the kitchen, Abbey padlock and keys, spur *temp.* Edward III, tobacco stopper *temp.* William III, model of the Viking ship, 10th century, found at Sändefjord, Norway.

Mr. Corder.—Neolithic flint spear head and polisher, and quartzite hammer-stone found near Chelmsford. Piece of sixteenth century tapestry, and a number of rubbings of brasses from various parts of England.

Mr. Rookley.—Wooden quart measure, bound with a copper rim inscribed "Bridgwater," probably one of the original borough standard measures; medal of the Duke of Cumberland, "Rebellion Justly Rewarded, Culloden, 16 Ap., 1746," found near Bridgwater; broadsheet, "Bridgwater Amusements, 1794."

Mr. Stote.—Frame containing some notes of the "Bridgwater and Somerset Bank,"—one £1, seven £5, and one £10; twelve seventeenth century Bridgwater tokens, three eighteenth century Bridgwater tokens; *British Directory*, vol. ii, containing Bridgwater; *General Directory for the County of Somerset*, Taunton, 1840; drawings of Ham Mills on the Tone, and Royal Hotel, Bridgwater; Engineer's report on the Geology of Bridgwater; *Penal Laws, a Discourse or Charge at Sessions in the Borough of Bridgwater, 12th July, 1680*; proposal for establishing a Medical Institution in Bridgwater, 1813; *Taunton and Bridgwater Journal*, printed by C. H. Drake, Taunton, 1812.

The Corporation of Bridgwater.—Three silver maces of the time of Charles II, all inscribed “Charles II, King of England, Scotland, and France, and Ireland,” the larger one dated “1660;” the maker’s mark $\overline{\text{M}}$ is on all three, so that they are probably all of one date. Two silver cups, inscribed “Ex dono Margaretæ Jones Viduæ,” the arms, a castle on a bridge, are probably intended for Bridgwater, though not drawn as usually represented; the date-letter hall mark is that for the year 1640-1. Salt cellar, circular in form, with broad-spreading foot, and three arms at top for supporting a napkin to cover the salt, a well known form of seventeenth century salts; inscribed round the body “Ex dono Tho. Wrothe milit. Recordat. Burgi de Bridgwater, 1638,” on the top “Sal sapit omnia;” the date-letter is for the year 1633-4, four years earlier than the earliest specimen known and recorded in Cripps’s *Old English Plate*. Several old charters, and the mayor’s chain were also exhibited.

Mr. W. B. Broadmead.—Polished stone axe found in Enmore Park; Buck’s View of Enmore Castle.

Mr. R. C. Else (Mayor of Bridgwater).—Eight engravings of old Bridgwater.

Mr. T. H. Boys.—Views of Crowcombe Court, Fairfield, Enmore Castle, Old Cross at Nether Stowey, Hatch Court, interior of old St. Mary’s Church, Bridgwater; drawings of Stogursey Castle, and of the “Three Crowns” and “Fleur-de-lis” Inns, Bridgwater; Copper sign “Bull and Butcher;” cannon balls shot from Bridgwater Castle during the siege; painted badge “Huntspill Harmonic Society;” two old painted trays from Pike’s factory, Bridgwater; old Bridgwater pottery jugs; constables’ staves and watchman’s rattle; engraved drinking horn, and some other things of general rather than local interest.

Mr. T. F. Norris.—Order for the removal of cattle during the murrain, 1757; bell-metal “posnet,” a three-legged crock or skillet with straight handle, lettered “Bee Constant, 1775;”

upper stone of a quern, and some Roman coins, found at Gold Corner, Huntspill; an old "Leathern Bottell," with piece cut out of the side,

" hang it up to a pin
'Twill serve to put hinges and odd things in."

Custom House.—Impressions from early stamps of the ports of Bridgwater and Minehead; iron-bound chest, with massive locks, sixteenth century.

Borough Police Office.—Eleven Watchmen's Staves, 1819.

Mr. Harold S. Thompson.—Herbarium of dried plants, comprising about sixteen hundred specimens of British flowering plants and ferns, among them being many specimens of great botanical and local interest, the bulk of the collection having been obtained from the neighbourhood of Bridgwater. One small cabinet contained specimens of *Rubi* only, chiefly from Warwickshire and the Quantock district, many of which had been named by the late Professor Babington. Among the plants shown on the table was a specimen of the rare sea knot-grass (*Polygonum maritimum*) which, as a boy of twelve, Mr. Thompson discovered at Burnham, Somerset, it being then not only new to the county, but extremely rare in Britain.¹ Perhaps the most interesting of the botanical exhibits were the specimens collected in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater by the late Thomas Clark, who was born at Greinton in 1793, and died at Bridgwater in 1864. Thomas Clark was an accurate and conscientious botanist, and member of the Botanical Society of London; he did much of his work in conjunction with the Rev. J. C. Collins, of St. John's, Bridgwater, and the Rev. John Poole, both of whom contributed many notes to the (Somerset) Supplement of Watson's *New Botanists' Guide*, 1837; but some of these records had been doubted by subsequent students of Somersetshire botany, for the plants

(1). Since the meeting, this plant has been noticed among a list of plants printed in *A Compleat History of Somersetshire*, 1740, "found on the Severn shore, near Weston-super-Mare."

were not submitted for verification, and some had apparently become extinct. However, in 1891, a portion of Clark's Herbarium came into the hands of Mr. Thompson, when the old records were to a great extent confirmed. It is gratifying to hear that this summer one of these plants, supposed to have become extinct (*Papaver hybridum*), has been re-discovered in the district by the Rev. C. W. Whistler, of Stockland, after it had disappeared for many years. In 1856, Thomas Clark contributed a list of the *Rarer Plants of the Turfmoors* to the *Proceedings* of the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, of which he was a member.

Additions to the Society's Museum and Library
During the Year 1897.

THE MUSEUM.

Convict Leg-Iron from Port Arthur, Tasmania.—From Mr. FRANKLIN.

Chinese Sword in Shagreen Scabbard.—From the Rev. W. ROUSE.

Bank Token, 10d. Irish, 1805.—From Mr. YANDALL.

Section of a Chestnut Tree ; half-section of Oak Tree, showing annular rings.—From Mr. WYATT.

A large rounded ball of red sandstone from a gravel bed at Bishop's Lydeard ; pair of horns of the native red cattle of, and peculiar to, Burmah.—From Major FOSTER.

Stuffed White Mole.—From Mr. ESDAILE.

Instrument for weighing a guinea and half-guinea.—From Mr. SAUNDERS.

Mounted Engraving, "The Triumph of Venus."—From Mr. C. H. SPENCER PERCEVAL.

Parcel of Devonian Fossils.—From Mr. USSHER, H.M. Geological Survey.

Two specimens of the Honey Ant from West Australia.—From Mr. W. A. G. WALTER.

Sections of Box, Mulberry, and Laburnum Trees.—From Mr. MULFORD.

THE LIBRARY.

Memorials of Wincanton People.—From Mr. SWEETMAN.

Fifty-seventh Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records ; Index of Surnames in the Registers at Cucklington and at Stoke Trister (MSS.).—From the Rev. E. H. BATES.

Daily Weather Reports for 1896; Somerset Lives.—From Dr. PRIOR.

Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Agriculture, Montana, 1896.

Order of Procession on Laying the Foundation Stone of St. Mary's Tower, Taunton, August 3rd, 1858; and Order of Coronation Procession, Taunton, June 28, 1838.—From Mr. MEYLER.

Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, vol. iv, pts. 7, 8, 9.

A Brief History of the Hospital of St. John Baptist, Bath, by R. E. Peach.—From the Rev. I. S. GALE.

On the Disappearance of Certain Species of Insects.—From the author, Mr. F. BOUSKELL.

Nova Scotian Institute of Science—*Proceedings*, vol. ix.

Life and Letters of James David Forbes, F.R.S., etc. Army List, January, 1897.—From Major CHISHOLM-BATTEN.

Chicago Academy of Sciences.—*The Lichen Flora of Chicago. Report for 1896.*

Reports of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, 1 to 54, 56, 57. *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society*, 1st series, 1839 to 1865 (part 2, vol. i wanting); 2nd series, 1865 to 1889 (parts 27, 28, 32, 33, 36 wanting); 3rd series, 1890 (nos. 15, 18, 19, 20, 23, 27 wanting); *Letters and Papers on Agriculture, etc., of the Bath Society*, vol. i, 2nd ed.; vols. iii, iv, vii. *Ordinum Religiosorum in Ecclesia Militanti catalogus* a Philippo Bonanni, 4 vols., 4to., Rome 1714; *Brice's Gazeteer or Topographic Dictionary*, 2 vols., fol., 1759; *Henry VII, Prince Arthur, and Cardinal Morton, from a group on the Chancel Screen of Plymtree Church, Devon.* From Mr. JOHN BATTEN.

Yorkshire Philosophical Society. *Report for 1896.*

Chronicon Radulphi Higden, vols. 8, 9; *Materials for the History of Archbishop Thomas Becket*, vols. 6, 7; *Matthæi Parisiensis, Chronica Major*, vols. 6, 7; *Historians of the*

Church of York and its Archbishops, vols. 2, 3; *Sarum Charters and Documents*; *Giraldus Cambrensis*, vol. 8; *Calendar of Patent Rolls*, Edward I, Edward II, Edward III, Richard II, 7 vols.; *Calendar of Close Rolls*, Edward II, Edward III, 4 vols. From the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records. In exchange.

Various Books and Pamphlets on Geology, Agriculture, etc., from the University of California.

Catalogue of Fossil Cephalopoda, part 3; *Catalogue of Tertiary Mollusca*, part 1; *Guide to Fossil Mammals and Birds*; *Guide to Fossil Invertebrates and Plants*; *Guide to Fossil Reptiles and Fishes*.—From the Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History).

The Progress of Merthyr Tydvil.—From the author, Mr. J. G. E. ASTLE.

The Parish of Selworthy: some Notes on its History.—From the author, Rev. F. HANCOCK.

Collections for a Parochial History of Barrow Gurney.—From the Rev. I. S. GALE.

The Legendary and Historical Associations of Glastonbury.—From the author, Rev. T. S. HOLMES.

The Prebendal Stalls and Miserecordes in Wells Cathedral.—From the author, Rev. Canon CHURCH.

What led to the Discovery of the Source of the Nile; *Marriott's Sermons Preached at Margaret's Chapel, Bath, 1830*; *Toulmin's Life of Socinus, 1777*; *Sermons by Rev. R. Oakman, of Martock, 1847*; *Memorials of the late Elizabeth Langford*; *Evangelical Principles and Practice*, by Haweis; *The Jubilee Memorial of the Rev. Wm. Jay, of Bath*; *Hymns for use in Churches*, by the Rev. G. Dance; *Grove's Sermons*, vols. v, vi; *The Somerset Roll: an Experimental List of Worthies, Unworthies, and Villains born in the County*.—From Mr. C. TITE.

The French in Wincanton.—From the author, Mr. GEO. SWEETMAN.

The Castle Cary Visitor, 12 nos., 1897.—From Mr. MACMILLAN.

The English Ancestry of the Families of Batt and Biley.—From the author, Mr. J. H. LEA.

List of Parish Registers and other Genealogical Works, edited by Fredk. A. Crisp.—From the editor.

Proceedings of the Society of Psychical Research, part 32, *On the So-called Divining Rod*, by Professor W. F. Barrett.—From Mr. Edward T. BENNETT.

Received from Societies in Correspondence for the Exchange of Publications.

Royal Archæological Institute—*Archæological Journal*, nos. 212, 213, 214, 215.

British Archæological Association—*Journal*, new series, vol. ii, pt. 4 ; vol. iii, pts. 1, 2.

British Association—*Report*, 1896.

Society of Antiquaries of London—*Proceedings*, vol. xvi, nos. 2, 3, 4.

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland—*Proceedings*, vol. xxx.

Royal Irish Academy—*Transactions*, vol. xxx, pts. 18, 19, 20, 25, 27 ; *Proceedings*, vol. iv, nos. 1, 2, 3.

Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland—*Journal*, vol. vi, pt. 4 ; vol. vii, pts. 1, 2.

Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History—*Proceedings*, vol. ix, pt. 2.

Sussex Archæological Society—*Collections*, vol. xl.

Surrey Archæological Society—*Collections*, vol. xiii, pt. 2.

Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Magazine*, nos. 86, 87 ; *Additions to the Library*, appendix ii, June, 1897 ; *Abstract of Wiltshire Inquisitiones Post Mortem*, pt. 4.

Plymouth Institution and Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society—*Report*, vol. xii, pts. 2, 3.

- Kent Archæological Society—*Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. xxii.
- Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. xix, pt. 2 ; vol. xx, pt. 1.
- Powys Land Club—*Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. xxix, pt. 2.
- Derbyshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Journal*, vol. xix.
- Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Transactions*, vol. ix, pts. 1, 2, 3.
- Hertfordshire Natural History Society—*Transactions*, vol. vii, pt. 7 ; vol. viii, pts. 1 to 5 ; vol. ix, pt. 4.
- Essex Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. vi, pts. 2, 3.
- Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. viii, pt. 4.
- Yorkshire Archæological Society—*Journal*, pt. 55.
- Northamptonshire Naturalists' Society—*Journal*, nos. 65 to 68.
- Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club—*Proceedings*, vol. viii, no. 4.
- Geologists' Association—*Proceedings*, vol. xv, pts. 1, 2, 3, 4.
- Liverpool Literary and Philosophical Society—*Proceedings*, vol. li.
- Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society—*Proceedings*, vol. xli, pts. 2, 3, 4.
- Essex Field Club—*Essex Naturalist*, vol. ix, nos. 7 to 24 ; vol. x, nos. 1 to 4.
- Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne—*Archæologia Æliana*, vol. xix, pts. 1, 2 ; *Warkworth Parish Registers*.
- Cambridge Antiquarian Society—*Biographical Notes on the thirty-eight Librarians of Trinity College ; List of Members. Proceedings*, no. xxxviii.
- Chester Archæological and Historical Society—*Journal*, vol. vi, pt. 1.
- Clifton Antiquarian Club—*Proceedings*, vol. iii, pt. 3.
- The Reliquary and Illustrated Archæologist—vol. iii, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4.

- Royal University of Christiania—*Beskrivelse af en Række Norske Bergarter*, af Dr. Th. Kjerulf, Schjött, Samlede Philologiske Afhandlinger. Barth, Norronaskaller Crania Antiqua. Sars, Fauna Norvegiæ.
- Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.—*Report*, 1894. *Report of the U.S. National Museum*, 1895; *Proceedings of the U.S. National Museum*, 1895, vol. xviii; Bulletin, nos. 47, 49; Life Histories of North American Birds; Oceanic Ichthyology.—The Fishes of North and Middle America.
- Bureau of American Ethnology—*Annual Report* vols. xiv, xv.
- New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, U.S.—*Register*, nos. 201, 202, 204; *Proceedings*, January 6, 1897.
- Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, U.S.—*Proceedings*, 1896, pts. 2, 3; 1897, pt. 1.
- Canadian Institute—*Proceedings*, vol. i, pt. 1.
- Société Vaudoise des Sciences Naturelles, Lausanne—*Bulletin*, nos. 122, 123, 124.
- University of Upsala—Zoologiska Studier—Festskrift Wilhelm Lilljeborg. Carl von Linné, pts. 5, 6.

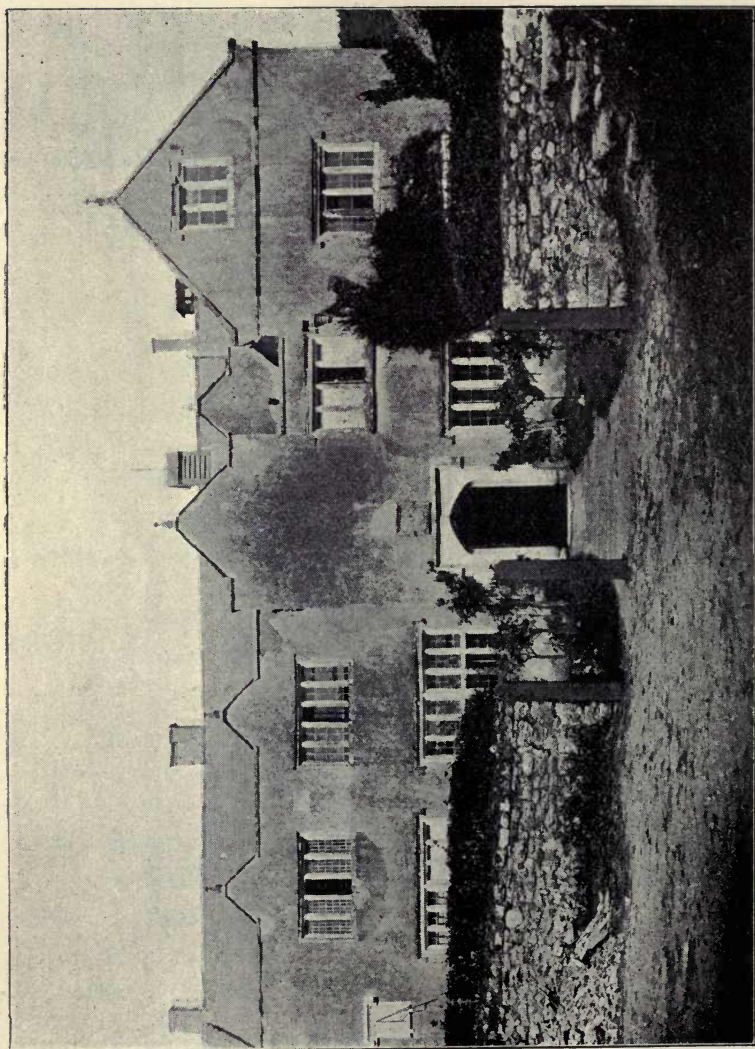
Purchased :—

- Harleian Society—*Registers of the Cathedral Church of Durham*, 1609—1896; *Registers of St. George's, Hanover Square*, vol. iii.
- Oxford Historical Society—*Collectanea*, iii; *History of Pembroke College*.
- Palæontographical Society, vol. li.
- Ray Society, vol. for 1894.
- Early English Text Society, nos. 108, 109.
- Pipe Roll Society, vol. xxii.
- Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries, pts. 37, 38, 39.
- Whitaker's *Almanack*, 1897.
- Seebohm's *Coloured Figures of British Birds' Eggs*.

- Bishop Ken's *Prayers for the Use of all Persons who come to the Baths of Bath for cure*, with Life by Markland.
- Ken's *Exposition of the Church Catechism*.
- Beedle's *Visitors' Handbook of Weston-super-Mare*.
- Wild's *Great Western Railway Map*, 1840.
- Ken's *Approach to the Holy Altar*, 3rd ed., 1854.
- Golden Remains of the ever memorable Mr. John Hales*, 1638.
- Selections from the Poetical Works of Bishop Ken*.
- Dr. Magee's *Voluntary System of the Established Church*.
- Cary's *Map of Somerset*, 1842.
- Letter to on the Rev. W. L. Bowles' Strictures on the Life and Writings of Pope*.
- Final Appeal to the Literary Public Relative to Pope*.
- Craddock's *Supplement to Knowledge and Practice*.
- Three Civil War Tracts.—*A Letter concerning the raising of the Siege of Taunton*, 1645 ; *The Proceedings of the Army under the Command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, from the first of July to the sixth, containing the story of the Club-men, and Relief of Taunton*, 1645 ; *A True Relation of a Victory over the King's Forces being fought neere Langport, July 10, 1645*.
- The Royal Sufferer, a Manual of Meditations and Devotions*, by Bishop Ken.
- Episcopal Registers, Diocese of Exeter*—John de Grandison, part 2.
- Year Book 16 Edward III*, pt. 1.
- Fifty-fifth Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records*.
- Cooke's *Description of Somerset*, circa 1830.
- Original Letters from Richard Baxter, and others*, edited by Rebecca Warner, Bath, 1817.

Deposited on Loan.

An Albino Kangaroo from Western Australia, by Miss Walter, of Wellington.



SAND-SIDBURY, DEVON

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
DURING THE YEAR
1897.

PART II.—PAPERS, ETC.

Huyshe ;

OF LOD-HUISH AND DONIFORD, IN SOMERSET,
AND OF SAND, IN DEVON.

PREFATORY NOTE.

A FEW years since the MS. containing the following pedigree of Huyshe was purchased from the catalogue of a London bookseller. It is carefully written and bound, and appears from a letter preserved and inserted, that it was sent by the Rev. Francis Huyshe, of Pennsylvania, Exeter, to John Burke, Esq., of Raynham Place, Chelsea, London, on 19th September, 1839. In this letter Mr. Huyshe says, "with this you will receive a correct copy of Mr. Protheroe's pedigree of Huyshe, which I believe you expect from him. I am fully confident, that you will think your most valuable work really honoured by the high ability and zeal that has spared neither trouble nor expense, which he has brought to the work, upon which he has been engaged very many years."

It is probable Mr. Burke was then compiling his *Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Commoners of Great Britain and Ireland*, and this pedigree was furnished him to give

particulars relative to the family of Huyshe. It has been transcribed verbatim, slightly re-arranged in a few places for greater clearness. The Notes added have been collected from various sources, and special thanks are offered to Mr. Roscoe Gibbs for the gift of his excellent drawings for the illustrations.

W. H. HAMILTON ROGERS, F.S.A.

EXETER, *June, 1897.*

INTRODUCTION.

THE following pedigree is based :—

I.—On the MSS. of Mr. Palmer of Fairfield, who took great pains in the beginning of the last century on families of West Somerset. His papers, which are in possession of Sir Peregrine Palmer Acland, Bart., and his mother Lady Acland, give the whole of the old Doniford Huyshes, and the branch (of Wells) which produced Alexander Huish, the great assistant of Walton in his Polyglott. Collinson is greatly indebted to Mr. Palmer.

II.—The Heralds *Visitations*, which give Doniford and its branches of London, Sand, and Clysthidon, from Oliver Huyshe temp. Henry VI, down to the present.

III.—An old pedigree found among deeds that had been brought from Sand in 1724. This gives the family of Huyshe who first resided at Sand before the building of the present house; and states the connection of the Huyshes of Taunton with those of Doniford and Sand. Its correctness is everywhere proved.

I conceive that every real judge will be struck with the ability and indefatigable zeal of Mr. Protheroe, now M.P. for Halifax, in corroborating these, and filling up from every kind of authentic documents.

FRANCIS HUYSHE.

PENNSYLVANIA, NEAR EXETER,
September, 1837.

PRINTED ACCOUNTS OF THE FAMILY
OF HUYSHE.

SOME notices occur in Collinson's *History of Somersetshire* :—

I.—Introduction, page xxviii. Richard de Lod-Hywish, among the possessors of land temp. Edward I.

II.—Page 201. Beckington,—Alexander Huish.

III.—Page 491. St. Decumans.

III.—Page 541. Nettlecombe,—Lodhuish.

A brief notice is found in Risdon's *Devon* (Sidbury, p. 34, ed. 1811), who seems to have thought that none but an upstart could be *faber suæ fortunæ*.

Sir William Pole—*Collections*, page 514—on “Hiwys of Hiwys,” bears testimony against this; p. 165 on Sand, Sir William notices Rowland Huyshe, who built the “dainty dwelling,” as it was in Risdon's time.

A drawing of Sand appears in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of March, 1834.

Lyson's *Britannia* notices Huyshe at p. cxlix, p. 119 and 444. He has deviated from the account that I gave him, and is incorrect where he chose to depart from it. He, like Risdon, at cxlix, is in opposition to Sir William Pole, 514. He says Huyshe was probably a younger branch of Hiwis of Hiwis.

NOTE.—The offending notice by Risdon runs thus :—“*Sand*, was by the dean and chapter granted unto William, surnamed of the place, in the reign of King Henry III, to whom succeeded Deodatus his son, afterwards by a daughter of Trivett, this land came to Tremayle, from whom descended Sir Thomas Tremayle, one of the justices of common pleas in King Henry VII's time. This was since purchased by one Huish, who is here seated in a dainty dwelling.”

Sir W. Pole, who Risdon appears to have followed in his description of the descent, says nothing as to a “dainty dwelling”; which was Risdon's commentary; with the somewhat contemptuous prefix as to its builder.

Westcote notes—“In Sidbury at Sand, is a generous race of Huish.”

The engraving of Sand was given by the Rev. Francis Huyshe to the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

ARMS.

THE bearing of Huyshe since the marriage with the heiress of Roach has been:—*Argent, on a bend sable, three lucas of the field.* Crest:—*On a wreath argent and sable, an elephant's head couped argent, crowned and tusked or.*

The ancient bearings of Huyshe (tricked in the MS.) were

1. *A chevron between three roundels.*
2. *A chevron, and in a chief three walnut or oak leaves.*

NOTE.—In a genealogical window in Clysthidon church, the tinctures of the antient coats of Huyshe are thus given:—(1) *Sable, a chevron or, in a chief argent, three leaves proper,* and (2) *Gules, a chevron between three plates argent.*

THE REV. FRANCIS HUYSHE, sometime rector of Clysthidon, Prebendary (of) Cutton in the Castle of Exeter, born 29th Feb., 1768, married at Halifax in Yorkshire, 18th May, 1803. HARRIET, third daughter of JOHN WATERHOUSE of Wellhead, Halifax, Esq., and Elizabeth his wife, second daughter and coheir of Charles Beaty of Louth, by Bridget, daughter and coheir of Robert Saunderson of Alford (Lincolnshire), born 14th Oct., 1771. Issue:

- 1.—*Horatio*, born 3rd Nov., 1805, died 31st Dec. same year.
- 2.—*Harriet*, born 13th March, 1810 (married 20th Feb., 1838 to Arthur Abbott).
- 3.—*Wentworth*, born 29th May, 1812, died at Madeira 22nd Nov., 1829.

NOTE.—Inscription in Clysthidon church:—"The Rev. Francis Huyshe, M.A., many years rector of this parish. Born at Pembridge, Herefordshire, 29th February, 1768. Died, 28th August, 1839."

Arms:—Huyshe, impaling; *Or, a pile engrailed sable.* (WATERHOUSE).

A memorial window to Arthur Abbott, ob. Nov. 1848, erected by his widow, and a tablet to Wentworth Huyshe who died at Madeira, 1829.

His early virtues and the affection of his schoolfellows are recorded on a cenotaph erected by them to his memory in Harrow church.

LINEAGE.

THIS is a branch of the antient family of Huyshe of Doniford, in Somersetshire, whose name, originally spelt Hywis, was taken from their residence Lod-Hywis in the same county.

James Huyshe, third son of John Huyshe of Doniford, living in the latter part of the sixteenth century, acquired considerable wealth by trade in London.

Sand in Devonshire, which he bought of his cousins, Thomas and Anthony Huysh, became the residence of his eldest son Rowland and his posterity until 1724.

James Huyshe, the eldest son of Rowland, married a coheir of the Reynells, of Credy, and his descendants thus became possessed of the manor and advowson of Clysthidon.

NOTE.—The very antient name of Hiwis or Hywis, subsequently softened by many variants to Huish or Huyshe, as a family appellation, is found in the three counties of Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall. These may all have descended from a common ancestor, or what is equally probable derived the name from the locality they resided in. A recent writer, the Rev. J. Stubbs—article, *Huish-Episcopi*—in Vol. XX, *S. A. & N. H. S. Proceedings*, 1894, p. 76, remarks “The word Huish is variously derived. By some it is traced to the Celtic ‘Wych’ (pronounced OO-ish) meaning ‘water,’ and it is assigned as a reason why so many places bear this designation that they are to be found in those spots, where a small rivulet or stream trickles down between two rising grounds. By others, the origin of the name is to be found in the Anglo-Saxon ‘Hi-wisc’—‘the homestead’—‘the homestead farm’—consisting of a ‘hide’ of land, the territorial possession of a primitive Teutonic family, and we are pointed to the fact that each Huish is to be found near some large town. But whatever the origin of the word ‘Huish’ the name carries us far back into history.”

Hiwis is mentioned in *Domesday*, and thus quoted by Collinson, vol. i, p. xxviii:—

SUMMERSETE. Raimer (clericus) ten. de W. HIWIS. Chinesi tenuit T.R.E. & geldebat pro una virg. terræ. Terra est 1 car. quæ ibi est cum 1 servo & 1 cotar & 3 bord. Valuit & val. 10 solid. Radulfus ten. de W. HIWIS. Ailui tenuit T.R.E. & geldebat pro una virg. terræ. Terra est 1 car. quæ ibi est cum 5 bord. Valuit & val. 10 sol.

Beside the Lod-Hywish of this present descent in Nettlecombe, we have Huish-Episcopi and Huish-Champfflower in Somerset, and Huish in North Devon, and North and South Huish in South Devon, all parishes so named.

The Somersetshire family of Hywis or Huish, is carefully traced in the pedigree. Of the Devonshire descent Sir W. Pole writes, p. 347, “Stowford, or Stafford, and Boveland (in North Devon), did Philip de Hiwis hold in King Henry II’s time (1154-89), unto whom succeeded three of the name of William. The last Sir William married Jone, daughter and heir of Sir Richard Bauceyn, of Norton Bauceyn, Knt., and had issue, Sir Richard de Hiwys, which married Matild, daughter of Sir Alan Blochou the elder, Knt., and had issue, Sir Richard; he died, A.D., 1297. Sir Richard, his son, married Margaret, daughter of Sir Adam Crete, and had issue by Emeline, daughter of Sir William Botreaux, Sir Richard. The said Sir Richard died, A.D., 1340, and his son

Richard ten years before him. Sir Richard Hiwis the fourth, married Alis, daughter of Sir Ralph Blanchmonster, and had issue, William Hiwis, which died without issue, and Emeline, wife of Sir Robert Tresilian, Chief Justice of England, and after unto Sir John Colshull."

This descent of Hywis had possessions and were also seated at Lansallos and Tremodart in Duloe, Cornwall. On 2nd August, 1310, Dame Matilda de Hiwis, relict of Sir Richard, ob. 1297, obtained from Walter Stapledon, Bishop of Exeter, license for an oratory at Tremodart, in Duloe, and on the 20th May, 1332, Sir Richard de Hywische, Knt., obtained licenses from John Grandison, Bishop of Exeter, for oratories at Rathewell, in Lansallos, and Tremoderet, or Tremodart, in Duloe. Their arms appear to have been *Gules, fretty argent*, with sometimes the addition of a *Canton of the second*.

Pole, further observes, p. 514, "The issue male (of Hiwis) continued unto the latter end of King Edward III's time. The heir general is Copleston, by Hauley and Tresilian. There is not any left of that family; but there is of the name of another family which came out of Somersetshire."

PEDIGREE.

I.—Richard de Hywis, of Lod-Hywis, living in the reign of King John (1199-1216), had issue (1) *Richard de Hywis*, and (2) *John*.

II.—John de Hywis, of Lynch, in the parish of Luxborough. He had issue, *John*.

III.—John de Hywish, who had a grant of a house and a carucate of land in Doniford, from John Fitzurse, 38 Henry III, 1254. (Contemporaries). Mr. Palmer mentions a Bartholomew de Lod-Hywish and an Andrew of the same name, living in the reign of Henry III. The latter had a daughter who married Andrew de Cottele. He had issue, *Geffry*.

LOD-HYWISH.

NOTE.—Collinson notes, "The family of Hewish takes its name from Hewish, otherwise Lud-Hewish, in the parish of Nettlecombe, and is descended from John de Hywis, of Linch, in the parish of Luxborough. The descendants of this John lived at Linch, and sometimes at Doniford till the time of Henry IV (1399-1413), when Oliver Hewish, of Doniford, gave his lands at Linch to Richard his younger son, whose posterity settled at Holnicot, in the parish of Selworthy, and were the ancestors of the Steynings of that place." There appears to have been two manors in Nettlecombe with the affix Hywish—Begarn-Hywish, and Lud-Hywish. "The latter, in the time of King John (1199-1216), had owners of the same name, progenitors of the Hewishes of Linch and Doniford. Richard de Hewis, of Hewis, in the time of Henry III (1216-72), was the father of another Richard, who, 17 Edward I (1289), calls himself Richard de Lod-Hywish. At the same time there were Bartholomew and Andrew de Lod-Hywish, the last of whom had a daughter married to Richard de Cottelle."

Begarn-Hywish appears subsequently to have passed into the possession of the Wyndhams, and Lod-Hywish to the Trevelyans.

IV.—**Ceffry de Hywis**, living 10 Edward I (1282). He was on the Jury, 2 Edward I, for the hundred of Williton, county of Somerset (*see* Hundred Rolls). He had issue, *John*.

V.—**John de Hywish**, of Lynch and Doniford, 19 Edward II (1326). He had issue (1) *Gilbert de Hywish*; (2) *William de Hywysh*, living 3 and 5 Edward III (1330-2), as appears by Fines in the Chapter House, Westminster; (3) *Joan*, married Walter Perceval, second son of Sir Richard Perceval, of Corneville, Knt. A widow in 1387. She conveyed her lands in East Quantock to her brother Gilbert.

NOTE.—There was a family of Percival located at Weston-in-Gordano, Somerset, mentioned in the *Visitations* of that county, “whose ancestors came out of Wales.” Their arms, *Argent, on a chief indented gules, three crosses patée or*.

VI.—**Gilbert de Hywish**, aforesaid was of Doniford and Lynch, 4 Edward III (1331), and by Fine dated 5 Edward III, he with John Durborough and others was witness to a grant made by John Mohun, Lord of Dunster, to that Priory, 15 Edward III (1343).

He married **Alice**, daughter of SIR JOHN DURBOROUGH, Knt., and had issue (1) *Oliver*; (2) *Alexander*; (3) *John*. (4) *Agnes*, wife of John de Tetton.

NOTE.—Sir John Hulle (or Hylle) of Kyton, in Holcombe-Rogus, Devon, one of the judges of King's Bench, ob. 24th June, 1408, married as his first wife, Dionysia, daughter of Sir John Durburgh, Knt., and widow of Martin Langdon. She died, 13th October, 1387. Sister probably of Alice Hywish. The Hulles were afterward of Spaxton.

VII.—**Oliver Hywish**, of Doniford and Linch, 42 and 49 Edward III (1369-76). He married the daughter and heir of SIMON DE LA ROCHE.

NOTE.—2 Edward I (1274), William de la Roche, one of the Jurors of the Hundred of Williton (*see* Hundred Rolls). 32 Edward I (1304), William de la Roche. 2 Edward II (1309), Richard de la Roche. 3 Edward III (1330), Richard de la Roche. Simon de la Roche and Elizabeth his wife. Alice, widow of Richard de la Roche (*see* Fines, Chapter House, Westminster, Somerset.)

In consequence of this marriage the arms of Roche, *Argent*,

on a bend sable, three roaches proper, were taken by him and his posterity instead of the antient bearings of the Hywis's, which had been a chevron between three roundels, and a chevron on a chief three leaves. (Contemporary) 3 and 5 Edward III (1330-2), a William de Hywish (Fines, Chap. H, Westminster, Somerset).

He had issue (1) *John Huyish*; (2) *Richard Huyish*, to whom his father gave Lynch, living 10 Henry V (1423), who had issue *Oliver Hewish*, of Holnicault, in the parish of Selworthy, whose daughter and heiress married John Woode, of North-Tawton, and had issue a daughter (represented by some pedigrees as an heiress) who married William Steynings. Other pedigrees, those of Woode, give her a brother John, ancestor of the Woodes of North Tawton.

NOTE.—There was a family of de la Rupe, or de la Roche, in Devon. Richard de Rupe, or de Roche, held Cotleigh, 27 Henry III (1243), and to him his son Robert, temp. Edward I. Sir Ralph Arundell married Eva, eldest daughter and coheir of Richard de Rupe (Pole). Sir Thomas Archdeacon married Alice, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas de la Roche, their son John married Cecily, daughter and heir of Jordan de Haccombe. Through this marriage the Carews quarter the arms of this descent of Roche, which are given at *Gules, three roaches in pale naiant argent*.

Collinson says Simon Raleigh (second son of John Raleigh, of Nettlecombe, by Ismania Hanham, his second wife), a celebrated knight who was at the battle of Agincourt, married secondly Joan, daughter of Oliver Huish, of Doniford. She survived him seventeen years, and 33 Henry VI (1455), completed the endowment of the chantry her husband had founded in Nettlecombe church. John Wood, of North Tawton, married Margaret, daughter and heir of Oliver Hewish, and had issue John, and Maud married to William Steyning.

VIII.—*John Huyish*, of Doniford, 10 Henry VI (1433). He married *Catherine* and had issue *Oliver*.

NOTE.—John Huyshe was seized of the manor of Lud-Huyshe, and by his deed, dated Tuesday, the Feast of S.S. Peter and Paul, Henry V, he thereby enfeoffed Hugh Cary and others to hold to them and their heirs for ever, to the use of the said John Huyshe and his heirs. And by deed dated 8th May, 8 Henry VI (1430), gave the said manor to John Hyll and Cecyle his wife, remainder to Thomas, son of John Hyll and his heirs, and failing them to the right heirs of John Hyll (*Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, Vol iii, second series, page 112). This was John Hyll, of Spaxton (grandson of Sir John Hyll before mentioned), ob. 14th October, 1434, married Cecily, daughter and coheir of John Stourton, of Preston, Somerset, ob. 19th April, 1472.

IX.—*Oliver Hewish*, of Doniford, 30 Henry VI (1455). He married *Johanna*, daughter and coheir of JOHN AVENELL, of Blackpoole, in the parish of Southmolton, in the county of Devon.

NOTE.—The pedigree of Huysh in the *Visitation* of Somerset, and that in Mr. Palmer's MS. in the Dowager Lady Acland's possession at Bath, state that Oliver Huysh married Johanna, daughter and heir of Richards. This appears to be an error arising from a family of Richards, of Somersetshire and Devon, having borne the arms of Avenell. It is probable that they adopted them in consequence of the marriage of their ancestor Edward Richards, with Eleanor, one of the daughters and coheirs of John Avenell, of Loxbeare, in Devon. Edward Richards died, it appears, by inquisition, 10th Oct., 5 Henry VIII (1514).

The statement in the text is in accordance with the old family pedigree found at Sand, which calls her coheir of Avenell with her sisters, wives of Weekes (or Wykes), and Holcombe; and this is corroborated by the pedigrees of Weekes or Wykes, and those of Holcombe, and by the following *Inquisitions post mortem*.

Richard Wykes, of North Wykes, county of Devon, married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of John Avenell, of Blackpoole. By inquisition taken after the death of his son, William Wykes, who died last day of March, 14 Henry VIII (1523), it appears that he held a third of Blackpoole, under the manor of Warkley.

Roger Holcombe married Margaret, another coheir. By inquisition taken after the death of Margaret Holcombe, who died 7th April, 15 Henry VII (1502), it appears she held a third of Blackpoole of the Bouchiers, Lords of the manor of Warkley. Her son Charles Holcombe died 2nd January, 19 Henry VIII (1528), and also among other lands held a third of Blackpoole.

No positive proof has been found that Johanna, wife of Oliver Huyshe, inherited a third of Blackpoole, as one of the three coheirresses, but Risdon, on Southmolton (p. 307, ed. 1811) says, "Blackpole is a tything of Molton, where Pollard, Gambon, and Huish, held lands; some are of opinion that a

manor divided between coheirs, each of them hath a manor." This shews that the manor of Blackpole was divided into three shares by the marriage of coheireesses, and that one share continued in the name of Huish, after those of Wykes and Holcombe were lost.

Oliver Hewish had issue (1) *Oliver*; (2) *Elizabeth*, wife of John Dodington of Dodington; (3) *Anne*, wife of Alexander Vernie, son by the third wife of John Vernie, of Fairfield, county of Somerset.

NOTE.—The Avenells were a very antient Devonshire family. From Pole we learn that William Avenell married Emma, one of the daughters of Baldwin de Brionis, or de Sap, to whom the Conqueror gave the honour of Okehampton. A Nicholas Avenell held Sheepwash, temp. Henry III (1216-72), and gave for his arms on a seal circumscribed with his name, *three eaglets displayed, two and one*. The main branch was seated at Loxbeare. Galfride de Avenell held Loxbeare, temp. Henry II (1154-89). William Avenell presented to the living in 1285, and John Avenill, "Lord of Lokkesbeare," also in 1401. The family continued there until one of the three ultimate coheireesses married Richards, whose son James was joint holder of the land, temp. Henry VII (1485-1509). They bore for their arms the coat displayed in the third and fourth shields in the window.

The *third* shield in the window at Sand is charged with *argent, five fusils in fess sable, between two cotises gules* (AVENELL of Loxbeare), impaling *argent, a fess between three mens legs, sable* (GAMBON).

This implies that Avenell married a daughter and probably a coheireess of Gambon, and their daughter married Huyshe. The Gambons were of Morystone, or Morestone in Halberton from a remote period. Walter Gambon presented to Bondleigh, 1316-17, and they had property and a residence at Blackpole in Southmolton, where Bishop John Grandison licensed Walter Gambon to have an oratory for the celebration of Divine service there, 15th May, 1332. Walter Gambon, *domicellus* presented to Bondleigh in 1401, and Bishop Stafford licensed John Gambon and Idenia his wife to have an oratory within their mansion of Moorstone in Halberton, 23rd January, 1405-6.

The *fourth* shield in the window, is Huyshe, impaling Avenell.

John Wood, of Asheridge in North Tawton, married Margaret, daughter of Oliver Huish, and had issue John, who married Anne, daughter of William Pollard of Horwood, with further descent (Pole).

In the Somerset *Visitations*, we find William Steyninge of Holnicote, married Maud, daughter of John Wood, and heir to her mother, Margaret, daughter of Oliver Huish, and if so, sister of John Wood the younger.

The *sixth* shield in the window is charged with *Argent, a bat volant, on a chief sable, three pallets of the field* (STEYNINGE), impaling Huyshe.

The *seventh* shield in the window, although much mutilated, is Steyninge, impaling Huyshe, apparently a duplicate of the sixth, and probably bore some heraldic difference on the portion destroyed.

The Dodingtons were of Dodington, near Bridgwater. John Dodington, who married Elizabeth Huyshe, was son and heir of John Dodington, and Mary the daughter of John Payne of Hutton. They were living, 2 Richard III, 1485.

The *fifth* shield in the window is *Sable, three hunting horns argent, stringed and garnished or*. (DODINGTON), impaling Huyshe.

The pedigree of Verney, of Fairfield, in Stoke Courcy, is found in the *Visitations* of Somerset for 1531 and 1573. No Alexander appears or John with three wives, but they matched with Broughton, Gambon, and Sydenham, similar to the Huyshes; their arms, *Argent, three fern leaves in fesse*.

X.—**Oliver Hewish**, of Doniford, 10 Henry VII (1495), married a **Cavendish**, and had issue (1) *John Huyshe*; (2) *Humphrey Hewish*, from whom *Huysh* first of Sand; (3) *Thomas Huysh*, from whom *Huysh* of Taunton; and (4) a daughter who married **Chichester**, of *Hawle*, in Devon.

NOTE.—The eighth shield in the window is charged with *Huyshe*, impaling, *Sable, three bucks heads argent* (CAVENDISH). Her descent has not been traced.

The ninth shield displays *Sable, a chevron or, between three bucks heads argent, attired or*; impaling *Huyshe*. For a daughter's alliance, the dexter coat being that of **Broughton**, of *Samford-Bickford* in *Wembdon*. Granted in 1591, with crest, *A spaniel sejant ermine*.

Oliver Hewish was **Escheator** for **Somerset**, 19 Henry VIII, 1528.

Will of **Thomas Broughton**, of *Sampford-Bickfield*, in *Wembdon*, Esq., dated 20th August, 1579, proved 28th January, 1579-80, mentions his sons **Robert**, **George**, **Erasmus** (he married *Joan*, daughter of **John Haydon**, of *Devon*), and daughter *Marie* (wife of **William Saunders**), to be buried at *Wembdon*, “*in the Allye near unto my seate*.” Testator appears to have married thrice, (1) *Dorothy*, daughter of **John Cuffe**; (2) *Alice*, daughter of **Robert Corborne**, or **Cutbert**, of *Chester*; (3) *Lucy*, daughter of **John Welch**.

Will of **Robert Broughton**, his son and heir, of the same place, proved 20th May, 1631. My daughters *Jane* (wife of **James Clarke** of *Norton Fitzwarren*), *Elizabeth* (wife, first to **Wm. Frampton**, of *Moreton, Dorset*, and there buried, aged 43; and second to **Thomas Hannam**, of *Wimborne-Minster*, ob. 1652), to be buried at *Wembdon*, near my wife. She was *Gertrude*, daughter of **Richard Cooper**, of *Winscombe*.

The unnamed daughter probably married a son of **Richard Chichester**, the first of *Hall*, by marriage with *Thomasine*, ob. 1503, daughter of **Simon de Hall**. The alliance is not mentioned in the *Visitations*.

XI.—**John Hewyshe**, of Doniford, gentleman. His will is dated 24th July, 1551, 5 Edward VI, and proved in the P.C.C. 8th February, 1552. He married **Grace**, daughter of **RICHARD WALROND**, Esq. Her brother, **Humphry Walrond**, is mentioned in **John Hewyshe's** will. They had issue—(1) *William*, of whom hereafter; (2) *Roger*, ancestor of *Huysh* of *Aller*; (3) *James*, ancestor of *Huyshe* of *London, Sand*, and *Clyst-hidon*, and two daughters; (4) *Dorothy*, married to **Edward Hensley**, of *Devon*; (5) *Alice*, married to **John Borne**.

NOTE.—**Richard Walrond** was probably a younger son of **John Walrond** the younger, of *Bovye, Devon*, whose will was proved 14th May, 1567, by *Joan*, his relict. To be buried at *Seaton*; mentions his daughters, *Elizabeth* and *Jane*, **Edward** and **John** his sons, **Richard** my youngest son, his brother **Humphrey**, and cousin **Humphrey**.

John Hewyshe, by his will—to be buried at *St. Decuman's*—mentions his eldest daughter, *Dorothy*, his youngest, *Alice Borne*; his son **Roger** to be his executor, and to him “my lease of my tenement in *Donyford*, which I had of the grant and demise of one **John Walton**, and afterward confirmed by one **Robert Walton**, gent., cousin and next heir of the said **John Walton**.”

The Hensley's were of Berrynarbour, in North Devon. John Hensley married Margaret, daughter of Richard Chichester, of Hall, and had issue Edward Hensley.

The *tenth* shield in the Sand window, the dexter coat, which was, doubtless, Huyshe, is destroyed, but the impalement displays *argent, three bulls' heads cabossed sable, eyed and horned argent, a crescent gules for difference* (WALROND, of Bovey).

XII.—William Huyshe, of Doniford, Esq., married first, Ellen, daughter of JOHN GAUNT, of Dorset, Esq., and secondly, Johanna, daughter of JOHN SYDENHAM, Esq. By his first wife he had issue (1) *Sylvester*, of whom hereafter; (2) *John*; (3) *Honora*; (4) *Dorothy*; and by his second; (5) *John Huyshe*, ancestor of Huysh of Wells.

NOTE.—In the Somerset *Visitation*, 1623, Hewish quarters Gaunt (of Dorset, in the *Visitation*, 1573, queried as Graunt of Somerset) *Barry of six or and azure, on a bend engrailed gules, three spear heads or*; and she is there called *Elizabeth*. The crest of Huyshe is given as, *an elephant's head couped azure bezantée, crowned or*, and the *fish* in the shield as *argent, finned and tailed, or*.

There was a family named Gaunt or Agaunt, who were located at Nash, in Broadwinsor, Dorset, of which Hutchins says "it was anciently a manor, a member of Marshwood, now a farm." It came to the Coplestones of Shipton-Gorge (a parish near), a branch of the main descent of Coplestone, in Devon, temp. Edw. IV, whose posterity long enjoyed it. 37 Henry VIII, 1546, John Agaunt held this manor, and about 1516-7, Henry VIII, Anthony Beaushin, married Margaret his daughter, but both appear to have been only lessees. John Coplestone, of Nash, son of Nicholas of Shipton-Gorge, 28 Henry VIII, 1537, married Margerie, daughter and coheir of John Gaunt, of Nash. From the *Visitations*, we learn that William Hancock of Combe-Martin, Devon, married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of John de Gaunt of Lambert's Castle—a high hill with a British encampment on its summit, situate in the neighbouring parish of Hawk church, but no residence there; and George Knolles, of Little-Hempston, Devon, married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of John Gaunt of Marchwood, Dorset. As these coheires had different names, and were living about the same time, it is quite probable they were sisters. The arms given also are the same.

Johanna (or query Dorothy) his second wife, was daughter of John Sydenham, Esq., of Combe, Somerset, ob. 1561, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Frank, of Allerbutler (?), Somerset. He was the son of Edward Sydenham, Esq., by Joan, daughter of Walter Combe, of Combe, which Edward was the son of John Sydenham by the heiress of Collyn, of Culmstock, in Devon. Arms, *Argent, three rams passant sable*.

XIII.—Silvester Huysh, of Doniford, Esq., 18 and 32 Elizabeth (1576-90), married Alice, daughter of WILLIAM NORRIS, of Milverton, Esq., and had issue (1) *William*, of whom hereafter; (2) *Giles*, died 6th July, 1625 (*see* proceedings of suit *Wyndham v. Huysh*, Court of Wards and Liveries); (3) *Amias*, living 1599; (4) *Elizabeth*, living 1599; (5) *John*, and (6) *James*, also mentioned in Mr. Palmer's MS.

NOTE.—Westcote says: “John Norris of Gibhouse in Winkleigh, Devon, had issue, John of Splate in Somerset, and William of Milverton, who had issue John, Richard, and Sylvester. John Norris, grandson of John of Splate is described of St. Decumans, Somerset.”

Will of William Norrice (Norris) of Milverton, Somerset, dated 9th June (but query January), and proved 2nd November, 1573, by Elizabeth Norrice, the relict (she was daughter of Baker, and testator was buried 20th January, 1573). To Alice my daughter “*my white beare cupp of silver.*” My daughters Elizabeth and Johan. My son-in-law Silvester Huishe. My daughter Huishe. My sons John and Robert, etc.

XIV.—William Huish, of Doniford, Esq. His nuncupative will dated 11th October, 1599; proved 17th October, 1599. By inquisition, taken at Bridgwater, 16th January, 2 James I (1605), it appears he died 16th November, 42 Elizabeth (1600). He married Elizabeth Morgan. Thomas Morgan, of St. George's, Somerset, is the guardian of their son, a minor.

NOTE.—The Morgans were of Easton-in-Gordano, or St. George's; (36 Henry VIII, 1545) Richard Malet, of Enmore, and Joan his wife, sold the manor of Easton to Richard Morgan and his heirs; he died about 1559.

Administration of Richard Morgan (son of the above) of Easton-in-Gordano, granted to Dorothy Morgan his relict. 17th September, 1584.

Will of Dorothy Morgan of St. George's, Somerset, widow, proved 19th June, 1599. To be buried in St. George's. Mentions her sons Edward, Richard, Thomas, and Arthur. My son Hewish. My son-in-law, John Nethway, and my daughter Ann his wife. Many monuments to them are in Easton church, their arms *sable, three cross-crosslets in bend argent.*

XV.—John Huyshe or Huish, of Doniford, aged seven years at his father's decease. By *inquisitio post mortem*, taken at Sowton, 2nd April, 4 Charles I (1629), it appears he died 2nd November, 3 Charles I (1628). He married Joan, daughter of JOHN MANNINGE, of Hackland, in Cullompton, Devon, by Dorothy, daughter of Sir John Strangeways, of Melbury, Dorset, and Dorothy, daughter of Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, Knt. She had licence to re-marry from the Court of Wards and Liveries, 30th November, 5 Charles I (1630), a liberty she does not appear to have availed herself of, for administration of the effects of Joan Huish was granted 15th April, 1649, by the P.C.C. to her son, Edward Huish. They had issue four sons, viz.:—(1) *John*, (2) *Edward*, (3) *William*, (4) *Lewis*.

NOTE.—There is the will of a *Joan Huish*, of Tuckerton in North Petherton, widow, dated 12th September, 1638; proved 9th February, 1638-9, by Henry

Bidygood. To be buried in West Monkton. My sister, Margaret Bidgegood ; my children, *Margaret, George, and William* ; *Robert*, son of *William Huishe* ; *Winifred*, daughter of *Roger Huishe*.

XVI.—*John Huysh* or *Huish*, aged six years, ten months and twenty-seven days at his father's death. He was baptized at St. Decuman's, May, 1621. His will is dated 27th November, 1648, and proved 4th May, 1649. He makes no mention of either wife or issue ; but from a monument at St. Decuman's Church, which is much defaced, it appears probable that he had a wife, *Dorothy*, who was buried 27th April, 164—.

NOTE.—By his will, dated 27th November, 1648, proved 4th May, 1649, by his brother Edward. To be buried in the south aisle of St. Decuman's Church. Mentions his brothers William and Lewis, and twenty shillings to his cousin, Ann Lucas, for a ring.

DONIFORD.

Collinson thus describes the descent of Doniford :—"In the time of Henry II (1154—89), Richard Fitzurse granted this manor to William de Reigni, before which grant it had been part of his demesne. In this family of Reigni, who lived at Asholt, in the hundred of Cannington, it continued till 6 Edward II (1313), being held by the service of a whole knight's fee and suit of court twice a year, if required, of the families of Cantilupe and Hastings, lords of the manor of Berwick. 8 Edward II (1315), it was, together with its appurtenances in Watchet and Stogumber, jointly held by Nicholas de Barton, William de Hors. John Fraunceis, and John Crabbe, as heirs to William de Reigni, who died 5 Edward II (1312). All these shares continued in these families till 42 Edward III (1369), when the part of Fraunceis became the property of Oliver de Hewish."

The old house at Doniford—the cradle of the Huyshe family—which, together with the paternal estate there, this John Huysh, ob. 1648—9, is said to have alienated to the Wyndhams, still exists ; it is of some size, but now modernized to the extinction of almost all its antient features.

The massive oak front door, opening under a somewhat acutely pointed arch, and apparently the oldest relic left, still hangs on its hinges, as solid and firm as when first placed there. Several elliptic arched doorways occur within, and the original walls are of great thickness. The most perfect portion remaining is a transeptal end, extending a little beyond the main front, gabled, and with two stone-mullioned and labelled windows of some size (similar to that found at Sand) of early seventeenth century date. This part is now used as a cellar, but one of the old chambers within exhibits an ornamental stuccoed cornice continued across the central beam. There are no arms, initials, or date discoverable. Doniford is pleasantly situate about a mile east of Watchet and close on the sea shore.

The monument to John Huysh, noted in the pedigree as having existed in the parish church of St. Decuman's, has now totally disappeared, and no trace of it discoverable after careful search.

The record on Edward Huish's gravestone at St. Cuthbert's, that "*he departed this life here at Wells*" and was there buried, appears to confirm the information that it was his brother, John Huysh, who disposed of Doniford, which had been held by the family for nearly three centuries.

XVII.—*Edward Huish*, of Doniford, Esq., baptized at St. Decuman's, December, 1622 ; buried at St. Cuthbert's, Wells, where his monument, a flat stone in the south aisle,

yet remains. He died 16th August, and was buried the 19th, 1669. The arms on the stone are Huyshe, impaling, *a chevron between three mullets pierced.*

NOTE.—The flat stone still exists in the south aisle of St. Cuthbert's, but exceedingly worn and frayed, and it was with the utmost difficulty the following portion of the inscription could be recovered :—

“Here resteth the body of Edward Hwish, of Doniford,
Esq., who departed this life here at Wells the (16) day of
August, 1669.

. to live with me,
And I not good enough to dye with thee.

Behold thy life by me,
Who sometime was as thov,
And thov in time shalt be,
But dvst as I am now.”

Above the inscription is an hour-glass, etc., and faint traces of the shield bearing Huish, impaling *a chevron between three mullets, or cinquefoils.* At the base of the stone another and apparently later inscription has been cut, but too denuded to be made out. There is a mournful cadence apparent in the inscription and epitaph, which seems to point to the adverse fate then awaiting this, the main stem of Huyshe, not only by the disposal of the family patrimony, but its extinction also on the deaths of his two brothers, William and Lewis, of whom no further particulars are recorded.

The impalement on the gravestone is similar to that of Sambourne, of Timsbury—*argent, a chevron sable, between three mullets gules, pierced or.*

XVIII.—William Huish, baptized March, 1623, at St. Decuman's. According to Mr. Palmer, he it was who sold the family estate to the Wyndhams in 1671. But this is certainly a mistake, for, according to the late Mr. Tripp, Lord Egremont's steward, the Wyndham title shews that John was the man who alienated the old paternal property.

XIX.—Lewis Huish.

Huyshe ;

FIRST POSSESSOR OF SAND, IN SIDBURY, DEVON.

I.—Humphrey Hewish, or Hwyshe, second son of Oliver Hewish, of Doniford, married Jacquet, daughter and coheir of JOHN HAWLE, of High-Bray, in the parish of Southmolton, Devon, and had issue (1) *Henry Hewish*, of whom hereafter ; (2) *John Huish*, of Okeford, Devon. Will dated 12th March,

31 Elizabeth (1589), proved at Barnstaple, May, 1589. He married *Wilmot*, daughter of *Roger Prescott, Esq.*, and relict of Gregory Radford, of Okeford, Esq. Will dated 17th January, 1604, and proved at Barnstaple, 6th March, 1604. He died without issue. (3) *Bartholomew Huishe*, of Studley, Devon, gentleman. Will dated 4th May, 1578, and proved at Barnstaple, 9th June, same year. He had no issue by *Mary*, his wife, who was relict of *Veysie*. (4) *John Huyshe*, who died unmarried.

NOTE.—High-Bray is a distinct parish in North Devon. Hall is in the parish of Bishops-Tawton, “where the name of Hall had formerly their residence, but Simon de Halle, a man learned in the laws, procured this his ancestor’s dwelling to be his inheritance, and left it unto Thomasine, his daughter, wife of Richard Chichester, third son of Richard Chichester, of Raleigh.”—(Pole).

Gregory Radford, of Oakford, in North Devon (son of Richard Radford, of Oakford, and Joan, daughter of . . . Hill, *alias* Spurway), married *Wilmot*, daughter of Roger Prescott, and by her had two sons—Richard, buried 1569, and John, buried 1622.

II.—*Henry Hewish*, or *Huysh*, aforesaid, purchased the estate and dwelling of Sand, in the parish of Sidbury, Devon, in 1560-1. By inquisition taken at Tiverton it appears that he died 21st January previous. He was buried at Sidbury, 21st January, 1566. He married *Ellen*, daughter of JOHN STAVELEY, of East Buckland, in the county of Devon, Esq., by *Joan*, daughter and coheir of *John Lapflode*. She was buried at Sidbury, 27th May, 1592. He had issue, three sons and five daughters: (1) *Thomas*; (2) *Anthony*, of both of whom hereafter; (3) *William Hewish*, Rector of Kilkhampton, in Cornwall. Will dated 5th January, 1610, proved in the Bishop of Exeter’s Court, 4th May, 1611. He married *Joan*, daughter of *William Perrie*, and relict of Osborne, by whom he had issue two daughters, *Elizabeth*, wife of *William Weston*, and *Nazar*, wife of *George Lippincott*, of Wibbery, Devon. (4) *Ellen*, wife of *Richard Cooke, Esq.*, who had issue, *Mary* and *Ellen*. (5) *Joan*, wife of *William Stoford*, of Ottery St. Mary, and had issue. (6) *Elizabeth*, died without issue, first married *Peter Drayton*, of Exeter (Schoolmaster), secondly *John Doughtie*, incumbent of Alphington. (7) *Grace*, married

William Norreys, of Lyme, and had issue. (8) Jane, married Richard Bevys, of Exeter, and had issue. From her descend the Bevys, of Clist House, Dartmouth, and Barnstaple. Mr. Westcote, in his pedigree of Devon families, No. 2297, MSS. Harley, says she married secondly William Martin, Recorder of Exeter.

SAND I.

NOTE.—The descent of the manor of Sand is thus stated by Pole. It was granted about Henry II's time (1216-72), by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, to William and Deodatus de Sand, from whom divers descents proceeded. In the reign of Henry V (1413-22), Roger Tremayle had Over-Sand. To Roger Tremayle and Margaret his wife, Bishop Stafford granted license for an oratory in their house at Over-Sand, Sidbury, 25th January, 1418-19.

To him succeeded John, and to him Sir Thomas Tremayle, a Justice of the Common Pleas, temp. Henry VII. Philip his son succeeded, who married Jane, daughter of Nicholas Whiting, of Combe, in the adjoining parish of Gittisham. They left a daughter Florence, married to Nicholas Ashley, and it is probable from her, or her representatives, that Henry Huyshe purchased Sand.

Sir Thomas Tremayle was knighted at the marriage of Prince Arthur, in 1501. He bore for his arms, quarterly, (1) *A fess between three brogues*, (2) Trivett, (3) *A chevron between three escallops argent* (FARWAY).

The first shield of the series of twelve displayed in the hall windows at Sand is charged with Tremayle, *argent, a fess between three brogues (shoes) gules*.

The adjoining manor of Stone, in Sidford, was held by the family of Trivett. From the same source (Pole) we learn that Roger Tremayle (as above) married Margaret, daughter of John Trivett and Joan Farway, Joan her sister (?), to whom the manor fell, married Roger Pym. John Trivett was the son of Peter, "who had a great part thereof," in King Edward III's time. The Pym held it for several generations, ultimately disposing of it to Periam, of Exeter. The Somerset *Visitation*, 1531-73, gives Peter Trivett, of Chilton-Trivett, in Cannington, married Joan Farway, to him John, of Sidbury (a younger branch of Trivett of Durborough, *Collinson*), and to him Peter, ob. s.p., and his sister and heir married Roger Pym. The arms of Trivett (*argent*) *a trivet (sable)*, apparently, super-imposed by the arms of Pym (*argent*) *an annulet (sable)*, appear in a shield on a boss in the roof of the nave of Sidbury church.

Harcombe, another manor in Sidbury, was, according to Pole, "the inheritance of William de Harcombe, temp. Edward I, and after, at the latter end of King Edward III, Ralph Lapfode (of Lapfode, in Bridford) was owner thereof, which left issue Jane, wife of John Staveley, and Sibil, wife of John Halse. This land fell unto Staveley by partition, and Bartholomew Staveley sold the same, and Rowland Huysh, of Sand, Esquire, hath bought a good part thereof and enlarged his demesnes."

Ellen Staveley, the wife of Henry Huysh, was the grand-daughter and coheir of John Lapfode—Bartholomew Staveley was her brother.

The arms of Lapfode, *gules, a chevron between three goats' heads erased argent, armed or*, are on a shield in the windows of the hall at Sand, second in the series, thus with that of Tremayle, indicating the acquisition of both manors of Sand and Harcombe by Huyshe. The arms of Staveley do not appear.

Nazar, or Nazareth Huish, second daughter of the Rev. William Huish, of Kilkhampton, married first George Lippincott, of Barnstaple, ob. 7th December, 1624, and secondly, in 1635, William Fauntleroy, of Fauntleroy Marsh, Dorset.

Richard Cooke, probably of Thorne, near Ottery. The Stowfords of Ottery were a younger branch of that family settled there. R. Norris, merchant, Mayor of Lyme-Regis, 1597.

John Doughty, B.D., was Rector of Alphington, 1593—1637-8; patron William Burchier, Earl of Bath. Richard Bevis, of Exeter, husband of Jane Huish, was Sheriff 1591, Receiver 1592, Mayor 1602. He died during his Mayoralty, 26th August, 1602. On a flat stone in St. Mary-Arches Church, Exeter, is:—

"Here lyeth the body of Richard Bevis who died Maior of this Cittie, and was buried of August, 1602. My habitation is in heaven."

William Martin (a descendant of the Martins of Athelhampton, Dorset), second husband of Jane Huish, was elected Mayor for the residue of the year. He was Steward 1571, Receiver 1583, Sheriff 1584, Mayor 1590 and 1602, Recorder 1605. He was buried 12th April, 1617, at St. Petrock's, Exeter.

In St. Mary-Arches, Exeter, on a flat stone:—

"Here lyeth Jane Bevis who was secondly married to William Martyn (the Recorder of this City) obiit 16 . . ."

The worthy Recorder appears to have taken to himself the wife, as well as the office of the deceased Mayor. He was Recorder of Exeter, and a learned historian. His biography is given in Princes' *Worthies*. Jane Bevis was his second wife.

On a further partially obliterated stone—

" widow of John Marshsall, Esq., and daughter of Richard Bevis, Esq., died 7th January, 1630."

John Marshall was Mayor of Exeter in 1615.

Peter Beavis, Esq., Sheriff of Devon, 1653, the son probably of Richard Beavis and Jane Huish, purchased the manor and manor house of Bishop's-Clyst, in the parish of Sowton, from the Earl of Bedford. He died 27th October, 1656, and was buried at Sowton. His descendants continued to reside there until the death of Miss Ellery Beavis in 1801, when the estate was disposed of to Thomas, Lord Graves. Their arms were—*Azure, three close helmets in profile argent, garnished or.*

In the handsome oak-panelled bedroom at Sand, a portion of the head-board and some carved figures, being parts of an old bedstead, have been preserved and affixed to the panelling. On it is inscribed

H. HVYSHE.—E. HVYSHE.

Apparently for Henry Huyshe, ob. 1566, who first purchased Sand, and his wife Ellen Stavely. This room has Ionic pilasters and a richly carved cornice, the consoles with lion's heads. A lion sejant, sits on the newel-post of the old circular solid oak-stepped staircase—there is a finely carved oak screen that separates the hall from the front passage; and an interesting old cupboard with lockers, the doors ornamented with the linen pattern, and coeval with the building of the house, is preserved. An immense crocodile hangs sprawling against the passage wall; the skull of an elk with huge horns, and another of a red-deer are affixed to the carved hall skreen, all evidently of great age of preservation. Relics of the period, when the olden owners of Sand had residence here; which appears to have ceased at the death of James Huyshe who died in 1724.

III.—**Thomas Huish**, aforesaid, he was of Axminster, gentleman, 9th August, 39 Elizabeth, 1596, and died without issue. He, together with his brother, Anthony, sold the two estates of Higher and Lower Sand to their cousin, James Huish, of London, 26 Elizabeth, 1583-4.

IV.—Anthony Hewish, aforesaid, was of Axminster: will dated 17th June, 1598, and proved in the P.C.C. 5th December. He married Alice, daughter of TURNER, and relict of Alexander Osborne. Administration of the effects of Alice Hewishe, of Axminster, was granted in September, 1612, by the Archdeacon of Exeter's Court, but owing to the careless manner in which these records have been kept, the document is not to be found. They had issue *Henry*.

V.—Henry Hewish, married Marcella, eldest daughter and coheir of WILLIAM SYMONDS, of Exeter. She was twice married afterwards; to Richard Herbert, of Exeter, and to Thomas Duke, of Exeter, who died 14th November, 1644. She was buried in Salcombe Church, 3rd April, 1657. Her will was proved in P.C.C., 10th December, 1657. They had issue *Southcott*.

NOTE.—William Simonds, of Exeter (son of Thomas Simonds, of Taunton, Somerset), married Alice, daughter of . . . Moore, of Bamton (Bothenhamp-ton?), in Dorset. There were three daughters coheirresses, Marcella, the eldest, then wife of Richard Herbert, of Exeter (*Visitation*, 1620). Arms of Simonds—*Per fess dancettée gules and argent, a pale counterchanged, three trefoils one and two slipped of the first.*

VI.—Southcott Huish, of Exeter, who died unmarried. Administration of his effects was granted by the P.C.C. to his mother Marcella Duke, 18th June, 1642.

Huyshe,

OF TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

I.—Thomas Huyshe, third son of Oliver Hewish, of Doniford, was, according to the family pedigree found at Sand, the ancestor of the Huysches, of Tetton, in the parish of Kingston, and of "*thos other Huysches about Taunton, and so of Richard Huyshe who lyeth buried in Taunton.*" There seems no reason for doubting the truth of this statement. Richard Huyshe's

will proves his affinity to the Huysh's of Doniford and Sand, and the rest of the pedigree is confirmed by substantial evidence. The above named

II.—**Richard Huysh**, was of New Inn in 1589. He died without issue, and bequeathed his property in the Black Friars, London, and in Taunton, to trustees for the maintenance of an Alms House in Taunton, for aged men, with preference to any poor among his kindred, and for exhibitions at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge to young men of his name and kindred only, and in default of these, to young men born in the counties of Somerset and Devon. The full particulars of this charity are to be found in Vol. V. of the Charity Commissioners Reports. The privileges thus attached to his kindred make it an act of justice to record all that can be gathered respecting his connexions. But no connected pedigree of this branch of the family appears ever to have been formed, and those interested in the enquiry must be referred to the collections deposited in the Alms House by the Rev. Francis Huyshe, and to some MSS. recently added to the library of the College of Arms, where the result of an examination of wills and parish registers will be found. Richard Huysh married **Æbbot**, daughter of **WILLIAM LOVEL**, of Bishops-Lydiard, in Somerset, Esq., and heir to her brother John Lovel. She was relict of James Clarke, of Norton Fitzwarren, Esq. Her will, where she is described as of Norton Fitzwarren, was proved in the Archdeacon's Court; Taunton, in 1628, but is lost. Richard Huysh died 23rd Feb., 1615, and was buried in St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, on 21st March following. A tablet to his memory with the arms of Huysh and Avenell quarterly is fixed on the wall of the south aisle of that church. By inquisition taken 14th July, 18 James I (1621), it appears his next heirs were *Johanna*, wife of John Mounsteven; *Margaret*, wife of Henry Webber; and *Thomazine*, wife of John Cox—she being the daughter and coheir of *John Huish*, son and heir of *Richard Huish*, son

and heir of *Robert Huish*, brother of his father *Thomas Huish*.

This Thomas and Robert Huish must have been sons of Thomas Huish, third son of Oliver Hewish, and Thomas is probably the Thomas Huysh buried in St. Mary Magdalen, Taunton, 12th March, 1556, and Robert is probably the Robert Huish whose will dated 28th November, 1558, was proved in the Archdeacon's Court by his son Richard Huish.

NOTE.—Will of John Bond, of Taunton, gent., dated 14th June, 1612.—“ I have sold to Mr. Richard Huishe, of London, certain houses in Magdalyn Lane, for a Hospital.”

The testator was evidently the “learned John Bond, A.M.,” born at Trull in 1550, and who, according to Collinson, in 1579, was elected Master of the Free School in Taunton. “ He was educated at Winchester, and in 1569 entered as student at New College, in Oxford, where he was highly esteemed for his classical learning. He continued in the Mastership many years, and thence sent into the world many eminent scholars. At length he turned his thoughts to the study of physick, which after relinquishing his former employment, he practised with much reputation. He died 3rd August, 1612, and was buried in chancel of the church of St. Mary Magdalen, with the following inscription :—

*Qui medicus doctus, prudentis nomine clarus,
Eloquii splendor, Pieridumque decus.
Virtutis cultor, pietatis vixit amicus,
Hoc jacet in tumulo, spiritus alta tenet.”*

The fine character of a man

*Who was a learned physician, renowned by name for his skill,
Celebrated for oratory, and the ornament of the Muses.
A cultivator of virtue, he lived the friend of piety ;
He lies in this tomb, but his spirit occupies the heights above.*

The gravestone to his memory has disappeared. Gilbert Sheldon, Archbishop of Canterbury, was one of his scholars. He does not appear to have been formally admitted a physician by diploma. He wrote several classical works.

These worthy men, Richard Huish and John Bond, were doubtless friends, in sympathy with each other in good works, and three years only parted their deaths.

Will of Richard Huish, of the precincts of the Blackfriars, London, dated 30th January, 1615. To be buried in the south aisle of St. Mary Magdalen's, Taunton, with some memorial over me. A Hospital to be built for 13 poor men—President of the same to be appointed by such of my name as shall be heirs male of the house of Huyshe, now of Doniford, Somerset, and of Sand, in Sidbury, Devon. Rowland Huish, of Sand, one of the Governors, to be my Ex'or.

The monument to the memory of Richard Huyshe in St. Mary Magdalen's, Taunton, contains this inscription—

Here under lyeth buried the body of Richard Huish, esquire, borne in Taunton, and aunciently descended of the familie of the Huyshes of Doniford, in the countie of Somerset.

He founded the hospital in Mawdelyn-lane in Taunton, for thirteene poor men, begunne by himself in his life-tyme, and finished by his executors after his death. And for the reliefe of the said poore men, he gave by his last will, one hundred and three pounds by the yeare for ever, yssuing out of certain houses and tenements in the Black-Fryars, London.

And also, by his sayd will he gave one hundred pounds a yeare for ever, owt of the sayd tenements, for the maintainance of fyve schollars of his name of Huysh and Kindred, at one or both of the Universitys of Oxford or Cambridge: and dyed in the true fayth of Christ-Jesus, the 23rd day of Feb., A'no Dom'. 1615.

These further wills relate apparently to the Taunton branch of the Huyshes. Will of Robert Huish, of Taunton, Somerset, gent., dated 5th September, and proved 8th December. 1635. To be buried in the Chancel. Toward the repairs of the organ, 40/- To the Lady Ann Portman, of Orchard, a ring of 30/-, and the same to Robert Cuffe, Esq., and to Mary Hill, my daughter. To my son, Alexander Hill, my Ex'or, £5. Robert Browne, of Taunton Castle, Esq., overseer.

The Hills were of Poundisford Park, near Taunton.

Will of Robert Huish, of Luckham, Somerset, yeoman, dated 28th January, 1646; proved 29th May, 1647, by Edith Huish, relict. Mentions John and Robert, the sons of my brother, John Huish. Jone Huish, widow. John Doddington, my son-in-law. My brother-in-law, Matthew Herring, of Dulverton.

Nuncupative will of Mary Huish, of Taunton St. James, Somerset, spinster, 15th July, 1650; proved 14th September, 1650, by Jane Huish. Mentions her mother, Marie; the children of her uncle, Mark Huish; Agnes, wife of John Cole.

Huish,

OF NOTTINGHAM.

IN this family there is a tradition that their ancestor having joined in Monmouth's rebellion, fled instantly after the battle of Sedgmoor, and that to escape the punishments inflicted by Judge Jefferys on the adherents of the Duke's cause, he altogether quitted his native place, Taunton, and settled at Leicester. The arms of Huish and Avenell have been borne quarterly by this family, and they possess a bible of the date, 1676, with the name "*Elizabeth Huish, Taunton, Somersetshire,*" on the binding. These traditions coupled with the coincidence of the rather uncommon Christian name of Mark recurring with that of Robert at that precise period, afford the strongest grounds for believing them to be of the same race.

Mark Huish, of St. James's, Taunton, whose will was proved in 1651, had issue a *Robert Huish* and a *Mark Huish*, the

latter baptized 14th November, 1630; *Robert Huish* had a son *Mark* baptized 18th June, 1654, born 25th May; and a son *Robert* baptized 1659. Future enquiries may decide whether either of these was the Robert Huish, of Leicester, who follows.

I.—*Robert Huish*, or *Hewish*, as it is sometimes spelled in the *Registers* of St. Martin's and St. Nicholas, Leicester; he and his wife Sarah were living in 1729. He was married to *Sarah Cooke*, at St. Nicholas, Leicester, 30th April, 1693.

They had issue (1) *Robert*; (2) *Mark Hewish*, baptized at St. Martin's, 20th January, 1695, buried at St. Nicholas's, 1729. Will proved at York, 11th February, 1729. (3) *John Hewish*, died and buried September 1700, in St. Martin's Leicester. (4) *Elizabeth*, baptized 15th September, 1697, at St. Martin's, married 5th October, 1720, to John Weston, son of Richard Weston, of Leicester, Alderman.

II.—*Robert Huish* aforesaid, baptized at St. Martin's, Leicester, 4th March, 1694. He removed to Nottingham, of which town he was Sheriff in 1736; Alderman in 1759; and Mayor in 1760. He was buried in St. Nicholas, Nottingham. Will proved at York, 23rd December, 1765, and in P.C.C., 5th June, 1765. Married at Hugglescote, *Alice*, daughter of RICHARD WESTON, an Alderman of Leicester, and sister of John Weston before mentioned, buried in St. Nicholas, Nottingham. By her who survived him he had issue (1) *Robert*, unmarried, drowned on his passage to Guernsey; (2) *Mark*, of whom hereafter; (3) *Elizabeth*, wife of Nathaniel Denison, of Dayhook, Notts, died in 1811, aged 90, leaving issue; (4) *Alice*, wife of John Davison, of Leicester, M.D., and had issue; (5) *Mary*, wife of Sir Robert Bewicke, of Close House, Northumberland, Knt., and had issue; (6) *Anne*, who died unmarried.

III.—*Mark Huish*, of Nottingham, baptized 16th December, 1725, married at St. Philip's, Birmingham, 13th December, 1774, *Margaret*, daughter of CHARLES STUART, of Birming-

ham. She was born in 1752, and died 24th April, 1822. Mr. Huish died 9th June, 1807, and was buried at St. Nicholas, Nottingham. They had issue (1) *Mark*, of whom hereafter. (2) *Robert*, author of *The History of Bees*, and various other works. He married at St. George's, Southwark, 23rd August, 1805, *Maria Petty*, daughter of Robert Greening, Esq., of H.M. Customs. They have issue, *Robert*, born 16th June, 1811; *John*, born 14th January, 1814; *Calverly*, born 26th October, 1821; *Margaret Eliza*, born 11th May, 1806; *Harriet Maria*, born 5th December, 1807. (3) *John*, born 14th July, 1780, died October 1823, buried at Sneinton, Notts; married at Willoughby, in the county of Leicester, in 1809. *Mary*, daughter of Henry Norton Gamble, of Willoughby, Capt. R.N. She died 30th April, 1825. They had issue, *John*, born 17th March, 1813, now of Derby, solicitor; *Marcus*, born 19th July, 1815; *Mary*, born 5th June, 1809, died 3rd October, 1821; *Margaret*, born 27th October, 1810; *Anne Caroline*, born 19th September, 1817; *Eliza*, born 8th March, 1812. (4) *Calverly*, of Liverpool, merchant, born 15th July, 1786, married 26th May, 1809, *Harriet*, daughter of John Youle, of Nottingham, Esq., they have issue, *Calverly*, born 27th April, 1817, died 18th September, 1818; *Harriet*, born 14th January, 1813; *Margaret Anne*, born 10th July, 1819. (5) *William*, Lieutenant 6th Regiment Dragoons Carabineers, born 1787, married at Manchester *Mary Anne Taylor*, died 3rd June, 1822, buried at Newington Butts. (6) *Eliza*, wife of Francis Hart, of Nottingham, banker, born 1782, married at St. Peter's, Nottingham, 1809, issue, *Eliza*, born 1810; *Frank*, born 1816, died 26th April, 1836. (7) *Margaret*, born 1777, wife of J. B. Smith, Esq., of Newark. He died 1807, married 9th November, 1806. Now of Bridgend House, Nottingham. Issue, *Joseph*, born 1807, died 23rd July, 1823.

IV.—*Mark Huish*, born 1st March, 1776, died 14th January, 1833, and buried at St. Nicholas, Nottingham. A Deputy Lieutenant for Nottinghamshire. Married at Work-

sop, 5th August, 1799, *Eliza*, daughter of JOHN GAINSFORD, of Worksop, Esq. She died in 1824. They had issue (1) *Mark*; (2) *Henry*, died 1831; (3) *Eliza*, born 27th July, 1800; (4) *Margaret*; (5) *Mary*; (6) *Stuart*—these all died young.

V.—*Mark Huyshe*, born 9th March, 1803, now (1837) a Captain in the 74th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry.

Huyshe,

OF WELLS, SOMERSET.

ACCORDING to Mr. Palmer's MS. John Huyshe, son of William Huyshe of Doniford by his second wife, was father of the eminent divine Alexander Huish.

I.—*Alexander Huish*. He was born in the parish of St. Cuthbert's, at Wells. His birth appears to have been about the year 1594, for according to his own testimony (*vide* Greek Hymn in the Polyglot) he was sixty-three years of age in 1658. He was a Commoner of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, in 1609; B.A., 10th February, 1613; original scholar of Wadham College, 20th April, 1613; M.A., 17th December, 1616; B.D., 2nd December, 1627. Presented to the Rectory of Beckington, Somerset, in 1627, and to that of Hornblotton in the same county by Thomas Milbourne, Esq., in February, 1638. Of this living he was dispossessed in 1650, but restored to it in 1660, and 12th September same year, he was collated to the Prebend of White Lackington, in Wells Cathedral, of which he had the gift before the Rebellion. He died 15th April, 1668, and was buried in the chancel of Beckington, where a brief inscription was placed to his memory, which has been copied by Collinson in his *History of Somerset*. His will was proved on 6th June, 1668, in the P.C.C., by his relict Deborah, who was his second wife. In the preface, he shortly but earnestly expresses his thankfulness to God, for his restoration to his living.

He was a man distinguished for theological learning, accurate criticism, knowledge of languages, especially the oriental tongues, sound divinity, and excellence in preaching, and he was much celebrated among the learned throughout Europe. The prominent part he took in the preparation of Walton's *Polyglot Bible*, is gratefully acknowledged by Walton himself, and subsequent critics have mentioned with praise, the accuracy and fidelity with which he executed his celebrated *Collation* of the Alexandrian MS. of the Bible.

His sufferings during the Rebellion are evidence of more than common attachment to the King, and of his exertions in his cause. He was driven from one place to another, imprisoned for a few days at Chadfield, in Wilts, where he narrowly escaped starvation, having been saved from perishing by the pious but accidental care of some charitable persons, and finally in 1650, was dispossessed of his living. By the Royalist composition papers (in the State Paper Office), it appears the value of his estate was £40, on which a fine, £13 6s. 8d., was imposed.

His writings are *Musa Ruralis in Advent*, Car. II, 4to., London, 1660; *Lectures on the Lords Prayer, in Three Parts*, London, 1626. The notes of John Flavel having come into his possession, he published them under the title of *Tractatus de Demonstratione Methodicus et Polemicus*, Oxon., 1619.

He was twice married. By **M**argaret, his first wife, who was buried at Beckington, 4th October, 1642 (1) *Alexander*, of whom hereafter; (2) *James*, baptized 29th October, 1637, living 1667; (3) *Margaret*, wife of Thomas Milbourne, of London, printer, who had issue. By **D**eborah, the relict of Bryant, whose will was proved in the P.C.C., 3rd June, 1671, he had issue (1) *Anne*, baptized 29th February, 1643, living 1671; (2) *Deborah*, baptized 2nd May, 1645, buried January, 1645; (3) *Dorothy*, co-executrix with Anne of their mother's will,

NOTE.—On a flat stone in Beckington Church (Collinson) :—

“*Sub hoc saxo reconditum jacet corpus Alexandri Huish hujus ecclesie olim rectoris, qui obiit decimo quinto die Aprilis, MDCLXVIII.*”

Walton's *Polyglot Bible* and the *Lexicon* is thus described :—

“*BIBLIA SACRA POLYGLOTTA, complectentia Textus Originales, Hebraicum (cum Pentateuco Samaritano) Chaldaicum, Graecum Versionumque Antiquarum, Samaritanae, Graecae LXXII Interpretum, Chaldaicae, Syriacae, Arabicae, Aethiopicae, Vulgatae Latinae, cum omnium Translationibus Latinis et Apparatu, Appendicibus, Tabulis, etc., edidit BRIANUS WALTONUS, 1657. CASTELLI, LEXICON HEPTAGLOTTON, Heb., Chald., Syr., Samar., Aethiop., Arab., et Pers., cum omnium Gramaticis, 1686.*”

Six volumes folio of the *Polyglot* and two of the *Lexicon*—they contain portraits of Walton and Castell, and illustrations by Hollar—priced in a recent bookseller's catalogue at fourteen guineas.

II.—Alexander Huish aforesaid, baptized 6th December, 1632. By his wife Dorothy, who was buried at Beckington, 8th August, 1656, he had issue (1) *Alexander*, baptized 21st August, 1673; (2) *Anthony*, baptized 16th June, 1676; (3) *James*, baptized 31st August, and buried 15th March, 1681; (4) *Sarah*, baptized 6th October, 1669, living 1670.

I.—Edward Huish, of Wells, Notary Public, will dated 4th March, 1623, and proved P.C.C., 14th June, 1624, buried at St. Cuthbert's, 25th March, 1624. By his will he appears to have been twice married. The marriage ring of his first wife he leaves to his son James. His second wife who survived him was named Christian. He had issue (1) *James*, of whom below; (2) *Alexander*; (3) *Anthony*; (4) *Edward*, living 1624-38; (5) *Peternell*, married at St. Cuthbert's, 14th November, 1625, to Thomas Lowe, and she was living in 1638.

NOTE.—The occurrence of a daughter, Petronell, and of a son, Alexander, at the same time, in two distinct families of Huyshe, settled in the parish of St. Cuthbert's, seems so highly improbable, that little or no doubt can be entertained that the learned assistant of Walton was the Alexander here mentioned as the brother of James, and of Petronella Rouse, widow, in Alexander's will, being the Petronell, who is here said to have married Thomas Lowe, in November 16th, 1625.

There is certainly, *primâ facie*, a strong objection to the

hypothesis of this James being brother of Alexander, Walton's assistant, from the proof that *Edward* was the father of James, but that *John*, son of William Huish, of Doniford, as stated above, to be the father of Alexander.

This however rests solely on the authority of Mr. Palmer's MS., where he probably had no document to depend upon. Mr. Palmer may have mistaken John for Edward, or he may have omitted a generation in his pedigree, and so if there were this *John* the son of William of Doniford, he may have been the grandfather of James and Walton's assistant.

NOTE.—By his will he appears to have had another daughter, *Jane*. His second wife and executrix was *Christian*, daughter of *Anthony Godwin*, of Wookey, Somerset. She remarried *Adrian Bower*. Died in 1640, and was buried at Brightwell, Berks.

2.—**James Huish**, aforesaid, Notary Public, and Registrar to five Bishops of Bath and Wells. He died 10th February, 1639, aged 47, and was buried in the south aisle of the Cathedral, where a flat stone to the memory of him, his wife, and daughter, still remains. His will was proved P.C.C., 9th April, 1640, and in it he mentions his brothers, the three sons of his father above named. *Sarah*, his relict married secondly John Prickman, gentleman, and died 27th May, 1670, aged 73. They had issue (1) *Edward*, baptized 3rd January, 1634; (2) *James*, baptized 1st November, 1637, probably the same as buried in the Cathedral, 10th August, 1675; (3) *Christian*, baptized 28th November, 1622; (4) *Martha*, baptized 26th December, 1623, dead in 1684; (5) *Hester*, baptized 8th April, 1625, query if same as buried 30th May following; (6) *Bridget*, baptized 15th June, 1626; (7) *Sarah*, baptized 7th December, 1628, died 23rd January, 1694-5, in the sixty-sixth year of her age, her will proved in the Bishop's Court, Wells, in 1695; (8) *Mary*, wife of Broderick, had issue George Broderick, living 1684.

There are now at Wells (1837) a poor family of Huishe, who have lived in St. Cuthbert's parish, and are descended from a Henry Huish of Warminster and Hillhouse, who died

in 1726. A widow Huish, of Hillhouse, was buried 26th September, 1610.

NOTE.—Around the edge of a flat stone in the south choir aisle of Wells Cathedral:—

“*Depositum Jacobi Huish notarii publici quinque hujus dioceseos episcoporum registrarum qui annum aetatis quadragesimum septimum agens obiit decimo die Februarii Anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo tricesimo nono.*”

In the centre of the stone:—

“*Hic etiam sepulta est Sara primum praed' d'ni Huish dein d'ni Joh'is Prickman gen' uxor, quae obiit 27^o Maii anno D'ni, 1674. Aetat' suae 73. Hic etiam jacet Sara Huish filia d'orum Jacobi et Sarae, quae obiit 23^o die Jan'rij anno D'ni 1694, aetatis suae 66^o*”

From the Cathedral Register—*Burials*—1674, May 27, Mrs. Sarah Prickman, widow of Mr. John Prickman. 1694, February 1, Mrs. Sarah Huish. From St. Cuthbert's Parish Register—*Baptisms*—1620, January 29, Maud; 1626, June 15, Bridget; 1627, November 1, James; 1632, March 20, Frances; 1634, January 8, Edward—the children of Mr. James and Sarah Huishe (Jewers).

On a monument in the cloisters of Wells Cathedral, to William Taylor, Esq., ob. 13th August, 1776, and Catherine his wife, ob. 6th January, 1764, the arms are, *Ermine on a chief indented sable, three escallops or*, for Taylor, quarterly, with Huyshe.

Huyshe,

OF ALLER, SOMERSET.

I.—Roger Huish, second son of John Hewyshe, of Doniford, and Grace Walrond had issue (1) *William*; (2) *Grace*; (3) *Elizabeth*.

II.—William Huyshe, of Aller, his will dated 9th June, 1611, proved in P.C.C., 12th June following, mentions his sister Grace Parker, and his brother-in-law Nicholas Parker, and his sister Elizabeth Blake. Also his sons (1) *William*; (2) *George*; (3) *John*, and his daughter; (4) *Grace*, and his sons-in-law, John Marshe and Nicholas Sellacke.

NOTE.—His will was dated, 8th May, 1611. Mentions his three sons William, George, and John, to his sister Elizabeth Blake, “20 nobles”—his sons-in-law, John Marshe and Nicholas Sellacke; his sister, Grace Parker, to her husband Nicholas Parker, “a goulde ring.”

III.—William Huyshe.—

George Huyshe.—

John Huyshe.—

NOTE.—Will of Robert Boteler, of Old Cleeve, Esq., dated 17th May, 1635, to my godson John Huishe, son of my brother-in-law George Huishe, 40/- George Huishe, Overseer.

Huyshe,

OF LONDON, SAND, AND CLYSTHIDON.

I.—James Huyshe aforesaid, third and youngest son of John Huyshe, of Doniford, and Grace Walrond, was sometime of Cheapside, London, and a member of the Grocers' Company. He died 20th August, 1590, and was buried in St. Pancras, Soper Lane. His will dated 7th July, 1590, was proved in P.C.C., 27th October, 1590. His monumental inscription is preserved in Stow's *London*. By his first wife he had eleven children, and by his second wife eighteen. Of these Rowland, William, James, and Thomas are the only sons named in his will, and the others here recorded are taken from the parish register of St. Pancras, Soper Lane. His first wife was Margaret, daughter and heir of BOWSER or BOURCHIER, of London. She was buried in St. Pancras Church, 12th May, 1568. On the cross in the Bouchier arms she bore a martlet on a crescent by way of difference. By her he had issue (1) Rowland, of whom hereafter; (2) John, baptized 4th August, 1556, and died immediately; (3) Geffry Huyshe, baptized 17th August, 1561, he was living at the Visitation of London, 1568; (4) Lawrence, baptized March, 1562, buried 28th May, 1564; (5) Mary, baptized 7th September, 1554, married, 2nd December, 15—, Nicholas Pendlebury, and she was buried 29th April, 1616, they had issue; (6) Anne baptized 3rd November, 1555; (7) Sibil, baptized 7th November, 1557; (8) Grace, baptized 14th November, 1558; (9) Martha, baptized 28th October, 1565, buried 28th April, 1569. James Huyshe's second wife was Mary, daughter of WILLIAM MOFFYT, of Barnet, in Herts. She died after having married two other husbands, and was buried in St. Pancras, Soper Lane, 25th September, 1601. Her second husband was Sir William Rowe, Knt., Lord Mayor of London. He died 3rd October, 1593. His will was proved 11th May, 1594, in P.C.C., and he was buried

in St. Lawrence-Jewry, and left no issue by his second wife. Her third husband's arms on the banners borne at her funeral appear in the funeral certificates at the Heralds College, *argent, on a chevron sable, between three martlets of the second, three mullets or*. By her he had issue (1) *William*, baptized 9th August, 1570—he was of the city of London, grocer, 33 Elizabeth (1591), and is styled of London, gentleman, 27th November, 42 Elizabeth (1600); (2) *James*, baptized 20th January, 1576—he was of Gray's Inn, Middlesex, gentleman, 22 November, 42 Elizabeth (1600), and was living 17th December, 4 James I (1606). He was married, and his relict had married in 1626 a Mr. Farrer. (3) *John*, baptized 20th July, 1582; (4) *Thomas*, baptized 17th July, 1583, of London, gentleman, 42 Elizabeth (1600), and living 4 James I (1606); (5) *Christopher*, baptized 21st June, 1584; (6) *John*, baptized and died immediately, 4th August, 1586; (7) *Elyn*, baptized 9th October, 1572; (8) *Alice*, baptized 17th January, 1574 (unmarried 1590), wife of Robert Brett, Esq. *Argent, a lion rampant gules, between eight cross-crosslets fitché of the second*.

SAND II.

NOTE.—Higher and Lower Sand were first purchased in 1560-1 by Henry Huyshe, eldest son of Humphrey Huyshe, the second son of Oliver Huyshe, of Doniford, temp. Henry VII, of Thomas and Anthony Huyshe, of Axminster, the elder sons of the aforesaid Henry Huyshe, who sold the both estates to their cousin, James Huyshe, of London, 26 Elizabeth, 1583-4. It is situate about half-a-mile north of Sidbury.

The enormous number of children born to James Huyshe—eleven by his first wife and eighteen by the second, in all twenty-nine—is a remarkable circumstance. The descent of Margaret, his first wife, has not been ascertained (there was a large branch of the Bouchiers in Essex), but she is described as an heiress, and *the martlet on the crescent* would imply from the fourth son of the second house. The arms, *argent, a cross engrailed gules, between four water bougets sable*, is the usual bearing of Bouchier, and occupies the third quarter of the family shield at Sand, where it should be noted the arms of Huyshe are also duly differenced both in the shield and on the crest by a *mullet*. The *eleventh* shield in the window displays Huyshe impaling Bouchier. His second wife, Mary Moffit, after bearing her husband eighteen children, after his decease further adventured twice into the bonds of matrimony, capturing the Lord Mayor of the great city for one of them.

The *thirteenth* shield in the hall window at Sand displays the arms recorded: *Argent, semée of cross-crosslets fitchée and a lion rampant gules*, impaling Huyshe, of Sand, being the arms of Brett, of Pillond, in Pilton, North Devon, and relate to the alliance of Alice, their youngest daughter, with Robert Brett.

The *twelfth* shield in the window is Huyshe impaling, *argent, a lion rampant sable, between eight escallops in orle gules*, for Mary, the second wife of James

Huyshe, daughter of William Moffett, of Chipping-Barnet, Hertfordshire, to whom these arms were granted, 10th May, 1585.

Stow speaks of St. Pancras, Soper Lane, as "a proper small church, but divers rich parishioners therein," and the edifice was apparently going to decay and neglected in his day. The inscription was found on "a fair monument in the north wall of the quire":—

"Here under lieth buried James Huyshe, Citizen and Grocer, of London, third son of John Huish, of Beanford (sic), in the County of Somerset, Esq., which James had to his first Wife, Margaret Bouchier, by whom he had Issue eleven children: And to his second Wife, Mary Moffett, by whom he had Issue eighteen Children. He died the 20th Day of August, Ann. Dom., 1590.

*Hac defunctus Huyshe tenui sub mole quiescit
Nec tamen hac totus mole quiescit Huyshe.
Corpus in est Tumulo, colit aurea spiritus astra
Scilicet hunc cælum vendicat, illud humus.
Londinensis erat Civis dum Fata sinebant,
Jam cum sidereo milite miles agit.
Bis Thalami sociam duxit; Prior edidit illi
Undenas Proles, altera bisq: novem.
Munificam per sæpe manum porrexit egenis,
Virtutum fautor, Pieridumq: fuit.
Nil opus est plures illi contexere laudes;
Sufficit in Cælo jam reperisse locum."*

Which may be rendered :

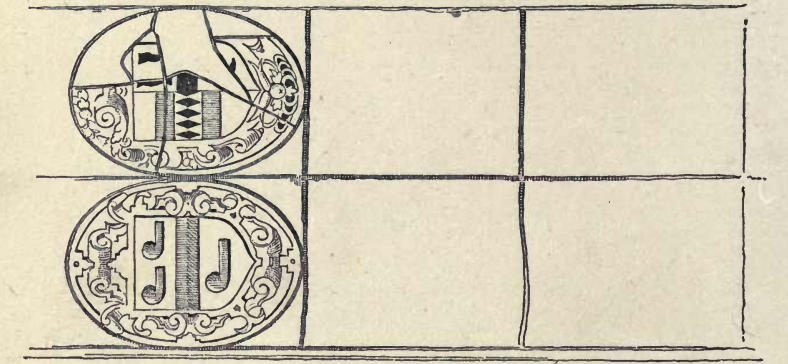
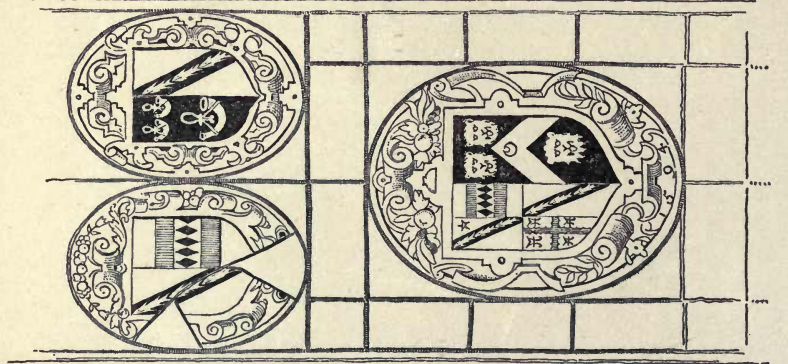
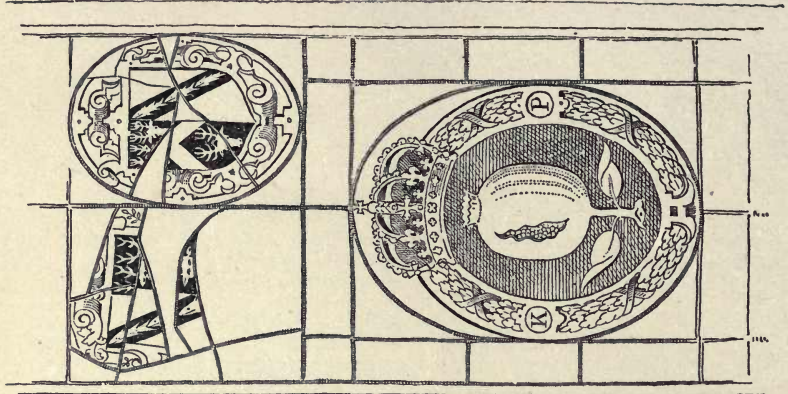
"Under this narrow mound rests departed Huyshe, yet not all of Huyshe rests in this mound; his body is in the tomb, his spirit inhabits the golden stars; heaven indeed claims the latter, earth the former. He was a citizen of London, whilst the Fates permitted, now as a soldier he abides with the starry host. Twice was he married: his first wife bare to him a progeny of eleven, his second twice nine. He very often extended a generous hand to the needy, and was a patron of the Virtues and the Muses. There is no need to entwine more praise to him: it suffices that in heaven he has now found a place.

Sir William Rowe, the second husband of Mary Moffet, was Lord Mayor in 1592. A Sir Thomas Roe, or Rowe, was Lord Mayor in 1568, knighted in 1569; and a Sir Henry Rowe, Lord Mayor, 1607, knighted at Whitehall, 1603. Sir Thomas bore for his arms, *Argent, on a chevron azure, between three trefoils slipped per pale gules and vert, as many bezants, with crest—a stag's head gules, attired or.* These arms appear to have been borne by all three, who were probably members of the same family.

There was a descent of Rowe located at Kingston, in Staverton, Devon, who bore the same arms and crest. Their ancestors appear, from the *Visitations*, to have belonged to Kent, whose descendant, John Rowe, of Totnes, *Serviens ad legem, tempore Henry VIII*, ob. 1544, married Agnes, daughter and coheir of William Barnhouse, of Kingston. Prince includes him among his *Worthies*. Sergeant Rowe was succeeded at Kingston by his son, John Rowe, ob. 1592. They were a family of good position in the county: extinct apparently early in the eighteenth century.

The arms given of the third husband of Mary Moffet, on the funeral certificate, are those assigned to *Madeston*, granted in 1587, with crest—a cubit arm erect in armour, per pale crenelle, or and argent, holding in the gauntlet a halbert. headed and garnished of the last.

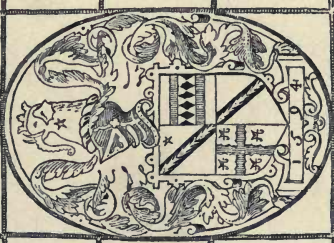
II.—Rowland Huyshe, aforesaid, baptized 11th April, 1560. This name was given him after Sir Rowland Hill, who was one of his godfathers. He was sometime of South Brent,



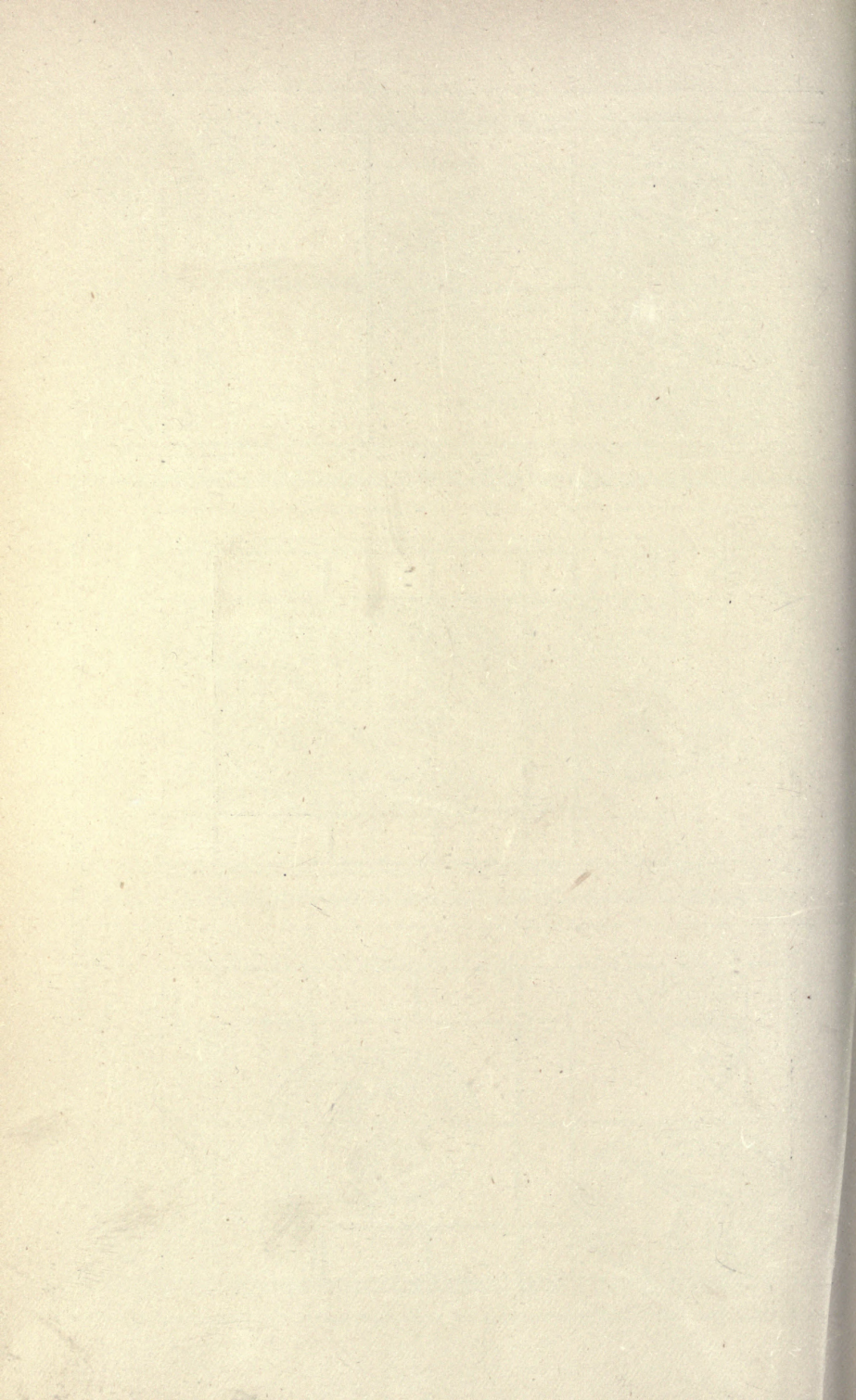
HERALDRY IN THE WINDOWS OF THE HALL, AT SAND.—(No. 1.)

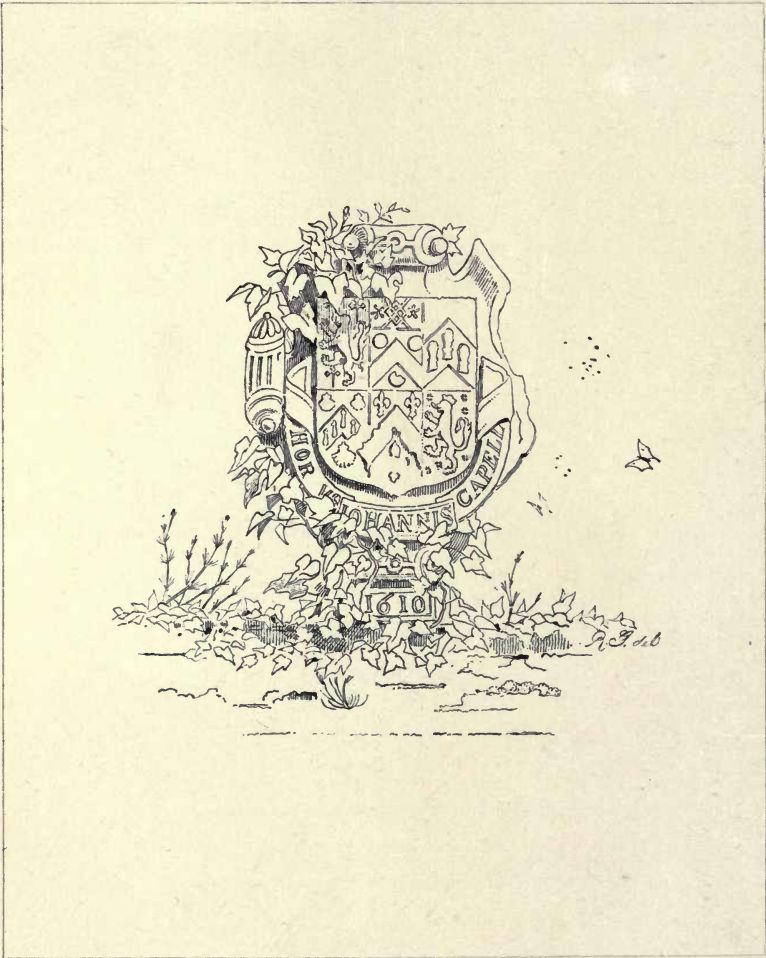


*Agnes Elph
Nov. 1891*



HERALDRY IN THE WINDOWS OF THE HALL, AT SAND.—(No. 2.)





SHIELD OVER THE GARDEN GATEWAY AT SAND.

in Somersetshire, and afterwards of Sand in the parish of Sidbury, Devon. He had livery of his father's lands, 8th June, 33 Elizabeth (1591). By inquisition taken at Sherborne, 29th August, 9 Charles I (1634), it appears he died 19th January, 8 Charles I (1631-2). Administration to his effects was granted in 1632 to his son James by the Dean and Chapter's Court, Exeter. He was buried at Sidbury, 7th February, 1632. He married *Anne*, daughter of JOHN WENTWORTH, of Bocking, in Essex, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Capel, Knt. She, through Spencer and Clare was descended from Edward I. She was buried at Sidbury, 7th October, 1629. They had issue one son *James*, of whom below.

NOTE.—The appearance of King Philip's badge, temp. 1553-8, among the stained glass, apparently points to its being a relic preserved from a former building, as Sand was not purchased by Huyshe until 1560-1. James Huyshe probably commenced the building of the present house, and his son, Rowland, completed the structure; as on one of the gables of the outbuildings are the initials—

R. A. H.—1600.

marking, it may be assumed, the period of its completion. James Huyse died in 1590, and the heraldic succession of the smaller shields ends with the impalement of his second wife; Rowland Huyshe's alliance also occurs of larger size, and the family escutcheon of four quarterings is dated 1594.

It should be added this interesting series of shields has greatly suffered in dilapidation since a description taken of them about ten years ago, and referred to in these notes—apparently all have been re-set and the original sequence disturbed.

In the garden at Sand was a gateway—now dilapidated—and over it a sculptured shield of arms, which has been preserved, and is now re-set over another gateway. It displays quarterly of six :—1. *A lion between three crosslets fitchée* (CAPELL). 2. *A chevron between three roundels, on a chief a fret between two cinquefoils* (CAPELL). 3. *On a chevron three garbs* (NEWTON). 4. *A chevron ermine between three escallops* (CHEDDER). 5. *A chevron between three fleurs-de-llys* (DEXWELL). 6. *Scamée of cross-crosslets, a lion rampant, crowned*. Underneath—

“HORTVS JOHANNIS CAPELL, 1610.”

The heraldry is interesting. Sir William Capel, an eminent merchant and of vast estate in London; Lord Mayor, 1503; knighted at the coronation of Henry VII, of Rayne Hall, Essex, ob. 6th September, 1515; was succeeded by his son, Sir Giles, Sheriff of Essex, 1528. He married Isabel, daughter of Richard Newton, ob. 1501, son of Sir John Newton, of East Harptree, buried at Yatton, 1488, by his wife Elizabeth, ob. 1498, daughter of Thomas Chedder and Isabel Scobahull, both buried at Cheddar. He was succeeded by their second son, Sir Edward Capel, ob. 1577, who was followed by his second son, Sir Henry, Sheriff of Essex, 1579, ob. 1588. His second wife was Katherine, fourth daughter of Thos. Manners, Earl of Rutland, by whom he had six sons and four daughters. John Capel (of the arms) was his fourth son. An exact duplicate of this shield occurs on the tomb of his next younger brother, Sir Gamaliel, ob. 1613, in Abbots-Roothing Church, Essex. Lysons says this John Capel was cousin-german to Anne Wentworth, Rowland Huyshe's wife.

The Wentworths were a branch of that large and influential family, settled in the three adjoining parishes of Wethersfield, Gosfield, and Bocking, in Essex. Sir Roger Wentworth, Knt., of Codham Hall, and *jure uxoris*, of Gosfield, Sheriff of Essex and Herts, 1499. ob. 1539, with his wife, Anne Tyrell, ob. 1534, a great heiress, are both buried in Wethersfield Church, where is their fine altar tomb and recumbent effigies. They quarter De Spencer in their arms. Roger Wentworth, their third son, was of Felsted. and afterward of Bocking, which manor, in 1540, was granted to him by Henry VIII, on the suppression of the Priory of St. Saviour's, Canterbury, to which it belonged. He had two wives—Mary, and the second, Alice, daughter of William Buckford. He died in 1557, and was buried at Bocking. He was succeeded by his son, John Wentworth, of Bocking, born 1535, died 1603. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Capel, of Hadham, county of Hertford. They had two children—Edward Wentworth, of Bocking, born 1573, died 1616; and Anne, the wife of Rowland Huyshe, of Sand, in Sidbury, Devon. They differenced their arms with a *rescent*. This royal descent will be further referred to.

The shield representing this alliance, Huyshe impaling Wentworth, of larger size, also occurs in the hall window.

In a corner of the garden is an old summer or pleasance house, the usual adjunct of this era. It is entered beneath a pillared archway, within, opposite the doorway is apparently the remains of a bay window or fireplace, and an arched aumbry or recess occurs in one of the side walls. The little building now shares the fate generally reserved for these ancient haunts of squire and dame, being used as a storehouse for farm lumber. Without, in the back gable, in an ornamental panel, are the arms of Huyshe; and over the entrance from the garden the escutcheon of Rowland Huyshe, differenced with the *mullet*, impaling, a *chevron between three leopards' heads, a crescent for difference*, for his wife, Anne Wentworth.

Below the arms in a sculptured panel is this beautiful inscription:—

ΕΥΘΥΜΙΑΣ · FONS · BENE · CONVENIRE · CVM · DEO

which tells us that although

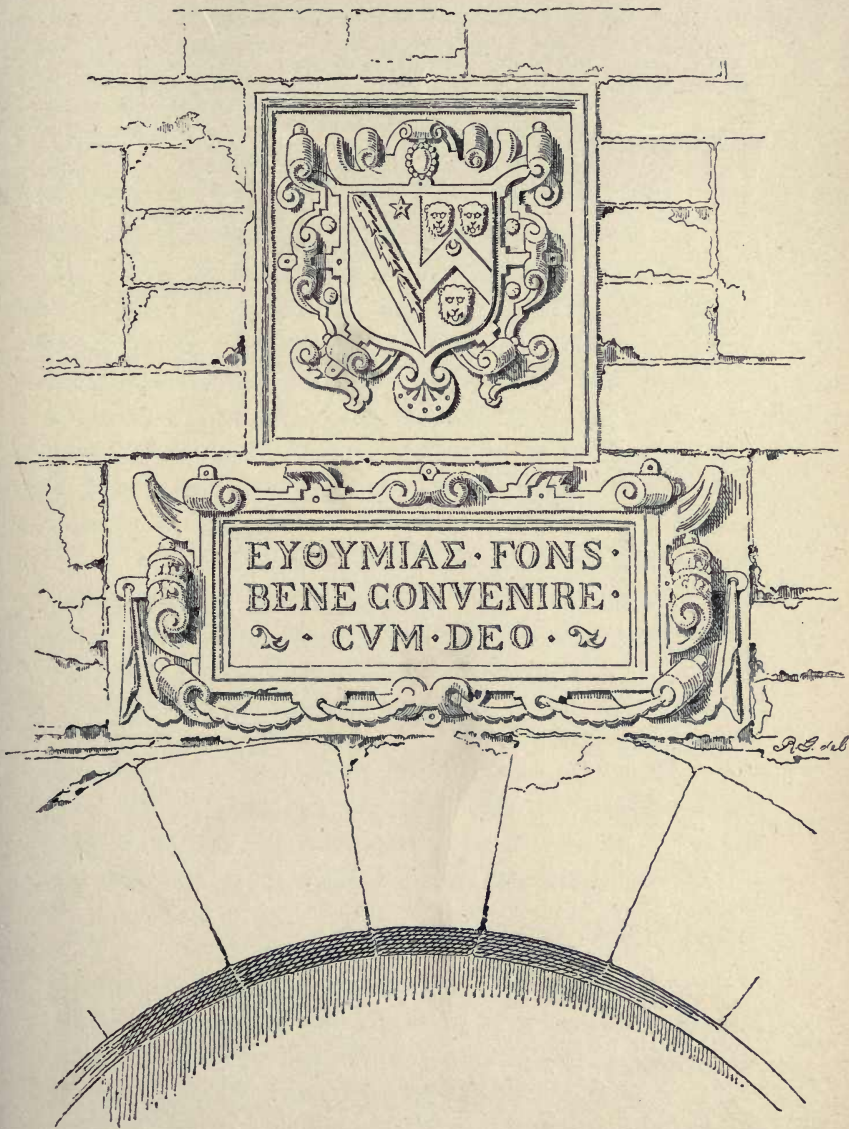
The hand that placed those words is gone,
His presence is with us to-day;
No strangers tread these paths alone,
With them his spirit walks away.

And thou, who dost the import scan,
That lives within the crumbling words,
Sees there the image of the man,
More true than subtlest art affords:—

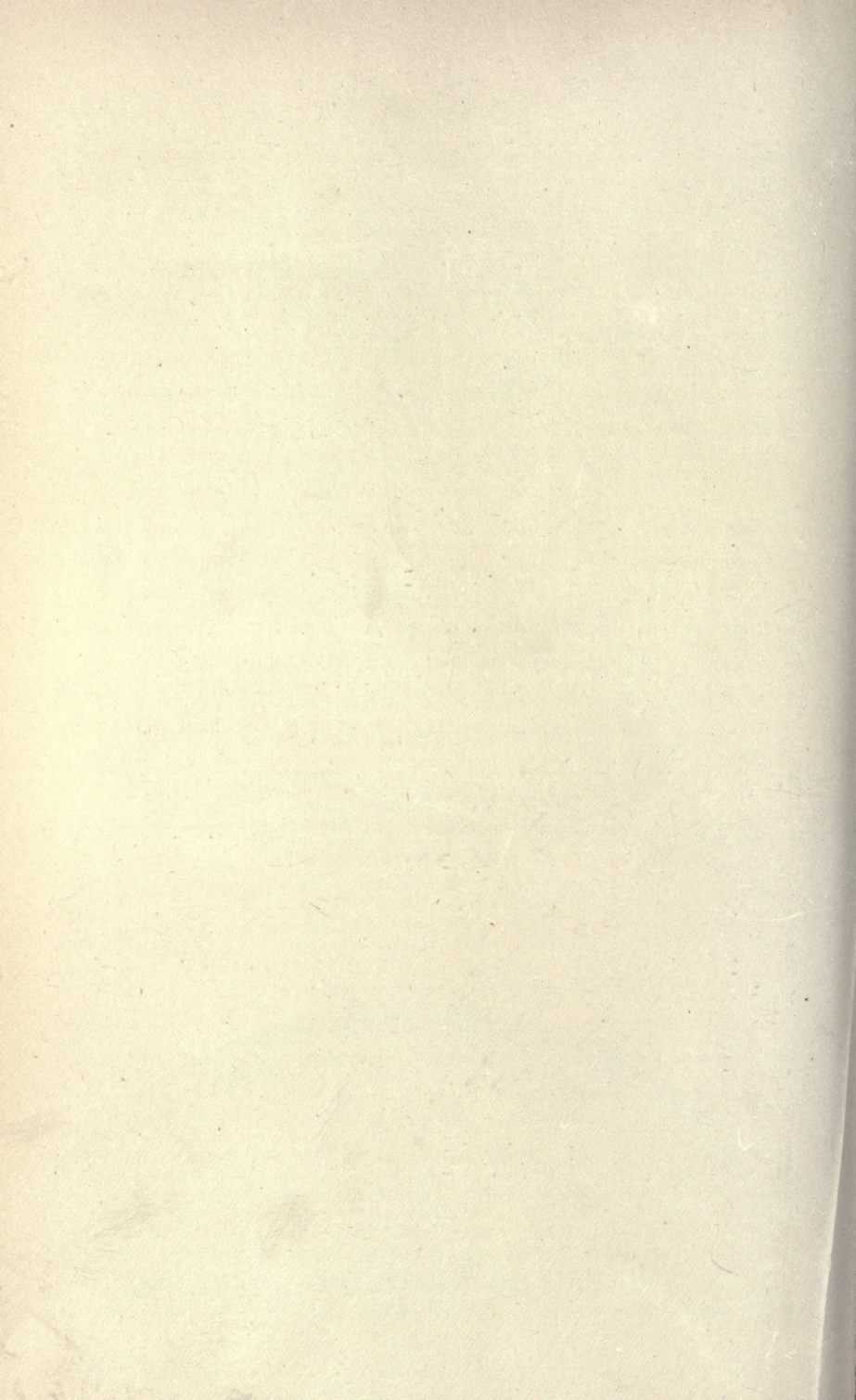
Who bids thee to remember this,
Though sweet these odours from the sod,
“*The fountain of true fragrance is
To be in fellowship with God.*”

Formerly in the window of the stairway, but now removed to that in the hall, is the *pomegranate* with regal crown, and the initials K. P., for King Philip of Spain, the husband of Queen Mary, and her medallion doubtless originally accompanied it. The quartered shield of Huyshe is also sculptured over the entrance porch.

Sir Rowland Hill, godfather of Rowland Huyshe, born in 1560, was presumably the son of Thomas Hill, of Malpas and Hodnet, and is described as having been “the first Protestant Lord Mayor of London, 4 Edward VI, 1551, one of the richest and most considerable merchants of his time. He did great acts of generosity, was an eminent benefactor to the public, founded Drayton and other free schools, built Stoke and Hodnet churches, Atcham and Terne bridges, at his own expense, and left his large acquisitions among his four sisters, his coheirs, Agnes, Jone, Jane, and Elizabeth.” He appears to have been the first of his race called Rowland, a name perpetuated in the Huyshe family, and also by the



ON THE SUMMER HOUSE IN THE GARDEN AT SAND.



present Viscounts Hill, who descend from Rowland Hill, of Hawkestone, the son of Humphrey Hill, the nephew of the Lord Mayor. Sir Rowland was knighted between 1537-42, and bore for his arms—*Azure, two bars argent, on a canton sable, a chevron between three pheons argent, on the chevron, a hind's head erased azure, between two mullets of the third.* Crest—*A hind's head erased azure, collared argent, in the mouth a trefoil, slipped vert.* Granted Sir Rowland Hill by Thomas Tonge, Clarencieux, 8th November, 26 Henry VIII, 1535. The bearing on the *canton*, less the charge on the *chevron*, appears as one of the quarterings on the escutcheon of Viscount Hill (1872), being the arms of Malpas.

III.—**James Huyshe**, of Sand. He was twenty-four years of age at his father's decease, and had livery of his father's lands granted him 25th June, 10 Charles I, 1634. He engaged most actively in support of the Royal cause in the Rebellion, making great sacrifices of his private fortune. The estates he had inherited from his wealthy and industrious grandfather, were, some sold, and on the remainder a fine was imposed of a tenth, viz. £283. By the Royalist Composition Papers it appears he took up arms against the Parliament, laid them down in 1643, and compounded in 1646. He was appointed a Captain in the Militia of Foot in East Devon, raised by the Duke of Albemarle, 29th January, 1660. He was baptized at Sidbury 2nd May, 1604, and buried there 26th May, 1681. He married **Deborah**, daughter of RICHARD REYNELL, of Credeney-Wiger, in Devon, Esq., by Mary, daughter and coheir of Sir John Peryam, Knt. She was coheir of her brother Peryam Reynell, and through this match the manor and advowson of Clysthidon came to the Huyshe family. The old family toast at Ogwell commemorates his connexions—

“Fulford, Otterton, Credeney, Clysthidon, and Sand,
And all our relations by sea and by land.”

By her he had issue four sons and seven daughters: (1) *James*, of whom hereafter; (2) *John*, baptized 26th February, 1634-5, he was a merchant of Dublin in 1668, and died unmarried at Barbadoes; (3) *Rowland*, baptized 21st September, 1636, buried 28th November, 1638; (4) *Richard*, of whom hereafter; (5) *Anne*, baptized 9th May, 1625, married *John Vernon, Esq.* He was a Captain in the Parliamentary army and obtained the estate of Clontarf of Oliver Cromwell. Of this he was

dispossessed in favour of Edward Vernon, by Charles II. They had issue John Vernon, sometime of Dublin. Will dated 24th December, 1718, and proved in P.C.C., 14th November, 1720. She married secondly *Courtenay*. (6) *Mary*, baptized 1st March, 1626, died in Dublin before 1657, wife of *William Allen*, Adjutant-General in Ireland, living 1657, when he dates from Sand the preface to his *Memoir of Deborah Huish*. In the British Museum there is a copy of a curious pamphlet of his writing, *A Memorial of a remarkable meeting of many Officers at Windsor, in 1648*, London, 1659, quarto, 69 pages. In Thurlow's *State Papers* is an account of his being arrested at his father-in-law's house at Sand, on suspicion of plotting against the Government, as appears by his letter to the Protector. They had a child. (7) *Deborah*, baptized 5th September, 1628, buried 21st August, 1661. In the British Museum there is a curious book written by her brother-in-law, General Allen, in which he gives an account of her most melancholy state of religious despondency for several years, and of her recovery to a true view of the Christian faith, according to his own tenets. The title of the book is *The Captive taken from the Strong*, London, Chapman, 12mo., 1668. (8) *Rebecca*, baptized 20th January, 1632, married at Sidbury 26th June, 1663-4, *Elijah Dene*, rector of Clysthidon, and buried there 27th July, 1670. (9) *Jael*, baptized 24th December, 1642, married 2nd February, 1663, *Francis Drake*, of Ide, merchant. (10) *Tryphena*, baptized 5th February, 1645-6, wife of *John Gay*, of Frithelstock, died 1731. (11) *Sarah*, who died young.

CREDY-WIGER AND CLYSTHIDON.

NOTE.—Credy-Wiger, near Crediton, says Pole (who was nearly related by marriage to its first owner of the Periams) "was sold by Thomas Prideaux, of Nutwell, Esq., unto Sir William Periam, Knt., which built a fair dwelling-house, and left it to descend unto his four daughters, Mary my wife, (and three others named), which have sold it to John Periam, of Exeter, Esq. (he was not a knight), brother to Sir William Periam aforesaid, which hath left it unto his eldest daughter, Mary, wife of Richard Reynell, Esq., younger son of (George) Reynell, of Malston (in Sherford, South Devon), which have made it their dwelling-house." Deborah, their fifth daughter was married to James Huyshe, 13 August, 1621.

Of Clysthidon, the same authority remarks, "Gabriel St. Clere sold the same to Edmond Parker, Esq., his brother-in-law, who sold the same to John Periam, Esq., of Exeter, who gave it unto Mary his eldest daughter, wife of Richard Reynell, of Credy-Wiger, Esq., lately deceased." He was a Bencher of the Inner Temple. Their arms, *Argent, masonry sable. a chief indented of the second.* Pole notes, of Malston, "*a crescent for difference,*" of Credy-Wiger, "*a crescent and a rose.*"

On monuments in Sherford Church:—

"*Here lyeth the body of George Reynell, of Malston, Esquire, who died the 8th day of Aprill, An'o Domini, 1643.*"

"*In gratam Elizabethae memoriam filiae Petri Specott de Thornbury, Armigeri, nuptae Georgii Reynell de Malston, Armigeri, quae obiit vicesimo secundo die Maij An' Dom' 1662.*"

Arms—Specott—Reynell impaling Specott, and Reynell. Crest, *a fox passant.*

The St. Cleres evidently built the south aisle of Clysthidon Church, where their arms occur on the capital of the western respond of the arcade, and on a boss outside at the east corner. The entrance porch of this aisle is finely groined, and on the keystone of the outer arch is an angel holding a shield, quarterly of four (1) *A sun* (ST. CLERE); (2) *a fess between three griffins' heads erased* (HALSE); (3) *a fess engrailed between three mullets pierced* (TIDWELL); (4) *Three roundels, a label of three* (HIDON).

St. Clere inherited Clysthidon by marriage with the heiress of Hidon. Halse and Tidwell represent other matches of St. Clere. Gabriel St. Clere appears to have dissipated the family estates, and Pole gives a curious account of his proceedings anent. The Halses were of Kenedon, an estate and manor house, in Sherford, not far from Malston. It should be noted that Periam acquired also the manor of Stone, adjoining Sand, in Sidbury. On a flat stone in the chancel of Clysthidon:—

"*Here lieth ye body of Elijah Dene, late Rector of this Church, who died ye 10 day of May, Anno Dom., 1703. And also the body of Mary his wife, who died 26th September, Anno Dom., 1701. Together with ye bodies of Dorothy, John, Thomas, and Elijah their children.*"

Probably of the family of Dene, of Newton St. Petrock and Horwood, in North Devon, their arms, *Argent, a lion rampant purpure.* Rebecca Huyshe must have been his first wife.

The Periams were eminent citizens and merchants of Exeter, for three generations. William Periam was Mayor, 1532—John, his son, Mayor 1563 and 1572—he had two sons. The eldest, William, became successively a Justice of the Common Pleas, and Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer. He died in 1605, and is buried in Crediton Church, under a fine monument, whereon is his recumbent effigy. John, his brother, mayor, 1587 and 1598, acquired Credy-Wiger from his four nieces, the daughters and coheirresses of his brother, Sir William. By his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Prideaux, of Soldon, he had three daughters, and to the eldest, Mary, the wife of Richard Reynell, he gave Credy-Wiger and other property. His portrait, dated 1616, hangs in the Guildhall at Exeter, and another in Exeter College, Oxford, to which he was a benefactor. A small portrait of Sir William, the Lord Chief Baron, is in the National Portrait Gallery.

On a panel outside between two upper windows at Sand, are the initials—

I. D. H.—1673.

which evidently refer to James Huyshe and his wife, Deborah Reynell.

In 33 Elizabeth, 1591, Rowland, son and heir of James Huish, citizen and grocer, of London, purchased one third of the manor of East Ringsted (in Osington, Dorset), of Andrew Rogers, value four pounds. This family seems afterward to have possessed the whole farm, for in 1646, Mr. (James) Huish's farm here was sequestered. They also held Middle Ringsted. It was purchased of — Huish, Esq., by Awnsham Churchill, Esq. (HUTCHINS).

John Gay, eldest son of John Gay, of Frithelstock, ob. 1678, and Joan, daughter of John Smith, of Torrington; baptized 24th November, 1639, at Barnstaple; matriculated Exeter College, Oxford, 3rd April, 1661; B.A. 15th October, 1664; buried at Frithelstock, 25th January, 1716-17. His wife, Tryphena, daughter of James Huish, of Sand, died 6th and buried 10th May, 1731, at Frithelstock. They had issue three sons and four daughters (*Visitations*, Vivian).

IV.—**James Huyshe**, eldest son, was of Sand, baptized 15th July, 1630, and buried 5th June, 1708; will proved in Dean and Chapter's Court, Exeter; he married 25th July, 1684, at Seaton, **Urith**, daughter of EDMOND WALROND, of Bovey, Esq. She was baptized 29th June, 1652; will dated 1st December, 1710; proved Dean and Chapter's Court, Exeter, 16th December, 1716. They had issue one son and four daughters (1) *James*, of whom hereafter; (2) *Deborah*, baptized at Seaton, 4th November, 1685, married *John Woolcot*, of Bossel, in Sidbury, and issue from whom descends the present James Huyshe Woolcot; (3) *Anne*, baptized at Sidbury, 15th September, 1687, and died; (4) *Mary*, baptized 3rd July, 1691, married the *Rev. William Symons*, vicar of Otterton, and had issue *John Symons*, of Heavitree, *James Symons*, vicar of Broadhembury, and two daughters, who all died without issue; (5) *Urith*, baptized at Sidbury 25th July, 1693.

NOTE.—Urith Walrond was great grand-daughter of Sir William Pole, the Antiquary. She was probably called after Urith Shapcote, the daughter of Thomas Shapcote, of Exeter (by Urith, daughter of Henry Sothern, of Poughill, Devon), and wife of Sir Courtenay Pole, Bart. of Shute, her father's first cousin. A pleasant name, Saxon, for *wreath* or *garland*, adopted afterward by several of the allied families of Pole, Trevelyan, and Walrond.

A sundial is affixed to the front of Sand house, on which is the motto—

SOL JUSTITÆ ORIATUR. 1701.

“*May the sun of righteousness arise*”—below are the arms of Huyshe impaling Walrond, for James Huyshe and his wife, Urith Walrond.

The Rev. William Symons, who married Mary Huyshe, was collated to Otterton, 9th June, 1721; died 9th and was buried 12th October, 1782, aged 86, after serving his church sixty-two years.

V.—**James Huyshe**, of Sand, baptized 25th June, 1689, buried 15th March, 1724 (at Sidbury); will proved in Bishop of Exeter's Court, 4th June, 1725. He married **Catherine**, daughter of (WILLIAM) DRAKE, of Yardbury, Colyton. They had issue (1) *James*, baptized 31st March, 1717, buried 14th April, same year; (2) *Anne*, baptized 24th August, 1720, and buried 6th May, 1721.

NOTE.—Katherine Drake, the wife of James Huyshe, was the daughter of William Drake, of Yardbury, Colyton, ob. 18th November, 1727, by his wife Katherine, daughter and coheir of John Pennington of Wicken Hall, Suffolk, and Chiswell, in Essex. She died 15th December, 1730. The Drakes of Yardbury, descended from William Drake, second son of John Drake of Ash, Musbury, ob. 1628, by his wife Dorothy, daughter of William Button, of Alton Priors, Wilts.

The fifth bell in the tower at Sidbury bears the arms of Huyshe, and the following inscription—

“GOD BLESS THE QUEEN AND SAVE THE CHURCH. JAMES HUYSHE, HENREY CONENT, GENT., WARDENS, 1712, T. W.

T. W. is for Thomas Wroth, the bell-founder.

VI.—Richard Huyshe, aforesaid, was baptized November, 1638. He was a merchant of Dublin; administration granted to John Vernon, of Clontarf, his nephew, in 1673, 10th December, but set aside 9th November, 1704, and granted to his son, Richard Huyshe. He married Elizabeth, daughter of MORE, of Queen's County. She died before her husband. They had issue two sons (1) *Richard*, (2) *Francis*.

VII.—Richard Huyshe. He was, with his brother, left an orphan at an early age. He succeeded to the Sand estate on the death of his cousin, James Huyshe. He resided in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Westminster, at the date of his will, 6th December, 1726, which was proved in P.C.C., 15th December, 1726. He married Marianne, relict of Synot, but died without issue.

VIII.—Francis Huyshe, born 6th May, 1672; M.A., Trinity College, Dublin, 12th July, 1698; Rector of Clyst-hidon, September, 1703; died 9th February, 1764; will proved P.C.C., 10th August, 1765; married 16th August, 1706, Sarah, daughter of RICHARD NEWTE, of Duvale, near Tiverton, in Devon, son of the Rev. Richard Newte, Rector of Tiverton (*see Prince's Worthies of Devon*). She died 19th March, 1747, in her seventieth year. They had issue four sons and four daughters (1) *Richard*, born 2nd January, 1709-10, died 24th June, 1736, unmarried, of Balliol College, Oxford; will proved 25th March, 1737, in the Bishop's Court, Exeter. (2) *James*, (3) *John*, of both of whom hereafter; (4) *Francis*, born 17th January, 1722-3, died at Barbadoes, October, 1740, unmarried;

(5) *Elizabeth*, born 17th January, 1711, died 12th November, 1731, unmarried, buried at Sidbury; (6) *Frances*, born 20th April, 1715, died at Exeter 12th April, 1797, buried at Sidbury, unmarried; (7) *Jane*, born 23rd June, 1720, died 23rd October, 1802, unmarried; (8) *Sarah*, born 3rd December, 1707, died at Exeter 2nd January, 1794. She married the *Rev. John Thompson, B.D.*, Rector of Mesey-Hampton, Gloucestershire, who died 12th February, 1773, in his seventy-second year. They had issue one son, *John Thompson*, who died young.

NOTE.—A monument in Clysthidon Church, thereon:—

“Francis Huyshe, M.A., 61 years Rector of Clysthidon, 9th February, 1764, aged 92. Sarah, his wife, daughter of Richard Newte, Esq., of Duval, Bampton, 19th March, 1748, aged 70. Richard, their eldest son, 24th June, 1736, aged 27.”

Arms, Huyshe, impaling Newte.

A mural memorial, with a remarkable inscription, to these four daughters, is found in the chancel of Sidbury Church.

“Beneath this stone in the burial place of their ancestors of Sand in this parish, are deposited the bodies of the four daughters of Francis Huyshe, formerly Rector of Clysthidon, and his wife Sarah, daughter of Richard Newte, of Duval, in the parish of Bampton, who themselves closed the eyes of Elizabeth, November 12th, 1731, in her 21st year; Sarah, the eldest, and widow of John Thomson, Rector of Mesey-Hampton, county of Gloucester, died January 2nd, 1794, having completed 86 years. Frances followed her sister, April 22nd, 1797, at the age of 82. Jane, the youngest, ended that line of the family, with her own blameless life, October 23rd, 1802, in her 83rd year.

Where now is their boast, that they and their forefathers of Sand were a branch of the family of Huyshe of Lud-Huyshe and Doniford. county of Somerset, and that the blood of the Plantagenets flowed in their veins, through Joan, daughter of the first Edward?

Nothing now can avail them, but their endeavours, through the grace of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, to be prepared to meet that Saviour as their Judge. (Titus II, 13).

Reader! the same judgment awaiteth thee.”

Arms on a lozenge—Huyshe, quartering Avenel, Bouchier and Reynell.

The royal descent of Huyshe through Wentworth, from the Princess Joan of Acre, third daughter of King Edward I, is interesting.

Hugh le Despencer, Junior—Lord de Spencer, and K.B.—summoned to Parliament as a Baron, 1314 to 1325, was the eldest son of Hugh le Despencer, Senior, Earl of Winchester, by his wife, Isabel, daughter of William Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. He married, in May, 1306, at the Friars' Minors, London, Eleanor, then aged thirteen, eldest daughter of Gilbert de Clare, seventh Earl of Hertford, and third of Gloucester—surnamed the Red Earl—by his second wife, the Lady Joan Plantagenet, third daughter of King Edward I. After his decease, she re-married Lord Zouche de Mortimer, and died 30th June, 1337.

The tragic fate of these noblemen, father and son—the hapless favourites of King Edward II—their being executed with great barbarity, the elder at Bristol, 27th October, 1326, and the younger at Hereford, 29th November, 1326, are well known episodes in English history.

The fourth son of Hugh le Despencer, Junior, and Eleanor Clare, was Sir Philip le Despencer, who married Margaret, daughter and heir of Ralph de Gousill, and died about 1313. He was succeeded by his son, Philip le Despencer, ob. 1349, who married Joan Strange. To him, his son, Sir Philip, who was summoned to Parliament as a Baron—Lord le Despencer—by writs from 17th December, 11 Richard II, 1387, to 3rd October, 2 Henry IV, 1400. He married Margaret Cobham, and died 1400-1. He was succeeded by his son, Philip, Lord le Despencer, but he appears never to have been summoned to Parliament as a Baron. He married Elizabeth, youngest of the three daughters and coheirs of Robert, Lord Tiptoft, ob. 1372, by Margaret, daughter of William, Lord Deincourt, ob. 1379, and grandson on his mother's side of the unfortunate Bartholomew, Lord Badlesmere, who, after the defeat at Boroughbridge, in 1322, was taken prisoner, and, with about ninety more, lords, knights, and others, who suffered a similar fate, he was “hanged, drawn, and quartered at Canterbury, and his head set upon a pole at Burgate.” By this match with Elizabeth Tiptoft, Sir Philip inherited Nettlested, and died 1423-4. This descent is found on the shield further referred to, on Sir John Wentworth's tomb.

Sir Philip Spencer appears to have had an only daughter and heiress, Margery, ob. 1475, and she married Sir Roger Wentworth, ob. 1452. He was the son of John Wentworth and Agnes Dronfield, the son of John Wentworth and Alice Bissett, of Elmsall, co. York.

Sir Roger, who is styled of Nettlested, apparently *jure uxoris*, had two sons: one, Sir Philip, of Nettlested, ancestor of the Barons Wentworth, of Nettlested, and Earls of Cleveland; and the second, Henry Wentworth, ob. 1482, of Codham Hall, Wethersfield, Essex, which he appears to have acquired, and was the first of the family settled in the county. He married Elizabeth, the only daughter of Henry Howard, of Wigenhall, Norfolk, brother of Sir Robert Howard, ancestor of the Dukes of Norfolk. Arms of Howard, as found on his grandson's, Sir John Wentworth's, tomb—*Gules, on a bend between six crosses crosslet fitchée argent, an ermine spot for difference.*

He was succeeded by his son, Sir Roger Wentworth, of Codham Hall, and also of Gosfield, *jure uxoris*, by marriage with Ann, daughter and coheir of Humphrey Tyrell, of Warley. In 1497 he was at Blackheath, engaged in the suppression of the Cornish insurgents, on which occasion, in company with six others, he was knighted; in 1499, served as Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire; and in 1520, was in the train of Henry VIII, being in attendance on the Queen at the Field of the Cloth of Gold, where met the two monarchs of France and England—

“Those suns of glory, those two lights of men,
”Twixt Guines and Arde.”

He died 9th August, 1539, his wife 1534; they were buried in Wethersfield Church, where there is a fine monument to them, with their recumbent effigies in alabaster, originally finely painted and gilded, but of which scarcely a vestige remains. Both tomb and figures are much mutilated: the knight is bare-headed, but otherwise in full plate armour, over which he wears a surcoat or tabard, on which his arms were once illuminated; his feet rest on a unicorn. The lady has a pyramidal head-dress with flowing lappets, and a rich collar and pendant of roses around the neck. Panels, with shields denuded of their charges, appear below. He left four sons and three daughters. Roger, his third son, was of Bocking, and grandfather of Ann Wentworth, who married Rowland Huyshe. Arms of Tyrell, as found on his son's tomb—*Argent, two chevrons azure, on the upper an annulet for difference, a bordure engrailed gules.*

To Sir Roger came his eldest son, Sir John Wentworth, of Codham Hall and Gosfield; knighted by Henry VIII in 1546, and ob. 1567. He married Ann Bettenham, of Kent, ob. 1575, by whom he had one son, who died young, and

three daughters. They are buried in Gosfield Church, under a high tomb of Purbeck marble, beneath the arch which separates the Wentworth chapel (built by them) from the chancel. A portion only of the inscription on the border fillet remains; below, in cusped panels, were originally ten shields of brass, their bearings enamelled and gilded; of these three remain. One, with fourteen quarters, displays in the first seven the descent of Sir Roger, who married Margery Spencer, on both sides:—1. *Sable, a chevron between three leopards' heads or, a crescent gules surmounted of another or, for difference* (WENTWORTH). 2. *Gules, on a bend argent, three escallops azure* (BISETT). 3. *Paly of six, sable and argent, on a bend gules, three mullets or* (DRONFIELD), being the descent of Wentworth, and 4. *Quarterly argent and gules, in the second and third quarters a fret or, over all on a bend sable, three mullets of the first (apparently for difference)* (DE SPENCER). 5. *Barry of six, or and azure, a canton ermine* (GOUNELL). 6. *Argent, a saltire engrailed gules* (TIPTOFT). 7. *Argent, a fess between two bars genel gules* (BADLESMERE), being the descent of De Spencer. The remaining seven quarters relate to succeeding matches of the family. Above the shield on a helmet, in profile with mantling, is the Wentworth crest:—*Out of a ducal coronet or, an unicorn's head couped at the shoulders*. Arms of Bettenham on the tomb:—*Argent, a saltire engrailed sable, between four bears' heads erased, of the last, muzzled or*.

IX.—**James Hayshe**, born 12th September, 1712, died at Cullompton 25th May, 1784; married **Amy Parsons**. She died at Cullompton 16th June, 1807. They had issue one son, who died young.

X.—**John Hayshe**, changed the spelling of his name to **Huish**, born 29th June, 1717, died 17th May, 1802, buried at Pembridge; will proved P.C.C., 22nd July, 1802. He was rector of Pembridge, Herefordshire, and married 20th March, 1766, at Oxford, **Elizabeth**, daughter of **THOMAS HORNSBY**, of Durham, Esq. She was born 17th June, 1738, died June, 1792. They had issue two sons and one daughter (1) *Francis*, of whom hereafter; (2) *John*, in holy orders, sometime of Heathenhill, in the parish of Clythidon, now of Exeter, born 10th December, 1772, married at Eardisley, Herefordshire, October, 1799, **Millborough Ann**, daughter of **Thomas Harris**, of Hereford. She died 19th July, 1824. They have now living four sons and one daughter (1) *John*, of whom hereafter; (2) *Rowland*, vicar of East Coker, Somersetshire, born 26th August, 1801, married **Hannah**, daughter of **John Bullock**, of East Coker; (3) *George (Henry)*, born 2nd February, 1804, major in the 26th Bengal Native Infantry, late Assistant Commissary-General, married (1830) in India, **Harriette Matilda**, daughter of — *Lightfoot*; has issue **John Troughton**, born 10th

February, 1832; a daughter, born 20th January, 1837. (4) *Alfred*, born 8th August, 1811, a first lieutenant in the Bengal Horse Artillery, married 1836, in India, *Julia (Maria)*, daughter of the Rev. (George) Hagar. (5) *Millborough Ann*, born 29th November, 1803, married 25th January, 1832, the Rev. *Charles Walkey*, of Lucton, Herefordshire, and has issue (1) *John Charles Elliott*, born 14th September, 1833; (2) *Francis Samuel*, born 6th January, 1836, and a daughter, born 24th August, 1837; (3) *Sarah*, born 1st January, 1770, married at Pembridge, 1st June, 1793, *Richard Whitcombe, Esq.*, of Bollingham, Herefordshire (of the Whitcombes of Berwick-Mavesyn, county of Salop), who died April, 1829, at Cleveley, Cambridgeshire; their only issue, *Richard Whitcombe*, born 2nd March, 1794, a barrister of Lincoln's Inn, one of the Commissioners of Enquiry into the Municipal Corporations, died 12th November, 1834, buried at Hastings.

NOTE.—Sarah Huyshe, who married Richard Whitcombe, was daughter of John, ob. 1802, and sister of Francis, the compiler of the pedigree.

Rowland Huyshe, vicar of East Coker, died without issue in 1863.

Major George Henry Huyshe became a general in the army and C.B. He had another son, George Lightfoot, born 1839, a captain in the Rifle Brigade. His daughter was called Mary Millborough, and married in 1857, Richard Eliot.

Lieut. Alfred Huyshe also became a general in the army and C.B. He had issue (1) Alfred George Huyshe, of Sand, died 6th August, 1886, without issue; he was also a major-general in the army and C.B.; he married 1870, Harriet Helena, daughter of Francis Arthur French, of Newlands, Dublin. (2) Francis John Huyshe, of Sand, born 1840; clerk in holy orders; (rector) of Wimborne-Minster, Dorset; married 1877, Amy, daughter of . . . Ratclyffe, and has issue. (3) Dunbar Frazer Huyshe, born 1841; Lieut.-Colonel, Royal Artillery (late Bengal); married 1876, Augusta, daughter of the Venerable Archdeacon Bridge, and has issue. (4) Wentworth Huyshe, born 1847; married 1870, Gertrude, daughter of . . . Ulhorne. (5) Edward Vyvyan Huyshe, born 1850; a major in the Welsh Regiment, 1889. (*Vivian's Visitations of Devon*, 1895).

XI.—Francis Huish, now Huyshe, having returned to the old spelling of the name, of whom in the commencement of this pedigree.

NOTE.—Within the Castle of Exeter was the antient Church or Collegiate Chapel of St. Mary, established at a remote period for four Prebendaries. Lysons says it was founded in the reign of King Stephen by Ralph Avenell (grandson of Baldwin de Brionis) and his aunt, Adela. Dr. Oliver assigns its foundation to be coeval with that of the Castle, and speaks of letters patent addressed by William Avenell to Robert Chichester, Bishop of Exeter, 1138-50, wherein it is styled, "*Ecclesia de Castello Exonie cum quatuor Prebendis.*" The

four Prebends were those of Hayes, Cutton, Carswell, and Ashclyst, the patronage of all being vested in the Barony of Oakhampton. The College was suppressed with other Collegiate Churches and Chapels, but the building continued in use, and divine service was performed in it till it was taken down about the year 1782. The Prebend of Cutton, valued in Henry VIII's taxation at eight pounds, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, came into the possession of the Aclands, the present holders, and the lands of the Prebendal manor are in the parish of Poltimore.

It is interesting to note that the Rev. Francis Huyshe, M.A., the compiler of this pedigree, was the Prebendary of Cutton, of this antient foundation, being instituted thereto 4th July, 1831—patron, Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart.; and further, the coincidence of an Avenell being concerned in its early foundation, whose arms form one of the quarterings of the family escutcheon of Huyshe, from one of whom they descend.

The old Chapel was situate to the right, just inside the main gateway of the Castle. In it was a considerable collection of arms and armour, given early in the present century by Lieutenant-General Simcoe, Commander of the District, to John Houlton, Esq., of Earleigh Castle, Somerset, but which a few years since was restored to Exeter, and is now preserved in the Museum. A house for the custodian of the Castle precincts has lately been erected on the site of the Chapel, and in taking out the foundations the floor of the preceding edifice was discovered, together with some human bones, probably the remains of former Prebendaries, there interred.

There is a tradition that the final destruction of the Chapel was determined on through the tolling of the bell for the daily service, which, during assize time, annoyed the Judges, and the Prebendaries declined to cease.

XII.—**John Huyshe**, now rector (1837) of Clythidon, born 15th September, 1800, married **Ann Lydia**, daughter of **WILLIAM GREAVES**, of Mayfield, Derbyshire, M.D.

NOTE.—Grand Master of the Freemasons for the Province of Devon; was married 4th May, 1837, and died 18th October, 1880; buried at Clythidon.



FROM THE HALL WINDOW, SAND.



ADMIRAL BLAKE

FROM THE PICTURE IN THE HALL OF WADHAM COLLEGE,
OXFORD.

The Life of Admiral Robert Blake, stripped of legendary matter.

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IT is high time that some conspicuous monument should be raised—at any rate by Somersetshire men—to the honour of Robert Blake of Bridgwater, Admiral and General-at-Sea. One is naturally inclined to regret that there has been such a long delay ; but from one point of view it may be well. We do not want to commemorate the hero of legend, but the hero of history ; and the process of clearing off the clouds and bringing the real man into the sunlight of historical documents is scarcely accomplished even yet. It is easy to understand how the legendary halo came to encompass this great name. There was no sort of contemporary history. The principles for which he lived and died were almost wholly submerged under the restored Stuarts. By the time that men endeavoured to gather up materials for his history legend had begun to trifle with its grand outlines, and such poor attempts as were made to present him to the world were shrouded in a misty atmosphere of unreality.

In this necessarily brief paper I propose to keep in view the special relations of Robert Blake to his birthplace and his county, as displayed in the five distinct portions of his career ;

the period of his education, of his commercial life, of his political life, as a soldier on land, and as a naval officer. He stands alone amongst naval and military heroes in the peculiarity of his training for noble deeds. Certainly no one of our great seamen began his career of glory as late as the age of fifty, or crowded into seven years a succession of glorious acts which all but he—and we may add Lord Nelson—have taken a life-time to accumulate. However necessary to a naval officer that he should enter his profession in early life, the exceptional nature of Blake's training supplied, in his particular case, all deficiencies.

We must here avoid a discussion of the merits of Cavalier and Roundhead. No one of us can say what he would have done under the pressure of Charles I's unconstitutional, not to say tyrannical, proceedings. Blake's family belonged to that sturdy, truly English, commercial class which, in most parts of the country, and not least in Somersetshire, determined on resistance; and during the ten years of his Oxford life (1616-1625) he was naturally induced to take that side by the prevalence of the great ecclesiastical struggle which convulsed Oxford, and afterwards all England. He was witness to James I's efforts to tamper with the rights of the University, which corresponded too well with his suppression of Parliaments; and his acquaintance with classical literature opened his eyes to the consequences of despotism. Of Wadham College, the splendid foundation of the Somersetshire Wadhams, he was one of the early members, and here, along with others from his own county, he nursed that love of his native home, and those principles of ordered freedom, which coloured his life.

In 1625 his father's commercial prosperity had become clouded, and he died in debt. Blake now enters on the second stage of his career, managing the family business, paying off the debt, and providing for the education and settlement of his numerous brothers, of whom he was the eldest. These

duties he honourably performed, and no doubt they were of some influence in shaping his course of life, not least perhaps in preventing him from thinking of marriage. At Bridgwater he learnt the habits of business which stood him in good stead when the reorganization of the navy fell into his hands. Here he also learnt to act on his own responsibility in connection with nautical affairs: perhaps he sailed his own ships, and he certainly had to provide for their defence from the Barbary corsairs who were one day to feel his powerful arm.

During these years Blake had established his political position as an opponent of the Court, and had such painful opportunities close at home of observing the faults of the king's ecclesiastical advisers, that we can well understand how he came to make open profession of Puritan principles. His education, his honourable character, and his consistency, pointed him out as the representative of Bridgwater in the "Short Parliament" of 1640; but nothing as yet distinguished him from the crowd. He was no longer young. No gifts of speech had brought him to the front, nor was his influence as yet sufficient to counteract that of the Royalist gentry, who, when the "Long Parliament" was summoned in 1641, put a member of their own body into the seat which Blake had held. Nothing but the Civil War could have brought his great qualities to light.

As soon as it became evident that the contest between King and Parliament must be decided by arms, Blake seems to have been intimately concerned with the raising of troops. His first movements are naturally obscure; but in 1642 we find him serving under Sir John Horner, of Mells, when the Royalist Marquis of Hertford was driven out of Wells, and then as Lieutenant-Colonel of Alexander Popham's fine Somersetshire regiment. In this capacity he did good service in the defence of Bristol. It is possible, though not historical, that the story of his refusing to quit his post, after the city had been weakly surrendered to Prince Rupert by Colonel Fiennes, may have

some truth in it. We may at least be quite sure that it would not have been surrendered by Blake. He was now to show of what stuff he was made.

At the head of Popham's regiment he was detached, in 1644, to watch the progress of Prince Maurice's force in Dorsetshire. There was no time to lose, and he at once took what might well seem the foolhardy resolution to throw himself into the little fishing-village of Lyme Regis. This was a weak place by situation, and the defences which he hastily threw up were of the feeblest kind, wholly unfit to resist an army of five thousand men with a regular siege-train. Nevertheless, Prince Maurice found he had to do with a man whose little garrison was quite as brave as himself, who was utterly indifferent to odds, whose resources were inexhaustible, and who understood how to get excellent intelligence of his enemy's proceedings. Thus, finely supported by his Somersetshire men, he resisted for no less than three months the perpetual onslaughts and bombardments of a gallant enemy. Then at last Lord Warwick's fleet and Maurice's necessities put an end to a siege which would have attracted more attention if Blake's splendid defence had not been immediately eclipsed by his more famous defence of Taunton in 1645.

Into this place, unfortified like Lyme, and unarmed, but by its situation important enough to justify all risks, Blake threw himself at a critical moment. Lord Essex, the Parliamentary general, had blundered almost fatally in the West Country, and the royal forces gathered to the support of their friends. Taunton blocked the roads, and could not be left in the rear. Here again, with mere impromptu fortifications and weak artillery, Blake infused his brilliant courage, not only into his troops, but into the townsmen and the neighbourhood. They shrank from no sacrifice, they refused no labour. Every effort was made to dislodge this stubborn garrison. Desperate street-fighting by night and day continually issued in the defeat of the storming parties: starvation was at one time imminent:

fresh commanders, fresh bodies of besiegers succeeded no better than their predecessors : in fact, there were no less than three sieges before relief finally arrived. By that time the town was in ruins. It had occupied a body of four thousand foot and five thousand horse for nearly all the summer of 1645, and had been an important factor in the issue of the war. It entirely broke up the superiority of the Royalists in the West of England, and, next to the decisive battles of Marston Moor and Naseby, contributed more than any other action to the King's discomfiture. Blake finished the campaign by taking Dunster Castle.

Between 1645 and 1649 we hear very little of our hero, till, in fact, after the King's execution. In the former year he was elected to Parliament for Bridgwater. His troops were disbanded, and the Self-denying Ordinance relieved him from his military duties, but he was made Governor of Taunton, and devoted himself to the restoration of the town. We hear nothing of him in Parliament. Much speculation has arisen out of this temporary obscurity. He was thought to have incurred Cromwell's jealousy, and has been said to have objected to the hard treatment of the King ; but when he took his seat in Parliament, in 1646, the unbending Ludlow has asserted that Blake shared his own sentiments, and he certainly omitted to take any steps to save the King's life. His name is not indeed to be found in the list of the regicides, but he accepted his great post of "general-at-sea" a few days after the execution. We may fairly account for his temporary obscurity by observing that he had never been one of Cromwell's comrades, and was not likely to be preferred to those who had fought by the side of the conqueror. No doubt he presented himself rather as a man of action than a statesman. But in the downright, indomitable, republican patriot Cromwell's keen eye detected the man required for the reorganization of the navy, and who, considering State affairs not to be its province, would "prevent foreigners from fooling us." That famous

expression, whether originally Blake's or not, exactly represented his conduct of sea affairs ; and under the Commonwealth, with a fleet which had not yet forgotten the Stuarts, and with a host of enemies rising up on all sides, this principle alone could save the State.

The apprenticeship of the scholar, merchant, politician, and soldier is now over, and we seem to know the man who, at the age of fifty, is placed for the first time on the quarter-deck of a man-of-war ; nor only so, but in command of fleets. On February 12th, 1649, foreign affairs assuming a threatening aspect, three colonels are made "generals-at-sea" ; Popham, who had served in the Royal Navy, and was brother of Blake's old chief ; Blake himself ; and Deane, who had begun life at sea. The seven years which we are now to deal with were spent in three different lines of sea service, which may be thus summarised. He was first employed against Prince Rupert, who commanded what few of the Royal ships remained faithful to the Crown, and then against the last strongholds of the Royalists in the Channel. He next commanded the British fleet in the Dutch war, and lastly in the Spanish war. We will take them in order.

Prince Rupert's squadron was a great and immediate danger to the Commonwealth. Like Blake, and afterwards Monk, the Prince had exchanged land-fighting for sea-fighting with remarkable facility, and his dashing spirit had been sufficiently testified. His squadron formed a nucleus for banished Royalists driven to desperation, and it seized what supplies it required, very much after the fashion of pirates. It now took refuge from Blake's superior force in the harbour of Kinsale, where it was blockaded for some months. Taking advantage of a November gale it slipped away to Lisbon, where Blake once more formed a blockade. Before he left England, Cromwell offered him the post of Major-General, to act under himself in the conquest of Ireland, but Blake had taken kindly to the sea, and elected to hunt out Prince Rupert. From March to

May, 1650, he watched the mouth of the Tagus, putting effective pressure upon the King of Portugal and afterwards on Spain and France in succession, till at last the Princes, finding themselves unwelcome in the ports of the Mediterranean, and several of their ships destroyed, got away to the West Indies. There Maurice was lost at sea, and Rupert reduced to one ship, which finally carried him to France. These services lasted two years, and were gratefully recognized by Parliament. They formed a good education for the new "general-at-sea."

Blake was now entrusted with the task of subduing the last refuges of the Royalists, the Scilly Islands and Jersey. The former were dangerous on account of their good situation for harassing British trade, and the Dutch had already sent their great admiral, Tromp, to reconnoitre them for that purpose. Blake found no great difficulty in reducing and securing the Islands. A new danger arose before he could attack Jersey. The invasion of England by the young Charles, at the head of the gallant Highlanders, summoned Blake from the quarter deck once more and for the last time. On August 19th Parliament in anxious haste appointed him Commander-in-Chief of the army in the four counties where he had been so well known, Somerset, Cornwall, Devon, and Dorset. Three days later however the order was cancelled ; for the fleet could not be left to itself. Popham just at this time died and Deane was not on the spot. Blake is to repair to the Downs, to hoist his flag on board the *Victory*, to see that no supplies are sent from abroad to "the King of Scotland, who is now marching to the South, and to prevent any impressions that may be made on the seamen by misrepresentation of affairs." To mark the sense of his importance at this crisis he is made, jointly with General Lambert, Warden of the Cinque Ports, and sole General-at-Sea for the next nine months. The capture of Jersey was his last task before the great Dutch war. Sir George Carteret made a gallant defence ; but, as at Scilly,

Blake brought his ships close up against the forts in a manner, one might say, till then unknown; and, in spite of the rock-bound coast, suffered but little in the process. In these minor engagements he learnt to estimate the forts of those days at their true value, and soon applied his experience on a larger scale.

Our hero had now taken his place at the head of the Navy so obviously that Parliament elected him a member of the Council of State, which gave him an advantage, both as to the knowledge of home and foreign affairs, very rare in the history of naval commanders. The confidential relations thus invited were not established a day too soon; for the most serious naval war in which England had ever yet been engaged was on the point of breaking out. The Dutch were already employed in fitting out a fleet of men-of-war, and were determined to bring a long series of petty quarrels to an end by deciding once for all which was the strongest power on the sea. On two main points the Dutch were resolved to resist the British claims to the "Sovereignty of the Seas." The first was symbolised by what was called the "honour of the flag"; the other was the right to the fishing-grounds on the British coasts. The first, which has a long history of its own, and was by no means a mere ceremony, had always been submitted to, even in the ignominious reigns of James and Charles, and it now came first into dispute. Blake had his orders to insist; the Dutch Admiral, Tromp, to resist.

Four days before Tromp opened the war, a Dutch ship off Start Point was forced, in accordance with all former precedents, to salute the British flag; but Blake had only a small squadron of twenty-three ships under his orders, and only fifteen with himself, when Tromp, at the head of forty-two, bore down upon him when he was cruising near the Downs, and refused to salute. Blake singled himself from the rest of the squadron, and neared the Dutch admiral with a view to demanding his salute without effusion of blood. For that

purpose he fired three single guns, to which Tromp replied with a broadside. The battle then commenced with fury, but Blake was so far ahead of his own ships that he had to sustain the fight alone, for a considerable time, with all the Dutch ships that could get near him. He was thus severely handled, but not taken. Bourne, his second in command, now came up and attacked the Dutch rear; so that Tromp thought it best to make off in the darkness, nor did he resume the combat next day. Parliament and the Council cordially approved of Blake's conduct.

A sanguinary war was about to begin between two nations of seamen, proud and brave, of the same Teutonic race, and inflamed against one another to the highest pitch of hostility. Convinced of the justice of their cause the British made their appeal to heaven. Blake, with his officers and seamen, "kept several days of humiliation in the fleet;" nor did these grim warriors fight the worse for acknowledging, after their own fashion, a Higher Power than themselves.

The Government now turned their attention to the Dutch commerce which, as it was forced to pass by the British coasts, was the chief element of Dutch weakness in a war with England. Blake was sent to the North with a large part of his fleet to enforce the tax of the tenth fish upon the Scottish fishing grounds. This tax had been commuted for an annual sum of £30,000, which the Dutch had latterly refused to pay. The herring fleet numbered six hundred large vessels, called "busses," under a convoy of men-of-war. The latter were captured, but Blake set free those of the busses which he succeeded in taking, though he took care to unload them of their fish. This was censured by some as a misplaced generosity, but it was characteristic: he had no quarrel with the poor.

While Blake was thus engaged, Tromp was collecting a fine fleet in the Texel, and took advantage of the occasion. But the winds and waves favoured the English. Light winds and calms broke up Tromp's plan of attack upon the coast of Kent

and upon Sir George Ayscue's small squadron, and when he rushed to the North to measure himself against Blake a violent storm separated the fleets and forced the Dutch to retreat to Holland. His countrymen were furious ; they had lost the fish on which they lived, and their expensive armament had failed. The brutal insults heaped on the great admiral culminated in his suspension from command. De Ruyter, a younger officer, whose reputation, already high, was to eclipse that of Tromp, hoisted his flag, but De With, an officer much inferior to both, took the chief command. This was a political mistake ; and, as the Dutch seamen resented the treatment received by Tromp, assisted Blake to win his first victory off the Kentish Knock, a shoal near the North Foreland, on September 28th, 1652. The Dutch had been hurried to sea with weak crews and quarrelling captains, but they did their best to compensate for these defects by forming up their ships on the flank of the shoal. Blake, however, resolved to run any risk rather than fail to engage ; and, in his efforts to keep the wind, his own ship and others had, as he says in his despatch, "three or four rubs upon the shoal." But they were not damaged, and, obeying his positive orders, reserved their fire till they came to close quarters. Thus they did great execution on the enemy. "Three of the Dutch ships were wholly disabled at the first brunt, having lost all their masts." "The Dutch rear-admiral and two captains were made prisoners." In the morning the enemy fled to Holland. This was a great but not decisive victory. It was far from subduing the gallant Dutch ; indeed, it only brought out their noble spirit. They saw their errors, and in an incredibly short time rectified them.

The English government were completely in the dark as to this movement. The Dutch had placed Tromp once more at the head of their navy, and in six weeks he was at sea at the head of eighty-five ships, with officers of his own choice. Meanwhile, disregarding Blake's repeated warnings, and requiring his ships for many other services, the Council of State

broke up the fleet, leaving their admiral with only forty-five ships, and some of these only partially manned. The tables were turned. Tromp, with about double the number of Blake's ships, challenged him to battle, and his Council of War agreed with him that the challenge should be accepted. The battle was fought off Dungeness, and, as usual, centred round the admirals on either side. Blake, in the *Triumph*, had a desperate encounter with the flagships of De Ruyter and Evertsen, but was nobly supported by the *Vanguard* and *Victory*. These three ships were, in fact, engaged with twenty Dutch ships at once, but though terribly mauled they were not taken. Tromp, in the *Brederode*, was also attacked by two English ships, but with the help of Evertsen, they were both taken after great slaughter. Both were very weak ships, under rash but gallant captains, who were both killed. Unfortunately some of the other English captains did not behave with proper spirit, and Blake, unable to trust them, thought it best to retreat to Dover, and thence to the Thames. This was the famous occasion when Tromp is said to have hoisted a broom at his masthead, against which notorious legend there is a good deal to be said. At any rate, Blake left the Channel open to Tromp, who swept it pretty clean; and his conduct has in modern times been made a charge of rashness for attacking double his own number of ships. This was not the opinion of contemporaries, who soon discovered that he was not at all to blame. How could he have foreseen that the very men who had advised the attack should have failed at the crisis? He had several ships, as in all the battles, which were superior to those of the enemy, and the Dutch had not yet inspired much respect for their prowess. Even as it was, his loss of ships was inconsiderable. But the result of the battle nearly broke his heart, as his despatch shows.

He begins by insisting on an examination into the "deportment of several commanders," since "there was so much baseness of spirit" amongst them. Next he desires an enquiry

into "the discouragement, and want, of seamen"; and finally asks for his "discharge from this employment so much too great for me that so I may spend the remainder of my days in private retirement and in prayers to the Lord for a blessing upon you and the nation;" and again, "that so I may be freed from that trouble of spirit which lies upon me, arising from the sense of my own insufficiency and the usual effects thereof, reproach and contempt of men and disservice of the Commonwealth." There is, however, a saving clause in this pathetic letter. He earnestly begs for reinforcements "to fight them again." The Council might read between the lines a reproach for leaving him in the condition which gave Tromp his victory.

The Council of State understood their man, and took a leaf out of the Dutch book. They thank him heartily for his "good deportment in that action, and his faithful service." No word of recrimination appears. They send Commissioners to try the accused captains; they order all the detached squadrons to rally round the General; they take infinite pains to redress the wrongs of the seamen; they send twelve hundred land soldiers for ship service; and they recognize that their Commander had too great a weight to bear on his own shoulders. Two officers of the highest reputation are sent from Scotland to share it—Monk and Deane—but Blake of course stood first of the three generals-at-sea, and remained in chief command until he was entirely disabled.

Thoroughly aroused by this blow the English Government resolved to stop Tromp on his passage back to Holland with his convoy of homeward-bound ships. The fleet was ordered to pivot upon Portland, and to stretch backwards and forwards across the Channel. Being in three divisions, the squadrons happened, at the moment when Tromp made his appearance, to be separated; Monk, perhaps from want of experience, being four miles dead to leeward. Blake, as might be expected, elected to stand the whole brunt of the enemy's attack,

so as to employ him till the other squadrons should work up to windward; and as the Dutch were slightly superior in number to the whole English fleet together, his squadron suffered severely. His own ship, fighting, as usual, many of the enemy at once, and Tromp's flagship amongst them, lost one hundred men killed and many more wounded. Blake himself sustained a severe laceration of the thigh, from which he never properly recovered. His flag-captain and his secretary were both killed by his side. On Monk's squadron getting up Tromp found himself beaten, and drew off to protect his convoy. The combat was, however, protracted for three days in a running fight, like that of the Armada, during which Tromp lost a great many ships, but by consummate management brought back a majority of them into Dutch ports. This was a great and hard-won victory, but it took two more to break the stubborn spirit of foemen well worth the English steel.

Blake's wound had been neglected during the crisis of the three-days fight, and had to be carefully treated on shore. During his recovery occurred the forcible expulsion of Parliament by Cromwell, of which it has been said that Blake disapproved; but as we find him at the Admiralty three weeks later, and later still cordially working with the new Protector, it is plain that he had no idea of relinquishing his work. His fleet was in excellent order: three of the captains of whom he had complained on the former occasion, had been imprisoned while waiting for trial, and he now took charge of the North Sea, leaving Monk in charge of the Straits of Dover. It fell to that fine officer to come across the enemy and fight the next battle, which began at the North Foreland and ended at Nieuport; but Blake's squadron came up in time to change the stubborn fight into a headlong rout, and under him was formed the blockade of the Dutch coasts. Overtures for peace followed, but Cromwell would not accept them.

Blake remained in command off the coast of Holland for some

weeks, but had to succumb to a complication of diseases which were more or less the consequence of his wound, aggravated by the want of rest and press of business. Monk was appointed to succeed him, and he retired to his own home, thus missing the last and most entirely decisive battle of the whole seven, in which Monk, on July 31st, 1653, crushed the Dutch navy—by this time much enfeebled—for many a long year. The *Triumph*, the ship which Blake had so often fought gloriously, was one of Monk's fleet, and after doing her duty in the old manner, was so badly injured that her crew set her on fire and for the most part deserted her; but there were some left who were determined that their adored chief's ship should be taken out of battle. They extinguished the flames and brought her out. For this each man received a medal, specially struck for them. Parliament, at Cromwell's instigation, granted gold medals to the chief officers of the war. Those assigned to Blake, Monk, Penn, and Lawson, along with fine gold chains, were much larger than the rest. They are beautiful works of art, by the celebrated Simon. Three are still in existence. One is at Windsor Palace, the other at Wadham College, both claiming to be Blake's; but whichever was his, the other is almost certainly Monk's. Penn's is in possession of his descendants. Lawson's has never been met with.

Blake's enforced relaxation in 1653 was the first which had fallen to his lot since he took up arms, and it was the last. He spent his time at Knoll, near Bridgwater, and his health gradually improved in his wholesome native air. We hear of his quiet, simple habits. A favourite walk took the place of the quarter-deck or poop; and though he did not dislike company his disposition was taciturn and contemplative. By the end of the year he was much better, and with the spring entered on the last and perhaps most glorious part of his career. Again he was employed to reorganize the navy, and on September 29th, 1654, took his fleet to the Mediterranean. The Dutch had been supreme in that sea: Blake was now to instal

his country in their place, and to force the Barbary States to acknowledge and respect it. With the European states he was uniformly successful without recourse to force, but the African states required a firm hand. At Algiers he was at least civilly treated, but the Bey of Tunis defied him in set terms. This chief relied upon his strong castle of Goletta, moored his nine fighting ships opposite the mole of Porto Farino, and planted batteries at all available points. Everything depended on the wind, which, however, turned out favourable for getting in and coming out. The forts were silenced and the ships burnt in the course of a single hour, with no greater loss than twenty-five killed and forty wounded, a result which had no parallel, except in the case of Blake's subsequent exploit at Teneriffe. The Bey made his submission, and accepted the residence of a Consular Agent. Tripoli submitted without a repetition of the lesson given at Tunis.

Blake now repaired to the western coast of Spain, in order to receive precise directions from Cromwell about the war with that country, which he knew to be imminent; and soon afterwards was ordered home to refit. At his own request he was once more associated with a general-at-sea—young Mountagu, the future Earl of Sandwich—and together they visited the dockyards and equipped a fresh fleet. He was wholly unfit to go to sea again; but he felt it to be his duty, and he was quite aware that this was the last time. At the head of forty ships he set forth in March, 1656, with orders to waylay the Spanish treasure ships. Autumn and winter cruising succeeded that of the summer, and the open Bay of Cadiz gave no protection from the furious gales of those seasons, which were fast wearing out the veteran. One of the Plate fleets at last appeared, and was taken by Stayner, who commanded a squadron under Blake, and thirty-eight wagon-loads of silver were paraded to London through the Southern counties. Part of the fleet under Mountagu was now ordered home, and Blake

was once more left alone with the rest, and with his many diseases. But his greatest exploit was to come.

Hearing that the other long-delayed Plate fleet had put into the harbour of Santa Cruz, in the island of Teneriffe, Blake instantly sailed in quest of it at the head of twenty-five ships. He arrived on April 20th, 1657, and found five or six galleons, three being flagships, and sixteen others, armed with brass ordnance and their full complement of men. The Governor, like the Bey of Tunis, defied him to do his worst. "We resolved," says Blake in his despatch, "to attack them, though they were close along the shore, which was lined with musketeers, and commanded by the castle and six or seven forts. Yet in four hours they were beaten, and all the ships driven on shore, except the admiral and vice-admiral, which resisted most; but by 2 p.m. one was fired and the other blew up; and by evening all the rest were fired, except two that were sunk. . . . To complete the mercy our own ships got off well, though some were maimed and had to be warped off; and the wind blew right into the bay, and the forts and castle continued to play upon us. We had only 50 slain and 120 wounded. . . . To God be all the glory." These pithy extracts require no comment. Writers of all parties concurred in admiration; and on account of the failure of Nelson on the same spot, its fame is still perhaps as bright as it ever was. Great were the rejoicings in England. The hero was ordered home; but scurvy and dropsy had done their work, and the *St. George* brought home only his dead body. He died at sea—"where Blake and mighty Nelson fell"—two hours before the ship anchored in Plymouth Sound. A splendid funeral at the public expense and a vault in Westminster Abbey awaited his honoured remains. From this vault they were transferred to the Churchyard at the Restoration. Is it too much to hope that at least a bust in the Abbey should some day commemorate one of the Makers of England, whose body had been consigned by the nation to its charge?

A biographer is not likely to be the best person to compare his hero with others. My fuller account of him, which is to appear in the autumn (in a book to be called "Twelve British Seamen," by naval officers), will be found to include more extracts from his despatches than I have had room for in this paper, and a fuller definition of the legacy which he left to his nautical successors. But enough has been said to enable everyone to judge for himself whether any other great naval officer ever had to deal with such consummate admirals as Tromp and De Ruyter, at the head of such prime fighters as the Dutch were in their first war ; whether any of them made so few mistakes, if he made any ; whether any of them served their country better than Blake did, both in public and private life, according to his lights. Let them further ask themselves whether any of them exhibited such a religious and moral character, such consistency, simplicity, disinterestedness, humility, and self-sacrifice. We cannot but erect him a monument in our hearts. Let us hope that the monument which, I am told, you are about to set up in his native place, looking down upon the familiar scenes which he longed to see once more before he died, may be worthy of this noble chief, of this celebrated county where he learnt his first lessons, and of the nation which he did so much to place at the head of Europe.

The Alien Priory of Stoke Courcy.

BY THE REV. W. H. P. GRESWELL, M.A.

THE history of an alien priory is generally extremely chequered and diversified, forming a little chapter by itself in the midst of the more important ecclesiastical annals of our country, and, by its very presence, an *imperium in imperio*. Originally, the appropriation of English churches, tithes, and manors to foreign abbeys and religious houses sprang from the natural loyalty of the first conquerors of this country, in 1066, to their old homes. The whole number of alien priories in England was about one hundred, according to Dugdale, and one hundred-and-twenty according to another account. As time went on, and as the links between England and Normandy became weaker and weaker, the appropriation of English property for charity and other services abroad was felt to be a grievance. Men of Norman descent are the first to object to "corrodies" and the various *hospitia* that the foreign and imported monk took as his due. Whilst war was actually going on between England and France the revenues of the alien priories fell at once into the hands of the Kings of England, who suspended their use and farmed them out for their own benefit. Edward I laid hands upon them first of all, in 1285, on the occasion of war; and it appears from a Roll that Edward II also seized them, and to this the account of the restitution of 1 Edward III seems to apply.¹ In 1337, Edward III confiscated their

(1). *Rymer's Foedera*, tom. iv, p. 246.

estates and let out the priories, with all their lands, at his pleasure for twenty-three years,² at the end of which time, peace being concluded between the two nations, he restored their estates in 1361. In an *Abbreviatio Rot. Orig.* (Rot. 28), in Edward III's reign, a "Johannes Bakeler et Sibilla uxor ejus" acquire in this way the estates of Stoke Courcy Priory and Church. In Kirby's *Quest*, c. 1286, the name of Bakeler is amongst the "Burgenses" of Stoke Courcy Borough; and in 34 Edward III, John Bakeler appears as a member of Parliament for Stoke Courcy. In Nether Stowey, an adjoining parish, the church was appropriated by Robert de Candos, who held the Barony of Nether Stowey, to the alien priory of Goldcliff, in Monmouth. This was a cell of the abbey of Bec-Hellouin, in Normandy. But here, also, as in the case of Stoke Courcy, there is a sequestration and diversion of patronage. In the Calendar of Patent Rolls, July 23, 1378, there is an account of the presentation of John Smert, keeper of the "Chantry of Wynterbourne, to the Vicarage of Nether Stowey, in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, in the King's gift by reason of the temporalities of the Priory of Goldcliff being in the King's hands on account of the war with France." Long before this, in May, 1317-18, we read that Bishop Drokensford granted to John de Lanton, Prior, the guardianship of the sequestered churches of Nether Stowey, Puriton, and Woolavington, which had been uncanonically farmed to a layman by the Prior of Goldcliff, Rector.³ In September, 1317, there is a sterner order: "The Bishop to Rural Dean of Poulet. The custody of the sequestered Rectories of Puriton and Woolavington we committed to W. de Osgodby, Clerk. He has been turned out of the Rectory by violence of some unknown. Therefore, denounce excommunication in churches of the Deanery, with full ceremony, and cite any known offenders to Wells Consistory." Here, indeed, was a pretty quarrel of

(2). *Ibidem.*

(3). S.R.S., vol. i, p. 130.

jurisdiction! Sequestration went on in the reign of Richard II, as we gather from Rym. *Foedera*. tom., vii, p. 697; also from Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, 2nd ed., vol. i, p. 37; and much land and property of these alien priories disappeared, no doubt into laymen's hands. Henry IV showed some favour to them (1399-1412), restoring all the Conventual ones, only reserving to himself in time of war what they paid in time of peace to the foreign abbeys. Their chequered career may partly be gathered from a glance at the patronage given in such a work as Weaver's *Somerset Incumbents*. There, for example, the right of presentation to Nether Stowey and to Stoke Courcy Vicarages is constantly shifting from the Alien Priory to the Crown and back again. However, the end came in 1414-15 (2 Henry V), when they were all dissolved by Act of Parliament. Henry VI endowed his foundations at Eton and Cambridge with the lands of the alien priories, although his father wished to appropriate them all to a noble college at Oxford. Thus we may now understand how Stoke Courcy and, with it, as original appropriations to the Priory of Stoke Courcy, the churches of Holford and Wootton Courtney are, at this present moment, all in the gift of Eton College; also why Nether Stowey is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Windsor. The historical association stretches far back, in the case of Stoke Courcy, to the pious wish of William de Falaise, at the time of the Norman Conquest. About fifty years ago, a pluralist—the Rev. J. Barnwell—united in his own person the Rectory of Holford and the Vicarage of Stoke Courcy, together with Lilstock, and so far represented, perhaps unconsciously, a large part of the original endowment.

There is one very important point in the history of alien priories, which certainly is especially illustrated in the annals of the Stoke Courcy foundation, and it is this, that their very existence was an eyesore to English bishops who wished to maintain ecclesiastical discipline within their dioceses. It was

galling to think that there was a nominating power *outside* the country which could send over priors and dump down unruly and licentious monks of a foreign nationality and compel the country to keep them. Bishop Drokenford is brought in conflict with the anomaly, and, as a disciplinarian, fights against it. The same bishop does not hesitate to attack such a powerful and thoroughly indigenous institution as the Abbey of Glastonbury, at a Visitation in March, 1312-13, and pronounces excommunication (reserving Absolution to ourselves), against those who, "owing to the illicit oathe of secrecy made to defeat correction," had combined together. However, he has no patience with the alien priory of Stoke Courcy, and takes strong measures to right matters there. It was not, therefore, a long step forward to object to all alien ecclesiastical influences, and in this way the abolition of alien priories in Henry V's reign paved the way for greater reforms and a wider programme.

Of the various sources of information about Stoke (or, as it was named when the De Courcy family inherited it from the Falaise family, Stoke Courcy) Priory, which Tanner gives us in his *Notitia Monastica*, that of the "Cartae et Rentalia in archivis Eton. Coll. juxta Windsor" is certainly the most interesting and, perhaps, the least explored. Allusion was made to them in vol. xviii p. 15, of the *Proceedings* of the Som. Arch. Soc., by the late Dr. Goodford, Provost of Eton; and Thomas Martin de Palgrave many years ago made extracts from them.⁴ Through the courtesy of the Rev. W. A. Carter, Bursar of Eton College, the writer was enabled, last May, to have a look at the old documents themselves, and to make use of a private list of them belonging to the College authorities. They are contained in two boxes in the library (one of them labelled 19B) and are very numerous, many of them, with fine seals attached, dating back to A.D. 1100-1200. For the information of archæologists, it may be said that there exists here

(4). See Catalogue of his Library, Bodleian, Oxford.

a large amount of valuable material still to be deciphered. In Collinson's *History of Somerset*, neither Stoke Courcy Castle nor the Priory are treated so fully as the Manor of Fairfield, originally a place of comparatively small importance, lying, curiously enough, in the Hundred of Williton, not Cannington, in which Stoke Courcy itself lies, and held formerly under the Chief Barony of Nether Stowey, where the baronial families of the de Candos, Columbers, and Audley reigned supreme.

There is no doubt that the original grant of St. Andrew's Church to the Church of St. Mary at Lonley, in Normandy, was made by William de Falaise and Geva his wife, and the fact of the original grant is mentioned in a Cartulary of Stoke Courcy Priory now at Eton College. Although this actual grant is not among the MSS. there, still there are confirmations of it, one by Robert, Bishop of Bath (1135-1165), and another by William, son of William de Curci, by consent of Gundrea, his wife, of the grants of his ancestors, viz. William de Falaise his great-grandfather, and William the son of Humphrey, who appears to have given with Emma his wife the advowson of Utton (Wootton Courtney). This document is instructive as it shows the relationship between William de Falaise and the de Courcy family, as successors to the Manor and Castle of Stoke (Courcy). With regard to Wootton it will be remembered that William de Falaise held at the Domesday Survey both Wootton (Courtney) and Stoke (Courcy), and thus the Wootton endowment is accounted for by family and territorial influence. From the Eton College Cartulary it appears that the object of the first endowment was "for the benefit of the soul of King Henry and others." Collinson simply says "for the soul of William de Falaise and his wife." Another grant by "Anketill the son of Herbert and Bercellina his wife," by consent of William de Eston (Idson, near Stoke Courcy) and his heirs, makes mention of a demesne called Hunesberegeland. This is the Hederneberia

of which Anshetill Parcarius was Domesday tenant *in capite*, who also held Edeveston or Idson under Roger de Corcelle.⁵ It is now Honibere and a point about which Mr. Eyton was naturally in ignorance is cleared up. The above grant went to the Church of St. Andrew and the monks and to the Chapel of St. John the Evangelist adjoining the said Church of St. Andrew. This is the only mention I can find of their chapel. In another charter Honeberegeland is exchanged for "certain lands at Stayning." Honeberegeland or Honibere was a very old manor and gave a name to the tithing of Honibere. It lies to the north of Fairfield House, and was once the residence of a branch of the Luttrell family, whose monuments are still to be seen in the mortuary chapel at Lilstock.⁶ Tradition has it that the site of Honibere Court is exactly that of a pond close to the road and almost facing the back entrance to Fairfield. Two ancient tracks, now marked on the Ordnance Survey as foot-paths, converge upon the old site of Honibere, one leading down from Kilton Hill head, known as Harborough or Harford Lane, a terminus still known to road contractors; the other, now only a field track, from the ancient farm of Plud, and in connection thus with "Portway" Lane, a suggestive route-name. With regard to Stayning, the other property, it has a most interesting old manor house, with oak staircase and panels, well worth a visit.

The earliest grants, however, to Lonley would be the church and tithes of St. Andrew, two parts of the tithes of Wiletun (Williton), Wootton (Courtney), two parts of the tithes of Lilstock. Lonley is described by John Nicholls, in his work on alien Priories,⁷ as "a Benedictine Abbey in a town of that name in the Diocese of Seez, founded A.D. 1026, by William Talvast, Earl of Bellesme." As a natural sequel of this

(5). *Eyton's Domesday*, vol. i, p. 122, and vol. ii, p. 17.

(6). See also *Brown's Somerset Wills*, series 6, p. 16. Nicolas Luttrell, of Honibere, in Lilstock. Will dated July 5th, 1588.

(7). Vol. i, p. 104.

Somerset endowment there must have been constant communication between West Somerset and Normandy and Caen, a fact not to be lost sight of when we want to detect direct architectural and other influences. All alien Priories, as cells to the Mother Church, were links between this country and the Continent and sometimes had an educational value.

Subsequently, there are two very interesting confirmations of the original grant, one by Robert Fitz-urse, with the signatures of John Bret, Richard Fitz-urse, and Reginald Fitz-urse, with the seal attached and device of a bear (Fitz-urse), the other by Reginald Fitz-urse, both, apparently, belonging to the 12th century. Both of these refer to the Williton endowment, and the latter has the signatures of William de Curci and William Brito. In the first-named confirmation William de Falaise and his successors are termed the "ancestors" of the Fitz-urse family, and the relationship is shown, therefore, between the Falaise, de Courcy, and Fitz-urse families. It may be conjectured that it was through the de Falaise family that the Fitz-urse and de Bret families came to Williton and Sampford Bret, a point about which Collinson expresses himself as unable to form an opinion.

After the de Courcy and Fitz-urse grants and confirmations the deed of Hugo de Nevile excites our interest. His name, which in Dugdale's *Baronage* (vol. i, p. 288) is given erroneously as that of the original founder of Stoke Courcy Priory, signifies simply a change of ownership of the castle and manor. Hugo de Nevile married Joan, one of the two daughters of Alice de Curci, sister and heiress of John de Curci, Earl of Ulster, in Ireland, and son and heir of William de Curci.⁸ Henceforth the de Courcys disappear from the place and are represented only in the female line.

A John de Curci and a Jordan de Curci subscribe to a grant of William de Curci the third, by which a mill at Norham, known as "Mervines Mill," is made over to the

(8). *Collins's Peerage*, vol. ii, p. 152.

monks of Stoke Courcy, and this John may be the warrior of Ulster fame.⁹ There are two Pohers (Poers), William and Durand, who appear amongst the signatories also, and these may be of the family who went to Ireland. In the Rawlinson MSS., after speaking of the prowess of John de Curci, the writer says "though many were that in this fight that boldly did, natheles Roher le Power, that thereafter was of great myght in Ossory and in the county of Leghlin, was the other that best did." In the grant of Holford Church (1175), Roger Poher, Durand Power, and William Poher appear. It is curious that Collinson says nothing under his account of Stoke Courcy of the Irish exploits of the de Courcys. Nor can I discover that he says anything of the Poher, Power, or Poer family.

In the Eton deeds there are several grants and confirmations by the Poher family, who gave rent and money from Cnapeloc (Knaplock, in Cannington).

The importance of Stoke Courcy as a starting point for both Welsh and Irish expeditions must not be lost sight of by the antiquary. Growing up round the spring of St. Andrew, perhaps the "Fons et origo" of the whole settlement, and clustering round the Church of St. Andrew with its appanage of Little Stoke, or Lilstock, here was probably a very ancient station. The "Stoke" lay close to, if not upon, the main line of communication between the West of England and the Severn Valley and Caerleon. The river Parret was a notable boundary, the bailiwick or serjeantry of East and West Parret being well-known territorial definitions. The Normans, being skilful sailors, used the Parret and Bridgwater Bay as a base for further conquests. No sooner is Robert de Candos established at Nether Stowey Castle than he attacks Owen, the "dominus de Karlyon," and founds Goldelive, in Monmouth, to which he attached, as we have seen, Nether Stowey

(9). See "The English Conquest of Ireland." Early English Text Society. Rawlinson MSS.

Church. The Cogans of Huntspill, Reymond of Canteton (Cannington), and others cross over to Ireland (1100-1200) with Strongbow and the Welsh barons. It was a curious and doubtless an historical claim of Henry II that King Arthur, whose traditions are so well known along the valley of the Parret, should have had "truage out of Ireland." The royal associations of this part of England must not be forgotten. Cannington was an ancient demesne of the Crown, being part of the possessions of Edward the Confessor. After the battle of Hastings the mother of Harold flies to the Steep Holmes, just opposite Stoke Courcy and the mouth of the Parret. Tradition says that Beer manor, lying close under Cannington Park, was a royal hunting lodge. In Kirby's *Quest*, taken before 1286, the Queen of England held as a gift from the king the Vill of Wick, or Week, and the Hundred of Cannington, and with Wick tithing may have been associated the smaller properties of Burton, Knighton, and Stolford, in the tithing itself. Of these, Stolford, from its proximity to the sea and the Parret mouth, would be the most important, becoming the sea-port of Stoke Courcy rather than the rougher roadstead of Lilstock, comparatively a new landing-place. The ships of ancient times were of shallow draught and would lie better in the estuary and side overflows of the Parret, with their soft and muddy beds and with their advantages as natural dry docks, than on the rocky foreshore of Lilstock and the bays further west. Curiously enough, it is in the neighbourhood of Stolford that we find the oldest sites, so it would seem, of farm houses. In the Preface to the Tithe Commutation of Stoke Courcy (1840), a certain "modus decimandi" was said to be due to the Vicar of Stoke Courcy from what are expressly termed "the ancient farms" of Whitwick, Charleton, and Bartletts, all of which would appear to be close to Stolford. The name of "Bartletts" at Stolford, a small property now belonging to Mr. R. R. Rawlings, seems almost forgotten and is confused with "Bartletts," at Lil-

stock. Charleton farm has a field with the suggestive name of "Welsh Field," pointing, perhaps, to some over-sea connection. If, as the Stoke Courcy Priory deeds show, there was a Welsh endowment of Tyenton and Tregnu to the monks of Stoke Courcy, there was probably some ready means of communication kept up between Stolford and some point on the opposite coast. In the 14th century the Stoke Courcy monks had a chapel at Stolford. It must not be forgotten that the endowment of "Tienton and a church in Wales" was the gift of William de Falaise and Geva, his wife; so the Norman baron did not waste much time in stretching out his long and powerful arms to Wales, and we get a little light upon the first conquest of South Wales. With regard to the Church of Lilstock it would appear, from the Eton College deeds, that in the first grant of William de Falaise's, *two parts of the tithes* were given, together with St. Andrew's Church, Lilstock, being an appanage of Stoke, or Estocha, as it appears in Domesday. Subsequently, there is the further gift of the *advowson* of the church itself, and it appears from a Confirmation of Philip de Columbariis the Third, of the barony of Nether Stowey, that the original donor was his *grandfather*, Hugh Butler. There is a Hugh Butler, who appears as a signatory in the grant of Holford Church (c. 1175), who may be the same, as the dates coincide. If so, the *advowson* of Lilstock would have been given to Stoke (Courcy) Priory in the 12th century. Since then, Lilstock became, ecclesiastically, part of Stoke Courcy, until, by order of Her Majesty in Council (April 1st, 1881), the chapelry, as it was called, of Lilstock, was separated from the vicarage and parish church of Stoke Courcy and united with the parish of Kilton. The Incumbent is termed the Rector, Vicar and perpetual Curate of Kilton-cum-Lilstock. The nave, tower, and porch of Lilstock Church have been pulled down and the chancel alone remains, having been converted into a Mortuary Chapel. The old Norman font still remains there. The

patronage of the church has passed into the hands of the Bishop by an exchange with Over Stowey.

In the history of Stoke Courcy Priory the evils of an alien institution show themselves at various stages. In 1270, William, Bishop of Bath and Wells, sent a citation to Robert, Abbot of Lonley, lately Prior of Stoke Courcy, requesting him to answer for his maladministration of the affairs of the Priory by sending its property over the sea and burdening it with "corrodies."¹⁰ The Bishop sends three of the Stoke Courcy monks to remain with the Abbot in France until an improvement in the condition of the Priory should allow of their return to England.

In 1316, there was an Inquisition or Commission issued by the active Bishop Drokenford,¹¹ to summon the chapter of Bridgwater Deanery and to ascertain how and when the vacancy in Stoke Courcy took place, what churches were appropriated and what were the means; also about the morals of the presentee.

In August, 1316, therefore, the Chapter held in Bridgwater Church, furnished the following statements for the information of the Bishop, who appears to have been greatly in ignorance of the affairs of this alien institution and to have determined to sift them. (1) That Lonley Abbey was the patron. (2) That the Priory was endowed with the churches of Stoke Courcy, Lillingstoke (Lilstock), and the sinecure chapel of Durberwe (Durborough), with all their tithes and oblations and two carucates of land, five acres of meadow, the whole worth forty-five marks, applicable to the use of the Priory, *i.e.*, therefore, with no vicarage endowment; the "complement" depending on the will of the Abbey. The Presentee was Giles Roussée, a Frenchman.

With regard to the above it does not appear that the sinecure chapel of Durborough (a manor, now a farm house, lying

(10). MSS. *penes Eton: Coll:*

(11). S.R.S., vol. i, 8.

about one-and-a-half miles to the south-west of Stoke Courcy) is elsewhere mentioned, as far as the writer can discover. At one time it belonged to Glastonbury, being the gift of Elflem, in pre-Norman times. Within the memory of man an offshoot of the Holy Thorn of Glastonbury used to grow there close to the lane, being visited on Twelfth Night by the country folk to see it burst out into blossom. The late Sir Peregrine Acland is said to have protected the last decaying branches with a wall. At the present time there is an early thorn, perhaps a slip from this, in Fairfield shrubbery. However, at Durborough the chapel and thorn are both gone. There is a field called Chapel Hayes which marks the site of the former, and an old wall indicates where the latter grew.

In 1326, the Priory came under the more severe scrutiny of Bishop Drokensford.¹² "The Bishop to the Abbot of Lonley, the Norman mother-house of Stoke Courcy Priory. Having found, on visitation, your Priory impoverished and neglected, containing the Prior and one Monk (the witness of his own innocence), some servants and useless folks sojourning there by your leave, the other monks living lecherously abroad, and being moved by Sir Robert Fitz-payne, patron, we decree that the sinning monks be sent to Lonley for correction, and that no more be sent to the Priory until it be reinstated through the Prior and our help."

In 1328, the Prior, Giles Roussée, who seems to have been a very worthless Frenchman, was superseded by the Abbot of Lonley,¹³ as "alienator bonorum" (thus accounting perhaps for the disappearance of some Priory property), and Godfrey de Duc appointed. Bishop Drokensford institutes him to the Priory and to the Church of Stoke Courcy, and the Prior swore to maintain continuous residence and ritual, and the three resident monks swore obedience to the Prior (18th June, 1328); an oath which points to previous breaches of discipline.

(12). S.R.S., vol. i, 261.

(13). S.R.S., vol. i, 287.

The Rural Dean of Bridgwater is ordered to release the sequestration of the Priory. Curiously enough, it appears from the Bishop's Register that all this process was undone by the Prior's resignation, recited at full but no reason given.

Things, however, at Stoke Courcy, go on from bad to worse, and between the Castle and the Priory there is a good deal of friction and violence, Sir Robert Fitz-payne being at open war with the Prior. In the Calendar of Patent Rolls, March 8th, 1332, there is a "Commission of oyer and terminer to Philip de Columbariis of Stowey Castle, John Inge, and John de Fosse, on complaint of the Prior of Stoke Courcy that Robert Fitz-payne, Ela his wife, Robert le Chapleyne, John de Forde, parson of the Church of Okeford Fitz-payne, etc., at Stoke Courcy, co. Somerset, broke his houses, chest, and goods; took away a horse, a colt, and a boar, worth £10, felled his trees, dug in his quarry and carried away the stone and the trees, that they unyoked 10 oxen from the plough, drove them to the Castle, and that the said Robert Fitz-payne then impounded them and kept them in pound against law and custom of the realm, impounded 8 oxen, 120 sheep, 60 lambs, and 30 swine of his, and detained them until he made fine with the said Robert and Ela by 37 marks at divers times, and demised his tithe of sheaves and hay belonging to Stolford Chapel to the said John (de Forde?) for a term of years."

Sir Robert Fitz-payne turns to Cannington, of which the de Courcy family were patrons, to found a chantry for himself and his family, rather than to Stoke Courcy, and on January 28th, 1333, we discover in the Calendar of Patent Rolls a licence for the alienation in mortmain by Robert Fitz-payne, to the Prioress and Nuns of Cannington of eighty acres of land in Cannington and Radeweyes (Rodway Fitz-payne), held in chief, towards the support of a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in Cannington Church for the soul of the said Robert, his ancestors and heirs.

Shortly after this the patronage both of Stoke Courcy and of Wootton (Courtney) lapsed into the hands of the Crown. In 1347, Edward III appoints William Jurdan as incumbent of Stoke Courcy and Wm. Boulton, in 1342, as incumbent of Wootton (Courtney), and in the Crown they both appear to remain until they both came into the hands of the "Praepositus Collegii beatæ Mariæ de Eton et idem Collegium."¹⁴ The first Eton nomination to Stoke Courcy was in 1453. Just ten years previous to this there was an exciting episode in the annals of Stoke Courcy parish. John Vernay, of Fairfield, was cited in 1442 to appear before the Archbishop of Canterbury, to answer a complaint of Robert Vyse (the last Prior of Stoke Courcy), because all the time of High Mass in the Parish Church of Stoke Courcy he had preached to the people in English, using opprobrious words and calling on the people to obey him rather than the Prior and his Vicar.¹⁵ It was evident that matters had reached a climax as between "the Squire and Parson" of Stoke Courcy. It was just about this date (1442) that the possessions of Stoke Courcy Priory passed, by the will of the king, into the possession of Eton College. About a century afterwards the larger monasteries were dissolved.

It took, therefore, more than one hundred years to break up the Monastic System in England, and perhaps in English history we do not assign sufficient importance to the first step, viz: the occasional appropriation of alien Priors to educational purposes. The Annals of Stoke Courcy point at an early stage to the revolt against foreign and papal domination. John Vernay, of Fairfield, might or might not have felt the indignation of soul which hardened into being the Cromwellian type many generations afterwards. But the protesting spirit had surely shown itself already in West Somerset.

As showing the ancient connection of Stoke Courcy with

(14). *Weaver's* "Somerset Incumbents."

(15). MSS. penes Eton. Coll.

Over Stowey, the grant which gives the "wood and pasture on Cantok" (Quantock) is very interesting. From it we learn the dedication of Over Stowey Church, viz. to St. Peter. Part of Over Stowey was an *additamentum* to W. de Falaise's property of Stoke (Courcy),¹⁶ and up to the present day this part of Over Stowey pays land tax in the tything of Week or Wick Fitz-payne, in Stoke Courcy. The land tax levied on the vicarage of Over Stowey also used to be paid into Stoke Courcy; a certain portion been levied on Plainsfield, and a certain portion on Adcombe tything, and a certain portion on Bincombe tything. It was in December, 1806, that a part of this tax was redeemed. The manor of Week has a great prominence in Stoke Courcy Records. In 12 Henry VI, Elizabeth, the wife of Thomas Trivet, held amongst other lands the manor of Chilton, of Sir Robert Poynings, Knt., *as of his manor of Wyke*. In 1286, as already noted, the "*Domina Regina Anglic. consors Regis tenet villam de Wyge et Hundred. predictum (i.e. Cannington) pro v hidis terre de dono Domini Regis*". Therefore it was in the gift of Edward I.¹⁷ It was handed on to Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, by his marriage with Eleanor, the heiress of the Poynings, Fitz-paynes, and Bryans. From this date it would appear to be known as Week Fitz-payne, just as Staple Fitz-payne, Cheddon Fitz-payne, and Cary Fitz-payne, etc., were named from this family. John II, Earl of Egmont (born February 24th, 1711), appears as "Lord of Duhallow, Burton Lisscarrol, Kanturk, Lohort in Ireland, and of Enmore, Anderfeld, Spaxton, Tuxwell and Radlet, Currypole and Charlinch, Asholt, Eley (or Aley Green), Plainsfield, Over Stowey and Friron (Friarn), Quantock, *Week Fitz-payne and Windiates*, the Borough and Honour of Stoke Courcy, and the Hundreds of Anderfeld, Williton, and Freemanors." With regard to Windiates, it would appear to have been the name of the

(16). *Eyton's Domesday Survey*, vol. i, p. 123.

(17). *S. R. S.*, vol. iii, p. 17.

manor on which the old Castle of Stoke Courcy was built. Close by there is a "Wyndeates Lane," and under "Week Tything" two closes of ground are called parts of Wynnards or Windyates. "Windyates and Dorlea" are now in the possession of Colonel Rawlings, and the fields are close up to the very site of the old Castle. On the east side of the Castle are the demesne lands of the Stoke Courcy Priory with a field called "War Meadow"; a very euphonious name, considering the stormy fortunes of the old Castle.

The same grant is very interesting from a topographical point of view, as throwing a side light upon the old routes and trackways from the east to the west of the Quantocks. Allusion is made to the great road of Solmere on the lower part, and the great road called "Staw Herepat" on the upper part, to the head of Ramescuba (Ramscombe). It is interesting to trace where the Stoke Courcy monks had their privileges, for Ramscombe is a very definite point on the Quantocks, known to every sportsman, and it must have been up Seven Wells Combe. There is a "Friarn Wood" and a "Friarn Ball" there still. Along the Seven Wells stream is a very ancient boundary separating what is known locally as "Lords Customs" and "Ramscombe Customs." The higher Stowey Road is still a well-known feature, and the lower must have had its entrance at Seven Wells, where, not long ago, the "Squirrel Inn" existed, together with the little location, up the valley, of "Higher Old Cottages" and "Lower Old Cottages." At the entrance of "Seven Wells" there was more than one ancient communication. To this point Mr. Phelps, in his *History of Somerset* (vol. ii, p. 113), traces the trackway of British times leading from "Gaunts Farm" and Combwich passage to Cannington Park. From this park the route went from Horn Hill close to the park, in almost a straight line westwards past the famous Oakley Oak, one of the oldest trees in Somerset, but now, alas, a wreck of its former self. Within its bole, hollowed by age, it is said that

fifteen men dined not twenty years ago. From Keenethorne to the "Pear Tree Inn," Marsh Mills, Aley Green, the site fifty years ago of the old "Dial Inn," and up the ridge of Quantock, straight to Triscombe Stone, here is the line as clear as possible. The old routes between the valley of the Parret and the Quantocks are interesting in many ways, not the least because they furnish a link between the ancient Manors of Stoke Courcy, Wick, Rodway Fitz-payne in the valley, and the Domesday *additamentum* of Over Stowey on the Quantocks above. Along these roads, favoured by the Baron's charter, the Stoke Courcy monks drove their flocks to feed on the breezy uplands of the Quantocks, or fetched their wood and fuel.

The other Quantock document containing a letter or concession from Robert, Lord of Poynings, authorising, in 24 Henry VI, the Prior of Stoke Courcy and the Prioress of Cannington to fell a certain amount of wood on the Quantocks, is interesting also. The fact of this deed of gift seems still to be remembered amongst the country folk of Cannington and Stowey. The Cannington poor are said to have had privileges of gathering and cutting wood on the Quantocks, especially along Five Lords Customs to the east of Danesborough and along Bincombe.

The Eton College documents are useful also in the notices they afford of various influential families in the neighbourhood who subscribe their names to them as witnesses. Among them are Sir W. Malet, of Enmore; Sir W. Fichet, of Stringston, a branch of the Malet family, known also at Merridge, in Spaxton; Walter Russell, of Sydenham, connected also with Fairfield; many signatures of the Regny or Reigni family, this family being lords of Asholt on the Quantocks, as we learn from a charter of Barlinch Priory,¹⁸ also the owners of Doniford, near Williton, granted to them in the reign of Henry II, by Richard Fitz-urse.¹⁹

(18). *Som. Arch. Proceedings*, vol. xxix, p. 76.

(19). *Collinson*, vol. iii, p. 491.

A Richard Fitz-urse appears in one of the Eton College Confirmations, viz., that of Robert Fitz-urse, where Reginald Fitz-urse is also a signatory. In this same charter is Roger de Ralegh, and in the Confirmation of William de Sancto Stephano, Simon de Raalee (Ralegh)—both, presumably, of Nettlecombe. There are several other names, *e.g.*, of the Chaudel, Poher, Labule, de Aura, and other families about which we might desire to know more.

II.

DOCUMENTS relating to property at Stoke Courcy (Stogursey), Wootton Courtney, Lilstock, Holford, Williton, etc., in the possession of Eton College, which throw light upon the foundation of the Alien Priory at Stoke Courcy and the Church of St. Andrew there.

A Cartulary of Stoke Courcy written on three membranes reciting several of the deeds already noticed. Among those of which the originals are not now to be found among the MSS. of Eton College, are the two following :

Grant by William de Faleisia and Geva his wife to the Church of S. Mary of Lonley of the Church of S. Andrew of Sutinstock (Stoke) with the tithes of the Parish and two parts of the tithes of Wiletune, two parts of the tithes of Lilstock (Lulinstocke) for Raunulf and the monks for ever for the benefit of the soul of King Henry and others. They also grant the whole tithe of Tientone and a Church in Wales with the tithe of a parish called Treigru given by Robert the son. This grant appears to have been issued under the great seal of King Henry I.

A grant by Anketill the son of Herbert and Bencellina his wife by consent of William de Eston their son and heir and of his heirs, for the benefit of their respective souls, of the soul of Roger son of the said William to the Churches of S. Mary and Lonley and S. Andrew of Stoke and the monks thereof and the Chapel of S. John the Evangelist adjoining the said Church of St. Andrew of certain lands at Monketon and of part of their demesne called Hunesberge lande (Honibere, near Stogursey.)

The others are—

Confirmation by Robert Bishop of Bath of the grants made by William de Faleisia and Gena or Geva his wife, to the Church of S. Mary of Lonlay, to wit, the Church of S. Andrew at Stoke, two parts of the tithe of Williton, two parts of the tithe of Lilstock, and the whole tithe of Tieton (in Wales) and of the grant of William the son of Humphrey and Emma his wife of the advowson of Wotton. Witnesses, Ivo, Dean of Wells; Martin, Archdeacon of Bath; Eustace, archdeacon of Wells; Hugh de Turnay, Archdeacon of beyond Perret; Hugh, Dean of Spakeston and others. Date 1135-1160.

N.B.—Robert of Bath died in 1165. Ivo was his Dean.

Confirmation by William son of William de Curci by consent of Gundrea his wife and his heirs to the Church of S. Mary of Lonlay and the monks thereof, of the grants of his ancestors, viz., William de Faleisia, his great grandfather, and William the son of Humphrey (filius Umfredi), William de Curci his grandfather and William his father, including a hide of land and of the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke and the advowson of the Churches of Uttona (Wootton Courtney) and Lullingstoke (Lilstock), etc. Witnesses. William his nephew, William de Reigni, Hugh Butler, William de Bainville, William Chaudel, Seward the priest, William de Staininges. (12th Century.)

Confirmation by William de Curci, Steward of the King of England, of all the gifts of his predecessors to the Church of S. Andrew de Stockiis and the monks thereof. Witnesses, Simon Fitz-Simon, Hugh Golafre, William the son of Ralph.

Grant by William de Curci, Steward of the King, for the souls of his grandfather, William de Curci and his father William and all his relations and ancestors to the monks of S. Andrew of Stoke of the mill at Norham, which is called "Mervine's Mill," which he bought of Hugh Gulafere. Witnesses, Geoffry the Prior, William the Monk, William Pantol, Seward the Priests, John de Curci, Jordan de Curci, Simon the son of P. William de Regni, William his nephew, William Poher, Durand Poher, Hubert Butler, Osbert of Estona, William Chaudel, Clement, Bernard, and Reginald. Fragment of fine equestrian seal attached.

Grant by Robert the son of Alfred to the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke of the Church of Holford. Witnesses, Sir Geoffry, Abbot of Lonlay, Hugerus, Gerin de Alenconis, Prior of Stoke, and fourteen others named, amongst whom are Durand Poher, Hugh Butler, William Poher, Roger Poher. This grant was made by consent of the grantor's wife Rosa and his son and heir Henry, A. D., 1175. Fragment of equestrian seal attached.

Grant by William the son of Reginald to the monastery of Stoke of the house of Legga and a rent of ten sticks (250) of eels and one great eel. Witnesses, Gilbert de Sartilli, Bernard de Crauthorne, Richard his son, and ten others named. (12th Century ?)

Confirmation by Robert Fitz-urse by consent of John his heir to the Church of S. Andrew and the monks thereof of the gifts which his ancestors, that is to say, William de Faleisia and his successors, gave to the said Church, that is, of two parts of the tithe of Williton and grant of two parts of the clearing (assarti) which the grantor and his heir shall make. Witnesses, Adam de Bera, John Bret, Richard Fitz-urse, Reginald Fitz-urse, Brother William de Maleville, then Preceptor of the Knights Templar, Brother Roger de Raleigh, Brother Bernard, Ralph the clerk of Burge (Bridgwater), Ralph the clerk of Stoke who wrote this deed. Large seal attached, device a bear.

Confirmation by Reginald Fitz-urse of the grant of William de Faleisia to the Church of S. Andrew of Sutinstoke and the monks thereof of two parts of the tithe of the sheaves (garbarum) of the demesne of Williton (Weleton). Witnesses, William de Curci, Roger de Regni, William his son, William Breto, Ralph Denis (Daco), Simon Breto, Ralph de Careville, Hugh Walensis, William the son of Aco, Robert brother of the lord (Domini fratris), Ralph Poher, William the Clerk, who made the Charter, and Seward the Chaplain. Fragment of large seal with device of bear. (12th Century.)

Grant by Hugh de Bonville (de Bona Villa) to the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke Courcy for the sustentation of the monks and in augmentation of former gifts, of part of his wood and pasture on Quantock (in Cantok) on the west side of the wood which he had given to the Church of S. Peter of Over Stowey (de Superiori Staw) extending from the bounds

which John Chandel had placed in the said wood between the great road of Solmere on the lower part and the great road called "Staw Herepat" on the upper part, to the head of Ramescuba (Ramscombe). Witnesses, William de Columbers, Henry de Modiford, Alexander the parson of Otterhampton, Hugh the Chaplain of Edstock (Ichestoke), Geoffry Chandel, William Russell, Adam de Bere, William Flecher, Ranulf Harefot, Roger Albus, and others. Equestrian seal attached. (12th Century.)

Petition of Hugh de Bonville to Robert Bishop of Bath, for the maintenance and defence of the gifts made by him to the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke (A.D. 1135-1166).

Confirmation by Sibilla de Aura, relict of William de Sancto Stephano, for the souls of her deceased husband and her son, Robert de Sancto Stephano, and her parents and friends, of the grants of her ancestors to the Church of S. Mary of Lonley and the Church of St. Andrew of Stoke for the sustenance of the monks, to wit, a ferlong of the land of Aura which a rustic named Midewinter held, and the tithe of the said demesne of Aura. Witnesses, Ralph the son of William, John le Bret, Adam de Weckford, and five others named. Seal attached.

Confirmation by William de Sancto Stephano of the gifts of his ancestors to the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke and the monks thereof and grant of the tithe of nine acres of land in his demesne of Aura which he was not wont to pay. He declares that, by consent of the monks he will maintain a chaplain to minister in his chapel at Aura. Witnesses John de Regni, William de Columbers, William the chaplain of S. Decumans, William de Grindesham, Richard Labule, John Bretesche, Simon de Raalee (Raleigh?) William Fletcher, and others. Seal attached.

Confirmation by Philip de Columbariis the Third, of the deeds of his late father Philip son of Philip de Columbariis, and of his grandfather Hugh Butler, and his other predecessors, showing that the said Hugh granted the advowson of the Church of Lilstock to the Church of S. Andrew and the monks. Witnesses, Sir W. Malet, Sir W. Fichet, of Stringeston, Master John of Ivelcester (Ilchester), Master Daniel, parson of Wembdon, Thomas Trivett, William vicar of Stoke Curci, Walter Russell, of Sidenham. Fine seal attached. Device, a dove on a sprig of foliage.

Grant by Hugh de Neville by consent of his son and heir John to the monks of Stoke Courcy of the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke Courcy, the whole tithe of the parish, two parts of the tithe of Williton, two parts of the tithe of Lilstock, the whole tithe of Tienton, and certain rights of pasture in the wood called 'Cantoc,' and the chaplaincy of his household. Witnesses, Sir W. de Neville, Sir John de Regny, Sir Walter de la Grave, Sir Philip de Bartur, Geoffrey Chandel, Adam le Bere, and four others.

Confirmation by William le Poher of the gift of his father Ralph le Poher of ten shillings from his rent of Cnapeloc (Knaplock in Cannington) to S. Andrew and the monks of Stoke. Witnesses, William de Estun, Hugh Fossard, William Chandel, Robert de Estun, Osmund Lavel and others. Seal attached. Device, an eagle, somewhat in form of a fleur-de-lys.

Confirmation by John Poher of the gift of his father of a rent of 10s. to the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke and the monks thereof and grant of a rent of eight pence in augmentation of the same. Witnesses, Geoffrey de Derlega, William de Baugetripa (Bawdrip?), Geoffrey Chandel, Hugh de Mara, Roger the chaplain of Stoke, Walter Chandel, Geoffrey Fichet, and others. Seal attached. A fleur-de-lys.

Grant by Nicolas Poher to S. Andrew of Stoke and the monks thereof of land at Middleton. Witnesses, William Poher, Joan the mother of Nicolas, William de Reigni, Philip Poher, Fulk the son of Richard French, Hugh Fichet, Henry de Windesham, William de Fitinton, Richard Taillefer, Ralph the clerk who wrote this charter and others. Seal attached. Device, a fleur-de-lys.

- Confirmation by Robert Poher of the gift of his father Robert Poher of a rent of 10s., and of the gift of his brother John Poher, a rent of eightpence to the church of S. Mary (?) of Stoke and the monks thereof. Witnesses, John de Reigni, William de Gridesham, William de Cnapeloc (Knaplock) and several others.
- Confirmation by Robert le Poher as before with a further grant of 4d., payable by William de Cnapeloc. Witnesses, William de Columbariis, Geoffrey Chaudel, Robert de Eston, Richard Lebule, knights; William Lebule, William Flecher, Ralph Hayward, John his son, William Brun and others.
- Confirmation by William de Cnapeloc of the gifts which Robert le Poer and his ancestors made to the Church of S. Andrew at Stoke Curci and the monks thereof. Attested by seal and by oath on the holy relics of the place. Witnesses, William de Draycot, William de Columbers, Robert de Eston, William Russell, William Lebule, Ralph le Hayward, John his son, Walter Brun, John de Otterhampton, and others. Seal attached. Device, a fleur-de-lys.
- Grant by William de Estona by consent of his wife Juliana and his heir to the Church of S. Andrew of Stoke and the monks of that place of certain lands at Stayning in exchange for lands at Hunesberigelond which had been given to the monks by his ancestors. Witnesses, Gs. Abbot of Lonlay, Walter Prior of Stoke and nine others.
- Grant by Clarcia de Bere to the church of S. Andrew of Stoke of half-acre of land in Inmeda. Witnesses, Master William de Spacton, Geoffrey dean of Cannington, Alexander the parson of Otterhampton.
- Confirmation by Henry de Modiford of the grant made by his son Alexander to the church of S. Andrew of Stoke for the soul of his wife Helewis. Witnesses, Alexander Parson of Otterhampton, Hugh the Chaplain of Edstock, and ten others, among whom are William de Eston, Geoffrey Chaudel, Walter Chaudel, William de Mudiford. Seal attached. Device, a rose.
- Confirmation by Robert de London of the gift made by William son of Humphrey and confirmed by William de Curci to the Church of S. Mary of Lonley, and the Church of St. Andrew of Stoke Courcy, viz., the Church of Wotton with its appurtenances, and grant of the land of Hunelham and the mill at Wotton. Witnesses, Maurice de Regni, John de Abend. Ralph.
- Copy by John Vernay, of Fayrefield, Esq. (8 October, 34 Henry VI), of a letter from Robert, Lord of Poynings, Knight, dated 29 Nov., 24 Henry VI, authorising his woodward of Quantock (Cantocke), to allow the Prioress of Cannington and the Prior of Stoke Courcy to fell a certain quantity of wood. 'And if they goo any ofter or any wother wyse (otherwise) jan (than) I have ywrite (written?) to them take and sette ham yn pound fast and make ham delyverance upon borrowes.' The woodward is to receive 3s. 4d. a year for his services.
- Citation from William, Bishop of Bath and Wells, to Robert, Abbot of Lonley, lately prior of Stoke Curci, to appear before him to answer for his maladministration of the affairs of the Priory by sending its property over the sea and burdening it with corrodies. The Bishop sends three of his monks to remain with the Abbot until an improvement in the condition of the Priory shall allow of their return. A.D. 1270.
- Notice of a citation of John Vernay, a layman, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, to appear before the Archbishop of Canterbury to answer a complaint of Robert Vise, Prior of Stoke Curci, that, at the time of high mass in the parish church of Stoke Curci, after the vicar's sermon, he had preached to the people in English, using opprobrious words, and calling on the people to obey him rather than the prior or the vicar. July 9, 1442. Seal of Archbishop attached.

Exchange of land between Vincent, Prior of Stoke Courcy. and the monks of that place, and Matilda the relict of Roger Rufus of Stoke Curci. Witnesses, Ralph Russell, of Fayrefield, William de Stennings, Walter de Dodeton, Thomas Alexander. Date 44 Henry III.

Grant by William de la Mora by consent of his heir to Robert the son of Ulwric of a field by the Parret in free marriage with Mabel his daughter. Witnesses, Sir Swar de Cantitune, Philip de Burci. William Testard, Geoffrey de Brunmore, Adam de Kettenore, Adam le Bere, Andrew de Bainville, Adam de Putterhill, Alexander the clerk and others. Seal attached. Device, a fleur-de-lys. Apparently this grant does not refer to the church.

The following are the authorities given by J. Tanner in his *Notitia Monastica* :

- (1) The *Monasticon Anglicanum*, and *Richard Prior's Information*.
- (2) *Dr. Archer's account*, p. 624.
- (3) *M. Rymer's Conventionum*, tom. viii, p. 104, de restitutione hujus prioratus alienig, 1 Henry IV.
- (4) *Cartae, Rentalia, etc.*, in *archivis Coll. Eton. juxta Windsor*.
- (5) *Collect. Thomae Martin de Palgrave*, mil. ex eisdem.
- (6) *Escaet. Somerset*, 1 Edward I, n. 6. *Claus. 2 Edward I*, m. i. de tertio denario in Wyke, Radeway et Stoke Cury.
- (7) *Escaet. Somerset*, 49 Edward III, p. 2, n. 4, *inquisitiones de omnibus terris*.

[1204, 3 Id. June. Confirmation to the prior and monks of St. Andrew Stokes of their possessions, especially the churches of Wotone, Lullinstoke, Hoilefort, Kichestoh [Idstock], two parts of the tithe of Corniton, the whole tithe of one enclosure of Cumba, two parts of the tithe of Wileton, two parts of the tithe of Lullinstoke, the right they have in the chapel of the castle of Stokes, one hide of land in the territory of the said castle, the land of Tinelande, one ferling of land, one acre of meadow, half a virgate of Breche, and a new mill; in Wales, the patronage of the church of Traigru; in Ireland, in Ulster, all the churches and benefices of the lordship of John de Curci, from the water of Dalnart to that of Kerlingfort, except the castle of Maincove, ten carucates of land in Ardes, that is, in the land of Maccolochan; in Dalboing, in Hailo, that is, the town and church of Arderashac, and ten carucates of land; in Kinelmolan, three carucates of land.

From *Calendar of Entries in the Papal Registers, relating to Great Britain and Ireland* (edited by W. H. Bliss), vol. i, p. 17.—ED.]

The Horsey Family.

BY JOHN BATTEN, F.S.A.

THE family of de Horsey, or Horsey, has been, since the beginning of the 15th century, so closely associated with the county of Dorset, one is apt to forget that from a much earlier period they were seated in Somersetshire; their "dwelling-place," as Leland calls it, being at Horsey, a hamlet in the parish of Bridgwater called "Hursi" in Domesday book. From this place, which means in Anglo-Saxon, an island for keeping or breeding horses, they took the name of Horsey; unless we accept the more romantic derivation from the Saxon chieftain Horsa, who, with his brother in arms, Hengist, is said to have paid a *friendly* visit to our island in the fifth century. Be that as it may, their residence, until they acquired Charlton, was, as Leland says, at Horsey, and we may presume that an ancient chapel there, in which the Vicar of Bridgwater was bound to perform divine service every Sunday, was erected for their accommodation.¹

The manor of Leigh Powlet in Devon, and Powlet in Somerset, were held of the manor of "Horsey neere Bridgwater, of which Philip de Horey and Thomas de Horey were owners in King Henry II's time."² But, in fact, both Horsey and Powlet were fiefs of the Lordship of Bridgwater, as, early in the reign of King John, Fulk Painell, whose family had inherited that

(1). Somerset Chantries, *Record Society*, p. 57.

(2). *Sir William Pole's Devon*, p. 210.

lordship from Walter de Dowai, the Domesday tenant, notifies by letter to Philip de Horsia that he had transferred to William de Briwere the services due from Philip for one knight's fee in Horci, one in Powletta, and one in Bue (Bower), and commanding him to acknowledge the said William as his future lord.³ And these fees were afterwards held by Philip's son William de Horsey of the heirs of William de Briwerr.⁴ Both Philip and William his son were witnesses to several other charters relating to lands in the neighbourhood of Bridgwater,⁵ and Philip was one of the knights on the grand assize held 6th John for trying the right of Robert de Mandeville to the barony of Marshwood.⁶

It is said⁷ that William de Horsey, son of Philip, sealed a charter s.d. with the arms *az.*, three horses' heads, coupéd at the neck, *or*, bridged *arg.* This was undoubtedly the coat of the family in later times, but without further verification it may be questionable whether the use of allusive or canting arms had been introduced at so early a period as the reign of King John.

This William (I) had a son of the same name (William II), who, by charter s.d., wherein he is described as "William son of William de Horsya," granted to Edward Hatherick the land in Pedredham juxta Combwich, which William his father gave to the said Edward and Adam his brother,⁸ and by another charter (also s.d.) William Avenell, son of Nicholas Avenell, acknowledged that "William de Horsya son of William de Horsya" had done his homage for the land of Swindon (Wilts), which William the father formerly held.⁹

(3). Charters of Duchy of Lancaster, no. 79. 35th Report D. K. Records, App. II.

(4). Testa de Nevill, p. 200.

(5). *Ibid.*

(6). Historical Memorials of South Somerset, p. 120.

(7). Notes and Queries, 5th series, vol. xi, p. 409.

(8). Harl. MS., 4120, f. 17.

(9). *Ibid.*

William de Horsey (II) increased his Somersetshire possessions by the purchase of a moiety of the manor of Charlton Mackerel. That manor, with the adjoining one of Charlton Adam, was part of the Barony of Arundel (so called from Roger Arundel, the Domesday tenant), which, in the reign of Richard I, was held in moieties by Robert de Pole (ancestor of the Fitzpayns) and Roger de Newburgh. Roger being an infant, the wardship of his estates was granted by the crown to Robert Belet.¹⁰ It does not appear how the Belets acquired the inheritance, but from the record of an assize 7 and 8 Edward I, between Robert Fitzpayn and John de Horsey (I), respecting the church of Charlton Mackerel, we learn that William de Horsey (II) "purchased a moiety of the manor of William Belet son of Robert Belet, and this is confirmed by the fact that William Belet, by deed under his seal of three escallops, with the legend 'Sigill. Willi. Belet,' and dated 41 Henry III, acknowledged the receipt from William de Horsey of £100 at different times, for the land at Charlton."¹¹

John de Horsey (I), who died in or before 22 Edward I, leaving his wife Cristina and a son and heir, William (III), surviving. By an inquisition taken after his death, of the yearly value of his lands, it was found that he was seised in fee of half a knight's fee in Charlton Mackerel, for which he owed suit at the Hundred Court of the King at Somerton, and that his mansion (*curia*), with the garden, was worth by the year — shillings. Also rents of assize, 8*s.*; customary works, 18*d.*; pleas and perquisites of court, 12*s.*; a dovehouse, 2*s.*; one moiety of a watermill, 6*s.* 8*d.*; eight acres of arable 26*s.* 8*d.* each acre, 2*s.*; twenty acres of meadow 20*s.* each acre, 12*s.*; also pasture in different places, 2*s.* 8*d.*; total, 73*s.* 6*d.*, together with the right

(10). *Dugdale's Baronage*, vol. i, p. 614, and see *Fine Div. Cos.*, 9 Hen. III, no. 42.

(11). Harl. MS., 4120, f. 4. His wife was probably Elizabeth, daughter and coheirress of Sir William de Reigny (*Pole's Devon*, p. 324), by whom he left a son.

of presentation every other turn to the church of Charlton Makerel worth 20s. The jury also found that he held the manor of Horsey of the heirs of Patric de Chaworth by service of half a knight's fee, that the "curia" with the curtilage was worth 2s.; rents of assize 74s. 6d.; customary works 2s.; pleas and perquisites of court, 4s., including "capitagium garcioni" (a peculiar and unusual manorial custom, probably a poll tax on the "villeins:" see Ducange, *sub capitagium*); a mill, 6s. 8d.; 122 acres of arable, 62s.; seven acres of meadow, 16s. 6d.; total value of Horsey, £11 12s. 6d. Besides the above he held of Lord Simon de Montacute a tenement called Sydewere, worth 25s. a year; also one eighth part of a knight's fee in Asolte (Asholt, Somerset,) of the heirs of Hugh de Neville, belonging to the manor of Radewaye (Radeway Fitzpays in Cannington parish). Lastly, it was found that William de Horsey was his son and heir, and aged 18. In consequence of the son's minority, the crown had taken possession of lands held by his father in addition to those already mentioned, but they were claimed by the widow, Cristina, as her jointure, and, on an enquiry held by the eschaetor, proof being adduced that more than ten years before Cristina and her husband had been jointly enfeoffed of lands in Stables Newton (in the parish of West Newton?) by Walter Fichet under the service of one eighth part of a knight's fee and a rent of 5s. payable to James de Gardino and suit twice a year at the court of John de Erlegh of Migheles chirche (Michaelchurch), these lands were restored to the widow.¹² She married for her second husband Sir Hugh Popham, probably a neighbour at Huntworth close by, who left her a widow again in 1321, and she died in 1330, having made a will from which it appears that she retained (which was not unusual in those times) the name and arms of her first husband. The following is an ancient translation of it:

"I Cristian Horsey make my testament in the yeare of our Lord God 1330 first I committ my soule to God and

(12). Eschaetor's Inquisitions, *citra* Trentam, series I, file 7.

all saintes and my body to be buried in St. Francis Church in Bridgwater. I give xis. for a trentall for my soule. To my daughter Alexandria I give my best ewer and basin. To Ralph Horsey I give a payre of wheeles of a wayne and the plough withall. To Jeane Stawey my whole wardropp. Executors, John son of John Popham, John Stawey and John Horsey. Scale 3 horse heds in a scucheon."¹³

William (III) died in 1327. He held the estates of Charlton and Horsey, and also that at Swindon which had descended to him from his ancestor, William (II). His wife, Matilda, survived him, and, as her husband held his lands direct of the king, she was subject to that wholesome feudal restraint which checked the vagaries of widows, and her dower was conditional on her engaging on oath (to be taken in the presence of his son and heir if he chose to attend) that she would not marry again without the king's consent.¹⁴ John (II), son and heir of William (III), died in 1338 s.p., and was succeeded by his brother Ralph de Horsey, who was one of the collectors of subsidies for the county. He probably resided at Charlton, in an ancient house, called Horsey Court, and he was the founder of the chantry there, mentioned by Collinson, vol. ii, p. 193. After him the name De Horsey seems to have been dropped. His grandson, another John, was the first of the family who allied himself to the county of Dorset by his marriage with Elena, daughter and heiress of Philip Maubanc, the owner of the manor of Clifton, near Sherborne, called after him Clifton Maubanc. As we shall not have occasion to allude to Charlton any more, it may be as well to note down for the benefit of future inquirers, that on the death of Sir John Horsey of Clifton, in 1588, it descended in moieties to his sisters, Mary the wife of Richard Arnold, and Elizabeth the wife of Sir William Mohun. The Arnold moiety came to Ann and Mary,

(13). *Pole's MSS. Collections*, Queen's College, Oxford, no. 151.

(14). *Close Rolls*, 1 Edw. III, memb. 27.

sisters and coheireses of Hubert Arnold, who sold it in 1675 to James Samson, who, in 1709, purchased the Mohun moiety of Charles Bodvile, Earl of Radnor. On his death in 1713, the entirety, by his will, vested in his son James Samson, junr.¹⁵

By virtue of several settlements referred to in inquisitions p.m., which it would be difficult and unprofitable to unravel in detail, Clifton, as well as Horsey and Charlton, and some other lands in Somerset, devolved, in 1422, on Henry Horsey, son of Sir John Horsey, knt.,¹⁶ and after his death it was found by inquisition that he died, 30 Henry VI, seised of three hundred acres of land at Pegenasse (practically Horsey), of half the manor of Charlton, and of the manor of Clifton Maubanc, and that Thomas Horsey, his brother, was his heir.¹⁷

Thomas did not succeed to his inheritance without resistance, for Henry in his lifetime, by deed poll, said to be dated 18th February, 33 Henry VI (*i.e.*, three years after his death, according to the inquisition) had settled his estates (subject to a life interest to his wife Johanna) on himself and his issue, with a limitation over to James Ormonde, Earl of Wilts, in case of attempted alienation. As the document is rather an extraordinary one, and is exemplified by the common seal of the borough of Bridgwater, I append an abstract of it from the Close Roll (38 Henry VI, memb. 10).

Deed poll (in English) under the hand and seal of Henry Horsey, esq. Reciting that he had by deed bearing date the last day save one of November, 33 Henry VI, enfeoffed John Ormond, esq., Humphry Stafford, esq., Alexander Hody, esq., William Bronyng, esq., Henry Fylongby, esq., William Bokolond, esq., William Correwyn, esq., James Frampton and William Billman, in and of his manors of Horsey and Chareltan Makerell with their appurtenances, with the advowson of the church of Charlton Makerell and of all his lands in Horsey and Charlton aforesaid, Pegenasse and elsewhere in the county

(15). MS. in my possession.

(16). Esch., 1 Hen. VI, no. 28.

(17). Esch., 1 Edw. IV, no. 25.

of Somerset, to hold to them and their heirs for ever. And reciting that he had by another deed dated 1st December, 33 Henry VI, enfeoffed the same persons in and of the manor of Clyfton Maubanke, in the county of Dorset, with the advowson of the church or free chapel of the same, to hold to them and their heirs for ever, to the intent to perform thereof his will. He declared his last will and full entent to be that his said feoffees should make estate of all said manors, lands, advowsons, &c., to James, Erle of Wilts, and to one other person to be named by the said erle, to hold to them and their heirs for ever. And that the said erle and other persons after the said estate so made to them should give the manor of Horsey to him the said Henry Horsey and Johan his wife and the heirs of his body and all other the said manors, advowsons, &c., to the said Henry Horsey and the heirs of his body upon this condition, that if he the said Henry Horsey or any of his heirs should alien the said manors, &c., or any of them to any person in fee simple, fee tail, or term of life of any person save of his own in the manor of Horsey it should be lawful for the said erle and other persons or their heirs to re-enter into the said manors to hold to them and their heirs to the use of the said erle and his heirs for evermore, and this he declared to be his full will and intent of the feoffment aforesaid. Dated 18th February, 33 Henry VI.

N.B.—The feoffments are also enrolled in Latin and releases as well. Seal of the borough of Bridgwater affixed. Witnesses (to one), Humphry Courteny, knt., Hugh Malet, esq., Robert Warre, esq., and others. (To another), William Poulet, knt., John Sydenham, esq., Alex. Lynde, esq., and others.

The Earl of Wilts seems to have set up some claim under this deed, but it was set aside probably on the ground that Henry had no right to settle the estates. And Thomas having recovered possession died seven years after, leaving an infant son and heir John, who in due time married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Richard Turges, of Melcombe, and so acquired another large domain in Dorset, which soon became known as Melcombe Horsey.

We need not pursue the pedigree of the main line any further, as it is set out in Hutchins and in the addenda to the Dorset Visitation of 1623, but there was a branch (only casually noticed by Hutchins) seated in the reign of Henry VI near Bridport, which had acquired very considerable property from another source.

In the reign of Henry IV or V a certain Henry Horsey had married Alianor, one of the daughters of Thomas Bingham and Mary, his wife, daughter of Sir Walter Romsey, knt., of Rockborne, Hants. By failure of his male issue his granddaughters, the above Alianor Horsey and her sister Joanna, wife of Thomas Kelway, became coheirresses of the Romsey estates, including one third of the ancient barony of Bysset, of which the overlordship of the manor of Clifton Maubanc formed part; and it is a singular coincidence that at the time now referred to, the mesne ownership of Clifton was held by one branch of the Horsey family, and the overlordship by another. Both sisters were married before 3 Henry V (1416), as in that year they were parties to a deed wherein they are described as Henry Horsey and Alianor his wife, daughter and coheir, with Joanna, the wife of Thomas Kelway, of Thomas Bingham and Mary his wife.¹⁸ Henry Horsey and his wife, Alianor, were succeeded by their son and heir, William Horsey, who died in 1448.

By the inquisition after his death¹⁹ it is found that he held the manor of Bingham's Worth, the manors (*i.e.*, the overlordship) of South Perrot and Clifton Maubanc, the manor of Ocle (Oakley in the parish of Chilthorne Domer), lands at Otterhampton, Combwich and Pipplepen (in North Perrot), one third of the manor of Mudford Terry, and land at Adber (in Trent); and that Thomas his son, aged seven, was his heir. All these estates had descended to him as his share of the Romsey estates, except Bingham's Worth, which came from

(18). Historical Memorials of South Somerset, p. 44.

(19). Esch., 26 Hen. VI, no. 26.

Thomas Bingham, who was a member of that branch of the Bingham family which held for many generations estates in West Dorset, and was known as Bingham of Bingham Lodgers.²⁰

William Horsey resided at Rockburn, and there his son Thomas was born on the 8th February, 144 $\frac{9}{7}$ (19 Henry VI), and baptized in the church there on the same day. On the death of his father, in 1448, his estates (being held in chief) were taken in wardship by the crown, and on his coming of age it was necessary that he should prove the fact before he was let into possession. According to the legal procedure of that day, this was done by the production of witnesses who could depose to the day of the birth before a jury empanelled by the eschaetor. It was a clumsy contrivance, but the best that could be adopted in the absence of parish registers, and it is interesting as giving us an insight into mediæval domestic life. In the case now before us, no less than twelve witnesses vouched for the birth and baptism, each witness explaining the grounds of his recollection. One recollected it because on the same day he fell into a pit and broke his arm; another, because he carried a torch in the church on that day; another, because on that day he took a lease from William Horsey, the father, of a farm in Rockburn for ninety-nine years; another that whilst he was in the church he heard that Maud the wife of Nicholas Ormonde had brought forth a son, whose name was William; another, that he was in church with the suite of William Horsey, and before he went from his presence he bought a mare three years old from one John Besteryle, the farmer of the demesne lands of Rockburn; and the last remembered the day because there was a high wind which blew down a "beche" tree.

Thomas Horsey resided at Bingham's Worth, and settled it as a jointure on his wife Ann, a daughter of John Wykes or Wyk of Bindon, near Axmouth. This appears by a charter dated at Bynedon, 3rd Edward IV, whereby Thomas Horsey

(20). Cal. Pat. Rolls, 8 Edw. I, m. 10d (44).

grants to John Wyk, Walter Cheverill, and John Scovyll, rector of Charborough, his manor of "Bynham ys Othe,"²¹ to hold in fee, yearly rendering one rose. The witnesses are John Newburgh, William Browning, John Russell, William Frampton, William Oliver, Thomas Porter, and others, and it is indorsed "Junctura Anne Horsey."

By another deed, dated 20th July, 1 Richard III, the above John Wyk and John Scovyll (who had survived William Cheverell) granted a lease of Bingham's Worth to Humphry Baskervisle, esq., for his life, with remainder to "John Horsey, son and heir of Thomas Horsey," in fee. Witnesses, William Mountague, John Pokeswell, Henry Hyde and others.²²

The mention of John Horsey as son and heir of Thomas is very puzzling, for Thomas died in or before 1477, and by the inq. p.m. (17 Edward IV, No. 46) his heir was his son William Horsey, an infant only four weeks old. He inherited an estate of 200 acres at Saltford near Bath (part of the Barony of Byset) and four messuages and 160 acres of land in Chilthorne Domer (held of the Honor of Gloucester), and also the manors of Okley Hill, New Hill (in Chilthorne), and Littleton (held of the Earl of Sarum). According to the Dorset and Wilts Visitation of 1565,²³ Thomas, his father, resided at Bridport (Burport), about three miles from Bingham's Worth, and there we may presume he was buried. In Harl. MS. 111 there is a note of an inscription (taken no doubt from a memorial in the church where he was buried), "Orate pro anima Thomas Horsey filii et heredis Witti Horsey qui obiit 1477." Bingham's Worth is not mentioned in the inquisition, but it must have continued in the Horsey family for many years, as in a conveyance in 1636, it is stated to have been "heretofore the inheritance of Thomas Horsey of Damerham, Wilts, esq., and Bartholemew Horsey, his father."²⁴

(21). Old English for "Bingham's Worth." Worth, in Anglo-Saxon, means an inclosure or homestead.

(22). Charters in my possession.

(23). Harl. MS. 888, p. 44.

(24). Harl. MS. 888, p. 44.

Athelney Abbey.*

BY THE LATE REV. THOMAS HUGO, F.S.A.

[Hugo, Thomas (1820-1876), the Bewick collector, eldest son of Charles Hugo, M.D., was born at Taunton in 1820. B.A., Worc. Coll., Oxon., 1842; rector of West Hackney from 1868 to his death; F.S.A., 1853. His special province in literature was as historian of religious houses in the West of England, the original sources for whose history he was the first to study thoroughly. He was also the writer of several dramas, but he was best known for his extensive collection of the works of the brothers Bewick of Newcastle, which included many of the original wood-blocks. His three works 1866, 1868, and 1870, on the wood-cuts and wood-blocks of T. and J. Bewick are exhaustive on all points. As a musician he was a facile writer, and contributed several pieces to *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. He died after a short illness at West Hackney Rectory, on 31st December, 1876, and was buried in Highgate cemetery on 6th January, 1877, aged only 56.—Abridged from *The Dictionary of National Biography*.]

IN the midst of the enormous level through which some of the principal rivers of Somersetshire find their way to the sea, is a small and slightly-elevated point of rising ground, whose claims to notice, for historical interest and for physical character, would seem at a first inspection to be pretty equally balanced. The traveller, indeed, would be almost certain to pass it without remark, unless he had a companion to whom the place was known, or if his eye failed to detect, as it might easily do, a small white obelisk which crowns the summit, and tends, if nothing more, to excite his curiosity. Eminence and obelisk, however, have little in themselves to attract attention, even amid that monotonous plain above which they scarcely appear to rise. And yet there is hardly a place in England whose name is more famous, or the history of which during one

* British Museum Additional MS., 30,288, ff. 9-53.

brief moment is more affectionately remembered. Its subsequent annals, indeed, are all but forgotten—a result in some measure to be accounted for from the fact that the account of them has to be obtained for the most part from sources which few are found to explore, and from which most are repelled by the strangeness of the features with which they are accompanied. That history, however, although it relates to a religious house in a retired situation and of small revenues, is a singularly instructive one. Commencing as it does just a thousand years ago, the changes which have befallen such establishments, nearly from the time of their first introduction into this country to the final catastrophe, are here conspicuously represented. Added to this, almost every department of conventual life, whether usual or otherwise, is successively and in detail brought before us. And the pleasure is great, that so much can even now be recovered in connection with a spot so apparently destitute of human interest, whose end so falsifies and misrepresents its beginning, and whose present so negatives and belies its past.

The isle of Athelney is situated on the north side of Stanmoor, in the parish of East Lyng, and is about four miles southwest from the town of Bridgwater. It lies on the north bank of the Tone, about one mile above the confluence of that river with the Parret, on the outside therefore, and not, as frequently supposed, between those streams. It consists of an island of two low eminences, divided by a shallow depression which is, nevertheless, some feet above the vast level that stretches on every side around. The island is composed of red marl, and is twenty-four acres in extent, eleven-and-a-half acres being the complement of the eastern and slightly higher eminence, which was occupied by the Monastery, and twelve-and-a-half acres that of its fellow. It is still not unfrequently an island in fact as well as in name, although furnished with a high embankment between it and the river, and has to be reached in boats during the months of usual winters. On the eastern eminence

is a pleasant farmhouse, erected about eighty years ago, generally backed by a goodly group of hayricks and wheat-mows, and above it the obelisk already referred to. The river is crossed by a bridge of wood, similar to many that still adorn the picturesque river which flows beneath. But the eye looks in vain for any indications of the ancient glories of the place. Luxuriant crops wave on the gently swelling eminence, but of the graceful structure which once crowned and glorified it not one stone remains *in situ* to make us conscious of the treasure which we have lost.

To the lover of our older history there is scarcely a spot that can call up recollections more full of interest than that about which these pages are to discourse. That interest, however, as I said, has hitherto been for the most part associated with one single actor and with one single age. It is as the scene of the retreat of the noble Saxon king, the truly great Alfred, that most men are conscious of a reverential regard for the humble isle of Athelney. Its after fortunes are little known. It was far removed from the busy world, and was the home of a community with which the chroniclers of battles and sieges and the rise and fall of kingdoms had very little to do. It has been said by men well qualified to pronounce a judgment on the subject that "of the history of that community from the end of the eleventh century to the dissolution less is known than that of almost any other."² I am about to endeavour to supply in some measure that deficiency, at least so far as a long and careful search into records of every description both in MS. and print will enable me to do so. And I think I can promise my reader that not much will remain for him to collect when he shall have mastered what shall now be presented to him.

Athelney Abbey owed its foundation to the piety of King Alfred the Great. All the more ancient chroniclers unite in

(2). *Dugdale's Mon.* ii, 403.

attributing to him the honour of the work.³ It was done in performance of a solemn vow, as a thank-offering both for the security which he had enjoyed amid the impassable morasses by which the place was on every side surrounded, and for the good success which had crowned his efforts, when, released at length from his involuntary retirement, he had placed himself at the head of his re-assembled forces, and had become in his turn the master of the field. He had been forced to fly from a vastly superior force, and had betaken himself for safety to a region whither few would be found to follow him. He found shelter, according to the Register of the Abbey, in a small cottage belonging to St. Athelwine, son of King Kyne-gilsus, who had been a hermit here.⁴ It appears that he soon made some attempts to increase by art what had been effected for the place by nature. The Saxon Chronicle, under the year 878, tells us that at Easter, which fell on the 23rd March, the king with a small band constructed a fortress at Ethelinga-eigge, and that from this fortress, with the men of that part of Somerset, from time to time they fought against the army. This statement is repeated by Asser, Simeon of Durham, Aethelweard, Florence of Worcester, Geoffrey Gaimar, John Wallingford, Henry of Huntingdon, and others. Ingulphus adds that after his successes over the Danes he turned this fortress into the monastery.⁵ Asser, whose account is most valuable from his having visited the place as chaplain to the royal founder, describes the place as surrounded by a vast extent of impassable morasses and water, adding that no visitor could reach it except by boat, or by a bridge, which, I presume, owed its construction to Alfred himself; and the fort as excellently constructed—"arx munitissima pulcherrima operatione consita est"—and as attached to a bridge which

(3). MS. Harl. 261, ff. 27b, 104b, al. 107b. MS. Cott. Nero D. ii, f. 80 al. 86. Asser, Simeon Dunelm., Flor. Wigorn., Will. Malmesbury, John Glaston., i, 112. Leland Coll., ii, 218. *Ibid.* i, 26, 43 78.

(4). Regist. Abb. Atheln., *Collinson* i. 86. Leland *Itin.* iv, pt. ii, p. 135.

(5). Ingulphus sub ann. 872.

connected the island with the opposite bank of the neighbouring river, and had another tower at its eastern extremity.⁶

It is said that the place derived its name of *Æthelinga-eigge*, or, as the chronicles translate it, "Clitonum" or "nobilium insula," the isle of nobles, from the temporary habitation of the sovereign and the constant resort of his nobility during that period. It soon changed into *Athelinganye*, *Ethelingey*, *Aliennia*, *Adelingen*, *Athelygneye*, etc., until, long before the Dissolution, it had taken the form which it still assumes.

The main reason of Alfred's selection of the place, was, according to the legend, a vision of Saint Cuthbert which had been granted to him during his retreat amidst its solitudes. He had at that time little prospect of success against his own and his country's enemies, and his Somersetshire fastness was likely to become the scene of a life-long banishment. It was then that the sainted Bishop of Lindisfarne is related to have visited him. He was sleeping for sorrow, as the chronicler relates, and his attendants were gone to fish in the neighbouring river. Cuthbert declared to him that he was sent from Heaven to assure him of an early restoration to his throne. The saint added that his words should be verified by the return of his servants laden with fish, whereas there had been only too great a probability that, as the river was entirely frozen over, they would have returned as empty as they went. He ended by exhorting him to put his trust in God, and to accept the words that he had heard as proceeding from God's messenger. The same vision was granted to the king's mother, then also at *Athelney*, and while they were communicating to each other what they had thus supernaturally learned, the servants entered with the promised supplies. On this the king is said to have solemnly vowed that the scene of so gracious an interposition should be the site of a house which should for ever keep the blessing in remembrance.⁷

(6). Asser, ed. Camden, p. 18.

(7). Will. Malmesbury, ed. Savile, p. 43.

The place was indeed naturally endeared to the mind of the pious and grateful king, and we are told that he used to relate in happier days, and to favoured companions, not only the privations which he had endured, but the many blessings which he had here enjoyed.⁸ It was the scene not only of that solemn vision to which I have just referred,⁹ but of the visit of the beggar to whom he gave a part of his last loaf, and was soon afterwards rewarded by an abundance of provisions, and of the homely adventure with the cowherd's wife, when, as she remarked, although he was quite ready to do good service in eating the cakes, he took no care to prevent them from burning.¹⁰ It was during his retreat also, amid the seclusion of this unknown spot, that he prepared himself for his visit to the enemy's camp in the disguise of a harper, and thus gained a knowledge of their numbers and position.¹¹ And it is alleged that he entertained so profound an impression of all that he had here undergone, and so high an opinion of the character of Denewulf, the swineherd, upon whose hospitality and fidelity he had been dependant on his first arrival at Athelney, that he ever regarded the scene of the former with peculiar interest and subsequently raised the latter even to the episcopal throne of Winchester. We can hardly wonder that the locality of so many and touching events was possessed of a solemn charm and fascination of its own for one whose heart was so sensitive, so tender, and so true.

A question, however, is raised by Reyner whether the monastery was actually founded by King Alfred, or so enlarged and endowed by him that he deserves to be called its founder. He inclines to the opinion, with which Spelman agrees, that it had a greater antiquity than that usually assigned to it, because in the first place the abbey was dedicated to St. Egelwine, the brother of King Kenewalh, who reigned before the death of

(8.) Will. Malmesbury, ii, p. 121.

(9.) Asser.

(10.) Asser, p. 9. John Wallingford, p. 537.

(11.) Ingulphus, p. 869. Will. Malmesbury, ii, p. 121.

Archbishop Paulinus, and secondly, because the charter of endowment which Alfred granted to the monastery, insinuated that he enlarged rather than founded the House—"non fundationem sed amplificaem monasterii insinuat."¹²

He admits, however, that Asser describes the monastery as recently founded, and honestly adds that he quotes him the more willingly from the fact that the assertion had come with the authority of an eyewitness, as Asser is well known to have been. And he proceeds to explain a few of the verbal difficulties in the description of the plan of that writer, to which I shall presently call the reader's attention.

The charter which Reyner quotes is dated A.D. 852. This he altered to 878, but incorrectly. The date of the foundation, as furnished by some of the best of the ancient authorities, is A.D. 888.¹³

The house was founded for monks of the Order of St. Benedict, and was dedicated to our Blessed Saviour, St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Athelwine. Bishop Tanner [*Turner MS.*] is in error when he says that "no mention is made in the surrender, nor anywhere but in Malmesbury, of their patron St. Egelwine." Nor have the last editors of the *Monasticon* helped us to the entire truth when they add that "in a recognition, however, of the middle of the fifteenth century this monastery is spoken of as dedicated to St. Saviour, St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Athelwine."

The fact is, as we shall see as we proceed, that in a number of documents of the thirteenth and two following centuries, the name of St. Athelwine is given as that of one of the saints to whom the house was dedicated.

The original structure appears to have been worthy alike of the royal founder and of the sacred use for which it was erected. Simeon of Durham speaks of it in one place as "*Monasterium præpulchrum*," and in another as "*monasterium nobile*."¹⁴

(12). Reyner de Antiq. Benedictor. in Angl., ii, sec. 6, pp. 132, 133, 134.

(13). MS. Cott. Nero D. ii, ff. 80 *al.* 86. MS. Harl. 261, ff. 104*b al.* 107*b.*

(14). *Scriptores X*, Twisden, cols. 132, 150.

Ethelred, abbot of Rievaulx, calls it "nobilissimum,"¹⁵ and Bromton, "famosum."¹⁶ In the face of these authorities, and especially of one whom I am about to cite, it is scarcely warrantable in Sir John Spelman to assert that "it was a work greater in the devotion from whence it proceeded than in the magnificence of the structure."¹⁷ It was in fact an example of a style hitherto unknown in England. The founder employed skilful workmen from abroad, and his countrymen saw with surprise and delight the edifices that resulted from their labours. The house of Athelney, we may be well assured, was no exception to the general rule. Besides the authorities quoted above, we have the account of one who, it would seem, had himself visited the place and recorded his impressions of the interesting scene. I have already stated that a strong fortress had been erected soon after Alfred's arrival. This was on the western bank of the Tone, and communicated with a bridge over the river. The monastery must have been closely contiguous to, if not on the site of, the fortress. It was small, but of ornamental character, and the style of its church was sufficiently singular to induce the monk of Malmesbury, who wrote in the twelfth century, to enter somewhat minutely into its peculiarities. He says that the building had to be accommodated to the limited space that was at command, and was consequently but of moderate size. The mode of construction, however, was new. Four piers were sunk in the ground, springing from which were four circular arches which supported the edifice. Each of these four sides terminated in an apsidal chancel or chapel.¹⁸ It would seem that Alfred's builders derived the idea of their work from the late Roman buildings to which they were accustomed, and it was assuredly an approach to the style which the Norman conquerors afterwards made common, and which in our architectural nomenclature is

(15). Twisden, col. 355.

(16). *Ibid.*, col. 812.

(17). *Life of Alfred*, ed. Hearne, p. 165.

(18). *Will. Malmesbury*, ed. Savile, p. 255.

called after their name. We are informed by the authorities already referred to that Alfred endowed his monastery with possessions of considerable value. The register of the abbey sets forth that he gave to his foundation "the whole isle of Athelney, exempt from taxes and other burdens, with common pasture, and free ingress and egress in Stathmoor, Saltmoor, Haymore and Currymoor, and all other moors within his manor of North Curry.¹⁹ In addition to this, as we gather from another charter of which but a few late transcripts have been preserved, he gave ten cassates of land in Sudtun (Sutton) with their appurtenances, all meadows, pastures, rivulets, and other appurtenances. As this charter is not without interest, as an example of an instrument of this early period, a literal translation will be acceptable:—

“Whilst our Lord Jesus Christ reigneth for ever, all the kingdoms of this wavering life and the rulers of the kingdoms from the beginning of this worthless age fail and quickly pass away. Therefore to fugitive and mortal things eternal joys are to be preferred. On which account, I, Alfred, by the divine mercy ordaining, King of the West Saxons, for the relief of my soul and the forgiveness of my sins, have given with a willing mind a certain small piece of ground of ten cassates in extent, in a place called Sudtun, by the isle of nobles, which in the English tongue is usually called Æthlingaig, for the supply of their monastic life, to the monks there under the exercise of their rule, devoutly serving Almighty God; and this liberty I have with devout mind given to the aforesaid monastery with meadows, pastures, rivulets, and all things rightly thereunto appertaining to continue for ever free from all royal tribute and compulsory works and penal causes, save and except military service against an invader, and the erection and repair of forts and bridges. Whosoever shall be willing to increase this gift, on him may God increase His blessings in the land of the living. But if any (which God

(19). *Regist. Abb. Atheln., Collinson i, 86.*

forbid), puffed up with pride and enticed by the ability of acting tyrannically, shall endeavour to infringe this and to make it of none effect, let him know that he is accursed from all the Church of Christian men, and that he shall have to tender an account in the day of judgment before Christ and His angels, unless he shall before have made amends. The aforesaid land, even the gift of this ground, is enclosed by these boundaries, Arnstore and Lceroc, etc.

This bill of the present gift is written in the 852nd year from the Incarnation of Christ, in the fourth indiction, these witnesses agreeing whose names appear."²⁰ Then follow the names of Alfred, Ealhfead, Eandulf, Cuthred, Vulfric, Elfestan, Epeheah, Mired, Mansel, Vulfric and Anulf. I fear that the present form of this charter, especially as regards the names of places and persons, is sadly full of errors. The original has long been lost, and, as I have already stated, the only copies of it that we possess are transcripts written many centuries later, and apparently the work of scribes who had a very imperfect knowledge of the document on which they were employed. Its genuineness may be suspected, as the indiction is erroneous, although Mr. Hardy has well shown that such a mistake is not absolutely conclusive against the claims of the instrument in which it occurs.

For the early history of the community at Athelney we have a most trustworthy authority in Asser, the king's chaplain and Bishop of Sherborne. He had himself visited the place, and his account is singularly complete and interesting. The first head of the new institution was a celebrated German monk, whom Alfred had invited to his kingdom in order to conduct the discipline and studies of the sacred schools which he intended to establish. This was John, surnamed Scotus, the old Saxon, and it is probable that he came from the monastery of Corbey. All the authorities unite in attributing to this eminent person the highest possible qualities. Alfred himself

(20). MS. Lansd. 447, ff. 58, 58b. Cod. Dipl. cccix, vol. ii, pp. 105, 106.

makes honourable mention of him as his mass-priest in the right noble preface to his translation of Gregory's "Pastoral." Asser calls him "acerrimi ingenii virum," and says that he was most learned in all kinds of literature and science. Ingulphus praises him as "acerrimi ingenii philosophum." Indeed, it would appear that nothing less than the presence of the highest attainments both moral and intellectual was sufficient for the requirement. It should be remembered that the institution of monachism was at that time in little favour with the great body of the people. With their successes over the Danes, wealth had produced luxury, and luxury was instinctively opposed to the religion of the cloister. Even before the time of Alfred the love of monastic institutions had begun to wax cold. The good king, however, had long felt that it was in such establishments that religion and learning could be most successfully encouraged, and in this opinion he was warmly supported by the man whom he placed over his new monastery at Athelney. With a small body of foreign monks, mostly Franks, he settled down to his life of devoted service in the midst of a wilderness, at first resorted to only for the protection which its seclusion could impart, and to which, for long afterwards, no one would have been attracted by any motive save those of separation from the world, and of devotion to a religious and literary life.

The number of foreign ecclesiastics, both priests and deacons, who had been placed under Abbot John, was not sufficient for his ardent wishes, and before long he had assembled a large body of monks, principally from Germany. Together with them were a number of "infantes," youths of tender age, as Reyner explains the word, also foreigners, who were destined afterwards for the monastic habit; and among them Asser tells us that he saw a child of pagan race—a Dane, as Reyner suggests—who was by no means inferior to his companions.

For some time all went well. A cloud, however, was coming over the scene, and that from a quarter from which no danger was apprehended. It was nothing less than a most

atrocious attempt on the life of the good abbot himself on the part of two of his monks. Asser gives us the particulars, related in considerable detail from the testimony of witnesses, and it is difficult to imagine a more shameless endeavour to neutralize the good work which had been so auspiciously begun. I would willingly, with the historian, agree to bury this evil deed in oblivion, did not truth insist on its mention, and did I not remember, with him, that good and evil, like wheat and tares, are permitted to grow together, the former for praise and sequence, the latter for blame and distant avoidance.

It appears that two of the monks, out of envy towards their superior, had seriously conspired with as many of the younger servants to murder him. The plan adopted was worthy of its framers. It was the abbot's custom to spend a part of the night in prayer before the altar, and the assassins determined to enlist the sacred scene and occasion in their unhallowed project. While he was upon his knees they designed that those already hidden in the church should fall on him and murder him, and then drag his lifeless body to the door of a house of evil repute, as though he had met his death in visiting that place; thus, as Asser remarks, "adding crime to crime, as it is said 'the last error shall be worse than the first.'"

A good providence defeated this shameless scheme. The armed assassins were shut into the church and silently waited for their unconscious victim, who came as usual to his midnight prayers. As he was kneeling before the altar the miscreants rushed out upon him and gave him some severe wounds. But they had slightly mistaken the man with whom they had to deal. Abbot John was not only a learned and saintly scholar, but no contemptible specimen of the "muscular christianity" of his age. If he had not been a good priest, he would have been an excellent soldier. He was well skilled in the noble art defensive, and could take his own part when there was fit occasion. So, the moment he heard the

sound of his enemies, before he got sight of them, he rose quickly from his knees and prepared to defend himself. At the same time he called out loudly for assistance, and declared that his assassins were demons rather than men, for that such an attempt was beyond the scope of human turpitude. His cries awoke the monks, who, though greatly alarmed, and especially at the attribution of the attack to supernatural agency, rushed to the church, not, however, before the enemy had made a precipitate retreat to the neighbouring marshes, where pursuit was impossible. The abbot was found half dead, and was carried home amid the lamentations of his brethren, including those, it is added, who were the authors of the plot. The contrivers and their agents, however, were soon discovered, and met the punishment that their crime deserved.

We must now pass to the year 1009. Abbot Ælfric, a name which has not hitherto found a place in the list of superiors, then governed the monastery, and King Æthelred II gave to him and his holy brethren a certain small piece of land, by estimation three perches in extent, situated at Hamme. The gift was as usual, subject to the "*trinoda necessitas*," which, as we have noticed in the case of the charter of Alfred, comprised the service of aiding the king against an invader, the maintenance of fortifications, and the building and repair of bridges. The house at this time was evidently small, as the king uses in his charter the diminutive form "*monasteriolum*," and it is spoken of as dedicated to St. Peter without the addition of any other patron. Ælfheah, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Wulfstan, Archbishop of York, are among the witnesses to this instrument.²¹

Collinson says that Alward occurs as abbot in the same year as the date of this gift, and that Simon succeeded him. It appears that he obtained his information from the register

(21).—Cod. Dipl., n. mcccvi, vol. vi, pp. 163, 164. Middle Hill MS., n. 4810, f. 91.

of the abbey, or from some transcript of that MS. The same writer gives us the name of Athelward as abbot in the year 1016.²²

It may be presumed that Æthelwin succeeded, and that under his government the community was well known and much revered, for I find that King Cnut, who according to most writers began his reign in 1017, gave them for their prayers in behalf of his soul, land to the extent of two mansæ, or one perch, in a place commonly called Seofenempton. The brotherhood is honourably mentioned in his charter as “famossissima familia,” and the house as a holy and most celebrated place—“in illo sancto et celeberrimo loco qui Æthelinganye nuncupatur.” Æthelwold, Archbishop of Canterbury, was present and attested this donation.²³

The next notice which we possess is a very valuable one, and combined with a particularity of detail which places its object in the clearest light. It is the official return of the possessions of the abbey, contained in the Exchequer and Exon. Domesday. Unfortunately the name of the then abbot is not given, but the possessions of the house are enumerated in a manner that leaves little to be desired.

At the period of the compilation of this invaluable record, which was between the years 1083-1086, the property belonging to the abbey, in the county of Somerset, consisted of the following. I have taken the Exchequer record for the particulars of the lands, and have added the enumeration of the live stock from the Exon. Domesday.

1. *Atiltone* (Ilton).—In the time of King Edward it paid geld for eight hides. The arable land is reckoned at twelve carucates. In the demesne are four hides and there three carucates, ten villeins, six bordarii, with four ploughs, four servi, two horses, six beasts, ten pigs, forty sheep, a mill, the rent of which

(22). History of Somerset, vol. i, p. 87.

(23). Cod. Diplom. mcccxxiv, vol. vi, pp. 187, 188, 189. Midd. Hill MS., n. 4810, f. 75.

was 7s. 6d. ; meadow, forty acres ; pasture, thirty acres ; wood, a mile in length and in breadth ; annual value, one hundred shillings. Of these eight hides the Earl of Moretaine holds two, of which the arable land is four carucates, and the annual value thirty shillings. These in the time of King Edward the Confessor were held by the Abbey.

2. *Sutune* (Long Sutton).—In the time of the Confessor it paid geld for ten hides. Arable land sixteen carucates ; in the demesne, four hides, and there two carucates, four servi, eight villeins, six bordarii, with six ploughs ; six beasts, fifteen pigs, one hundred and two sheep ; meadow, forty acres ; pasture, one hundred acres ; annual value to the abbey, £8. Roger Brito is stated to hold half a hide of the land, with one plough, and Roger de Corcel two hides, against the abbot's will. Two thanes held them of the Church in King Edward's time. The arable land is two carucates ; meadow, six acres ; value, fifty shillings.

3. *Seovenamentone* (Seavington St. Mary).—It paid geld for two hides in the time of the Confessor : the arable land amounted to two carucates. There are in the demesne one hide, and there one carucate, seven villeins, three bordarii, and two servi ; one horse, nine pigs, forty sheep, meadow, six acres ; annual value, thirty shillings.

4. *Hame* (in Bridgwater).—In the time of the Confessor it gelded for one hide. Arable land, four carucates ; in the demesne, half a hide, and there one carucate, four servi, one villein, seven bordarii with one carucate, two beasts ; meadow, fifteen acres ; small wood, three acres ; annual value, thirty shillings.

5. *Lege* (East-Lyng).—It consisted of one hide, which paid no geld in the time of the Confessor. In the demesne half a hide, and there two carucates, six servi, three villeins, four bordarii, with two ploughs ; one horse, two beasts, ten pigs, and thirty sheep ; meadow, twelve acres ; wood, fifty acres ; annual value, forty shillings.

It is further stated that Earl Moriton holds two hides belonging to the abbey, in Aisselle, that Roger de Corcelle holds two hides of the manor of Sutone, and that Ralf de Limesi holds, as it would seem, illegally, one hide, which belonged to the abbey in Bosintone. These lands, it is added, could not be separated from the church.²⁴

In Dorsetshire the Abbey possessed the manor of Candel. In the time of King Edward it paid geld for four hides, one virgate and a half. At the period of the survey the arable land is stated as four carucates, whereof in the demesne were four hides, and there one carucate, two villeins, fourteen bordarii, with two ploughs, meadow, fourteen acres; wood, three furlongs in length and two in breadth. Of this land Aluredus Pincerna is said to hold the one remaining virgate and a half. The value of the whole was 67*s.* 6*d.*, whereof the abbot's portion was 60*s.*²⁵ The record supplies us with the particulars connected with the acquisition of the just mentioned manor of Candle, or Purse Candel, in the hundred of Sherburn, and county of Dorset. It appears that in the time of the Confessor the Abbey had the manor of Bisobestone, or Biscopestone, which then paid geld for nine hides. The Earl of Moretaine gave the monks in exchange for this manor that of Candel, and on the former erected his castle of Montagut, or Montagud. In the account of this transaction, supplied by the Exon Domesday, the abbey is called Aliennia: the Exchequer Domesday reads, as usual, Adelingi.²⁶

It will be seen from the preceding enumeration that in the eleventh century the possessions of the abbey amounted to twenty-six hides, one virgate and a half. The arable land is estimated at thirty-six carucates. The former of these denominations was common amongst Saxons, the latter was of Norman origin. The hide has been described as a measure

(24). Domesday i, p. 91. Exon. Domesday, pp. 175, 176, 408, 479, 488.

(25). Domesday i, f. 786. Exon. Domesday, p. 38.

(26). Exon. Domesday, pp. 260, 261. Domesday i, f. 93.

of land, "sufficient to the cultivation of one plough"—"hida Angliæ vocatur terra unius aratri culturæ sufficiens." Its exact quantity was never determined, but, as Selden remarks, was at all times uncertain. The carucate was the Norman equivalent to which the Saxon measure was reduced at the formation of the Conqueror's Survey. It was as much arable as could be cultivated every year with one plough and the beasts belonging to it, and has been variously estimated from sixty to one hundred and fifty acres.²⁷ The annual value as then calculated amounted to the sum of £21 7s. 6d. For the earlier half of the twelfth century we have an interesting picture of the place and the community from the graphic pen of the Malmesbury monk. The historian himself was a native of Somersetshire, and, from the minuteness with which he describes the house and its inmates, we may be tolerably sure that he had visited the one and was personally intimate with the other. He says that Adelingea is not an island of the sea, but is so inaccessible, from marshes and morasses, that a boat is necessary for approaching it. He adds that there is on the island a large grove of alders, abounding with stags and fallow deer, and many other animals of the same kind. The solid ground, he says, was barely two acres in extent and on it was the monastery constructed. His account of the church I have already given. He describes the brethren as few in number and poor, but as consoled and compensated for their poverty by their love of that quiet and solitude which they so highly valued, and could here so perfectly and uninterruptedly enjoy. Their time was spent in sacred duties, in reciting the praises of their patron St. Egelwine, and in appreciation of his holy life. That saint was brother of the West-Saxon king, Kenewalh, but was not more renowned for noble birth than for grandeur of character and prompt ad-

(27). The meadow land is given as one hundred and thirteen acres, the pasture as one hundred and thirty acres, besides the woodland, which, as the reader will have remarked, was of considerable extent: the property could hardly have been of less extent than four thousand acres.

vocacy of all who sought his aid.²⁸ Benedict was abbat of Athelney at the period of which this is a description. There is a very curious and interesting document preserved in the Beauchamp cartulary, which he and his convent made in favour of Robert de Beauchamp,—so curious as to deserve a literal translation.

“The charter between Master Robert de Beauchamp and the Abbat and Convent of Athelingaye.

“Benedict by the grace of God Abbat of Athelingnye and also the convent of the same church to all men both their friends and neighbours, French and English, as well present as future, health. Be it known unto all those who now are and unto those who are about to come, that we with common assent have granted to Robert de Beauchamp and his heirs in fee and heirship all that land which is called Frogenemera, so that nevertheless the said Robert shall give every year one mark of silver to us and our church, and shall acquit that land for half a hide in the common county assizes. Also to the same Robert, and his ancestors and his heirs, we grant the benefit and fraternity of our church in our common chapter. This grant the aforesaid Robert has strengthened by joining right hands with the Abbat, and to the aforesaid church he has promised that he will in all things be faithfully attentive, and that he will go to the pleas and business of our church whenever he shall be called; as the friend and faithful brother of the same. And for this grant the aforesaid Robert de Beauchamp has given to Abbat Benedict of his recognizances half a marc of silver, and to the convent he has given two sextarii of honey. Witnesses, Robert, Bp. of Bath, and Hugh de Turnai, archdeacon, and Robert, archdeacon, and Ivo Dean of Wells, and Reginald Chanter, and Richard de Soc, writer, and Ralph, Prior of Athelney, and Arnold, monk, and Richard de

(28). Will. Malmesbury de gest. Pont. Angl., ed. Savile, p. 255.

Raddona, and Richard de Montacute, and Simon de Cant, William Fitzodbert and Richard his son, and Roger Fitzovert and Robert his son, Ralph, clerk of Cinnoc, Edward de Soc, and Richard —, Geoffrey clerk of —, John Clerk, Simon Clerk, Niger, brother of the Abbat, Roger de Westle, John de Stubbs (?), and many others. Farewell.”²⁹

We have here, it would appear, an example of what in after-times was still more common, the endeavour to retain the good offices and friendly aid of a powerful layman of the neighbourhood on those many occasions when a body of ecclesiastics would otherwise be obliged to resort to legal measures for the protection of their rights and possessions, and not always with that amount of success which the mere justice of their claims would deserve. The same Abbat Benedict is one of a number of witnesses who attested the institution of Hywis, or Huish, as a perpetual prebend in the church of St. Andrew of Wells. Robert was at this time Bishop of Bath, and the instrument was dated the 4th of November, 1159.³⁰ A more particular account of the transaction will be found in my History of Taunton Priory, the Prior of which was also a witness on this occasion.

It may be presumed that Benedict was succeeded by Abbat Roger. His name does not occur in any list previously given, but I find him as a witness to a charter of James de Montsorell, setting forth the gift of the church of Withlakhinton (Whitelakington) to the church of St. Andrew of Wells, and to Reginald Bishop of Bath.³¹ Reginald governed the see from the year 1174-1192, to a period between which dates our abbat is to be assigned.

Another Benedict succeeded in or before the year 1198. For about that time Savaricus, Bishop of Bath and Glaston-

(29). Beauchamp Cartulary, pp. 8, 9.

(30). MS. Harl. 6968, pp. 24, 25. Archer from Reg. Will., vol. i, f. 26.

(31). MS. Harl. 6968, p. 43.

bury, made a proposal to the abbats of Athelney and Cirencester that they should agree to the elevation of their churches, the former of Sutton and the latter of Meleburne into prebends of the cathedral church of Wells. This was done for the sake of augmenting the number of the canons, as well as for the honour and benefit of the churches so selected.³² It appears that the Abbat of Athelney complied with this proposal. For in another document, Savaricus, after making honourable mention of the religion and honesty which distinguished the brotherhood of Adheligne, permits, with the consent of Alexander the dean and the chapter of Wells, the church of Sutton to be made a perpetual prebend in the church of Wells, and that his beloved son, the Abbat Benedict, and all his successors, should be perpetual prebendaries thereof, and assigns a stall in the choir and a place in the chapter next the sub-dean. He also releases the abbat and his successors from all personal residence at Wells, but stipulates that they shall find a substitute to perform the religious services of their office, and shall pay him a pension of four marcs a year.³³

The same Abbat Benedict was a witness to a confirmation of Savaricus to the Abbey of Muchelney of the tithes of the church of Somerton, reserving to the vicars their lawful dues. John, Prior of Taunton, was also among the witnesses to this instrument.³⁴ About this time Sir Richard de Locumbe gave to the abbat and convent a pension of 40s. a year from the rectory of Selworth, of which church he was patron. The grant was confirmed by Savaricus, and appears to have been paid with short intervals for several centuries.³⁵

In or about the year 1221, either the same or another Abbat Benedict gave to Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, and his successors, the advowson of the church of Ilton, with all its appurten-

(32). MS. Harl. 6968, pp. 80, 81.

(33). MS. Harl. 6968, pp. 60, 61. *Et post*, ff. 123, 123b. *Angl. Sacr.*, vol. i, 563.

(34). MS. Harl. 6968, cart. pp. 5, 6.

(35). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 15b.

ances, to be ordered and disposed as their other churches and and prebends. Richard, Abbat of Muchelney, with others, attested this charter.³⁶ It can scarcely be imagined that Abbat Benedict, the friend of Bishop Savaricus, who, as we have already observed, must have succeeded not later than the year 1198, survived to 1225, at which date also his name occurs.³⁷ It would seem that a third superior of the same name is to be added to our list of these dignitaries. In the absence of positive authority, however, this is a point which we must be content to leave undecided.

Athelney had a new abbot in 1232 at the latest, for in that year Roger, Abbat of Athelney, and his convent gave to Bishop Jocelin all the tithes in Putteneye and Wern in the parish of Hiwis. The bishop had given these tithes at the dedication of the church of Hiwis for the endowment of that church, and the abbat and convent now ratified the gift.³⁸ This instrument was dated the festival of St. Maurice and his companions, in the twenty-sixth year of Jocelin's episcopate, which is coincident with the 22nd September, 1232.

Robert succeeded, and, it would appear, almost immediately after the transaction just related. He occurs, it is said, in 1232, 1249, 1260, and 1263.³⁹ In 1260 there was a difference between him and his convent and John, then chancellor of Wells and prebendary of Ilton, about a house situated in their court at Herdecote, and used for the storing of their tithes collected therefrom. The matter was amicably settled on these conditions, viz., that the dean, chancellor, and chapter should give up all right and possessions in the aforesaid, and that the aforesaid abbat and convent should give in pure and perpetual alms to the church of Ilton, the chancellor and his successors in the said prebend, a piece of land lying to the

(36). MS. Harl. 6968, p. 42.

(37). *Collinson*, vol. i, p. 87.

(38). MS. Harl. 6968, pp. 44, 45. Reg. Well., vol. i, f. 40.

(39). *Collinson*, vol. i, p. 87.

north of Herdecote, of the size of half-an-acre, and extending from the king's highway from Herdecote towards Ileford Bridge, for the building of a grange and houses for storing their tithes. The prebendary and his companions were to surround the land with a competent enclosure, and were not to erect thereon any cottage or mansion, the said grange and houses excepted, unless with the licence of the abbat and convent. This arrangement was dated in the chapter house at Wells the 1st June, 1260.⁴⁰

The next notice which occurs is one which will fitly introduce many others of a somewhat similar character. It will be recollected that the abbey was of royal foundation and that the King was accordingly its patron. This fact has been of great use to me in determining the exact dates at which many of the abbats began their conventual reign; inasmuch as the licence to the convent to elect a successor on the decease of an abbat, the royal assent and the restitution of the temporalities are entered upon the Patent Rolls. I have by this means recovered a number of dates which have not previously been determined.

During a vacancy the temporalities were in the King's hands, and we know that in the case of some of the wealthier establishments of which our ancient monarchs were the patrons, the term of such intervals was oftentimes unnecessarily lengthened, in order that their revenues might enrich an impoverished treasury. Even the Abbey of Athelney, though boasting of no great wealth, was subjected to this infliction. In the Patent Roll, of the fifty-second year of Henry III, it is set forth that the Abbat of Athelney has paid by the King's writ to Alan, son of our John de Britann, by the hand of Roger de Radeflod, on the Monday next after the festival of St. Leonard, in the fifty-second year of the present reign, which is coeval with the 7th November, 1267, the sum of ten

(40). MS. Harl. 6968, pp. 42, 43.

pounds by which the prior and convent have compounded with us for the custody of their house in the last vacancy of the same, to be held in part payment of a larger sum in which the King is bound to the said John, and of which ten pounds the abbot and convent are entirely quit. The document is in fact a receipt for the money, and is dated—witness, the King at Winchester—the 7th of November, 1267,⁴¹ the same day as the money was paid, though expressed in the roll in a different form. Twenty days afterwards, the letters patent were issued for the restitution of the temporalities to the abbat elected at the close of the just mentioned vacancy. Richard de Derham, a monk of the house, had been elected by his brethren and had received the royal assent, and these letters restored to him the temporalities of his abbey, and enjoined all who owed him service to pay the same to him as their abbat and lord. The letters are dated at Clarendon, the 27th of November, 1267.⁴²

The abbey was at this time in special favour. A few days only elapsed before the king granted to the prior and convent of Athelingenye, that they and their successors for ever should have a market every week on Monday in their manor of Lenge, and a fair every year to last three days, to wit, the eve, day, and morrow of St. James the Apostle, in their manor of Sutton, with the usual variation in favour of any neighbouring markets and fairs which might be thereby damaged. The witnesses are Robert Walerand, Robert Aguilon, Walter de Overton, Master John de Chishull, John de la Lynd, Stephen Eddeworth, and others. The charter is dated at Clarendon, the 10th of December.⁴³

It is probable that at this time the King granted the privilege of which we have a confirmation at the end of the following reign. It was that all the horses and men of the abbat and

(41). Pat. Rolls, 52 Hen. III, m. 37.

(42). Pat. Rolls, 52 Hen. III, m. 34.

(43). Cart., 52 Hen. III, m. 11.

monks of Athelyngnea, which they could swear to belong to them, should be quit of all toll, passage, pontage, and customs whatsoever through all his land, and forbidding anyone to molest or disturb them in the enjoyment of this right under a penalty of ten pounds.⁴⁴

In or about the year 1270, the Abbot of Alnigenye is returned as holding in the hundred of Cintrell, Athelney, and all his other lands—"per orationes pro domino Rege."⁴⁵

We must now pass to the early year of the next reign. King Edward I granted to the Dean and Chapter of Wells licence to grant one hundred acres of moor with their appurtenances in North Cory to the abbat and convent of Athelingney and their successors for ever, for common of pasture which the same abbat and convent have in eight hundred acres of moor of the aforesaid dean and chapter in the same vill with the usual reservation of the lord's services. The grant is dated the 12th July, 1276.⁴⁶

Abbat Richard de Derham departed this life in the beginning of the year 1280. Andrew de Sacro Fonte, monk of Athelney, was elected his successor. The royal assent to the election was dated at Dunameneye the 14th March,⁴⁷ and the restitution of the temporalities at Bristoll the 19th of April, 1280.⁴⁸

At the assizes held at Somerton just afterwards on the morrow of the festival of the Ascension, 1280, it was pleaded that the Abbat of Alingneye was bound to repair the bridge of Doulesford, which was in a dangerous condition. The abbat affirmed that neither he nor his predecessors had repaired that bridge nor was it his business so to do.⁴⁹

(44). See *post* 33 Edw. I.

(45). Test. de Nevill, p. 163.

(46). MS. Harl. 6968, cart., p. 64.

[This paragraph and also the marginal note is scored through with ink in the MS., but see Wells Cathedral MSS., f. 216.]

(47). Pat. Rolls, 8 Edw. I, m. 21.

(48). Pat. Rolls, 8 Edw. I, m. 20.

(49). Plac. de Jur. and Ass. Somers., 8 Edw. I, rot. 13, dors 5/15—2.8.

At the same assizes at Somerton, the abbat sued against Richard Fromund the moiety of one virgate of land with its appurtenances in Oggesole as the right of his church of Adelingley. Richard appears to have pleaded that one Isabella de Montacute had given the land with its appurtenances to a certain Margery, obliging her and her heirs to the warranty, and he exhibited a charter of the said Isabella in confirmation of his assertion. He further pleaded that the said Richard did homage for the aforesaid land to Simon de Montacute. Simon being summoned, said that he was not held to warranty by the aforesaid charter, because the land sued against the aforesaid Richard is not contained in the charter aforesaid, and further that the tenements are of the fee of Erle and not of the fee of Montacute. The jury gave their verdict for the abbat, adjudging to him the recovery of his seisin against the aforesaid Richard.⁵⁰

In the same year Henry de Lorti was summoned to give account by what warrant he held twenty acres of pasture called Rochemore. Henry pleaded that the pasture aforesaid belonged to his manor of Knolle, which manor he held of the Abbat of Alingeley. It was pleaded on the other side, that the pasture belonged to the manor of Somerton, and not to the manor of Knolle.⁵¹

We have already seen that the Abbat of Athelney was a prebendary of Wells so early as the time of Bishop Savaricus, and we have now to notice him in the performance of one of his privileges. On the Saturday next after the Festival of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the 16th of September, 1284, died Edward de la Cnoll, dean of Wells. After licence was obtained from the bishop to elect a successor, the canons were cited for that purpose, and among them the abbats of Athelney and Muchelney.⁵²

(50). *Plac. de Jur. and Ass. Somers.*, 8 Edw. I, rot. 31, M 5/13—4.4., M 5/14—1.5.

(51). *Plac. de quo Warr. Somers.*, 8 Edw. I, rot. 57. *Rep. Plac.*, p. 145.

(52). *MS. Harl. 6968*, pp. 33, 34.

In Easter term 1289, in the King's court at Westminster, before Thomas de Weylaund, John de Lovcot, William de Burnton, Roger de Leycestre, and Elias de Bekyngham, justices, and others, a final concord was made between Andrew, Abbat of the church of St. Alwyne of Athelingeneye and Simon de Montacute, regarding a hundred and fifty acres of land with their appurtenances in Oggesole. Simon made an acknowledgment that the aforesaid land with its appurtenances was the right of the abbat and his church, and renounced all claim on the part of himself and his heirs for ever.⁵³ The reader will perceive that this is another instance of the dedication of the abbey to S. Athelwine. Others will present themselves in the following century.

In the year 1290 was the famous valuation of Pope Nicholas IV, according to which all the ecclesiastical property of the kingdom was rated down to the period of the *Valor*. The following is a condensed account of the possessions, both spiritual and temporal, of the abbey at that period.⁵⁴

SARUM. SP.

	Taxatio.	Decima.
Porcio Abbis de Athelyngine in Ecclia } de Caundel Purs }	1 0 0	0 2 0

SARUM. TEMP.

Caundel Purs. Abbas de Athelingnie	5 13 0	0 11 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
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BATH AND WELLES SP'.

Pensio Abbis de Atheleneye in ecclia } de Baggedripe }	2 0 0	
Pensio Abbis de Athelneye in ecclia } de Syleworth (Selworthy) ... }	2 0 0	

BATH AND WELLES TEMP'.

Sottone } Abbis }	Abbas de Athelneye	... 23 0 0
	Herdecote, Abbas de Atheln'	... 7 6 8
	Northcoury, Abbas de Atheln'	... 1 6 8

(53). Fin. Somers., 17 Edw. I, n. 116.

(54). Tax. Eccl. P. Nich., pp. 178, 185, 198, 204-5.

			Taxatio.
Cumberflory } apud Hyda }	Abbas de Atheln' ...	...	0 10 0
	Hamme, Abbas de Atheln' pitanc' ...	...	6 10 0
	Lenge, Abbas de Atheln' ...	...	9 0 0
Hoggesole and } Clavelesheye. }	Abbas de Atheln' ...	...	0 7 0
	Bosyngton, Abbas de Atheln' ...	...	1 11 0
	[Sp. 5 0 0	Temp. 55 4 4]	

In the 25th year of King Edward I, 1297, the Abbat of Athelngnye was returned as possessor of lands and rent of the value of £20 per annum, and as such was summoned to perform military service in parts beyond sea. The muster was at London on the Sunday next after the octave of St. John the Baptist, the 7th July, 1297. The writ of summons was dated, witness the king, at Portesmouth the 24th May, 1297.⁵⁵

A perambulation of the forest of Neracchist was made on the 19th of March, 26 Edward I, 1298. It is there stated that the Abbat of Athelnye holds the hamlet of Stoforde which pertains to the manor of Yleton. In a perambulation of the forest of North Petherton made on the 25th of May in the same year, the Abbat of Athelyngnye is said to hold the manor of Westleng and Estleng, with woods, moors, marshes, and appurtenances.⁵⁶

The year 1300 brought another abbat to Athelney. The choice then fell on Osmund de Sow, a monk of the house. Collinson is in error where he gives the year 1297 as that of this abbat's succession. I have recovered from the Patent Roll the date of the entire transaction. Brother Osmundus de Sow and Brother Thomas de Newbury were deputed to inform the king of the death of their abbat. They received from him his licence to elect a successor, dated at Totenham the 5th of April, 1300.⁵⁷ The former of the two messengers

(55). Parl. Writs, I, p. 292.

(56). Hist. Ad. de Domerham, ed. Hearne, I, pp. 189, 199.

(57). Pat. Rolls, 28 Edw. I, m. 21.

was elected to the vacant dignity and received the royal assent dated Newport Paynel, the 19th of the same month,⁵⁸ and the temporalities were restored to him by virtue of an instrument dated at Hildeburghworth, the 13th of the following May.⁵⁹

In the month afterwards, a writ dated at Wetherby, the 14th of June, was addressed to all persons possessed of £40 or upwards of land or rent, to perform military service against the Scots. The Abbat of Athelingnye was accordingly summoned among the other Somerset landholders. The muster was at Carlisle on the next ensuing festival of St. John the Baptist, the 24th of June, 1300.⁶⁰

This must have been a serious drain on the revenues of a place never too well supplied with means of expenditure. It does not, therefore, much surprise us to find the abbat and convent endeavouring, and we would hope effectually, to rid themselves of another and heavy grievance. The King had granted a corrody in the abbey to one of his old servants, which included all necessaries in food and clothing. On the arrival of Gilbert de Ragon, in whose favour this had been done, and who was himself the bearer of the objectionable letters, the abbat and convent returned a submissive answer to their sovereign, representing to him that at that very time they had at his majesty's appointment two other pensionaries of a similar kind, John de Hanele, clerk, who received an annual payment of forty shillings, and Nicholas Freyn, who was found in food and clothing for life. And they therefore must humbly solicit his royal mercy and forbearance, entreating him for the sake of charity to spare them, for the present, this additional burden, adding that the said Gilbert could, if he would, attest the truth of their declaration. The letter was dated at Athelyngeny the 28th of July, 1304.⁶¹

(58). Pat. Rolls, 28 Edw. I, m. 17.

(59). Pat. Rolls, 28 Edw. I, m. 16.

(60). Parl. Writs, I, p. 336.

(61). Calendar of Letters, no. 1222.

Abbat Osmund continued to preserve those friendly relations with the Beauchamp family which his great predecessor had happily commenced. In the second year of his conventual reign, and on the day on which the name of that predecessor was held in special memory, he granted a charter which sets forth that he and his convent had "received lord John de Beauchamp, deceased, lady Cecilia sometime wife of the same, lord John son of the same, lady Johanna his wife, and their children, ancestors, and successors, in all benefits, alms, and prayers, which are or shall be in our church of Athelyngeny for ever." They also granted that the names of the said John, and of Cecilia, John, and Johanna, when they should depart this life, should be written in their martyrology, and that their anniversary should be solemnly celebrated in their church, year by year. That every year also, on the 24th October, the day of the anniversary of the said John, deceased, thirteen poor people should be fed in behalf of his soul and the souls of the aforesaid, their ancestors and successors. For this grant Cecilia, and John her son, remitted and quitted claim for themselves and their heirs, of a certain common of pasture which they had long held in a certain field in their manor of Ylton, lying between Hortemed and Stapelemede, as far as was included by a certain ditch. The witnesses of this instrument were Sir Gilbert de Cnovyle, Sir William de Staunton, John Sylveyn, John de Asseylonde, Laurence de Dylnton, Ralph de Stokelynche, Hugh de la Lade, and many others. It was dated at Athelyngeny, on the day of St. Benedict, abbat, the 21st March, 1302.⁶²

To about the same time, as I conjecture, for the document is undated, we may refer the following. It sets forth that John de Beauchamp, lord of Hacche, confirmed to Osmund, Abbat of Athelyngnye, and his successors, all the crop of half-an-acre of land in Froggemere in his manor of Schepton Beauchamp, whether of corn or of oats. In default the abbat

(62). Beauchamp Cart., pp. 9, 10.

and his convent were to enter and distrain on all his land of Froggemere. The witnesses were Sir Symon de Aston, John de la Stane, Laurence de Dylngton, John Sylveyn, Rauf de Stokelynych, and many others.⁶³

On the 2nd of February, 1304-5, a writ was addressed to Walter de Gloucester, the King's Eschaetor, "to determine whether leave might be granted to the abbat and convent of Athelyngnye to hold and possess one messuage and fourteen acres of land with their appurtenances in Holeford, in the county of Somerset, which they had received by the gift and feoffment of Thomas de Holeford, against the statute of Mortmain, and without the royal licence." The writ was dated at Walsyngham, the day above named. The verdict of the jury at an inquest held at Somerton, on the 26th April, 1305, was favourable. The messuage and land were stated to be held of John de la Yerde, by the service of one pound and a half of wax, and a rent of threepence on the festival of St. Mary Magdalene; and that further the same John held the property of Geoffrey de Stawell, and he of the Bishop of Winchester, and the bishop of the king in chief.⁶⁴ On this followed the Royal Letters Patent, dated at Langele, the 6th May, 1305.⁶⁵

In the same month the monks received, by payment of one hundred shillings, a confirmation of their grant by Henry III, of freedom from toll, passage and pontage, already recorded. Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, Edmund de Manley and others, were witnesses to this charter which was dated at Harwe (Harrow), the 14th of May, 1305.⁶⁶

We have now to pass a short interval of five years. Letters Patent were issued to the dean and chapter of Wells, allowing them to give and assign to the abbat and convent of Athelningney, one hundred acres of moor with their appurtenances

(63). Beauchamp Cart., pp. 10, 11.

(64). Inq. p.m., 33 Edw. I, n. 144.

(65). Pat. Rolls, 33 Edw. I, p. 1, m. 2.

(66). Cart., 33 Edw. I, n. 36.

in North Cury, for common of pasture which the said abbat and convent had in eight hundred acres of moor of the afore-said dean and chapter in the same vill, to which the abbat and convent were to renounce all claim for the future ; with the usual reservation of the lord's services. The letters were dated at Westminster, the 12th July, 1310.⁶⁷

In the year 1316, 9 Edward II, the Abbat of Athelingeay was certified, pursuant to writs tested at Clipston, on the 5th of March, as one of the lords of the township of Purscaundel, in the county of Dorset, and as Lord of Suttone Abbats, Ilton, Sevenhampton Abbat's, Hamme, Lenge, etc., in the county of Somerset.⁶⁸

A few months afterwards a writ was issued to the Eschaetor, to determine whether licence should be accorded to Adam de Seler, of Taunton, to retain one messuage and one virgate of land with its appurtenances in Lange Sutton, held for his life of the Abbot of Athelengeneye, and by him of the king in chief, which he had held without the king's licence and in contravention of the statute. The writ was dated at Westminster, the 12th of July, 1316. The Jury was composed of the following : John de Smelton, Reginald Husee, John Gissop, John le Knyght, John Loyes (or Loges), John Bossard, Walter Isaac, Philip Corbyn, Nicholas Bek, Nicholas Mandeware, Roger Mapodre, and Thomas de Speketon, who said that the abbat held the messuage and land of the king *in capite* in pure and perpetual alms, and that the property was worth twenty shillings a year in all issues. This inquest was taken at Somerton, the 16th August, 1316.⁶⁹

We have now to notice a circumstance of peculiar interest. The ancient church, constructed by the royal founder of the abbey, in a style that was hitherto unknown in England, was

(67). Pat. Rolls, 4 Edw. II, p. 1, m. 24. MS. Harl. 6968, Cart., p. 64.

(68). Parl. Writs, pt. ii, pp. 375, 378, 380.

(69). Inq. ad q. d., 10 Edw. II, n. 49.

[The paragraphs beginning "In the same month," down to this date are scored through with pencil in the MS.]

long ere this, we may suppose, in a state that needed improvement. This, too, was the age of church building, and the good abbat and his brethren were not behind their fellows in the general march of progress. They also, at least, renovated their church, which, according to some subsequent evidence, must have been of a very magnificent character. On the 29th of June, the festival of SS. Peter and Paul, 1321, an indulgence of thirty days was granted to all who should contribute to the reparation of the conventual church.⁷⁰ It is not certain from this whether the structure was rebuilt in part, though such of course is probable. That the good work attracted the attention of distant benefactors is evident from the fact that Walter de Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter, who was murdered in London, the 15th of October, 1326, left four pounds to the Abbat of Athelney, for repairs of the church and erection of the tower.⁷¹ But from this also it may be inferred that the church was an older structure and that a portion of it at least was permitted to remain.

It was in the performance of this sacred work that the last days of Abbat Osmund were employed. His tenure of office would seem to have been a period of much peace and religious improvement. He was at the head of his house for the long space of twenty-five years.

Brothers William de Beare and Richard de Gotehirst, monks of the House, were deputed to carry the intelligence to the king; and licence of electing a new superior was dated at Langele, the 29th of January, 1324-5.⁷² The choice of the convent fell on Robert de Ile, the prior; the king's assent to the election was dated at Westminster, the 13th of February;⁷³ and the restitution of the temporalities to the lately elected abbat, at the Tower of London, the 16th of March, 1324-5.⁷⁴

(74). *Ibid.*, m. 18.

(70). MS. Harl. 6964, p. 67.

(71). In Archiv. S. Pet., Exon. Eccl.

(72). Pat. Rolls, 18 Edw. II, p. 2, m. 34.

(73). *Ibid.*, m. 32.

On the 25th of the same month he professed obedience.⁷⁵

The abbat was summoned to a council in London, by a writ dated at Dogmersfeld, the 2nd of September, 1332.⁷⁶

In 1336, there was a composition concerning tithes between the rector of Candel Purs and the abbat.⁷⁷

It is stated that in a provincial or general chapter held at Northampton, on the Monday next after the festival of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the 11th of September, 1340, the Abbat of Athelney was cited and appeared by his proctors.⁷⁸

Little, however, seems to have disturbed the serenity of his rule. He died less than a year afterwards, in the summer of the year 1341. John de Stoure, and John Fort, monks of the House, carried, according to custom, the news to the king, and the licence to elect was dated at Haverigny atte Boure, the 2nd of August, 1341.⁷⁹

Richard de Gothurst (the same, I presume, who accompanied Brother William de Beare in the convent's mission to the king on the death of Abbat Osmund in 1325), a monk of the House, was chosen. The royal assent was dated at the Tower of London, the 20th of August,⁸⁰ and the order for the restoration of the temporalities at Westminster, the 4th of September.⁸¹

In 1343, the abbey is mentioned as not having scholars "in studio generali secundum relationem Prioris studentium."⁸²

On the 2nd of December, 1348, Thomas le Touke of Buddelegh, was admitted to the vicarage of Lenge, on the presentation of the abbat and convent of Athelney.⁸³

(75). MS. Harl. 6964, p. 93.

(76). MS. Harl. 6965, p. 62.

(77). Reg. Wyvill., vol. ii, pp. 31, 32, 33. *Hutchins's Dorsetshire*, vol. iv, p. 28.

(78). Reyner. Append., p. 105.

(79). Pat. Rolls, 15 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 29.

(80). *Ibid.*, m. 14.

(81). *Ibid.*, m. 12.

(82). Reyner. Append., p. 107.

(83). MS. Harl. 6965, p. 193.

On the 15th of September, 1349, Abbat Richard de Got-hurst was called from the scene of his earthly labours. Licence of electing a successor was granted to the prior and convent, dated at Westminster, the 23rd of September, 1349.⁸⁴

The monks elected their prior, John Stoure, whose name also has been lately before us. On his election he commenced his journey to the king, who was then beyond sea, for the purpose of obtaining the royal assent. He died in the way, but under what circumstances we are not informed. Edward was at that time in the midst of his French campaigns, and the newly-elect had to encounter the varied contrasts to his quiet and secluded home which an invaded country would necessarily present. His death must have occurred before the 10th of October, for on that day a licence was granted for a new election, dated at Westminster, and addressed to the sub-prior and convent of Athelnyngnye.⁸⁵ The choice now fell on Robert de Hacche, a monk of the house. The royal assent was given to his election, dated at Westminster, the 22nd of October,⁸⁶ and the restitution of the temporalities was ordered by an instrument dated at Westminster the 5th of November, 1349.⁸⁷

Among the Additional MSS. in the British Museum, is preserved a very valuable document connected with this election.⁸⁸ It is an "Extent" or valuation of the temporalities of the abbey, taken, in accordance with constant usage, on the death of the late abbat. The property consists of Sutton, Lenge, Iltone, and Hurdecote, in the county of Somerset, and of Pourscaundel, in the county of Dorset. The record will give us a complete insight into the exact state and value of the possessions of the abbey in the middle of the fourteenth century.

(84). Pat. Rolls, 23 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 6.

(85). Pat. Rolls, 23 Edw. III, p. 3, m. 33.

(86). Pat. Rolls, 23 Edw. III, p. 3, m. 25.

(87). *Ibid.*, m. 19.

(88). Add. MSS. 6165, pp. 13, 14, 15, 16.

1. *Sutton*.—The return was made before Thomas Cary, the king's eschaetor, on the 17th of September, 1349, and the jurors were William Trete, Thomas Harecoumbe, John Mapoudre, John atte Oke, Walter Cothyng, Hugh Love, and Robert le Newman. They reported that there were here divers buildings which were of no yearly value beyond reprises. Also one dovecot, worth 2*s.* a year, also one garden, with its produce, when any, worth 12*d.* a year, herbage of the same worth 12*d.* That year, however, there was no produce. Also one water-mill, worth besides reprises, 2*s.*, and not more, for in summer it could not be worked from lack of water. Also one wind-mill, worth, per annum, 3*s.* 4*d.*; also one hundred acres of arable land, whereof two parts could be in cultivation every year, and then worth 36*s.* 6*d.*, at the rate of 6*d.* an acre, and the third part lying in common and fallow, and so of no value. Also twenty acres of meadow, enclosed from the feast of the Purification to that of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and worth 30*s.*, at the rate of 18*d.* an acre. Also twelve acres of pasture worth 6*s.* a year. Also assessed rents, payable in equal portions at Michaelmas, Christmas, Easter, and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, £4. Pleas and perquisites of the courts, worth 40*d.* a year. Sum total of the value of Sutton, £8 23*d.*

2. *Lenge*.—Return made before the same eschaetor, and on the day and year aforesaid. Jurors, Nicholas Aylward, John Joyote, William Frend, Edward le Tayllour, Richard Toky, and Simon Louyere. The report sets forth that there are there certain buildings of no value beyond reprises. Also one garden, the produce, when any, worth 12*d.* per annum, herbage of the same, worth 12*d.*, also two mills worth 10*s.* a year. Also four score acres of arable land, two parts of which could be sown every year, and then worth 24*s.*, at the rate of 6*d.* an acre, the third part in common and fallow, and so of no value. Also twenty acres of meadow, enclosed from the feast of the Purification to the carrying of the crop, worth 25*s.*, at the

rate of 15*d.* an acre. Assessed rents payable as aforesaid, 70*s.*, also eight acres of pasture, worth 4*s.* a year. Also from the lord's larder at the feast of St. Martin, 12*d.* Also one fair on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, worth 12*d.* Pleas and perquisites of the courts worth 2*s.* a year. Sum total, £6 19*s.*

3. *Ilton*.—Returns made before the same escheator, and on the same day and year. Jurors, John Bygge, Richard Bygge, John Palmere, Thomas Achewy, William Sawyere, John Cauntiloo, and others. They report that there are there certain buildings of no yearly value beyond their repair. Also one garden, the fruit, when any, worth 12*d.* a year, and the herbage of the same worth 12*d.* Also twenty acres of wood, in which there is no underwood, but the herbage of the same worth 4*s.* Also seventy acres of arable land, whereof two parts may be sown every year, and then are worth 35*s.*, at the rate of 6*d.* per acre, the third part in common and fallow and of no value. Also eighteen acres of meadow, worth 28*s.* a year, and not more, because the land is in common after the hay is carried. Also eight acres of pasture, worth 4*s.* Also assessed rents, payable as aforesaid, 53*s.* 4*d.* Also pleas and perquisites of the court, worth 20*d.* a year; sum total, 108*s.*

4. *Hurdecote*.—Returns made before the same eschaetor, the 20th September. Jurors, John Spye, Nicholas Gibbe, Peter le Whyte, Walter Toby, William Roger, Thomas Hanel, and others. They report that there are there also certain buildings of no value beyond their repair. Also one garden, the fruit, when any, worth 12*d.* a year, the herbage, 12*d.* Also fifty-five acres of arable land, whereof two parts may be sown every year and then worth 27*s.* 6*d.* a year, at the rate of 6*d.* an acre. Also seven acres of meadow, worth 7*s.* a year. Also four acres of pasture, worth 2*s.* a year. Also assessed rents, payable as aforesaid, 32*s.* Also pleas and perquisites of the court, worth 12*d.* a year. Sum total, 71*s.* 6*d.*

5. *Pourscaundel*.—Returns made before the same eschaetor and on the same day as the last. Jurors, John —, William atte More, William Clifford, John Slape, Richard Russell, Walter atte Mulle, and others. They report that there are there certain buildings of no yearly value beyond reprises. Also thirty acres of arable land, whereof half may be sown and then worth 10s., at the rate of 4*d.* an acre⁸⁹; and the third part in common and fallow and so of no value. Also five acres of meadow enclosed from the feast of the Purification to the carrying of the hay, worth 5*s.* a year. Also six acres of pasture, worth 3*s.* a year, at the rate of 6*d.* an acre. Also assessed rents of the free tenants there, payable as aforesaid, 8*s.* Pleas of the courts there, none. Sum total, 26*s.*⁹⁰

The total temporalities of the abbey, therefore, in the year 1349, would appear to amount to the annual value of £25 6*s.* 5*d.*

The church of Long Sutton had another vicar in 1362. On the 30th March in that year, Walter de Cory was presented to that vicarage by Robert Hacche, abbat, and convent.⁹¹

On the 10th of July, 1363, a writ, dated at Westminster, was issued to John de Bekynton, the king's eschaetor, as to whether it would be to the king's damage if John Bays, John Irissh and John Troubrug, the vicar of North Cory, were to give one messuage, fifty acres of arable, and three acres of meadow, with their appurtenances in Lange-Sutton, to the abbat and convent of Athelneye for finding a wax taper burning every day during mass before the high altar of the abbey church in behalf of the soul of John Sloo, and of his ancestors, and of all the faithful departed. The inquest, accordingly, was taken at Somerton, on the 24th of July, 1363, and the verdict was favourable. The lands were reported as held by a rent of 2*s.* a year, and suit twice a year at the abbat's court in Lange-sutton for all services. It is further stated that the said

(89). There is some confusion here.

(90). Add. MSS. 6165, pp. 13, 14, 15, 16.

(91). MS. Harl. 6964, p. 146.

abbat held them of the king in chief by military service, that they were worth in all issues 8*s.* 6*d.*, besides the rent already mentioned, and that there were no other mesne men between the king and the aforesaid.⁹²

In the beginning of the following year another writ was addressed to the same eschaetor, as to whether it would be to the king's damage if Walter de Clopton and Henry Hacche were to give one messuage and the moiety of one carucate of land, with their appurtenances in Northpetherton to the abbat and convent; and also if the said Walter and Henry should allow one messuage and the moiety of one carucate of land with its appurtenances in the same vill, of which they had the reversion after the decease of one Margaret Clanyll, should revert after such decease to the abbat and convent for finding a certain chaplain beyond the number of the canons in the abbey, to pray for the health of Walter and Henry during their life, and after their decease, for their souls and those of all the faithful departed. This was dated at Westminster, the 21st of January, 1364-5. The inquest was held at Brugge-water on the 3rd of February following, Roger Sydenham, John Gonecorps, Nicholas Elworthy, Robert Stilard, William Mustard, John Peeche, Thomas Coglode, John Duce, John Andreseye, John Wedge, Walter Bereford, and Peter Grobham, being jurors. The verdict was favourable. The land was held of John de Erlegh, by knight service, and he of the king in chief. The value was 20*s.*, and there were no other mesne men beside the aforesaid.⁹³ The letters patent completing this transaction are dated at Westminster, the 26th of January, 1365-6.⁹⁴

In the Somerset assize, held at Yvelcester, before William de Wychyngham and Edmund de Chelrege, justices, on Monday next after the feast of St. Gregory, pope, in the forty-first

(92). Inq. ad q. d., 39 Edw. III, n. 16.

(93). Inq. ad q. d., 39 Edw. III, n. 17-

(94). Pat. Rolls, 40 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 44.

year of Edward III, which is coincident with the 15th of March, 1367, an issue was tried between Robert, Abbat of Athelneye, William Waryn, monk of the same house, Thomas Baillyf, of Lange-sutton, and Thomas le Hayward and Robert Rede, of the same, on the one side, and Robert and John Longh, on the other, as to whether the former had unjustly disseised the latter of common of pasture in Lange-sutton, pertaining to a free tenement of theirs in the same vill. The land referred to amounted to one hundred acres of arable land, and one hundred and twenty acres of pasture. The jury held that with reference to their common in the arable land Robert and John were seised of the same time out of mind, and that they had not been disseised as they complained; that with reference to the common in the hundred acres of pasture they were also seised; that the abbat and the others with him by taking and impounding certain oxen, had unjustly disseised the said Robert and John; that with reference to their common in the aforesaid twenty acres of pasture the said Robert and John were seised, but that the said abbot had enclosed the land with a ditch so that access was denied to the complainants and that they were thus unjustly disseised. And they assessed their damage to the amount of 40s. It was decided that Robert and John should recover their seisin in the aforesaid hundred and twenty four acres, and their damages. The abbat and his party satisfied the aforesaid Robert and John Longh. He and his fellow monk paid a fine of 10s., and each of the others, Thomas Baillyf, Thomas le Hayward and Robert Rede, a fine of 2s. by the pledging of Walter de Cloptun, Mathew de Clyvedon and Richard Brit.⁹⁵

More than three years elapsed before there was an addition to the abbey revenues. A writ was then addressed to the king's eschaetor, William Cheyne, as to whether it would be to the king's damage if Richard Sydenham, John Hayt, clerk, and John Stanwygg, chaplain, were to give and assign one

(95). *Vide Pat. Rolls*, 30 Henry VI, p. 1, m. 19.

toft, fifty-four acres of arable land, eight acres of meadow, three acres of pasture, and two acres of wood, together with four pence of rent, with appurtenances, in Ilton to the abbat and convent of Athelyngneye, for the finding of a lamp continually burning for ever before the crucifix in the abbey church. The writ was dated at Westminster, the 26th of June, 1370. The inquest in consequence was held at Ilmynstre, on the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Margaret, the 23rd of July, 1370; and the jurors, who were Adam Swyft, William Hucker, William Moure, Richard Couk, William Walrond, William Dounham, William Sherp, Robert Harg, Thomas Deme, Laurence Wyly, Robert Davy and Thomas Ansty, returned a favourable verdict. The property was held of the king in chief by knight service, and was worth in all issues 13s. 4d., exclusive of the aforesaid rent. There were no more mesne men between the king and the aforesaid.⁹⁶ The king's letters patent, granting the licence, are dated at Claryndon, the 26th of the same month.⁹⁷

Early in the following year, another writ was similarly addressed to the same officer, as to whether it would or would not be to the king's damage if John Bays, John Stanwygg, chaplain, John Irysh, chaplain, and Henry Chynnock, chaplain, were to give and assign to the abbat and convent of Athelnye, one messuage, two curtilages, one toft, fifty-four acres of arable land, seven acres of meadow, and one acre of pasture with appurtenances, in Lange-sutton, for the finding of two wax-tapers for ever, in the church of the said abbey, every day burning before the high altar at high mass. The writ was dated at Westminster, the 1st of February, 1370-1. The inquest was held at Ivell, on the 6th of June, and together with a favourable verdict the jurors reported that the lands were held by knight service, at a rent to the abbey of 2s. a year for all service; and that the abbey held them of the king

(96). Inq. p.m , 44 Edw. III, 2nd nos. n. 31.

(97). Pat. Rolls, 44 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 8.

in pure and perpetual alms; that they were worth 11s. a year, exclusive of the rent, and that there were no more mesne men between the king and the four aforesaid.⁹⁸ The letters-patent for legalising this donation were obtained at a fine of one hundred shillings from abbat and convent, and are dated at Westminster the 4th of November, 1372.⁹⁹

We learn subsequently that a property was given during the same year, situated at Littelmere, which was the subject of legal proceedings in the year 1382. The details of these proceedings will shortly be before us, and to these I refer the reader for the particulars of the gift.

This indeed was the age of donations to the abbey, and although the individual benefactions were usually small, the aggregate amounted to a considerable income. On the 26th of June, 1374, a writ was addressed to Adam atte More, the king's eschaetor, with the usual enquiries as to whether, without harm to the king, John Hayt, clerk, and Henry Hacche, clerk, might give and assign two acres of meadow with appurtenances in Lange-sutton, to the abbat and convent of Athelney, to find a certain wax taper daily before the high altar in the abbey church, burning at high mass. An inquest was held at Ivelchester, on the Monday after the feast of St. (*sic.* MS.) The land was held of the aforesaid abbat as of his manor of Lange-sutton, by knight service, and he of the king in chief, also by knight service, and was worth 3s. a year in all issues.¹⁰⁰ After a fine from the abbat and convent of thirteen shillings and four pence, the king's letters patent were issued, dated at Westminster, the 16th of August, 1374.¹⁰¹

On the 22nd of February, 1378, there was an election of a Dean of Wells, at which was present Robert, abbat of Athelney and prebendary of Sutton.¹⁰²

(98). Inq. ad q. d., 45 Edw. III, n. 4.

(99). Pat. Rolls, 46 Edw. III, p. 2, m. 13.

(100). Inq. p.m., 48 Edw. III, 2nd. nos., n. 4.

(101). Pat. Rolls, 48 Edw. III, p. 1, m. 3.

(102). MS. Harl. 6968, pp. 140, 141.

It appears that John Hayt and Henry Hacche had subsequently made another gift of the land just mentioned to the abbat and convent, dated the 6th of May, 1376. The royal licence had not been obtained for this procedure, and the king's eschaetor had interfered and appropriated the gift. It was represented, however, that the property was the same which had been previously granted according to law. A writ was therefore issued, to William Style, the eschaetor, commanding that if the two acres aforesaid were the same as the other two acres, they should be released, and that the abbot and convent should be put in possession. The writ, which was privately addressed to the eschaetor, was dated at Westminster, the 8th of February, 1379-80.¹⁰³

A year after this, letters patent were granted for a fine of eleven marcs, authorising Henry Hacche to give two messuages, fifty-four acres of arable land and nine acres of meadow, with appurtenances in Lange-sutton, of which he possessed the reversion after the decease of Walter Clopton, to the abbat and convent, to find a lamp before the high altar in the abbey church of St. Saviour of Athelnye, there in honour of the body of Christ, constantly burning for ever. The letters were dated at Westminster, the 10th of February, 1381-2.¹⁰⁴

The same year a writ was addressed to John Rodeston, the eschaetor, as to whether John de Beauchamp, of Lillison, Matthew de Clyvedon, and Elias Spelly, might give two-hundred-and-twenty acres of pasture in their moor, called the Saltmore, in their manor of Stathe, to the abbat and convent, to be by them and their successors held and enclosed, in exchange for common of pasture, which the said abbat and convent had with all and singular, their beasts and cattle, in the same moor, to be surrendered and all claims renounced by the said abbat and convent to the said John, Matthew, and Elias. The writ was dated at Westminster, the 24th of June,

(103). Rot. Claus., 3 Richard II, m. 11.

(104). Pat. Rolls, 5 Richard II, p. 2, m. 31.

1382. The inquest was held at Bruggewater, on the 28th of October following, and the jurors reported that the pasture to be assigned was worth 110s. a year, and that the common of pasture to be surrendered was worth 100s. in all issues, that John Dynham was mesne and none other; concluding, as usual, with the declaration that the donors had other property sufficient for the payment of all demands—in the present case, six-hundred acres of moor, in the same moor, parcel of the manor of Stath.¹⁰⁵ The letters patent are dated at Westminster, the 25th of April, 1383.¹⁰⁶

Before the end of the year a writ of certiorari was addressed to the barons of the Exchequer, touching the possession by the abbat and convent of a certain pasture, called Littelmor, of thirty-four acres, with appurtenances in Langsutton of the value of 66s. 8d. The royal licence had not been obtained, and the land was in the king's hands. The rolls of the period, the forty-sixth year of Edward III, were to be examined and their tenor to be reported. The writ was dated at Westminster, the 1st of December, 1382. On examination of the roll it was found that a return had been made of 31s. 4d. of issues of such a pasture, which was of the yearly value of 66s. 8d., and that the abbat and convent had become possessed of the same, ten years before the date of the present report, from Elizabeth, widow of Ralph de Middelney, John Corbyn, and Richard Hare.¹⁰⁷ On the 4th of the same month of December, letters patent were issued conveying the royal pardon for various informalities connected with the acquisition of the property. This document is well worthy of abstraction. It is stated that the lands aforesaid had been obtained without the royal licence, and that the eschaetor had accordingly taken them into the king's hands: that subsequently the abbot had asserted that he and very many of his predecessors had

(105). Inq. p.m., 6 Richard II, n. 156.

(106). Pat. Rolls, 6 Richard II, p. 3, m. 16.

(107). Inq. p.m., 7 Richard II, n. 157.

been seised in their domains of the fee as of the right of their church from time out of mind, of the aforesaid pasture as a parcel of their manor of Langsutton, held by them from the abbey's foundation: that in regard of eight of the aforesaid thirty-four acres they were the same, as had been the several of Elizabeth, lady of the manor of Knolle, from the feast of the Purification to the Gule or 1st of August, in other words, to the cutting and carrying of the hay, without other profit, and that the abbat and convent had had the profit of the same to Michaelmas, and from Michaelmas to the feast of the Purification: that the aforesaid Elizabeth had common of pasture in the said eight acres and also in the whole of the remainder of the pasture aforesaid in Littelmore, with eight oxen and one boar, which common of pasture was an appurtenance of the manor of Knolle aforesaid: that the abbat and convent were in the habit of taking in and feeding their own beasts and those of others, and of deriving the profits during the same time: that the said Elizabeth had released and given up all claims to all her aforesaid profit to the abbat and his successors, namely the crops of the meadow worth 10*s.* a year, and the pasture for eight oxen and one boar worth 12*d.* a year: that the other two acres of the said pasture are meadow, in which John Hait, clerk, and Henry Hacche have a similar profit for the time aforesaid: that the abbat and convent had this profit for one year, by the grant of the said John and Henry, before the moor was taken into the king's royal grandfather's hands: that it had been considered accordingly that the aforesaid eight acres should remain in the hand of the king, and that all the profits aforesaid should be accounted for by the abbat and convent: that the aforesaid two acres should similarly remain in the king's hands and be similarly accounted for; and that the remainder of the pasture, to wit, the twenty-four acres, should be removed from the king's hands, according to the tenor of the record aforesaid. The letters after conveying the pardon for the informal transfer,

restore, give, and assign to the abbat and convent, the aforesaid ten acres of meadow, and the said pasture for eight oxen and one boar, to be held of the lords of the fee by the same services as they were before they came into the king's hands. The fine was one hundred shillings, and the letters were dated at Westminster, the 4th of December, 1382.¹⁰⁸

Abbat Robert de Hacche died in the beginning of October, 1390. On the 7th of October, the king's licence was granted to elect a successor. John Hywyssh the prior was elected, and obtained the royal assent on the 18th of October, 1390. The temporalities were restored on the 2nd of November following. As a specimen of the instrument used on these occasions, my reader may be glad if I furnish him with the following in literal translation :

“Licence of electing. The king to his beloved in Christ, the Prior and Convent of Athelneye, health. A humble petition has been offered to us on your part, that whereas your aforesaid church by the decease of Robert of blessed memory, abbat of that place, is deprived of the comfort of a pastor, we would be pleased to grant to you licence to choose another for abbat and pastor.—We, being favourably inclined to your prayers in this behalf, have thought fit to grant to you that licence, commanding you to choose for yourself such a one for your abbat and pastor who may be devoted to God, necessary to your church, and useful and faithful to us and to our kingdom. In testimony whereof, etc. Witness the king, at Westminster, the 7th day of October.¹⁰⁹

“Royal assent. The king to the venerable father in Christ R[alph Ergum], by the same grace Bishop of Bath and Wells, health. Know ye that to the election lately made in the conventual church of Adelneya, of John Hywyssh, prior of the same church, to be abbat of that place, we have added our

(108). Pat. Rolls, 6 Richard II, p. 3, m. 14.

[From the words of *pasture in the said eight acres* to this date is scored through with pencil in the MS.]

(109). Pat. Rolls, 14 Richard II, p. i, m. 20.

royal assent and favour, And this we signify to you by the tenor of these presents, that you fulfil what is yours in this behalf. In testimony whereof, etc. Witness the king at Westminster the 18th day of October."¹¹⁰

“Restitution of temporalities. The king to his beloved Edward Bokelond, his eschaetor in the counties of Somerset and Dorset, health. Whereas the venerable father R., Bishop of Bath and Wells, hath confirmed the election lately made in the conventual church of Athelney, of our beloved in Christ John Hewysssh, monk of the same House, to be abbat of that place, to whom we have before given our royal assent and favour, as by these letters patent of the said bishop directed to us from thence, assure us,—We, accepting that confirmation, have taken the fealty of the said clerk, and restore to the same the temporalities of the said abbey according to custom. And so we command you, that you deliver to the said clerk the aforesaid temporalities with their appurtenances in your bailiwick in the form aforesaid. Saving our right, etc. Witness the king at Westminster, the second day of November. And it is commanded to the knights, fræemen, and all other tenants of the aforesaid abbacy, that they be obedient and accountant to the said clerk as to their abbat and lord in all things that pertain to the abbacy aforesaid. In testimony whereof, etc. Witness, as above.”¹¹¹

On the 4th of August, 1391,¹¹² Brother John Huwysch, Abbat of Athelney and Prebendary of Long-sutton, took the oath in the chapter house of Wells to observe the statutes of that church.¹¹³

On the 6th of February, 1396-7, a writ was addressed to Thomas Cammel, the king's eschaetor, with the usual questions as to whether the Abbat of Glastonbury might give

(110). Pat. Rolls, 14 Richard II, p. i, m. 17.

(111). Pat. Rolls, 14 Richard II, p. 1, m. 13.

(112). From “On the 4th of August” to the words “valuation of the property” is scored with pencil.

(113). MS. Harl. 6968, p. 148.

twenty-four acres of arable land and four acres of meadow with appurtenances, in Lange-sutton, to the abbat and convent of Athelney, in pure and perpetual alms. The writ was dated at Westminster on the day aforesaid. The inquest was held at Yewelchester, on Monday, the 10th of September, in the same year, and the jurors, John Lilleshull, John Walton, Thomas Ponton, John Burey, John Lernwyt, Robert Coker, John Notyere, Nicholas Felpus, John Boreford, John Bonde, Adam Stere, and William Grey, reported that the Abbat of Athelney held the lands aforesaid, as of his manor of Langesutton by knight service, that they were worth in all issues besides reprises, 10s. a year, that the Abbat of Athelney held the said manor in chief of Elizabeth Julers, Countess of Kent, as of her manor of Somerton, and the said Elizabeth of the king-in-chief, and that the aforesaid Abbat of Athelney and the said Elizabeth were the mesnes between the king and the Abbat of Glastonbury.¹¹⁴

In an inquest taken on the 23rd of July, 1397, after the decease of William de Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, who died on the third of June, 1397, in obedience to a precept dated at Westminster, the 8th of June, 1397, among the fees pertaining to his manor of Shipton Mountagu, mention is made of the eighth part of one knight's fee in Hoggeshole, as held by the Abbat of Athelney, and worth 12s. 6d. a year.¹¹⁵

Two years after this, Athelney lost her abbat. John Hywyssh died on the 11th of June, 1399. The licence to elect a successor was dated (witness, Edward, Duke of York, protector), at Westminster, the 16th of that month.¹¹⁶ The royal assent was given to the election, in the conventual church of S. Athelwyn of Athelney, of Brother John Brygge, prior of the house, on the 24th of June,¹¹⁷ and the restoration of the tem-

(114). Annexed to Inq. ad q. d., 1 Hen. IV, n. 31.

(115). Inq. p.m., 20 Richard II, n. 35, t. 6a.

(116). Pat. Rolls, 22 Richard II, p. 3, m. 5.

(117). Pat. Rolls, 23 Richard II, m. 7.

poralities was dated, Witness the lord keeper, at S. Albans, on the 10th of July.¹¹⁸

We have another important document of the present period in the shape of the valuation of the property upon the death of the late abbat. It is very similar to that with which I have already made the reader acquainted, and taken exactly fifty years before. I need not, therefore, give it in detail, but merely furnish the additions and the few other points of variation which it presents.

It was taken at Bruggewater, before Thomas Bathe, the king's eschaetor, on the 10th of August, 1399. The jurors were William Thorner [or Thomer], Robert Leigh, John Mucheldene, Richard de la Mare, Richard Wely, Ralph Barwe, John Bokelond, Richard Mauncell, John Broke, — Okerford, John Magot, and John Mareden.

In the returns for Sutton, two or three of the items must be noticed. The garden must have been but an indifferent one, for in the year of the latter valuation also there was no produce. The arable was worth, when in cultivation, 33*s.* 4*d.*, but 36*s.* 6*d.* in the former. The twenty acres of meadow were worth 12*d.* an acre, although they figured in the previous return as worth 18*d.* an acre.

In the return for Lenge, the garden had deteriorated. It had been worth 12*d.*, and its herbage of the same value. It was now worth 4*d.*, and its herbage 6*d.* The mills formerly worth 10*s.* were now worth 8*s.* The twenty acres of meadow worth before 25*s.*, now worth 20*s.*

In the return for Hurdecote, the garden, whose fruit was worth 12*d.*, is now estimated at 3*d.*, and its herbage, formerly worth 12*d.*, is now worth 4*d.*

In the return for Ilton, the garden, which had been worth 12*d.*, and its herbage 12*d.*, is now worth 8*d.*, and its herbage 8*d.* The herbage of the wood formerly valued at 4*s.*, is now worth 20*d.* The meadow land, of fourteen acres, is worth 18*s.*

(118). Pat. Rolls, 23 Richard II, m. 7.

The estate of Purscandel is not included in this extent, but instead of it we have an interesting and valuable addition in a return for Chaveslesheigh (Claveshey). Here is said to be one carucate containing one hundred acres of land, held of Thomas Beaupeny, as of his manor of North Petherton. This land can be sown one year, and afterwards cannot be sown for ten years, on account of the poverty of the soil. In the year of its cultivation it is worth 16*s.* 8*d.*, at the rate of 2*d.* an acre. Every year that it is not sown the pasture on it is worth 8*s.* 4*d.*, at the rate of 1*d.* an acre.¹¹⁹

In the middle of the following year, another writ was addressed to the eschaetor with reference to the land in Lange-sutton, proposed to be given to the abbat and convent by the Abbat of Glastonbury. The answer thereunto annexed I have already given. The writ was dated at Westminster, the second of July, 1400.¹²⁰

On the 26th of May, 1410, Richard Courtenay, Canon of Wells, was elected dean of that church. The Abbat of Athel-negh and his brother of Muchelney were summoned to the election. They did not, however, appear and were pronounced contumacious.¹²¹

On the 18th of November, 1415, a convocation of the clergy was held in the church of St. Paul, in London. Among the chief dignitaries of Somerset, cited to attend it, was John [Brygge], Abbat of Athelney.¹²²

This was the last act that I can record of this abbot. He died early in November, 1424. The licence to elect a successor to him, conveyed in exactly the same terms as those already given, was dated at Westminster, the 13th of November.¹²³ The royal assent was given at Westminster, on the 28th of the same month, to brother John Petherton, monk of

(119). Add. MS. 6165, pp. 117, 118.

(120). Inq. ad q. d., 1 Hen. IV, n. 31.

(121). MS. Harl. 6966, pp. 29, 30.

(122). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 21.

(123). Pat. Rolls, 3 Hen. VI, p. 1, m. 17.

the house,¹²⁴ and the restoration of the temporalities at Westminster, the 10th of December, 1424.¹²⁵

On the (*sic.* MS.), 1430, letters patent were issued for the repayment of a series of loans. Among them are those of twenty marcs to the Abbat of Michelney, of forty pounds to the Dean of Wells, of ten marcs to the men of Wells, of fifteen pounds to the men of Taunton, of twenty marcs to the men of Bath, and of twenty pounds to the Abbat of Athelney.¹²⁶

The following year brought a fresh accession of property. Richard Kemp, of Langesutton, released and surrendered to the abbat and convent all claims present and future in respect of all lands, tenements, services, and reversions with all appurtenances in Langesutton, called Litellode, and common of pasture for eight oxen and one mare with foal in a close belonging to the same abbot and convent, called Rademore, in Langesutton aforesaid. To this were annexed the usual declarations of warranty and acquittance, and the apposition of his seal. Inasmuch, however, as his seal was not generally known, he procured the seals of John Warr, esquire, and of John Beauchamp, of Lillesdon, Esquire, then present to be added in attestation of the genuine nature of the gift. The witnesses present were Henry Sherard, Thomas Micheldever, John Maunsell, William Note, John Irloud, and others. The instrument was dated at Athelney, the 30th of May, 1431. The donor attended the chancery at Westminster, and admitted the aforesaid and all things contained in the same, on the 10th of November, 1437.¹²⁷

John Pederton, Abbat of Athelney, was summoned to the council of Ferrara, in April, 1438.¹²⁸

On the 26th August, 1446, the same abbat was present in

(124). Pat. Rolls, 3 Hen. VI, p. 1, m. 16.

(125). Pat. Rolls, 3 Hen. VI, p. 1, m. 12.

(126). Pat. Rolls, 8 Hen. VI, p. 2, m. 18.

(127). Claus., 16 Hen. VI, m. 15, dors.

(128). MS. Harl. 6966, pp. 49, 50.

person at Wells, on the election of a dean of that church.¹²⁹

An exemplification of the legal procedure connected with certain common of pasture in Langesutton in the forty-first year of King Edward III, an account of which will be found under that date, was made at the request of Abbat John Pederton, at Westminster, on the 29th of November, 1451.¹³⁰ The exemplification is a copy of letter patent previously granted, in order to be used for pleadings, and which is held to be as effectual for that purpose as the original from which it is taken.

Abbat John Pederton was gathered to his fathers on the 10th of February, 1457-8.¹³¹ He had governed his house for the long space of thirty-four years. On the 15th of the same month the licence for election was issued.¹³² Brother Robert Hylle, monk of the same house of St. Saviour of Athelney, was chosen on the 27th,¹³³ received the royal assent on the 4th,¹³⁴ was confirmed abbat on the 11th,¹³⁵ and had the temporalities restored to him on the 14th of the following month of March.¹³⁶ At his election nine monks were present and two were absent.^{136*}

On the 19th of June, 1462, licence was granted by the Bishop of Bath and Wells to Abbat Robert Hille to have divine service celebrated in his oratory.¹³⁷ This would appear to have been attached to his lodgings, but whether the licence was granted on account of some repair or rebuilding of the church, or of some bodily infirmity of the abbat himself, we are without the means of deciding.

William Wytham, Dean of Wells, died on the 16th of July, 1472, and on the 18th of December his successor was elected.

- (129). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 117.
- (130). Pat. Rolls, 30 Hen. VI, p. 1 m. 19.
- (131). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 119.
- (132). Pat. Rolls, 36 Hen. VI, p. 2, m. 16.
- (133). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 119.
- (134). Pat. Rolls, *ibid.*
- (135). MS. Harl., *ibid.*
- (136). Pat. Rolls, *ibid.*
- (136*). Dr. Archer.
- (137). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 102.

Robert Hyll, Abbat of Athelney, did not attend this election, and with John Bracy, Abbat of Muchelney, his brother prebendary, who was similarly absent, was pronounced contumacious.¹³⁸

He also departed this life on the 10th of October, 1485, and on the 29th of the same month John George, prior of the house, was elected his successor.¹³⁹ Eleven monks were then in the house.¹⁴⁰

On the 2nd of March, 1497-8, John Dyer was appointed to the vicarage of Longsutton, void by death of John Pym, on the presentation of the abbat and convent.¹⁴¹

Abbat John George was cited to Wells, at the election of a dean on Christmas Day, 1498.¹⁴²

On the 17th of August, 1499, the feast of the dedication of the abbey church was changed from the 20th of December, the eve of St. Thomas the Apostle, on which day it had been dedicated in honour of our blessed Saviour, to the 30th of August, the feast of SS. Felix and Adanctus, martyrs.¹⁴³ This makes it not improbable that the licence was granted for using the abbat's oratory for the celebration of divine service on account of some extensive repairs to, if not the entire rebuilding of, the conventual church, the completion of which was commemorated by altering the festival of its dedication to the day on which it was again used for sacred employment.

These labours were among the last of Abbat George's rule. On the 23rd of May, 1502, he is mentioned as patron of the vicarage of Lenge,¹⁴⁴ and in less than a year afterwards he left his monastery to the hands of his successor. It would not appear that the house was at this time in a very creditable state, for on the 20th May, 1503, a commission was issued to examine

(138). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 143.

(139). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 144.

(140). *Dr. Archer.*

(141). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 152.

(142). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 175.

(143). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 156.

(144). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 163.

the state of the monastery, then vacant by the death of the late abbat.¹⁴⁵

He was probably a very aged man, and had been the head of his house for eighteen years.

In July, Athelney received another abbat in the person of John Wellyngton. He was confirmed in his office on the 27th of July, 1503,¹⁴⁶ and was installed personally in his prebend of Langsutton on the 8th of the following month.¹⁴⁷

On the 17th of April, 1506, John Fry was presented by the abbat and convent to the vicarage of Long-sutton, void by the death of John Dier.¹⁴⁸

The abbat and convent presented John Symmys to the vicarage of Lenge, void by the death of Richard Dale, on the 5th of December, 1508.¹⁴⁹

In December, 1509, Abbat John Wellyngton was cited to convocation with the other chief dignitaries in the diocese.¹⁵⁰

On the 12th of August, 1510, Robert Macreth was presented by the abbat and convent to the vicarage of Lynge, void by the resignation of John Symmys.¹⁵¹

The pension of 40s. a year from the rectory of Selworth to the abbat and convent, given by Sir Richard de Locumbe, patron of that church, which, as we have already seen, was confirmed by the good Bishop Savaricus, was paid on the 26th of June, 1512, by the rector of the said church. It appears to have gone into desuetude, but to have been amicably restored without a recourse to law for its recovery.¹⁵²

John Wellyngton, abbat, was summoned to convocation in June, 1514.¹⁵³

(145). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 167.

(146). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 174.

(147). MS. Harl. 6966, p. 42.

(148). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 5b.

(149). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 10.

(150). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 12.

(151). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 13.

(152). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 15b.

(153). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 19b.

He died at the end of the year 1516, for so early as the 7th of January, 1516-7, Richard Wraxall, his successor, was confirmed in his office, and by virtue thereof was inducted into his prebend of Sutton in the cathedral church of Wells.¹⁵⁴

John Androw was presented by the abbat and convent to the vicarage of Leng, on the death of Robert Makreth, on the 27th of September, 1519.¹⁵⁵ And on the 27th of August, 1521, John Mors was presented by the same to the vicarage of the prebendal church of Longsutton, on the death of John Fry.¹⁵⁶

On the 16th of December, 1525, William Majorensis Episcopus was presented to the vicarage of South Petherton, vacant by the death of Christopher Gunmaldun, by John Herte, Abbat of Athelney, and Richard Tomlyn, rector of Wryngton, patrons for that turn, by the concession of William, Abbat of Bruton, and his convent, to which that church was appropriated.¹⁵⁷

On the 28th of May, 1526, William Harte, possibly a brother of the abbat, was presented by the abbat and convent to the vicarage of Longsutton, void by the resignation of William Chamberlayne.¹⁵⁸

Abbat John Herte died soon after this occurrence, for on the 12th of March, 1527-8, Thomas Sutton, abbat, and convent of Atheney, granted to John Ambros, bachelor of music, an annuity of 53*s.* 4*d.*, issuing from their manor of Long Sutton, to be paid in equal portions at the four terms of the year. If not paid within fourteen days after the times appointed, the said John was empowered to enter and distrain on the aforesaid manor. This grant was allowed, with arrears from the dissolution, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 11th of November, 1540.¹⁵⁹

(154). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 24*b*.

(155). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 26*b*.

(156). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 29*b*.

(157). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 37*b*.

(158). MS. Harl. 6967, f. 38.

(159). Decrees, vol. viii, f. 61.

In the month of January, 1529-30, the same Abbat Thomas Sutton and convent gave to John Chappell and Katherine his wife a certain portion of bread and ale, and on the 11th of November following, to the same John and Katherine certain lands and tenements in Long Sutton, of the yearly value of £4.¹⁶⁰

The next year, Athelney received another superior in the person of John Maior. We have several orders granted by him and his convent to various individuals. On the 6th of September, 1531, they granted to John Horsey, of Clyston, in the county of Dorset, Esquire, for good counsel already given, and thereafter so to be, an annuity for life of 40s., issuing from their manor of Longesutton, to be paid at Michaelmas. After non-payment for a month he might enter and distrain. This also was allowed, with arrears from the dissolution, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 6th of November, 1539.¹⁶¹

On the 18th of December, 1531, the same John Maior, abbat, and convent, granted to Master William Englund, clerk, an annuity for life of £11 sterling, issuing out of their manor of Lenge, to be paid at Porlok at the four terms of the year, beginning from the Lady-day following. Non-payment empowered him to enter and distrain. Should they rescue or replevin for such distraint, they were to forfeit the sum of 100s. *totiens quotiens* by way of punishment. They put the aforesaid William into full possession and peaceful seisin of his annuity by the prepayment of 6s. 8d. This was allowed, with arrears, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 5th of May, 1543.¹⁶²

On the 10th of June, 1532, the same John Maior, abbat, and convent of Athengleye, gave to John Chappell and Katherine his wife, in recompense and satisfaction and for the surrender of the lands, tenements, bread and ale before mentioned, an annuity of 40s., issuing from their manors of Lenge and Atheng-

(160). Decrees, vol. vi, f. 104.

(161). Decrees, vol. vii, f. 164.

(162). Decrees, vol. xiv, f. 19.

leye, for the life of the survivor, to be paid at the usual four terms of the year. Non-payment to empower the grantees to enter and distrain. This was allowed, with arrears from the dissolution, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 18th of October, 1539.¹⁶³

On the 23rd of September, 1532, the same John Maior and convent gave, for certain causes specially moving them thereto, to Sir Thomas Crumwell, Lord Crumwell, an annuity of four marcs sterling, issuing from all their manors, messuages, lands, and tenements, payable at Lady Day and Michaelmas, to commence from the Michaelmas following. On non-payment the grantee might enter and distrain. Possession and seisin were given by the pre-payment of 12*d.* as part of the said annuity. This is clearly an instance of those compulsory payments which this insatiate robber and most of his unscrupulous agents exacted from the helpless victims whose entire destruction they were at the very time encompassing.

The grant was of course allowed with arrears from the Dissolution, together with similar extortions from thirty other religious houses, on the 23rd of September, 1532.¹⁶⁴

On the 1st of October, in the same year, John Maior, abbat, and convent granted to their beloved friends, Richard Philleppe and Thomas his eldest son, for good counsel, the office of chief steward of their manor of Caundele Purs, in the county of Dorset. Also an annuity of 26*s.* 8*d.* issuing from the afore-said manor, payable at Michaelmas, with entrance and distraint on non-payment. Seisin was given by payment of 4*d.* sterling. This, with arrears from the Dissolution, was ordered by the Court of Augmentation, on the 8th of June, 1540.¹⁶⁵

On the 13th of December, 1532, John Maior, abbat, and convent acknowledged themselves bound to John Newporte, merchant, in the sum of £40 sterling, to be paid to the said

(163). Decrees, vol. vi, f. 104.

(164). Decrees, vol. vi, f. 124*b.*

165). Decrees, vol. v, f. 223*b.*

John or his assigns at Michaelmas, 1534. The conclusion of the document is in the vulgar tongue, for the behoof of the unlearned, and sets forth that "The condicion of this obligacon is suche that if the above-bounden John Maior, abbott of the monastery of Athelney and his covent well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the abovenamed John Newporte m'chaunte or to his assignes sevyn and twenty poundes and sixe pence of good and lawfull money of Englund at the foresaid day abovenamed that then this obligacon to be void and of none effecte or els to stande in his full strength and vertue." The sum of £20 sterling in full recompense was allowed by the Court of Augmentation, on the 15th of November, 1540.¹⁶⁶

The reader will perceivē that we have now arrived at days when the clouds were rapidly gathering for the final storm. John Maior, whose last act I have just related, was happily spared the sight of the troubles that were close at hand, and the abbey received its last superior in the person of Robert Hamlyn, in 1533 (?). I have already in previous memoirs entered so fully into the successive steps of the movement against the religious houses, that nothing need now be added except the particulars immediately connected with the community on whose history we are specially employed. The first exercise known to me of the new abbat's office is his subscription to the Declaration of the Royal Supremacy. This was made in the ordinary form, and dated in the chapter-house of the monastery of St. Saviour of Adoney, on the 17th of September, 1534, and of the reign of the most invincible prince, Henry VIII, the twenty-sixth. The signatures are placed in four columns, at the foot of the document, and the magnificent seal in a mutilated condition is appended in the usual manner. The names of the community occupy the following order. In the first column are, Dom. Robert [Hamlyn], abbat, John Benett, John Laurens. In the second, Dom. Richard Welles, prior, Henry Ponyngs, John Stephyns. In the third, Dom.

(166). Decrees, vol. viii, f. 94.

Cuthbert Harvi, Robert Edgare, Richard Alffrede. In the fourth, John Athelwyn, Richard Athelstaun, Thomas Ansell, and Thomas Genynges.¹⁶⁷

On the 13th of the following January, 1534-5, Robert Hamlyn, abbat, and convent granted to John Catcott, by the king's special command, a delivery of one loaf of monastic bread, one flagon of conventual ale, one dish of the kitchen, and thirteen shillings and fourpence of lawful English money : the food every day in the year during life, except Monday in each week when the said John should enjoy it as one of the household ; the money at Michaelmas. The said John was to hold and enjoy this grant as fully and entirely as William Testede, and John Sanffurde had previously done. The said John was at liberty to carry away the aforesaid delivery out of the monastery whither soever he pleased, and to dispose of the same according to his will without molestation from any one. Of this indenture, which was legal proof of this arrangement, one part was to remain with the said John, and the other in the hands of the abbat and convent. The Court of Augmentation allowed £4 sterling per annum in recompense and satisfaction, with arrears from the Dissolution on the 8th of November, 1539.¹⁶⁸

At this time the value of the possessions of the religious houses was taken, which resulted in the returns called the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*. The total value of temporals and spirituals then belonging to the abbey is set down at £209 0s. 3¼*d.*, and the tenth of the same at £20 18s. 0½*d.*¹⁶⁹

On the 10th of April, 1536, the abbat wrote to Secretary Cromwell the following letter. It still exists among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, and gives us a sad and doubtless too true a picture of the pecuniary difficulties of the house. The abbat says :—

(167). Ex. Autograph in Off. Rec.

(168). Decrees, vol. vi, f. 90.

(169). Valor Eccl.

Honorabell & my Synguler good mast' my deuty co'syderyd I lowly have me co'mendyd vn to youre good masterschepe desyryng yow to be good mast' vn to me and to my poure howse, co's'nyng the payments of oure detts that I may be out of trobell & sutte of the lawe, & I am co'tentyd to leue as pourely as ony ma' schaldoo, of my degre, to the yntente that eu'y ma' may be the soner payd, worschypfull mast' deuise su' menys that thys my pettysyon may take effecte & I am co'tentyd to abyde youre order y' thys behalffe. I truste to order me and my howse aft' suche a strayte facyon that I schal make payme't of a hundret pounds ev'y yere. I have send youre masterschepe a bocke of the detts & yerely fyes that my poure howse ys chargyd w^t whyche ys very moche. I hartly desyre yow to take the paynes to ou' see hyt & to p' uide su' remedye & ye schal have our dayly p^ayers, as knowythe God who ev' have yow y' hys blessyd tuycon & send yow long lyffe. Wrytyn at Athelney the tenthe day of Abryle.

By youre poure bedysma' }
Robert abbot of Athelney. }

Yff I cowlde have a frynd that wolde lene me iiij or v hu'dret pounds wtout ony p'phete or lucoure, I wolde gladly bynde me and my howse for the repayme't of a hundret pounds yerely vntyll the full sume be payde asstrongly as yt may be deuysyd by the lawe. Yff I hade mony to make payme't I schulde have moche mony remytted to paye the rest out of hande.

[*Endorsed.* Ye state of Athelney Abbey xth day of Aprile l'res from the Abbot of Athelney.]

Thys be oure that folowyethe
Vn to the kynggs grace a hundret markes.
Vn to my lorde of glastonebury iiij schore & tenne pounds.
Vn to the abbot of donxwell iiij schore pounds.
Vn to Mast' sop' of Tanton xl li.
Vn to mast' phyllys of poule xxxij li.
Vn to the vycare of more xx li.
Vn to mast' Newport of brygewatt xxvij li.

- Vn to John browne of ufcombe xx li.
Vn to s' phylype Jordyn pryst xiiij li.
Vn to thomas mors of northe currye xlviiij li. xvjsē xd.
Vn to s' rycherde Warre knythe lx li.
Vn to John curle xxvij li.
Vn to one thurston mede vj li. xiijsē iiijd.
Vn to the church of ylton vj li. xiijsē iiijd.
Vn to s' John maior pryst vj li. xiijsē iiijd.
Vn to the church of curry ix li. & ode mony.
Vn to the church of thurloxton v li.
Vn to John chapel of glastonbury x li.
Vn to master anstrayge of brystow viij li. and ode mony.
Vn to walt' yongge xvj li.
Vn to wyll'am pyrsse vj li.
Vn to John cheke viij li.
Vn to Nych'us browne of tanton xlijsē.
Vn to Ric' mychyll v li. xiijsē iiijd.
Vn to Robert kene xlsē.
Vn to Jone payne xxxiijsē iiijd.
Vn to one yu'y vij li.
Vn to barnerde of tanton xlvjsē viijd.
Vn to one moddyslye xxijsē.
Vn to John goldyssmythe of Tanton lse.
Vn to Rogere bele xvjsē viijd.
Vn to Wyll'm collynggs xviijsē.
Vn to mast' smythe of brystow xxxvij li. vjsē jd.
Vn to the p'or of tanton x li.
Vn to the p'or of Saynt Joh'es of brygewatt' v li.
Vn to Wyll'm harte xxvjsē viijd.
Vn to John p'son viij li. and ode mony.
Vn to Wyll'm gredy vj li.
Vn to thomas alyn iij li. xiijsē iiijd.
Vn to Master gytson of london vj li. xiijsē iiijd.
Vn to s'gent thorneton ys exsecutours vij li.
Vn to one norma' xxxiijsē.

Vn to wyll'm brygge iij li.

Vn to oure vycare of wellys v li. vjse viijd.

Vn to one Vsman xvse.

Vn to snow of lamport iij li.

Vn to wyll'm pott xxse.

Vn to John p'son of sotton xlse.

Vn to mastres port' of som'ton xxse.

Vn to a furrer of tanton xxvjse viijd.

Vn to a sadeler of tanton liijse.

Vn to thomas howes xixse.

thes su'mys folowyng ys my detts that I borowyd at my fyrst comyng to athelney to paye my ordynary chargs wt all. of my lorde of tauystoke xl li.

of Ric' mayow tauystoke l li.

of s' wyll'm courtenay xx li.

of Mr. s'uyngton of tauystoke xiiij li vjse viijd.

of John wyll'ms of tauystoke v li.

Sum^a tot^l viij hundred iij schore & nine pounds xij schyllyngs vij pens.

thys folowewyng be the fyes & pe'cyons that oure howse ys yerely chargyd wt all

Vn to my lord dawbeny cheffe steward xlse.

Vn to my lord fyszwarryng xlse.

Vn to Mast' secretory liijse iiijd.

Vn to Mr. thomas clarke xlse.

Vn to s' John horsey xlse.

Vn to Mr. phylyppes of poule xxvjse viijd.

Vn to Mr. sop' of tanton audyter xlse.

Vn to Mr. cuffe under stewarde xlse.

Vn to John chapell of glastonbury xlse.

Vn to catecote for the kyngs corrody lse.

al thos ar grontyd by couent seele before reheryd.

Vn to s' John wadh^am knyghte xxse.

Vn to the schereue xlse.

Vn to the exchet', xvjse.

Vn to Mr. portema' xxvjs̄ viijd.

Vn to Mr. penny att'nay xiijs̄ iiijd.

Vn to oure vic' of wellys liijs̄ iiijd.

Vn to the vic' of long sutton xvjs̄ yn mony.

Vn to the vic' of leng yn mony by the yere xxxiijs̄ iiijd.

Vn to ambrose a syngyng ma' hathe by couent seale yerely—
liijs̄ iiijd. beyng at lyberte from the howse e chargyd
wt no s'uyse.

Sum^a xxxiiij li. ijs̄.

MS. Harl. 604, ff. 63, 63b, 64, 64b, al. 69, 69b, 70, 70b.

On the 6th of August, 1538, Robert Hamlyn, abbat, and convent granted to John [Tregonwell], Doctor of Laws, for good counsel already given and thereafter so to be, an annuity for life of 40s., issuing from their manor of Long-Sutton, to be paid at Michaelmas. If the money remained unpaid a month after that date, the grantee might enter and distrain. Here we have another instance of shameless exaction of which this John Tregonwell was notoriously guilty. It was allowed, however, by the Court of Augmentation, with arrears from the Dissolution, on the 11th of October, 1539.¹⁷⁰

On the 20th of the same month of August, Robert Hamlyn, abbat, and convent granted to Richard Mahowe, the younger, and Philip Mahowe, son of Richard Mahowe the elder, of Tavystoke, in the county of Devon, the office of Superior and Receiver General of all and singular their demesnes, manors, lands and tenements with their appurtenances in the counties of Somerset and Dorset, with full power and authority according to the custom of the manor. Also an annuity of £5 of lawful money issuing from their manor at Lenge, during the lifetime of the survivor to be paid in equal portions at Michaelmas and Lady-day. Non-payment for the space of one month after these dates empowered the grantees to enter and distrain. This was allowed, with arrears, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 24th of January, 1541-2.¹⁷¹

(170). Decrees, vol. vi, f. 199. MS. Harl. 701, f. 104b.

(171). Decrees, vol. xi, f. 7b.

On the 20th of September, 1538, Robert Hamlyn, abbat and convent, granted to Edmund Wynsore, for good service past and future, an annuity for life of 20*s.*, issuing from their manor of Lenge, to be paid at Michaelmas. After non-payment for a quarter of a year the said Edmund might enter and distrain. Allowed, with arrears, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 4th of February, 1540-1.¹⁷²

On the 10th of October following they granted to Alexander Popham, for good counsel past and future, an annuity for life of 26*s.* 8*d.* payable at Michaelmas: non-payment for two months was to empower the said Alexander to enter and distrain in their manor of Leng. Allowed, with arrears, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 7th of November, 1539.¹⁷³

On the 28th of the same month they gave to Edward Weston, for continuous good and faithful service, an annuity for life of four marcs, issuing from their manor of Lenge, payable at the four terms of the year in equal portions. On failure of payment the said Edward was at liberty to enter and distrain. They gave him seisin by payment of one silver penny. Allowed, with arrears, by the Court of Augmentation, on the 8th of June, 1540.¹⁷⁴

On the 1st November, 1538, they gave to William More, for good service, an annuity for life of 20*s.*, issuing¹⁷⁵ from their manor of Lenge, and payable at Michaelmas. On failure of payment, either in whole or in part, for a quarter of a year, the said William might enter and distrain. Allowed by the Court of Augmentation, with arrears, on the 20th of October, 1541.¹⁷⁶

Three days afterwards, the 4th of November, 1538, they gave to John Montague, gentleman, and Richard Awstyn, vicar of Northecory, the next presentation to the vicarage of the parish

(172). Decrees, vol. vii, f. 27*b.*

(173). Decrees, vol. vi, f. 207.

(174). Decrees, vol. v, f. 221*b.*

(175). From "from their manor" to "20th of October, 1541," is scored through with pencil.

(176). Decrees, vol. iii, f. 49.

church of Lenge, whensoever by death, resignation, cession, deprivation, exchange, or in any other way it should next be vacant, for one turn only. This was allowed by the Court of Augmentation, on the 2nd of July, 1539.¹⁷⁷

This was the last act that I can discover as done by the inmates of the abbey previous to the final outrage to which they were subjected. On the 8th of February, 1538-9,¹⁷⁸ they met in their chapter-house and surrendered their monastery into the hands of their imperial persecutor. The names of such of the brethren who signed the instrument appear in one column on the left margin, and were: Robert [Hamlyn] abbat, Richard Wells, prior, John Athelwyne, Henry Ambros, Robert Edgar, sub-prior, John Laurens and Thomas Genynges.¹⁷⁹ These, as it will be perceived, are less by six in number than those who signed the declaration of supremacy between four and five years before. "Here I must observe," says Stevens, "that this could not be so inconsiderable an abbey as to contain only so small a number of monks, wherefore it is reasonable to believe that a much greater number, abhorring so base an act as to consent to the destruction of their monastery and to accept the reward of their wickedness, were turned out to starve and perhaps worse used."¹⁸⁰ The pension awarded to the abbat was fifty pounds a year.¹⁸¹ Stevens's supposition certainly appears borne out by the fact that the sole pensionaries which appear in the list in Cardinal Pole's Pension Book, 1556, are Robert Hamlyn lii; Robert Edgar cs; Henry Poyninges cs; and Thomas Genynges liijs. iiijd.

To the instrument of surrender is appended a very perfect impression of the magnificent seal. It represents under three

(177). Decrees, vol. x, f. 245.

(178). MS. Lansd. 97, f. 3.

(179). Autograph in Off. Rec.

(180). Stevens's Abridgement, vol. i, p. 414.

[The real cause of the small number of monks was evidently the extreme poverty of the house and the amount of its debts.—Ed.]

(181). MS. Harl. 6974, f. 35b.

canopies, in divided compartments, our Saviour between S. Peter and S. Paul, at full length and in erect attitudes. Our Saviour bears on his left arm a mound or plot, surmounted by a staff with a cross. The two apostles are represented with their customary insignia, S. Peter with his keys, S. Paul with his sword. Shields of arms occupy the right and left sides of the saints. The legend reads—SIGILLUM COMMUNE ABBATIS ET CON MONASTERII DE ATHELNEY.

The property was again valued in preparation for its disposal, and in the Minister's accounts for the year 1539 we have an exact return of the state and value of every portion. The several charges on the estates appear to have been paid, as there are orders among the decrees of the Court of Augmentation for the liquidation of the claims of the Dean and Chapter of Wells for an annual rent of 28*s.* 8*d.*, issuing from the lands, etc., called Saltmore;¹⁸² and of the Archdeacon of Taunton for an annual payment of 8*s.* 8*d.*, for synodals out of the church of West leng.¹⁸³

We will now see what was done with the spoil.

On the 7th January, 1543-4, the king granted to John Leigh, esquire, in exchange for lands in Surrey, Kent, and Derby, and £326 2*s.* 6*d.* of lawful money, the manor of Linge, in the county of Somerset, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances, formerly belonging to the Abbey of Athelney. Also the capital messuage, with appurtenances, called The Corte, in the parish of Linge, in the tenure or occupation of John Curle, and the tithes of corn and grass arising therefrom. Also a wood or coppice, called Connyngath Coppes, containing by estimation six acres, in the same parish, and the wood called Walbarough Wood, of seven acres, also in the same parish, and each of them formerly belonging to the said Abbey of Athelney. Together with this was the manor of Esse (Ash), formerly be-

(182). Decrees, vol. iv, f. 9*b.*

(183). Decrees, vol. x, f. 354.

longing to the Priory of Taunton, with the rectory and church of the same, and Esse Woode, containing eighteen acres, also formerly belonging to the Priory of Taunton. Besides this there were lands in Somerset, belonging to the Priory of Wytham, and of St. John the Baptist of Briggewayter, the manor of Wyllyton, belonging to the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem; and in Dorsetshire, belonging to the Abbeys of Abbottesbury, Shirborne, and Cerne. The property belonging to Athelney was valued at £92 13s. 6½*d.*, not deducting tithe; and that belonging to Taunton at £23 6s. 5*d.*, not deducting tithe. It was to be held in chief of the king, at an annual rent for Linge of £9 5s. 4½*d.*, and for Esse of 46s. 7½*d.*, to be paid at Michaelmas. The grant was dated at Westminster, the day and year above mentioned.¹⁸⁴

On the 17th of August, 1544, the king granted to John Clayton, or Clutton, gentleman, for the sum of £182 15s., the site, sept, circuit, boundary, and precinct of the late Monastery of Athelney, with all its rights and appurtenances whatsoever, then or lately in the tenure or occupation of Sir John Tuchett, Lord Audley, and all and singular the houses, buildings, gardens, orchards, stables, dovecots, vineries, waters, etc., belonging thereunto. Also all and singular the lands, tenements, meadows, etc., in the parish of Ling, Seynt Michellborowe, and elsewhere in the county of Somerset, known or called by the name or names of The Island, Mille Meade, Longe Meade, Under the Orchard, Litell Meade, Langmeade, Clyvesmeade, and Brandesmeade, and two meadows, with appurtenances, in the eastern part of The Dreve, and one meadow called Brodemeade and one close by Brodemeade, two pastures in the north part of the Dreve, called Hyculer, one close in the western part of Hyculer, and one close of meadow in the western part of The Dreve aforesaid, two closes of pasture called Cosyners Lease, one close of meadow called Pypesmore, and two Willowebers, with their appurtenances. Also the other lands called The Demesne

(184). Orig., 35 Hen. VIII, p. 3, rot. 98.

Landes of the said monastery. All these were to be held as clearly, entirely, and amply as the late abbat had held them. They were estimated at the annual value of £10 2s. 6*d.*, without deducting tithe, and were to be held in chief by the service of the fortieth part of a knight's fee, and a yearly rent of 20s. 3*d.* of lawful money, to be paid at Michaelmas. The grant was to take effect from the Feast of the Annunciation last past. It was dated, witness Katherine Queen of England, and general ruler of the same, at Hampton Court, the 17th of August, 1544.¹⁸⁵

It would appear that this John Clayton obtained a licence to alienate the property to John Tynbere and his heirs in the following April.¹⁸⁶ There is some confusion in the exact dates, but it is certain that such a licence was obtained, though it would not appear to have been acted upon. The localities are identical with those mentioned in the grant just recited, with a few literal variations in the names. Thus, Cosyners Lease in the former is Clyverslease in this, and Pypesmore is Pypismore.

John Clayton was not permitted long to enjoy his perilous property. He died in the parish of St. Clement Danes outside Temple Bar, on the 2nd of November, in the same year. He had no lineal representative, and his brother David, of the city of Westminster, of the age of thirty-one years, his next heir, succeeded to the estate. In the order to the eschaetor to give him seizin, there are a few variations from the grant which conveyed the place to his predecessor. Longmeade is said to be by Clyvesmede, Brandesmeade is Braundesmead, Dreve is Dreave, Willowbers is Willowberes, and Seynt Michellborowe takes the more modern form of Seynt Michelles Borough. The value is stated at £9 2s. 3*d.* in all issues. The writ cost David Clayton half-a-marc, and was dated at Westminster the 16th of April, 1545.¹⁸⁷

(185) Orig., 36 Hen. VIII, p. 3, rot. 100.

(186) Orig., 36 Hen. VIII, p. 6, rot. 60.

(187) Orig., 36 Hen. VIII, p. 1, rot. 19.

The subsequent history of the property, into which it is not my province to enter, would only too well bear out the warning addressed by the good Archbishop Whitgift to Queen Elizabeth :—" I beg posterity to take notice of what is already made visible in many families, that church land added to an ancient inheritance hath proved like a moth fretting a garment and secretly consumed both ; or, like the eagle that stole a coal from the altar, and thereby consumed both her young ones and herself that stole it."

On the 13th of October, 1544, the king granted to William Porteman, sergeant-at-law, and Alexander Popham, esquire, and their heirs, for the sum of £754 17s. 8d., the manor, farm, and grange of Claveshey, with its appurtenances in the parishes of Northepetherton and Bromefelde, and the capital messuage, house, site, and capital mansion of Claveshey, formerly belonging to the abbey of Athelney. Also the wood commonly called Claveshey or Chalveshey Wood, containing by estimation ten acres, and the wood called Holesey Wood, containing by estimation five acres in Northepetherton aforesaid, and formerly belonging to the late monastery of Athelney. In addition to this were lands belonging to the Priories of Mynchin Buckland, Taunton, and St. John of Bridgwater, for an account of which the reader is referred to my histories of the two former Houses. The annual value of Claveshey was estimated at £9, and the annual rent to the king was fixed at 18s. The grant was dated at Westminster, and, as stated above, on the 13th of October, 1544.¹⁸⁸

On the 3rd of March, 1544-5, the king granted to Sir William Stourton, Lord Stourton, for the sum of £1403 16s. 0½d., the manor of Caundell Purs, with all its rights, etc., and in the county of Dorset, formerly belonging to the Abbey of Athelney, with woods called Abbottes Wod and Roughe Crofte Coppes, containing by estimation six acres, in the same manor, and formerly belonging to the same monastery. Other lands

(188). Orig., 36 Hen. VIII, p. 3, rot. 12.

belonging to various Houses in Dorsetshire accompanied the grant. The manor was valued at £8 10s. 9d. a year, and was to be held by the service of the twentieth part of one knight's fee, and a yearly rent of 17s. 1d. of lawful money, to be paid at Michaelmas. The grant was dated at Westminster, on the day and year aforesaid.¹⁸⁹

In the following year the king granted to Robert Thornhill, of Wakeryngham, in the county of Nottingham, esquire, and to Hugh Thornhill, gentleman, his brother, for the sum of £1399 18s., certain cottages, tenements, burgages, curtilages, shops, and gardens, in the burg called Michell Burough, in the county of Somerset, in the tenure and occupation of Andrew Pery, Walter Squyer, John Barker, Thomas Barker, Thomas Clere, John Skorsse, John Mychell, John Kerell, John Templer, and John Payne, formerly the property of the abbey of Athelney. Also cottages, burgages, curtilages, gardens, or shops in the vill or burg of Lamporte, or Langporte, in the occupation of Thomas Pitney, John Maye, William Chilcote, John Templer, John Glister, Richard Spencer, John Squyer, Alexander Philypp, and John Bourne, also formerly belonging to the Abbey of Athelney. With these were included enormous tracts in the counties of Nottingham, York, Derby, Lincoln, Stafford, Essex, Sussex, Hereford, etc. The Athelney property was estimated as worth £4 15s. 2d. a year.¹⁹⁰ The exact date is omitted from the roll, but it was in the 38th of Henry VIII.

Such was the mode in which modern atheism requited the work of long ages of faith and piety! My reader will, I fear, have had more than enough of this, and I will detain him but a few moments longer.

But before I conclude, I would add a few words respecting the various objects of archæological interest, which are recorded as having been discovered on and in the neighbourhood

(189). Orig., 36 Hen. VIII, p. 8, rot. 25.

(190). Orig., 38 Hen. VIII, p. 3, rot. 32.

of the site. "In 1674, some labourers," says Collinson, "employed by Captain Hacker, to whom the premises then belonged, to remove part of the ruins, disclosed a very ancient sepulchre of well wrought stone, containing the skull of the deceased, the osilium, and a small fragment of cloth. The inside of this receptacle was singularly contrived, the bottom being excavated or scooped out, so as to admit the several parts of the body. They afterwards discovered the foundation of the ancient church which stood on the top of the hill to the north-east, and there found bases of pillars, elegant tracery work of windows, and divers pieces of sculptured freestone, still retaining the marks of paint and gold. The labourers were said to have likewise found at the same time a large spur of gold, which they privately disposed of for their own benefit." He adds, "About eighteen years since," that is about 1773, "in digging up some other of the ancient ruins about sixty yards from the present farm house, northward, the workmen discovered a vault eight feet square and seven feet high, containing three human skulls. The stone of the arch and side walls being taken away, the cavity was filled up, covering the skulls with earth. Fourscore yards from this funereal spot stood a chapel, the ruins of which were removed about the same period." It has been suggested that this building was the oratory already mentioned under the date of the 19th June, 1462.

Alfred's Jewel was found in the year 1693, in Newton Park, at some distance northward from the abbey. It is a most interesting example of Anglo-Saxon workmanship. A rude figure of a person crowned (holding a sceptre surmounted by a flower) on one side was supposed by Dr. Hickes to represent St. Cuthbert. The other side is filled by a large flower. I hardly need add that it is one of the chief treasures of the Ashmolean Museum, to which it was given in 1718, by Thomas Palmer, esq., of Fairfield, in this county.

Other objects of interest have come under my own observa-

tion, several silver coins of Henry VIII and Elizabeth, and a pilgrim's leaden ampulla, which one of the brethren may have brought from Rheims, were submitted to my inspection several years ago, by the courtesy of Lady Slade. A few fragments of encaustic tiles, a magnificent boss of excellently carved foliage, apparently vine leaves, the points of the leaves forming a cross. Some segments of piers and set-offs of buttresses may still be seen in the farmyard and garden. . . . A few years since a very beautiful boss was in possession of the tenant, but has since been lost. It was of small size, and composed of foliage, the tops of the leaves gilt, with blue and crimson in the depressions. The designs on the tiles are invariably geometrical, or representations of leaves and flowers. No heraldic bearings or figures of animals have been reported to me. These, meagre as they are, are the sole remains of the stately structure that once occupied the spot, but which has now departed, together with the system with which it was associated.

Such is the history of Athelney Abbey. A holy hermit, as it would appear, first found a place for contemplation amid its almost inaccessible shades. Afterwards—and even this is separated from us, as I have already remarked, by the interval of just a thousand years—the scene was ennobled as the retreat of one of the best and greatest of his age and country. Within the course of these ten centuries it has witnessed most, if not all, of the phases that English society could successively present. The gratitude of a fugitive and then successful king next introduced a religious community which held it under various fortunes until the days that brought destruction alike to it and its fellows. Since then, as it would seem, it has retreated further and further into the solitude of its primæval state, and has assumed characteristics closely approaching those which were noticeable hundreds of long years ago. At present, notwithstanding the proximity of the great iron road of our own generation, it exhibits as little evidence of its former possession as it did before it was so immortalized. At the moment that I

write the golden corn is waving over it, and bending to the breeze that sweeps sharply across the surrounding plain, the river yet rolls slowly by its side, and the chime of that melodious peal which once made music far and near, is changed for the monotonous and melancholy tinkle of the distant sheep-bell, faint or full as the blast permits. Such is the scene under its most pleasant aspect. While on many a day in the year's course, when autumn harvests have been gathered, and winter rains have come, its appearance is still nearer to its original character ; and its olden tenants, were they to revisit it, might point to the dreamy loneliness of its present state as an instance of the truth of the declaration that "the thing that hath been, it is that which shall be" ; and that "there is nothing whereof it may be said, it is new. It hath been already of old time that was before us."

A Photographic Survey of the County of Somerset.

BY C. H. BOTHAMLEY, F.I.C., F.C.S., F.R.P.S.

THE importance of photographic surveys, by which is meant the systematic collection of photographic records of all objects of archæological or historical interest within a given area, is, I believe, already widely recognised. The question of organising such a survey of the county of Somerset has been brought before this society on previous occasions. Professor Allen read a paper on the subject at the Crewkerne meeting, and reference was also made to it at Wellington. After the latter meeting I had some correspondence on the matter with Mr. Elworthy; but, although the attitude of the Council of the Society towards the proposal was described as being sympathetic, there was no distinct evidence that the sympathy was of an active type, and the matter dropped for the time.

Quite recently, however, the whole question of photographic surveys has entered on a new phase. Their importance has been officially recognised by the authorities of the British Museum, who have announced that they are willing, under certain regulations which are still to be formulated, to take charge of the results of such surveys, and store them in such manner that the public can have access to them.

Moreover, a National Photographic Record Society has been formed, under the presidency of Sir Benjamin Stone, to whose influence the decision of the Museum authorities is largely due,

and it at present includes representatives of the British Museum, the Royal Society, the Royal Photographic Society, the Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Archæological Institute, the Congress of Archæological Societies, and other scientific societies. Its object is to encourage the organisation of photographic surveys, to formulate rules and recommendations so that they may be carried out in a fairly uniform manner throughout the country, and to collect photographic prints with a view to form a National Photographic Record which will be deposited at the British Museum.

It seems clear, however, that though a national society may do much good service by laying down general principles and drawing up a model scheme, the actual work must be done by local societies or by local branches of the national society. Further, it will probably be agreed that, in addition to the national collection in London, it is in the highest degree desirable that there should be a local collection in each county, in the custody of some representative body, municipal or otherwise.

I venture to think that no associations can more appropriately take the initiative in organising the surveys of their own districts than the county archæological societies, where they exist; and if they have a local habitation, in some fairly convenient centre, they may with equal fitness be the custodians of the results. So far as Somerset is concerned, the council of this Society some time ago expressed its readiness to take charge of the results: the object of this paper is to excite interest of a somewhat more active and productive type, and to secure co-operation in the organising and carrying out of the work. Results must be obtained before they can be taken charge of.

If it is admitted, as I assume it to be, that a photographic survey of the county is desirable, it will not be denied that the sooner the work is undertaken the better. Many objects of great interest are in constant danger, or are even being

destroyed, leaving no record behind except possibly some drawing which may do credit to the imagination of the artist, but at the same time may have no value for the purposes of exact knowledge. In Somerset many of the most interesting objects in the architectural section are of a domestic type, and these are the very places that are most liable to alteration or destruction.

Taking both points as admitted, I propose to submit for consideration some suggestions of a more or less practical character, relative to the organisation of a photographic survey of this county.

In the first place it is noteworthy that in many localities, and Somerset is fortunately one of them, a large part of the actual photographing has already been done: it only remains to collect (as far as possible), classify, and catalogue the results. Professor Allen, as many members are aware, has made a considerable number of negatives of objects of interest in the county. The Rev. T. Perkins, formerly of Shaftesbury, has photographed many things in Somerset, including most, if not all, of the churches. I myself have negatives of different parts of Cleeve Abbey. Village crosses, too, have to my knowledge already received considerable attention from two amateurs in the county.

The county is, I believe, exceptionally fortunate in the existence of a large number of negatives of subjects which have since disappeared. Many of Professor Allen's negatives are of this class. Archdeacon Ainslie, I understand, has a negative of the tower of St. Mary's, Taunton, before it was rebuilt, and possibly he has other subjects of equal interest. In the Society's museum there are prints from negatives of churches, old houses, and the like, many of which have since been altered or destroyed altogether. It is satisfactory to be able to say that these latter negatives are still in existence and in good keeping, and that permanent prints from them can be had, though most probably they will have to be paid for.

It will readily be understood, however, that a great deal of photographing has still to be done ; but, if it is to be useful for the purpose under consideration, it must be done in a systematic way. No doubt many active photographers who would be willing to help in the work would be the last to lay claim to any antiquarian knowledge. In order to ensure not only that the right things are photographed, but also that they are photographed in the right way, it is essential that, with the co-operation of competent antiquaries in different parts of the county, as complete a list as possible be drawn up of the places and objects in the county that are best worth photographing ; and this list must also state the special features of each place or object.

The preparation of such a list would naturally be the first thing undertaken.

The next step will be to ascertain, as far as possible, what subjects have already been done, and whether the particular photographers are willing to contribute prints to the county collection. This will involve not a little correspondence, and also labour in arranging and cataloguing. It may also involve some expenditure on the purchase of prints.

The third step will be to secure the help of as many photographers as possible, and to organise their energies, so that the work still to be done may be got through rapidly. Now in counties in which successful survey work has already been done, there have been large and active photographic societies, and the work has been systematised and carried out mainly by these societies in their corporate capacity. In Somerset, so far as I am aware, there is at present only one photographic society, that at Bath, and possibly another may come into existence before long. Probably, too, the Bristol societies would help, so far at least as the northern parts of the county are concerned. It is clear, however, that for some time to come, prosecution of the work in Somerset must be dependent on the help of sympathetic individuals, working to a large ex-

tent independently of one another, and therefore with all the more need for some central committee to prevent waste of obvious energy. It is also clear that the organisation in a county like this, where photographic societies are almost non-existent, must differ from that in counties where such societies are sufficiently powerful and numerous to carry out the work.

It is scarcely necessary to discuss technical details such as the size of the prints, the processes by which they are to be produced, and the like. Such matters can only be dealt with by a committee of experts.

I have indicated very broadly the main divisions of the work that a photographic survey of the county would involve. It seems certain that it can only be carried out successfully under the supervision of an efficient and representative committee, comprising both antiquaries and photographers. The chief point that I have to submit for the consideration of the Society is whether this committee shall be appointed and aided by the Society. Some funds would certainly be necessary, but the amount required would not be large, and it would diminish as time went on. The chief expense would be on account of printing and postages. Letters of enquiry would have to be sent out, and certain schedules, forms, and catalogues would be indispensable. The only other items would be the boxes or cases for storing the prints, and the purchase of prints where they could not be obtained as gifts.

Whether the general funds of the Society could bear a small annual charge for this purpose, or whether an appeal would have to be made for voluntary subscriptions, is a point on which I am necessarily quite unable to express an opinion. If voluntary subscriptions should be necessary, I should yet venture to hope that the Society, if it desires to promote or encourage such a survey, would be able and willing to defray the initial expenses, such as those occasioned by the preliminary letters of enquiry and the drawing up and printing of the list of places and objects. An appeal for subscriptions

could be made with much greater show of reason, and much better hope of success, if a definite plan had already been worked out, and there was reasonable probability of the work being carried through.

Should the Society think it well to afford active support of the character indicated, it would naturally follow that the local collection of prints would be placed in the hands of the Society. A duplicate set of prints would, one would hope, be contributed to the national collection at the British Museum.

If, on the other hand, the Society should consider that a Photographic Survey of the County is not particularly desirable, or that it does not properly come within the scope of the Society, it would follow that the work, if undertaken at all, would have to be undertaken by an independent committee or association. This would be a conclusion and a result which I for one should greatly deplore, for the work could not be thoroughly carried out without the aid of the special knowledge which members of this Society possess, and it would gain much by the direction and control which the Society is specially fitted to supply. I venture to urge, therefore, that the subject is one which the Society might very appropriately take up; and I trust that a committee may be appointed as soon as possible, so that though Somerset cannot now be the first county to take up the matter, it may yet be one of the foremost counties in initiating and completing a work which, in the minds of many, is of considerably more than local importance and interest.

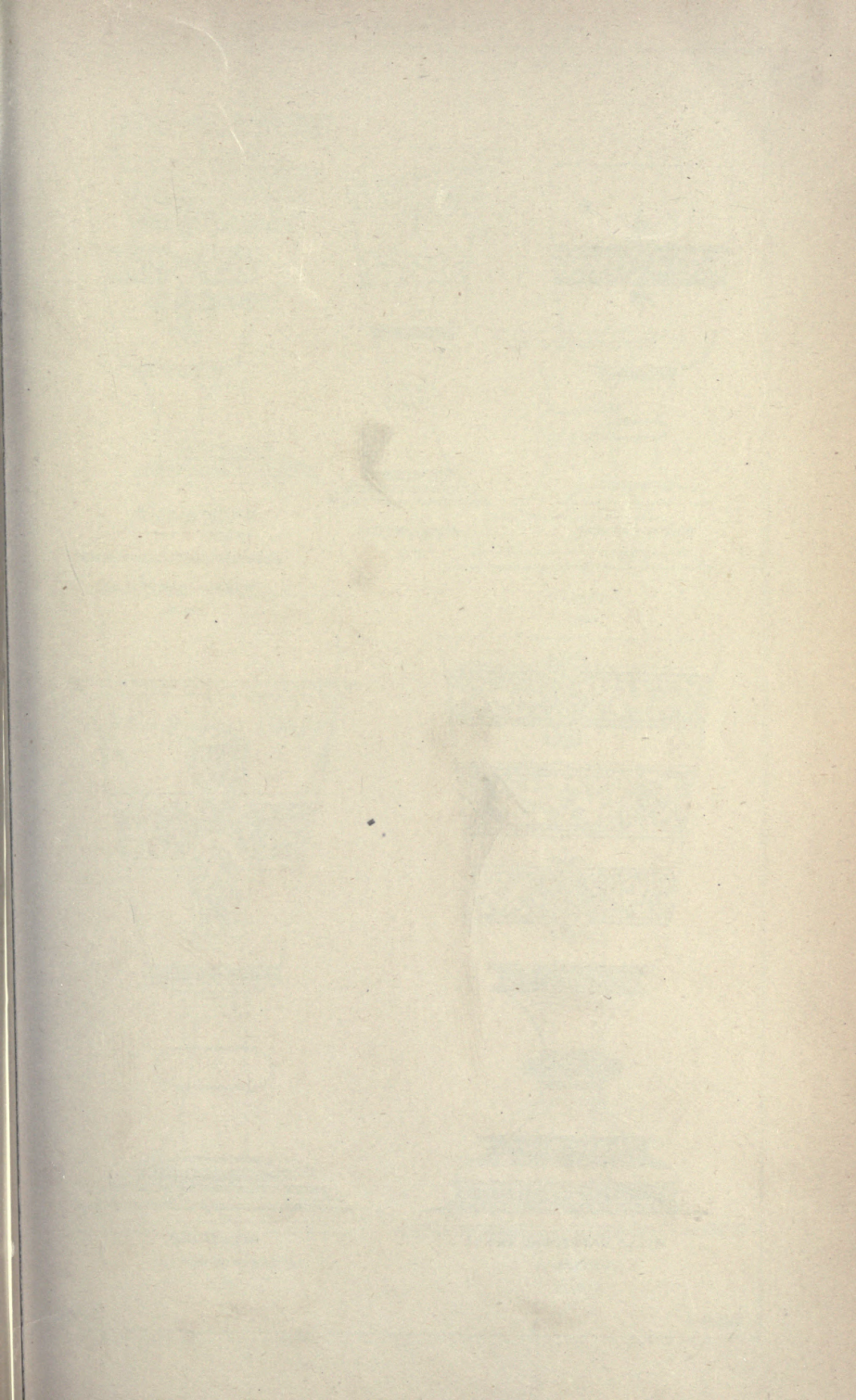
An Inventory of Church Plate in South-East Somerset.

BY REV. E. H. BATES, M.A.

IN the following pages an effort has been made to do for a part of the county what the Society tried to do for the whole some fourteen years ago. A printed form was then sent to every parish to be filled up with an account of the plate, marks, inscriptions, etc., in the hope that by means of these returns a tabulated statement might be drawn up. But a certain though small amount of technical knowledge was required, and for lack of it the returns are useless. This is said in no disparagement of the careful efforts made by the clergy to fill up the form, supplemented in many cases by drawings and rubbings. But the conclusion is that no inventory worth the making can be drawn up unless the inquirer has a copy of Mr. W. J. Cripps' *Old English Plate*.* The price of this work (there is no other on the subject) has hitherto been a drawback, but now the Tables of Makers' Marks and Date-letters can be purchased for five shillings.

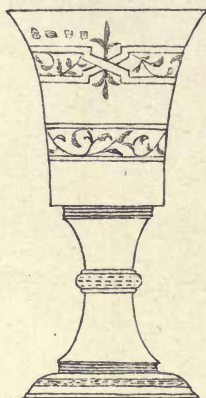
The part of Somerset now inventoried is included in the Rural-deaneries of Castle Cary and Merston, containing ninety-six parishes and chapelries, ancient and modern. Next year, with the help of the Rev. D. L. Hayward, of Pitney Lorty, I hope to search the Deanery of Ilchester, and, if possible, that of Frome; between them they contain ninety-eight parishes.

* 5th edit., 1894; 2ls., Murray.

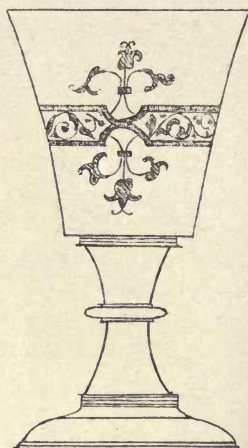




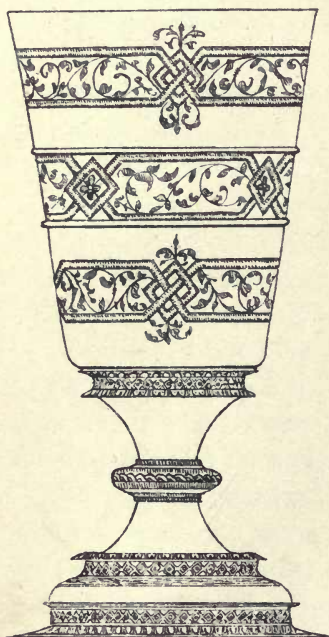
SOUTH BARROW,
1576.



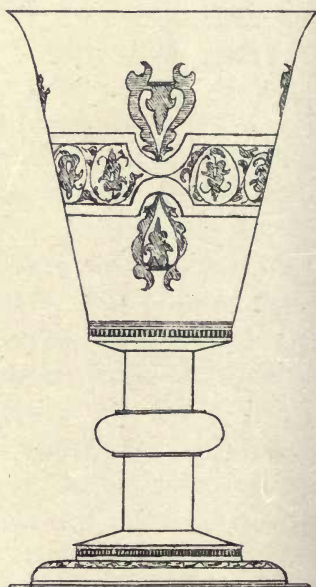
CUCKLINGTON,
1572.



WESTON BAMPFYLDE,
1573.



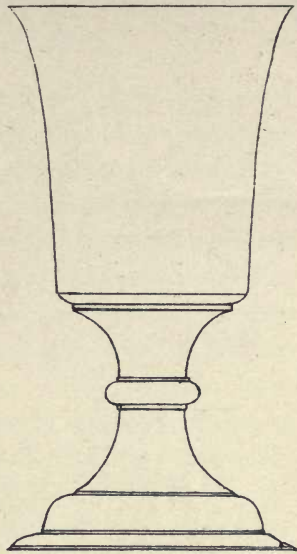
WELLS OATHEDRAL (No. 1),
1573.



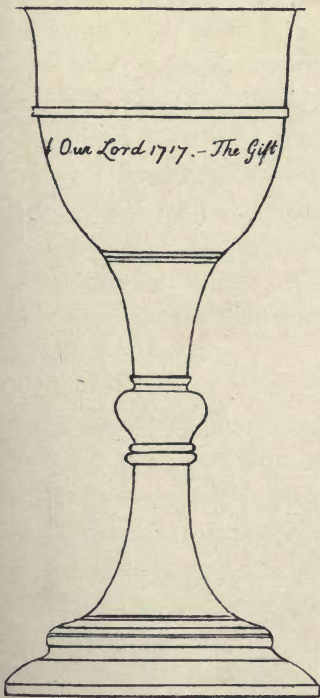
HENSTRIDGE,
1574.



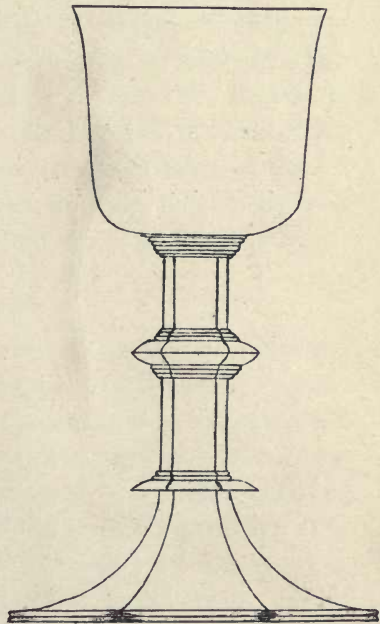
RIMPTON,
1637.



DITHEAT,
1635.



MILTON CLEVEDON,
1717.



REDLYNCH,
C. 1670.

From that point the work must be carried on by others. I suggest that one or more workers should take up Axbridge, Glastonbury, and Paulet deaneries, which contain seventy-eight parishes, and thus complete the archdeaconry of Wells. Then, in another year, the archdeaconry of Bath (103 parishes) might be printed. The archdeaconry of Taunton contains four large deaneries, and would be taken in two portions. In the Dunster district the Rev. F. Hancock, of Selworthy, has undertaken to collect returns.

The different accounts should be drawn up in the same way as the present inventory, on the ground that they follow the lines of Nightingale's *Church Plate of Wilts*, which Mr. Cripps pronounces to be the model of what such a treatise should be.

This scheme, though imaginary, is not, I trust, visionary, and I can assure future workers in the field that if they meet with the same ready assistance and hospitality which were granted to me, which I hereby gratefully acknowledge, they will not only be doing a good work, but also storing up many pleasant memories. I must especially mention the Rev. W. E. Daniel, who, while rural dean of Shepton Mallet, took the uninteresting task of noting the plate of the modern parishes in his district; and the Rev. F. W. Weaver, who has helped me over several genealogical stiles connected with the heraldry found on the plate.

In south-east Somerset, the mediæval period is represented by a solitary paten at Pilton, date about 1490, and three coffin chalices of base metal found at different times in the cathedral. As some sort of compensation, the amount of plate of the Elizabethan period is large; out of the eighty-six ancient parishes, thirty-five still possessing plate of the sixteenth century. The change from chalice and paten to cup and cover was begun in this diocese in 1572, though no official record on the subject can be found (*see* WELLS, *Cathedral*). A few parishes, Batcombe leading the way in 1567, had changed earlier. The chronolo-

gical list shows how rapidly the change was carried out; as after 1574 there is only a dropping list of names, closing with the belated parish of Charlton Horethorne in 1603. A certain silversmith, whose initials were I.P., got the order for the cathedral plate, and for a large number of other places; indeed it would almost seem as if he had been appointed diocesan silversmith, as his handiwork is found in thirteen out of thirty-five parishes. His cups, even down to the smallest, have two bands of running ornament round the bowl.

Besides other London marks, there are three of provincial or rather local workmen. (There are no pieces with the Taunton or old Exeter mark.) The cup at Weston Bampfylde bears the mark of Laurence Stratford, of Dorchester, and this is, I believe, the first instance of the mark being found outside his native county. The cups at Stowell (a strange pattern), Keinton Mandeville, and South Barrow bear an unidentified mark of a five-pointed star. Six parishes in the southern part of the district bear a single mark,—a circle filled with pellets so as to bear some sort of a resemblance to a guelder rose. In one instance the circle is found with a short stem, turning it into a handscreen. This is on the cup at Charlton Horethorne (1603),* and on the same cup, in another punch, are the initials R.O. It had occurred to me that the owner of the mark might be found at Sherborne, as the mark is always in the neighbourhood, but the difficulty had been to prove it. Now it was easy. Mr. W. B. Wildman, of Sherborne, extracted the following references in the churchwardens' accounts: "1585, Richard Orenge was junior churchwarden; the year following he was senior churchwarden. 1594-5, Mr. Orendge exchanged half-a-crown of gold that the churchwarden received and charged him fourpence for so doing." Mr. E. A. Fry, editor of *Dorset Records*, clenched the matter by finding his will, which is abstracted thus: "Will of Richard Orenge of Sher-

* The others are—Lamyat, 1572; Corton Denham, 1573; Alford, Blackford, Henstridge, 1574; North Wootton, Dorset, 1582.

borne, Dorset, goldsmith, 10 May, 1605. Mr. Skarlett, minister of Sherborne, 20*sh.*; poor of S., 10*sh.*; 4 poor men of S. who shall carry my corps to the grave, 5*d.* a piece; men of the Allmosehouse in ye town of S., 4*d.* apiece; to Thos. Norman of Wynub^m (?)* the house which I bought of Mr. Rydcoull commonly called the Gatehouse in Sherborne in Cheape Street having on the north side the house of me the said Richard Orenge and on the south side the house of Robt. Cholmill now in the tenure of John Cholmill; the lease of my house at the Green wherein now West and Doune do dwell to Ann Pither dau. of my sister Ann Pither; to Walter Norman son of Thos. N. my best gilt salt and my great gilt covered cup; to Walter, Edith, Amy, Mary, Elizabeth, and Martha Norman 20 nobles each; to my sister Ann Pither £4; and to Anne her dau. £5 at marriage; to Edmond Pither 20*sh.*; to Christabell 30*sh.*; to Jane Pither 40*sh.* My son-in-law Thomas Norman to be executor. Mr. Thos. Swetnam and Mr. Laurence Swetnam to be overseers. (The two latter are also witnesses.) Proved 24 Nov. 1606." It gave me the more pleasure to trace out the owner of this mark as it had hitherto been believed, on the authority of somebody in London, to be the Nuremburg town-mark; but now, though the craftsman must be conceded to Dorset, we have the satisfaction of knowing that the cups were not "made in Germany."

The seventeenth century was well on its way before we find any fresh plate to examine, but from 1622 to 1640 a good many cups and covers are found with an occasional flagon. The broad paten on foot in addition to the cover of the cup is first found in 1630, and was no doubt invented from necessity. In this period there is much more variety in the pattern of the cups, as distinct from mere difference in size, and engraved ornamentation dies away. The domestic plate of the period is magnificently represented by the standing cups at Horsington and Yarlington, and by an elaborate saucer at Charlton Musgrove.

* [? Wynn^m *i.e.* Wimborne—ED.]

The civil war spared the parish plate chest, and the additions in the later part of the century are generally gifts and legacies of patens and flagons. By 1700 the shape of the cup had become simply ugly, a change not at all compensated for by the increasing weight and size. A chalice at Redlynch, c. 1670, fashioned after the mediæval pattern, is perhaps due to the influence which tried to revive Gothic architecture at Low Ham in 1669.

Of less usual pieces of the eighteenth century, a pair of candlesticks at Bruton, a jug-shaped flagon at Lamyat bearing an interesting dedicatory inscription, and a silver bason at Shepton Mallet are the most noticeable; salvers also are frequently found. At present, the cups are if possible uglier than before; but since the middle of the century the mania for destroying or restoring churches (the difference between them being as subtle as ancient Pistoll's between stealing and conveying) has extended to the church plate, and Elizabethan and Jacobean cups are restored into 'Nettlecombe' chalices, before their absence is noticed. Would that the motto of the Forsters of Northumberland were held by all guardians of antiquities:

‘ That which our fathers old
Have left us to possess,
Let us now hold
In all worthiness.’

*Chronological List of Church Plate in South-east Somerset, to
the end of the 18th century.*

MEDIÆVAL PLATE.

Three coffin chalices at Wells Cathedral. | c. 1490 Pilton, Paten.

CHURCH PLATE, 16TH CENTURY, AFTER THE REFORMATION.

1567 Batcombe, cup and cover. 1570 Holton, cover. Pilton, cup and cover. 1571 Ashington, cup and cover. 1572 Cucklington, cup. Lamyat, cup and cover.		1573 Ansford, cup (1). Brewham, cup. Charlton Musgrove, cover. Corton Denham, cup and cover. Doulting, cup and cover. Downhead, cup and cover.
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CHURCH PLATE, 16TH CENTURY, AFTER THE REFORMATION.—*continued.*

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| <p>1573 Holton, cup.
Maperton, cup and cover.
Marston Magna, cup.
North Barrow, cup and cover.
Shepton Montague, cup and cover.
Wells, <i>Cathedral</i>, two cups and covers, flagon.
Wells, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i>, cup and cover.
West Bradley, cup and cover.
Weston Bampfylde, cup and cover.
Wheathill, cup and cover.</p> | <p>1573 Wyke Champflower, cup.
Yarlington, cup and cover.
1574 Alford, cup and cover.
Ansford, cup (2).
Blackford, cup and cover.
Chilton Cantelo, cup and cover.
Henstridge, cup and cover.
Preston Plucknett, cup and cover.
Stowell, cup and cover.
1575 Keinton Mandeville, cup and cover.
1576 East Cranmore, cup.
South Barrow, cup and cover.
1577 Chesterblade, cup and cover.</p> |
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SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

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| <p>1603 Charlton Horethorne, cup and cover.
1611 Yarlington, standing cup.
1614 Horsington, standing cup.
1618 East Cranmore, flagon.
1622 Batcombe, cup.
1623 North Cheriton, cup and cover.
Wyke Champflower, cover.
1628 Barwick, cup.
East Coker, cup and cover.
Templecombe, cup and cover.
1630 Wells, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i>, paten.
1631 North Cadbury, cup and cover.
West Coker, cup and cover.
1633 Barton St. David, paten.
Charlton Musgrove, saucer.
East Pennard, cup and cover.
1634 Charlton Horethorne, paten.
Poyntington, cup.
Shepton Mallet, two cups and covers.
1635 Ditcheat, cup, flagon.</p> | <p>1636 Batcombe, cover.
1637 Hornblotton, cup and cover.
Rimpton, cup and cover.
1638 Wells, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i>, two flagons.
1640 Barwick, paten.
Castle Cary, cup.
1642 Goathill, cup.
1647 Upton Noble, cup.
1659 Poyntington, paten.
1664 Batcombe, flagon.
Poyntington, flagon.
1667 Wells, <i>Cathedral</i>, two patens, flagon.
Corton Denham, paten.
1675 Wells, <i>Cathedral</i>, alms dish.
1679 Pilscombe, dish.
1684 Pilton, cup.
1685 Closworth, cup.
1688 Milborne Port, paten.
1695 Wincanton, cup and cover.
1697 Compton Pauncefoot, paten.
1698 Henstridge, paten.</p> |
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EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

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| <p>1703 Stoke, <i>St. Michael</i>, cup and cover.
1704 Yeovil, <i>St. John's</i>, flagon.
1705 Wells, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i>, cup and cover.
1706 Bruton, service of plate.
1709 Barwick, flagon.
1712 Wincanton, dish.
1713 Croscombe, paten.
1714 Barwick, paten.
1717 Ashington, paten.
Milton Clevedon, service of plate.
1717 Trent, flagon.
Wells, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i>, paten.
1718 Evercreech, flagon.
Mudford, paten.
Stoke Trister, paten.</p> | <p>1722 Dinder, paten.
East Coker, cup and cover.
Sandford Orcas, paten.
West Lydford, flagon.
1723 Horsington, paten.
1725 East Lydford, paten.
1725 Lamyat, flagon.
Shepton Mallet, paten.
Templecombe, salver.
1726 Brewham, paten.
1727 Ashington, paten.
East Pennard, cup and cover, flagon.
Sandford Orcas, flagon.
1728 Compton Pauncefoot, cup and cover.</p> |
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EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.—*continued.*

1728 Preston Plucknett, cup and cover.	1749 East Cranmore, salver.
1729 Wincanton, dish.	1750 N. Wotton, cup and cover.
1730 Babcary, cup and cover.	1754 Cucklington, salver, flagon.
1731 Dinder, cup and cover.	1756 Barton S. David, cup.
Doulting, paten.	1757 Redlynch, alms dish.
Rimpton, paten.	1758 Mudford, cup and cover.
1732 Ditcheat, paten.	1759 Batcombe, Plate.
1733 Milborne Port, flagon.	Wells, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i> , two salvers.
Shepton Mallet, flagon, bason.	1767 Cucklington, salver.
1734 Horsington, cup.	1774 S. Cadbury, cup and paten.
1736 Sparkford, cup and paten.	Stoke Trister, cup.
1737 Pylle, service of plate.	1776 E. Lydford, cup.
Trent, cup and cover, plate.	1777 Downhead, paten.
1739 Lamyat, dish.	1783 Castle Cary, flagon.
1741 Yarlington, saucer	W. Lydford, paten.
1742 North Cadbury, cup and cover, dish.	1786 Pilton, flagon.
1744 Bruton, flagon, dish, candlesticks.	1788 Castle Cary, paten
Evercreech, dish.	1793 Wells, <i>Cathedral</i> , candlesticks.
	1796 E Lydford, cup.
	1798 Wells, <i>Cathedral</i> , mace.

ARMORIALS.

Ashe, Batcombe.	Martin, E. Pennard.
Barkham, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i> , Wells.	Mattock, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i> , Wells.
Bayly, (?) E. Pennard.	Phelips, Charlton Musgrove.
Bourchier, Henstridge.	Pitman, N. Cadbury.
Churchey, Henstridge.	Prouse, <i>St. Cuthbert's</i> , Wells.
Dayes, Wyke Champflower.	Rilleston, Charlton Musgrove, Wincanton.
Digby, Kilmington.	S. Barbe, Ashington (crest).
Farewell, Charlton Musgrove, Wincanton.	Salmon, (?) <i>St. Cuthbert's</i> , Wells.
Fox, Redlynch (crest).	Southworth, Wyke Champflower.
Fox, Templecombe.	Strode, W. Cranmore (crest).
Gapper, Wincanton.	Symes, Barwick (crest).
Helyar, E. Coker.	Temple, Lamyat.
Jenkyns, Hornblotton.	Thring, Hornblotton.
Leofric Earl of Mercia, Lamyat.	Weston, E. Coker.
Littleton, Lamyat.	Non-identified.
Malet, Poyntington.	At Wincanton, one shield.

CASTLE CARY DISTRICT.

THIS district contains twenty-four parishes ; of which eleven retain the Elizabethan plate, though in two of them the cup alone has been preserved. The standing cup at Yarlington is the finest piece of plate, ecclesiastical or domestic, in the district.

ALFORD.—The Elizabethan cup and cover is by the Sherborne silversmith, Richard Orenge (*see* Introduction). The cup is 7in. high ; the bowl has one band of ornament ; the stem and

foot of the cup have been renovated. On the button of the paten is the date, 1574. The only mark is that of the maker. A small flagon and paten, with the date letter for 1824; both pieces are inscribed: 'The gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Thring, for the use of Alford church, 25th December, 1824.' Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Will. Everett, Esq., of Heytesbury, married John Thring, Esq., of Alford, and died 12th December, 1834. A small salver, centre gilt; date letter for 1869.

ANSFORD.—This parish has somehow got possession of two Elizabethan cups, unfortunately minus their covers. The earlier one was made by I.P. It is 5½ in. high; there are two bands of ornament round the bowl, a band of intermittent lines round knop, and a band of running ornament round foot. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1573; I.P.—The second cup is a very handsome specimen. The bowl is unusually tall and slender in shape, with one band of elaborate ornament, the enclosing fillets being hatched with ziz-zag lines. This belt, with the knop, top of stem, and base of foot are gilt. The cup stands 7½ in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1574; maker's mark, H.S. in monogram—Henry Sutton probably. A plain paten on foot, 10½ in. in diameter. Only mark, initials G.F., in oblong punch, struck twice. This mark is also found in the adjoining parish of Bruton, on a cup, dated 1706. Pewter: a small salver, and a bason.

BABCARY.—A cup of the usual Georgian pattern. The bowl, with slight lip, stands on a tubular stem, with rudimentary knop, the foot circular, plain. Height of cup 6¾ in. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1730; maker's mark, T.M., in fanciful shield—Thomas Mason. The paten also serves as a cover to the cup, and is therefore much smaller than is usual at this date. Same marks as on cup. Another paten on foot of very rude construction. It consists of a round piece of silver plate, 4⅞ in. in diameter, slightly concave, with two circles engraved round the edge. To this has been soldered a trumpet-shaped stem, with flat feet, the outer edge of which has in the

course of time been bent upwards. There are no marks. Clossworth and Wheathill also possess patens of rude workmanship. Pewter bowl in the church.

BARTON ST. DAVID.—Another cup of Georgian pattern. It stands $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; with a U shaped bowl, slender stem, and flat foot. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1756; maker's mark almost obliterated. A paten on foot, 7 in. in diameter. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1633; maker's mark I.M., with a pig passant beneath in shield, (also found on a paten of 1630, at S. Cuthbert's, Wells). A pewter plate, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter.

BLACKFORD.—The Elizabethan cup and cover are by Richard Orenge, the Sherborne silversmith (*see* Introduction). The cup is $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, with one band of ornament round bowl; bands of upright strokes above and below stem; the foot is plain. So is the cover; on the button the date 1574. The only mark is that of the maker. A modern flagon of ancient tankard pattern, letter for 1872. A silver-plated paten.

CASTLE CARY.—The cup is of the baluster-stem type, of which other examples are found at Poyntington and Upton Noble. It stands $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, with a square-shaped bowl, resting on the baluster-stem and plain foot. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1640; maker's mark, I.G., with small mullet beneath in heart-shaped shield. On the bowl are dotted the initials T^hs.; on the opposite side R.M. partially obliterated. The first set of initials probably refer to the family of Russ. A paten with moulded rim, on three feet, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam.; underneath '1790.' Marks: 3 offic.; letter for 1788; maker's mark, H. A very large flagon, tankard pattern, engraved with sacred monogram. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1783; maker's mark, I.R., in oblong punch—John Robins.

COMPTON PAUNCEFOOT.—The cup is of the ordinary Georgian pattern with cover. It stands $8\frac{7}{8}$ in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1728; maker's mark, TT, with flower above (*see* Wincanton)—Thos. Tearle, whose mark has a crown above the rose, but this seems to have been worn away. On the cover

is this inscription : 'The gift of Mrs. Mary Player, 1729.' A large and heavy paten on foot, $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diam. Marks : 2 offic. Brit. sterling ; letter for 1697 ; maker's mark, W.A., with an anchor between—Joseph Ward. Round the rim : 'The gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Hunt, daughter of Charles Roscarrocke, Esq., and wife of John Hunt, of Compton Pancefoote, in the county of Summersett, Esq. : She dyed ye 13th of January, 1697-8.' A monument in the church corroborates this inscription. A flagon, with the date-letter for 1861, inscribed : 'The gift of Jane Husey Hunt, 25th November, 1864.'

EAST LYDFORD.—A cup, of what may be called the egg-cup pattern, $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, on plain stem and foot. Marks : 2 offic. : letter for 1776 ; maker's mark partly worn away, only E visible. On the bowl J.R. in monogram, the initials of John Ryall, who purchased a moiety of the manor and advowson, 1761, and died in 1781 (*Phelps*.) Another cup of same shape as the first, but the bowl is fluted and has a heavy band round lip ; the inside of the bowl is gilt. Marks : 3 offic. ; letter for 1796 ; maker's mark, W.F. in plain punch. Inscription round lip : 'Presented by George Drinkwater Bourne and Harriett Eliza, his wife, to St. Mary's church, East Lydford, April 4th, 1866.' In this year the church was rebuilt on a new site. A plain paten on foot, diam. $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1725 ; maker's mark, W.S., with two pellets above, and a trefoil slipped below in shaped punch—William Spackman. It is inscribed : 'Presented by Leopold Cust and Isabel, his wife, to St. Mary's church, East Lydford, 4th April, 1866.' A flagon and paten of plated metal, with initials E.L.C.

HOLTON. This little parish has preserved its Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is of an unusual pattern, the bowl being deep and rectangular in shape, while the band of ornament runs round the lip, instead of the usual position of the middle of the bowl. There are bands of upright strokes above and below the stem ; the small knop having the egg-and-dart

ornament. Height of cup, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, a hooded falcon. The cover, though a good fit, has a different date-letter and maker's mark. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1570 ; maker's mark, a bird's head erased. A small silver paten, an offering by the parishioners, 1897.

HORNBLOTTON.—But for the absence of the distinctive ornamentation, the 17th century cup would easily pass for one of the previous century. It is $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, with a deep bowl, and plain stem, with spreading foot. The cover is also very plain with shallow depression without flange. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1637 ; maker's mark, P.B., with small figures above and below. On the button of the cover : WF., WH., 1634. A modern paten with sex-foiled depression, date letter for 1842, bearing on a shield : Erminois, within a bordure engr. gu., on a fess wavy or, bordered arg., three escallops of the second (Thring) ; Imp. Az. a saltire engr. or, charged with four crosses pattée fitchée points downwards sa. (Jenkyns). Crest, a cock gu. charged with an escallop on breast and wing, holding in his beak an ear of barley or. The Rev. John Gale Dalton Thring of Alford, marr. 1811, Sarah, second daughter of the Rev. John Jenkyns, vicar of Evercreech and Prebendary of Wells. A flagon, with date-letter for 1853, bearing the same arms. Pewter : a bowl with initials and date—' H.R., R.H., A.D., G.W., 1717.'

KEINTON MANDEVILLE.—The Elizabethan cup and cover are of provincial manufacture, and bear the same mark as that found at Stowell and South Barrow. The cup is of the same pattern as that at the last-named place. It stands $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. high ; the bowl is slightly convex ; it has one band of running ornament, the enclosing fillets being hatched. Below the bowl is a band of upright strokes ; the knop and foot appear to have been renovated. The cover is quite plain. The button bears the date 1575. The only mark is an incused star with five points. A paten on foot, diam. 8in. The edges of dish and foot are decorated with egg-and-dart ornament. Marks : 3

offic. ; and date-letter for 1819. In centre, sacred monogram, within rayed circle. It is inscribed : 'Keinton Mandefield, Somerset.' A plated flagon.

KINGWESTON.—When the church was rebuilt in 1852, the old plate was superseded by a chalice and paten of good mediæval design. There is also a flagon, of the tankard pattern, with the date-letter for 1812.

LOVINGTON.—Two of the marks on the cup are obliterated, and the two others are not in *Cripps* but from its shape I should imagine it to be early 18th century work. It stands $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. high ; the bowl is plain with a projecting lip ; the stem and feet trumpet-shaped without any mouldings. Marks : (1) fleur-de-lys in shaped punch ; (2) a monogram, perhaps T.C. in shaped punch, but the lower part is worn away ; (3) and (4) quite gone. The cover is quite plain ; it bears only one mark, W.P., crown above and pellet below in shaped punch. *Cripps* under 1730, gives a mark almost identical, except that there is a small rose between the crown and the initials.

MAPERTON.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by same maker as that at Yarlinton. The cup is 6 in. high ; the bowl has one band of ornament ; at top and bottom of stem, bands of upright strokes ; belt of hyphens round knop ; and egg-and-dart ornamentation round foot. The ornament of the cover is confined to a belt of strokes. The marks are 2 offic. ; letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, a helmet in plain shield, not in *Cripps*. This mark is also found at Yarlinton.

A chalice and paten of mediæval pattern with this inscription : 'Given to the church of SS. Peter and Paul, Maperton, in memory of Samuel Wildman Yates, 25 years, vicar of St. Mary's, Reading, who died 7th May, 1862, aged 68.' An alms dish inscribed : 'Presented to the parish of Maperton, by the Rev. George Eveleigh Saunders, M.A., 29th July, A.D., 1858.' The donor was rector 1857-1891. Two pewter plates.

NORTH BARROW.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. Height of cup $5\frac{3}{8}$ in. ; two bands of ornament round bowl ;

belt of hyphens round knop and foot. Round the cover a band of running ornament, and on the button the date 1573. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1572 ; makers's mark, I.P. A small dish with raised edge, diam. 5 in. The only mark is a small oval containing the initials G.A., struck thrice ; it is also found at South Barrow ; not in *Cripps*. A pewter bowl.

NORTH CADBURY.—The earlier cup and cover are of the type often found in the early 17th century, a larger and plainer copy of the earlier type of Queen Elizabeth's reign. It is 7in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1631 ; maker's mark in a shield, B.F., with a trefoil betw. 2 pellets below. The bowl is inscribed : 'Nicholas Pitman, William Biggin, churchwardens, 1631.' There is another cup, with cover, which is a heavy imitation of the earlier one. The cup is likewise 7in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1742 ; maker's mark, black-letter, T.M., in punch ; Thomas Mann. The bowl is inscribed : ' Gualter: Pitman Eccles: 1742.' Guilielm: Guardi: out: A large plain dish, diam. 9½ in. In centre, within mantling, is a shield, bearing gu., a pelican vulning herself. Crest : a man's head affrontée. Motto : 'Patria poscente paratus. Inscription round rim : 'Deo et Eccles : de N. Cadbury Honoris Amoris ergo D.D. W.P., 1742.' Marks, the same as on piece last described. A jug very rudely manufactured ; query if really silver. Only mark, a capital black-letter T, struck four times.

SOUTH BARROW.—An Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup stands 5¾ in. high ; the bowl is convex in outline and deeper than the usual type ; there is one band of running ornament, the fillets being filled in with diagonal hatching. On the button of the cover is the date 1576. The only mark is that also found at Stowell and Keinton Mandeville, a small five-pointed star. A small dish companion to the one at North Barrow, and like it, bearing the initials G.A., within small oval, as the only mark.

SOUTH CADBURY.—The cup and paten are of late 18th century pattern. The cup stands 8¾ in. high ; the bowl is

plain with a wide lip ; there is a small knop on the stem. The paten is on a foot, diam. $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. Marks (same on both pieces) : 2 offic. ; letter for 1774 ; maker's mark, in rectangular punch the black-letter initials J.D., but the second letter is rather doubtful—J. Denzilow. In churchwardens' accounts, for 1775, is this item : 'Reed. of Mr. Bailey it being a Gift towards the Communion Plate £1 1s. 0d.' There is no other reference to the purchase, nor any reason why new plate was required. A flagon of modern ecclesiastical pattern with the date-letter for 1870, inscribed : '1870, A thank-offering, I.A.B., M.B.'—James Arthur and Margaret Bennett. He was rector 1866-90. His services to the cause of archæology in the county were invaluable ; see the 'In Memoriam,' in Som. Arch. and Nat. History Society's *Proceedings*, vol. xxxvi, ii, p. 193.

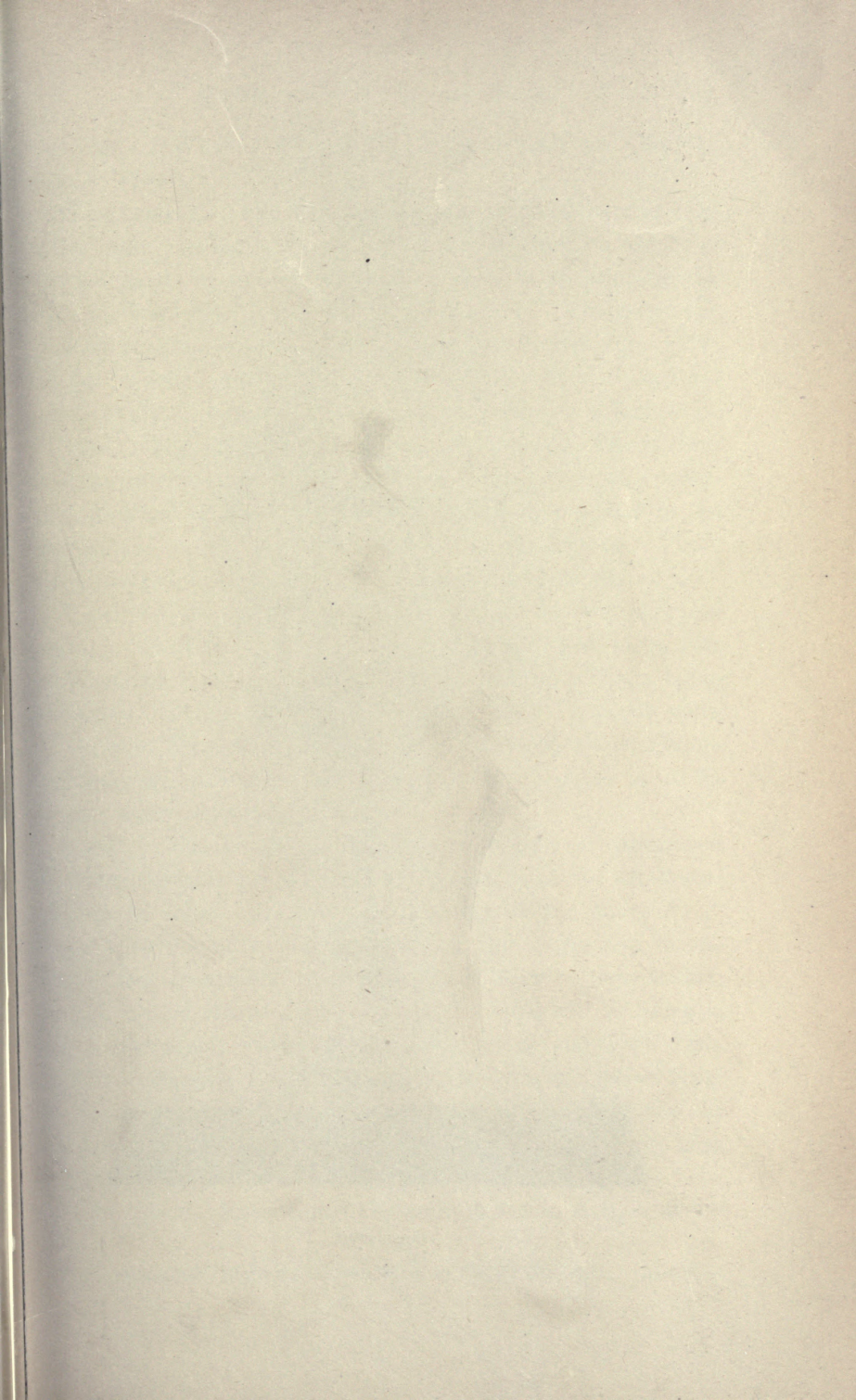
SPARKFORD.—A cup and paten of Georgian period. The cup is 8 in. high ; the bowl is deep with lip ; the stem has a small knop. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1736 ; maker's mark, I.K., in shaped punch with a small ornament above partly worn away. Under foot of cup, 'W.C., 1737.' The paten is simply a dish, 8 in. in diam. Marks : 2 offic. ; no date-letter ; maker's mark, I.K., as on cup, but the shape of the punch is rather different—Jeremiah King. A plated flagon inscribed : 'Sparkford Church 1867,' and a pewter bowl.

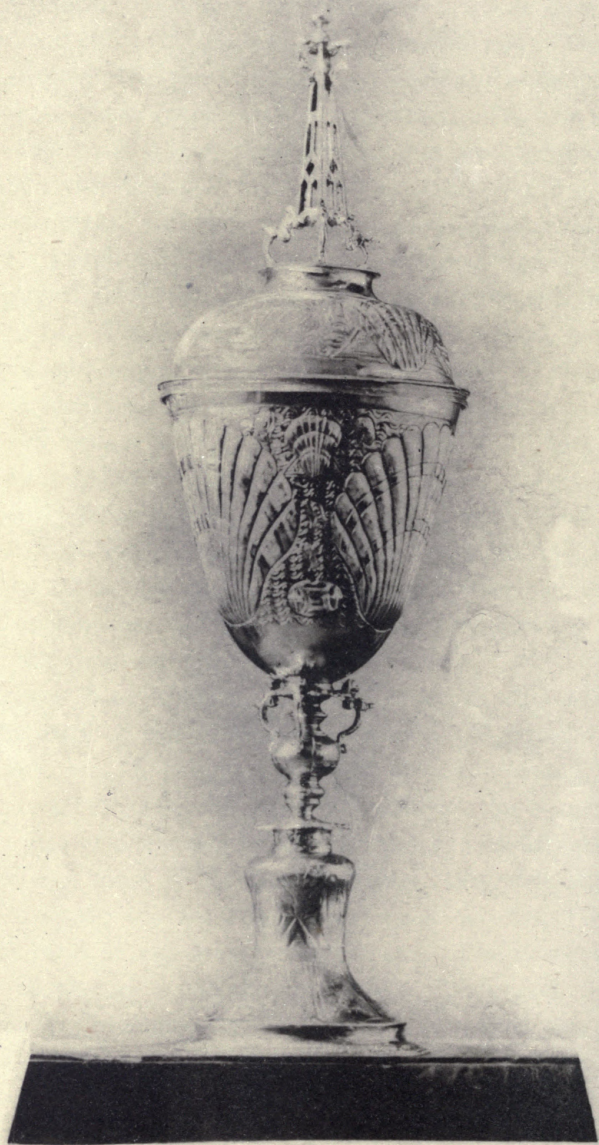
SUTTON MONTIS.—Cup and paten of Victorian era. They bear the sacred monogram within rayed circle, and inscriptions. That on cup runs thus : 'In memory of God's mercy in having preserved the Rectory of this parish in the family of his ancestors in unbroken succession from the days of Queen Elizabeth, this cup and paten are given by Robert Leach Esq., patron of Sutton Montis, 1 Aug., 1839.' On the paten : 'Robert Leach Esq., patron of Sutton Montis 1839 ; W. Burton Leach, Rector.' A plated alms dish inscribed : 'Presented to the Church of Sutton Montis by Mrs. Burrows 1850.'

WEST LYDFORD.—The cup seems to belong to the group which are also found at Goathill (in Milborne Port district,

q.v.), Milborne Port, and North Cheriton. The date-letters on the cups at North Cheriton and Goathill assign the group to the early part of the 17th century, while the inscribed dates would make them about seventy years later. The cup is $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. high; the bowl has a band of running ornament roughly executed; the stem and knop seem to have been renovated; the foot is plain. Marks: no official or date-letter; a thistle head in a punch with engrailed edge, not in *Cripps*; and in a rectangular punch two letters indecipherable; this mark is given twice. The cover is plain without a flange, but it fits loosely on the cup; on the button is the date '1706'; it has the same marks as the cup. A flagon of tankard pattern of a reasonable size, standing $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1722; maker's mark, T.T., under crown—Thos. Tearle. The body is inscribed: 'The gift of Robert Walker and Thomas Pope to the Parish Church of West Lidford in Somersetshire 1723.' A large paten on foot, inscribed with the sacred monogram and 'West Lydford Somerset.' Usual marks, and date-letter for 1783.

WESTON BAMPFYLDE.—The Elizabethan cup and cover bear the mark of the Dorchester silversmith, Lawrence Stratford, and are, I believe, the only examples found outside Dorset county. The cup stand $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; the shape of the bowl is that of a truncated cone with the side slightly concave; there is one band of running ornament, the enclosing fillets being hatched; the knop is small; round the flat of the foot a small band of egg-and-dart ornament. The cover is quite plain; on the button is the date 1573. They each bear the same mark, the monogram L.S., with a six-rayed star on one side and a small cross on the other. For the maker see *Cripps*, p. 103, and *Som. and Dorset Notes and Queries*, iii, p. 282. A paten, wholly gilt, on foot, $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diam. It is quite plain, and bears only one mark an escallop in shaped shield; this mark is given by *Cripps* under the year 1635, and the paten is probably of that period. A large pewter bowl, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. across,





YARLINGTON,

1611.

inscribed: 'Weston Bampfyild, John Blandford Churchwarden 1789.'

WHEATHILL.—The Elizabethan cup retained here is only $4\frac{7}{8}$ in. high, yet the maker, I.P., has found room on the bowl for two bands of running ornament; there is no knob on the stem; a belt of hyphens runs round the foot. The cover has a band of running ornament; on the button the date 1573. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1573; I.P. There is also a curious piece of plate, roughly fashioned into a paten on a foot, 4 in. in diam. The edge is turned up and scalloped. The surface is ornamented with lines and beads punched up from the underside, dividing it into four compartments with a square in the centre, and a row of beads round the circumference. There are no marks, but 'R.C. 1674,' is dotted in on the plate.

YARLINGTON.—The Elizabethan cup and cover is still preserved. The cup is of the ordinary pattern, $5\frac{5}{8}$ in. high, with one band of ornament round bowl, the enclosing fillets being hatched. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1573; maker's mark (same as at Maperton), a helmet in plain shield, not in *Cripps*.

There are no marks visible on the cover, which is of the usual shape and quite plain.

There is also belonging to the church here a magnificent standing cup and cover of the same pattern as the celebrated 'Edmonds' cup. As by the kindness of the Rev. A. J. Rogers, Rector of the parish, a photograph of this cup accompanies the Inventory, a detailed description is unnecessary. An account of the ornamentation on the bowl will be found in the Castle Cary volume of the Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Society's *Proceedings*, xxxvi, i, p. 64, but the derivation there given, though ingenious, is not necessary to account for the peculiar style of ornament. The cup is silver-gilt, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. high to lip, and the cover with the open pyramid is another 7 in. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1611; maker's mark, A.B. in monogram.

A saucer, the edge moulded into vertical flutings. Marks:

2 offic. ; letter for 1741 ; maker's mark, F in shield for William Fawdery.

BRUTON DISTRICT.

THIS district contains nineteen ancient parishes and chapelries. Elizabethan plate is preserved in eight parishes ; four having cup and cover, three the cup only, and in one the cover alone remains.

BATCOMBE.—The Elizabethan cup, with cover, is several years earlier than any other post-Reformation plate in the district, being dated 1567. It is a fine specimen, parcel-gilt, $7\frac{7}{8}$ in. high. Round bowl is a single band of running ornament ; above and below the stem are bands of diamond shaped figures ; on the spread of the foot egg-and-dart ornament. The cover is quite plain. Marks ; 2 offic. ; letter for 1567 ; maker's mark, H.W., with pellet above and below, also found at Pilton, 1570.

Another cup and cover of the early Stuart period. This is also a fine specimen, $8\frac{1}{8}$ in. high, with elaborately moulded foot. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1622 ; maker's mark, T.F., in monogram. Round bowl an inscription : ' A Communion cupe for ye Perrishe of Batcombe, Giuen by James Aishe, clothier, 1622.' [*see post*]. The cover is not contemporary, quite plain with shallow depression within rim. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1636 ; maker's mark, doubtful, rather like the head of a mace, or perhaps a spur, not in *Cripps*.

A large flat-topped flagon of tankard pattern, holding by actual measurement five pints, spreading foot, height $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1664 ; maker's mark, B in shield, two stars above and one below, not in *Cripps*. On front of bowl, surrounded by mantling, is a shield bearing : two chevrons. Crest, a cockatrice. Inscription: ' Ecclesiæ de Batcombe, D: D: D. Jacobus Ashe de Westcombe Armiger An^o Domⁱ 1645.'

James Ashe of Westcombe in Batcombe gent., by his will, dated 16th Nov., 1642, proved 6th May, 1646, gave to 'my parish church of Batcombe, £16, for a silver flagon for the Communion Table.' Brown's *Wills*, 3rd ser. p. 45. The executors seem to have held their hands until more settled times.

A plate, $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter, in centre sacred monogram, within ornamented circle. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1759; maker's mark partly worn away: in cursive writing M, and probably F, pellet below in plain shield—Mordecai Fox. On under side this inscription: 'Presented to Batcombe Church, Somerset, by Mrs. Elizabeth Coney, widow of the late Rev. Thomas Coney, LL.B., for upwards of 50 years rector of the parish, Easter, 1843.'

BRATTON ST. MAUR.—The only articles in use here are a cup inscribed 'Bratton Communion Service' and paten, of plated metal.

BREWHAM.—An Elizabethan cup minus its cover. The bowl is almost straight sided, with one band of ornamentation. The foot has a band of intermittent lines or hyphens. Height $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. Marks: 2 offic.; letter of 1573; maker's mark, I.P. (see Introduction). Under foot is a modern inscription: 'The Church of St. John Baptist, Brewham.'

Plain paten on foot; ornamented with sacred monogram within rayed circle, and inscribed 'Gratitud: ergo: E. Hickman.' Under foot: 'Given to the Church of St. John Baptist, Brewham, M.B.D., 1875.' Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1726; maker's mark, initials G.S., *i.e.* Gabriel Sleath. A flagon, with Sheffield marks for 1874. Underneath this inscription: 'Given to the church of S. John Baptist, Brewham, C.C.D.' The initials on the flagon and paten are those of members of the family of Dampier, who formerly lived at Colinshayes in this parish. The Rev. John Dampier, M.A., was vicar 1828-1842. M.I. in chancel.

BRUTON.—The plate here is almost superbundant in number and weight, being the result of three donations in the 18th century.

Donation No. 1 consisted of two cups with covers, a large paten, and a flagon. The only mark is that of the maker, the initials G.F., in rectangle. This mark is also on a paten at Ansford. On the drum of the flagon within rayed circle is this inscription: 'Given by Mrs. Grace Wason, for the use of the Church in 1706.' Bruton Reg., '14th June, 1685, Mr. Thos. Wason and Mrs. Grace Sampson were married.' The cup is 8 in. high, the bowl straight-sided with unusually wide lip, in the middle of the stem a large clumsy knob, and a wide foot. The cover is quite plain with a flange round rim. The two cups are exactly alike, and the pair with the covers weigh 37 oz., 2 dwt., 1 gr. The paten is 11½ in. in diameter and weighs 23oz., 1 dwt., 1 gr. The flagon of hammered silver is of the tankard type with flat lid, 11 in. high; it weighs 38 oz., 2 dwt. The maker's mark is also found at Poulshot, Wilts, 1707.

Donation No. 2, provided another flagon, exactly like the earlier one, but rather heavier, weighing 41 oz., 16 dwt. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1744; maker's mark, initials T.W., *i.e.* Thomas Whipham; also an alms dish, quite plain, 10½ in. across. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1744; maker's mark, initials J.G. in black-letter—James Gould. Both pieces bear the inscription: 'The gift of Mr. Richd. Wood for the use of the Church in Brewton, 1744.' He was churchwarden 1702. Phelps in *Modern Somerset* gives his M.I.: 'In memory of Mr. Richard Wood, who died 15th December, 1749, aged 82 years; who gave to the use of this church one chandelier, and part of the communion plate.'

Donation No. 3, took the rather unusual form of a pair of silver candlesticks. They are very handsome in appearance, with ornamentation of cherub's heads and acanthus leaves. Height 13½ in. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1744; maker's mark, G.H., *i.e.*, George Hindmarsh. Round the base runs an inscription: 'The gift of Mr. John Gilbert, to Brewton Church, 1744.' In 1720, 28th Nov., Mr. John Gilbert mar-

ried Elizabeth Sampson, relative of donor No. 1. The Gilbert family were originally at Witcombe, in Corton Denham. Leland wrote that 'Mr. Gilbert a gentilman hathe a poore mansion house by south east of the very rootes of Camallet.' A branch seems to have settled at Bruton in the reign of Elizabeth. The will of Nicholas Gylbarte, gent. of Bruton and Wichhampton, Dorset, was proved, 2nd August, 1566. This settlement at Bruton may not be unconnected with the fact that William Gylbert was prior and abbot of that place, 1498-1533. [Introduction to *Bruton Cartulary* by Rev. F. W. Weaver, S.R.S. viii, p. xliii, seq.]

CHARLTON MUSGROVE.—The Elizabethan cup has vanished, leaving the cover behind. This is of the ordinary pattern, but very small, $2\frac{7}{8}$ in. diameter; on the button of the foot is engraved the date, 1573. This is very lucky as the date-letter is quite obliterated and the maker's mark nearly so; it looks somewhat like a thistle head. The 2 offic. marks are visible. There are two cups of this century; the earlier one of the Norwich pattern, parcel gilt, with letter for 1819, and inscribed underneath: 'A gift to the Parish Church of Charlton Musgrove 1820'; the other bears the Sheffield marks and letter for 1868, and this inscription; 'Presented by the Rev. L. C. Davis, Rector, to the Parish Church of Charlton Musgrove, June the 30th, 1873.' He was rector of Charlton Musgrove, 1864-1876. A modern flagon of usual design, with the Sheffield marks for 1844.

The most interesting piece here is undoubtedly a small saucer of the time of Charles I. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1633; maker's illegible. Diam. $5\frac{2}{5}$ in.; it has two small handles formed as scallop shells; the interior is divided by raised lines into compartments, each with a punched ornamentation. In the centre within a circle is a shield bearing: a chevron between three roses (Phelips), imp. quarterly, one and four, a saltire (Rilleston), two and three, a chevron between three scallops (Farewell). The details of this shield are quite in

order, and it is apparently some alliance of the Phelips or Wadham families; but the effort to find out the 'femme' quarterings, enables me to say that the whole shield is in reality reversed by the error of the engraver in copying direct from the seal, and not from an impression, and that the heraldry is really that of the Farewells, of Holbrooke Grange, in this parish. Phelps, under South Cadbury, gives a shield on the monument of the Rev. George Farewell, as quarterly, one and four a chevron between three escallops; two and three a saltire, imp. Dawe of Ditchheat; and a plate at Wincanton (see *post*) has the same quartered shield. The arms in the first and fourth are those of Farewell, and in the second and third Rilleston of Rilleston in Yorkshire.* Then the impaled coat is Phelips of Montacute. John Farwell of Holbrooke married 7th January, 1561-2, Ursula, daughter of Thomas Phelips, of Montacute."† He was buried at Charlton Musgrove, 12th March, 1615 [Par. Reg.]. If this piece of plate was given in his widow's lifetime, or soon after her death, Ursula must have lived to the age of 90.

There is also a small plated salver, and a pewter bowl in the church.

CHESTERBLADE.—A chapelry attached to Evercreech. It preserves its Elizabethan cup with cover, of a rather later date than is usual in this diocese. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; letter for 1577; maker's mark, H, charged with an arrow paleways, barb downwards; a mark also found in Wilts. The cup stands 7in. high; the bowl is straight-sided and deep, with two bands of ornament. The knop and feet have bands of hyphens, which are also found on the cover.

Also two plates and a flagon, plated.

CUCKLINGTON.—A small Elizabethan cup, minus its cover. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1572; maker's mark, I.P., in shield (*v.* Introduction). The cup stands 6 in. high; the bowl is al-

* Communicated by G. Farwell, Esq., Q.C., of Lincoln's Inn.

† Montacute Reg.

most trumpet-shaped, widening out just below the lip; round it are two bands of running ornament. The knop and foot have bands of hyphens.

The flagon and a salver were a present. They both bear this inscription: 'To the glory of God and the use of the inhabitants, of the parish of Cucklington, at the Holy Communion, the gift of Nathl. Dalton Rector and Catherine his wife A.D. 1755.' The flagon is of the tankard type with wide spreading foot. It is exactly one foot high, and the foot is $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. across. Marks; 2 offic.; letter for 1754; maker's mark (partly worn away), W and perhaps G, in which case the initials stand for Will. Grundy. The salver is $8\frac{3}{4}$ in. across, with gadrooned edge. Marks: same as on flagon except the maker's which are w^{ps}s within a cross patée, *i.e.*, Will. Shaw and Will. Priest.

There is also another salver, same size as the other, but the gadrooned edge does not follow the same pattern. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1767; maker's mark, W.P. and J.P., divided by a cross with wavy arms, *i.e.*, Will. and James Priest. The salver is inscribed: 'To the glory of God and the use of the inhabitants, of the parish of Cucklington, at the Holy Communion, the gift of Catharine Dalton, widow of Nathl Dalton, the late Rector A.D. 1767.' Nathaniel Dalton was the only surviving son of Nathaniel Dalton and Mary, daughter and (eventually) heiress of Hugh Watts, of Shanks House, in this parish. He succeeded his father as rector in 1706, and held the living for sixty years. His widow was a daughter and coheiress of Henry Dirdoe, of Milton House, parish of Gillingham, Dorset. She survived him for five years and was buried 23rd October, 1771.

EVERCREECH.—The cup with its cover is of an unusual shape, and as there are no marks visible, it is not easy to determine its date. It stands $7\frac{1}{8}$ in. high, and $4\frac{1}{8}$ in. wide at lip of bowl, which is slightly concave in outline. The lower part of the bowl is covered with spiral flutings below a band of

crescent-shaped marks. The stem is nondescript, the knop very thick and clumsy, the upper part covered with spiral flutings in imitation of the bowl. The foot is flat, the sides are ornamented with straight flutings. The paten is flat, decorated like the foot of the cup; the button bears this inscription: "This bowl was Repaired in the year 1702 Mr Añbs Turner & Lauz^{us} Salmon Churchwards.' In Nightingale's *Church Plate of Dorset*, there is an engraving of a cup at Swanage, which much resembles the one at Evercreech, but it is more elaborate in detail. This is dated 1692. The worst part about the Evercreech 'bowl' is the stem, and this may have been broken and roughly mended.

A very large flagon of the tankard pattern. Marks: 2 of Brit. sterling, letter for 1718, and maker's mark initials BA.—Richard Bayley. It bears this inscription: 'Mrs. Susanna Hayward wid^w gave this Flaggon to Evercreech Church 1719.' The donor was the widow of John Hayward, gentleman, of Bagbury in this parish.

A small dish with gadrooned edge, on three feet; it bears the sacred monogram and an inscription: 'The gift of Mrs. Ann Wood the wife of Mr. Richard Wood of Brewton for the use of the Church of Evercreech 1744.' [For Mr. R. W. *see under* Brewton in this Deanery.] Marks: 2 offic; letter for 1744; maker's mark, the initials I.S. within an oval. Cripps gives a mark exactly like this except that it has a ring of pellets round the letters. This mark is also found at Shepton Mallet.

A modern chalice, paten, and almsdish, of mediæval design, bearing the inscription: 'Hanc Chalicem (Patinam, Elemosynarium) in usum fidelium in æde Sancti Petri ad pagum Evercreechiensem convententium donum dedit Carolus Gualterus A. Napier B.A. vicarius A.D. 1844.'

KILMINGTON.—The plate here is modern. A cup and paten with the letter for 1806. The cup stands 7½ in. high; it is a handsome piece with ornamentation of oak leaves. On

the bowl are the Digby arms, a fleur-de-lys, and the following inscription, which also appears on the paten: 'E dono Caroli Digby A.M. Rectoris Kilmington, Anno Domini 1806.' The Donor was Rector of Kilmington, 1767 to 1811.

A flagon of modern ecclesiastical design with the letter for 1864.

LAMYAT.—The plate here is interesting. An Elizabethan cup and cover, made by R. Orange of Sherborne, and bearing his mark (*see* Introduction). The cup is $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; there is one band of the distinctive ornament round the bowl, on the lip of which is the date 1572. The cover bears the same mark, but on the button is the date 1681, which must be either the date of repair, or perhaps replacement of that part. Then there is a flagon of the less usual jug or round-bellied type. This pattern ceased to be used for ecclesiastical purposes after the Restoration, but remained in secular service much later, as the date-letter testifies. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1725; B.N. in heart-shaped shield *i.e.* Bowles Nash. It stands $9\frac{7}{8}$ in. high and is very heavy. It bears this inscription: 'The Revd Trethewy Tooker 1746 did upon his Death Bed Devote this Present of Sr Thomas Littleton to him to the Communion Service in the Parish Church of Lamyeat.' Coat of arms: a chevron between three escallops sa. (Littleton) imp. quarterly first and fourth an eagle displayed (Leofric, Earl of Mercia); second and third two bars each charged with three martlets (Temple). Supporter (on dexter side only), a merman holding a trident. These are the arms of Sir Thos. Littleton of Frankley, co. Worcester, M.P., lord of the Admiralty 1727, and of his wife Christian, daughter of Sir Richard Temple of Stowe. Their eldest son George was created Lord Lyttleton, 1757.

Trethewy Tooker, son of James Tooker of Midsomer Norton, gentleman (*Collinson* ii, p. 151), matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, 4th April, 1691, ætat sixteen. He was Rector of Wheathill for less than a year, and became Rector of

Buckland, Gloucester, 1714. An entry in the Lamyat registers explains his occupation in the interval, and his connection with this parish: '1705 4th May—Buried Francis wife of Trethewy Tooker, minister of Pilton, and daughter of Judah Horsington of Lamyat.'

A small dish with moulded edge on three feet. Diameter $5\frac{3}{8}$ in. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1739; maker's mark *J.M.*, in shaped punch—James Morison. On under-side this inscription: 'The gift of Mrs. Anne Pitney 1740.' In parish register, 'Mrs. Ann Pitney, buried 10 Nov. 1764, widow of Rev. Mr. Pitney of this parish.' They were an old yeoman family who lived in a house near the church: over the door is a stone with the initials M.A.P. (the P above the M.A.), 1718. A Matthew Pitney, son of Matthew and Frances was baptized 10 Dec. 1665, and became a member of Wadham College, 1682. He took the degree of B.A., 1687. He was never incumbent of this parish, nor is it known what cure he did hold. [Communicated by Rev. H. C. Guyon, Rector].

MILTON CLEVEDON.—The plate—cup with cover, paten and flagon—was given early in the eighteenth century; it is a striking example of the fashion of that period. The maker was Paul Lamerie, who stood at the head of the trade at that time. All the pieces are silver-gilt of Britannia sterling; they bear the 2 offic. marks, the letter for 1717, and the letters L.A. between a crown and a small cross. The cup stands $10\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, and, with the domed cover, 13 in. The deep bowl, encircled by a projecting band or rib, stands on an elongated stem with a peculiar kind of knop halfway down. The moulded foot is 5 in. in diameter. The paten is a plain dish on foot 8 in. wide. The flagon is of the ordinary tankard pattern, with wide spreading foot, $12\frac{3}{4}$ in. high. They all bear this inscription: 'The gift of Mrs. Strangways to ye Church of Milton ye 25th of December in ye year of our Lord 1717.' The donor was Susannah (1660-1718), daughter and heiress of John

Ridout, Esq., of Milton Clevedon, and wife of Thomas Strangways, Esq., of Melbury Park, Dorset. They had, with other children, Susannah, who married Thomas Horner, Esq., of Mells: Elizabeth, their only surviving child, became the wife of Stephen Fox, Earl of Ilchester. Mrs. Strangways, her daughter Mrs. Horner, and her husband's niece, Miss Judith Ayliffe, of Foxley, Wilts, were all customers of Paul Lamerie, who made to their orders church plate for several parishes in Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset.

PENSELWOOD.—All modern. A cup, parcel-gilt, with date letter of 1843. A paten, bearing in centre a cross standing on pile of rocks, and the sacred monogram, of same date. A glass cruet with silver mountings, 1895. A plated flagon.

PITCOMBE.—Again all modern. A cup (parcel-gilt) and paten, letter for 1857, bearing inscription: 'Church of St. Leonard's Pitcombe 1858.' A flagon, under foot inscribed: '1842 Pitcombe Parish the gift of the Right Honourable Henry Hobhouse.' For some account of the donor *see Records of Yarlinton*, p. 11. Two alms dishes of plated metal inscribed: 'For God and the Poor.' Underneath, the same inscription as on the cup, and the initials V.P.T., *i.e.*, Vernon Pearce Taylor, who was vicar of Pitcombe with Wyke Champflower, 1846-1880, when he resigned. Dying in 1890, he was buried in Pitcombe churchyard, M.I.

REDLYNCH.—A chapelry annexed to Brewham. It possesses a very interesting post-mediæval chalice with cover. This chalice stands 9 in. high. The diameter of bowl at lip is 4 in. and its depth $3\frac{1}{2}$ in.; it is almost straight sided. The stem is hexagonal with an angular knop in the middle; at the base of the stem is a flange; underneath, the sides of the stem spread out to form a foot with rounded lobes. The cover has no resemblance to a mediæval paten, but is of the ordinary type, with a foot on which is a small ball. The weight of the chalice and cover is 29 oz. 12 dwt. A large plain paten on foot, measuring $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. across, and weighing 18 oz. 4 dwt. A flagon

of the jug or round-bellied type, which resembles the example at Lamyat in this deanery. It measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. to level of lip, and $12\frac{1}{4}$ in. to the cross on the cover. The stem is decorated with a large knop. Weight, 41 oz. 3 dwt. These three pieces have only the maker's mark, an S. under a crown in plain shield, a mark given by Cripps under 1664. They also bear a fox sejant on a cap of maintenance. This is the crest of Sir Stephen Fox, who purchased Redlynch in 1672. Mr. Cripps remarks that these chalices are found in the period 1637-1676 ; so that all the evidence goes to dating this service about the time of the purchase of Redlynch. For some account of the donor, whose present representative is the Earl of Ilchester, see Phelps' *History of Somerset* under 'Redlynch.' An alms dish or paten with gadrooned edge on foot, in centre : sacred monogram within rayed circle. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1757 ; maker's mark obliterated.

SHEPTON MONTAGUE.—An Elizabeth cup and cover by I.P. The cup stands 6 in. high ; the bowl is deep in proportion to its width ; it has two bands of interlaced ornamentation, and there is another round the foot. Marks (same on cover) : 2 offic. ; letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I.P. The cover has a band of ornamentation, and on the button is the date 1573. Cup and cover are gilded inside.

A paten on foot ; all new except foot, which is inscribed : 'Eccles : Shepton Ex dono Joan. Webbe ejusdē Ministri 1684.' By the modern date-letter it appears that this piece was renovated in 1848.

A brass alms dish and plated ditto, with monogram T.M., *i.e.*, Thomas Mason, who was vicar 1847-1851.

STOKE TRISTER.—The cup is of late eighteenth-century design. The bowl is decorated with sacred monogram within rayed circle ; the knop and foot have each a band of beads. The cup stands $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1774 ; maker's mark, W.G., probably William Gundy, entered 1747. The bowl is inscribed : 'Presented by the congregation of

Bayford to the Rev^d. R. C. Phelips, their minister Dec. 1838.' A paten with moulded rim, on foot. Diameter $5\frac{1}{2}$ in, Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; letter for 1718 ; maker's mark, L.E., in circle ; Timothy Ley, also found on paten at Sherborne. It is inscribed : ' Presented to the Rev^d. R. C. Phelips Rec^d. 1838.' An alms dish, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide. Marks, 2 offic., Exeter modern ; letter for 1839 ; maker's initials, R.W. Inscribed : ' This Service of Communion Plate was presented by the Rev^d. R. C. Phelips the Rector to the New Church of Stoke Trister in 1841.'

The Rev. Richard Colston Phelips was rector of Cucklington and Stoke Trister 1833-1862.

UPTON NOBLE.—The cup is a good specimen of the baluster-stem pattern ; it stands 9 in. high, and is very heavy for its size ; the interior of the bowl is gilt. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1647 ; maker's mark, a bird in shield ; this is not in *Cripps*. On the bowl is pricked the date 1648, and some initials almost obliterated. This was no doubt done when the cup was presented to the the parish, as it is inscribed on foot, ' Ex dono M. Jenkyns,' in a style of lettering quite one hundred years later than the date of the cup. A broad paten on a foot, with shallow depression in centre. All the marks have disappeared except the maker's, and that is too far gone for recognition. A silver flagon, letter for 1876, inscribed on plate : ' The thank-offering Jan. 1880 of Walter Collyns Baker Rector of Batcombe cum Upton Noble for having been permitted to rebuild this church, which was in ruins ; half of the cost having been paid by himself, and half by public inscription.' A small dish, electro-plate.

WINCANTON.—The cup and paten are of late seventeenth century. The cup, height $7\frac{1}{2}$ in., consists of a massive bowl with lip, resting on a trumpet-shaped stem and spreading foot. This cup and the paten, which serves for a cover, are very plain. They both bear the same marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1695 ; maker's mark, initials I.C. under crown, perhaps James

Chadwick. A dish, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, much resembling a modern soup plate. Marks : 2 offic. for Brit. sterling ; letter for 1712 ; maker's mark, C.O., pellets above and below, *i.e.*, Robert Cooper. On the rim of the dish is an oval shield, surrounded by mantling, bearing : Quarterly ; first and fourth, a chevron between three escallops ; second and third, a saltire ; imp., a rose. On the opposite side of the rim is a crest, a tiger ducally gorged, sejant. These are the arms and crest of Farewell of Holbrook Grange. (*See* under Charlton Musgrove in this deanery.) Thomas Farewell of Holbrook, who married Judith Williams of Horsington, was dead before 1684. He left, besides daughters, five sons. James and John do not appear to have married ; George married Ann Dawe of Ditcheat ; Nathaniel, who, though the youngest son, seems to have eventually succeeded to Holbrook, married Susannah Coker of Mapowder, Dorset ; and Christopher, who died 10th October, 1728, married Catherine ———. As the rose in the shield is not the coat-of-arms of any of the other wives, it may have been that of her family, but I have not been to identify it. Another dish, 9 in. wide, quite plain. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1729 ; maker's mark, T.T. under crown—Thomas Tearle. In centre of dish, within mantling is a shield bearing : a saltire, on a chief three lions rampant. Encircling the mantling is an inscription : ' Abraham Gapper Esq. Churchwarden of Winecalton 1728.' In the south aisle of the parish church is a stone inscribed, *inter alia*, ' In a vault underneath the East part of this isle built by Abraham Gapper, Sergeant at Law was interred his body the xxiii of May MDCCLIII. aged lxxii.' This family were prominent citizens of Wincanton in the eighteenth century. They lived at Balsome, an old house on the outskirts of the town, still standing.

A flagon with the Sheffield date-letter for 1843, inscribed : ' Wincanton Church A.D. 1844.'

A chalice and paten, given by the late Miss Chafyn Grove, of Zeals, who also bought and restored to the parish the great

tithes which had been alienated in 1374. The gift is a magnificent specimen of modern work, silver-gilt and enriched with precious stones. Underneath the chalice is the inscription : 'In Dei gloriam et in usum ecclesiæ SS. Petri et Pauli apud Wincanton d.d. Julia E. Chafyn Grove in festo Paschali. MDCCCLXXXIX.' Miss Grove was descended from Hugh Grove, who was beheaded at Exeter in 1655 for his share in the Penruddocke rising. He was settled at Chisenbury, and his only son John married Mary Chafyn, the heiress of the Zeals property.

WYKE CHAMPFLOWER.—A chapelry joined to Pitcombe. An Elizabethan cup, by I.P., and much resembling his other work. The cup stands $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, the bowl deep in proportion to its width, with two bands of ornament of the period ; the knop and foot have bands of hyphens. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1573 ; I.P. The paten is of a later age and design. It is flat and wide, with a shallow depression within brim ; no ornamentation. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1623 ; maker's mark, within a shield a T., with an excrescence on one side of the stem. There is no mark quite like this in *Cripps* ; but as the lower part of the mark is much worn, it may really be T.F. combined in a monogram, a mark given by *Cripps* from 1609 to 1628. On the foot of the paten is a shield, surrounded by mantling, bearing ; Quarterly, in each quarter a chevron between three crosses crosslet, on the honour point a crescent. Crest, a bull's head. On the tomb of Henry Southworth, owner of Wyke Champflower, 'who at his own charge builte and adorned this chapell, and departed this life the 23d of May 1625,' (*Collinson* i, p. 219) this coat appears blazoned, first and fourth, arg. and sa. ; second and third, counter-changed. The arms in the first and fourth quarterings are Southworth, and the quartered coat is that of Dayes. The pedigree in the Visitation of 1623 begins with Sir Gilbert Southworth of Southworth, Lancs, and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Mich. Dayes of Salmsburie,

Lanc. The crescent is the cadency mark of the second son, and so the paten was probably a present by Henry's younger brother Thomas, recorder of Wells 1608-9, M.P. for that city 1613, 1619, who died the same year as his brother.

There are also two pewter plates.

SHEPTON MALLET DISTRICT.

THIS district contains sixteen ancient parishes and chapelries, and seven new parishes and chapelries, which have been mostly carved out of St. Cuthbert's, Wells. Elizabethan plate is to be found in seven parishes, including the Cathedral Church, which has two cups and patens and a flagon of this period, the latter being the only piece of plate (other than cup and cover) surviving of this reign. The cover is missing at East Cranmore.

COXLEY.—A new parish formed in 1844. The plate consists of a chalice, paten, and flagon (plated) recently purchased at Wippell's.

CROSCOMBE.—Two cups, parcel-gilt, with sacred monogram within rayed circle. Date-letter for 1831. On foot of one cup: 'To the glory of God, given to the Rev. J. East for Crocombe Church 1832.' A large paten on foot, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter, the rim moulded, and sacred monogram in centre. Marks: 2 of Brit. sterling; letter for 1713; maker's mark, wellnigh obliterated. A dish or salver, with moulded edge, $10\frac{7}{8}$ in. in diam.; Marks: 2 offic.; maker's mark, A.R. with a fleur-de-lys between two pellets in a shield, given by Cripps under 1678; date-letter almost gone, perhaps that for 1679. A flat-topped flagon $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, with same inscription as on the cup. Marks: 2 of Brit. sterling; letter for 1709; maker's mark: in a shield black-letter *T.B.* with *i* above and *e* below—Robert Timbrell. Pewter, a set preserved in chest in vestry.

DINDER.—The cup and cover are of 18th century, but made after an earlier pattern. The cup has a slight lip to a straight-sided bowl, a thick stem with annular knop, and spreading foot. It is $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. high. On the button of the cover is 'Dinder.' Marks (same on both) : 2 offic. ; letter for 1731 ; maker's mark, T.M. in shield, probably Thomas Mason. The cup is inscribed : 'Dinder chalice was bought 1731.' A paten on foot, diam. $7\frac{3}{8}$ in., with moulded edge ; inscribed : 'Dinder salver bought the 1 Oct. 1740.' Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1723 ; maker's mark, T.M., a greyhound sejant above. This is the mark of Thomas Morse, entered 1720. A salver with gadrooned edge, on three feet ; the centre filled in with foliage and A.W.A. in monogram. Inscribed : 'Given by John Armstrong, Rector, for the use of Dinder Church, Christmas 1858.' It bears the date-letter for 1827. A small flagon of ecclesiastical pattern, with date-letter for 1877.

DITCHEAT.—The cup is a fine specimen of early 17th century pattern. It stands $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. high ; the bowl is deep and has a slight lip ; the stem has a knop in centre ; the foot is moulded. The cover is now missing. Under the foot of the cup is an inscription : 'The Communion Cupp and Cover of the Parishe of Ditchett in Somersetshire wayes 21 & halfe and halfe Quarter.' Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1635 ; maker's mark, R.W., with a rose underneath. (*see also* E. Pennard and Shepton Mallet). A flagon, flat-topped, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, with moulded foot ; Inscribed : 'The silver flaggon of the Parishe of Ditchatt in Somerset wayes fortye ounces and half 1635.' Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1635 ; maker's mark, R.C. with arrow head below in heart-shaped shield. (This mark is found on the communion plate at St. Margaret's, Westminster). A large paten on foot, diameter $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. Inscribed : 'This Patten was Bought for the Parish of Ditchett by John Hoskins and George Longman Churchwardens 1732.' Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1732 ; maker's mark, T.M.—Thomas Mason. Also two plated patens and a pewter dish.

DOULTING.—A fine Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is $7\frac{1}{8}$ in. high; the bowl deep in proportion to its width, with one band of ornament; above and below stem are bands of upright strokes; the foot has egg-and-dart ornament round edge. The cover is quite plain; the button seems to have been restored. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1573 (on cover only); maker's mark, A.K., in monogram; this mark is also found at Ashington. A plain paten, on foot, diam. $7\frac{5}{8}$ in. Inscribed: 'This piece of plate was bought for the Parish of Dowlting by Richard White and James Stone Church Wardens 1731.' Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1731; maker's mark, G.R., in heart-shaped shield—Gundry Roode. A chalice and paten, silver-gilt, given by Mr. Horner, of Mells, patron of the living, at the rebuilding of the church, 1871. A glass cruet with silver-gilt fittings.

DOWNHEAD.—A small Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; there are two bands of ornament round bowl; bands of hyphens round knop and foot. Round cover one band of ornament, on button '1573.' Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1572; maker's mark, I.P. A large paten, on foot, diameter 8 in., inscribed: 'In usum ecclesie Omnium Sanctorum de Downhead MDCCCLIV.' In centre of paten is the sacred monogram within rayed circle. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1777; maker's mark, R.M., R.C. in square punch—Robert Makepeace and Richard Carter.

EAST CRANMORE.—An Elizabethan cup, minus its cover. It is $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. high; the bowl has two bands of running ornament; the knop and the foot are plain. Between the bands the sacred monogram has been engraved, and the interior of the bowl has been gilt. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1576; maker's mark, M. in shield. A small flat-topped flagon; on the front a rayed circle enclosing sacred monogram; underneath: 'Given to East Cranmore Church by Jane Elizabeth Gough.' Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1618; maker's mark, I.C. with small figure beneath in square-shaped shield. There is no mark exactly

like this in *Cripps*, but it is not very clear. Underneath the foot the weight 19 oz., $\frac{1}{2}$ dwt. is given, dotted in. A large salver with moulded rim on three feet. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1749; maker's mark, J.R.—John Robinson. It is inscribed: 'East Cranmore Church d.d. J.P., 1818.' A small salver on three feet, with date-letter for 1819. It bears the same inscription as the larger salver, but the date is one year later. The initials are those of John Paget, Esq., of East Cranmore.

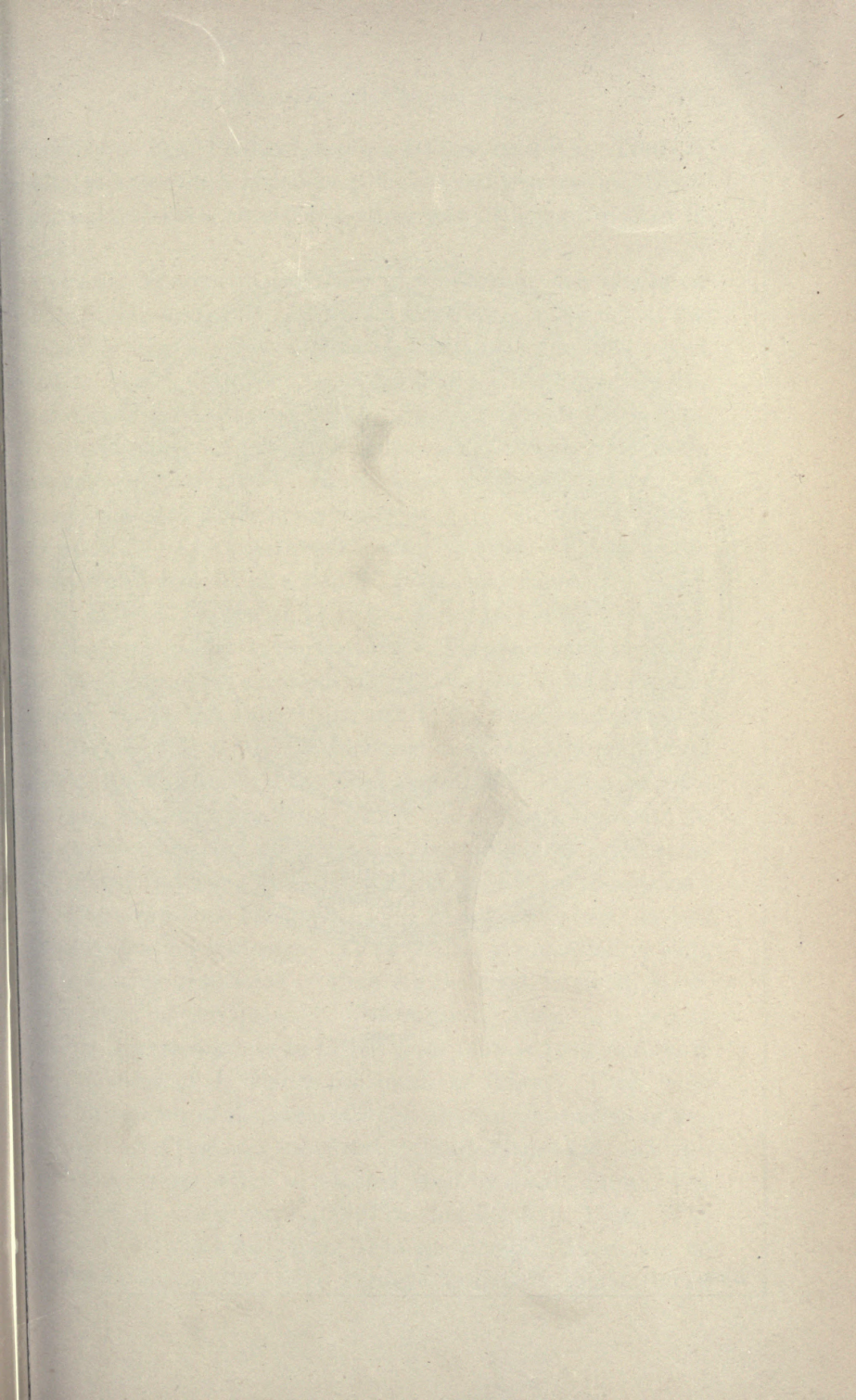
EAST PENNARD.—This parish possesses an unusual quantity of fine pieces of plate. A cup and cover, wholly gilt, by the same maker as the cups at Diteheat and Shepton Mallet. The cup stands $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, with a deep bowl, a short stem with knop in centre, and moulded foot. The cover has a small flange on rim to keep it in position. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1633; maker's mark, R.W., with small rose beneath in shaped punch. Another cup, paten and flagon, all wholly gilt, and bearing the same coat-of-arms and inscription. The cup is 8 in. high, and the paten, on foot, 8 in. in diameter. Marks: (not visible on cup): 2 offic.; letter for 1727; maker's mark, W.L., most probably William Lukin. These initials are given in *Cripps* about this date in a shaped punch with curved sides. The inscription runs thus: 'Ex dono Mariæ Gerardi Martin generosi relictæ.' Arms in a lozenge: Arg., two bars gu., Imp. Az., three birds rising.' On a lias slab in front of the communion rails in East Pennard church the same coat-of-arms appears with this inscription (*Collinson* iii, 479, correcting the date in *Phelps*): 'Here lyeth the body of Mary, relict of Gerard Martin, gent, who died the 15th day of March, 1731-2, aged 51.' Gerard Martin was a younger son of William Martin, who purchased the manor of East Pennard from William Harbin of Newton, Esq., in 1682. Although the family of Mary Martin, widow, is not on record, I make the following suggestion, on the basis of the family arms. The shield is given in Guillim as that of Richard Baylie, D.D., President of St. John's Coll., Oxf., and Dean of Sarum. His

second son, John, was Chancellor of Wells. In *Collinson*, vol. iii, p. 497, and *Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Proceedings* xvi. ii, 37, his christian name is incorrectly given as William. He married a daughter of Edward Berkeley of Pylle, the adjoining parish to East Pennard; and they both died in 1688, leaving three orphans aged seven, six, and two years respectively, that is they were born 1681, 1682, and 1686; and Mary Martin was also born in 1681. This is extracted from the correspondence of William Dodington, published in *Som. and Dorset Notes and Queries* v. p. 22, which also shows that the mother's family took charge of the orphans; and as they would probably be a good deal at Pylle, a marriage between one of them and a son of a neighbouring squire is very probable. A pair of very fine silver candlesticks, standing nearly two feet high. They bear the Sheffield Hall mark (a crown), and the date-letter for 1817, and the inscription: 'Presented by Sarah the widow of Gerard Martin, Esq., to the church of East Pennard, 1815.' In the church there are monuments to Gerald Martin, Barrister-at-Law, who died 21st December, 1789, aged 58 years; and to Sarah, relict of the above, who died 19th May, 1815, aged 69. Arms: Martin imp. gu., three horses in pale arg. Gerald Martin was the eldest son of Henry Martin; he died childless, and the property eventually passed to his niece, Sarah, wife of Edward Berkeley Napier, Esq.

EASTON.—A modern parish, part of S. Cuthbert's, Wells. The plate consists of a chalice, paten, and flagon. Each piece bears the sacred monogram, and in addition the flagon is inscribed: 'Dedicated to the service of Almighty God in the Church of S. Paul's in the parish of Wells. By six Brothers, A.D. 1842.'

HORRINGTON.—A parish formed out of S. Cuthbert's, Wells, in 1844. It possesses a chalice, two plates, and a flagon (plated) given at that date.

LOTTISHAM.—This was formerly part of Ditcheat. In 1877 it was separated, and with West Bradley (q.v.), hitherto a





PILTON,
C. 1490.

chapelry to East Pennard, made a distinct benefice. There is a chapel here which possesses a chalice and two patens, silver-gilt, and two glass cruets with silver-gilt fittings, presented in 1877.

NORTH WOOTTON.—A cup and cover of the Georgian period, plain and solid. The cup stands $9\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; on the button of the cover is the sacred monogram within rayed circle. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1750; maker's mark, J.R., with star above in shaped punch—John Robinson. A beautiful chalice and paten, wholly gilt, with date-letter for 1881, given by the Rev. T. P. Nunn, vicar of West Pennard. A glass cruet with silver mountings.

OAKHILL.—This parish was formed in 1866, the date of the plate, which consists of a chalice, paten, and flagon.

PILTON.—This parish is thrice lucky in having preserved the mediæval paten (*v.* illustration). The general design is of the Tudor type, as arranged by Mr. Cripps in *O.E.P.*, and Messrs. W. H. St. John Hope and T. M. Fallow (*Archæological Journal*, xliii). It has a narrow moulded edge and brim, within which is sunk a six-lobed depression. The spandrels between the lobes are filled with a small ornamentation. In the centre within a double circle is the vernicle, or representation of the Saviour's face. Round the brim is an inscription: ' + Orate pro bono ctatu d. J. Dier vicarius hiuc loci,' in late fifteenth century lettering. The grammar is somewhat to seek, but it is to be translated: ' Pray for the good estate of Sir J. Dier, vicar of this place.' Unfortunately there is a gap in the list of presentations to Pilton from 1468 to 1512, and there is no mention of J. Dier in the annals of Pilton. There were two incumbents of the name of John Dier in the diocese in this period. The first was presented to High Ham 1459, and also to Closworth in 1490; he vacated both by death, 1499. The second held Long Sutton 1497 to his death in 1506. The second John Dier may have been the donor. There are no marks on the paten. The vernicle, spandrels outside lobes,

the cross and the diamond-shaped ornaments separating the words of the inscription, are gilt. A fine Elizabethan cup and cover, parcel-gilt, by the same maker as the Batcombe cup (1567). The cup stands $8\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; the parts gilt are the lip, band round bowl, knop, head and foot of stem, and base of foot. The fillets inclosing the running ornament round bowl, instead of continuing on after the interlacing, are returned back like the links of a chain. The knop has a band of hyphens. The foot is decorated with egg-and-dart ornament. The cover has a band of running ornament; this, the foot of the stem, and the button, are gilt; on the button is engraved: '1570 P. P̃AR.' Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1570; maker's mark, H.W., with pellet above and below. Another cup, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, with a plain bowl and trumpet-shaped stem. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1684; maker's mark, F.S. in a shield with the top line scalloped; the same initials in a plain shield are given in *Cripps* under 1676. Round the bowl is an inscription: 'The gift of Madame Howard to this Church. Performed by Harry Bruges Esqr. A^o Dni 1686.' It was more correctly a legacy, as is testified by the register of Pilton: 'The right worshipful Elizabeth Howard died May 9, and was buried at Stoke Rodney the 29 of May, 1683.' The donor was one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Sir Edward Rodney of Stoke Rodney, by Frances, daughter of Sir Robert Southwell of Woodrising, co. Norfolk, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Charles Howard, Lord High Admiral of England, *temp.* Elizabeth. Her father, Edward, was son of Sir John Rodney and Jane, daughter of Sir Henry Seymour. Miss Elizabeth Rodney married in 1665 Charles Howard of St. Martin's Fields, Esq., Bach. (Marr. Alleg. Vicar Gen. Cant., Harl. Soc., 1886); so that as in her own and her husband's veins there was coursing the blood of all the Howards, to say nothing of the other noble families mentioned above, she may well have claimed the title of 'right worshipful.' Her connexion with Pilton was created by her mother's will (proved 22nd March,

1659-60), who directed that her daughter Elizabeth should hold and enjoy the inclosed grounds of Pilton Park and the mansion house of Pilton during her life, which was lately granted by lease from the Marquis of Hertford. Harry Bruges, the 'performer,' was her nephew, a son of Anne Rodney and Sir Thomas Bridges, of Keynsham. He was born 1647, and died 1728; his monument is in Keynsham church (*Collinson* ii, 408). A flagon of the tankard pattern, with sloping sides and domed lid. It is ornamented with the same pattern as that on the Elizabethan cup, is parcel-gilt, and measures $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. to lip, and 10 in. to top of lid. Marks: 3 offic.; letter for 1786; maker's mark, in square punch two sets of initials, partly worn away: they are most probably S.G.—Samuel Godbehere; E.W.—Edward Wigan; entered 1786. Pewter, a small bowl and a tall tankard, preserved in the church.

PYLLE.—The communion plate is all of one date and given by the same persons. It consists of a cup of the Georgian pattern, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, paten on foot, dish, and flagon. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1737; maker's mark, E.P., with small object above almost obliterated. If it is a lion, it is the mark of Edward Pocock. Each piece has the sacred monogram and the inscription: 'Ex dono Gulielmi Portman Armigi et Annæ uxoris suæ Ann: Dom: 1737.' William Berkeley of Pylle, a junior branch of that family of Bruton, took the name of Portman on succeeding to the property of Sir William Portman, Bart., 1735. His wife was Anne only daughter of Sir Edward Seymour, of Berry-Pomeroy, Devon, speaker of the House of Commons. W. Berkeley Portman died 1737 at Pylle.

SHEPTON MALLET.—A fac-simile pair of cups with covers by the same maker as the cups at Ditchat and East Pennard. The shape of the cup is nearer that of Ditchat. It stands 8 in. high, with plain bowl, gilt inside, and moulded foot. The cover has a flange to keep it in position. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1634; maker's mark, R. W. in shaped punch.

Underneath one cup, 'Shepton Mallet.' 'Twenty ounces halfe and a halfe quarter.' Under the other cup, 'Twenty ounces.' These pieces, and all the others except the bason, have had the sacred monogram added at some later date ; and on the two patens, 'Church of St Peter & St Paul Shepton Mallet.' A plain paten on foot, $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. in diam. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1725 ; maker's mark, I.S. in oval. This mark is given in *Cripps* with the addition of a row of tiny pellets. Two large flagons of the tankard pattern with flat lids. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1733 ; maker's mark, two sets of initials in a cross-patée, T.C.—Thomas Cooke ; R.G.—Richard Gurney. A silver bason of great weight, perfectly plain, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1733 ; maker's mark, I.F. in oval, perhaps John Fawdery.

STOKE ST. MICHAEL (OR STOKE LANE).—A large cup with cover, of the squat form found about 1700. It stands 8 in. high, and the diameter of the bowl at the lip is $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. The cover is quite plain, with button. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; letter for 1703 ; maker's mark, E.A., with fleur-de-lys below in shield—John Eastt. The bowl is inscribed : 'Richard Clavey and Roger Stone Chirch Wardens 1703.' A paten on foot, $6\frac{5}{8}$ in. across. Inscribed : 'The Gift of D^t. Rob^t. Norman to Stokelane.' There are no hall-marks, only the maker's in an oblong punch, two black-letter capitals, not easy to be made out ; they are, perhaps, H.A. This mark is struck thrice.

WELLS : THE CATHEDRAL.—For the purpose of an inventory of plate now in existence, the history of that belonging to Wells Cathedral begins in 1572, when the Chapter decreed 'that the plate that beforetime were used to superstition shalbe defaced, and of the greatest challaice shalbe made a fayer Communion cuppe with as much convenient speede as maye be before the ffeaste of Easter, and of the lesser challaice another by the tyme before limited, 19 Nov. 1572.' Whether this decree proceeded *ab intra* from their own convictions, or *ab extra*

from the order of the Bishop, is shrouded in darkness, as the episcopal registers are quite silent on the point (communicated by Canon Church). The two chalices were packed off to London to a certain goldsmith, whose initials were I.P., and two 'fayer' communion cups and patens were returned, if not by Easter, at all events by S. Dunstan's Day (19th May), 1573. The larger cup with its cover silver-gilt stands $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; the diameter of the lip is $4\frac{7}{8}$ in., and the depth of the bowl is $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Its shape is that of an inverted cone, with the apex removed; the bowl is encircled with two ribs for support, the space between being filled in with a band of the usual running ornament; above and below are bands of similar ornament, the fillets interlacing through hollow diamonds; above and below stem are bands of egg-and-dart ornament, and hollow diamonds with a pellet in centre; the knop is decorated with upright strokes and serpentine belt; the spread of the foot has the egg-and-dart and hollow diamond repeated. It is indeed a very 'fayer' cup. The cover has the running ornament on the domed part, and on the flat outer rim an interlaced serpentine design. On the button is a St. Andrew's cross, and the date 1573. The smaller cup (late 'the lesser challaice') stands 9 in. high. The bowl has only one supporting rib, and there are two belts of ornaments, but each of these is composed of two bands enclosed by three fillets. The rest of the design is similar to that on the larger cup. On the cover the St. Andrew's cross is omitted. The same goldsmith also supplied a flagon of the rare jug-shape or round-bellied pattern. It is $12\frac{1}{2}$ in. high and silver-gilt; the upper part, particularly the neck and the handle, are engraved with running patterns and arabesques; the foot is treated like those of the cups. All these pieces bear the same marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1572-3; maker's mark, I.P. After the Restoration another flagon was made to match the earlier one; it bears 2 offic. marks; the letter for 1667; and the maker's mark in the upper part of a plain shield, a star below a T. and another letter almost invisible, perhaps S.; this

mark is not in *Cripps*. Two silver-gilt patens on foot with plain raised edge. Diameter, 7 in. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1667 ; maker's mark, an anchor between the initials T.H. A large alms dish, 20 in. in diameter, with moulded edge. On the centre a St. Andrew's cross on a shield, surrounded by mantling. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1675 ; maker's mark, R.N. in shaped punch with small object beneath. On the underside is the inscription : 'D. Ri. Busby Thesaurarius.' A pair of handsome silver-gilt candlesticks, 27 in. high, resting on a tripod supported on three feet. There are no marks visible, being probably obliterated when they were gilt. They are inscribed : 'The gift of Mrs. Agnes Tucker of Coryton Devonshire 1789.' 'Gilt A.D. 1883 by the gift of James and Mary Lean.' Another pair of fluted candlesticks, silver-gilt, 15 in. high. Marks : 3 offic. ; letter for 1793 ; maker's mark, I.S. in shaped punch, *i.e.*, John Scofield, of whom it is recorded that he produced a great number of candlesticks and much other plate. Each piece is inscribed : 'Purchased with xx pounds the gift of Mrs. Agnes Tucker, and xxvii pounds added by the chapter 1794.' A modern chalice and paten, wholly gilt, after a Spanish pattern, with the date-letter for 1896. The chalice is inscribed : 'In mem. Hectoris McLean ob. 1888.' A spoon with perforated bowl and rat-tailed handle with knob at end. There are no marks ; there is just such another at S. Cuthbert's. A plain silver mace, 31 in. long (carried by the Dean's verger), with figure of S. Andrew with cross on the end ; inscribed : 'Cathedral Church of Saint Andrew in Wells 1823.' The date letter is for 1822-3. Another silver mace, 30 in. long (carried by the first clerk), with the figure of S. Andrew and cross (imperfect) on the end. It is inscribed : 'Given to Wells Cathedral by the Rev^d. Dr. Eyre Treasurer and Canon Residentiary 1808.' The date-letter is for the year 1798. There are also a silver-plated mace and some pewter plates.

In addition to the various pieces described above, which are

all in use, there are preserved in the Library of the Cathedral three small chalices of base metal. They have been recovered from coffins dug up at various times in the Cathedral, one of them in 1730. Two stone coffins now in the crypt under the Chapter-house, show how room was found for them. In one the mason left a projecting block on the right side, and then hollowed it out to receive the chalice. In the other, space was found in the thickness of the wall of the coffin itself, but to avoid weakening it too much (?), the space was hollowed out to the shape of the chalice somewhat as if it were a mould, and the chalice was then slipped in sideways. One chalice has a bowl broad and shallow, a circular stem without a knop, and round foot. In the other two the bowl is rather deeper, and there is a rudimentary knob on the stem. This pair much resemble a coffin chalice figured in *Cripps*, p. 188, and ascribed to the thirteenth century.

WELLS, ST. CUTHBERT.—As, until well on in the present century, this was the parish church, not only for the city but also for a vast area around, it is not surprising that the various donations of plate are almost superabundant. An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. The cup is a very fine specimen. It is silver-gilt and stands $8\frac{3}{16}$ in. high. Round the bowl are two bands of ornament, the enclosing fillets being hatched; in the upper band the fillets interlace through an open diamond. The knop has a band of hyphens, and the foot the running ornament. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P. The cover is, no doubt, a fac-simile of the original, even to the inscription on the button, '1573 S. Cuthbert in Wells'; but the lettering is much later in style, and the two official marks stamped inside are those of the Britannia sterling, *i.e.* 1696—1720; the maker's initials are B.A., as on the paten given by J. Worrall, 1719 (*see below*). It is silver-gilt.

Another cup and cover, silver-gilt of great weight. The cup is $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, with a deep bowl and moulded foot. The cover is quite plain with a button. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit.

sterling ; letter for 1705 ; maker's mark, P.Y. below a crown for Benjamin Pyne. Each piece is inscribed : 'Presented to the Vicar of S. Cuthbert's Wells by W. Westley, Esq., A.D. 1706.' In addition to this gift of plate, weighing 25 oz. 10 dwt., he gave other gifts to the church and city of Wells. A pair of huge flagons, each 14 in. high, 5 in. wide at lip. They are of the tankard type, flat-topped with cylindrical bodies and spreading feet. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1638 ; maker's mark, R.C., with arrow-head beneath in heart-shaped punch. Inscribed round lip (same on each), 'In honorem Sanctiss'i Redemptoris mei Jesu Christi.' Inscribed round drum (on one), 'Quid retribuam D'no pro ejus benignitatibus omnibu' erga me Psal. 116, 12' ; (on the other) 'Accipiam calicem salutis, et Nomen Dñi invocabo. Psal. 116, 12.' Below each text is a shield bearing, Arg. three pallets az. ; motto 'recta certa.' Round the foot : 'Ecclesie Parochiali S. Cuthberti in Welles.' Underneath : 'Ezechiei Barkham Gen' Parochianus, Donavit 1639.'

A paten on foot, with wide brim. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1630 ; maker's mark, I.M., above a pig passant. The foot is inscribed : 'The gift of Cornelous Wattes and An his wife to Saynt Cudberdes in Wells the 8th of June, 1644.' Another paten 11½ in. across, with very wide brim. There is only one mark visible, the maker's initials I.B., with crescent above in shield. This mark with the crescent below the initials is given by Cripps, 1669 to 1674. Round the brim runs an inscription : 'The gift of Elizabeth Mattock widow, wife of Arthur Mattock of this Citty : gentleman 1683.' There are also two shields with mantling. The first bears : A chevron party per chevron between three fleur-de-lys. Crest : A boar salient per bend (Mattock). The second shield bears : three lions ramp., two and one (Prowse). James P., of Norton Fitzwarren, in his will proved 30th September, 1661, names my 'daughter Elizabeth, wife of Arthur Mattock.' Yet another paten on foot, with moulded edge, diam. 9½ in. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ;

letter for 1717; maker's mark the initials B.A.—Richard Bayley. The paten is inscribed: 'The gift of Mr. Jacob Worrall Mayor 1719.' A salver on three feet, with raised moulded edge, diam. 9 in. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1759; maker's mark, E.C. in rectangular punch—Ebenezer Coker. In centre on an oval shield are these arms: 'Three fishes naiaint in pale, in base a crescent between 7 mullets.' A very large salver, 16in. across, of same design, date, and armorial bearings as the preceding, but the maker's initials are in script letters instead of Roman type; both marks are referred by Cripps to the same person. In Serel's *History of St. Cuthbert's, Wells*, will be found an account of the plate and their donors, with the exception of the last two pieces. I suppose them to be the arms of the family of Salmon of Wells and Wrington. In St. Cuthbert's there is a monument 'To the memory of William Salmon of this city, who died Nov. 22nd, 1761, aged 48 years; and of Elizabeth his wife, who died Aug. 6th, 1751, aged 80 years. (*Phelps*, who has probably put wife for mother.)

A spoon with perforated bowl and rat-tailed handle, no marks; exactly the same as the one at the Cathedral.

WELLS: ST. THOMAS.—A new parish formed in 1858. The plate consists of two chalices, with patens, silver-gilt, bearing date-letters for 1849, and 1850. The chalices are inscribed: *Calicem salutaris accipiam, et nomen Domini invocabo.* The patens bear: 'Per crucem et passionem tuam libera nos, Domine.' A flagon (plated) inscribed: 'Gloria in ecclesia Domino. Alleluia.'

WEST BRADLEY.—An Elizabethan cup and cover, silver gilt by I.P. The cup is $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, with two bands of running decoration. The marks are almost illegible; the date-letter is for 1572. The cover has a band of running ornament; on the button is the date 1573. 'The old chalice and paten were discovered much cracked, out of shape, and black from neglect thirty years ago by the then incumbent (my father).

He had them carefully repaired and gilt; and the second paten made exactly to match; he also gave the almsdish.' Note by the Rev. R. P. Goldney in Return of church-plate, 2 May, 1884. This second paten is still in use; it bears the date-letter for 1852. The almsdish is of plated metal, wholly gilt.

WEST CRANMORE.—A modern cup with a band of pretty ornamentation, consisting of oakleaves and acorns round lip. The bowl is gilt within, and the foot is hexagonal. Marks: 3 offic.; and date-letter for 1801. The foot is inscribed: 'The gift of Colonel John Strode to the Parish of West Cranmore 25th Decr. 1801.' Also a small flagon and two salvers of plated metal. One of the salvers bears a crest, a demi-lion ramp.; the other is inscribed: 'From Col. Strode to the Parish of Cranmore 4th May 1807.' The long connexion of the Strodes with Cranmore and Shepton Mallet was broken in 1895, when Southill House was sold.

WOOKEY HOLE.—This is a chapel of ease (erected 1874) to St. Cuthbert's, Wells. The plate consists of a chalice, paten, and flagon, given about 1880.

MERSTON DISTRICT.

THIS portion of the old deanery of Merston contains fourteen ancient parishes and one chapelry; and two modern parishes and one district chapelry, all carved out of the mother parish of Yeovil. Three parishes retain the Elizabethan cup and cover, and one has the cup alone.

ASHINGTON.—This parish was in advance of the greater part of the diocese in procuring the new style of vessels, as they bear the date-letter for 1571. The cup stands 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. high; the bowl has a single band of running ornament with four intersections; at top and base of stem are bands of upright strokes; round the foot a band of egg-and-dart ornament.

The cover has also a band of running ornament. Marks: (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; letter for 1571; maker's mark, A.K. in monogram. A paten with moulded rim, on foot, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam. Marks: 2 offic. for Brit. sterling; letter for 1717; maker's mark F.A., either Thomas Ffarren or Thomas Farrer; the mark being too worn to distinguish between the two. In the middle of the paten a wivern on a wreath, being the crest of the family of St. Barbe, owners of Ashington for several centuries. In the church is a monument to Sir John St. Barbe, Bart., 'who died at his seat at Broadlands, in Hampshire, 7th December, 1723, leaving for his only heir and executor Humphrey Sydenham, Esq., of Combe, in Somersetshire.' (*Collinson*, vol. iii, p. 214.) Another paten on foot, 6 in. in diam.; in the centre sacred monogram within rayed circle. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1727; maker's mark, T.T., perhaps Thomas Tearle, and 'Ashington 1727.' A flagon given in 1878 by the Rev. C. O. Goodford, Provost of Eton and Rector of Ashington and Chilton Cantelo.

BARWICK.—The cup and paten are of an unusual pattern. The cup stands $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; the bowl is quite plain, the shape conical. The stem is peculiar, it is not divided in the middle by a knop, but is trumpet-shaped, with a wide flange on collar close up under the bowl. This design reproduces that of the earliest cups which were made in the reign of Edward VI, very few of which survive. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1628; maker's mark, D.W., with stars and pellets above and beneath. The paten is a small dish or saucer, evidently first made for domestic use. It is $5\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide; a plain outer rim surrounds an inner one slightly depressed, covered with a series of ovoid figures with pellets in the vacant spandrels. These figures have a border, and the central space and the border are alternately plain and ornamented with a fish-scale pattern. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1640; maker's, only an M. is visible, the upper part being worn away; it is perhaps that of Thomas Maundry. On the under side the initials I.H. are

dotted in with some flourishes executed in the same way. John Harvey *alias* Harford was instituted to Barwick 12th August, 1643.

Another paten on foot. Marks : 2 Brit. sterling ; letter for 1714 ; maker's mark, C.O., pellets above and below—Robert Cooper. On bottom of foot is engraved a talbot within an oval surrounded by mantling. A flagon 11½ in. high, of ordinary tankard pattern, by the same maker as the paten, but with letter for 1709. On the drum is the same crest of a talbot. This gift is noted in the register under 1709 : 'A large silver flagon, given to ye church of Barwick by Mrs. Merril Symes, lady of the manor, ye 25th of December in ye year 1709, having her cress engraved thereon.' This lady's maiden name was Horner (of Mells) ; She married Thomas Symes, Esq., of Barwick, who died 1681 (J. Batten's *Historical Notes on South Somerset*, pp. 11, 16). A dish with sacred monogram in centre. Underneath : 'The gift of John Newman to Barwick Church A.D. 1848.' Mr. Newman's father purchased Barwick from the Symes family in 1750.

A pewter bowl at present in the font.

CHILTON CANTELO.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by I.P. The cup is 6¾ in. high ; the bowl has two bands of running ornament, the fillets interlacing with curved folds. At top and bottom of stem bands of horizontal lines. The stem has probably been renovated ; round the foot a band of intermittent lines. The cover has one band of ornament ; on the button the date 1574. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1573 ; maker's, I.P.

A paten on foot, 5⅞ in. in diameter. In centre sacred monogram within rayed circle, to which has been added an outer band of Elizabethan running ornament. Marks : 2 of Brit. sterling (1696-1720), the others obliterated. A flagon presented by Rev. J. Wilder, Fellow of Eton College, at the date of the restoration of the church, 1864.

Pewter : a flagon, pint size ; a dish with ornamented rim,

on three legs. Marks, LONDON under X, and in shields, 1, a chevron between three lions' heads erased ; 2, a harp (?) ; 3, lion's head erased ; 4, S.D.

CLOSWORTH.—A cup of the heavy design found late in the seventeenth century. It stands 8 in. high, silver-gilt, with very thick stem and rudimentary knop. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1685 ; maker's mark, I.S., with pellet below. It is inscribed : ' Ex Dono Thomæ Rocke & Rich^d Rocke Generos. An^o Dom. 1686.' For some account of this family see *Som. and Dorset Notes and Queries*, iii, 164-5.

The paten is a flat piece of silver plate 5 in. across, turned up at the rim, which is ornamented with a row of beads. To this has been roughly soldered a plain foot. No marks visible.

A modern paten and flagon inscribed : ' In memoriam E. G. Bower 1867.' This gift was made by the late rector and his wife in memory of their only child.

EAST COKER.—Imprimis, a cup and cover of early 17th century. The cup is 6½ in. high, and very heavy for its size. It has a plain bowl, stem with knop in centre, and moulded foot with a projecting flange. The cover is also quite plain. They bear the same marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1627 ; maker's mark, T.F. in monogram. Underneath the cup : ' Eastcoker H.G.I.R.' [A John Reed appears in register about this time.] On button of paten, sacred monogram and the date 1628.

Another cup and cover of the next century. The cup much resembles the one at Milton Clevedon, though not so tall or elaborate. It is 8¾ in. high. The cover is different, having been designed to serve as a paten. Marks : 2 Brit. sterling ; letter for 1722 ; maker's mark partly worn away on both pieces, but perhaps that of Aug. Courtauld, *i.e.* C O below a fleur-de-lys in shaped punch ; but here the figure above is more like a crown. Each piece has a coat-of-arms in a fanciful shield : Az. a cross flory or, between four mullets pierced arg., imp. Arg. a chevron gu., in chief two roses. The first coat

is that of Helyar of Coker Court (but the tinctures of the cross and the mullets should be interchanged), and the second coat is that of Weston, of Weston in Dorset. William Helyar, of Coker Court, b. 1720, married Betty, daughter and coheiress of William Weston, of Weston, Esq.

In the vestry is preserved a pewter bowl of uncertain age, somewhat damaged.

HENDFORD.—A new parish in Yeovil, formed in 1845. It possesses a chalice, two patens, and a flagon with scriptural inscriptions, bearing the date-letter for 1844-5.

MARSTON MAGNA.—The parish has an Elizabethan cup, unfortunately without its cover. It is a fine example, $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, parcel-gilt, with two bands of ornament round the bowl; the foot has egg-and-dart ornament. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1573; maker's mark, I.P. A large modern paten with Sheffield mark. In pewter there is a quart pot with two handles, of uncertain date.

MUDFORD.—A cup and cover of earlier Georgian era. It stands 9 in. high, the bowl deep, an annular knop round stem. The cover serves as paten; it has a deep depression within rim; on the button is the date 1772. Marks (same on both): 2 offic.; letter for 1758; maker's mark, W.P., with small cross below in shaped shield. This mark is not in *Cripps*. A paten of earlier date, $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diam., on foot. In the centre a cross and the sacred monogram. Underneath it is inscribed: 'It belong to Mudford Church: in Som'sett 1718.' Marks: 2 Brit. sterling; letter for 1718; maker's mark, G.A., under crown within circle—William Gamble.

Pewter: Three plates, and a curious flat-topped flagon.

PRESTON PLUCKNETT.—It retains the Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is $5\frac{7}{8}$ in. high; the bowl is unusually wide for its depth, it has two bands of ornament. The foot has a band of intermittent lines. The cover has a band of running ornament, and on the button the date 1574. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; letter for 1574; maker's

mark, I.P. Another cup and paten ; the cup is $11\frac{1}{8}$ in. high ; the bowl $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, and 6 in. in depth, rivalling the giants at Horsington. It is very plain. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1728 ; maker's mark, T.T.—Thomas Tearle. The paten is $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide, flat with low rim round edge, and stands on a foot ; same marks as on cup. Round the bowl of the cup is an inscription : 'The gift of Simeon Michell Gent. to the Church of Preston 1728.'

QUEEN CAMEL.—The plate here is all modern. It consists of a fine silver-gilt chalice and paten of mediæval design, procured in 1890. A cruet with plated fittings, and two plated cups, interior of bowls gilt.

In the "Return" sent to Taunton Museum in 1885, there was an account of a silver jug which weighed $2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. avoirdupois ; only mark, a lion inside lip. From the drawing I should imagine the jug to be of late eighteenth century work. Also a silver cup, no marks visible, of perhaps the same date as the jug.

RIMPTON.—The cup is of an unusual shape and design. There are no marks either on it or on the cover, but luckily the latter bears the date 1637 on the button. The cup stands $6\frac{5}{8}$ in. high ; the bowl is slightly convex in shape ; round the lip is a narrow belt of leaves ; round the middle of the bowl a broad belt divided by a wavy line into eight compartments, which the designer has filled in with—a half-length cherub, a cow's head, a thistle, a rose, and four indescribable arabesques, one of which bears a resemblance to a dinner serviette in a wineglass. The stem and foot follow Elizabethan models ; round the latter is a band of ornament similar to that round lip of bowl. "Rimpton" is engraved on bowl. A plain paten on foot, $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, inscribed : 'Rimpton 1733.' Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1731 ; maker's mark, T.M.—Thomas Mason. A flagon of plated metal.

SUTTON BINGHAM.—A small cup, $5\frac{1}{8}$ in. high ; the bowl

and stem are made out of the same piece of silver, the stem being rather more concave than the bowl, and ornamented with three lines incised round the middle. Of pattern or ornament there is none. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter obliterated; makers' initials, T.C. and R.G., arranged in a four-lobed punch—Thomas Cooke and Richard Gurney. These initials are given by Cripps for 1735, arranged in a cross patée. A small paten with the date-letter for 1886.

TRENT.—The service of plate is all of the eighteenth century. The cup is $8\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, of the usual Georgian pattern. Inscribed: 'Poculum Benedictionis A.D. 1737.' Marks (same on all): 2 offic.; letter for 1737; maker's mark, I.M. in punch—John Millington. The cover serves for paten, diameter $5\frac{3}{4}$ in., on button, '1737.' A plate, 9 in. in diameter, quite plain, 'A.D. 1737.' A straight-sided flagon, tankard pattern, with elaborate handle and moulded foot. Extreme height, $9\frac{1}{4}$ in. Inscribed: 'Lagenam hanc una cum poculo Tri-uni Deo Ad usum Ecclesiæ Tridentinæ in agro Somersetensi Humillimè dedit vovit Consecravitq. Barnabas Smyth Ejusdem Ecclesiæ Rector A.D. 1717.' Collinson, ii 388, says: "On a tombstone in Trent churchyard, 'Beneath lieth the body of the Rev. Mr. Barnabas Smyth, born at Panton in the county of Lincoln, Nov. the 21st 1692: chosen scholar of C.C.C. Oxon., Aug. the 7th 1709: nominated to the rectory of this parish Oct. 26, 1732: buried February 9th 1760.'" Mr. Smyth drew up an interesting account of the parish, which is preserved in the church safe.

WEST CAMEL.—The plate here is all of recent date, replacing some which was stolen from the rectory July, 1855. It consists of a chalice and paten, parcel-gilt, of good mediæval design. The date-letter is for 1855. Extract from the vestry book: 'Mem. On July 8, 1855 the Rectory House was broken into in time of Morning Prayer and the old Communion plate stolen therefrom.'

An electro-plated alms dish and flagon.

WEST COKER.—A cup and cover of the early part of 17th century. The cup is $7\frac{1}{8}$ in. high; the bowl is conical in shape, with slight lip, very plain; a small knob on stem; there is a flange above the spread of the foot. No marks visible except the maker's, the initials W.S. in shield. The cover serves for paten, diam. $4\frac{1}{2}$ in., there is no flange, only a shallow depression within rim. Same mark as on cup, and 1631 dotted on button.

A flagon and paten of pewter.

YEOVIL, ST. JOHN'S.—This, the mother church of the town, has lost nearly all its original plate. There are now two cups and patens with date-letter for 1855, each bearing the sacred monogram and the inscription: 'S. John's Church, Yeovil.' A very large flagon of tankard pattern. Marks: 2 Brit. sterling, letter for 1704; maker's mark, G i, under a mullet—John Gibbons. A set of alms dishes, the largest inscribed: 'In memory of William Bide who died 7th August 1864 aged 55 years. Presented to St. John's Church Yeovil by his nephew and nieces, Thomas William Dampier-Bide, Elizabeth Bide Dampier, Mary Anne W. Whetham, Christmas 1881.' This dish is 18 in. in diam. Four smaller dishes $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam., inscribed: 'In loving memory of Thomas Dampier who died 20th May 1876 aged 75 years, and of Elizabeth his wife who died 7th April 1881, aged 73 years. Presented with the three companion Plates to St. John's Church Yeovil by their children, Elizabeth Bide Dampier, Mary Anne W. Whetham, Thomas William Dampier-Bide, Christmas 1881.'

YEOVIL, ST. MICHAEL'S.—A new parish formed in 1897, possessing modern plate only.

YEOVIL MARSH.—A new parish formed about forty years ago, possessing modern plate only.

MILBORNE PORT DISTRICT.

THIS district contains eleven ancient parishes and one modern district chapel. Elizabethan cups and covers are preserved in four parishes, all being of local manufacture, three at Sherborne and one unknown.

ABBAS (OR TEMPLE) COMBE.—The cup and cover are of the Caroline period. The cup is $7\frac{7}{8}$ in. high, quite plain, the bowl straight-sided with a slight outward curve at lip. The stem and foot are more complicated with mouldings than the Elizabethan specimens. The cover has a hollow depression within a brim which is without the usual flange to keep it steady on the cup. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; letter for 1628; maker's mark, R.M. above a cinquefoil. A large flagon with date-letter for 1845. Inscribed: 'The gift of Jasper Peck Esqr. to the Church of Templecombe 1845.' The donor was at one time lord of the manor. Two handsome square salvers, the side measuring $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. They stand on four feet, with moulded edges and ornamented angles. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; letter for 1725; maker's mark, a monogram of A.Ne., *i.e.*, Anthony Nelme. Underneath is a coat-of-arms and inscription; on a lozenge-shaped shield surrounded by mantling, three cinquefoils; on a chevron, a lion's face affrontée between two roundels. Inscription: 'The gift of Mary Hounson Fox to the Church of Temple-Combe 1837.' The Fox family have been patrons of the living for many years.

CHARLTON HORETHORNE.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by Richard Orange of Sherborne (*see* Introduction). The cup is $6\frac{7}{8}$ in. high, the bowl is concave with one band of ornamentation, above and below the stem are bands of upright strokes, the foot is plain. There are two marks: a circle filled with beads terminating in a ferrule and short handle; the other the initials R.O. in rectangular punch. It was this second mark which led to the identification of the maker. The cover with foot is plain; round the cover is the inscription: 'James

Gylbert warden." On the button is the date '1603.' A large paten on foot, $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. across. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1634 ; maker's mark almost gone, the second letter, B., only remaining. Round rim this inscription : 'Donum Mariæ Hussey Ecclesiæ de Charleton Whorethorne in Comitatu Somerset.'

A modern flagon of ecclesiastical design, inscribed : 'Donum Johannis F. S. Phabayn ecclesiæ Sancti Petri de Charlton Horethorne A.D. 1866.' The donor was rector of the parish for many years. He died 1889.

There are also several vessels of base metal. Two tankards, quart and pint measure, flat-topped with spreading foot. A large shallow dish of latten or some base yellow metal, inscribed : 'Isabel Mason 1672.' The whole of the dish is covered with floral and other designs, and in the centre is a shield containing the bust and full face of a crowned female figure.

CORTON DENHAM.—An Elizabethan cup and cover by R. Orange of Sherborne (*see* Introduction), bearing his mark, and the date 1573 on button of cover. The cup is $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high; the running ornament round the bowl is of the usual London pattern ; the ribands, however, do not interlace, only meet. The knop is much smaller than in the Henstridge cup, and the two parts of the stem are trumpet-shaped instead of being tubular. The foot and the cover are plain. A paten, with moulded edge, on foot ; diameter, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. There is only one mark, the initials I.H. above a fleur-de-lys, given by *Cripps* in 1677. Round the paten the words of 1 Cor. x, 16. On the foot : 'Given by Tho. Brickenden Rectr. 1677.' He was rector 1660-1700.

A new set of communion plate—chalice, paten and flagon—was given at the restoration of the church in 1870. Each piece is inscribed : 'Corton Denham Church 1870.' An old pewter plate.

GOATHILL.—The cup and cover were given in 1711, but as the date-letter on the former is that for the year 1642, they must have done duty in some other church. The cup so

exactly resembles that in the adjoining parish of Milborne Port, which is not marked, that there is every reason to suppose that they came from the same maker about the same time. Further, the stem much resembles that of the cup at North Cheriton (also in this Deanery) which is dated 1623; and this in its turn is much the same as the one at West Lydford, which has no date-letter. None of the maker's marks on this group of cups are given in *Cripps*.

The cup $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1642; maker's mark, R.W., above a winged horse, not in *Cripps*. The bowl has one band of the running Elizabethan decoration, but coarsely done. There is also an inscription: 'This chalice belongs to the church of Goatehill ex dono John Molins Anno Dom. 1711.' The cover fits loosely on the cup; it is quite plain. The only mark is a shaped punch with concave sides enclosing the initials I.A.; struck twice.

A brass alms dish, inscribed: 'Goathill 1862.'

HENSTRIDGE.—The cup and cover are perhaps the finest example of R. Orengé's work. The cup is $8\frac{7}{8}$ in. high, the bowl, of the cone shape, spreading outward at the lip. There is one band of ornament, the inclosing fillets curved inward to touch at four points but not interlacing; the space between the fillets is filled with arabesque figures; the upright designs at the meeting of the fillets are also of an unusual pattern. The stem is tubular of the same diameter throughout; the knop is large and perfectly plain. At top and bottom of stem are bands of upright strokes. The foot and the cover have bands of ornament; on the button of the letter is the date 1574. A large paten with gadrooned edge on foot, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam. Marks: 2 offic. for Brit. sterling; letter for 1698; maker's mark, undecipherable. In the centre, surrounded by mantling, is a shield, bearing: On a fess three trefoils slipped between three greyhounds' heads erased and collared (*Churchey*); imp., A cross engrailed between four water-bougets (*Bourchier*); Crest, A greyhounds' head erased

holding in his mouth a trefoil slipped. James Churchey of Wincanton, in his will dated 25 Oct., 1720, mentions William Churchey of Henstridge, merchant. The Bouchier family lived at Thornhill in the adjoining parish of Stalbridge. The pedigree given in *Hutchins*, iii, Appendix, does not give this alliance.

Two large cruets with silver-mounted stoppers.

HORSINGTON.—No early plate here. There is a pair of enormous cups of the early part of the eighteenth century. Each stands 13 in. high, diameter of lip 6 in., depth of bowl $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. They are devoid of ornament, but there is a projecting rib round the middle of the bowl. The only marks are the initials C.M.D. (the two latter in a monogram) in a shield between two dogs trotting to the sinister, not in *Cripps*. Round the bowl is an inscription: 'The gift of Thomas Wickham Rector of Horsington.' There were two rectors of this name, the first from 1686 to 1725, when his son succeeded and held the living till 1757. I imagine the donor to be the earlier Thomas Wickham. In great contrast to the above is a Lilliputian cup and cover, only $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, quite plain. The marks are nearly obliterated, but the date-letter is that for 1734. On the bowl is the inscription: 'Ex dono rev^{di} Ant: Wickham in Usum Parochiæ Horsington.' Ant. Wickham succeeded his half-brother Thomas in 1753, and died 15 Apr., 1767.

A paten on foot, 9 in. in diam. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1723; maker's mark, W.D., *i.e.* William Darker. Underneath

T.H. churchwardens.

I.W. 1723.

A standing cup and cover of the same pattern as the well-known 'Edmonds' cup. This magnificent specimen of domestic plate stands $12\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, and with the cover 20 in., the diameter at lip is 5 in., and the depth of the bowl is also 5 in. It is silver-gilt and elaborately chased and ornamented. For its general appearance see the photograph of the cup at

Yarlington, but the design on the bowl is altogether different. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1614 ; maker's mark, I.F. in monogram. Besides the cup at Yarlington, there is another at Odcombe in this county, and they are to be found in other churches in England. Their value may be gauged by the fact that more than twenty years ago, when old plate was not so much appreciated as it is now, a cup of this fashion, gilt, weighing 46 oz., was sold by public auction in London for £200.

Under the lip of the Horsington cup is this inscription : 'Ex dono Benjamini et Johannis Hoskins Gifford fratrum de Boreham Arm. in com. Wilts.' The descent and connexion of this family with Horsington is traced by Phelps. The donors were the sons of Benjamin and Mary, daughter of John Hoskins Esq., of Beaminster, Dorset. The younger son John married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Nicholas Watts Esq., of Shanks House in Cucklington, 'which after his marriage he made the place of his residence and died there without issue 30 July 1744, in the 52nd year of his age.'

MILBORNE PORT.—The ancient borough possesses a cup and cover without any marks, but so exactly similar to the one at Goathill (*q.v.*) that there can be no doubt that they were made by the same hand. The cup stands $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. high ; there is a band of imitation Elizabethan ornament round the bowl, but coarsely executed. The cover is a marvel of plainness.

A large paten with gadrooned edge on foot ; diameter, $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1688 ; maker's mark, P. under a crown—Benjamin Pyne. Underneath inscribed : 'Given to the use of the Church of Milborne-Port in Somersettshire by Sr Thomas Trauell in ye year of our Lord 1691.' Sir Thomas Travell, knt., was owner of Ven in this parish, and M.P. for the borough 1689-1713. He sold Ven about 1708 to James Medlycott, Esq., whose son Thomas presented the flagon. This is one of the usual tankard pattern, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. high to lip ; the foot is not so extravagant as in many pieces of

this period. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1733 ; maker's mark, G.S.—Gabriel Sleath. Inscription under foot : 'The gift of Thos. Medlycott Esqr. of Ven. Churchwarden 1734.' He represented the borough in several parliaments, and died 21st July, 1763, aged 67.

A silver spoon of the same design as the gold one used at the Coronation. Inscribed : 'Sanctissimo Jesu D.D. 1890.'

MILBORNE WICK.—An outlying hamlet of Milborne Port, with a modern district chapel. The plate consists of a beautiful silver-gilt chalice and paten of mediæval design, bearing the inscription : 'Sanctissimo Jesu ad usum Oratorii juxta flumen in Vico de Milborne, D.D. Vicarius 1891.' The donor was Rev. W. J. Birkbeck, vicar of Milborne Port, 1883-1894.

NORTH CHERITON.—A plain cup and paten of Jacobean period. The cup stands $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. high. The bowl is gilt within, no ornamentation. The stem and knop resemble the cups at Lydford West, Milborne Port, and Goathill, *q.v.* ; these parts and foot are inferior to many cups of this period. The paten is also plain : it has within a flat rim a shallow depression, which receives the lip of the cup. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1623 ; maker's mark, C.X., on the X a small bird, not in *Cripps*. A flagon electro-plated.

POYNTINGTON.—The cup here has a baluster stem (so called because it resembles a baluster turned in a lathe), instead of the ordinary stem divided in the middle by a knop. It stands $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. high. Marks : 2 offic. ; letter for 1634 ; maker's mark, W.S., in shield. *Cripps* gives this mark for 1640, with the addition of a small mullet below, which may have been obliterated in this case. P. is rudely scratched under foot, and there are signs of an inscription having been erased. This was probably done when the cup came to Poyntington. In the churchwardens' account for 1723 is this entry : 'Paid for changing ye plate £1 14s. 0d.' This seems to imply that then the churchwardens procured this cup with a modern cover, giving in exchange some older and smaller vessel and 34s. to

make up the balance. The present cover is simply fashioned out of a piece of silver plate, the edge turned up to form a flange, and a foot added on the other side. Round the foot: 'Poyntington 1723'; no other mark.

Paten and flagon, given by the Malet family, and bearing their arms. Paten on foot, width 8 in., weight 10 oz. 15 dwt. In centre, a shield surrounded by stiff mantling, bearing: three escallops, two in chief and one in base. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter rather broken, but perhaps that for 1659; maker's mark, D.R. Flagon, tankard pattern with flat lid; $8\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; diameter of foot $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. Same arms as on paten. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1664; maker's mark, H.B. in monogram, with mullet below. The donor was probably Sir Thomas Malet, a judge of the Common Pleas, who was buried here 17th December, 1665, aged 83. For an account of this branch of the family, their triumphs and their wrongs, see *Som. Arch. Proceedings*, vol. xvi, ii, 67 and vol. xx, ii, 107. A silver dish of the Victorian era.

SANDFORD ORCAS.—The cup seems to be of two periods. It is $5\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, the bowl is unusually wide for its depth; its diameter being $3\frac{5}{8}$ in., and depth, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in.; it is quite plain. The stem and foot seem to belong to an Elizabethan cup, to judge from the egg-and-dart ornament round the latter. The stem has a small annular projection instead of a knop, it is roughly soldered to the bowl. No marks. The cover is quite plain with small foot or button. The only marks are two makers' stamps: the first, the letters A.A., within a shield; the second, the same initials within two circles, the inner one broken. Each of the marks is struck twice. Each pair is accompanied by another mark, too far gone to be clearly made out; one seems to be a hand pointing up to the left.

Flagon of the tankard pattern, with spreading feet; $10\frac{3}{4}$ in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1727; maker's mark, R.B.—Richard Bayley. Plain paten on foot, $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide. Marks: 2 offic.; letter for 1722; maker's mark, W.D.—William

Darker. Inscribed on under side: 'The gift of Mrs. Eliz. Hunt.' The donor, who presented to the living in 1723, was the daughter of Edmund Lloyd, of London, Esq., and second wife (and widow) of John Hunt, of Sanford Orcas, and Compton Pauncefoot. She died 9th September, 1758, aged 72. (*Phelps.*)

STOWELL.—A small cup and cover of very peculiar design. The bowl of the cup is concave, $2\frac{1}{8}$ in. wide at the lip, and $2\frac{3}{8}$ in. at the base, which is square-edged instead of rounding off gradually. It has two fillets filled in with intermittent lines interlacing at the usual intervals, but the space between is left blank. The stem and foot are of the Gillingham type of cup (*Nightingale, Wilts Plate*, p. 82). The neck of the stem has a band of upright lines, then comes a large flange or knob, with bands of cable moulding round both edges; the stem is trumpet-shaped with a plain foot. The cover is plain, on the button 1574 within a circle filled in within chevron hatching. There is no mark on the cup; on the cover a small star with five points. This mark is also found on the Elizabethan cups at South Barrow and Keinton Mandeville (*Castle Cary Deanery*), but they are not at all like the one at Stowell, though differing in details from the ordinary type.

Edmund Chisholm-Batten.

SINCE our last issue the Society has sustained a great loss by the death of one who took, for many years, a lively interest in its welfare, and was almost to the last a constant attendant at meetings of the Committee. Mr. Edmund Chisholm-Batten, who was a J.P. for the county of Somerset, was born in 1817, and for many years resided on his manor of Thornfalcon, near Taunton. He was educated at Sherborne School, where he succeeded Mr. T. E. Rogers (Chancellor of the Diocese of Bath and Wells) as head boy.

In 1834 he proceeded to the University of Edinburgh, and the *Life and Letters of Principal J. D. Forbes* (a book which his godson, Major J. Forbes Chisholm-Batten, has presented to our Library) tells how the young English student was the favourite pupil and the life-long friend of the young Scotch Professor. Subsequently he was called to the Bar. The *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1843 records:—"On August 1st, at Windlesham, Edmund Batten, barrister-at-law, to Jemima, only sister of The Chisholm." On The Chisholm's death in 1858, this lady became the representative, the heiress-at-law, of the three last chiefs, her father and her two brothers. Edmund Batten then assumed the prefix of Chisholm, by Royal licence, and from that time his annual visit to Scotland, kept up till 1896, was usually extended to the Highlands. But he never lost touch with his native county. Literary tastes seemed to have been inherited with the manor of Thornfalcon, for his ancestor, Robert Batten, whose estate at Pitminster was sold to buy that manor, is credited with having written, over the initials

R. B., in the *Spectator*, to his friend, Sir Richard Steele. Mr. Chisholm-Batten wrote on various subjects (we give a list of his works at the end of this notice), and was interested in many associations, and was strenuous in all. Besides our own Society, he was a member of the Northern Meeting, the Highland Society of London, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, the Somersetshire Society, the Tithe Redemption Trust, and the Somersetshire Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, whilst the biographer of Bishop Fox was gratefully nominated by Corpus Christi College, Oxford, as their representative on the governing body of Bishop Fox's School at Taunton. He was one of the earliest members of the British Association, and had been for more than fifty years a member of The Athenæum.

Mr. Chisholm-Batten died at Thornfalcon on Saturday the 13th of February, 1897, and was buried there (under the shadow of the church which he had repaired from floor to roof) beside his wife, who died in 1883 in the forty-first year of their marriage.

The following is a list of his contributions to the *Proceedings* of the Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Society.

On the Cause of the Heat of the Bath Waters	...	xxii, ii, 52
Gaulden Farm	.. .. .	xxiii, ii, 70
Henry VII in Somersetshire	... ..	xxv, ii, 49
The Holy Thorn of Glastonbury	... ..	xxvi, ii, 117
Letter Missive of King Henry VII to John Calycote of Shepton Mallet	... ..	xxx, ii, 159
The Admiralty Court of Minehead	... ..	xxxv, ii, 46
The Forest Trees of Somerset—The Walnut	... ..	xxxvi, ii, 175
" " The Elm	... ..	xxxvii, ii, 106
Obituary Notice of O. W. Malet	... ..	xxxvii, ii, 127
The Centenary of William Smith, LL.D., the Father of English Geology	... ..	xxxviii, ii, 351
Burton Pynsent	.. .. .	xl, ii, 155

Besides these he edited—"The Charters of Beaulieu Priory, Inverness-shire," in 1877, and in 1889 "The Register of Richard Fox, Bishop of Bath and Wells (1492-4)." To the latter he added, as an Introduction, a most valuable life of that prelate.

J. R. B.

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Rules.

THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the County of Somerset, and the establishment of a Museum and Library.

II.—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Patron and Trustees, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General and District or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call Special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such Special Meeting and its objects, shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society will be *ex-officio* Members), which shall hold monthly Meetings for receiving Reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; three of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman at Meetings of the Society shall have a casting vote, in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. The property of the Society shall be held in Trust for the Members by twelve Trustees, who shall be chosen from the Members at any General Meeting. All Manuscripts and Communications and other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings and Sixpence on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings and Sixpence as an annual subscription, which shall become due on the first of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII.—At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary and Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When an office shall become vacant, or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same: such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments, which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society, may (with the Author's consent and subject to the discretion of the Committee) be published in the *Proceedings* of the Society.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—Any person contributing books or specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of a dissolution of the Society. Persons shall also have liberty to deposit books or specimens for a specific time only.

XX.—In case of dissolution, the real property of the Society in Taunton shall be held by the Trustees, for the advancement of Literature, Science and Art, in the town of Taunton and the county of Somerset.

Rules for the Government of the Library.

1.—The Library shall be open for the use of the Members of the Society daily (with the exception of Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day), from Ten in the Morning till Five in the Afternoon, from April to August inclusive, and during the remaining months of the year until Four o'clock.

2.—Every Member of the Society whose annual Subscription shall not be more than three months in arrear may borrow out of the Library not more than two volumes at a time, and may exchange any of the borrowed volumes for others as often as he may please, but so that he shall not have more than two in his possession at any one time.

3.—Every application by any Member who shall not attend in person for the loan of any book or books shall be in writing.

4.—So much of the title of every book borrowed as will suffice to distinguish it, the name of the borrower, and the time of borrowing it, shall be entered in a book to be called the "Library Delivery Book;" and such entry, except the application be by letter, shall be signed by the borrower; and the return of books borrowed shall be duly entered in the same book.

5.—The book or books borrowed may either be taken away by the borrower, or sent to him in any reasonable and recognised mode which he may request; and should no request be made, then the Curator shall send the same to the borrower by such mode as the Curator shall think fit.

6.—All cost of the packing, and of the transmission and return of the book or books borrowed, shall in every case be defrayed by the Member who shall have borrowed the same.

7.—No book borrowed out of the Library shall be retained for a longer period than one month, if the same be applied for in the meantime by any other Member; nor in any case shall any book be retained for a longer period than three months.

8.—Every Member who shall borrow any book out of the Library shall be responsible to the Society for its safety and good condition from the time of its leaving the Library ; also if he borrow any book or manuscript within the Library, till it shall be returned by him. And in case of loss or damage, he shall replace the same or make it good ; or, if required by the Committee, shall furnish another copy of the entire work of which it may be part.

9.—No manuscript, nor any drawing, nor any part of the Society's collection of prints or rubbings shall be lent out of the Library without a special order of the Committee, and a bond given for its safe return at such time as the Committee shall appoint.

10.—The Committee shall prepare, and may from time to time add to or alter, a list of such works as shall not be lent out of the Library, on account of their rarity, value, or peculiar liability to damage ; or on account of their being works of reference often needed by Members personally using the Library, and a copy of such list for the time being shall be kept in the Library.

11.—No book shall be lent out until one month after the acquisition of it for the Library.

12.—Extracts from the manuscripts or printed books are allowed to be made freely, but in case of a transcript being desired of a whole manuscript or printed book, the consent of the Committee must be previously obtained.

13.—Persons not being Members of the Society may be admitted for a period not exceeding one week, to consult printed books and manuscripts not of a private nature in the Society's Library, for any special purpose, on being introduced by a Member, either personally or by letter.

14.—No book shall be lent to any person not being a Member of the Society without a special order of the Committee.

15.—Before any Member can borrow a book from the Library, he must acknowledge that he consents to the printed Rules of the Society for the Government of the Library.

. *It is requested that contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at the Taunton Castle.*

Rules for the Formation of Local Branch Societies.

1.—On the application of not less than Five Members of the Society the Council may authorise the formation of a Local Branch in any District, and may, if considered advisable, define a specific portion of the County as the District to such Branch.

2.—Societies already in existence, may, on application from the governing bodies, be affiliated as Branches.

3.—All Members of the Parent Society shall be entitled to become Members of any Branch.

4.—A Branch Society may elect Local Associates not necessarily Members of the Parent Society.

5.—Members of the Council of the Parent Society, being Members of, and residing within the District assigned to any Branch, shall be *ex-officio* Members of the Council of such Branch.

6.—A Branch Society may fix the rates of Subscription for Members and Associates, and make Rules and Bye-Laws for the government of such Branch, subject in all cases to the approval of the Council of the Parent Society.

7.—A Branch Society shall not be entitled to pledge the credit of the Parent Society in any manner whatsoever.

8.—The authority given by the Council may at any time be withdrawn by them, subject always to an appeal to a General Meeting.

9.—Every Branch Society shall send its Publications and the Programmes of its Meetings to the Parent Society, and in return shall receive a free copy of the Parent Society's *Proceedings*.

10.—If on any discovery being made of exceptional interest a Branch Society shall elect to communicate it to the Parent Society before themselves making it a matter of discussion, the Parent Society, if it adopts it as the subject of a paper at one of its ordinary Meetings, shall allow the Branch Society to make use of any Illustrations that the Parent Society may prepare.

11.—Any Officer of a Branch Society, or any person recommended by the President, Vice-President, Chairman or Secretary, or by any Two of the Members of the Council of a Branch Society, shall on the production of proper Vouchers be allowed to use the Library of the Society, but without the power of removing books except by the express permission of the Council.

12.—Branch Societies shall be invited to furnish Reports from time to time to the Parent Society with regard to any subject or discovery which may be of interest.

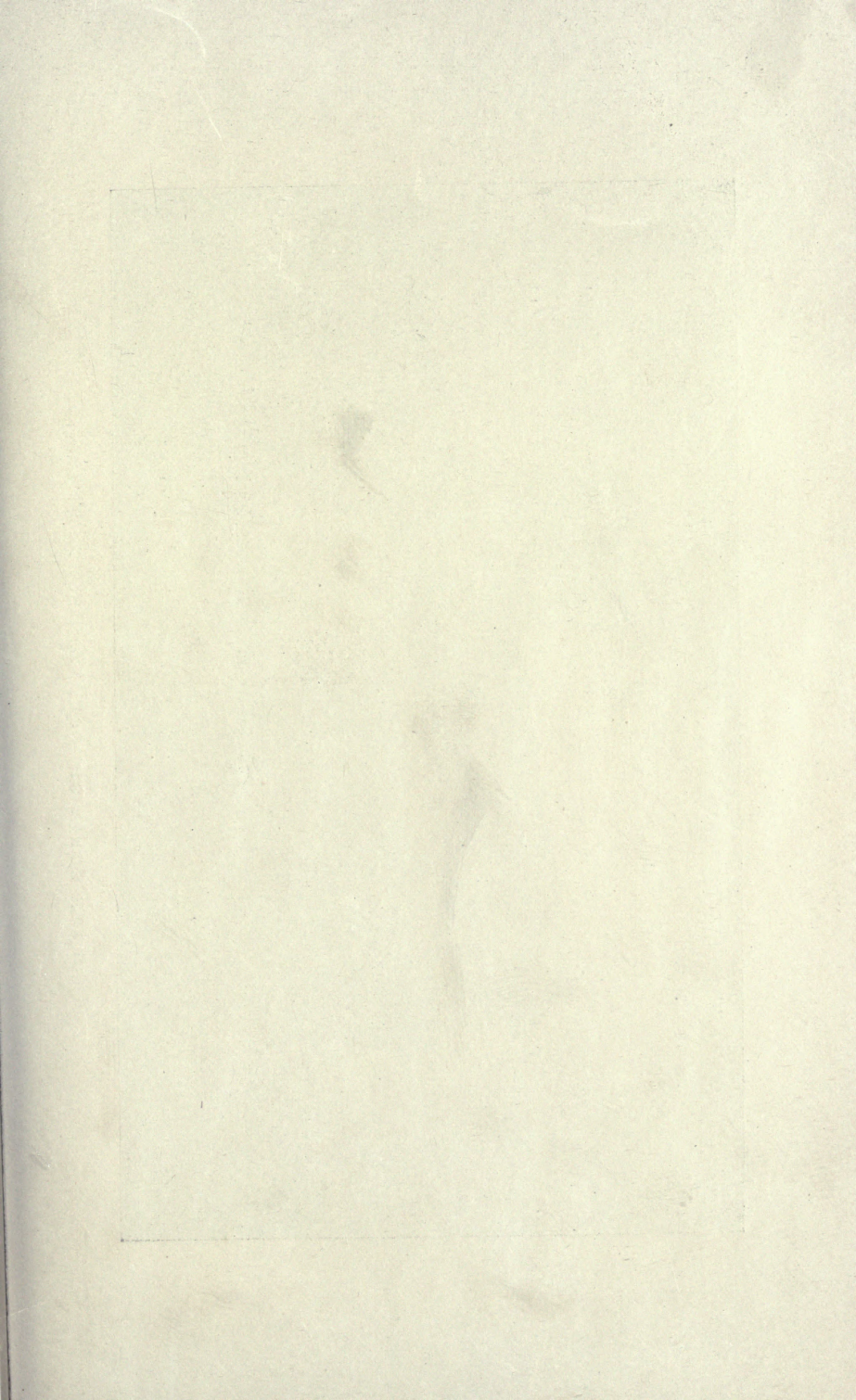
December, 1897.

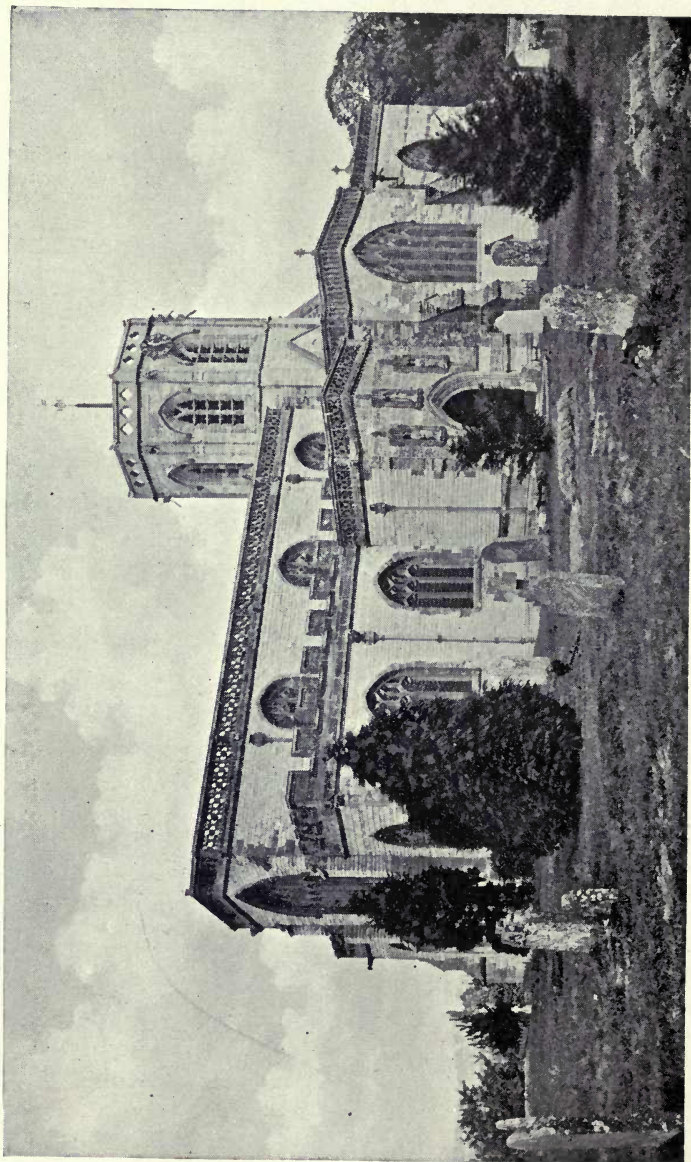
Somersetshire
Archæological & Natural History
Society.

PROCEEDINGS
DURING THE YEAR 1898.

VOL. XLIV.

The Council of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society desire that it should be distinctly understood that although the volume of PROCEEDINGS is published under their direction, they do not hold themselves in any way responsible for any statements or opinions expressed therein; the authors of the several papers and communications being alone responsible.





NORTH CURRY CHURCH, FROM SOUTH-WEST.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Somersetshire

Archaeological & Natural History

Society

FOR THE YEAR 1898.

VOL. XLIV.



Taunton :

BARNICOTT AND PEARCE, FORE STREET

MDCCCXCVIII.



BARNICOTT AND PEARCE
PRINTERS

P R E F A C E.

THE thanks of the Society are due to Mr. W. H. Hamilton Rogers for supplying the whole of the illustrations to his paper; to the President for the two pictures of the Old Doors; to the Rev. Preb. Buller for the two views of North Curry Church; and to Professor Allen for the excellent photographs from which most of our illustrations are taken.

F. W. W.

January, 1899.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
DURING THE YEAR
1898.

THE fiftieth annual meeting of the Society was held at the Municipal Hall, Taunton, on Tuesday, August 30th. The proceedings commenced at twelve o'clock with a reception by the Mayor (Ald. W. M. POTTER).

The PRESIDENT opened the meeting by saying that probably some of them were surprised to see him occupying the chair at their annual meeting for the second time in succession, but, unfortunately, the committee to whom was deputed the duty of electing the President of the year, had unanimously conferred that position upon him again. He was sure that in all parts of Somerset the greatest regard was felt for the town of Taunton, and he had never known a chief magistrate who was more anxious to maintain the honour and position and glories of the town of Taunton than the present Mayor.

The MAYOR, on behalf of the inhabitants of the town, heartily welcomed the members of the Society in their midst, and he hoped the many historic associations with which Taunton abounded would be of great interest and afford equal pleasure to them. He was glad to be able to welcome the Society in that hall, which had been recently restored by the Town Council—a hall which he was quite sure would not be

devoid of interest to them, as it was once a schoolroom in connection with the school founded by Bishop Fox of Winchester, in the year 1522. His worship concluded by expressing the hope that the members would favour the Mayoress and himself with their company at luncheon in the Castle Hall.

Report.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE presented the Annual Report of the Council as follows :

“Your Committee have the pleasure of presenting their fiftieth annual report, and of congratulating the Society at being, after an existence of nearly half-a-century, in a very prosperous condition.

“The first meeting of the Society was held at Taunton, on the 26th Sept. 1849. The report in your first volume of *Proceedings* does not say *where*, so it may be as well to place it on record that it was held in the Assembly Room at the Market House.

“It was then stated that there were 250 members, and the usual difficulty arose as to Somerset having no common centre. If the phrase is permissible, the county had, as it has still, several centres, and it was almost necessarily determined that the annual meetings should be migratory.

“*Now* the Society consists of 637 members, and if the county is still, by force of circumstances and railways, without a common centre, your Society is possessed of a noble habitation in the ancient Castle of Taunton, which, thanks to the liberality of its members and others, it acquired twenty-four years ago.

“The annual meetings are, however, still migratory, and are held so far as possible as fairly to cover the whole of the county. In this manner your Society has, since its formation, visited Taunton five times; Bridgwater four times; Wells four times; Bath three times; Glastonbury twice; Langport twice; Frome twice; Wellington twice; Crewkerne twice; Shepton

Mallet twice; Weston-super-Mare twice; Yeovil twice; Bruton twice; Clevedon twice; Ilminster once; Williton once; Axbridge once; Wincanton once; Chard once; Burnham once; Minehead once; Castle Cary once; Dunster once; and Wiveliscombe once.

“Meetings have, for the convenience of visiting localities, been held outside the borders of the county on four occasions—twice at Bristol, 1867 and 1887, and twice at Sherborne, 1874 and 1896.

“It may be said, ‘What is the use of visiting places over and over again;’ but it takes some twenty years to visit the whole of the county, and in that time there is practically a new generation sprung up—only sufficient of the older members are left to hand down the traditions to the younger.

“Since your last meeting, sixty-one new names have been added to your list of members. The loss by deaths and resignation has been sixteen, leaving a net gain of forty-five.

“The debit balance on your Society’s General Account at the end of 1886, was £9 6s. 9d. This has now been wiped out, and at the end of 1897 (to which date your annual accounts are made up) there was a balance of £76 16s. 10d. in favour of the Society. But in neither of these cases was the cost of the volume of the Society’s *Proceedings* for the year then expired—£100, more or less—taken into account. The accounts for the current year will, however, show an ample provision for this liability.

“The cost of volume XLIII (for 1897) has been:—Print and binding, £81 5s. 0d.; illustrations, £14 5s. 3d.; postages of volumes, £8 0s. 0d.; total, £103 10s. 3d.

“The debit balance of the Castle Restoration Fund has again been reduced—from £44 11s. 9d. at the end of 1896 to £39 7s. 8d. at the end of 1897. Considerable repair is urgently necessary. Various work has been done from time to time where absolutely unavoidable, and some temporary measures adopted for rendering the Great Hall clean and

available for use. But as the measures taken were, from want of funds, of a very minor character, your Committee determined on laying the facts before the members and County generally, and appealing for subscriptions towards more general and effectual work. Such appeal was issued in April last, and has so far resulted in contributions (including £25 from your President) of £351. In addition to this, your Committee have received notice from the executors of the late Col. Pinney—who was at all times a warm supporter of your Society—that he, by his will, left a legacy of £300 to be applied for the repairs of the Castle. This amount will form a very welcome addition to the Fund, but the buildings are very extensive, and a good deal of the work is of an urgent character. Your Committee hope, therefore, that further subscriptions will be sent in with as little delay as possible.

“The Castle House still remains void. The purpose for which the adjoining premises are used is very detrimental to the Society’s property.

“The number of visitors to the Museum in 1897 was 5,236, as against 4,610 in 1896 ; a very satisfactory increase of 626. It may fairly be anticipated that when the Great Hall can be made available for the proper display of the Society’s large collections, there will be a very great increase in the attendance.

“The Index to Collinson has been very satisfactorily completed by Messrs. Barnicott and Pearce, and is in the hands of the subscribers.

“The Index to the Society’s *Proceedings*, volumes XXI to XL inclusive, compiled by Mr. Elworthy, is now ready for distribution to the subscribers. The printing of the Bibliography of Somerset, by Mr. E. Green, F.S.A., is also proceeding in due course.

“The Library is gradually increasing as opportunity and funds permit. The exchanges with other societies are kept up to date. The Society has long been in want of a set of *Archæologia*—almost a first necessity in the library of such a

Society. Until recently it contained only some ten volumes, part of the Serel Collection. A further twenty-nine volumes have this year been added by the gift of your Hon. Secretary, Lieut.-Col. Bramble, to whom your Committee have expressed their cordial thanks. If members or others would kindly examine their 'duplicates,' and contribute any which they may be able to spare, the set might easily be completed, or the cost of completing it brought more within the means of the Society. A list of volumes wanted to complete this and other sets will be furnished on application to the Curator.

"The following are among the books relating to the county acquired during the year: "Somerset Towers"; "The Cornish Drama," by Edwin Norris; "The Note Book of the Tristram Risdon"; "The Year Book of Edward III," vol. I; Barrett's "Somersetshire"; Trask's "Norton-sub-Hamdon"; Williams' "Somerset Mediæval Libraries"; and several printed "Acts" relating to roads, etc.

"The Society was, in November, 1881, presented by Miss Atherstone with the valuable oil painting, by the well-known John Martin, of the Coronation of Queen Victoria. This had been from the first somewhat out of order, and the costly frame was broken and dilapidated. The picture has, during the last year, been put into thoroughly good condition and the frame repaired and re-gilt at the sole—and considerable—expense of our Vice-President, Mr. H. Duncan Skrine, who occupied the chair on the occasion of our last Bath meeting. Your Committee feel that the best thanks of the Society are due to him. The picture has been removed from the Great Hall, and is now displayed in the Upper Museum, where it is less liable to injury.

"The Photographic Record Committee have been actively at work during the past year. Their report will be presented to you.

"Your Committee have taken into consideration the amount at which the buildings and collections were insured against fire, and have deemed it necessary to make substantial increases.

“The title deeds relating to the various properties have been scheduled and placed in a box deposited with the Society’s bankers.

“Under the rules which you adopted at your Minehead meeting, in 1889, two branch societies have been formed in the county, both of which are doing good service, by keeping up the interest of not only their associates but the inhabitants generally of their respective localities, in the preservation of objects of antiquarian interest—a matter of the deepest importance, when it is remembered that their injury or destruction is, as a rule, not attributable to mere wantonness but to ignorance of their value. The elder of the branches—the northern—has given special attention to the preparation, by those most competent to do so in the different localities, of parochial histories. Flax Bourton, Tickenham, and Barrow Gournay have already been issued, and we are informed that others are in preparation. Your Committee venture to recommend such work as being in many respects of superior value to mere detached papers. The other—the Axbridge—branch is also about to issue a volume of *Proceedings*.

“Your Committee regret to have to record the death of the Right Hon. the Lord Carlingford, K.P., who since the year 1889 had filled the office of Patron of your Society. The state of his health had for some years prevented his taking any personal part in your meetings, or in the work of the Society; but he acted as its President for two consecutive years, 1884-5, and long took an active interest in its welfare. The vacancy caused by his death in the office of Patron should be filled up at this Annual Meeting. Under Rule ii the election is for life.

“Your Committee also regret to report the death, at the age of ninety-two, of Col. Pinney, an original member of your Society, and one of your Vice-Presidents, who so long back as the year 1853 filled the position of President at your Yeovil meeting. His great age had prevented his attendance at our meetings for many years past, and to a large number of our

younger members he was unknown ; but in bygone years he rendered the Society good service, and in many ways promoted its objects. By his will, as already stated, he left the liberal legacy of £300 towards the repair of the Castle, but your Society was previously indebted to him for rebuilding the staircase turret to the Exchequer Tower, and also for the piece of garden ground at the N.E. corner of the Society's property.

“The late Mr. Henry Alford, L.S.A., F.R.C.S., died on the 29th June last, in his ninety-second year, ‘from old age.’ He also was an original member of our Society, and ever since 1859—thirty-nine years—had been an elected member of your Committee. So long as his health and strength permitted he was a most regular and useful attendant at our meetings, and he never lost his interest in the Society or its pursuits. Your Committee feel great regret in recording his death.

“The Right Hon. Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Baronet and Privy Councillor, was one of the original Vice-Presidents of your Society, being at its inception a resident in the county. But his work was more especially devoted to public business of a different, and it may be a more important, character than that of your Society, and left little time for archæological pursuits. None the less, your Committee desire to express their regret at the loss of so valuable a life.

“The Very Rev. Dr. Jex-Blake, Dean of Wells, has, ever since he came into the Diocese in 1891, been a regular attendant at the meetings of your Society, and has on numerous occasions been of material assistance to us ; your Committee have added his name, as well as that of Bishop Hobhouse, an old and very valuable member, to the list of Vice-Presidents, which will be brought before you for confirmation in the usual course.

“On the occasion of your Bridgwater meeting, Professor Burrows, Chichele Professor of Modern History at Oxford, was kind enough to contribute a valuable paper on Admiral Blake. In consideration of his eminence as an historian, your Committee recommend that he be invited to allow his name to

be added to the list of 'Honorary and Corresponding Members,' under Rule xiii."

Mr. HOBHOUSE, M.P., in moving the adoption of the report, said that for the last fifty years the Society had laboured, and laboured successfully, to foster an interest throughout the county in all that was ancient, curious, rare, and beautiful. It had laboured to increase the knowledge of its members, and of the outside public in their county history, buildings, architecture, and works of any kind. He could not help thinking that if at this day there were many more Somersetshire men and Somersetshire women who felt interested in those great and elevating subjects than there were fifty years ago, when that society was first formed in Taunton, they owed not a small debt to the labours of that Society. He sincerely hoped that the support given to them throughout the county during the past fifty years would not grow less, but would steadily increase. They had just been reminded that their members, who were 250 on the occasion of the first meeting, had now become over 600, but that to his mind was a small proportion of the people who ought to be interested in its efforts. They had veterans falling out of their ranks, and it was necessary that the gaps should be filled. Although he came from the east of the county, he recognized that no more appropriate headquarters could be found for the Society than the building which now belonged to it, and which was justly denominated its noble habitation. Mr. Hobhouse went on to speak of the necessity of a good county history being prepared, and said that they wanted someone to bring together all the *disjecta membra* in the shape of papers, parish histories, &c., into one learned and at the same time readable work. He expressed the opinion that archæological subjects had during the past few years rather overshadowed those relating to natural history. In conclusion, he said that the best thanks of the Society were due to Col. Bramble and the Rev. F. W. Weaver, the hon. secretaries, for their services.

The Rev. E. H. BATES seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. H. J. BADCOCK, the treasurer, presented the annual financial statements :

Treasurer's Account.

The Treasurer in Account with the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, from January 1st to December 31st, 1897.

DR.			CR.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1897.			1896, Dec. 31st.		
By Members' Entrance Fees (46) ...	24	3 0	To Balance of former Account ...	9	6 9
„ Members' Subscriptions in arrear (14 for 1896)	7	7 0	„ Expenses attending Annual Meeting at Bridgwater ...	12	19 8
„ Members' Subscriptions (526) for 1897	276	2 0	„ Reporters' Notes of Meeting ...	3	3 0
„ Members' Subscriptions in ad- vance (20)	10	9 6	„ Transcribing Hugo's MS. of Atheney	3	2 0
„ Non-Members' Excursion Tickets	13	1 0	„ Stationery, Printing, &c. ...	15	18 11
„ Overdrawn on Postage of vol. 42 refunded	1	3 0	„ Repairs, Cases, &c.	3	16 9
„ Museum Admission Fees ...	27	5 10	„ Purchase of Books, Specimens, &c.	8	7 8
„ Donation from Glastonbury Anti- quarian Society	3	0 0	„ Coal and Gas	20	4 1
„ Donation from Charles Hill, Esq.	1	1 0	„ Printing and Binding vol. 42 ...	64	6 5
„ Sale of Publications	5	12 1	„ Curator's Salary, one year, to Christmas, 1897	105	0 0
			„ Errand Boy	10	8 0
			„ Stamp for New Trust Deed ...	0	10 0
			„ Insurance	4	10 6
			„ Rates and Taxes	13	6 3
			„ Subscriptions to Societies ...	8	13 0
			„ Postage, Carriage, &c.	6	10 10
			„ Sundries	2	3 9
			Balance	76	16 10
	£369	4 5		£369	4 5

H. J. BADCOCK,
Treasurer.

Aug. 27th, 1898. Examined and compared with the vouchers } HOWARD MAYNARD,
and Bank Book, and found correct. } ALEX. HAMMETT.

Taunton Castle Restoration Fund.

Treasurer's Account from 1st January to 31st December, 1897.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
1897.			1896, Dec. 31st.		
By Rents of Premises	54	11 9	To Balance of former Account ...	44	11 9
„ Rents of Castle Hall	30	15 0	„ Repairs to Property	63	8 7
„ Donation from Rev. H. A. Daniel	1	0 0	„ Agent's Commission on Letting House	1	15 0
„ Messrs. Hancock	0	1 6	„ Rates and Taxes	9	15 4
„ Telephone Company Wayleave for Wires	0	2 0	„ Gas	2	19 2
„ Temporary Use of Old House ...	5	0 0	„ Sundry Expenses, Castle Hall, &c.	2	3 10
Balance	39	7 8	„ Insurance	3	16 6
			„ Interest on overdrawn Account	2	5 9
			„ Cheque Book	0	2 0
	£130	17 11		£130	17 11

H. J. BADCOCK
Treasurer.

Aug. 27th, 1898. Examined and compared with the vouchers } HOWARD MAYNARD,
and Bank Book, and found correct. } ALEX. HAMMETT.

Prebendary BULLER, vicar of North Curry, in moving the adoption of the accounts, said they could heartily congratulate themselves on the statements which had just been read. Having had many years' experience of the extraordinary business capacity of their friend and treasurer, there was no necessity for him to make any remarks on the figures presented.

Dr. WINTERBOTHAM seconded the resolution, and only hoped that the balance in their favour would not remain as a balance, but would be spent in promoting the various works of the Society. He congratulated the President on entering upon his second year of office, a compliment due to him for the admirable way in which he discharged the duties last year, and for the hospitality he showed on that occasion.

The resolution was carried.

The PRESIDENT proposed the election of the Earl of Cork and Orrery as patron of the Society, in the place of the late Lord Carlingford, whom he described as one of his most intimate friends for the last fifty years. It had been his pleasure to meet Lord Cork in a great number of capacities, and he could not recollect that at any time he had not seen him distinguish himself in every one of them. He might say, in the words of the Latin author, *Nihil quod tetigit non ornavit*.

Mr. H. D. SKRINE seconded, and said there was not a man in the county they could have chosen more fit for the office.

The motion was adopted.

The Rev. Preb. ASKWITH proposed the re-election of the officers of the Society, with the addition of the Dean of Wells, and Bishop Hobhouse to the list of vice-presidents.

Dr. NORRIS seconded.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE said that as regarded spending money, he was expressing the views of the committee when he said that they were prepared to spend the whole of it, and as much more as the public liked to give them. There was this difficulty, with such a big building as they had there it was difficult

to spend a little money ; they wanted a great deal more than they had really got.

The resolution was carried.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE read a letter from Lord Cork, who expressed his regret at being unable to attend and enclosed a cheque for £10 towards the Restoration Fund. The Dean of Wells, who was in Scotland, and Canon Church, who had been called away to Belfast, also sent letters regretting their inability to be present.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER presented a list of new members of the Society (sixty in number) and proposed that they be elected. He mentioned that when the Society met in Taunton in 1872, they had a membership of 370 and twenty-seven new members. Now they had a membership of 592 with sixty new members, making a total of 640.

Preb. HOLMES seconded the election of the new members, and the list was agreed to.

Preb. HOLMES, the Hon. Sec. of the Somerset Record Society, then made a statement as to the position of that Society. He said that it was doing a great work with regard to which Mr. Hobhouse had spoken, viz., towards acquiring a county history. The volume this year which they proposed to issue is the second volume of "Feet of Fines," by Mr. Green. Each volume of the Somerset Record Society cost about £100, and, after receiving money from the subscribers, they had about £7 or £8 in hand for transcriptions. They were financially in a very bad position, and more subscribers were needed. The Society was now searching for the Cartulary of Athelney, which was in existence last century. They had found another cartulary of Muchelney, which confirmed the idea that Muchelney was founded by King Ine. The Society had also obtained, and proposed to issue, a piece of Bishop Giffard's Register. He was only Bishop of Bath and Wells for three or four years and then he went to York. This register had been bound up with the

York register, and it was only a few years ago recognised to be part of the register of Bath and Wells. It had been transcribed and sent to the Somerset Record Society, but for the future they had no plans, because their funds were so low. If they could not increase the number of subscribers, perhaps Mr. Green would come forward again and give them another volume of "Feet of Fines." In conclusion, Preb. HOLMES mentioned that the Rev. E. H. Bates had been appointed honorary secretary in his place.

Mr. C. H. BOTHAMLEY, presented the report of the Photographic Record Council, which was only appointed last year, and the list as yet was only fragmentary. Through various causes little progress had been made in the actual collection of photographs, but promises had been made of a large number of subjects, in various parts of the county.

The President's Address.

The PRESIDENT then rose amidst cheers to deliver his presidential address. The Society having now completed fifty years of its existence, he thought it would be interesting to look back upon what had been done in the past as well as to look forward to what they were going to do in the future. Perhaps they could not now boast of such men as Dr. Buckland ; Bishop Clifford ; their great electrician, Andrew Crosse ; of the learned dissertations that were printed in their volumes by Mr. Hugo. But they had in the Society many excellent men, some of whom, he was sorry to say, could not be there. Amongst these were Mr. Ayshford Sanford, whom we welcomed last year at Quantock Lodge, and who brought to earlier meetings of the Society Professor Boyd Dawkins, to whose learning we owe a great deal ; and the accomplished author of the "Origins of English History," Mr. Elton, who had told him (the President) he would have been present if it were possible. Then there was Mr. Luttrell, to whom they owed

the restoration of Cleve Abbey, perhaps one of the most important things that had been done in connection with the Society. He had also restored the beautiful old castle and the two parish churches, which had now been thrown more or less into one. The PRESIDENT then referred to the gentlemen who had at various times acted as secretaries to the Association, and afterwards dwelt upon the necessity for a classification of the documents to be found in the Taunton Shire Hall. They had, he said, in the Shire Hall all the documents belonging to the county of Somerset for hundreds of years, and he was sure that their accomplished Clerk of Quarter Sessions and the Lord-Lieutenant of the county would assist anyone in having these documents scheduled and catalogued. He thanked them for listening to him, and, although he felt he was not archæologist enough to occupy the presidency, yet "Can a man do more than he can do?" was his motto, and so long as he could do anything to promote the welfare of the Society he would be at their service.

Bishop BROWNLOW, in proposing a vote of thanks to the President for his address, mentioned that Dr. Jessop had written a recent article in the *Nineteenth Century*, which was founded on one of the volumes of the Somerset Record Society. He thought that by similar articles much practical good might be done, as there were very few parishes in England that could go back as far as parishes in Somerset.

Preb. COLEMAN seconded, and the vote of thanks was heartily accorded.

The PRESIDENT having suitably responded, the members attended a luncheon in the Castle Hall, hospitably given by the Mayor of Taunton.

Taunton Castle.

After lunch many of the members proceeded to witness the laying of the foundation stone of the new Technical Institute

for the town, and subsequently a move was made towards the Castle, from the courtyard of which Mr. BUCKLE gave a description of that building.*

Mr. E. SLOPER said the common opinion was that King Ine built a castle there, but the Saxons did not build castles, they founded towns only during the progress of the early conquest, neither, in his opinion, did Bishop Giffard build the castle. The founder of the building was Henri of Blois, Bishop of Winchester, in the year 1138, and the authority for that statement was based on the Cottonian MS. Domit., A. xiii, known as the Annals of the Church of Winchester. The weir which held up the waters of the Tone and conveyed them to the moat was called French Weir, simply because this Frenchman, Henri of Blois, built it for the purposes of the defence of his new castle.

The Council Chamber.

A visit was next paid to the Council Chamber and Municipal Buildings, where the party were received by the Mayor, who showed the visitors the original charter of the borough granted by Chas. I. It was lost at the time of the restoration, but in the year 1677, at the instance of Bishop Mew, the charter was restored. In the year 1792, however, it was again lost, because the town failed to comply with the conditions on which the charter was granted. As they all knew, the charter was restored, and it had been in existence for the past twenty-one years. The Mayor drew attention to the spacious mayoral chair, which, he said, was of Taunton manufacture. It was formed out of an old oak tree found in the bed of the river Tone, The borough arms, in needlework, made from part of an altar cloth in St. Mary's Church, and presented by Dr. Cottle, were next shown; also an address from Taunton, U.S.A., received

* Mr. Buckle's account of the Castle was based upon the papers by the Rev. F. Warre and Mr. G. T. Clark, which have been printed in vols. iv and xviii of the *Proceedings*.

in the year 1885, the frame of which, it was interesting to note, was made out of timbers of the *Hawk*, which ship went out with the *Mayflower*, which took out the Puritan fathers. The present Council Chamber was originally the dormitory of the old Grammar School, and the hall they had met in at the opening of the proceedings was the schoolroom. He mentioned that that was the first meeting held in it since its restoration.

The Old White Hart Hotel.

The party then proceeded to view the façade of the Devon and Somerset Stores, which was originally the "Old White Hart" Hotel, where the notorious Judge Jeffreys lodged during the time of the "Bloody Assize," held in Taunton. A fine group of half-timbered houses adjoining was next inspected. The principal building, now the West Somerset Stores, was originally the town-house of the Portman family, and is in excellent preservation. It bears the date 1578.

St. Mary's Church.

The beautiful old church of St. Mary Magdalene was next visited, and its fine proportions, elaborate decorations and interesting features were much admired. Taking up a position at the lectern, MR. BUCKLE gave a description of the church. Beginning by stating that they would all agree that was an exceptionally fine church, Mr. Buckle went on to say that the plan was rather curious, because on either side of the nave was a narrow aisle, and then beyond that a very wide aisle. The natural assumption, therefore, was that the church originally consisted of the nave and a narrow aisle on each side, but that when it became desirable to enlarge the church it was decided to build other and larger aisles outside the original aisles. Speaking generally, St. Mary's church may be called a Perpen-

dicular church of two dates. Most of the windows belonged to the ordinary Perpendicular of the 15th century, whilst the main arcade and the clerestory are of the rich and elaborate style which developed at the beginning of the 16th century. But the arcade on the north side was of a very much earlier and simpler style, and it had been the habit to describe that as the oldest part of the church. He did not believe that the arcade was genuine ; that was to say, it was rebuilt during the Perpendicular period, at one of the times when the church had a great enlargement, and that those pillars and arches were taken from some other part of the church and rebuilt as they saw them now. The bases and capitals, which belonged to a later period than the pillars, seemed to prove this. It was to be observed that there was a difference between the east and west portions of this arcade. The three western arches were slightly wider than the corresponding arches of the nave and opposite aisle, so that the piers supporting them were thrown a little out of line with the other piers across the church ; probably, the spacing of the piers was determined by the widths of the old arches which were to be rebuilt. But the remaining piers were truly lined with the other arcades and supported narrow four-centred arches—another sign that the work was actually of Perpendicular date.* The same capital was used here also in the chancel, so that we might fairly assume that this arcade was rebuilt at the same time as the lower part of the chancel was rebuilding, that is to say, at the first of the two Perpendicular enlargements. Other signs of the early church remained in the arch labels of round section and some of the corbels re-used in the narrow north aisle.

The first Perpendicular church included the wide north aisle, with its windows, the lower part of the chancel with its chapels, and the eastern half of the wide south aisle. There was a great rebuilding at a subsequent period. On the right

* Curiously enough Wilton church has early piers of precisely the same section, rebuilt at the same period with similar caps and four-centred arches over.

hand side of the south porch there was a date, 1508, and the greater portion of the church as it now stands was erected then—including the nave and clerestory, the angel capitals and the numerous niches, and the very handsome roof. And not only so, but the tower was rebuilt at the same time, as appeared from a will discovered by Mr. W. George, which shows the tower was building in 1503, and provides for a timber cross in the churchyard set upon a stone base.*

In regard to the chancel, it was remarkable that there was no provision for a rood screen, and there was no doubt that this part of the church was raised at the time of the great rebuilding. The east window was curious in regard to the arrangement of the tracery, the three centre lights and the tracery above forming in themselves a complete window and the other tracery filled in all around. The section of the piers supporting the chancel arch was changed at about five feet above the floor, and the change of design was artfully hidden by converting the original hollow mouldings into niches; but there was much confusion and apparent change of plan about the carrying up of these piers. And the same was true about the cross arches springing from these piers. The fragments of painted glass in the windows were mostly of fifteenth century work, and in the centre light of the west window were the initials "R.B.," with a merchant's mark underneath. In the tower there were also four initials—"R.B.," "A.S."—which had given rise to considerable conjecture as to what they meant. There were two persons of note living at that period—Richard Bere, Abbot of Glastonbury, whose initials were to be found on St. Margaret's Hospital, just outside Taunton; and Sir Reginald Bray, about whom there was a tradition that he was architect to Henry VII, by whom it was thought by some the great towers of

* See vol. xxx. i. 94. The description of the cross is inaccurately printed, and should run—"It: I will that myn executrice make a newe crosse of tree pformed wt stone in the foote set and wrought in churchyard of Mary Magdalayn nygh the procession wey."

Somerset were built. But St. Margaret's Hospital was in the parish of West Monkton, and the Abbot of Glastonbury had nothing to do with Taunton, and it was extremely improbable that a great soldier like Sir Reginald Bray was also a great architect. He (Mr. Buckle) thought they might put down the initials to two benefactors, and the shield with the merchant's mark made it clear that "R.B." was a merchant of Taunton. When the tower was rebuilt, only four ancient stones were re-used, the two canopies over the stoups for holy water, on either side of the western entrance, and the elaborately carved spandrils over the doorway, which, however, had been very much restored. The subject of the one appeared to be the miracle of St. Gregory's Mass, and the other represented the appearance of our Lord to Mary Magdalene in the Garden of Gethsemane. In the latter there appeared outside the garden fence a kneeling figure of a benefactor in civil dress. The carving had been so much restored that no confidence could be placed in the dress of this figure, but, so far as it went, this carving supplied a further argument that the tower was built by the tradesmen of the town, rather than from a royal grant.

The late parapet round the south aisle furnished another clue to the benefactors of this date in the coat. *A bend between two leaves*, impaling *A fret within a bordure*, with, apparently, a dog for crest. As to the tower it was one of the grandest in the county. It was said to be 131 feet high and the pinnacles 32 feet, making a total of 163 feet high. It was covered with elaborate carving from the bottom right up to the top. It was emphatically built in the Somersetshire style, an argument against Sir Reginald Bray having had any hand in its design, and a vast amount of money and effort must have been spent upon it, but not with such complete success as they could wish. There was no growth of richness towards the top, so that the tower lacked unity and proportion, and perhaps on that account it was a pity that Hammet-street had

been opened up so as to expose the whole of the tower to view. On the north wall of the church was a life-size figure of Robert Gray, the founder of the Almshouses in East-street, and under it the quaint lines—

“Taunton bore him, London bred him,
 Piety train'd him, virtue led him ;
 Earth enrich'd him, heaven cares't him,
 Taunton blest him, London blest him.
 This thankful town, that mindful city,
 Share his piety and his pity.
 What he gave, and how he gave it,
 Ask the poor, and you shall have it.
 Gentle reader, heaven may strike
 Thy tender heart to do the like ;
 And now thy eyes have read the story,
 Give him the praise and heaven the glory.”

“*Ætatis suæ 65. Anno Domini 1635.*”

At the invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. Preb. ASKWITH, the party proceeded to the vestry to inspect the registers and the old plate. There were two old registers on view, the one belonging to Queen Elizabeth's reign, and the other used during the time of Monmouth's rebellion. A note in the latter records the fact that burials were interrupted during the rebellion, and it was interesting to observe that Monmouth's followers are invariably called “rebels” in the registers. The holy vessels which are still in use, consist of two silver-gilt flagons, presented in 1639, two silver-gilt chalices, given in 1630 and 1639, and a silver salver, with a Latin inscription surrounding an engraving of the Castle. These vessels were, after the landing of the Prince of Orange at Torbay, buried, to preserve them from the hands of spoilers.

The party next proceeded to St. James' Church, passing on their way through St. Mary's Vicarage grounds, where they had an opportunity of seeing the only remains that are left of the earth-work that was raised round Taunton during the siege.

St. James' Church.

This church Mr. BUCKLE described as a very great contrast to that of St. Mary's. It was, however, a straightforward example of a Perpendicular church of about the 15th century. The nave and the aisles appear to have been entirely re-built about that time, but the chancel was entirely modern. It was a type of church which was rather unusual in Somerset, with its three wide barrel roofs. The enormously wide arch at the east end of the arcade was a very remarkable feature, and the purpose presumably was to enable a larger number of people to see into the chancel. There was a very elaborate font under the tower, which, he was sorry to say, had been restored, so that it was difficult to say what parts of the carving were original and what parts modern. It was octagonal in shape, with three figures on each side, so that altogether there were twenty-four figures, including the twelve Apostles. Above the font they saw the fine vault of the tower. It was a singularly beautiful tower, and was almost identical with the one at Bishop's Lydeard, but the latter was in one sense, more perfect because it had the original parapet and pinnacles on the top. The outline and general effect of the tower were remarkably beautiful, and deserved to be looked at from many points of view, particularly from the bridge over the Tone. In his opinion that tower was a considerably greater work of art than the great tower of St. Mary Magdalene, although nothing like the same amount of money had been spent upon it.

The Priory Barn.

A move was next made to what is known as the Priory Barn, one of the old farm buildings belonging to the Priory at Taunton, which, in olden times, stood at the end of the town. Little or nothing of the original building remains.

Mr. E. SLOPER gave some few particulars of the old Priory, from which it appeared to have been founded in 1125. An earlier monastery existed at Taunton, before the Norman Conquest. He said it had always been a puzzle to him where that monastery stood. In the town there was a street called Paul Street, and further on there was a farm called Pool Farm, where ancient remains and a pitched paved way were to be seen on the west side of the farm buildings. The former he regarded as the site of the earlier monastery, and it was known that many of the lesser monasteries were absorbed by the greater ones, prior to the Conquest. It was not mentioned in Domesday, but was alluded to in charters, and specially mentioned in connection with rendering certain customs to the king in the 11th century. The word Pool in regard to Pool Farm he considered was a corruption of Paul, to which saint the monastery was probably dedicated. This saint's name was spelt Poole, Poule, and Powle, in mediæval times.

Gray's Almshouses.

A visit was next made to Gray's Almshouses in East Street, Taunton, which were founded, as a tablet on the façade records, in the year 1635, by Robert Gray, whose virtues are described on a tablet to his memory in St. Mary's church. The quaint old rooms were inspected with interest, and the chapel in particular attracted much attention. Here is still preserved the old Bible, printed in 1634, which was used at the foundation of the almshouses, and the various readers who are appointed by the inmates utilize the blank pages of the book for the purpose of inscribing their names therein. The building, both interior and exterior, is in an excellent state of preservation. The inspection of this place concluded the first day's tour.

Evening Meeting.

In the evening, a meeting was held in the Castle Hall for Papers and discussions. The PRESIDENT occupied the chair, and was supported by the Mayor, and the Rev. F. W. Weaver.

Red Deer on the Quantocks.

The PRESIDENT read a paper on "Red Deer on the Quantocks." He said that the origin of his reading that paper was that in his last address as President at Bridgwater he was reported to have used these words:—"There was a general belief that, as on Exmoor, which had been a Royal forest from time immemorial, so on the Quantocks red deer had been for centuries. These beautiful animals, however, were claimed to have been first turned out on the Quantocks by Mr. C. E. J. Esdaile's father, and this was confirmed by Lord Ebrington." He would now wish to withdraw Lord Ebrington's confirmation, which was given by him in his book on staghunting, because last winter he met him and asked him about this question, whereupon he told him that he (Mr. Stanley) had been his authority on the question of Mr. Esdaile turning the deer out. He (the President) had thought Lord Ebrington had independent knowledge of his own of what was in the documents belonging to the Esdaile family, but he was quite prepared to take the responsibility upon himself. The Rev. Mr. Greswell wrote a letter to the *Somerset County Gazette* on the subject, and seemed to have to a certain degree convinced the editing secretary of that society.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER: I am not responsible for all I print.

The PRESIDENT, proceeding, said he was glad to find that the committee cordially agreed with his suggestion that he should read a paper on the red deer on the Quantocks. He hoped they would be very lenient to him, as a study of

Domesday was one of the most fearful things he had ever undergone, and it was very difficult to understand. Mr. Stanley then read his paper, which was of an interesting character, and in which he said there was no proof at all that in old days there were more deer on the Quantocks than in any other part of England, and also asserted that the forest laws did not apply to the Quantocks. He said: I will first take Mr. Greswell's arguments which have been printed with my address, and then proceed to his other arguments. Leland certainly observed that there was a red deer park in the bottom at Nether Stowey, and another of fallow, but these deer in a park are not the red deer for which we are looking, but park deer, fenced in and not ranging over the hills. Mr. Weaver also says that Mr. Greswell brings evidence forward to show that a large portion of this part of Somerset was accounted "forest" from Domesday downwards. We are, I believe, at all events Mr. Greswell and I are, willing to accept Mr. Eyton, generally, as our authority. Now what does he say positively, preface, page 34?—"The Somerset survey names no king's forest at all under any specific name of such forest, but it gives the expanses of such forests in the large areas of wood and pasture which it annexes to certain manors of the *Vetus Dominicum Coronæ*. The Royal forests of Somerset thus vaguely noticed by a technicality of Domesday, proved in the following century to be five in number—Exmoor, Neroche, Selwood, Mendip and North Petherton. Though in a Domesday point of view the Royal forests may be said to have been annexed to the Royal manors, this must be understood collectively of both. No particular forest can be pointed out as having been apportioned to a particular manor. A mass of Royal Forest was annexed for instance to the three Royal Manors of Carhampton, Williton and Cannington. They had among them 14,400 acres of wood and 21,600 of pasture, in all 36,000 acres, which, though not altogether forest in a physical sense, were afforested in a technical sense,

that is, deemed to pertain to the King's Forest." This is the paragraph which Mr. Greswell quotes, leaving out "for instance," which connects the paragraph with what has gone before. Going on to page 130, where details of the north-western manors of Somerset are considered, we find "On the whole the Domesday measurements of the above territory exceed the measures of the corresponding parishes by 214,585—198,119, that is 16,466 acres. There can be but one construction of all this. It is that much of the woodland and pasture attributed by Domesday to the King's Manors and to other manors of this region really comprehended forests and uplands pervading districts which were geographically external. When we come to the North Petherton Manor and Hundred, for instance, we shall see that none of the King's Forest of North Petherton was deemed by Domesday to be appurtenant thereto, and there are other like instances." As regards West Monkton Manor, says Mr. Eyton, p. 164, the difference of the "two measurements was probably King's Forest, and accredited in Domesday like North Petherton Forest to the Royal Manors of South and North Somerset." But this only affects the Domesday survey, which does not separate the forests from other manors; but a century later we find bounds of the forests described, and a century later still we find the perambulation of the forests taking place, and what had long been promised carried out, that the lands that had been added to the forests by the kings were disafforested. Near the Quantocks the only forest was North Petherton, the names of whose rangers have come down to us, and one of them, Sabina Peche, who made P. de Hamme her deputy, who acted as ranger of the king's forests in Somerset, we read had Newhalle, in Holford. The tenants here had their lands by the service of attending at Petherton Park in fawning season, or paying a fine for non-attendance; this service was afterwards changed (*Collinson*, vol. iii, p. 457) into a certain rent, and is still paid. Would she (the ranger) have sent those who held under her to

North Petherton if there had been special fawning on the Quantocks? This may be the origin of a curious dispute about a payment from Holford to North Petherton. Red deer existed over all England at one time, and whether they ceased to exist or not is a matter of evidence. Is there anything to show that two hundred years ago, at any particular time, there were any red deer on the Quantocks? Lord Ebrington has the records of the North Devon Staghounds, and the "no doubt with justice" of Lord Ebrington's corroboration, I freely withdraw, because it was based on the circumstances which I told him myself. But I can quote his authority that there is no record of any deer having been ever hunted on Quantock by the North Devon Staghounds. Mr. Greswell's evidence is based on his disbelief of what I have written regarding Mr. Esdaile and Mr. Crosse's authority in a poem on a stag hunt. As for the first point I believe Mr. E. J. Esdaile was on Cothelstone-hill, as Mr. Greswell suggests, on the occasion of the earliest visit, but did not announce that he had turned out deer on a neighbouring property. As to Mr. Crosse's writing on "The Walks on the Quantocks," this I found was written and read before this association in 1854, September 12th; this is more than fifteen years after Mr. Esdaile began turning out the deer, and if they were red deer that Mr. Crosse saw, they were probably some of them. But it seems to be forgotten that there was a herd of fallow deer (that got out of Crowcombe Park as I have heard), which existed in Lord Taunton's time, and was hunted by Wodrow, and I suspect the great electrician might in the dead of night have made a mistake with them. The poem said to be on a stag hunt appears at page 62 of "*Memorials of Andrew Crosse*," but it is "Lines on a red deer turned out before the staghounds on Broomfield Hill." If there had been red deer on the Quantocks the carted deer would not have been resorted to. I have not been able to find any date for this poem, nor any account of the carted deer on Broomfield Hill. The passage out of "The

Walks on the Quantocks" is as follows:—"Often have I stumbled on the red deer while crossing the hills at the dead of night or disturbed the fox with the light of my lantern." I should suggest that he mistook the fallow deer for red deer in his nightly walk with a lantern. The occurrence that I mentioned to Lord Ebrington was that the late Mr. E. J. Esdaile having kindly come to see me, when he for a time partly recovered his health, walked around the house at Quantock, which he had not seen after Lord Taunton had finally finished it, and talked to me of old things. I asked him about the red deer. He said, "I turned out the first on the Quantocks." I asked him where, and he said at the top of Cockercombe. I find from Mr. Charles Esdaile, his son, that this must have been ministerially on his part, as his grandfather, also Mr. E. J. Esdaile, was alive, and the son no doubt assisted at the enlargement of the deer. I went to London a few days after his visit, and when I came back to Somerset in the autumn his old disease had returned and I never had any more talk with him about Somerset days, which I had much looked forward to doing. The extracts from Mr. E. J. Esdaile, sen.'s, diary, with which I have been favoured, show—"that in 1833, during and all through the winter months, a hind was often seen in the woods on Quantocks. She was twice found and hunted by some harriers. I cannot find out she had been seen during 1834. In 1836 mention is made of a stag's horn being picked up in 'one of our (Mr. Esdaile's) plantations by the keeper.' In May, 1839, three hinds from Dulverton were turned out in Cockercombe, one five, one three, and the other one year old. There is reason to believe that the first mentioned beat her way back again on May 18, 1840. I turned out two more hinds on Quantock, one of which—a ten-years-old deer—had been turned out before the staghounds on Gibb Hill on the 15th, and after a chase of seven hours was re-taken at Heath's House, near Huntspill—fifteen miles from Bridgwater." In another account she was said to be uncarted. So much for Mr.

Esdaile's journal; now for the evidence of Wm. Palmer, frankly given by Mr. Greswell, and another Wm. Palmer, who died this spring, who say they did not see the red deer on the Quantocks till about the same time—between 1830-40. I would observe that Mr. Esdaile was a sportsman second to none on the Quantocks. He was given the command by Mr. Newton Fellowes, afterwards Lord Portsmouth—who had failed to do so on the previous day—to kill a deer for Sir F. Knight, the details of which are given Collyns, p. 172; and he, possessed of ample means, may be fairly given as being as high an authority as we can get. Well, who were the Wm. Palmers? Why, the son and relation of John Palmer, well known on the Quantocks as the votary of sport, though I may say never on his own land. However, he died just ninety years of age, a favourite with all, and who said to my wife that he liked to see her, but he wanted now to see the 'squire, because he kept him alive with his brown sherry. Well, is not this a most extraordinary undesigned coincidence, that these two in their different classes of life should attribute the same time for the introduction of red deer into the Quantocks, the first from his knowledge of what he had done himself and the other from his observation of what he had seen on the Quantocks? Mr. Greswell assumes that the Quantocks were really a Royal forest; he says that the red deer were protected by the forest laws. If they had been Sabina Peche and P. de Hamme would not have sent people to North Petherton at fawning time, and, indeed, they would have been themselves the rangers. As for the argument from what Leland saw at Nether Stowey, of course I am aware of it, as part of the land now belongs to Mrs. Stanley, and I have often read the passage in Leland. There is an argument that the permission to enclose shows the existence of deer, as they were to stock the enclosed park. But I submit that the Nether Stowey deer park is not on the Quantocks at all. I know the ground well; bought from H. Harvey by Sir P. Acland and Lord Taunton,

to whom it came from Mr. Balch ; it is the old manor of Lord Audley. The land is below Nether Stowey village in what Leland calls a pretty bottom. At Coripole, now Currypool, there was a deer park in 1585 ; at Quantoxhead the Luttrells, at Cothelstone the Stawells, had a deer park, but I submit that there were just as many deer parks away from the borders of the Quantocks, and two of these were not on the Quantocks. Mr. Speke, of Whitelackington, Mr. Champernowae in the same neighbourhood, and the largest deer park of all, the one at Hinton St. George, are the proofs that I would adduce. Besides these three there was the Bishop of Winchester's larger deer park near Taunton, of which Cardinal Beaufort made Sir H. Luttrell ranger. There is no proof that the Cardinal ever owned Halsway except that his natural daughter, wife of Sir E. Stradling, is supposed to have done so, and Mr. Warre's allusion to his hunting on the Quantocks is of too frivolous a character to view it as an historical statement. In later years Col. Luttrell (that would be after 1848) found deer on the Quantocks when he kept the foxhounds, but they were not found in the earlier part of the century. In 1867 the *Field* newspaper congratulated Sir T. Acland, Lord Taunton and others, on the fact of a herd being established on the Quantocks. In 1846 I find the first meet recorded in Mr. Collyns' book. A lady who lives at Marsh Mills and whose father was a most intimate friend of Mr. Tom Poole, tells me she never remembers hearing of the red deer having been in their time on the Quantocks. In the Coleridge-Wordsworth time there is no allusion to them. I cannot find any evidence that there were red deer on the Quantocks for 150 or 200 years before Mr. Esdaile turned some out, and Mr. Bisset continued to do so, except occasional deer, which appeared there, as one did some years ago at Street, and one for the last four years at Clovelly. I find it was not a Royal Forest or the deer there protected by the forest laws, and I may fairly claim that they had not been on Quantock before 1839, since

the time that they generally became extinct in England.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER read extracts from a paper by Rev. W. Greswell, who was unable to attend. It took a somewhat different view of the subject, coinciding with that taken by the late Rev. F. Warre (Som. Arch. Soc. *Proceedings*, v. XII). Mr. Greswell's paper, or rather the substance of it, appeared in the *Somerset County Gazette* for October 8th, 1898.

The Right Rev. Bishop BROWNLOW read a learned paper on the divisions of the Bishoprics of Wessex (*see* Part II).

The PRESIDENT cordially thanked Bishop Brownlow for his paper, and expressed pleasure that the late Bishop Clifford's successor showed such ability and willingness to assist them in their discussions.

The Rev. Preb. HOLMES rose to thank Bishop Brownlow for his valuable paper, and for calling attention to the Crawford Charters, and though too late for a serious discussion, would remark that up to the appearance of these documents it would seem that all our information was derived from one source. There was no evidence at Rome, either of the letter of Pope Formosus to the bishops of England, *audito nefandos*, or of the threat which was averted by the consecrations in 911. The bishop had referred to Wilkins, Mansi, Cosart, Labbe and Jaffé, but all these gave as the authority for their statement William of Malmesbury, who gave one account in his *Gesta Regum* and the other in his *Gesta Pontificum*. The Crawford papers, however, seem to suggest that the statements made in the Canterbury, Winchester, and Cottonian MSS. may not have been founded on Malmesbury, but on something earlier, and that probably Malmesbury had before him some archetype which was an attempt to explain the question, and of which he gave part in his *Gesta Regum* and part in his *Gesta Pontificum*. The second point he would remark on was that the consecration of the bishops could not have been earlier than 910, since Asser of Sherborne did not die till 909, or Frithstan of Winchester before 906. De Gray

Birch's heading to the document concerning the consecration gives it as from Formosus to Eadward, which is ridiculous, seeing that the Pope died five years before Eadward became king. It seems, therefore, that an attempt has been made, and probably as early as the time of Dunstan, to make as one story facts connected with two events. First there was the letter which is probable, and cannot reasonably be rejected, of Pope Formosus, 891-896, to the English bishops, in condemnation of the deplorable condition of the English Church. Organization was wanting, sees were vacant, and heathenism was gaining ground again. Then there may have been another message, probably sent by Pope Sergius IV, which was followed by the consecrations. It was hardly likely that there had ever been any signatures to the charter, because it would almost seem that the charter was only an after-thought, drawn up to give an appearance of authority to an historical explanation of an event that had occurred three generations previously.

The Rev. Mr. RICHARDSON read a paper on St. Anne's Chapel, Brislington.

This closed the evening's proceedings.

Second Day's Proceedings.

Wednesday was devoted to an excursion to the churches on the moors lying to the east of Taunton, including the parishes of Ruishton, Creech St. Michael, North Curry, Stoke St. Gregory, and Thornfalcon. A start was made punctually at 9.30 in brakes from Castle Green, the party numbering about a hundred.

Ruishton Church.

The first place visited was Ruishton, where the church was inspected. Mr. BUCKLE, before going inside, drew attention to the charming little tower. They would notice that its general character was similar to a great many round about

that part, and particularly it was like St. James's, Taunton, and Bishop's Lydeard, only on a smaller scale, and in a different coloured stone. Ruishton tower was built of blue lias, whereas the Taunton towers were built of red sandstone in each case, with Ham stone dressings. The smallness of the tower, combined with such magnificent and effective richness, had a striking effect. It was a remarkable tower in another way, because they happened to know its date. In Mr. Weaver's book on Wills they found money left for its building in 1530 and 1533. Considering the lateness of the date, the building was of an exceedingly pure style, there being nothing to suggest that it was absolutely at the end of the Perpendicular period. According to tradition, the tower was never finished, and this seemed likely to be true. At any rate, the parapet and pinnacles were now missing, and if they were ever put up, they must have been taken down. In looking at the tower it would be seen that the intention of the builder was to have a parapet and pinnacles. There was a fragment of a cross in the churchyard, and at the corner of the church was a stone on the coign carved with the figure of a priest in the act of benediction. Proceeding inside the building, Mr. Buckle pointed out the fragment of a Norman doorway. The chapel and probably also the walls of the chancel were of the early English period, probably 12th century. The east window of the chapel was very charming, with delicate tracery. It was a form of geometrical window which was met with here and there round about Somerset, the most noteworthy being that at Middlezoy, which they visited last year. All the rest of the church was, as usual, Perpendicular. They would notice how curiously the church was planned, the chancel being completely out of line with the nave, with a little window near the pulpit looking from the nave into the chancel, and a doorway leading from the chancel into the chapel. The arcade between the chapel and the nave was a pretty piece of work. The font was a remarkable example, richly carved all over, and stand-

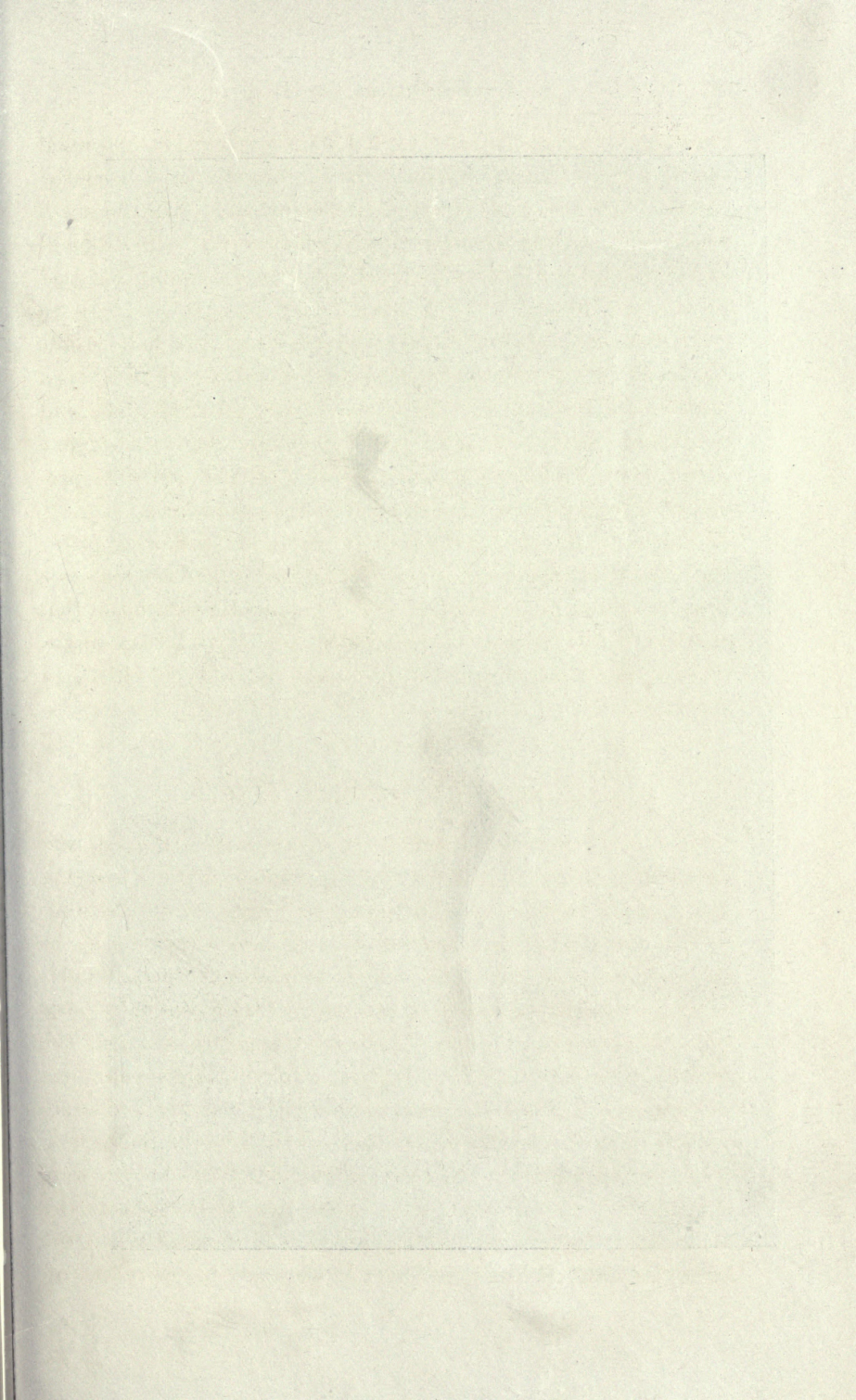
ing upon five legs. There were some fragments of old wood carving in the present reredos, which probably came from the screen, as there clearly was a rood screen there. On the north was a large staircase, with a pretty window in it. In front of the reredos was a beautiful picture, of which he would be glad to hear the history.

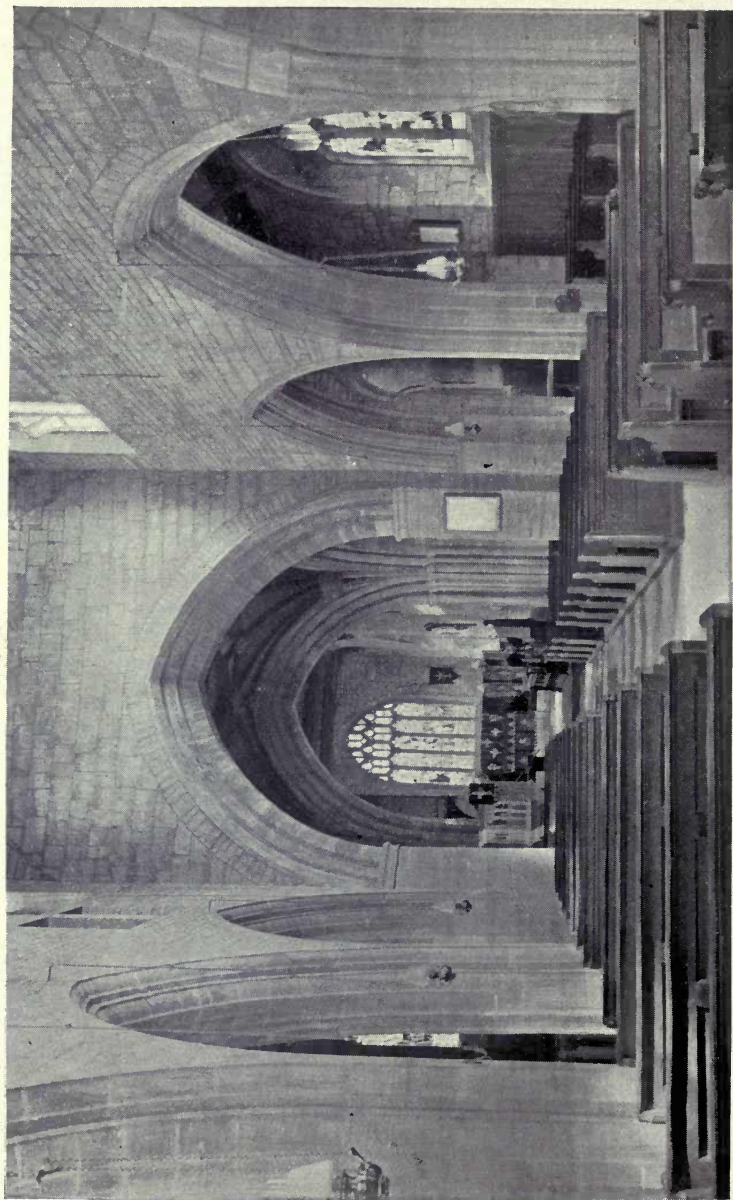
Prebendary ASKWITH said the tradition was that in the last century the picture was presented to the church by a member of Mr. Murray Anderdon's family, of Henlade, but no record could be found of it. Probably about that time a great many Flemish pictures came to England and were presented to churches, as this one was said to have been.

The Rev. E. H. BATES kindly sends the following note: "Among the fragments of coloured glass in the windows is a representation of a chalice in 'yellow stain,' interesting in that the foot of the chalice has small toes at each projecting angle. This ornamentation was in fashion from 1490 to 1510, or thereabouts."

Creech St. Michael Church.

The party were next driven to Creech St. Michael, and proceeding to the church they were received by the Vicar, the Rev. James Bownes. Mr. BUCKLE, in describing the features of the building, said that at first glance they would be inclined to say that this was a thoroughly Perpendicular church, with the exception of the arches they came in by; but the contrary was the fact. Almost the entire walls of the church were of the 12th century, and the large nave was of that date. The outer arch of the porch was in the characteristic Somerset style, which was called "Early Somerset." They would notice in the tower that two of the arches were Early English, but that looking into the aisle towards the west was a Perpendicular arch, which was inserted when the aisle was added. The upper part of the early tower remained,





NORTH CURRY CHURCH, INTERIOR.

but above that a Perpendicular belfry had been added, as was often the case. Though the old walls remained, with the exception of the arches and the south porch, there was nothing left of the features of the early church. All the windows had been inserted at later periods. The most remarkable feature of the chapel on the north was a gallery in the thickness of the wall which formed the approach to the rood loft, through a doorway which was now blocked. There was a great deal that was very rich about the Perpendicular work, and there were two nice niches on the pillars besides some elaborate work leading into the transept. The windows in the transept were curious, the lower ones having quaint cusping. The roof was very rich and had elaborate carvings. A piece of the rood screen remained, which had been cut off just above the lower panels. There were some fragments about the chancel of other old wood work, and there were a few bench ends. A curious desk was made out of a variety of these fragments, which bore the date 1634. The church contained a monument in the north chapel of the Cuff family. Outside, over the west window, was a figure of the Trinity. The stocks were still standing in the churchyard under one of the two fine old yew trees.

The Rev. J. BOWNES exhibited the communion plate and the registers, the earliest date of the latter being 1641. During a discussion on the origin of the name of the parish, Prebendary ASKWITH expressed the opinion that it was derived from "creek."

North Curry Church.

The next church visited was that at North Curry, which is considered to be one of the finest edifices of its kind in the county. Mr. BUCKLE, in describing its features, first of all called attention to its remarkably fine octagonal tower. There were, he said, a good many octagonal towers scattered about

Somerset, such as at Stoke St. Gregory, which they would visit that afternoon, South Petherton, Bishop's Hull, and Pitminster. But in almost every case they were the work of the latter part of the 12th century, very early in the Early English style. As a rule they found that the tower was raised afterwards in the Perpendicular period, and another storey put on. But except for that one at North Curry, he did not think there was any example in the county of a tower of that form which was begun so late as that apparently was. There appeared to be nothing earlier in that church than 1300. The principal part of the tower, the belfry storey and the octagon appeared to be later than that, but the piers and arches remaining in the centre of the church under the tower, and the transepts were of the beginning of the Decorated period. The elaborate moulding of the pillars with the capitals, and then the internal arches of the two windows in the transepts—all that work was also of this date. Thus, they had an example of a cruciform church, with central octagonal tower, founded at this comparatively late date. The church then built was without aisles, and the chancel and nave were of the same large size as at present. He called attention to the very curious arrangement of the tower piers; there were two elaborately moulded piers on the east side, whereas on the west side there were comparatively plain ones, and, in both cases, there were stone seats carried round the base, an unusual feature to find in a building which was only a parish church. In reference to that, he might remark that North Curry church was often called "the cathedral of the moors," on account of its grandeur, and of the way in which it overlooked the moor. The church had not been built any length of time before it became desirable to add on aisles, which was done about the middle of the 14th century, but they were not so lofty as those of to-day, consequently the original arches were not so lofty as at present. With regard to the original church, although the nave was of the same size as

the present, he should explain that it was not nearly so high and was covered with a pointed roof. When the aisles were added clerestory windows were put in, and the position of those windows could now be clearly traced below the present clerestory, while in two places they had been opened after having been for some time sealed up. At the time that the aisles were added a porch in a rather curious position on the north side immediately to the west of the north transept was destroyed. The second enlargement appeared to have been a heightening, there being no addition to the church unless the south porch was entirely of that date. Outside the porch they would observe three niches. The original window of the south transept was still there, and at the east end of the chancel there were indications of the pointed roof. There were a couple of interesting monuments, one in the north aisle and one in the chapel, while another striking object was a fine candelabrum depending from the roof in the middle of the nave. In the churchyard at the time of the Dissolution there was a chantry chapel, a separate building which must have been of considerable size and great elaboration. When the chantries were abolished the building materials of the chapel were valued at £15, which must have been a very large sum to give for old materials in those days. If they multiplied it by ten they would get an approximation to its modern value.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE proceeded to give some information respecting the monuments. He said the one in the chancel would correspond with the decorated portion of the church. It was the effigy of a civilian in the dress of the latter half of the 14th century, about 1360. It had on a lay gown with tight sleeves coming to the wrist, over that other sleeves ending just below the elbow, and over that again a kind of tippet. There was a remarkable number of these effigies both in Somersetshire and elsewhere. This effigy had its head resting on a cushion, and at one time there was an angel supporting the figure, but the angel had all been cut away except one hand

supporting the head, and the other resting on the shoulder. With regard to the other effigy the vicar had asked him whether it had come from the Abbey of Athelney, but the fact that it was an emaciated figure, not a skeleton but a *cadaver*, did not necessarily imply that it came from a monastic establishment. It was the fashion in those days to represent persons in the same way as they were when lying in the tomb. Underneath the effigy were figures dressed as friars telling their beads. It might have come from Athelney, but there was nothing on it to lead him to conclude that it did.

Preb. BULLER, the vicar, was called upon to say a few words. He stated that the monument in the chancel had an inscription upon it, it was either John or Thomas of Slough,* that was Slough Farm. He found in the register that Bishop Ralph, of Shrewsbury, in January, 1337, gave two licenses to John of Slough, of North Curry, to have divine service celebrated in his oratory at Slough for a year (S.R.S. ix, 315). That effigy might represent the person.

Mr. BUCKLE added that there was a Norman doorway in the north aisle which had belonged to an earlier church, and been rebuilt in its present position. The old parish registers and the communion plate were then inspected, and there was also shown a couple of pewters which were in use in public houses at the time of the Commonwealth, and which were introduced into churches by the Puritans to show their disregard for the sacredness of material things.

Luncheon at Moredon.

The party next proceeded to Moredon, where they were hospitably entertained to luncheon by Major and Mrs. Barrett.

At the conclusion of the repast,

The PRESIDENT (Mr. Stanley) thanked Major and Mrs. Barrett for the splendid hospitality which they had shown.

* [I read the inscription "Thoma []ore attē Sloo."—Ed.]

Personally, he had so often enjoyed their hospitality that he knew what it always was, and he was sure that that day they were most grateful to them for continuing the kindness which they showed to the Society twenty-six years ago. He (the President) only hoped that Major and Mrs. Barrett would be willing to show them the same hospitality twenty-six years hence. Every detail that could possibly have been thought of had been attended to in order to ensure the complete satisfaction of the guests.

“The health of Major and Mrs. Barrett and their family” was drunk with enthusiastic cheers.

Major BARRETT replied, and said he could assure the company that it had given Mrs. Barrett and himself very great pleasure indeed to receive the Society a second time. When he heard that they were coming to North Curry his mind was carried back to their last visit, and he was surprised to hear from Mr. Bidgood that it was so long ago as twenty-six years. He was very glad to hear that there was a chance of that fine old room, the Castle Hall, being turned to some good account, for it had been rather a cause of anxiety to him not to see it used to better purposes. The inhabitants of Taunton must feel grateful to the Society for having preserved to them such an historic building as Taunton Castle, and it was, therefore, their duty to support the Society, the membership of which, he trusted, would increase.

The company then adjourned to the grounds, where a further pleasant time was spent in strolling about, the weather being delightful.

Slough House.

The party was next driven to Slough House, which, by kind permission of the owner, the Hon. H. P. Gore-Langton, and of Mr. Thomas Hembrow, the tenant, was thrown open to inspection. The building is in a good state of preservation, and it has all the proportions of an Elizabethan manor house.

The party, or as many as could get into one of the principal rooms, having assembled, Mr. BUCKLE proceeded to give a description of the building. He said that the room in which they were gathered was part of the hall. They would have noticed as they came in that the porch had a beautiful facing of stone in alternate courses of blue lias and Ham Hill, which made altogether a very charming variety of colour. On entering the porch they passed through a screen of timber, and afterwards they found themselves in another narrow passage before entering that room. That passage was originally part of the hall, which then extended as far as the timber screen. The house was of the 16th century, and the style of the architecture was Gothic. Instead of having a large open roof, however, this hall had a fine timber ceiling with rooms over. At the principal end of the hall they would have expected to find one, if not two bay windows; and, indeed, two arches remained, one of which originally led into a bay window, the other into a recess which originally contained a flight of steps going downward, and passing through a doorway. Where the door led to he could not say; perhaps to the moat, possibly only to a cellar.

Mr. HEMBROW, the tenant, showed a portion of carved stonework, which was discovered in a wall of the building during some repairs, and was considered to have been part of the ancient oratory which was formerly there.

The Rev. H. F. S. GURNEY, vicar of Stoke St. Gregory, expressed his opinion that the house had a history as far back as King John, and there were formerly a Jack of Slough and a Jack of Knapp, who had to provide a feast in accordance with the customs of the manor.

After the inspection, Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE, on behalf of the Society, thanked Mr. Hembrow very cordially for his kindness in allowing them to visit the house, and Mr. HEMBROW, in reply, said he was very pleased to have had the opportunity of letting the members see it.

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STOKE ST. GREGORY TOWER, FROM NORTH-WEST.

The Rev. E. H. BATES sends the following additional notes on Slough Court :

The original owners of this place, from which they took their name of "de la Slo" or "at Sloo," seem to have given place during the reign of Richard II to the family of Montague of Sutton Montis and Weston Bampffield in this county. On the death of the head of the family, *temp.* Henry VIII, these two manors passed to three co-heiresses and their descendants ; but Slough seems to have been settled at some earlier date on a younger son, and the arms of Montague appear on an Elizabethan tomb in the churchyard. The Rev. H. F. S. Gurney, vicar of Stoke St. Gregory, has found in the register entries relating to the family down to 1600, when they seem to have died out. Slough afterwards belonged to the family of Court, and several monuments will be found in the south transept of Stoke Church.

Stoke St. Gregory Church.

The church of Stoke St. Gregory was next visited, which Mr. BUCKLE said was similar in many respects to the one at North Curry, but the foundation was considerably older. Here the octagonal tower was of the early date, when octagonal towers were commonly built, namely, the latter part of the 12th century. The original church, like the one at North Curry, was of cruciform shape without aisles. The church must be regarded to some extent as the one from which the builders at North Curry took their design, although they might have brought more skill to bear upon it and had more funds to work upon. The nave at Stoke St. Gregory was wider than the transepts. But the builder wanted to get a true octagon over the crossing, and in order to do so he had to get a true square base. Consequently the arches into the transepts were made thicker and richer than the nave and chancel arch ; above these arches the squinches under the

octagon were visible within the church. These arches had no capitals, but they had most remarkable bases, which when uncovered at the restoration turned out to be Early English capitals upside down. It was a great conundrum how they got in that position. It would be observed that the whole of those arches were built of Ham stone, whereas the upper part of the tower and the upper ring of the side arches were built of the native stone—a very beautiful grey sandstone. It had been suggested that at some time or other the original sandstone arches had been taken down and re-erected in Ham stone. In the south transept there were two windows of the early period, but he thought beyond that there was nothing left of the original 12th century church, and the whole of the present architectural features with the exception of those he had mentioned, dated from the latter part of the 15th century, the period when the aisles were added. It was interesting to note that in the churchyard, on the north side of the church, there was an altar tomb with quatrefoils round it, and upon the centre panel of each side were the Montacute arms with the initials J. M., while the Montacute coat was repeated on two capitals in the south transept. Of the furniture of the church the font was, perhaps, the most remarkable feature. It was an octagonal font with quatrefoils worked round it, one on each face. Four patterns were used, each being repeated on two adjoining sides. Though it was ingeniously worked he did not think anybody could say it was a beautiful font. A good many of the bench ends remained. The pulpit was a very interesting piece of carved woodwork, the figures thereon representing Time, Faith, Hope and Charity, on each of which the symbols were very strongly marked, and a fifth towards the east, which was extremely puzzling. A large reading desk formerly stood in the church, but this had now been converted into a vestry cupboard. On this were figures of women, with oil lamps, supposed to represent the five wise virgins. Mr. BUCKLE, in conclusion, drew attention to the stocks which

could be seen in the churchyard, under a yew tree, as at Creech St. Michael.

The Rev. H. F. S. GURNEY afterwards showed the church-plate and the registers in the schoolroom.

Thornfalcon Church.

From Stoke St. Gregory the drive was continued to the small but picturesque church of Thornfalcon. The visitors were met by the Rev. J. D. Bailey, the curate-in-charge, and Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE, in the absence of Mr. Buckle, gave some particulars of the building. He said that it was a 14th century church, with reticulated windows with quatrefoils. There used to be a rood loft over the entrance to the chancel, extending along the top of the screen, and the marks where the screen had been fixed were still visible. There being no clerestory, a window had been put in on the north side, almost parallel with the screen, to light the rood loft. On the other side another window had been put in to light the pulpit. There were several interesting bench ends, and the dates had been carried on since, one being 1542. Just inside the entrance to the doorway was a holy-water basin, and inside the church on the south side was a kind of niche, almost resembling an almoury, the purpose of which was not known.

In response to the kind invitation of Major and Mrs. Chisholm Batten, the members adjourned to the rectory lawn for tea. This over, and Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P., having, on behalf of the Society, thanked Major and Mrs. Chisholm Batten for their kind hospitality, the homeward journey was commenced, Taunton being reached about seven o'clock, thus bringing a most enjoyable and interesting excursion to a close.

Conversazione.

In the evening a conversazione was held in the Castle Hall, and there was a very good attendance, Mr. Stanley, M.P.,

and the Bishop of Clifton being among those present. Mr. F. W. Baker's Taunton quadrille band was engaged for the occasion. Songs were given by Mr. Frank White and Miss Barnicott, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to conversation among the members.

Third Day's Proceedings.

On Thursday an excursion was made to the

City of Exeter.

The Great Western Railway Company, with their usual readiness on such occasions, issued excursion tickets for the visit, and the intention was to provide special carriages by the 10.18 a.m. express train. The party, however, proved to be a larger one than was anticipated, numbering altogether 100. Mr. Lailey, the stationmaster, thereupon promptly made arrangements for a special train to convey the visitors, which left Taunton at 10.20, running in advance of the regular express. Exeter was reached without stopping, after a smart run of forty minutes. The party at once proceeded to the ancient Guildhall, where they were received in state by the Mayor (Alderman Pople), the Sheriff (Mr. Delpratt Harris), and the Deputy-Mayor (Alderman Pring).

The MAYOR expressed the great pleasure it gave him, on behalf of the Corporation, to welcome the Society to Exeter. He mentioned that some twenty-five years ago the city was honoured by a visit of the members of the Archæological Society of Great Britain, who, during their stay, were so pleased with what they saw that they subsequently presented to the city the gold chain of office which he was then wearing. The Town Clerk (Mr. Shorto) was present, and would be pleased to show them some of the old records, and give a description of them.

MR. E. J. STANLEY, M.P., as President of the Society,

thanked the Mayor for the kind way in which he had received them. They had only gone four times out of the county of Somerset since the Society had been in existence, and they thought that, as they were now celebrating their Jubilee, they could not do better than spend one day in a city which was, perhaps, more interesting than any other in their immediate neighbourhood. If the Town Clerk would be good enough to show them some of the ancient documents it would afford them very much pleasure.

The TOWN CLERK then explained that the Guildhall was built in the year 1330, and the walls and the roof were the same as the original structure. The fine oak panelling round the hall was put up in the year 1588. It was formerly painted and grained to represent mahogany until about twelve years ago, when such an undesirable covering was removed. They would notice some fine paintings on the walls. One was a portrait of Princess Henrietta, daughter of Charles I, born in Exeter, and another was of General Monk, who took such a leading part in the Restoration of Charles II. Both pictures were painted by Sir Peter Leley. Some swords were next shown, one of which was presented to the city by Edward I, and another by Henry VII. The Town Clerk proceeded to give an interesting summary of the history of Exeter from early times. There were 2,000 old deeds and 48 Royal Charters. These had of late all been carefully arranged by Mr. Stuart Moore, of the Record office. One of the oldest charters they had was in the reign of Henry II. The common seal of Exeter was passed round among the company for inspection. It had, said the Town Clerk, been in use for over 600 years. He had been told that the common seal used in Taunton was very similar to that of Exeter, but some people thought that that of Taunton was a reproduction of the one at Exeter. The wax imprint of the seal of the Somerset town was also handed round for inspection, and the Town Clerk said that it seemed very clear that both were made by the same man.

The Cathedral.

A visit was next made to the Cathedral, so rich in architectural beauty of form and colour. The party was received by Canon EDMONDS, who for about two hours entertained his listeners with a most interesting, lucid, and scholarly description of the principal features of the noble pile. The Canon having been cordially thanked for his address,

A move was next made to "Mol's Coffee House" (a building of 1596), and St. Martin's Church was afterwards visited. By this time the visitors were ready for luncheon, which was served at the New London Hotel. The afternoon was spent in visiting the Castle, St. Pancras Church, St. Mary Arches Church, and St. Mary Steps Church, while a few went to the Museum. The return journey was made in the special train at 4.52, Taunton being reached about 5.45. This brought third day's proceedings to an end, and the general expression was that the visit had been a most enjoyable one, and the beautifully fine weather added much to the pleasure.

The Fourth Day's Proceedings.

The members assembled at half-past nine on Friday morning for a tour in brakes through the Norton and Bishop's Lydeard district. The first halting place was

Norton Fitzwarren Church,

where the services of Mr. BUCKLE were, as usual, requisitioned. He pointed out that the walls of the church were for the most part very modern, and as to how far they were a reproduction of the old work he could not tell. The chancel, at any rate, seemed entirely modern, and all the windows were formed in the new stone, but in all probability the windows were reproductions of the old. The arcade supporting the nave from the

aisle was apparently original 13th century work, but it seemed to have been considerably altered, and he should think it must have been taken down and rebuilt, with the exception of the respond next the tower. A great feature of the church was the tower. It had true grandeur of a simple character, but with rather elaborate carving at a few points. The tower, so to speak, was a straggler, so close to Taunton; in character it resembled those to be found in West Somerset—at Minehead and St. Decuman's, and on the other side of the Quantocks. They met several of them in their expeditions from Bridgewater the previous year. Here, however, it seemed curious to find a tower of this type mixed in with the much richer towers with which the district abounds. Besides the two at Taunton, others they were going to visit at Bishop's Lydeard and Lydeard St. Lawrence, would prove to be fine specimens of the more elaborate tower which they generally met with in the middle of Somerset, so that that tower seemed in some degree to be out of place. Almost the only decorative features were the elaborate niche head on the south and the very large gargoyles to be found on all sides and at different levels. Another point of interest about the church was the screen. The figures standing on the rood loft were modern, and some of the mouldings on the top of the cornice, but except that, the screen itself was all old, and in an uncommonly good state of preservation. The cornice was a very remarkable one on account of the curious variation in the carving. The upper range of moulding (a grape vine of the ordinary character) was on a very coarse scale, and seemed to be more suitable for the roof. It was surprising to find it in its present position, especially when they saw the delicate succession of mouldings below, and it seemed to him a question whether that particular moulding belonged to the screen at all. The grape vine below was full of the most delicate work, and the grapes and leaves were on a much smaller scale. They certainly could not have been carved by the same people for the same purpose. The

moulding below that again was a very curious one. Right in the centre they saw a plough, drawn by three pair of oxen and driven by a man with a whip over his shoulder. After that came some very curious figures, including a man with a bow, which seemed to him to have got out of place. He thought the carvings in that moulding had been taken down some time or other and had not been put together properly. The man as at present placed seemed to be shooting the oxen, and if they looked further along they saw some hounds which appeared to belong to the man with the bow. In addition to those things mentioned there were two dragons, one swallowing a man. Farther along still they came across the inscription "Raphe Harris, C.W.," implying that he was churchwarden at the time the screen was first erected. That was very interesting, for although they were quite used to seeing churchwardens' names on work carved out during the last two hundred years, it was by no means so usual to find churchwardens putting their names on work at the beginning of the 16th century. At the extreme end there were two figures—probably intended for women—one having hold of the other's hair, while in the other hand each held a rod.

The Rector, the Rev. W. PROWSE HEWETT, read an extract from the *Church Times* of 1886, with regard to the screen, which was as follows:—"The screen at Norton is little known. Forty years ago, the rich painting and gilding were daubed over a light oak colour. It has suffered too in other ways. When the church was defaced, at the time of the restoration, it was entirely taken down, and only put back by the energy of the present rector, and then against the advice of most of the neighbouring clergy. It was pieced together in an entirely different manner to the original in order to fit the new chancel arch, and has, therefore, lost much of its value. Its chief glory, however, is in a wonderful series of animals carved on the lower side of the beam, representing the devastation of the country by a dragon or crocodile,

its chase and final overthrow by a man armed with a bow and arrows. There is a most spirited piece of carving where the beast swallows a man whole. The part representing the death of the dragon was stolen from the church, but was rescued by the rector from a curiosity shop in Taunton, and was replaced. The carving referred to a legend of a dragon having devastated the valley between Norton and Williton, finally meeting its death at Norton. The date of the screen is about 1500, and has on it the name of Raphe Harris, who was churchwarden at the time, and was buried at the west end of the church 1509 A.D."

The Old Roman Encampment.

The company next adjourned to some fields at the rear of the church which were formerly the site of an old Roman encampment. Mr. BIDGOOD made a few remarks relative to this, which he has since embodied in a paper (*see* Part II).

Cothelstone Manor House.

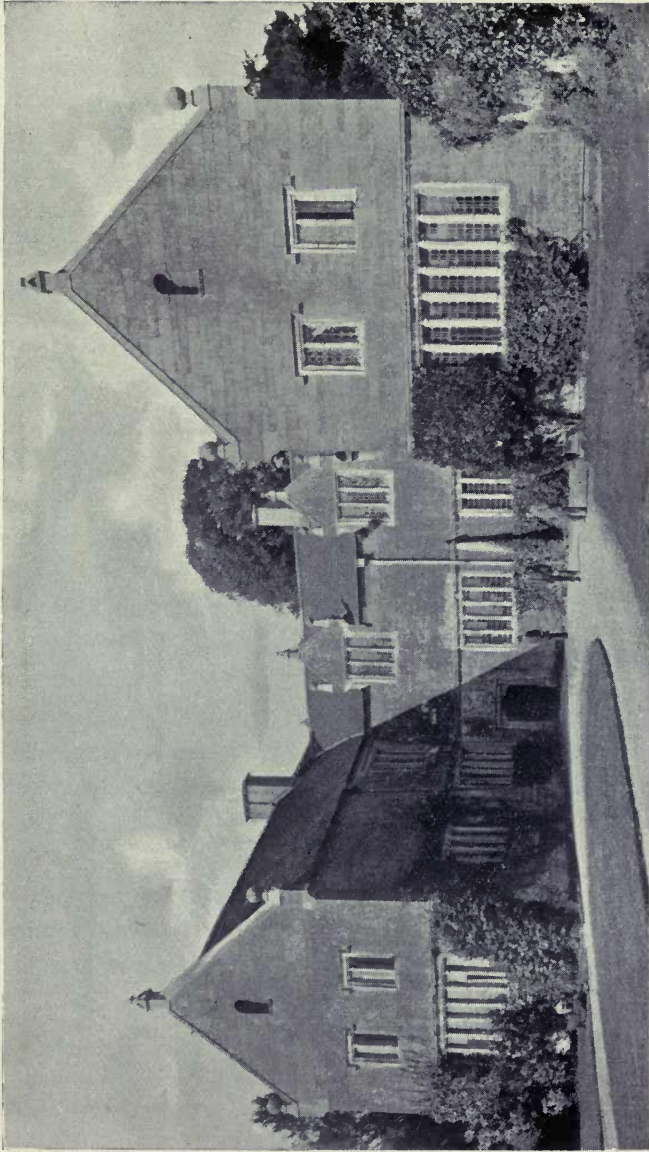
This was the next stopping place, and the Rev. W. ESDAILE gave a brief account of the Stawell family, who were the original owners of the manor. Sir John Stawell was the most distinguished member of the family, and he lived in the time of Charles I, and raised three troops of cavalry and one of infantry in support of the king's forces. He had a skirmish with Blake's forces at Bishop's Lydeard, but was defeated, and returned to Cothelstone, and then the mansion was destroyed—at any rate the greater part of it—by Blake. The house was restored in 1855-6 by the speaker's grandfather, and it was generally admitted to have been carefully restored in accordance with the original. Mr. ESDAILE then read a long account of Sir John Stawell's funeral, and mentioned that he had no less than fourteen sons and seven daughters.

Mr. BUCKLE followed with a description of the manor house, which, he said, was a most remarkable building. The general idea of the building was Tudor, as shown by its base course, and string course, and wide mullioned windows, but, associated with these features, were some of Renaissance character. The mullions were treated as balusters, not only on the outside but on the inside, each of which died against a square post into which the glass was fitted. The buttresses were most extraordinary. The small bases they stood upon were just like the pedestals of classical columns. As they rose they were diminished like classical columns, and on the top of the string course they were finished with pinnacles formed of ungainly pieces of carving. Then there was a very quaint gate-house, with distinctly classical arches, and some niches of very classical type with scallop shell at head. Inside the gate-house they found a couple of fine openings of the purest perpendicular, and if they looked at the tablet bearing the coat-of-arms over the doorway, they would see that the treatment of the Heraldry was of Jacobean character, but was enclosed in a very flat four-centred arch of quite a Tudor kind. It was a very remarkable building, forming a sort of link between the latest Tudor work and the Renaissance, but whether the whole of the buildings were of that same date he could not say. On one side there was a chimney of a very gothic character, and it seemed to him as though the building must once have been a thorough Tudor building.

Col. BRAMBLE pointed out that on one of the pinnacles of the house was a cannon ball, and when the Society were there last it was on the table.

Cothelstone Church.

A visit was afterwards paid to the church at the rear of the manor house, the principal interest in which Mr. BUCKLE explained consisted in the monuments of the Stawell family. Sir



COTHELSTONE MANOR HOUSE.

John was buried on one side of the chancel and another member of the family on the other, and there were two tombs each with two figures on them in the side chapel. Really the whole of the church was an Early English one, although it had perpendicular windows inserted. The whole of the walls of the nave and chancel, and the walls of the chapel were E. E., and there was a very plain E. E. arch leading into the tower. It was an exceedingly simple church, the arch and the chancel arch being about as plain as they could be. The tower had one curious feature about it on the outside, and that was that it had been raised in modern times in rather curious fashion. Over by the old belfry the string course at the bottom of the parapet remains with its gargoyles, but the parapet had been taken off. Mr. Buckle also alluded to the carved bench ends, on one or two of which, and on the pulpit, the Stawell arms appeared.

Col. BRAMBLE afterwards described, in detail, the figures on the tombs in the chapel.

The Rev. E. H. BATES sends the following additional notes on Cothelstone :

“ In the upper lights of the windows on the south side of the church are some good figures of English saints :—1, S. Thomas of Hereford (Cantelupe) ; 2, S. Ealdhelm of Sherborne ; 3, S. Cuthbert of Durham ; 4, S. Dunstan of Glastonbury (with the tongs) ; 5, S. Thomas of Canterbury ; 6, S. Richard of Chichester (de la Wych).”

The Rev. W. GRESWELL has kindly sent the following notes on Cothelston :

I derive Cothelston from *Cotele ton*, the ton or town of *Cotele*, a name well known in Somerset in early records, and in Cornwall. It has nothing to do with a “stone.” *Cotele* is Welsh or Keltic, not Saxon or Norman. There is *Cotele*-asch on Mendip.

Cothelston, a *capella dependens*, i.e., chapel dependent on Kingston. Together with Kingston, it was probably an early

endowment to the Priory and Convent of Taunton. It was William Giffard, Bishop of Winchester (1127), who gave Kingston to Taunton Priory. *Ecclesiam de Kingestona cum capellis et pertinentiis suis.*

The dividing line between Cothelston and Kingston is a clearly marked fence running down from the ridge of Quantock. Part of Cothelston is on Quantock. Merridge Hill is, I believe, in Cothelston, but the Spaxton parishioners have common rights on Merridge Hill. Merridge is an outlying member of Spaxton.

In *Collinson* (1790) Tirhill House appears as possession of Thomas Slocomb. "Tirhill, with a park ascending almost to the top of Quantock Hill." In Greenwood's *Somersetshire Delineated*, 1821: "Cothelston House, which till lately has been designated Tirhill House, is now the residence of Edward Jeffries Esdaile."

In Queen Elizabeth's time there is this notice: "Sir John Stawell, knt., hath one grounde inclosed for deere at Cothelston of one myle compas and keapeth twoo mares according to the statute." (*See Green's Somerset and the Armada*, p. 48.)

St. Agnes Well, with an ancient stone canopy, near the road. In the adjoining field "a nunnery" is said to have existed, and the site is pointed out by old men. I can find nothing else to corroborate the idea of a "nunnery," but the Prior and Convent of Taunton may have had a small lodging or cell here.

The walnut tree has been mentioned before in *Proceedings of Som. Arch. Society*. It was blown down in 1896. In Jeboult's *History of West Somerset*, it is said: "On this manor a strange old custom prevails. Certain tenements are held by payment of so many bushels of rye. The tenants are called *Rye Renters*."

In a note on Durandus I see the following remark about the "glory" or "nimbus" round the head of a saint on one of the church windows:—"The nearest contemporary effigy of a saint which we have observed in stained glass is that of S. Thomas of Hereford, in the church of Cothelston, Somerset-

shire. Here the 'glory' is, as usual, of a circular shape."

Sometimes the nimbus was four-square, representing the four cardinal virtues. Why S. Thomas of Hereford should appear here I do not know.

Manor House. This is very interesting, as the home of the Stawells. A Sir John Stawell figures in the Elizabethan days as one of the most active men in the county in opposing the "Armada," and a Sir John Stawell also figures afterwards as a staunch Royalist. He suffered much at the hands of the Parliamentarians. His fine woods were cut down and sold.

The Stawells (*see Collins's Peerage*, vol. viii) were said to have been of Norman extraction. They first took their name from Stawel, in the parish of Murlinch in the county of Somerset. They lived at Cothelston in the 13th century.

The "line" ended in Mary, only daughter of Edward, 4th Lord Stawel, who married, September 3, 1750, the Right Hon. Henry Bilson Legge, fourth son of William, first Earl of Dartmouth.

I find in an old parish rate book that the Stawells are rated for Cothelston Farm in 1789, apparently the last time. Curiously enough, a John Gibbs is rated for Cothelston Farm in 1781 and 1785.

After this the property is rated to Edward Jeffreys, and so to the Esdailes.

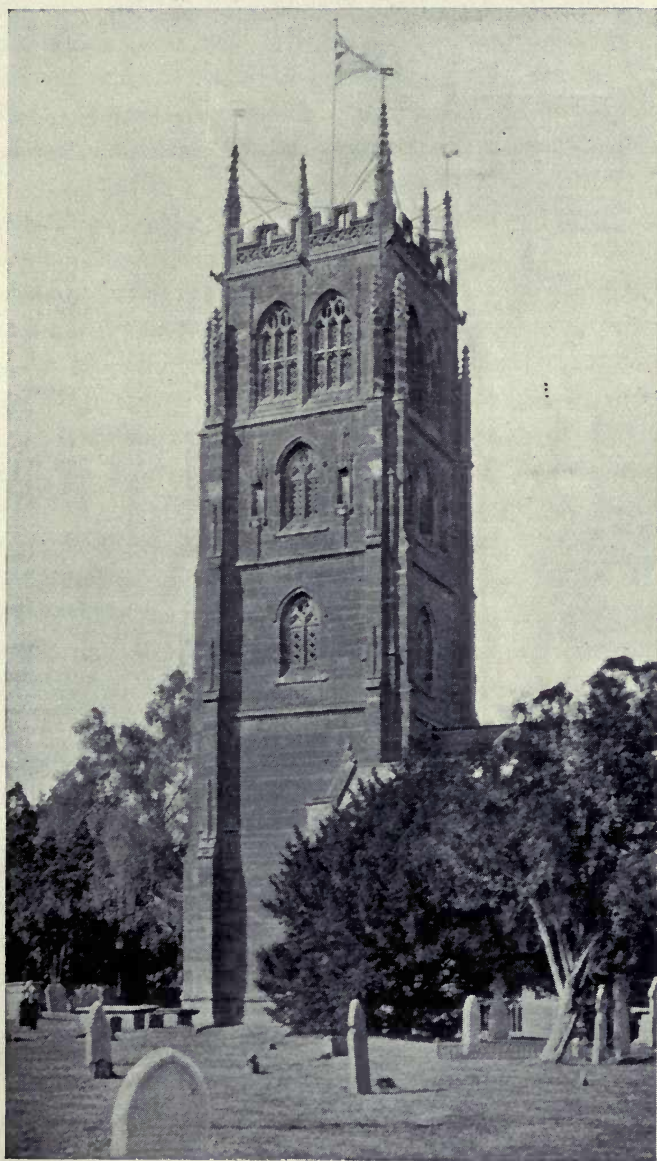
In 1786, we gather from Savage's *History of Taunton*, p. 273, that "John Hammet, James Esdaile Hammet and Edward Jeffries Esdaile, Esquires, had a grant of the office of bailiff of the bailiwick of Taunton and Taunton Deane, and of sealers of weights and measures within the castle, borough, and lordship of Taunton."

John Hammet and James Esdaile Hammet are described as sons of Benjamin Hammet, alderman of the City of London; Edward Jeffries Esdaile, son of William Esdaile, of the said City of London, banker.

(*See also Dict. Nat. Biography*, under Esdaile.)

Bishop's Lydeard Church.

A move was next made to Bishop's Lydeard church, which proved to be of unusual interest. Mr. BUCKLE was again called upon to point out its leading features. The church, he said, contained many features of great interest. The inside was noted for the great quantity and variety of the carvings to be found there, but, perhaps, the most interesting thing about the whole church was the tower. It must be regarded as quite one of the most successful in the whole of the county. It was not only exceedingly successful as it stood, but it was rather remarkable in this county because it was a tower which had never been altered since it was first designed. In by far the majority of our towers of the first class a very much richer, though perhaps heavier parapet and set of pinnacles had been added, but this church retained the original parapet and pinnacles. The original design remained perfect from the base to the topmost pinnacle. It was very nearly identical with St. James's, Taunton, but there were some points of difference. This tower, for instance, was rather straighter—the buttresses were not so much inclined, and the working out of the detail was distinctly superior to that at St. James's. The author of this tower knew exactly from the time he started what he was going to do. In St. James's tower the designer got into difficulties at the belfry storey—he had not put the base of two buttresses quite in the right place, but he got over his error in a most ingenious way and built a beautiful tower. This was a case where at each corner of the tower there was a great group of buttresses, but what made the principal show were the two buttresses at right angles at each corner. They were carried up to the belfry storey, and opposite the belfry windows they finished in pinnacles which were set diagonally to the buttresses on which they stood, and these pinnacles were connected with the belfry wall by a thin wall of stone to prevent daylight appearing between the tower and



BISHOP'S LYDEARD TOWER, FROM SOUTH-EAST



pinnacle, but at the top they were nearly detached. That pair of buttresses did not lean against the tower, but against a buttress of four faces, which at the belfry storey changed into a plain square buttress set diagonally to the tower. This diagonal buttress was carried up through the tower and became the base of the pinnacle. That complicated, but perfectly fitting arrangement of buttresses, proved that the designer worked out every detail of the tower before he commenced building. Cheddar church had another absolutely perfect tower, but in by far the majority of instances the architect got into difficulties before they were finished. This tower was beautifully designed from base to top.

A brief discussion followed between Mr. BUCKLE and Mr. C. H. FOX, of Wellington, as to where the money came from for the building of these churches, after which the Vicar, the Rev. W. F. EUSTACE, inquired what date Mr. Buckle assigned to the tower, and he replied that it would not be later than about 1470.

Mr. BUCKLE then pointed out one or two features of interest to be found in the churchyard. At the lower end of the churchyard, he said, stood a churchyard cross with a good deal of carving about it, but the actual cross was modern. On the lower half of the shaft and the steps, and on the base of the shaft, were the figures of the twelve Apostles and other carved figures, which it was difficult to make out the meaning of. A little further to the right were fragments of another cross, the market cross, which about forty years ago was brought in from the road. The most interesting feature of the latter was the head of the cross, which had been replaced. Only the front was visible, and there were to be found, as usual, figures of the Virgin and Child, and other figures so dilapidated that nothing could be made of them.

The party then moved into the church, where Mr. BUCKLE was once more called upon. He explained that in the inside of that church they had work of two different dates of the Per-

pendicular period. The two arcades on the two sides of the nave were entirely different. One was a very low one, and the other was rather lofty. The low arcade represented the earlier stage of the building, when the aisles were narrower than they were at present, and the whole height of the church was considerably less. The chancel was a curious shape, the eastern part being a good deal narrower than the western. The chancel arch had been enlarged, and at the same time one bay of the chancel had been widened in a very ingenious way. The probability was that the old church had a north aisle, and the people who built the loftier southern arcade intended, in course of time, to have gone on and put a similar arcade on the other side. The aisle on the south side appeared to be contemporaneous with the tower. The north aisle was entirely new. The original aisle was narrower and lower, and did not extend further east than the chancel arch, and that explained how it was the screen extended over one aisle and the nave, and not over the other. This screen was another excellent example, similar on the whole to that at Norton, but with a good deal of difference in the detail of decoration. The paint was entirely modern, but the various mouldings were original, and there was nothing so characteristic as that at Norton. One of them contained the whole creed, and the two mouldings below that were very delicate. There was also a large collection of bench ends of rather an unusual character. The quaintest were near the west end. There was one picture of coursing, and another of a deer. Then they had the Pelican in Piety, which they knew was the badge of Richard Fox (Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1492-1494), which seemed to indicate the probability of their being done in his time. Then they had a coat of arms, with the fleur-de-lys or, and a curious picture of a windmill, with a packhorse below, and the miller himself, and next to that a ship. A good deal of question arises about them. Some asserted that the windmill marked the miller's pew, and that the ship was a captain's, and that they paid for them ;

but a more likely thing, to his mind, was that the carpenter got tired of foliage, and took to depicting the everyday life of the village. There was a very pretty Jacobean pulpit, and other things of great interest in the church.

The members next proceeded to the "Lethbridge Arms" Hotel, Bishop's Lydeard, where lunch was served. In the absence of the President, Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P. (who had left the party at Cothelstone, in order to drive home to Quantock Lodge), Mr. Cely-Trevilian presided, and after luncheon the following votes of thanks were passed :

Col. BRAMBLE proposed, and Mr. C. H. FOX seconded :

"That the best thanks of this Society be given to the President, E. J. Stanley, Esq., M.P., for the admirable way in which he has conducted the duties of the office upon such an important epoch in the existence of the Society."

"That the best thanks of the Society be given to the Worshipful the Mayor of Taunton for the kindness and hospitality which he has extended to the Society and for the great trouble which he has taken in the arrangements generally to which to so great an extent the success of the meeting is due."

"Also to the Local Committee, which, under the Presidency of his Worship the Mayor, has so admirably arranged the details of the meeting (coupled with the names of the Local Secretary, Mr. Samson, F.R.I.B.A., Mr. Barnicott, Mr. Tite, and Mr. Hammett)."

"To the Worshipful the Mayor and Town Clerk of Exeter, to the Rev. Canon Edmonds, B.D., and to Mr. W. H. Hamilton Rogers, F.S.A., to whom in their various ways the success of our excursion to Exeter is to be attributed."

"Also to those who have so kindly extended their hospitality to the Society: Major and Mrs. Barrett, Major and Mrs. Chisholm Batten, and Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor, not forgetting the Mayor of Taunton."

"Also to the Clergy of the different parishes who have permitted us to visit their churches and have in many cases put

themselves to considerable inconvenience to attend personally and assist us with valuable information (coupled with the name of Prebendary Askwith, who has given us the pleasure of his company and the benefit of his assistance throughout the meeting).”

“To the owners and occupiers of houses who have allowed us to visit them on the occasion. (The Hon. H. P. Gore-Langton and Mr. Hembrow, Mr. C. E. J. Esdaile and Mr. C. Hancock, and Mr. Batchelor. Also to Mr. Wilfred Marshall for permitting us to pass through his private roads).”

“To Mr. Edmund Buckle for his able explanations of the numerous objects of architectural interest visited by the Society.”

“To the District Superintendent at Exeter (Mr. Campfield) and the Station Master of Taunton (Mr. Lailey) for the excellent arrangements made for the convenience of the members.”

Mr. TREVILIAN, who presided, supported the resolution, and included in it the names of the Joint Hon. Secs.: Col. Bramble and Rev. F. W. Weaver.

Lydeard St. Lawrence

After luncheon the journey was resumed to Lydeard St. Lawrence, where the visitors were received at the church by the Rev. F. L. Hughes, vicar. Mr. BUCKLE said that the tower of the church was of a different character generally, from that at Bishop's Lydeard. This was a very plain, simple tower, but it had an uncommonly good outline, and was exceedingly effective from every point of view. Here they had the same general principle as at Bishop's Lydeard, although without any of the elaboration, the buttresses and the rest of the tower being very plain. The west window was a small one, and there was no west door. The windows in the belfry were of sandstone, as was most of the other detail of the

church. All those hills around them produced stone which could be worked up effectively as they saw. The Ham Hill stone used in the church was almost all modern, as this place was some distance from those quarries. The bulk of the church was of the 14th century—the nave, the chancel, the windows therein, and the walls being all of that period. The chancel had never been altered since that date, it was practically untouched, and had the small east window which was used at that time. The chancel arch was of a simple character, its most interesting feature was that where it sprang out from the wall it had no shafts to support it all. That arrangement was met with late in the Perpendicular period, because then the great screens were common, and it was felt to be a waste of good work to put elaborate piers under the chancel arch, where they would never be seen. The chancel contained a great deal of pretty work. There was a curious sedilia and piscina, but they did not seem to harmonise one with another. They would notice what a fine nave the church had. The aisle was a later addition, probably in the 15th century. The pillars which separated the aisle from the nave, and the capitals were of the same period. The idea of having the capital continuous all the way round the pillar was rather characteristic of Devonshire. In the West of Somerset this treatment was often to be found. The first capital at the west end represented a fox and goose; the second had four angels carved round it; the third was comparatively common-place, having just a piece of foliage round it. But the fourth was decidedly curious, having a piece of interlaced pattern work all round. That was not an arrangement which a workman of the 15th century would be likely to think of at all, and the only suggestion he could make was that this bit of design was copied by a country workman from an ancient bit of Saxon carving, which, perhaps, came out of an older church. The last capital was for the most part broken away. The windows of the nave, with the exception of one, were probably of the same date as the arcade.

The three windows on the south side were built as it were in perspective—large, middle-sized, small—and the effect of these three windows, when looking down the nave from the chancel, was to make the nave look longer than it really was. On the other hand, standing at the west end the nave looks distinctly shorter, because the eye instinctively assumes a row of windows to be all of about the same size. It might be that the people who put in the big window had intended to bring the chancel in effect more down into the church. There were, unquestionably, cases where buildings had been deliberately designed with that effect in view. But, on the other hand, it might be a mere accident. The screen was interesting, as there was no vaulting on the face of it towards the nave. The tradition was that the screen was never finished, and its appearance supported the belief. It was very late, and was perhaps the “enterclose” building in 1532 (See *Wells Wills*). The bench ends were pretty, but there was nothing very characteristic about them. The pulpit was of Jacobean work, and it looked as if it had been made up very much. There was a curious “squint” looking into the chancel, with an iron bar in the centre, intended, no doubt, as a support to the wall over it.

Combe Florey.

The last place visited was the pretty little village of Combe Florey. It will be remembered that the witty Sydney Smith, from 1829 until his death, February 22nd, 1845, was rector of this parish. Before visiting the church, the party were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor. A move was afterwards made to the church. Mr. BUCKLE said that the south wall of the nave dated from the 13th century, but the only features of that date still remaining were the doorway and the turret. The aisle seemed to have been taken down and rebuilt sometime in the last century, but

with Early English arches inserted over the windows. There were so many of these arches as to indicate that there were several windows in the Early English church which stood there, but except for certain remnants there was nothing left of an earlier period than the Perpendicular time. The arcade there had got the angel capitals as at Lydeard St. Lawrence, but the rest of the Perpendicular work was of a very simple character. The windows there had the ordinary tracery which was found in most of the Somerset churches. The chancel was entirely modern, but in one of the windows there were two little fragments of 15th century stained glass. The stone used in the church was a kind of local sand stone, of a dark red colour, which could be seen in the arcades. The mullions and tracery of the windows were all of that red sandstone, and there was hardly any of the Ham Hill stone imported there. The bench ends were more elaborate than any they had seen during these excursions. There was formerly a screen there, and the few fragments left of it had been worked up into the present reading desk and pulpit. In the wall of the north aisle was a small stone slab with the following inscription, in 13th century character, to one of the nuns of Cannington, whose heart was there immured;—*Le Quer : Dame : Maud de : Merriete : nonayne : de : Cannyntune.*” (See *Proceedings*, vol. xi, pt. ii, 11).

There seemed to have been a special fancy among the monastic orders for being buried in two different places in the belief that they got the benefit of the prayers in both places of worship. Thus the heart was buried in one place and the body in another. The tower of the church was a very pretty one of red sandstone. The building altogether stood in a very pretty situation.

Lieut.-Col. BRAMBLE made a few remarks as to some recumbent effigies, which were not of a earlier date than 1270 and not later than 1285. The figures were in complete chain armour.

The Gate House was afterwards inspected, and this concluded the excursion. The homeward journey was then made, Taunton being reached about 7.30. This was the last of the excursions, which throughout had been of a most successful and enjoyable character, and the weather each day was all that could have been desired.

The Local Museum.

AN interesting loan exhibition of local objects was formed in the Castle Hall, and consisted largely of paintings, prints, drawings, etc., of old Taunton, portraits of Somerset Worthies, old election addresses and squibs; play bills of the old Taunton theatre (including some of the great Kean's). Among the Taunton election addresses was that of Benjamin Disraeli, who, "young and alone, is engaged in a not inglorious struggle with the most powerful person in Europe who does not wear a crown," this being Daniel O'Connell, who on this occasion described the future Prime Minister of England as the heir-at-law of the impenitent thief who reviled the Great Founder of the Christian religion.

Mr. Barnicott.—Frame of ancient stained glass from the east window (removed in the restoration of 1843) of St. Mary's Church, Taunton. Two water-colour drawings of old St. James' Vicarage, Taunton. Sixty-three engraved portraits. Ten prints of Taunton, and six printed sheets of election addresses, etc. Parchment document, Union Club, Taunton, 1755; Taunton Assembly, 1749, rules and book of accounts.

Miss Woodforde.—Miniature portrait of Elizabeth Broadmead, buried at Wilton, 1784, aged 115. She walked in procession before the Duke of Monmouth on his entering Taunton. Portrait taken 25th March, 1781, by P. Foy. Crayon portrait of Thomas Woodforde, of Taunton, apothecary and banker. Pencil drawing of the Market House, etc., Taunton, by Ed. Turle, 1829. Bible given by Bishop Ken to Samuel Woodforde, of Castle Cary, "the gift of my worthy friend Thomas Ken, Jan. 3, 1669."

Mr. C. Tite.—Several water-colour sketches of places in Taunton since destroyed or altered—"White Hart Inn,"

“Four Alls Inn Yard,” “Crown and Sceptre Inn,” “Castle Yard,” “Old Grammar School,” houses in Bridge Street and St. James’ Street. Portrait of Dr. Cottle, formerly vicar of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton. Engraved portraits of Samuel Daniel and Miss Graddon, and several caricature sketches. Sheet of local architectural subjects.

Rev. J. Worthington.—Portraits of Dr. Toulmin (historian of Taunton), Rev. Roger Montgomery, Rev. W. A. Jones, and Dr. Malachi Blake ; and some old views of the corner of Mary Street.

Mr. J. H. Spencer.—Daguerreotype of St. Mary’s old tower, 1842. Pen-and-ink sketch of St. James’ old tower, 1866. Comparative elevations of the towers of Taunton St. Mary, Taunton St. James, Bishop Lydeard, Kingston, and Staple Fitzpaine. Drawing of Wilton Church, showing the old tower, 1844. View of interior of St. Mary Magdalene Church, 1829, and some other local views.

Mr. Hugh Norris.—Portrait of Henry Norris, of Taunton, born May, 1752, died 1823. Carved ivory knife-handle, found on the site of Taunton Priory, representing Justice, Hope, and Charity (*see* vol. ix, *Somerset Proceedings*).

Dr. Alford.—Six water-colour sketches of Taunton—North Street ; Fore Street ; Old Tone Bridge ; Alms Houses, St. James’ Street ; Leper Hospital, East Reach ; and view of Taunton from the Priory fields.

Rev. D. P. Alford.—The old College School, Taunton, by Jeffries. Painting of the old bridge.

Mr. Franklin.—Five views of old Taunton, by “C.C.” *circa* 1790, coloured aquatints—Castle Green, showing the ruined eastern gate ; view from Priory ; Hammet Street ; Tone Bridge before the central arch was built ; Taunton Castle ; and a view of the Market House, by E. Turle.

Mr. T. G. Crump.—Four water-colour sketches—Whipping Post and Stocks, West Monkton ; Leper Hospital, East Reach ; Rams-horn Bridge ; Trowel and Pipe found embedded

in the walls of old St. Mary's tower when pulled down, 1858.

Mr. Maynard.—Two water-colour sketches, by Haseler, of the north front of the Castle Hall, Taunton.

Mr. W. J. Trenchard.—Portrait of Sir John Trenchard, of Bloxworth, Dorset, supported the Duke of Monmouth, escaped to Holland, and afterwards returned to England with William of Orange. M.P. for Taunton, 1678 and 1681. Portrait of John Trenchard, M.P. for Taunton, 1722.

Mrs. Kinglake.—Large oil portrait of Sir Benjamin Hammet, M.P. for Taunton, builder of Hammet Street, and "restorer" of the Castle.

Rev. E. L. Penny, D.D., R.N.—Portrait of Joanna Southcott, the enthusiast (presented to the Museum).

Mrs. Rowland.—Four views of Taunton, of the same series as Mr. Franklin's, above.

Mr. Bidgood.—Taunton Theatre Play-bills, 1800 to 1830. Election addresses and "squibs." Portraits and views.

Mr. H. W. Smith.—Plans and elevations of the old almshouses in St. James' Street, recently pulled down.

Other views of old Taunton, and portraits, were lent by Mr. Skinner, Mr. Crockett, Mr. Frier, Mr. Stansell, Mr. Mulford, and Mr. W. J. Hammet.

Miss Kate May.—Portrait of Frederick May, one of the founders of the Society.

Mr. Duder.—Election addresses—Benjamin Disraeli, 1835; General Peachey and Mr. Seymour, 1825; Mr. Baring, 1806.

Mr. Spranklin.—Plans, elevations, and details of rood-screen, pulpit, and bench ends, Trull Church.

Mr. Sheppard, Steward of the Manor of Taunton Deane.—Court Roll, Cardinal Beaufort, 17 Henry VI, and another of Bishop Montague, 16 James I, 1618; book of accounts and presentments, 1582; and various MS. and printed documents relating to Taunton fairs, Court Leet, inventories of estates, etc., from the Exchequer, Taunton Castle.

Mr. Richard Easton.—Locke's Survey of Somerset, folio

MS. Summonses to Parliament, Henry III to Edward IV.
List of the Non-jurors.

Mr. E. E. Baker.—A large and most interesting collection of tracts relating to Somerset, among which were the following concerning Taunton:—Auction Catalogue of English Books, at the “Lamb Coffee House in Taunton,” 1710; “Chard and Taunton Assize Sermons,” 1623; “A narrative of the Expedition to Taunton, the Raising of the Siege,” 1645; “Proceedings of the Army under Sir Thomas Fairfax, concerning the Club-men and Relief of Taunton,” 1645; “Dying Speeches, Letters, etc., of those Protestants who suffered under the cruel sentence of Lord Chief Justice Jefferies,” 1689; “An account of the Proceedings against the Rebels, tried before the Lord Chief Justice Jefferies,” 1685, printed in 1716; “Trial for Bread Riots at Taunton Assizes,” 1801; “Manual for the Electors of Taunton,” 1826; “The Standert and Liddon Controversy, Taunton,” 1816; “Shillibeer’s Address on the Land Tax Rate, Taunton, 1823”; “Bowditch and Norman Enquiry, Taunton” 1812; “Judgment in the case of the King against Bowditch, Taunton,” 1819.

Mr. Esdaile.—Bronze torque, found at Cothelstone. Four pieces of ornamental plaster work from the old house at Cothelstone; and water-colour drawing of St. Mary Magdalene’s Church, Taunton.

Col. Helyar.—Elaborately carved old door.

Miss Fremlin.—Fellow door to the above.

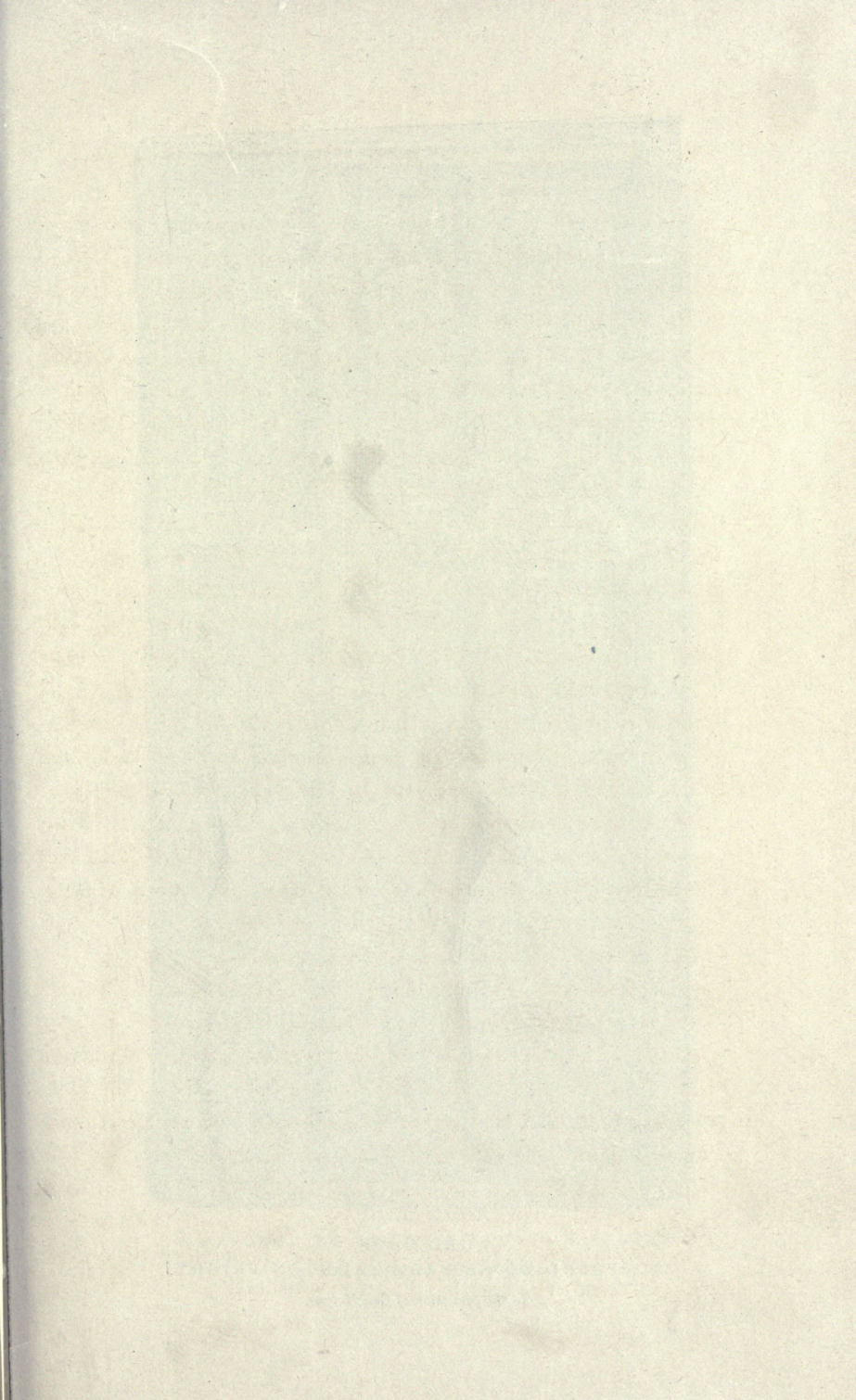
(See “Notes,” on page 65).

Mr. Walter Norman.—Taunton election plate, “Sir John Pole 1754.”

Mrs. Porter.—Model, in leather, of the tower of St. James’ Church, Taunton, by Wm. Weston, about 1854.

Mr. E. W. Stevens.—Sections and specimens of a deep well boring at Highbridge.

Mr. Whyte Holdich.—Oil sketches of ancient British Burial on Exmoor; and views in the neighbourhood.





OLD DOOR
SUPPOSED TO BE FROM TAUNTON PRIORY.

In the possession of Col. Helyar.



OLD DOOR
SUPPOSED TO BE FROM TAUNTON PRIORY.

In the possession of Miss Fremlin.

Notes on two old Carved Doors exhibited in the Local Museum.

BY W. BIDGOOD.

THESE two handsomely carved doors at present in the possession of different owners, were, no doubt, originally a pair: and at a glance anyone would perceive that they must have belonged to some ecclesiastical establishment, while the style of ornament would fix their date as the early half of the sixteenth century. The carpentry work is peculiar and elaborate in construction, the bracing in the lower parts being unusual. Two mullions and a middle rail divide each door into six panels, of which the upper three occupy about one third of the whole height. The three panels at the top of each door contain figures, while the lower panels are entirely filled in with the linen pattern. Placed over the styles and mullions are elaborately carved pilasters, having moulded bases, and terminations resembling the tops of buttresses with crocketed finials. These pilasters are covered with carved ornament different in each one, arranged in strings, not quite perpendicular, but slightly twisted in opposite directions. The first pilaster has strings of something resembling heraldic ermine spots, the next overlapping leaves, then rows of folded ribbon with beads between, and the last on this door has roses. In the second door, strings of beads, lozenges, folded ribbon, and fleurs-de-lis: the pilasters in the lower parts are mostly ornamented with beads. The braces in the lower parts of the

doors are covered with the guilloche pattern, and the panels carved with various forms of folded linen.

A careful study of the figures will show to what particular religious house these doors originally belonged, and also approximately the date of their construction. The features and symbols have been mostly defaced, but sufficient remains to show that the central panel of each door contains the figure of a saint with nimbus and label behind the head, and the two side panels angels bearing shields. The saint depicted on the first door is St. Peter, and on the second St. Paul. The shields borne by the angels on the first door are almost obliterated, but on the left-hand one the outline of a cross is traceable, with a rose (between two other objects chopped away) in chief, and a bordure engrailed. On the right-hand shield the arms of the See of Winchester can be traced; but the print does not show it so clear as on the door itself. With the second door we are more fortunate as regard the charges on the shields, that on the left shows a pelican in piety, surmounted by a mitre with strings jewelled and tasselled. The shield on the left bears a crozier between the initials W Y, interlaced with a tasselled cord.

This shows us that the doors came from an establishment dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul (Taunton Priory was so dedicated); while the shields will prove conclusively that it was to this House that the doors originally belonged. As before stated the arms on the first door are very much defaced. What we should naturally look for would be the arms of the Priory, but these so far as we are aware have never been recovered; what remains on the first shield may be thus described—() *A cross (or On a cross) () in chief a rose between two . . . () within a bordure engrailed ()*.* The arms

* Bishop Langton's arms on the gateway of Taunton Castle are *On a cross party per cross five roses*, but no engrailed border. Burke gives Yorke, of Devonshire, as *A fesse nebulée between three crescents, inter the horns of each a fleur-de-lis, all within a bordure engrailed*. It will be seen, however, that neither of these coats correspond to the one on the door.

of Winchester on the second shield shows the connection of Taunton with that See, the bishops having been successively Lords of the manor of Taunton Deane, and it will be remembered that Taunton Priory was founded by a former bishop.

With the second door we are left in no doubt as to the bearings on the shields. The pelican shows us that it was Richard Fox who was Bishop of Winchester and Lord of Taunton Deane at the time. His arms occur on the Grammar School which he founded within the precincts of his Castle of Taunton, 1522. Fox was Bishop of Exeter 1486-7, translated to Bath and Wells 1491-2, Durham 1494, Winchester 1500, and died 1528, so that as far as Bishop Fox is concerned it would have been between 1500 and 1528 that these doors were made; but the last shield enables us to fix the date with greater certainty. The initials W Y are doubtless intended for William Yorke, who was nominated Prior on the 19th November, 1523, and it was, no doubt, between that date and the death of Bishop Fox, 1528, that the doors in question were constructed. The appearance of the pastoral staff, interlaced with the initials is also interesting, as it was only about twenty years before William Yorke's time that the privilege of using the pastoral staff, among other coveted honours, had been conferred upon the House in the Priorship of John Prowse. Thus, then, we have on the first door St. Peter between the arms of Taunton Priory (?) and the See of Winchester; and on the second, St. Paul between the arms of Bishop Fox, and the monogram of Prior William Yorke.

Looking at the elaborate workmanship lavished on these interesting old doors one is tempted to believe that they are not the work of an ordinary day labourer, but the handicraft of one of the inmates of the House, who bestowed the unlimited time at his disposal in the execution of a labour of love.

Additions to the Society's Museum and Library

During the Year 1898.

THE MUSEUM.

Collotype prints of Montacute House (two views); Lytes Cary, Barrington, Montacute Priory, and Brimpton d'Evercy (two views).—From Mr. PHELIPS.

Section of White Thorn Tree.

Small Earthen Vase containing documents found in the roof of the old Grammar School (now the Municipal Offices), Taunton, when the ceiling was removed in 1897.—Deposited by the TOWN COUNCIL.

Cast of a Stone in the porch of Holcombe Church.—From the Rev. ETHELBERT HORNE.

Plans of the Bell-chamber and Chime-chamber of the Tower of St. Mary's Church, Taunton.—From Mr. J. T. IRVINE.

Portrait of Joanna Southcott, engraved by Sharp, framed.—From the Rev. E. L. PENNY, D.D., R.N.

Portrait of Mr. E. A. Sanford, a past President of the Society, framed.—From Mr. C. TITE.

Crossbill, killed at Charlinch, September, 1898.—From the Rev. W. A. BELL.

Jubilee Medal, George III.—From Mr. H. B. INMAN.

Five Old Keys.—From Mr. THOMAS R. GREG.

Model in leather of the Tower of St. Mary's Church, Taunton, made by Wm. Weston, 1854.—From MAJOR WINTER.

Old Bench-end from Wotton Courtney (?)—From Mr. STANSELL.

Panel from the old Grammar School, Taunton, carved with the linen pattern.—From Mr. W. H. SMITH.

Three old Bottles, "J. Bicknell, Bradford," "R. Bricknel, 1768."—From Mr. S. LAWRENCE.

Bronze Celt.—(Purchased).

Powder Horn, early 19th Century.—From Mr. WILLIAM ADAMS.

THE LIBRARY.

List of Parish Registers and other Genealogical Works, edited by Fredk. A. Crisp.—From the Editor.

Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, vol. iv, pts. 10, 11, 12 ; vol. v, pts. 1, 2.

The Retreat and other Poems ; Catalogue of Books in the Tavistock Library.—From the Rev. D. P. ALFORD.

On Terrestrial Saurians from the Rhætic of Wedmore Hill.—From Professor SEELEY.

Library Catalogue of the Surveyors' Institute.—From Mr. H. S. THOMPSON.

Calendar of Patent Rolls, Edw. IV, 1461—1467 ; Richard II, 1381—1385.—From the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, in exchange.

Daily Weather Reports for 1897—1898 ; Report of the British Association, 1897.—From Dr. PRIOR.

Particulars of Sale of the Nunney Castle, and Langford Estates.—From Mr. WAINWRIGHT.

Reports on the Water Rights and Supply of Chard Borough.—From Mr. GILLINGHAM.

Three Manuscripts relating to the Tithes of Bridgwater, 1558 ; Accounts of the Water Bailiff of Bridgwater, 1550 ; Act for building a new Bridge over the River Parret at Bridgwater ; Plan and designs of New Bridge ; Articles of Agreement between the Coalbrookdale Iron Company, and the Corporation of Bridgwater, and sundry letters from the Company relating thereto, 1794-5 ; Turnpike Acts relating to Bridgwater, 1758, 1779 ; Turnpike Act, Minehead and West Somerset, 1765 ; Act for allotting certain Commons, called Chilton

Common, &c., 1798 ; Act for erecting a Market House, &c., at Bridgwater, 1779 ; a Bill for enlarging the Market House, Paving, Lighting, &c., the Streets of Bridgwater, 1820 ; an Act for Taxing Papists, 1723 ; an Act for the better regulation of Attorneys and Solicitors, 1729 ; an Act for Naturalising Princess Sophia ; several Acts on Excise Duties, on Coal, Cyder, &c., 1705 ; better security of Her Majesty's Person, 1705 ; Recruiting, 1705 ; Mutiny and Desertion, 1705 ; and others of a general public nature.—From the Rev. J. A. WELSH COLLINS.

Yorkshire Philosophical Society. *Report for 1897.*

Somerset Mediæval Libraries.—From the author, Mr. T. W. WILLIAMS.

Report of the Bureau of Agriculture, Montana.

Notes on the Romano-British Settlement of Chigwell, Essex.—From the author Mr. J. CHALKLEY-GOULD.

On a late Celtic Bronze Collar, from Wraxall, Somerset.—From Mr. A. C. PASS.

Norton-sub-Hamdon.—From the author Mr. C. TRASK.

Wincanton Field Club, Eighth and Ninth Annual Reports.—From Mr. SWEETMAN.

Wyclif's Latin Works : De Logica, vol. iii.—From Mr. STANDERWICK.

Journal of the Oxford Brass Rubbing Society, Nos. 1, 2, 3.

Records of the Rawle Family.—From the author Mr. E. J. RAWLE.

Archæologia, vols. 1, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36 (ii), 37 (i), 37 (ii), 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45.—From Lt.-Col. BRAMBLE.

Revista do Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, vol. i.

Ceylon Handbook and Directory, 1894.—From Mr. KNIGHT.

Royal Societies Club, Rules and Members.—From the SECRETARY.

British Record Society : Bristol Wills, 1572 to 1792 ; and Wills in the Great Orphan Books, 1379 to 1674.

Wedmore Chronicle, vol. ii, no. 6.

Famous Houses of Bath and their Occupants.—From the author, Mr. J. F. MEEHAN.

Castle Cary Visitor, January to December, 1898, 12 nos.—From Mr. MACMILLAN.

Instincts and Habits of the Solitary Wasps ; Forestry Conditions of Northern Wisconsin.—From the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey.

Received from Societies in Correspondence for the Exchange of Publications.

Royal Archæological Institute—*Archæological Journal*, nos. 216, 217, 218, 219.

British Archæological Association—*Journal*, new series, vol. iii, pts. 3, 4 ; vol. iv, pts. 1, 2, 3.

British Association—*Report*, 1897.

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland—*Proceedings*, vol. xxxi.

Royal Irish Academy—*Transactions*, vol. xxxi, pts. 1—6 ; *Proceedings*, vol. iv, nos. 4, 5 ; vol. v, no. 1 ; *List of Members*.

Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland—*Journal*, vol. vii, pts. 3, 4 ; vol. viii, pts. 1, 2, 3, 4.

Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History—*Proceedings*, vol. ix, pt. 3 ; vol. x, pt. 1.

Associated Societies—*Reports and Papers*, vol. xxiii, pt. 2 ; vol. xxiv, pt. 1.

Sussex Archæological Society—*Collections*, vol. xli.

Surrey Archæological Society—*Collections*, vol. xiv, pt. 1.

Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society—vol. xii.

Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Magazine*, nos. 88, 89, 90 ; *Abstract of Wiltshire Inquisitiones Post Mortem, Charles I*, pts. 5, 6 ; *Catalogue of Drawings, Prints, and Maps in the Library at Devizes*.

London and Middlesex Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. i, pt. 2.

Plymouth Institution and Devon and Cornwall Natural History Society—*Report*, vol. xii, pt. 4.

- Kent Archæological Society—*Archæologia Cantiana*, vol. xxiii.
- Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. xx, pt. 2 ; *Catalogue of Books, etc., in the Library*.
- Powys Land Club—*Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. xxx, pts. 1, 2.
- Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society—*Transactions*, vol. x, pts. 1, 2, 3, 4.
- Hertfordshire Natural History Society—*Transactions*, vol. ix, pts. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.
- Essex Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. vi, pt. 4 ; vol. vii, pts. 1, 2.
- Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society—*Transactions*, vol. viii, pt. 5.
- Royal Institution of Cornwall—*Journal*, vol. xiii, pts. 2, 3.
- Yorkshire Archæological Society—*Journal*, pts. 56, 57, 58 ; *List of Members ; Catalogue of Library*.
- Northamptonshire Naturalists' Society—*Journal*, nos. 69, 70, 71, 72.
- Geologists' Association—*Proceedings*, vol. xv, pts. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 ; *List of Members, Feb., 1898*.
- Royal Dublin Society—*Transactions*, vol. v, pt. 13 ; vol. vi, pts. 2—13 ; *Proceedings*, vol. viii, pt. 5.
- Bristol Naturalists' Society—*Proceedings*, vol. viii, pt. 2 ; *List of Members*.
- Liverpool Literary and Philosophical Society—*Proceedings*, vol. 52.
- Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society—*Proceedings*, vol. xlii, pts. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 ; *List of Members*.
- Essex Field Club—*Essex Naturalist*, vol. x, nos. 5—16.
- Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne—*Archæologia Æliana*, vol. xix, pt. 3 ; *Warkworth Parish Registers*, pt. 2.
- Cambridge Antiquarian Society—*The Priory of St. Radegund, Cambridge ; List of Members, 1898 ; Communications*, no. 39 ; *Index to Reports and Proceedings, 1840-97*.

- Clifton Antiquarian Club—*Proceedings*, vol. iv, pt. 1.
- Thoresby Society—vol. vii, pt. 3; vol. viii, pt. 1; vol. ix, pt. 1.
- The Reliquary and Illustrated Archæologist—vol. iv, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4; vol. v, no. 1.
- Royal University of Christiania—Four publications.
- Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.—*Report of the U.S. National Museum*, 1895; *Proceedings of the U.S. National Museum*, vol. xix.
- Bureau of American Ethnology—*Sixteenth Report*, 1897.
- Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.—*Bulletin*, vol. xxvi, nos. 4—12; vol. xxvii, nos. 1—12; vol. xxviii, nos. 1—6; vol. xxix, nos. 1—6.
- New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, U.S.—*Register*, nos. 205, 206, 207, 208; *Proceedings*, 1898; *Index to Testators in Waters's Genealogical Gleanings in England*.
- Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, U.S.—*Proceedings*, 1897, pts. 2, 3; 1898, pts. 1, 2.
- University of California—*Report*, 1896; *Register*, 1896-7; and various pamphlets on Agriculture and Vine Culture.
- Canadian Institute—*Transactions*, no. 10, vol. v, pt. 2; *Supplement to no. 9*, vol. v, pt. 1; *Proceedings*, vol. i, pts. 4, 5, 6.
- Novia Scotian Institute—vol. ix, pt. 3.
- Société Vaudoise des Sciences Naturelles, Lausanne—*Bulletin*, nos. 125, 126, 127, 128, 129.
- University of Upsala—*Bulletin of the Geological Institution*, vol. iii, pts. 1, 2.
- Société Archéologique de Bordeaux—*Bulletin*, tome xxi, fas. 1, 2, 3, 4.

Purchased:

- Harleian Society—*Registers of St. George's, Hanover Square*, vol. iv; *Visitation of Cambridge*.
- Oxford Historical Society—*Hearne's Collections*, vol. iv; *Epistolæ Academicæ, Oxon*, 2 vols.

Palæontographical Society, vol. lii, 1893.

Ray Society, vol. for 1895—*Tailless Batrachians of Europe*,
pts. 1, 2.

Early English Text Society, nos. 110, 111.

Pipe Roll Society, vol. xxiii.

Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries, pts. 40, 41, 42, 43, 44.

Somerset Record Society—*Somersetshire Pleas, Civil and
Criminal*.

Whitaker's *Almanack*, 1898.

Glastonbury: An Address by the Bishop of Stepney.

Illustrated Guide to Stanton Drew.

The Last Abbot of Glastonbury.

History of Northumberland, vol iv.

*Monastic Remains of the Religious Houses of Witham, Bruton
and Stavordale*, by Sir R. C. Hoare.

The Antiquary, vol. 23 to 33.

*Gentleman's Magazine Library, Shropshire and Somersetshire
volume.*

Burke's *Extinct Peerages and Extinct Baronetcies*, 2 vols.

The Note Book of Tristram Risdon, 1608-28.

Thring's *Addresses*.

The Ancient Cornish Drama, by Edwin Norris, 2 vols.

British Birds, with Illustrations by Frohawk, 6 vols, 4to.

Barrett's *Highways, Byways and Waterways*.

Somerset Parish Registers, vols. i, 2.

English Dialect Dictionary, pts. 1 to 6.

Second Letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, being an exposure the Rev. W. Goode's Book, by Rev. C. S. Grueber.

Poems and Letters by Miss Bowdler, Bath, 1809.

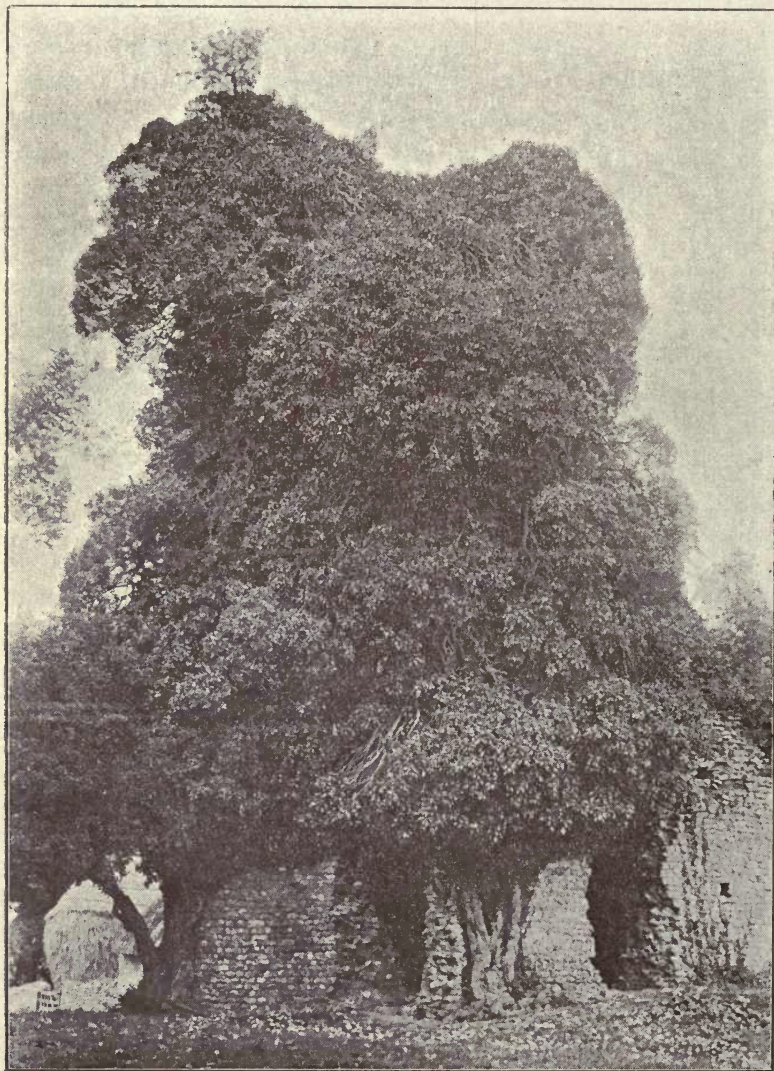
Webster's Elements of Mechanical and Chemical Philosophy,
Taunton, 18—

Butcher's Excursion from Sidmouth to Chester, 1803.

Pen Pictures of Popular English Preachers, Rev. W. Jay,
Bath.

Crutwell's Universal Gazetteer, 4 vols., Bath, 1808.

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RUINED TOWER,—OLDITCH COURT.

THORNCOMBE, DEVON.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

DURING THE YEAR

1898.

PART II.—PAPERS, ETC.

Brook,

OF SOMERSET AND DEVON ; BARONS OF COBHAM, IN KENT.

BY W. H. HAMILTON ROGERS, F.S.A.

OLDITCH VILLAGE AND CHAPEL OF ST. MELORUS.

AMID delightful rural surroundings, in the main upper reach of the valley of the Axe, the wayfarer, as he leaves the station of the railway junction to Chard, sets his foot on classic ground.

To the left, comparatively close by, nestled in luxuriant foliage, and glimmering richly in contrasting colour by being fabricated of spoil brought from giant Hamdon, is the ever-interesting Abbey of Ford ; where, in the early dawn of the twelfth century, the Cistercian founded a sanctuary, and established his home, under the fostering care of the earlier ancestors of the illustrious Courtenay, many of whom sleep in unmarked sepulchres beneath its shadow, for the consecrated structure wherein they were laid at rest has vanished, and its site is almost unknown. But the larger portion of the dwelling-

place of the monk has happily survived, and in the creation of its beautiful front the "spirit" of its architect, builder, and last abbot—Thomas Chard, who surrendered his tasteful home to the rapacious Henry—still "walks abroad."

Under the direction of a succeeding secular possessor, the shade of another renowned name haunts its precincts, that of the famous Inigo Jones ; but his alterations, however excellent in themselves, were altogether alien to the Abbot's design, inharmonious and unfortunate. His employer, who spent large sums on the work, was a person, the turn of whose mind was, presumably, equally incongruous with the traditions of the Abbey. This was Edmond Prideaux, learned in the law, and Attorney-General to the Lord Protector Cromwell, by whom he was created a baronet. He, fortunately pre-deceased his powerful patron, and so probably escaped being sent to Tyburn at the re-entry of the Stuart. Not so fortunate his son, namesake, and successor, famed for his extensive learning, for which he was styled "the Walking Encyclopædia." He had entertained the unfortunate Monmouth when on one of his western progresses, and after Sedgmoor, although Mr. Prideaux remained at home, and took no part in the insurrection, he was nevertheless, on very slender presumption, deemed to be implicated, seized, and sent to the Tower. And it is related, he was handed over by the amiable James II—the prisoner being a rich man—to the brutal Jefferys as a "present"; who, had he not been so valuable a prize, would doubtless have hanged him, but by whom he was ultimately released, on paying that atrocious disgrace to the ermine, fifteen thousand pounds; and so, both father and son rest in peace in the Chapter House of the Abbey.

One further curious and interesting association claims notice. Here resided for a few years, at the commencement of the present century, the celebrated jurist, Jeremy Bentham, the quiet solitude of the place being doubtless congenial to the contemplation of his philosophic investigations.

Dismissing from our thoughts the Abbey—a most alluring subject, whose antecedents have occupied the attention of many investigators—a sharp turn to the right discloses the path that leads to the locality where our story takes its beginning, and which, expanding in its development as we pursue it, becomes second to none in the west-country in historic interest. A tree and bush shadowed lane, rising in easy elevation for about a mile's length, brings us to a gate on the right, where a trackway through a few pleasant meadows, ascending and descending in typical Devonian sequence, takes us to Olditch village,—for village it is, though of small dimensions—that includes two old farm-houses (one very antient), a trio or so of cottages, an elementary school-house, together with the usual adjunct, by rustic euphemism termed “a house of call,” but otherwise known as the wayside public-house.

The origin of this hamlet—an outpost of Olditch Court, which is located a short distance beyond—is soon apparent. The long building that faces us as we leave our meadow path, although now in large measure modernized to the requirements of a farm-house, still displays along its front considerable traces of venerable antiquity, that take us back five centuries into the past. The eastern portion, a building of some size and still fairly intact, assures the practised eye that it was originally a Chapel dedicated to the service of the Most High. A glance within the building immediately confirms it. There is an open waggon-shaped roof of close-set oak ribs, but little injured. At the east end, the pointed arch, splays, and sill of a window, now walled up, appear, the mullions and tracery gone. In the north wall is a similar but smaller window, also walled up, the arched mouldings and jambs visible from the outside. Beneath the east window, on each side, above where stood the antient altar, are two brackets or perks, whereon were probably placed figures of the patron saints of the Chapel and the mother Church of the parish. High up in the west wall is a small window, from which the inhabitants of the

adjoining house could observe the service. There is no piscina remaining, and the original side doorway was situate probably where the large opening appears, the structure being now used as a barn.

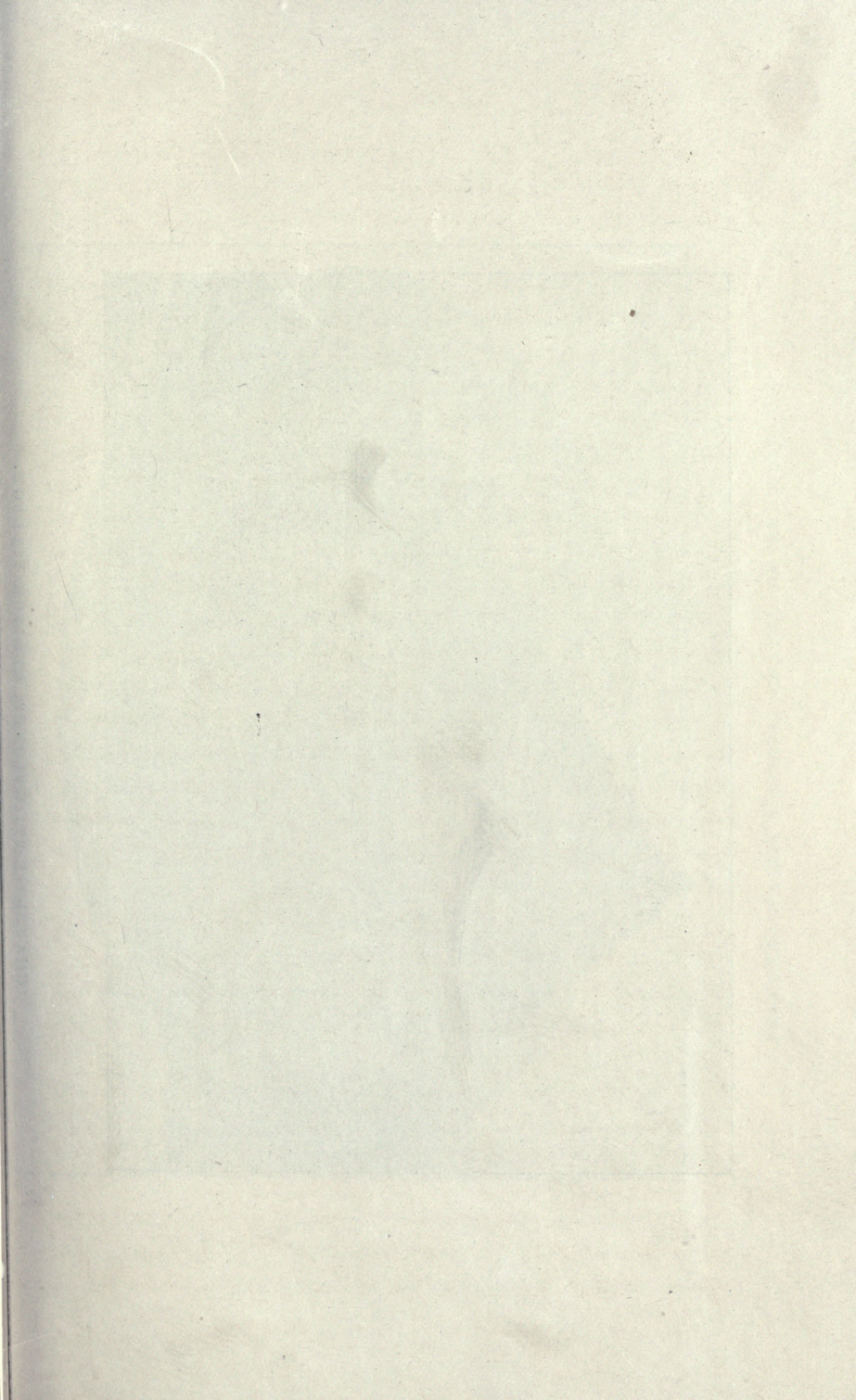
Stretching westward from the Chapel, joined to it, and bearing evidence of the whole having been one continuous and coeval erection, is the now farm-house, the further end still shewing much evidence of the architectural features of the original structure. The pointed arch of the doorway, flanked with narrow lancet windows, others above and behind, together with a regular set in the gable, strongly grilled with iron, and built into walls of great thickness, take us back to the concluding years of the fourteenth century; and here, it may be, resided the priest that ministered in the adjoining sanctuary.

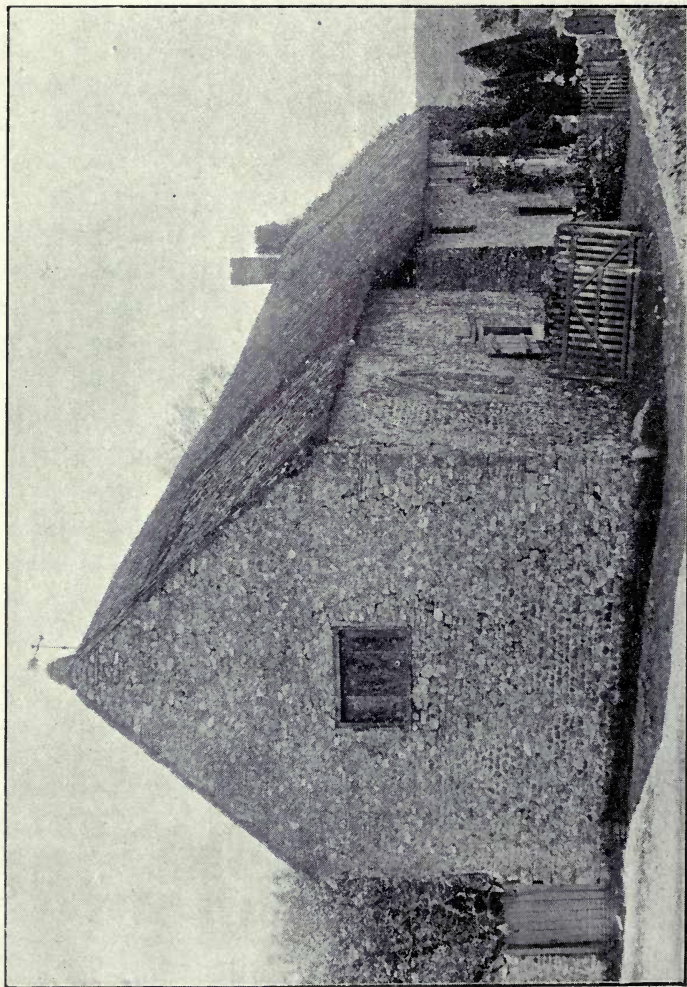
Of the identification of this venerable and interesting structure, it is believed no description appears in any county history; nor is there that we are aware of, any local account or tradition extant respecting it, and but for a passing memorandum in the *Register* of Edmund Stafford, Bishop of Exeter, relative to a breach of ecclesiastical discipline connected with the parish, no information as to its history would have been available. This reference, with commentary, Dr. Oliver supplies.

“In this parish (Thorncombe), dependant on the parochial church, I have met with two Chapels. One I think at Holditch, viz. the Chapel of St. Melorus; “*Capella Sancti Melori infra fines et limites parochie de Thorncombe.*” as Bishop Stafford describes it in a deed dated Crediton, 29th Jan., 1411-12, (*Reg.*, vol. i, p. 143) the parish church and chapel of St. Melorus having been placed under an interdict, the Bishop granted relaxation of the same. The other of St. James, at Legh-Barton, which is mentioned in a lease of Abbot William White, of Ford, 7th Dec., 1490.

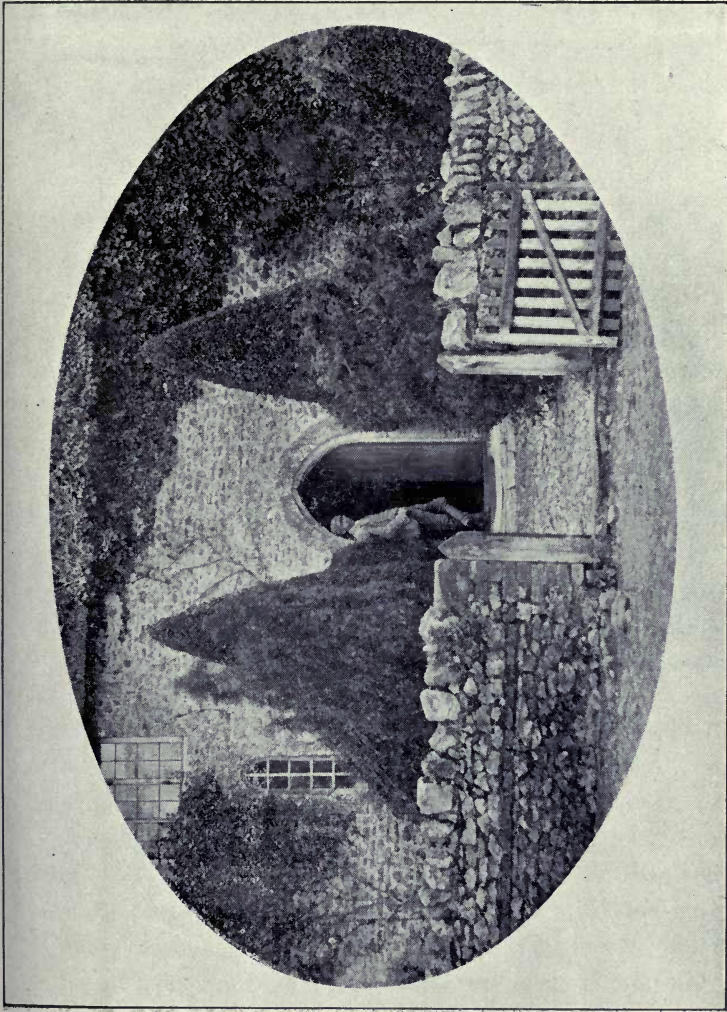
If we may credit the *Legenda Sanctorum*, compiled by Bishop Grandison, St. Melorus was the son of Melianus, King of Cornwall, by his wife Aurilla, a lady of Devon; that at seven years of age he lost his royal father; that his uncle, Rivoldus, by his father's side, returning from abroad cruelly treated the youth, and at length contrived his decapitation.” [A parish in Cornwall is called after this saint—St. Mellion, in east Cornwall, mid-way between Saltash and Callington.]

In point of age this structure is apparently of the same date as Olditch Court. As there is no record of the grant of a private oratory to that mansion, as was usual to dwellings of





CHAPEL OF ST. MELORUS, OLDDITCH VILLAGE.



PRESUMED PRIEST'S HOUSE, CHAPEL OF ST. MELORUS.

such importance, it is not improbable that the Brook family—the parish church being a considerable distance off—helped to found, or support it, and occasionally worshipped there, using it instead of a domestic chapel.

Leaving Olditch village, our path, traversing two or three fields further in the same direction, brings us to Olditch Court.

Olditch Court.

OLDITCH Court! Here our little history practically begins, and halting as we enter its leafy precincts, and glancing round, the query presents itself, where are the evidences of its former existence: where stood the mansion of the knightly Brooks, or the ruins thereof, so few and indistinct are the vestiges that remain to arrest the eye.

In a most retired spot, situate on a pleasant plateau, garished with fine trees, and still exhibiting evidence of that indefinable distinction which continues to linger around these old places of gentle origin with inextinguishable charm; overlooking southerly, a spur of the Axe valley that extends beneath, and which gradually shallowing, is lost in the rising ground stretching upward to the Dorsetshire hills, known as Lambert's and Conig's castles, bounding the scene on the north, is the site—for little beside is visible—of Olditch Court.

What time and change has spared is soon described. Immediately at the entrance, and still dignified as Olditch Court, is a small and modern farm-house, but a scrutiny of its front shews that in it was incorporated a portion of what was apparently the gate-house of the mansion. This is indicated by a wide, depressed arch, now filled up and almost hidden by ivy, a pointed doorway by its side, strikingly similar in form to that found in the old chapel-house in the village, and a buttress, the intervening windows being of seventeenth century work, after the place had passed out of the possession of the Brooks. Within, a few old features have been preserved,

a trio of pointed arches opposite the larger one, which led into a demolished portion of the original fabric, and a couple of plain fireplaces of large dimensions.

Behind this building is the site of the Court. All that now exists of its structure is the portion of a tower of considerable height, clad with magnificent ivy. It appears to have been square in form, with a circular angle for a stairway. Leading from it is a comparatively large space, irregularly and tumultuously hillocked, shewing here and there, where bare of grassy covering, foundations of massive masonry. This comprises everything elsewhere to be seen, and in the absence of careful excavations, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to get an approximate idea of the ground-plan of the vanished edifice, but it may be surmised the ruined tower formed one of its angles.

The date of its erection may be assigned to the first half of the fourteenth century, and a license to crenellate (otherwise castellate) it, was granted 20 Rich. II, 1396. The Brooks doubtless continued to reside in it, until their purchase of Weycroft, and then probably alternately at both places, Weycroft apparently getting the preference, until their final migration to baronial Cobham.

Lysons records "that in 1773 there were considerable remains of the old mansion and the chapel, some traces of which are still to be seen." As to the Chapel, there is no record that we know of, of the grant of an oratory to Olditch. The site and estate were purchased in 1714, by William Bragge, Esq., of Sadborough, from Mr. John Bowditch, to whose family they had been conveyed by Lord Mountjoy.

Of its social history, a remarkable, but by no means unusual incident in those lawless times—when might, actuated by fierce party feeling, constituted right of reprisal or injury among the "nobles" of the land—befel Olditch. Its origin, in our modern and comparatively tame amenities, would be classed as political, but in those days desperately partizan, and

occurred during the wars of the Roses. The Brooks were staunch adherents of the house of York, and this Sir Edward Brook "was consulted by Richard, Duke of York, as 'a man of great witte and much experience;'" and was with the York faction at their first victory at St. Alban's, in 1455; the depredator of their home, a strong supporter of the rival Lancaster, in whose cause he ultimately lost his head at Newcastle, in 1461, after the battle of Towton. He was James Butler, Earl of Ormond and Wiltshire, and Lord Treasurer of England to Henry VI; and the then owner of Olditch, Edward Brook, who fought in several battles under the Yorkist banner, was the first Lord Cobham of that name, son of Sir Thomas Brook, who married Joan Braybroke, Lady of Cobham.

The record of this raid is preserved among the Harleian MSS.: the date is not given, but it must have taken place between 1449-61; and the document gives a graphic description of the proceedings. It is superscribed:

Articles of the great wrongs, injuries, grev'nces, and trespasses, that Jamys, Erle of Wyltshire, and his servantes, hath don to Edward Broke, Lord Cobham, and his servants.

First—When the said lord was pesibelly in his maner of Holdyche, in Devonshire, the said Erle ymagenyng to hurte the said lord, the third of Janier last passed, at Holdyche foresayd, wyth many other of his servantes to the nombre of CC., and mo', of the whiche Rob't Cappys, esquier was on, with force and armes araid in man'r of werre, that is to say, jackys, saletts, bowys, arowys, swerdis, longbedeves, gleves, gonnys, colu'yns, with many other ablements of werre, bisegid, the said Lord Cobh'm there at tyme beyng in his place, and hym assauted contynuelly by the space of v owres, as hit had be in laude of werre. And at that tyme ther, the sayd erle, wyth his sayd servantes, brake a smythis house, beyng ten'nt of the sayd lord Cobh'm, and there toke oute grete sleggys and many barrys of yryn, and pykeys and mattockys to have mynye the sayd lord Cobh'm is place. And there, at that tyme, the dorys of the said lord is stablys and barnys brake, and his cornys beyng in the sayd barnys, to a grete notabell value, wych thaire horses yete, wasted, defouled, and distroid. And dyv's goodis of the sayd lord beyng in the said stablys, that is to say sadellys, bridell, peyterett, croperys, and also tronkys, clothesackys, stuffed with convenienn stuffe to his estate, for he was purposyd to remove frothens to his place of Wycrofte, to a grete notabell value, toke and bare away to the utt'myst dishonur and shame to sayd lord, and grete hurte in lusing of hys sayd goodes.

Also the sayd erle, lat at Dorchest'r, by hys grete labour, excitati'n and steryng hath caused the sayd lord Cobh'm, and Piers hys brother, wyth other of the sarvantes of the sayd lord, to be endyted of felonye, wyth oute cause or dese'vyng of thym, the which owneth as well to the destrucc'on of the said lord and hys brother, is p'mones and his sayd servantes as to the corrup'con of thaire blood."—From Pulman's *Book of the Axe*, and noticed by Mr. Waller in *Archæologia Cantiana*.

The "Robert Cappys esquier, who was one" that joined the "Erle" in this disgraceful foray, was a neighbour (?) of Lord Cobham's, and lived in the adjoining estate of Beerhall, which he inherited by marriage with Elizabeth daughter of John Jew, and widow of Sir John Hody. "This woman," says Pole, "disinherited her eldest son and conveyed her land, part unto Sir William Hody—Chief Baron—and part unto her issue by Cappis, betwixt whose issue theire contynewed a long contencion. But it is nowe in ye possession of a younger house issued from Sir William Hody."

It would appear from the foregoing account that Lord Cobham was staying at Olditch at the time of the "assaut," engaged in packing some of his "stuffe" in "tronkis" and other receptacles, prior to their removal to his other seat at Weycroft, about two miles distant, and had deposited the same in the stables and outhouses, ready for transit. Notwithstanding the "200 and mo'" retainers "Erle Jamys" brought with him, their "sleggys" and weapons of "werre," and the "five owres" attack; the "besegid" appear to have successfully resisted an entrance into the mansion, and the raiders contented themselves with pillaging the stables and outhouses, and carrying off the goods packed for removal. Lord Cobham probably left Olditch as soon as things were quiet, for Cobham in Kent: passing Dorchester on his way, the "Erle" apparently following and continuing the persecution, by there getting Sir Edward and his brother Peter, "endyted for felonye."

A similar outrage to this was made by Robert Willoughby, afterward Lord Willoughby de Broke, of Beer-Ferrers, on his almost neighbour on the opposite side of the river Tamar, Richard Edgcumbe, of Cothele, in 1470; and a document in the possession of the Earl of Mount-Edgcumbe gives a description of it with claim, couched in almost exactly similar language. The bottom of the quarrel was also, their adherence to the opposing Roses, although afterward they both held high



PORTION OF GATEWAY, OLDDITCH COURT.



office under the amalgamated rule of Henry VII. The well-known incident of the Courtenays sallying forth at night from Tiverton Castle to Upcott, sacking his residence first, and afterwards slaying the old lawyer, Radford, because he was "of counsel" to their opponent Bonville, described in the Paston letters, happened about the same time.

This lawless method of deciding quarrels was never legalized in England, but the shifting governments at that era, whose adherents were alternately guilty of this guerilla warfare, were either too weak or careless to effectually suppress it; if they did not secretly connive at it, as each had opportunity.

The Manor of Olditch.

"THE parish of Thorncomb," to quote the quaint language of Pole, "is the uttermost lymytt of Devonshire, and is an island compassed about w'th Dorsetshire and Somersetshir on ye west; and took his name of ye Saxon names Thorn and Cumb, wh'ch is a familiar name in most parts, and signifieth a bot-tome, or lowe ground, subject unto thornes."

The principal manor of the parish had been given to, and belonged to the Abbey of Ford. The descent of the manor of Olditch and its acquisition by Brook, is thus described by the above historian.

"It was first belonging to the family of Flemyng, and was by Richard Flemyng given in marriage unto William de Sancer, a Norman, with Jone, daughter of the said Richard; which William with his wife and children revolting from King John unto the French king, the said manor was seized into the king's hands. But the said Richard so much prevailed with the king, that he restored it unto him again, and left it unto William Flemyng his son, and he unto William his son, which gave it and all other his lands to Reginald de Mohun, which Reginald alienated it unto Henry de Broc (or as now called Brooke) in which family it continued from the reign of King Henry III, unto the first of James, that Henry Brooke, Lord Cobham, being attainted, the said king gave this manor, with other lands, unto Charles Blount, Lord Montjoy, created by the aforesaid king. Earl of Devonshire, and he conveyed the same unto Montjoy, his base supposed son, who now enjoyeth the same."

"The family of Brooke long continued their dwelling in this place."

Similar to Pole, Risdon speaks of Thorncombe being "subject to thorns and briers (if manurance did not prevent it),

unto which it is naturally prone," and gives the text of the transfer mentioned by Pole.

Willielmus le Sancar Normanus, tenuit Manerium de Holdich tempore Regis Johannis de Richardo le Fleming et idem Rich. ei dedit in Maritagio cum Johanna Filia sua, quae in separatione Anglorum et Normannorum remansit ad fidem Regis Franciae una cum pueris, quo facto Rex sesivit.

And adds "that this manor was given by the King to the Lord Reginald Mohun, who in the time of King Henry III, gave the same to one of the ancestors of the Lord Cobham." But Pole's description of the descent is probably the correct one.

This Sir Reginald de Mohun is supposed to have acquired so large a portion of the Fleming property, by his presumed—but not absolutely authenticated—marriage with Avice or Hawis, a daughter of William Fleming, as his first wife. He was munificently inclined toward the Church, was the Founder of the Cistercian Abbey of Newenham, and a great benefactor to the similar foundation at Tor-Mohun, where he died, 20th January, 1257. Its possession by the Brooks continued for about three centuries and half.

The six succeeding Barons of Cobham, following Sir Thomas Brook, who married Joan Braybroke, heiress to the barony, held Olditch until the attainder of its last unfortunate possessor, Henry Brook, tenth Lord Cobham, K.G., in whom the title expired. In 1604, James I gave it to Charles Mountjoy, Earl of Devon.

The Manor of Weycroft.

THE early descent of the Manor of Weycroft, or Wycroft, antiently Wigoft, prior to its acquisition by Sir Thomas Brook, is somewhat obscure as related by historians in collation with the *Visitations* and the remaining deeds of transfer, but a fairly complete account may be made out. It is situate about a mile east of Axminster, on the road leading to Chard.

Its first recorded possessors appear to have been Adam and Henry de Gelond or Galland, and named of the place "de

Wigoft," who held it temp. Henry II (1154-89). Henry de Gelond or de Wigoft, gave it to his son John, last of that name, "in marriage," with Joan, daughter of Richard de Chudderlegh (of Chudderlegh, in Bickleigh, east Devon), temp. Edw. II (1307-27), by whom he had issue Joan his daughter and heiress, the wife of John Gobodeslegh, "some-time written de Wicroft." They had issue Thomazine, who married John Christenstow, and had issue William Christenstow, of Wycroft, who died without issue, and Alice his sister and heiress, the wife of John Dennys, of Bradford, in North Devon, whose grandson was Thomas Dennys, subsequently of Holcombe-Burnell.*

"It appears," says Pole,

"that William Christenstow, who died in King Richard II's time (1377-99), had made some grant (of Wycroft) to Sir Thos. Brooke, Knt., which being imperfect, Sir Thomas Brook his son, had a new grant from Thomas Dennys, grandchild of Alice, sister of William Christenstow, and in recompense granted unto Dennys his manor of Holcombe-Burnell, anno 9 Henry VI, 1418."

This account must be read in conjunction with the following.

"Original deeds relating to the purchase of Weycroft are still in existence. By one of them dated 1395, Robert Deyghere, of Crukern, and Avicia his wife, daughter and heir of Adam Wycroft, convey to Sir Thomas "the manor of Wycroft and its appurtenances"; and by another, dated 1397, Robert Digher and Avicia his wife, daughter and heir of Adam Gobald, of Wycroft, convey the manor to Philip Holman, clerk, and John Swaldale. This deed is attached to a later one, dated "*die Jovis proximi post festum sancti Luce evangeliste*," 9 Henry IV, 1407, by which Holman and Swaldale convey the said manor to Thomas Brook, the younger."—Pulman's *Book of the Aze*, p. 579.

It is probable these parties were intermediate holders of the manor, or some part of it, derived from William Christenstow or his assigns, whose interest Sir Thomas Brook, senior, purchased, and subsequently his son completed the title and possession by exchange of lands at Holcombe-Burnell with Thomas Dennys, the grandson of Alice Christenstow, sister and heiress of her brother William, whose interest in Wycroft had descended to him.

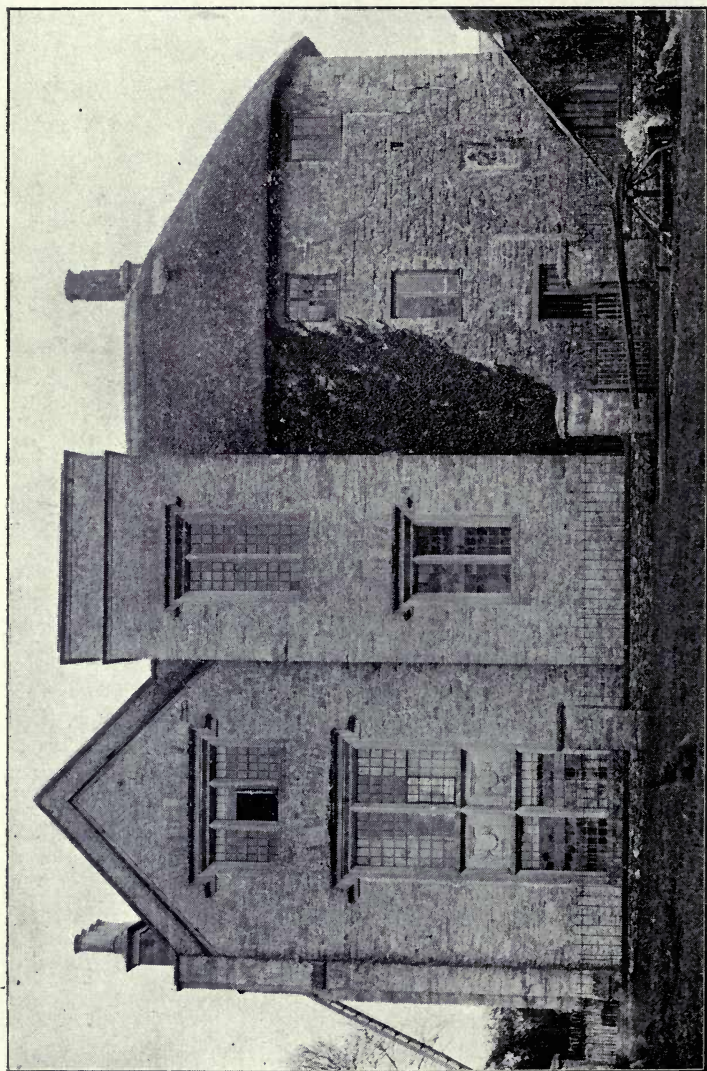
* Arms of Chudderlegh, *Argent, on a chevron sable, three acorns or, between three ravens heads erased sable*; of Gobodesley, *Party per pale argent and sable, an eagle displayed double-necked sable and or*; of Christenstow, of Wycroft, *Azure, a bend indented or and ermine, between two cotizes ermine*; of Dennys, *Ermine, a chevron between three Danish axes gules*.

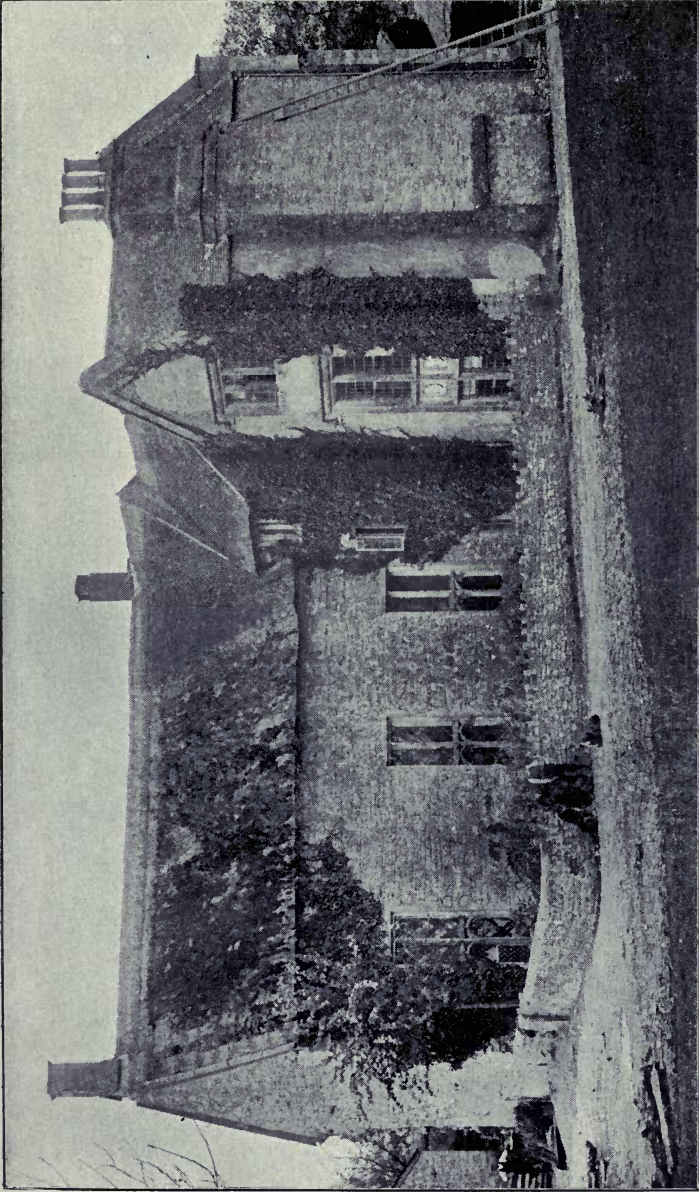
The manor of Holcombe-Burnell had been possessed from a very early date by the family of de Kaul or Kaile, whose last male owner appears to have been John Kaile, son of Thomas Kaul, *alias* Kaile, temp. Rich. II (1377-99); and in the *Visitation* for 1564, it is set down that Sir Thomas Brook married Johanna the daughter and heir of John Kaile, and so presumably acquired the manor; and it is added that Thomas Brook, his son, "*qui cum praedicta Johanna matre ejus venderunt manerium praedictum Thomae Dennys ar.*" But the herald is evidently in error as to Sir Thomas Brook marrying a daughter of Thomas Kaile; no such alliance is on record. Sir Thomas doubtless purchased it, about the same time he acquired the part interest in Weycroft, and exchanged it with Thomas Dennys to complete the title, the entry in the *Visitation* confirming Pole's account. There was a family of Kaile or Kaul that held lands at Chard, where also Sir Thomas Brook had considerable possessions. Arms of Kaul—*Quarterly embattled argent and sable.*

At the death of Dame Johanna and the migration of her son to Cobham, the glory appears to have departed from Weycroft, and Risdon writing about 1630, remarks—

"Sir Thomas Broke, the father of him that married with Joan Bray Broke, who brought the barony of Cobham into that family, built here, on the rising of an hill, a fair new house, castle-like, and enclosed a large and spacious park, being a very pleasant scite over the river, and hath a good prospect. It continued in this family until the attainder of the Lord Cobham, in the reign of King James, who gave it to Charles (Blount), late Earl of Devon, whose feoffees have sold it unto Mr. Bennet, Sheriff of London. The park is destroyed, and the house begins to decay for want of a worthy dweller to make his abode there."

Weycroft still exhibits in some degree a measure of its antient importance, is most picturesquely situated on a knoll overlooking the Axe river and valley, and there is a portion of the avenue remaining leading from the mansion across a field in the direction of Axminster. There are also remains of buildings, walls with arches built up, extending south of the present house, the site being now a garden.





WEYCROFT.



Brook,

OF LE BROOK, IN ILCHESTER, SOMERSET,
OLDITCH, IN THORNCOMBE, AND WEYCROFT, IN AXMINSTER,
DEVON.

THE earliest location of the family of Brook, and from which they presumably derived their name, was from a village so called near Ilchester. Collinson thus refers to it.

“At Ilchester without the walls toward Montacute, was an antient village called *Brook*, or *the Brook*, whence a family of great antiquity derived the name of *at Brook*, and *de la Brook*, this being the place of their usual residence. There are some faint mentions of this family in times approaching the Norman invasion, but in the time of Henry III (1216-72) and Edw. I (1272-1307), we can speak with certainty of the owners of this place, who had therein manorial rights under the commonalty of the town of Ilchester.”

I.—William de Broc, or *de Brook*, lord of the manor of Brook, appears to have been the first of these, who died 15 Henry III (1231), leaving a son *Henry*.

II.—Henry de Brook. He is apparently the Henry de Broc, described by Pole as acquiring the manor of Olditch from Sir Reginald de Mohun, who died about 1257. He married *Nicholea*, daughter of BRYAN DE GORITZ, *dominus de Kingsdun*. There was a Brian de Goritz, of Chipping-Blandford, Dorset, temp. Edw. II, whose arms were—*Vaire, five fusils conjoined in bend gules*. They left a son *Henry*.

III.—Henry de Brook married Elizabeth and deceased 18 Edw. II (1324), leaving a son *John*.

IV.—John de Brook. He held at his death, 22 Edw. III (1348), “the manor of Brook, and a messuage with a curtilage and garden, and one carucate of land, without the town of Ivelchester, of the commonalty of that town, and also lands at Sock-Dennis, Bishopston, and Kingston.” He married Joan, daughter of SIR JOHN BRADSTONE, Knt.—probably of the Gloucestershire family of that name, of whom Thomas de Bradestone, a Knight-Banneret, was summoned to Parliament as a Baron, from 25th February, 1342, to 3rd April, 1360, in which year he died—and was succeeded by his grandson Thomas, who died about 1370, leaving an only daughter and

heiress, married to Walter de la Pole : their arms—*Argent, on a canton gules, a rose or, barbed vert.* John de Brook left a son *Thomas*.

V.—**Thomas de Brook.** He granted, 31 Edw. III (1358), “to Thomas Waryn and his heirs a certain yearly rent of twenty pounds, payable out of his lands and tenements in *la Broke juxta Ivelchester*, and in the town of Ivelchester.” He married **Constance**, the daughter of . . . **MARKENSFELD**, died 41 Edw. III (1368), leaving a son *Thomas*. The arms of Markenfield, of York, are given as *Argent, on a bend sable, three bezants.*

VI.—**Thomas de Brook.** He is included by Pole among “the men of best worth in Devon,” during the reigns of Rich. II, Henry IV, and Henry V (1377-1413), and styles him *Sir Thomas Brooke, de Holditch, Knt.* In him we reach the most important member of the family while resident in the west, owing in large measure to his marriage with the wealthy widow of Robert Chedder, which gave him considerable influence in the counties of Somerset and Devon.

He was Sheriff of Somerset (1389) ; Sheriff of Devon, 17 Rich. II (1394), 4 Henry IV (1403) ; Knight of the Shire for Somerset, 10, 11, 15, 20, and 21 Rich. II (1388-98), 1, 3, 5, and 11 Henry IV (1400-11), and 1 and 5 Henry V (1414-19).

Sir Thomas Brook married **Johanna**, second daughter and coheiress of **SIMON HANAP**, or **HANHAM**, of Gloucestershire (according to Hutchins so denominated from a place of that name, situate a short distance east of Bristol) and widow of Robert Chedder, Mayor of that city in 1360-1, who died 1382-4 ; and by whom she had four sons. She held in dower extensive landed possessions, and several advowsons, in Somerset, Gloucester, and Dorset, which passed at her death to Thomas Chedder, her only surviving son by this marriage. This family of Chedder will be further referred to.*

* Arms of Brook, of Olditch—*Gules, on a chevron argent, a lion rampant sable ;* of Chedder, *Sable, a chevron ermine, between three escallops argent ;* of Hanham, *Quarterly or and gules, over all on a bend engrailed sable, three crosses formé fitché of the first.*

By her second husband, Sir Thomas Brook, she appears to have had two sons, *Thomas* and *Michael*.

Between the years 1395 and 9 Henry IV (1407), Sir Thomas purchased the manor of Weycroft, in the parish of Axminster, situate about a mile from that town, and three from Olditch; and there erected a residence of castellated form, on a picturesque eminence overlooking the river and valley of the Axe. Although, apparently from traces left, much of the original structure has been destroyed, the portion remaining is of considerable size, and if somewhat modernized, its antient features have been tolerably well preserved by subsequent repairs. In the extension of the building, at the rear, what was once the hall still exists, with side windows of transomed and cusped lights, and a handsome chimney-piece in the gable end; as shown in the illustration.

An important event was now about to happen which raised the family of Brook to their highest position, and withdrew them soon after from their pleasant squire-built residence in this Devonshire valley, to the grand associations of baronial Cobham, in the fertile plains of Kent.

This was the marriage of Thomas Brook, their eldest son, born about 1391, with Joan Braybroke, the daughter, only surviving child, and sole heiress of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham, in Kent, by her second husband Sir Nicholas Braybroke.

On February 20th, 11 Henry IV (1409-10), a contract was entered into between Sir Thomas Brook of the one part, and Sir John Oldcastle, and the Lady Joan, his wife, on the other (he was her fourth husband), that his son Thomas should marry Joan the daughter of the latter, before the Feast of Pentecost, next ensuing, if God should grant them life—*si Deus illis vitam concedit*.

On 29th November, 1417, Edmund Stafford, Bishop of Exeter, granted a license to Thomas Brook, Esq., and Joan his wife, to have a domestic chapel or oratory, "*infra Mans-*

ionem suam de Wycroft in Parochiâ de Axmynstre."

The death of Sir Thomas, according to the inscription on the brass is placed as occurring on the 23rd January, 1419, 5 Henry IV ; but the year is probably an error, as the probate of his will was granted 5th February, 1417-8.

In 1427, a license

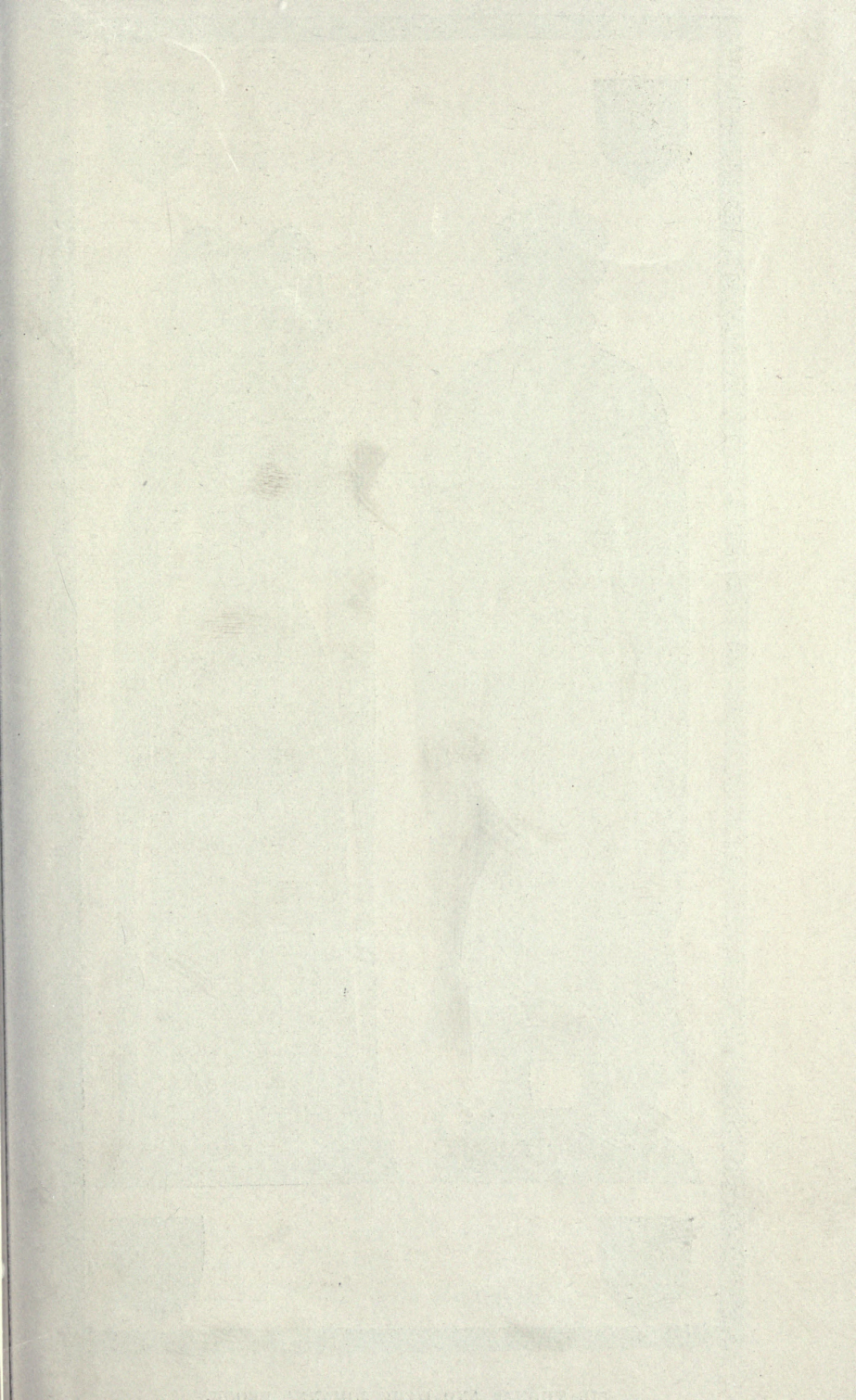
"To enclose a park of eight hundred acres and to crenellate the mansion was granted to Humfrey, Duke of Gloucester, Sir Thomas Brooke, Sir Giles Daubeney and others, who appear to have been acting as his co-trustees, probably in connection with a settlement made in 1410, on the marriage of the (then) owner, Sir Thomas Brooke, with Joan Braybroke. With stones and lime to enclose, crenellate, turrellate and embattle their Manor (House) of Wycroft, in Axmynstre, and make a park there, with all liberties and franchises, so that no one should flee into it, or enter to seize anyone without leave—*Manerium suum de Wycroft in Axmynstre, cum petris et calce includere krenellare et battellare et octingentas acras terre et bosci in Axmynstre includere et parcum inde facere possint.*"—*Pulman's Book of the Axe*, p. 579.

In the enclosing of this park, an incident not uncommon of its kind occurred, pertinent to such operations, that of obstructing or closing certain rights of way belonging to neighbouring owners and the public, over the said park, and causing a dispute thereby.

At Shute, about four miles from Weycroft, there resided at that date Sir William Bonville, afterward Lord Bonville, K.G., of Chewton-Mendip, executed after the second battle of St. Albans, in 1460-61. He was the grandson of Sir William Bonville, of Shute, who died in 1407-8, to whose will "Monsieur Thomas Brooke," the husband of Lady Johanna was appointed an overseer. It is easy to see how the dispute arose, as between them.

On the other side of the valley, and nearly opposite Weycroft, is an estate or manor called Uphay, which belonged to Sir William Bonville ; and the residence thereon, which his family probably occasionally occupied, appears to have been of sufficient consideration for Bishop Brantyngham to grant him a licence for a domestic chapel there, 24th July, 1375—a further licence for the same object being granted or renewed by Bishop Lacy on 8th May, 1421.

By the imparking such a large tract of land as eight hundred





SIR THOMAS AND DAME JOHANNA BROOK.

THORNCOMBE CHURCH, DEVON.

acres, by the widowed Lady Johanna and her son Sir Thomas, doubtless some public rights of way from Uphay and elsewhere across it, had been obstructed or stopped.

Accordingly the matter was referred to Nicholas Wysbeche, Abbot of the adjacent Abbey of Newenham, and others for adjustment, who, observes Mr. Davidson—

“Was appointed with five of his neighbours a mediator in a dispute between Sir William Bonville, of Shute, and Joan the widow of Sir Thomas Brooke, arising from the obstruction of several public roads and paths in the foundation and enclosure of the park at Weycroft by the lady and her son. The transcript of an instrument has been preserved which recites the circumstances of the case at great length, and concluded with an award, which as the Abbot was nominated by the Lady Brooke, does credit to his justice as an umpire, as well as to his hospitality; for, after deciding on every point in favour of Sir William Bonville, and directing all the ways to be thrown open to the public, it concludes by directing the knight and the lady should ride amicably together to Newenham Abbey on a day appointed, where they should exchange a kiss in token of peace and friendship, and dine together at the Abbot's table. The deed is dated at Axminster, 13th August, 1428.”

Lady Johanna Brook survived her second husband just twenty years, and died on 10th April, 1437, and they were both buried at the east end of the north aisle of Thorncombe *old* church, where two fine brass effigies were placed to their memory on a stone in the pavement, with a ledger inscription and four shields. The figures have fortunately been preserved, but only a small portion of the inscription remained, and the shields were gone. The new church at Thorncombe does not occupy the same site as the former one, but the effigies have been preserved and inserted in another stone and placed in a relative position therein on a low tomb, with this restored inscription around them :

“*Here lyth Sir Thomas Brook Knygte the whiche dyed the xxiii day of Januere the yere of oure lorde MCCCC & XIX and the fifte yere of Kynge Harry the V. Also here lyth dame Johan' Brook the wyfe of the sayde Thomas the whyche died the x day of Apryll: The yere of our lorde MCCCC & XXXVIJ and the xv yere of Kynge Harry the vj: on whois Soules God haue mercy & pite that for vs dyed on the Rode tree. amen.*”

The effigies are two of the most distinguished to be found

remaining of that era. Sir Thomas is clad in a long gown, with deep dependant sleeves, guarded with fur around the skirt and collar, and pulled in at the waist by a belt studded with roses. Within the gown a second garment appears, with four rows of fur around the skirt. His hair is polled, and his feet rest on a greyhound couchant, collared. Lady Johanna wears a long robe fastened across the breast by a cordon with tassels, over a plain gown. Her hair is dressed in semi-mitre shape, and confined by a richly jewelled net, over which is placed the cover-chief, edged with embroidery, and dependant to the shoulders. At her feet is a little lap-dog, collared and belled. Both wear the collar of S.S., their arms are in tightly-fitting sleeves, and the hands are raised in prayer.

At the death of Lady Johanna Brook, the large possessions she had held in dower of her first husband Robert Chedder, which included the manor of Cheddar and the advowson of the Chantry of our Blessed Lady in the church there, was inherited by her only surviving son by him, Thomas Chedder (ob. 1442-3), who had married a Devonshire lady, Isabel Scobahull, of South-Pool, a parish in the southernmost angle of that county.

Thomas Brook, her eldest son by her second husband, succeeded to Olditch, Weycroft, Brook-Ivelchester, and other landed property of considerable extent belonging to his father—and he had made a distinguished match with Joan Braybroke, only daughter and heiress of the Lady of Cobham, in Kent.

Of the other son, Michael Brook, we get no account, and he probably died without issue.

VII.—**Sir Thomas Brook**, the son of Sir Thomas Brook and the Lady Johanna, was born about 1391, he being twenty-six years of age at the death of his father, 23rd January, 1417-8. He was Knight of the Shire for Dorset, 1 Henry V (1413-4): for the county of Somerset, 8 Henry V (1420-1),

and 1 and 5 Henry VI (1422-3 and 1426-7), and was knighted between 1416 and 1422.

His marriage with *Joan*, only surviving child and sole heiress of *JOAN DE LA POLE*, Lady of Cobham, by her second husband *SIR REGINALD BRAYBROKE*, took place in 1409-10, and she proved a prolific mother, bringing him ten sons and four daughters. Of the sons (1) *Edward*, eldest son and heir was summoned to Parliament as a Baron by writs from 13th January, 1444-5 (23 Henry VI), to 28th February, 1462-3 (2 Edw. IV), as "*Edward Broke de Cobham, Chivalier.*" He was a strong adherent of the House of York, and as previously related, had his mansion at Olditch sacked by the Lancastrian Earl of Ormond; was present at the first battle of St. Alban's, 23rd May, 1455; took part in the solemn procession to St. Paul's, London; and commanded the left wing of the Yorkshire men at the battle of Northampton, 10th July, 1460. He married *Elizabeth*, daughter of *James Touchet, Lord Audley*, and died in 1464. (2) *Reginald*, was of Aspall, in Suffolk, with descent still in existence. (3) *Hugh*: he married *Petronel* . . . and his descendants settled in Somerset. *John*, his son, Sergeant-at-law to Henry VIII, married a daughter of *Mericke*, of Bristol, and had three sons: *Thomas*, married *Joan Speke*, and had issue; *Hugh*, of Long Ashton; *Arthur*, whose son *Edward*, was of Barrow-Gurney, and he had issue *Hugh*, who married *Dorothy Preston*, of Glastonbury; *Thomas*, also of Glastonbury Abbey (1623), who married *Rebecca*, daughter and co-heir of *John Wyke*, of Ninehead; and *Sir Davy* or *David Brook*, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, Knighted 1 Mary (1553), who married *Catherine*, sister of *John Bridges*, Lord Chandois—this descent is given in the *Somerset Visitation* for 1623. (4) *Thomas*; (5) *John*; (6) *Robert*; (7) *Peter*; (8) *Christopher*; (9) *Henry*; (10) *Morgan*; all died without issue. Of the daughters: (1) *Margaret*; (2) *Christian*, died without issue; (3) *Joan*, or query *Isabel*, married *John Carrant*; (4) *Elizabeth*, *John St. Maure*, whose

daughter *Joan* married *John Blewitt*, of Holcombe-Rogus, whose son *Nicholas*, ob. 22nd August, 1523.

Although his wife styled herself Lady of Cobham, her husband was never summoned to Parliament as a Baron—the title remaining in abeyance thirty-two years, from 22nd March, 1413, temp. Sir John Oldcastle, until Sir Thomas Brook's son, Sir Edward Brook, had summons, 13th January, 1445. He survived his mother seven years, his mother-in-law five years only, and died in 1429. A continuation of the descent of Brook, will be given.

Cobham,

OF COBHAM, KENT, AND OF SOMERSET AND DEVON.

OUR little annals have shewn that Sir Thomas Brook, the younger, of Olditch and Weycroft, made the distinguished match of taking to wife, Joan Braybroke, the only daughter and sole heiress of Joan de la Pole-Braybroke, Lady of Cobham, in Kent: thereupon, or soon after, he appears to have forsaken the olden associations of his birth-place, and the inheritances derived from his ancestors in Somerset and Devon, migrating to the grander attractions of baronial Cobham, where his name and posterity, ennobled and otherwise greatly honoured, flourished for several generations. A notice of this succession now demands attention.

The very antient family of Cobham, in Kent, although so far removed from the west-country, had very early associations with the counties of Somerset and Devon.

The first so related, and pertaining to this account, were two brothers, Henry and John de Cobham, the sons of John de Cobham, fourth in the Kent descent.

JOHN DE COBHAM was Sheriff of Kent, 1259-61; Justice Itinerant of the Common Pleas, 1267-71; King's Sergeant and Justice of the King's Bench, 1275; Baron of the Ex-

chequer,* and Constable of the Castle and City of Rochester, 1279-80. Both were his sons by his first wife, JOAN, daughter of *Sir Robert de Septvans*; she died before 1298, and he deceased in March, 1300. They were both buried in the parish church of St. Mary Magdalen, Cobham, where his gravestone remains, denuded of its brasses: but his wife's effigy still exists clad in wimple, cover-chief and long robe, under a fine canopy, said to be the earliest known example of a canopy to a monumental brass. Boutell (1848) says, "the Longobardic letters and narrow fillets of latten have been removed from the verge of the slab, to which this fine brass is attached," and that the inscription ran thus:

*Dame : Jone : de : Kobeham : gist : isi : devs : de : sa : alme :
eit : merci : kike : pur : le : alme : priera : quaravate : jours :
de : pardovn : avera.*

which may be rendered:

"*Dame Jone de Kobeham lies here—God have mercy on her soul.
Each one who shall pray for her soul, shall have forty days
pardon.*"

This brass has been erroneously assigned to represent the wife of her grandson, Joan de Beauchamp, who died subsequent to 1343, a period much too late for the costume.

HENRY DE COBHAM, his eldest son, was appointed Constable of the Castle and City of Rochester, 1304, and Constable of the Castle of Dover, and Warden of the Cinque Ports, 34 Edw. I, 1305-6. He was the first Baron of Cobham, being summoned to Parliament as such, from 8th January, 1313, to 22nd January, 1336; and is described by Mr. Waller, as "a stirring and active man in the public administration and military enterprises of the nation." He married MAUD, the daughter of *Eudo de Moreville*, and widow of Matthew de Columbers.

* Pole mentions a John Cobham, "who sate in Devon, ye 33 yeere K. Henry III," 1249—probably father of this John, who was Justice Itinerant and of the Common Pleas at this time—and another John de Cobham, "who sate at Exon.," in 1286.

In pursuing our narrative we have now to make a diversion into Somerset, and follow him there.

At Stoke-sub-Hamdon was one of the mansions or castellated residences of the antient and distinguished family of the Beauchamps—Barons Beauchamp, also styled, “of Hacche,” (Hatch-Beauchamp), in the county of Somerset. It was of considerable size as befitted their rank and station, license to fortify it being granted, 7 Edw. III (1334), and attached to it was a chantry or free chapel, apparently of large size, dedicated to St. Nicholas; but of all these extensive buildings, a few insignificant portions only, now remain.

Its occupant at this era was John de Beauchamp, the first of the family summoned to Parliament as a Baron, 27 Edw. I (1299)—he was frequently engaged in military service under that monarch, by whom he was Knighted in 1306, in company with the king’s eldest son, Prince Edward, in the expedition to Scotland, in that year; he also signed the celebrated letter to the Pope, 29 Edw. I (1299). He was also constituted Governor of Bridgwater Castle. In 1304 he founded in the chapel at Stoke-Beauchamp, a Collegiate Chantry, consisting of a Provost and four other Chaplains, and suitably endowed it, together with a house in the village for their common residence, which still exists. The Beauchamps were munificently inclined toward the Church, some earlier members of the family are assigned to be the founders of the Augustine Priory of St. Gregory, at Frithelstock, in north Devon, and benefactors to the Cistercian Abbey of Ford, where their arms *Vairé*, appear on the sinister side of the Conventual seal. He died 10 Edw. III (1337), and by his wife, Joan, left two surviving children, John his heir, and a daughter Joan.

In the year 1316, the aforesaid Henry de Cobham was apparently on a visit to this John de Beauchamp, at his mansion at Stoke-sub-Hamdon. About 1314, John de Cobham, his son, had married the above Joan, only daughter of his host, John de Beauchamp, and her father gave her a marriage

portion of four hundred pounds. Henry de Cobham died at Stoke during his visit, 9 Edw. II (1316), aged 76, and was buried in the Collegiate Chapel adjoining the mansion, his son John being present, the details of whose journey and expenses, which were defrayed by the Cobhams, were extant in 1574.

The interesting old itinerant Leland, who visited Somerset about 1541-2, was evidently greatly impressed with the important castle of the Beauchamps at Stoke-sub-Hamdon, and its attendant chapel, and so put on record a singularly detailed account of what he witnessed there, at that time apparently in the earlier stages of decay. For the easier realization of its then remaining glory, his description has been rendered in modern spelling :

“I saw at Stoke in a bottom hard by the village very notable ruins of a great Manor Place or Castle, and in this Manor Place remaineth a very ancient Chapel, wherein be divers tombs of noble men and women.

In the south-west side of the Chapel be five images on tombs, one hard joined to another, three of men harnessed and shielded, and two of women. There hath been inscriptions on each of them, but now so sore defaced, they cannot be read. I saw a shield or two all *Vairé*, of *blue and white*. There be in this part of the Chapel also, two tombs without images.

There is in the north side of the body of the Chapel, a tomb in the wall without image or writing, and a tomb with a goodly image of a man of arms in the north side of the quire with shield as I remember all *Vairé*; and even afore the quire door but without it, lieth a very great flat marble stone, with an image in brass flatly graven, and this writing in French about it.

“*Ici gist le noble & vaillant Chivaler Maheu de Gurney iadys seneschal de Landes & capitain du Chastel Daques pro nostre signor le roy en la duche de Guyene, que en sa vie fu a la batail de Beaumarin, & ala apres a la siege Dalgezire sur le Sarazines, & auxi a les batailles de Lescluse, de Cressy, de Yngenesse, de Peyteres, de Nazara. Dozrey, & a plusours autres batailles & asseges en les quex il gaina noblement graund los & honour per le space de xxxiiij & xvj ans, & morust le xxvj jour de Septembre lan nostre signor Jesu Christ MCCCCVJ que de salme dieux eit mercy. Amen.*”

There was beside this grave another, in the west-end of the body of the Chapel, having a great flat stone without inscription.

I marked in the windows three sorts of arms, one all *Vairé*, *blue and white*, another with *three stripes gules down-right in a field of gold*. The third was *crosslets of gold many intemiast in one in a field*, as I remember, *gold*.

There is a Provost belonging to this Collegiate Chapel now in decay, where sometime was good service, and now but a mass said three times in the week.”

Of the fine mansion only the barest traces of the foundations are now visible, and of the evidently large chapel, filled with an array of the most interesting tombs—eleven in number—to the Beauchamps, the antient lords of the place, knights and ladies reclining around, “in their habits as they lived,” doubt-

less among them their visitor and relative Henry de Cobham, who was there buried, the brazen effigies of the aged warrior, Sir Matthew Gournay, in his harness, stretched upon the floor* at the entrance door of the choir, and the windows above them sparkling with the armories of their families and descent, must have formed an unique sight.

Of this once almost fairy scene of mediæval interest, now, not a vestige remains, and when the writer visited the place a few years since, a potato garden occupied its site, in the centre of which an interment or two had been discovered, the remains indicating their having been male and female, and from time to time a few pieces of encaustic tiles and fragments of sculpture are occasionally exhumed. Its desecration and effacement is complete.

JOHN DE COBHAM, second Baron, was Knight of the Shire for Kent at intervals between 1312 and 1334-5, in which latter year he was constituted Admiral of the Fleet from the mouth of the Thames westward, a Justice of Oyer and Terminer, and Constable of Rochester Castle. He was summoned to Parliament as a Baron, from 24th November, 1350, to 15th March, 1354-5, and for his military services was created a Knight-Banneret by Edward III, with an annuity of a hundred marks. His first wife JOAN BEAUCHAMP, was alive in 1343, and he married secondly AGNES, daughter of *Richard Stone*, of Dartford. He died 25th February, 1354-5, and was buried in the chancel at Cobham, where his brass still exists, the armour and appointments being very similar to those of his son, the Founder of the College. The inscription is remarkable and no other exactly like it is known :

“ *Vous qe passez ici entour Priez pur lalme le cortays viandour*

* This redoubtable old knight was the last possessor of Stoke, by his marriage with Alice, ob. 1383, widow of John, fourth and last Baron Beauchamp, ob. 1361, and at his death it reverted to the Crown and was included in the possessions of the Duchy of Cornwall. He died in 1406, aged ninety-six, and had for his companion-in-arms, another venerable west-country knight, Sir John Sully, K.G., of Iddesleigh, in Devon, whose tomb and effigies are in Crediton church, and who died in 1387, aged one hundred and seven. They fought together at Cressy and Najara, serving in the French wars of that era.

Que Johan de Cobham auoit a noun Dieux luy face uerray pardoun Que trepassa lendemayn de Seint Mathei Le puis-aunt otrie ademorer oue ly En lan de grace Mil CCCL quatre Ces enemis fist abatre."

which tells us

"Ye who pass by here, pray for the soul of the gentle host, who was named Johan de Cobham. God to him give very pardon; who passed away the day after St. Matthew's day. The Almighty grant (him) to dwell with Him. In the year of grace, 1354. Those enemies he hath made to be abased."

The date would be the 25th February, 1354-5.

A second digression awaits us here, concerning John de Cobham, the younger brother of Henry de Cobham (the first baron of that name who died at Stoke-sub-Hamdon) and who came into Devon and settled there.

Cobham,

OF BLACKBOROUGH, DEVON.

BLACKBOROUGH, a parish in east Devon, lying under the Blackdown hills, a few miles east of Collumpton, was held by the Bolhays, of Blackburgh-Bolhay. Hamelin de Bolhay died 54 Henry III (1270), and Dame Philippa de Bolhay presented to the living of Blackborough, 8th January, 1274-5. Here a branch of the Cobhams was located in Devon.

JOHN DE COBHAM, described by Pole as a "younger son of Cobham in Kent," was the younger son of John de Cobham and Joan de Septvans, and brother to Henry de Cobham, the first Baron, who died at Stoke-sub-Hamdon, in 1339. He married AMICIA or AMY, daughter of *James de Bolhay*, of Blackburgh-Bolhay, and inherited the manor. There were four children, *James*, his heir; *Isabel*, who married John Bamfield, of Poltimore; *Elizabeth*, to Sir Hugh Peverell, from whom the Hungerfords; and *Philippa*, to Nicholas Ingpen, from whom successively Fitchett, Hill of Spaxton, Cheney of

Pinhoe, and Walgrave, of Suffolk. James de Cobham was succeeded by *John*, named as eighth in the entail settled by John de Cobham, third Baron, who married Margaret Courtenay, son of John, second Baron, who married Joan Beauchamp, of Stoke-sub-Hamdon. He was succeeded by *Sir John Cobham*, 7 Rich. II (1394), who married *Katherine*, eldest daughter of *Sir William Bonville*, of Shute, ob. 1407-8, by his first wife Margaret de Aumarle. They would thus be contemporary with Sir Thomas and Dame Johanna Brook, whose son married the heiress of the main descent of Cobham in Kent. It was of this lady the domestic incident is related that occurred at the baptism of her nephew, the unfortunate Lord William Bonville, of Chewton, K.G., when he made proof as to his coming of age, before the king's escheator, in the first year of King Henry V, 1413-14. John Cokesdene and others deposed that on the day of his baptism, the last day of August, 1393—

“They were together elected at Honiton on a certain ‘love-day,’ to make peace between two of their neighbours, and on that very day, there came there a certain Lady Katherine, widow of Sir John Cobham, Knt., and then wife of John Wyke, of Nynhyde, an aunt of the said William, proposing to drive to Shute, thinking she should be god-mother to the said infant, and met there a certain Edward Dygher, servant to the said Sir William Bonevile. who was reputed to be half-witted in consequence of his being loquacious and jocular, and who asked her whither she was going. Who answering quickly, said, ‘Fool, to Shute, to see my nephew made a Christian,’ to which the said Edward replied, with a grin, in his mother tongue, ‘Kate, Kate, ther to by myn pate comystow to late,’ meaning thereby that the baptism of the child was already over; whereupon she mounted upon her horse in a passion, and rode home in deep anger, vowing that she would not see her sister, to wit the said child’s mother, for the next six months, albeit she should be *in extremis*, and die.”

By Sir John Cobham she had one daughter, *Elizabeth*, married to *Walter Charleton*, but there was no issue, “after whose death,” says Pole, “by virtue of a remainder in an entail, the Lord Bonville enjoyed this (Blackburgh) and other lands, notwithstanding the claim of Hungerford, Hill, and Bamfield, the right heirs. The issue male (of Cobham) failed in the time of Rich. II, 1377-99.”

Secondly, Dame Katherine married John Wyke, of Nynhead-Flory, Somerset—he presented to the rectory of Blackborough, in June, 1405, and died 12 Henry IV, 1411. Thirdly,

she married Humphrey Stafford, of Grafton, Worcestershire, and died 1st August, 1416.

They differenced the Cobham arms with *eaglets* for *lions*, and bore, *Gules, on a chevron or, three eaglets displayed sable.*

Cobham,

OF KENT, ETC.—CONTINUED.

JOHN DE COBHAM, third Baron, was the eldest son of John de Cobham, second Baron, by Joan Beauchamp, of Stoke-sub-Hamdon, his first wife. He married about 1332-3, MARGARET, eldest daughter of *Hugh Courtenay, second Earl of Devon*, ob. 1377, by his wife Margaret, ob. 1392, daughter of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, by his wife the Princess Elizabeth, seventh daughter of King Edward I; and who were then residing at Colcombe, in Colyton, Devon.

At their marriage the Earl appears to have settled sundry lands on them, and on the 8th April, 1355, John de Cobham gave a certain sum of money to his father-in-law, the Earl at Colcombe, for the maintenance of his wife there, and the Earl's receipt for the same is still in existence, which runs thus :

“ Conue chose soïet a totes gentz que nous hughe de Cortenay counte de Deuneschire auons receu de Johaun de Cobehaum chiuallier filtz monsieur Johaun de Cobehaum de Kent chiuallier quynze lyures sys southe & oycet deniers pur le soiourn et aultres necessaries Margarete de Cobehaum nostre fylle sa compaigne del' terme de Pasche darroyne passe come pleynement aperct par endentures entre nous feates. Des queaux quynze lyures sys south & oycet deniers nous nous tenoms pleynement estre paietz et lauaunct dict Johaun quytes par icestes noz presentes lectres daquytaunce du nostre seal enseales. Done a Colecomb le viij^{me} jour de April Laan due regne nostre sognour le Roi Edward troys puis le conqueste vynct & neofysme.”

which may be thus rendered :

“ Be it known to all people that we, Hugh de Courtenay, Earl of Devonshire, have received of John de Cobham, Knight, son of Sire John de Cobham, of Kent, Knight, fifteen pounds, six shillings, and eightpence, for the lodging and other necessaries of Margaret de Cobham, our daughter, his companion, from the term of Easter last past, as fully appears from the indentures made between us. Of which fifteen pounds, six shillings, and eightpence, we hold ourselves to be fully paid, and the aforesaid John released by these our present letters of acquaintance with our seal attached. Given at Colcombe the 8th day of April, the 29th year of the reign of our Lord King Edward the third after the Conquest.”

This John de Cobham was the last, as he was also the most remarkable and influential representative of this the main descent. Mr. J. G. Waller in his comprehensive and admirable account of the family of Cobham, in the *Kent Archaeological Transactions*,* gives this interesting sketch of his life, and infers that at the time he gave the curious receipt :

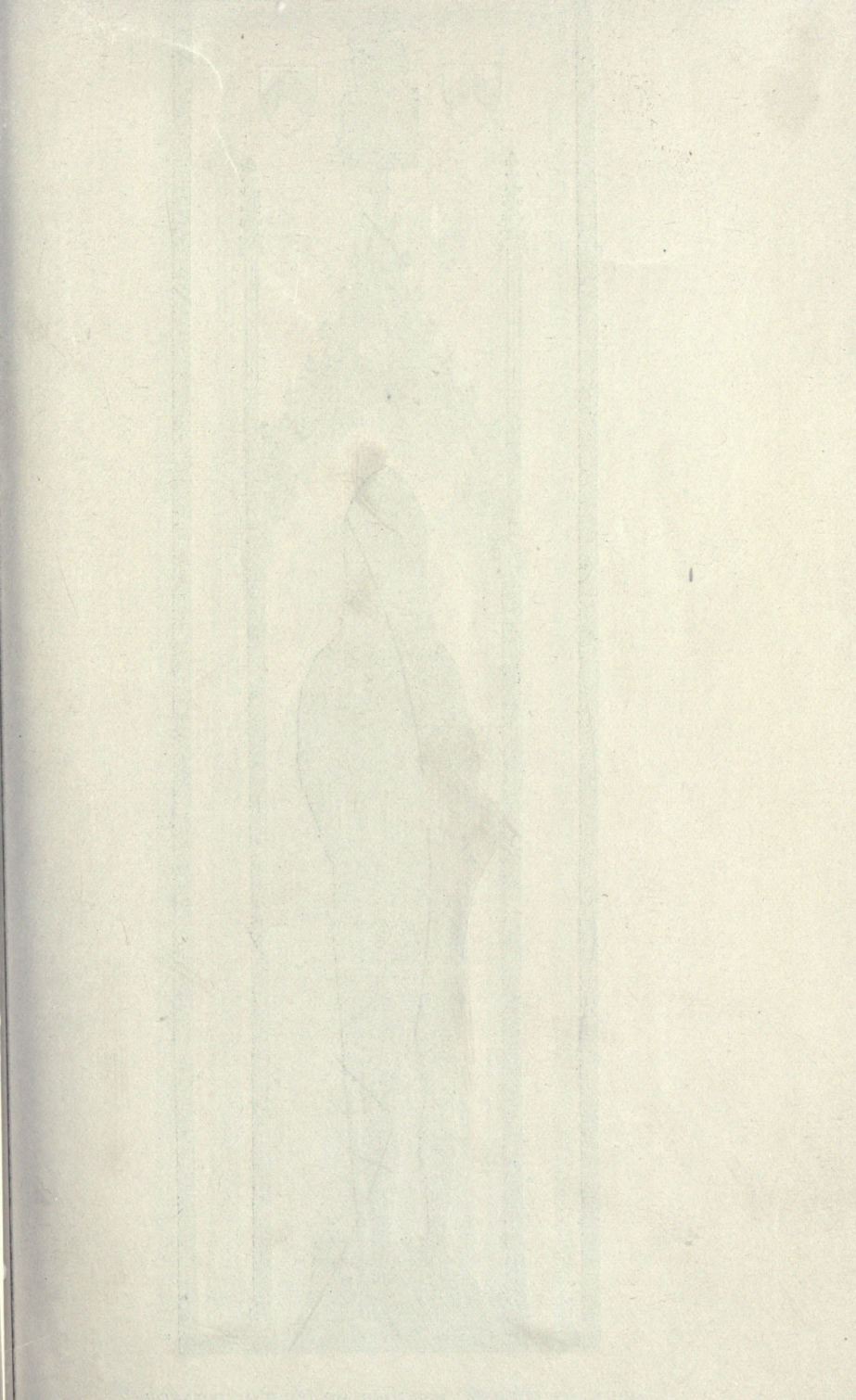
He was then probably about to serve with the army in France, where Edw. III, exasperated at the double dealing of Philip, had begun an active campaign. At his father's death, in 1355, he became Lord of Cobham, was first summoned to Parliament 20th September, the same year. In 1359, he was in the great expedition to France, under Edw. III. In 1362, he founded and endowed Cobham College, for five priests, one to be the Warden, to say masses for the repose of the souls of the founder's ancestors, for the good estate of himself and family while living and all Christian souls. In 1366-7, he was again in France, engaged in the war. In 1367, he was sent ambassador to Rome, to obtain from Pope Urban V. the appointment of William of Wykeham to the See of Winchester. In 1370 he was made a Banneret by the King in person. In 1377 he served on several commissions in the public service. In 1380-1, he had license to crenellate and fortify his mansion of Cowling, the reconstruction of which he had commenced, and was in progress. In 1383, he was sent to treat with the Count of Flanders, long at war with his subjects; and subsequently with the Duke of Lancaster and others, to conclude a peace or truce with France. In 1386, he was appointed with others by Parliament to examine into the state of the King's (Richard's) court, revenues, grants, etc. ; and made one of the King's great and continual Council for one year. This Council, which restrained the King's power was afterward to feel his full resentment.

The outcry against the King's rule made itself heard early in 1388, in the memorable impeachment by the Commons of Michael de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, the Chancellor, and others. Among the names of the Lords Appellant, we find that of John de Cobham. On the day fixed for the meeting of these Commissioners, an armed ambuscade was placed at the Mews under the command of Sir Nicholas Brembre, the Lord Mayor, to way-lay them on their route to Westminster. Being duly warned they avoided the snare, and then demanded a safe conduct under the King's own hand. On the day appointed the Barons came well attended, and the records of Parliament contain no more exciting scene. The Lords Appellant brought a long list of charges against the accused, none of whom appeared, and in the presence of the King, flung down their gages on the floor of the house, ready to make them good by battle. In the meantime Sir Robert Tresillian, the Judge, one of the accused, was taken in disguise within the precincts of the Abbey, and produced before the Lords. With great spirit he offered to defend himself by wager of battle, but this was disallowed. Judgment was recorded against him, and he was subsequently drawn on a hurdle to Tyburn, and there executed. Subsequently the same fate befel Sir Nicholas Brembre

In 1389, he sat as a member of the Court of Chivalry, in the celebrated case between Scrope and Grosvenor,† and on another in 1392, in the dispute between Morley and Lovel, and engaged in sundry other public official acts, and useful services near his home. He then lost his wife, Margaret Courtenay, and probably anticipating his dying without a direct heir, executed an elaborate deed of entail, which included several members of the family.

* From which we largely quote both here and elsewhere in this *Paper*, and desire to render all acknowledgments and thanks.

† The venerable old Sir John Sully, K.G., before alluded to, gave evidence in this case, on 2nd July, 1386, the Commissioner, John Kentwode, proceeded to Idlesleigh, in Devon, and in the church there took the old knight's, and his esquire, Richard Baker's evidence on oath. He must have been then 106 years old.





JOHN DE COBHAM, FOUNDER OF COBHAM COLLEGE.



MARGARET COURTENAY, WIFE OF JOHN DE COBHAM.

COBHAM CHURCH.



It was only just in time. A Parliament had been assembled in which the King had, by special writs to the Sheriffs, tampered directly with the elections, and thus gained a party directly in his interest. Immediate steps were taken against those who had acted upon the Commission of 1387-8, and Lord Cobham fleeing to the Monastery of the Carthusians in London, renounced the world. That did not protect him, for he was drawn from this seclusion, and with Sir John Cheney, committed to the Tower. He was then brought before the Parliament, which had already condemned the Earls of Warwick and Arundel, the former having been banished and the latter executed, even in contempt of accorded pardon.

The proceedings, as recorded in the Rolls of Parliament, are interesting, as they certainly justify what the historians of the time had said, respecting Cobham's simplicity and good faith. When called in question by the King, concerning the Commission of 1388, he replied 'that touching the making of the Commission he was not culpable, and touching the use and exercise of the same Commission, he would not have used it, nor meddled with it, but with the command of the King.' To which the King replied, 'that he was under such governance at that time, that he could not otherwise say by reason of those that were around him.'

Lord Cobham was adjudged guilty and condemned to be hanged, drawn, and quartered. All his estates were confiscated. But, for mere shame, an historian has said, the King commuted this sentence on the venerable noble into banishment for life to Jersey, with the proviso, that if he escaped, the sentence should have full effect. In this sentence there was a saving of entail, which is worthy of note, as showing the jealousy of Parliament over estates that might otherwise pass into the hands of the Crown. Not long afterwards, this sentence was made an article of accusation against the King himself.

Two Lords Cobham were in exile at the same time, for Sir Reginald, second Baron Cobham of Sterborough, was included in the condemnation. The numerous and powerful families connected with them, the Arundels, Staffords, Beauchamps, and others, each had their special wrongs against the King. Henry, of Bolingbroke, was urged by the Archbishop of Canterbury, himself an exile, to return. Starting from Vannes, in Brittany, and coasting along the shores of England, he eventually landed at Ravenspurn, and among the few knights in his train was Sir Reginald Cobham. The event is known as one of great moment in our history. The exiled nobles returned, and Parliament called King Richard to account for the sentences passed on Lord Cobham, and others the Lords Appellant. A solemn surrender of the Crown took place in Parliament, which decreed that the deposed monarch should be placed in safe keeping, and on the record appears the name of Lord Cobham. A few years later, he signed the entail of the Crown upon the four sons of Henry IV, and this was the last of his public acts.

His whole life was an unbroken succession of services rendered the State, at one of the most critical periods of English history, when the power of Parliament was rapidly developing, and the Commons shewed themselves to be growing in strength. There was no matter of public importance either at home or abroad, in which his advice as a councillor or as a diplomatist, was not sought or given. It is evident, even from the scanty information contained in our records, that John de Cobham, the 'Founder,' must be placed among the most eminent statesmen of his time.

He died 10th January, 1407-8, and must have reached a very advanced age, for at least seventy-four years had elapsed since his marriage contract, allowing for extreme youth at that time, he could scarcely have been less than ninety-two."

Lady Margaret Cobham died on the 2nd of August, 1385, and was buried in the chancel of Cobham church, where there is a fine brass to her memory, with this inscription :

“*Sy gist dame Margarete de Cobham jady's fille a noble Sr le Counte de Deuenschir feme le sire de Cobham foundour de ceste place qe morust le secounde jor dil moys Dagust lan de grace M^l CCCLXXXV lalme de qy deux eyt mercy. Amen.*”

The arms are Cobham, and Cobham impaling Courtenay.

Although so far removed from Devon, she was destined to have her distinguished brother, William Courtenay, located comparatively near her a few years before her death, he being successively translated to the See of London in 1375, and elevated to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, in 1381. Nor were her virtues and fine character forgotten in Devon after her decease, for ten years later, Edmund Stafford, Bishop of Exeter (he had been consecrated by her brother), on the 10th of August, 1395 :

“Ordered public prayers throughout the diocese for the deceased ladies, Margaret Cobham and Elizabeth Luttrell, sisters of the Primate, William Courtenay, Archbishop of Canterbury, and describes them—

“*Velut arbor in domo Domini, fructificans in vitæ sanctitate et puritate ac morum et actuum virtuosorum honestate Domino studuerunt pro viribus complacere.*”

Which may be rendered :

“*Like a tree in the house of the Lord, bearing fruit in holiness and purity of life, and in dignity of conduct, and virtuous deeds, they studied to please the Lord with (all) their might.*”

And the Bishop :

“Further to encourage the faithful who should assist at the solemn observances of the exequies of these distinguished ladies, and pray for their departed souls, he grants an indulgence of forty days.”—*Oliver.*

Elizabeth, Lady Luttrell, was the wife of Sir Andrew Luttrell, of Chilton, and relict of Sir John de Vere—she died 1395.

The fine brass to John de Cobham's memory lies beside that of his wife in Cobham church, he supports a church in his hands, referable to his being the founder of the College. The armour is interesting from its diverse character being composed of banded chain-mail and plate, the covering of the thighs and gauntlets being of *cuir bouilli*. But it is doubtful if he was buried here, the brass being probably laid down

during his life-time, and the inscription exhibits nothing definite to confirm his interment beneath it :

*“ De terre fu fait et fourme, et en Terre et a Terre suy retourne,
Johan de Cobham foundeur de ceste place qi fu iadis nomine
Mercy de malme eit la seinte Trinite.”*

That is—

*“ Of earth was I made and formed, and into earth and to the
earth am I returned, who was formerly named Johan de
Cobham, Founder of this place. May the Holy Trinity
have mercy on my soul.”*

There is the record of a monument once existing in the Church of the Grey Friars, in London, to a John de Cobham, Baron of Kent, “in a tomb raised up at the end of that altar by the door under the cross (transept) lies John de Cobham, Baron of the County of Kent,” and it is difficult to see to whom this can refer if not to this John de Cobham. Stow, in his account of this magnificent structure, gives a graphic description of the array of tombs then within it, and a long list of the influential persons buried beneath them. Among them he mentions “John Cobham, Baron of Kent,” as being interred “between the choir and the altar,” and notes that “in the choir,” lay the Tyburn-executed Cornishman, “Sir Robert Tresilian, Knight-Justice,” and his unfortunate companion, “Sir Nicholas Brembre, Mayor of London, buried 1386”—previously referred to—of whom he adds, “he was Mayor in 1384 and 1385, was Knighted with Sir William Walworth in 1384; and in 1387, as late Mayor of London, was this year beheaded.”

In addition to his being the founder of the College, he also erected the original seat of the Cobhams, Cowling Castle, near Rochester, early in the reign of Richard II. By his wife, Margaret Courtenay, he left one daughter only, *Johanna*, married to John de la Pole, of Chrishall, in Essex. He was named as one of the Surveyors of his wife's mother, the Countess of Devon's will.

De la Pole = Cobham,

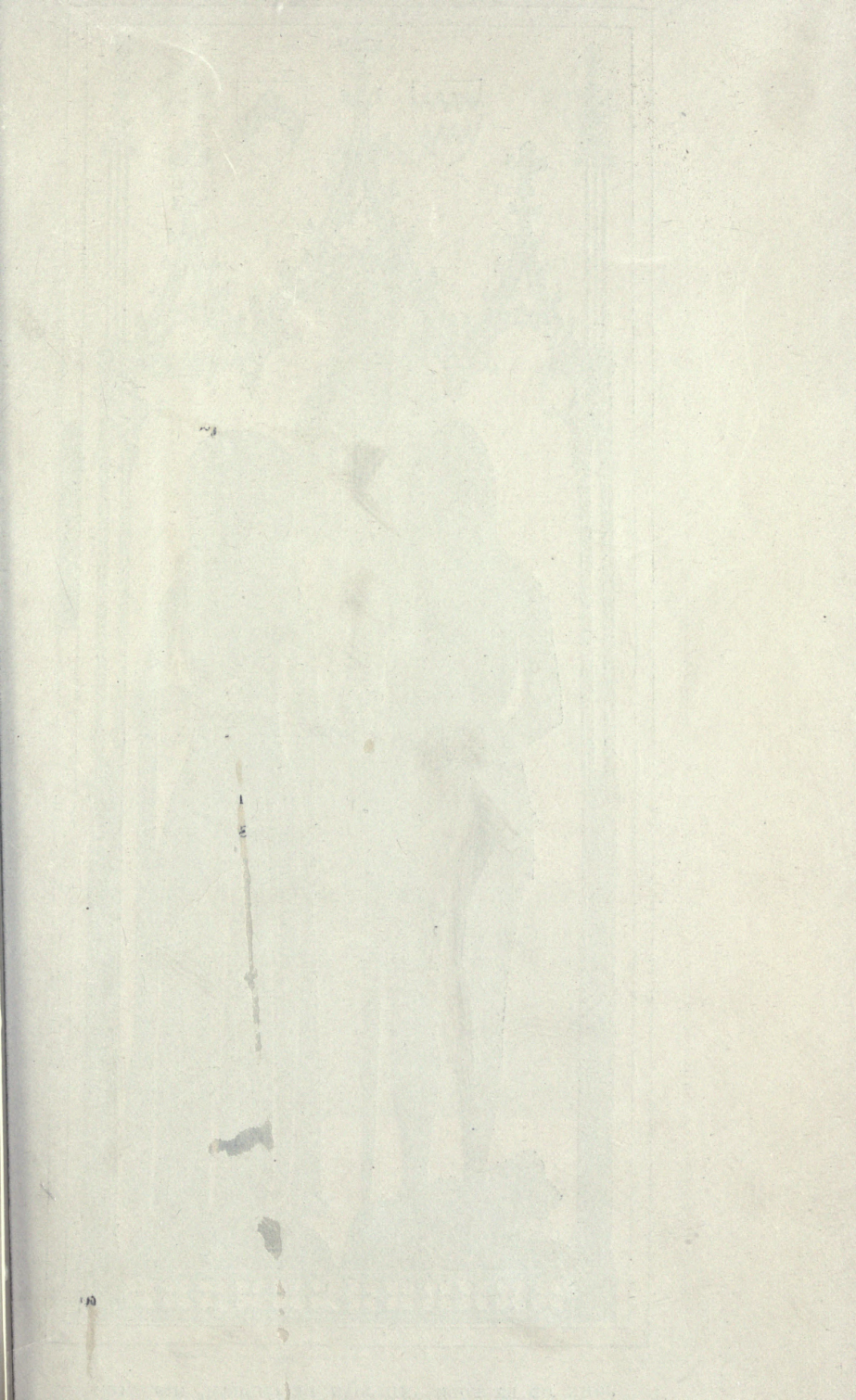
OF CHRISHALL, ESSEX.

JOHN de la Pole, who married Joan Cobham, only daughter of John de Cobham and Margaret Courtenay, was the son of William de la Pole, who was the son of Richard de la Pole, to whom Edward III, in 1338, gave "for his extraordinary merits," a thousand pounds sterling out of the Exchequer. He was the second son of the noted Sir William de la Pole, the great merchant of Kingston-upon-Hull, whose descendants occupy a distinguished place in English history, a gallant and highly gifted race, who, after attaining by merit and alliance, the highest position and honours, were—similar to the Cobhams—summarily extinguished by Henry VIII, by the decapitation of Edmund de la Pole, the second duke of Suffolk, on Tower Hill, 30th April, 1513—the offence being his descent from the House of York, his mother having been, unfortunately for him, the Lady Elizabeth Plantagenet, sister to Edward IV and Richard III.

William de la Pole, the father of John, married Margaret Peverel. She was the sister and heiress of John Peverel, of Castle-Ashby, in Northamptonshire, after whose death he held Castle-Ashby and Milton, in right of his wife. She was living in 1358, and he in 1362.

John Peverel, who was aged nineteen, at Easter, 1349, died without issue, in November of the same year. He had married Isabella Basset, and was the first of this lady's six husbands. The birth and career of this lady was a remarkable one. According to Burke, she was the daughter of Ralph, the third Lord Basset, of Drayton, ob. 1243—but "it is doubtful if this lady was legitimate or not." At the death of her presumed brother, Ralph, fourth and last Lord Basset, in 1390, s.p.—

"He devised his estates according to some authorities, to Sir Hugh Shirley, his nephew, son of his sister, Isabel, upon condition he should assume the surname and arms of Basset, in failure of which, those estates were to pass to





AN
FINE
DITTS

JOHN DE LA POLE AND JOAN DE COBHAM, HIS WIFE.

CHRISHALL CHURCH, ESSEX



Sancta Maria Mater

Thy

Mary



*Hic iacet Johanna dña de Cobham quonda de dñe Reginaldi Staplebook mulieris que obiit
in die sancti Hilarii epi Anno dñi millimo cccc xxxviii curus aie pñat deus suavit.*



JOHANNA DE LA POLE, LADY OF COBHAM.



Edmund Lord Stafford. It is certain, however, great disputes arose after his decease, but it does not appear the Shirleys were engaged in it, nor did they take the name of Bassett."

Her second husband was Robert de Bradeston, who was living 1350-1. The third, Robert Rigge, living 1357-8. The fourth, Sir Thomas Shirley, who died before 1362. By him she appears to be ancestress to Shirley, Earl Ferrers. The fifth, Sir John de Wodhull, who died 1367-8.

Her sixth and last match is an interesting one as connected with our little history. She married, as his second wife, Sir Gerard Braybroke (fourth of that name, ob. 1403), the father of Sir Reginald Braybroke, the second husband of Joan de la Pole, who was the grand-daughter of her first husband's sister, Margaret Peverel.*

John de la Pole and his wife, Joan Cobham, were buried in the church of Chrishall, a parish in north-west Essex; and of their relationship there we learn:

"The manor of Chrishall was held under Lord Stafford by William and Margaret de la Pole in 1351-58, and in 1399 by the heirs of John de la Pole, from whom it passed to his descendants the Brookes. The exact year of Sir John's death has not been ascertained; his lady died before her father, Lord Cobham, and that barony descended to their only daughter, Joan, and they were both dead in 1389, as Lord Cobham had East Tilbury appropriated to his College at Cobham in that year, to maintain two chaplains to sing for their souls. The time of their deaths, however, would probably not affect the date of the brass, as there is good reason to suppose that it was put down in their lifetime, and perhaps soon after their marriage. Their daughter Joan was born in 1377, and the costume of the figures, and the style of the brass is such as to make it almost a certainty that it was executed about the year 1375, at which time it is probable they also rebuilt the church, as their arms remain on the south door, and many parts of the building are of late Decorated or Transition character."—*Archæological Journal*, vol. iv, p. 338, by Mr. C. J. MANNING.

At this time, 1847, the brass lay in the nave, partly hidden by the seats; the canopy mutilated, and the supporting shafts gone. Of the marginal inscription, only the words "*sa femme priez*" (*his wife, pray ye*) remained, and but one shield, that between the heads of the figures, Pole impaling Cobham, is noted.

The brass now lies in the pavement of the west end of the south aisle. It has been almost completely restored, inclusive of two shields bearing respectively Pole and Cobham over the

* *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, vol. ii, New Series, 1874, p. 61, by Mr. E. W. BRABROOK.

canopy. Nothing has been added to the three words remaining of the original inscription.

The costume of the figures is very similar to that of the lady's father and mother at Cobham—the knight shews the gradual change to plate armour—and the close-buttoned bodice and long dependant lappets of the lady's sleeves are noteworthy. The joined hands is not an unusual attitude found on brasses of that era.

If they did not wholly rebuild the church, as has been surmised, it is probable they added the south aisle, which was apparently a chantry chapel. At its east end in the south wall, under the first window, and in the usual situation of founders' tombs near the altar, is a recessed tomb, with low canopied arch, having sculptured leaf-ornament running round its edge. Within it is the recumbent figure of a lady, in costume almost exactly similar to the lady in the brass. There is no inscription, nor is it known who it commemorates. If a surmise may be hazarded, it may represent Margaret de la Pole (Peverel), the mother of John of the brass; as herself and husband held the manor of Chrishall before their son John. On each side of the doorway of the porch leading into this aisle is a shield, with sculptured bearings—that on the dexter side, although considerably denuded, was evidently charged with the parent coat of De la Pole—(*Argent*) *a fess between three leopards' heads (or)*. The other, in better preservation, De la Pole of Chrishall (*Azure*) *two bars nebulée (or)*.

According to Morant, the manor of Chrisall-Bury was held by Ralph, Lord Stafford, ob. 1372, and his heirs; Thomas, Lord Stafford held it in 1392, as three parts of a fee, and the heirs of John de la Pole under him, and afterward Sir John Harpenden (fifth husband of Joan de la Pole) held it.

Joan de Cobham was married to John de la Pole in 1362, and both were dead before 1389; thus predeceasing her father who died in 1407-8, and leaving one daughter Joan, who at her grandfather's death became Lady of Cobham.

Joan de la Pole,

LADY OF COBHAM, IN KENT.

JOAN de la Pole became Lady of Cobham at her grandfather's death, on 10th January, 1407-8; at the date of which event she had been widow to two husbands, and was married to a third.

Doubtless as a great heiress in prospective, as also of the barony of Cobham, her hand was eagerly sought for, and she was of youthful age when married to her first husband, Sir Robert Hemendale, and after his death in 1391, she was successively wedded to Sir Reginald Braybroke, Sir Nicholas Hawberk, Sir John Oldcastle, and Sir John Harpenden, notices of whom will follow.

As shewn on her brass she appears to have had ten children by her several husbands, six sons and four daughters, but a portion of them, six only, have been assigned to their fathers. A son, *William*, to Sir Robert Hemendale; two sons, *Reginald* and *Robert*, and a daughter, *Joan*, to Sir Reginald Braybroke; a son, *John*, to Sir Nicholas Hawberk; and a daughter, *Joan*, to Sir John Oldcastle.

Little further is known of her. She died in 1433, and was buried in the chancel of the church of St. Mary Magdalen, Cobham, with her ancestors and two of her husbands, and where there is her brass effigy. She is habited in gown with robe over and long dependant coverchief to the shoulders. A little dog with collar and bells sits at her feet. At her right are six sons, and at her left four daughters. Over her head a scroll, "*Jh'u m'cy, Lady help,*" and two other scrolls, one on each side, "*Jhu'-mercy.*" Below this inscription—

*"Hic jacet Johanna d'na de Cobh'm quonda' ux' d'ni Reginaldi
Braybrook militis que obiit in die Sancti Hillary Ep'i Anno
d'ni Millm'o CCCC^o XXXII^o Cuius a'i'e p'piciet'
deus. Amen."*

Arms—six shields—1, Cobham; 2, Cobham impaling Cour-

tenay ; 3, *A fess between six cross-crosslets* (PEVEREL, of Castle-Ashby), and De la Pole, quarterly, impaling Cobham ; 4, Quarterly, Cobham and De la Pole ; 5, Braybroke, impaling Cobham ; 6, Brook, impaling Cobham.

Her death would have occurred on the 13th January, 1433-4. Her only surviving child, *Joan*, by Sir Reginald Braybroke, it was who became Lady of Cobham, and married Sir Thomas Brook, the younger, of Olditch and Weycroft.

Hemendale = De la Pole.

THE first of the five husbands of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham, was Sir Robert Hemendale, or Hemenhale, of a knightly family in Norfolk, both of them being very young at the time of the marriage. She had one son by him named *William*, who died in infancy. His death occurred in 1391, and he was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Morant says "Sir Ralph Hemenhale held the manor of Radwinter Hall, in Essex, and advowson of the church, afterward by Sir Robert, and subsequently by the family of Cobham."

The arms of Hemenhale, of Norfolk, are given as *Argent, on a fess between two chevrons gules, three escallops or*.

Braybroke = De la Pole.

THE second husband of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham, was Sir Reginald Braybroke, the second son of Sir Gerard Braybroke, knt., third of that name, ob. 1403, by his first wife, Margaret, daughter and heiress of John de Lungeville, and widow of Sir Peter Saltmershe. Secondly his father married Isabella Bassett, being the last of her six husbands, already referred to. She died in 1393.

Sir Reginald died 20th September, 1405, at Middleburg, on the Scheldt, in Flanders. He appears to have had three





SIR REGINALD BRAYBROKE.



children by his wife, the Lady Joan: *Reginald* and *Robert*, sons, who predeceased him, and a daughter, *Johanna*, who, of all her mother's five unions and ten children, was finally the only surviving child, and who married Sir Thomas Brook.

Sir Reginald is commemorated by one of the splendid brasses in the chancel of Cobham church. He wears the chain and plate armour of the period, and his two deceased sons stand on pedestals, one on each side.

The inscription reads—

“*Hic iacet d'n's Reginaldus Braybrok Miles filius Gerardi Braybrok Militis ac maritus d'ne Johanne d'ne de Cobh'm heredis dn'i de Cobh'm fundatoris istius Collegii, qui quidem Reginaldus obiit apud Myddelburgh in Flandrea vicesimo die mensis Septembris Anno domini Mill'mo Quadringentesimo Quinto Cuius anime propicietur deus. Amen, AMEN.*”

The inscriptions on his sons' pedestals record—

Hic iacet Reginald' fili' eor'.

Hic iacet Robert' fili' eor'.

The arms are, 1, *Seven mascles voided, three, three, and one* (BRAYBROKE) and Braybroke impaling Cobham.



MIDDELBURG, ON THE SCHELDT, HOLLAND.

The Braybrokes were ecclesiastically connected with Devon. Nicholas Braybroke, presumably uncle to Sir Reginald, was Vicar of Bideford, and he exchanged with his brother Robert for the Archdeaconry of Cornwall, in 1381. He was Canon and Prebendary of Exeter, Bosham, and Crantock; also Canon of St. Paul's, London. He died about 1399-1400. He was also librarian to Bishop Bitton, 1291-1307, mentioned as such at the beginning of Bishop Bronscombe's *Register*.

Robert Braybroke was instituted Vicar of Bideford, 26th July, 1381. The patron was John Grenville (son and heir of Sir Theobald Grenville, deceased), who was married to Margaret, daughter of Ismania Hanham (elder sister of Dame Johanna Brook), by her second husband, Sir John Burghersh.

These brothers, says Dr. Oliver, "were of a noble family in the county of Northampton, founders of our Lady's Chantry, in the episcopal palace of London, adjoining the nave of St. Paul's Cathedral. He (Robert) became Bishop of London, 5th January, 1382, died 27th August, 1404." They were named as executors and administrators to the will of Bishop Grandison, of Exeter.

Hawberk = De la Pole.

THE third husband of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham, was Sir Nicholas Hawberk. His marriage life was of short duration—about two years—as Sir Reginald Braybroke died 20th September, 1405, and Sir Nicholas on 9th October, 1407. One son, John, appears to have been born and predeceased him. Sir Nicholas died at Cowling Castle, the other and older residence of the Cobhams, a few miles distant, near Rochester.

On 19th December, 1396, in succession to Sir John Golofre, deceased, he was appointed Constable of Flint Castle, Sheriff and Raglor, or Steward of Flintshire, and Mayor of Flint borough: offices he held until his death, having been re-appointed by Henry IV, on his accession to the throne; and

was holding them when that monarch made Richard II a prisoner in Flint Castle. Sir Nicholas maintained four men-at-arms and twelve archers within the fortress, at the then considerable annual expense of £146. Subsequently he was one of the six knights forming the train of Queen Isabella, widow of Richard II, on her return to France in 1401. He was also in the escort of Henry IV when he visited Cologne in 1402, to attend Blanche his eldest daughter's marriage with Louis, Count Palatine of the Rhine, Duke of Bavaria.

In the jousting at Smithfield in 1393, Stow records that—

“Sir William Darell, knt., the King's banner-bearer of Scotland, challenged Sir Pierce (Peter) Courtenay, the King's banner-bearer of England, and when they had run certain courses, gave over without conclusion of victory. Then Cookebourne, esquire, of Scotland, challenged Sir Nicholas Hawberke, knt., and rode five courses, but Cookebourne was borne over, horse and man.”

He was twice married: his first wife's name was Matilda, and she was living 1 Henry IV (1399-1400), but nothing is known of her parentage. By deed dated three days before his death, he left all his goods and chattels (except one hundred shillings in silver, which he reserved to Sir Hugh Luttrell and others) in trust for his wife, which was duly confirmed the same year. Nothing is known of his parentage: there is no family of the name, and he was probably “a soldier of fortune.”

His memorial in Cobham Church is considered one of the finest military brasses in existence. The inscription records—

“*Hic jacet d'n's Nicholaus Hawberk miles quondam maritus d'ne Joh'ne d'ne de Cobh'm heredis d'ni Joh'is de Cobh'm fundatoris istius Collegii qui quidem Nicholaus obiit Castru' de Cowling nono die Octobris, Anno domini Mil'mo quadringentesimo septimo. Cuius anime propicietur deus. Amen.*”

Under his son—

“*Hic jacet John's fili' eor'.*”

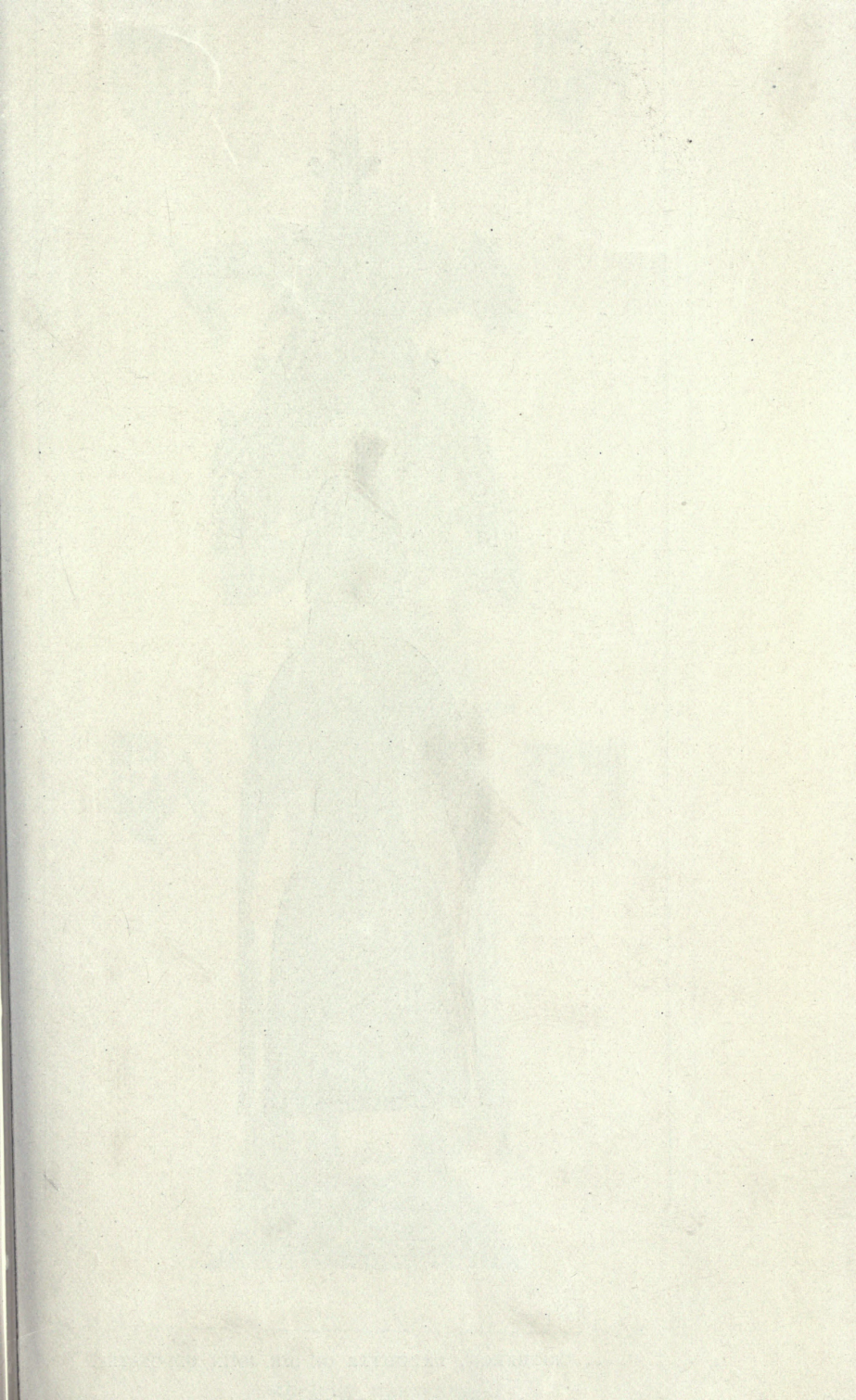
The arms are of an unusual and remarkable blazon—*Checky, argent and gules, a chief champourné gules and or.* His arms in both shields in the brass had been wilfully defaced as if by heralds in the officious exercise of their craft. Hawberk by them was evidently not considered entitled to bear arms.

Oldcastle = De la Pole.

THE fourth husband of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham, was Sir John Oldcastle. He was the son of Sir Richard Oldcastle, a family in Herefordshire, where there is a village so named, but it is presumed that Almeby Castle in that county which belonged to the Oldcastles gave the surname. The name of his mother is not known, but he was born about 1360, and Sheriff of Herefordshire, 7 Henry IV (1405-6). He was thrice married: his first wife was named Katherine, but of what family is not known, of his second nothing at all, except that she bore him four children—a son, Henry, who is alluded to in *Pat.*, 7 Henry VI (1429), wherein he is styled “*Henry Oldcastle, son and heir of John Lord Cobham,*” and three daughters, Katherine, Joan, and Maud.

His marriage with the Lady of Cobham must have taken place before 26th October, 1409, when he was summoned as a Baron to Parliament as Lord Oldcastell, by writ directed to “*Johanni Oldcastell Ch’lr,*” to 22nd March, 1413-4.

The life of Sir John Oldcastle, so well known as “the Lollard Martyr,” and “the good Lord Cobham,” his conscientious conviction, dauntless courage, bitter persecution and cruel death, is one of the best known and strongly contested episodes of English history, and it would be altogether beyond the province or limit of this paper, to give anything like an outline of it, even of ascertained facts. Suffice it to say, after great vicissitudes, he was brought for trial before his clerical accusers, before whom he made what has been termed a clear, manly, courageous, enlightened defence, but as a matter of course was condemned by the Church as a heretic, leaving him to the civil power for judgment. Committed to the Tower, he from thence contrived to escape into Wales, where he hid himself, and for four years remained in comparative safety. Unfortunately a rising of the Lollards took place in London, under Sir Roger Acton, in St. Giles’ Fields, which was sup-





.... CLITHEROW, DAUGHTER OF SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE.

ASH CHURCH, KENT.



SIR JOHN HARPENDEN.



pressed by the King's forces. Naturally—although there was no proof of such—Sir John Oldcastle's name and influence was associated with it: a proclamation and reward of a thousand marks was offered for his capture, dead or alive, and shortly after at Bromiarth, in Montgomeryshire, four tenants of Edward Charletoun, Earl of Powis, discovered and arrested him, after some resistance in which he was grievously wounded, and, continues Mr. Waller—

“He was brought to London, and produced before the Lords of Parliament, the Duke of Bedford presiding, when the former judgment for heresy was recorded against him. On his endeavouring to defend himself, the Chief Justice told him he could not be allowed to waste the time of the Lords, and he was adjudged ‘traitor to God and heretic,’ also ‘traitor to the King and Kingdom,’ and sentenced to be drawn through the city of London, as far as the ‘*novelles furches*,’ in the parish of St. Giles, beyond the Bar of the Old Temple of London, and then be hung and burnt hanging. On Christmas day, 1417, this terrible sentence was carried out. There was an immense concourse of spectators, at the newly appointed place of execution, recently moved from the Elms in Smithfield, to the front gate of St. Giles' Hospital, at that time surrounded by fields, and distant from London. Near the unfortunate Oldcastle stood old Sir Thomas Erpingham, whom he is said to have asked to seek peace for his sect, if he arose from the dead in three days. We must distrust the monkish chronicler, who has words of insult for the unfortunate man in this supreme hour, and there is nothing in the authentic accounts of Sir John Oldcastle to suggest that he was a victim of fanatical delusion.”

Apparently the infliction of this dreadful sentence was intended to have a double significance; he was first hanged as a traitor for his offence against the civil power, and afterward burnt as a heretic in accordance with his condemnation by the ecclesiastical.

The married life of the Lady of Cobham with Sir John Oldcastle was not to be envied, and she could have seen but little of him during its term of about five years, for in 1413 he became a fugitive in hiding, and it is probable she never saw him afterward in the interval before his death in 1417. She apparently had one daughter by him named *Joan*, who died young.

A daughter of Sir John Oldcastle, presumably by his second wife, married Richard Clitherow, Esq., of Ash, near Sandwich, Sheriff of the county of Kent, 4 and 5 Henry IV (1403-4), Admiral of the Seas from the Thames westward. They were buried in Ash Church, where is their memorial, a large flat

stone under the tower, which originally covered a tomb in the chancel. On it is the indent of a fine brass of a man and his wife under a double canopy with pinnacles, four shields at the top, and of six children at the bottom, the border inscription is also gone. Of this once very handsome brass, only the upper half of the lady and part of the canopy over her, remains.

She appears on the right-hand side of her husband, as a widow clad in gown with mantle or cloak over, barbe under the chin, and cover-chief falling to the shoulders. Weever gives this portion of the inscription as remaining in his time: "*Hic jacet Clitherow Ar: & uxor ejus, filia Johannis Oldcastell, qui obiit . . .*"

The shields from recorded evidence appear to have been charged, 1, *Within a bordure engrailed, three covered cups (CLITHEROW) impaling, a Castle triple-towered (OLDCASTLE)*; 2, Clitherow alone; 3, Oldcastle, *quartering, party per pale, a double-headed eagle displayed*. And this appears to be the only surviving memorial relating to Sir John Oldcastle or his family.

With regard to the arms of Sir John Oldcastle, in an indenture made between him and his wife Johanna of the one part, and Sir Thomas Brook on the other (query of the marriage of Johanna Braybroke and Thomas Brook, elsewhere referred to) the seal exhibits *Quarterly, one and four a Castle, two and three Cobham, and was circumscribed with "Sigillum Johannis Oldcastle, D'ni de Cobham."*

His arms are also found in the roof of the cloisters of Canterbury Cathedral, and their blazon is given both as *Argent, a Castle triple-towered and embattled sable*, and *Argent, a tower triple-towered sable, chained, transversed, the port, or*.

Harpenden = De la Pole.

THE fifth and last husband of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham, was Sir John Harpenden. The circumstance of the

dreadful fate of her preceding husband does not appear to have deterred her from again entering the matrimonial state.

He was "of a good knightly family in Hertfordshire," and a Sir John Harpenden—probably his father—is mentioned by Froissart as being of good service in the wars with France, and Seneschal of Bordeaux.

According to Boutell (*Brasses and Slabs*, p. 66) "he married three wives, one of whom was a daughter of Sir John Oldcastle"—evidently a mistake for "the widow." The date of his marriage with the Lady Joan is not recorded, but as she was born about 1377, and Sir John Oldcastle was executed in 1417, she would have been still comparatively young, and lived sixteen years afterward, dying in 1433, and Sir John Harpenden survived her twenty-four years, and died in 1458. There was no issue of this marriage.

Morant, in his *History of Essex*, speaks of Sir John Harpenden holding the manor of Chrishall-Bury in that county, the inheritance that descended to his wife as the only daughter of John de la Pole, and by fine passed it to Thomas Brook (the younger, husband of his step-daughter Joan Braybroke) and that his descendant, George Brook, Lord Cobham, and Ann (Bray), his wife, alienated it by license, 21st October, 1544, to Thomas Crawley, the manor consisting of near a thousand acres of land, twenty messuages, and twenty cottages.

Sir John Harpenden was never summoned to Parliament, and does not appear to have been recognised as Lord of Cobham.

Similar to her first husband Sir Robert Hemendale, Sir John Harpenden was buried in Westminster Abbey. His monument is in the north choir aisle, and consists of a grey marble stone on a low tomb whereon is inlet his brass effigy, habited in complete plate armour: his feet rest on a lion, his head on a helmet with crest—*out of a ducal coronet, a hind's head, coupéd at the shoulders*. There are four shields—1, *on a mullet*, or *estoile of six points, a roundel, thereon a martlet*

(HARPENDEN), impaling, *quarterly*, one and four, Mortimer, two and three, *a plain cross* (ST. GEORGE); 2, Harpenden, impaling, *on a chevron, three mullets or estoiles wavy*; 3, Harpenden impaling Cobham; 4, Harpenden alone. The ledger inscription has disappeared.

The tinctures of the Harpenden arms are given as *Argent, on a mullet of six points gules, a bezant, charged with a martlet sable*; other branches of the family in Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire, bore *the mullet sable*.

The armour and appointments of the knight are almost identical with those found on the brass of Thomas Cheddar, ob. 1442-3, in Cheddar Church.

Cheddar,

OF BRISTOL AND CHEDDAR, AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

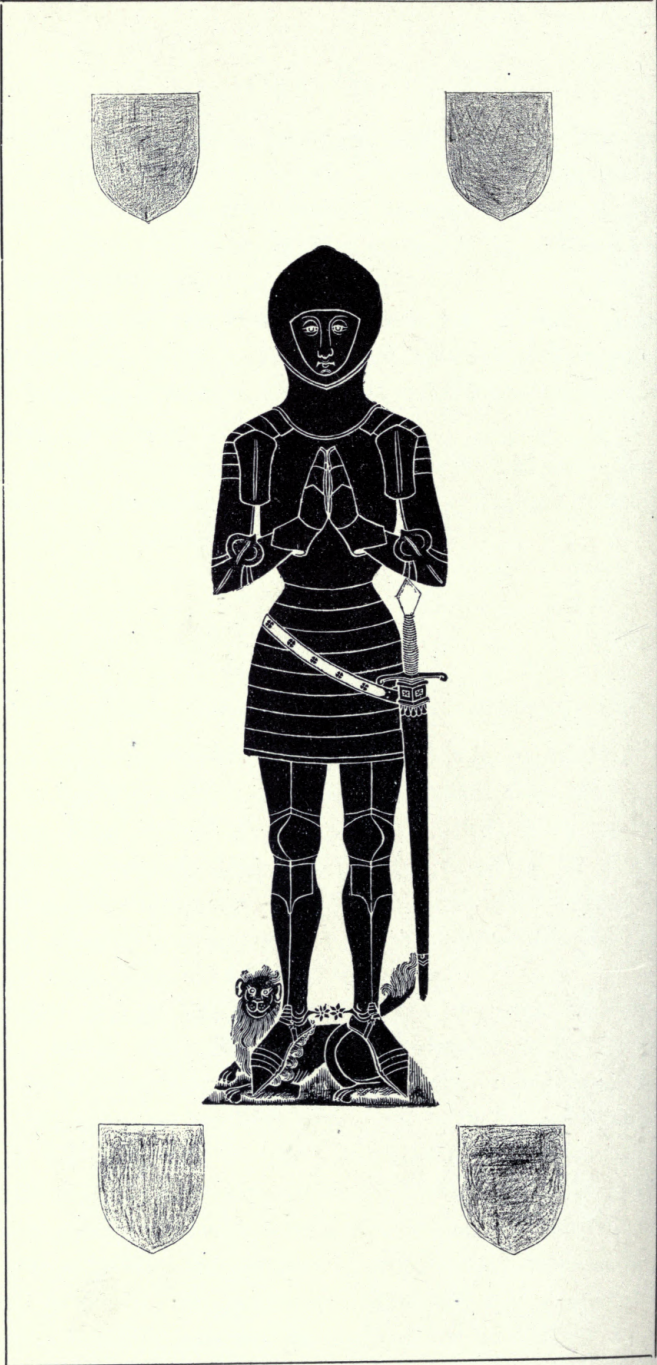
THE antient Somersetshire family of Cheddre, or de Cheddre, it may be fairly surmised, acquired their name from the parish so-called in the centre of that county, although the earliest recorded mention of them comes from the city of Bristol, where it may be inferred they migrated, and after fortune had favoured them to become opulent and influential citizens, again returned to the original home of their race.

The first of these was *John de Cheddre*, who was Steward of Bristol, 1288-9, and 1291-2, and subsequently M.P. for that city in 1298, being the second parliamentary representative of Bristol, whose name has been preserved. To him succeeded a *John de Cheddre*, who, in 1334, conveyed some property in Redcliffe Street, and was probably M.P. for Bristol in 1369.

To these followed two brothers, *Robert* and *William Cheddar*. *William Cheddar*, the younger brother, died without issue. His will is dated 21st November, 1382, and was proved 27th February, 1382-3, wherein he desires to be buried in the Chapel of the Blessed Mary, in Cheddar Church, leaves

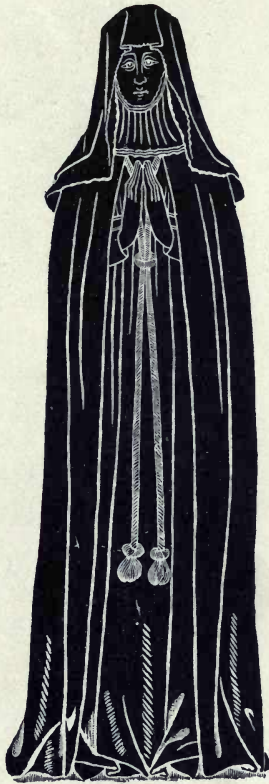
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT



THOMAS CHEDDER.

CHEDDAR CHURCH, SOMERSET.



ISABEL SCOBHULL, WIFE OF THOMAS CHEDDER.

CHEDDAR CHURCH.

sundry legacies to that fabric and religious houses, and donations to the needy poor of Cheddar and Axbridge. The residue of his goods he leaves to *Agnes*, his wife, and appoints his brother Robert one of his executors.

Robert Chedder was Bailiff of Bristol in 1351-2, Mayor in 1360-1, and is the first of the family recorded in existing documents as holding possessions in Cheddar. In 1362, therein described as of Bristol, and executor of William Hussee, he gave a bond to Ralph (de Salopia), Bishop of Bath and Wells, for "two hundred pounds left to the church by the said William." Soon after this a chantry was established in Cheddar Church, of the annual value of ten marks, on behalf of our present King Edward, and the benefit of his soul after death. This was the "Chaurtrie of Oure Lady," and situate on the north side of the chancel, the descendants of Chedder retaining the patronage of the advowson.

Robert Chedder married *Johanna*, younger daughter of *Simon Hannap*, or *Hanham*, of Gloucestershire, and by her had four sons who all appear to have been born in Bristol—*Richard*, on 9th September, 1379, one of the knights of the Shire for the county, 1407, 1413, 1417, 1421, and 1426: *Robert*, 28th October, 1380, and living in 1425: *William*, 14th December, 1381: and *Thomas*, their only surviving son and heir: the other brothers appear to have died without issue.

He survived his brother William one year only, his will is dated 21st March, 1382-3, and proved 30th June, 1384. He desires his body to be buried in the Chapel of St. Mary, *de novo fundata*, gives sundry religious legacies, and to his son Richard "*vj Ciphos vocat' Bolles de argento*," and other plate, to William Draper, clerk, a third best cup, which was then at Cheddar, and the residue of his goods to Joan his wife, who, with William Draper, and William Bierden, were to be his executors.

Robert Chedder and Joan his wife, appear to have been the possessors of considerable property, including the manors of

Iddesleigh and Ashreigny, in Devon, together with the advowson of Ashreigny, in 1383-8, then held by the venerable Sir John de Sully, K.G., whose heir, the said Robert probably was. Sir Thomas Broke presented to Iddesleigh, in 1425-6, and Isabel, relict of Thomas Chedder, Esq., in 1474.

Johanna Chedder, widow of Robert Chedder, married secondly as we have seen, Sir Thomas Brook, of Olditch, and died 10th April, 1437.

Thomas Chedder, heir to his father Robert Chedder, married *Isabel Scobahull*. She was of an antient and important family, who owned and had their residence on a manor so-named in South-Pool, a parish abutting on the mouth of the Kings-bridge estuary, immediately opposite Salcombe, in South Devon. It is now a farm known as Scoble, and tradition states the present farm-house occupies the site of the former manor-house. The Scobahulls held it for about two centuries, from temp. Henry III to Henry V.

Thomas de Scobahull was Sheriff of Devon, 19, 20, and 21 Edward I (1291-2-3). Thomas Scobahull married Margery, sister and coheir of Robert Coffin, of Coffinwell. Thomas had issue Sir Robert, of Coffinwell (19 Edw. II, 1324), who had issue Sir Thomas (7 Edw. III, 1334), who married Edith, daughter of Sir Roger Prideaux, of Orcherton, Knt. (55 Henry III, 1273), by his wife Joan, daughter of Sir William Bigbury (4 Edw. II, 1311). Thomas had issue Robert, which, by Elinor, left four daughters, coheireesses—Joan, wife of William Holbeame; Isabel, wife of Thomas Chedder; Elizabeth, wife of Robert Kirkham; and a daughter—the second—married to Nicholas Speccot, who inherited the manor of Scobahull.

Of the residences of the Chedders, in Cheddar, Rutter (edition 1829) thus notices their remains :

“ At the entrance of the village from Axbridge is a farm house which formed part of the manor house of John de Cheddar. The surrounding wall has been castellated, but the only part of the building remaining tolerably entire is the Hall, now used as a stable and granary, the ornamented chimney-turret, together with fragments of arches and mullions of windows, are lying about in a contiguous garden.

In a field a little on the north-east of the road leading to Wells, about a quarter of a mile from Cheddar, stood the mansion of Thomas Cheddar, where the foundations may be easily traced."

Thomas Cheddar died 1442-3 (*Inq. p. mortem*, 21 Henry VI), holding eighty-four messuages in Bristol, the manor of Cheddar, and several others in Somerset. Also estates in Gloucestershire, Dorset, Devon, and Cornwall. He left two daughters, his coheireses, *Joan* and *Isabel*—his widow, Isabel, survived him more than thirty years.*

On the table of a high tomb, under an elegant floriated canopy, on the north side of the chancel of Cheddar Church, is the presumed brass effigy of Thomas Cheddar, ob. 1442-3. He is in the complete plate armour of the period, whose appointments exactly correspond with those of Sir John Harpenden, ob. 1458 (the fifth husband of Joan de la Pole, Lady of Cobham), in Westminster Abbey. His feet rest on a lion, the four shields and border inscription are gone.

The brass effigy of Isabel Scobahull, his wife, is in the pavement immediately in front of her presumed husband's tomb. She is attired as a widow, with barbe (*under the chin*, shewing she was not of noble parentage or position), large cover-chief that depends to the shoulders, gown with cloak over, fastened across the breast with cordon and tassels. No inscription remains, and three of the four shields are gone, but the remaining one is, fortunately, preserved in its proper position at the sinister corner of the stone, and identifies the lady. It is charged with Cheddar, impaling, *Argent, three fleurs-de-lys gules, in chief a label of three azure* (SCOBAHULL). The arms of Scobahull are also found among the old painted glass collected in the south transept window, both with and without the *label*. She was alive in 1474.

The history of the descent from the two daughters of Thomas Cheddar is interesting, as connected with the county of Somerset.

* For many of these particulars the compiler is indebted to the paper on the Family of Cheddar, by Mr. W. George, in the Som. Arch. and Nat. Hist. Society's *Proceedings*, vol. xxxiv, p. 114.

Talbot = Chedder.

VISCOUNTS L'ISLE.

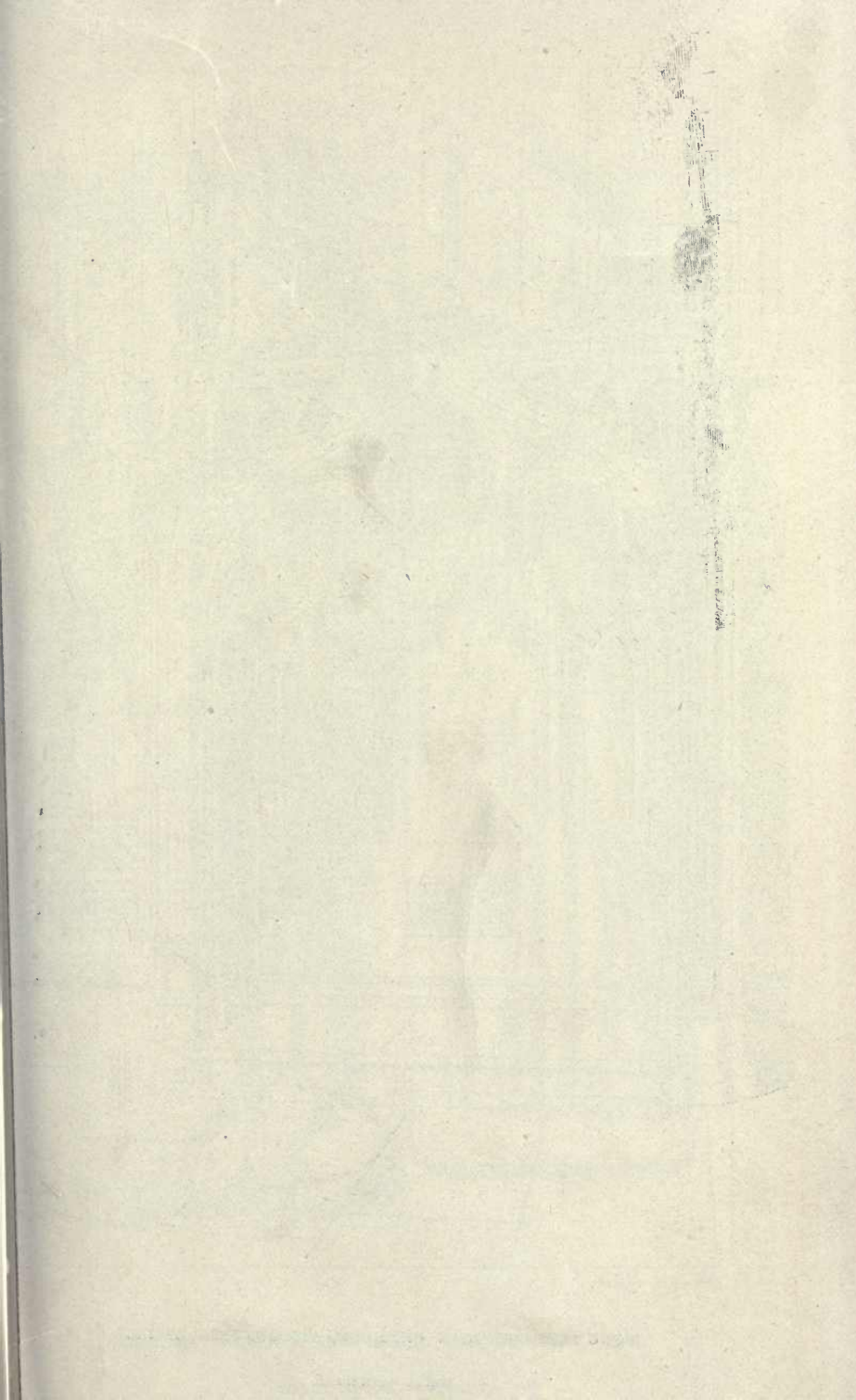
JOAN Chedder, the eldest—called after her grandmother, Lady Brook—was a widow at the date of her father's death, having married as her first husband, Richard Stafford. She secondly made a distinguished match with John Talbot, the eldest son of John Talbot, the "great" Earl of Shrewsbury, by his second wife, Margaret Beauchamp. It will be necessary to trace the descent of this Countess, to account for the disastrous circumstances that resulted in the premature death of her grandson.

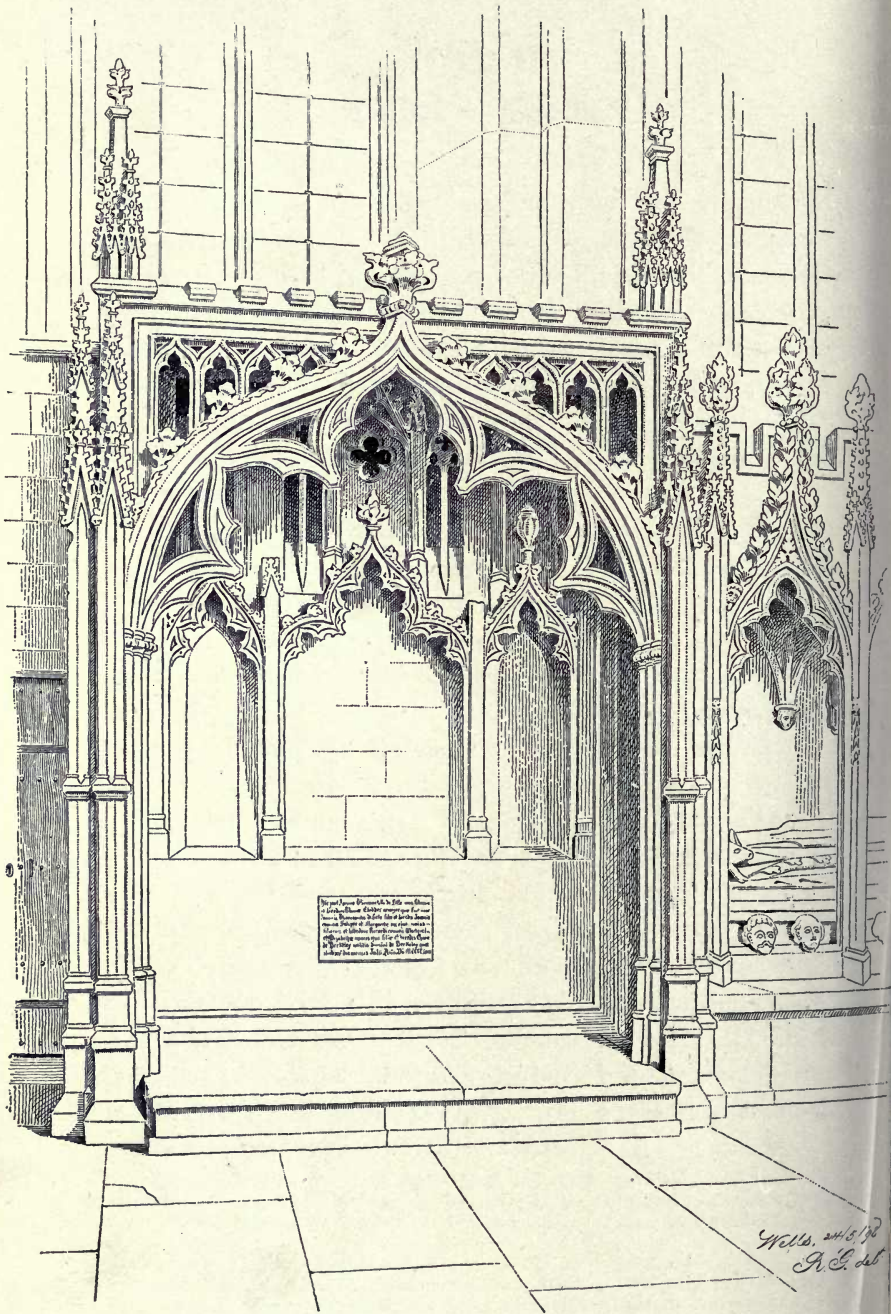
Thomas, fifth Lord Berkley, married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Gerard Warren, second Lord L'Isle—ob. 1381—by Alice his wife, daughter and heir of Henry Lord Tyes, "the marriage being solemnized at Wengrave, in Bucks, the said Lord L'Isle's house." She died at Wotton-under-Edge, 20th March, 1392, "and lieth buried in the church there, under a fair tomb." He made his will in 1415, and died 13th July, 1416, and was buried beside his wife.

They left one daughter, Elizabeth, then about thirty years of age, married to Richard Beauchamp, fifth Earl of Warwick, who died at Rouen, 5th April, 1439 (whose fine effigy is in St. Mary's Church, Warwick) leaving with other issue, his eldest daughter Margaret, who became the second wife of John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, and mother of John Talbot, Viscount L'Isle, who married Johanna Chedder. The Countess died 14th June, 1468, and was buried in the Jesus Chapel in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, "where was this inscription to her memory upon a pillar within it."

"Here before the image of Jesus, lyeth the right worshipful and noble Lady Margaret, Countess of Shrewsbury, late wife of the true and victorious Knight, John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury. Which worshipful man died at Guien for the right of this land.

She was the first daughter and one of the heirs of the right famous and renowned Knight, Richard Beauchamp, late Earl of Warwick (which died at Roan) and of Dame Elizabeth his wife, the which Elizabeth was daughter and heir to Thomas, late Lord Berkley, on his side; and on her mother's side Lady L'Isle and Tyes.





MONUMENT OF JOAN CHEDDER, VISCOUNTESS L'ISLE.



Roscoe Gibbs del.

SIR JOHN NEWTON AND ISABEL CHEDDER, HIS WIFE.

YATTON CHURCH, SOMERSET.



Which Countess passed from this world the fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1468. On whose soul, Jesus have mercy. Amen."

John Talbot, her eldest son, second husband of Johanna Chedder, was created Baron L'Isle, of Kingston L'Isle, a manor and hamlet in the parish of Sparsholt, Berks, an antient inheritance of the L'Isles, then possessed by him, 26th July, 1443, *sibi hæredibus et assignatis*, and afterward, 30th October, 1452, Viscount L'Isle, *sibi et hæredibus masculis de corpore suo*.

He was engaged with his father in the war with France, and we learn that—

"The year next ensuing, his father being then constituted Lieutenant of the Duchy of Aquitaine, and he one of the Captains there under him, he was by indenture retained to serve the King there for one quarter of a year, with two Bannerets, four Knights, seventy-three Men-at-Arms, on horseback, and eight hundred Archers on foot, receiving for himself six shillings *per diem*, for his two Bannerets four shillings apiece, for his seven Knights two shillings, for the Men-at-Arms twelve pence, and for the Archers sixpence apiece."

And there with his father, the Earl, he was destined to die, under circumstances similar to the unfortunate Bonvilles, although not engaged in internecine strife (that fate was reserved for his son), but sustaining the fame of English valour in a neighbour's territory, for he was slain with his father at Chastillon, July, 1453. "The Earl of Shrewsbury," Dugdale narrates—

"Hearing that the French had besieged Chastillon he advanced thither and gave them battle, but the event of that day's work (though for a while it stood doubtful) at length proved fatal to the English, for this renowned General being smitten from his horse by a cannon bullet there ended his life, whereupon his whole army became presently routed."

And as to his son John Talbot's death, Rapin thus notices it—

"The English overpowered by numbers began to give ground. The Earl of Shrewsbury was wounded in the thigh by a musket ball, and had his horse killed under him. In this condition not being able by reason of his wound to remount, he bid Sir John Talbot, his son, to retire, and save himself for another occasion, where he might be still serviceable to his country. But Talbot rather than basely fly, chose to die by the Earl, his father, who also presently after resigned his breath."

Dugdale thus gives the Earl's epitaph as occurring at Whitchurch, in Salop, to which church his body was conveyed and buried, and where his effigy is still found, but with no inscription remaining—

“Orate pro anima prænobilis domini, domini Johannis Talbot, quondam Comitis Salopæ, domini Furnivall, domini Verdon, domini Strange de Blackmere, et Mareschalli Franciæ. qui obiit in bello apud Burdews, vij Julii, MCCCCLIII.”

It is not recorded whether the body of his son was also brought to England for burial.

Johanna Chedder, the Viscount's widow, survived him just eleven years, dying 15th July, 1464, and was buried in Wells Cathedral.

The monument assigned to her is in the south transept. It is very handsome, and consists of a low tomb, under a high ogee canopy, originally richly painted and gilded, but is now greatly tarnished and injured, and was almost concealed from view, until early in the present century, by being plastered up, which obstruction was then removed. The inscription is on a square brass plate at the back of the canopy, and has the appearance of being of later date than the monument, although Leland saw and copied it within a century of the date of her death. It contains the following :

“Hic jacet Joanna Vicecomitissa de Lisle una filiarum et hæredum Thomæ Chedder armiger quæ fuit uxor Joannis Vicecomitis de Lisle filii et hæredis Joannis Comitis Salopiæ et Margaretæ ux' ejus unius filiarum et hæredum Ricardi Comitis Warwici et Elizabethæ uxoris ejus filiæ et hæredis Thomæ de Berkeley militis domini de Berkeley, quæ obiit XV^{mo} die mensis Julii Ann' D'i MCCCCLXIII.”

Apparently there was a high tomb beneath the canopy of this monument, which has been removed. This is evidenced by the niches at the back, now devoid of sculpture, which terminate at about the height where the table of the tomb would meet them. The lettering on the brass plate is of comparatively modern form, and the inscription preserved from Leland's description, who copied it from the original tomb, then in existence, and which was afterward probably destroyed when the monument was mutilated and plastered up.

There were three children, *Thomas*, son and heir, and two daughters, *Elizabeth* and *Margaret*.

Thomas Talbot, son of John Talbot and Johanna Chedder, second Viscount, at his father's death was committed to the tuition of his grandmother, Margaret, Countess of Shrewsbury, twenty marks *per annum* being allowed for his maintenance during his minority. At her death she left him the manors of Wotton and Simondsall, with the borough of Wotton, and much other property. He was then nineteen years of age and married. His wife was Margaret, daughter of William Herbert, first Earl of Pembroke, the unfortunate commander of the Yorkists, executed at Northampton by the Lancastrians after the battle of Danesmore, in 1469, where he was defeated owing to the defection of Humphrey Stafford (of Suthwyke), Earl of Devon, who deserted him immediately before the engagement with his contingent of archers, and for which act of treachery, Stafford was beheaded at Bridgwater soon after, and his body buried in Glastonbury Abbey Church, under the central tower.

This unfortunate young man, like his father and grandfather before him, was fated to meet his death in sanguinary conflict—not fighting the adversaries of his native country abroad, but in a deadly family broil at home.

The origin of the feud appears to have arisen over the question (which has been diligently investigated by historians of the peerage, and apparently never satisfactorily settled) as to whether the Barony of Berkley, created by writ of summons 23 Edw. I (1295), descended as such, or otherwise whether the tenure of the Castle of Berkley conferred the Barony, on which, William Lord Berkley, then in possession of it, founded his claim and assumed the title.

The young Viscount L'Isle was the lineal descendant of his great great-grandmother, Elizabeth, only daughter of Thomas, fifth Lord Berkley, and the controversy was, whether it devolved on the said Elizabeth, instead of the heir male, an intricate question: but James Berkley, nephew of the above Thomas, "inherited by special entail and fine the Castle of

Berkley, etc., and was summoned to Parliament from 1421 to 1461," while the last of his three wives was Joan Talbot, daughter of John, Earl of Shrewsbury, by his second wife, and so aunt to the young Viscount, still further complicating matters. William Lord Berkley was the eldest son and heir of James by his second marriage.

Dugdale gives this description of the conflict—

"But it was not long after (the death of his grandmother) ere this young Viscount L'Isle arrived at his full age, and thirsting after the Castle of Berkley, practised with one Thomas Holt, the Keeper of Whitby Park, and one Maurice King, Porter of the (Berkley) Castle, to betray it into his hands; one Robert Veel (the Viscount's Engineer) being likewise an active person in that design, giving bond to Maurice King in the sum of an hundred pounds that so soon as the work should be accomplished he should be make Keeper of Wotton Park, with the fee of five marks per annum during his life."

Then appeared the inevitable traitor—

"But this plot being discovered by Maurice King, so much perplexed the Viscount L'Isle, that he forthwith sent this Lord Berkley a challenge requiring him of "*Knighthood and manhood to appoint a day, and meet him half-way, to try their quarrel and title, to eschew the shedding of Christian blood, or to bring the same day the utmost of his power.*" This letter of challenge under the hand of that Viscount was sent 19th March, 10 Edw. IV (1471), he being then not fully twenty-two years of age, having sued out his livery upon the fourteenth of June before, and his wife then with child of her first-born. Unto which Lord Berkley returned this answer in writing: '*that he would not bring the tenth man he could make, and bid him to meet on the morrow at Nybley Green, by eight or nine of the clock, which standeth on the borders of the Livelode that thou keepest untruly from me.*'

Whereupon they accordingly met and the Viscount's vizor being up, he was slain by an arrow shot through his head."

A striking picture of the barbarity and lawlessness of the age, this wager of battle, literally fighting it out to the death, rather than having recourse to the peaceful, if more prosaic, process of law, and followed by the usual seizure and confiscation of the personal property and landed possessions of the vanquished.

"After which (the very same day) the Lord Berkley advanced to Wotton, and rifling the house, took thence many writings and evidences of the said Viscount's own lands, with a suit of arras hangings, wherein his arms, and the arms of Lady Joan, his mother (daughter and coheir of Thomas Chedder), were wrought, and brought them to Berkley Castle.

To this skirmish came divers from Bristol, Thornbury, the Forest of Deane, and other places, to the number of about a thousand, which exceeded what the Viscount brought.

But the business did not so end, for the widow of the Viscount L'Isle brought her appeal against this William Lord Berkley, and against Maurice and Thomas his two brethren, for thus killing her husband, with an arrow through his head, and a dagger in his left side."

The exact cause of the Viscount's death is said to have been by an arrow shot through his mouth. The appeal of his widow appears to have been unsuccessful, for the recovery of the property, it being decided that Lord Berkley should enjoy the manor of Wotton-under-Edge, etc., paying to the said Viscountess Margaret, a hundred pounds a year out of the same.

This William Lord Berkley was a great favourite of Edward IV, who created him successively, Viscount Berkley, Earl of Nottingham, Earl Marshall of England, and Marquis of Berkley. He died in 1491-2, leaving no surviving issue, and disinherited his brother Maurice for marrying lowly, leaving the Castle of Berkley to King Henry VII, and it remained with the Crown until the decease of Edward VI, the last male descendant of Henry VII, when it returned to the Berkleys.

The controversy over the disputed property was again revived by Sir Edward Grey, who married Elizabeth, the unfortunate Viscount's sister, but the Berkleys finally retained possession of it, on payment of a comparatively small annuity.

The widowed Viscountess is said by Burke to have afterward married Sir Henry Bodrugan, of Bodrugan (Castle), in St. Gorrán, Cornwall. If so, it must have been the Sir Henry Bodrugan (otherwise Trenowth) "an opulent knight," and large landed proprietor in Cornwall, a zealous Yorkist, of whom Lysons relates that—

"He was attainted on 1485, on the accession of Henry VII, fled to Ireland, and his larger estates, including the Manor and Barton, were siezed by the Crown. Tradition relates, that he was in arms in Cornwall, against the Earl of Richmond, that he was defeated on a moor not far from his own castle by Sir Richard Edgcumbe and Trevanion, and that he made his escape by a desperate leap from the cliff into the sea, where a boat was ready to receive him."

The victors of course received the usual spoil, the defeated man's possessions, which cost the generous monarch for whom they fought, nothing.

"Most of Bodrugan's estates, including this manor, were granted to Sir Richard Edgcumbe. Borlase describes the remains of the castle as very ex-

tensive, that there was nothing in Cornwall equal to it for magnificence. There was chapel converted into a barn, the large hall, and an antient kitchen with timber roof, the architecture about the time of Edward I. All these buildings were pulled down about 1786. A great barn still remains."

Elizabeth, second daughter of John Talbot, Viscount L'Isle and Joan Chedder, married Sir Edward Grey, brother to Sir John Grey, second Lord Grey of Groby. By this alliance she became sister-in-law to Elizabeth Widville, afterward Queen to King Edward IV, and aunt to Cicely Bonville, the great heiress of Shute, a few miles distant from Olditch.

On the death of her brother Thomas, Viscount L'Isle, without issue, she became with her sister Margaret his co-heiresses, and in them also the barony of L'Isle remained in abeyance.

Margaret married Sir George Vere, knt., and died without issue, in 1471. After her death the title was revived in Sir Edward Grey, the husband of Elizabeth, and he was created by Edward IV, in 1475, Baron L'Isle, and 28th June, 1483, Viscount L'Isle.

There were four children: John, Ann married to John Willoughby, Muriel, and Elizabeth.

Muriel married first Edward Stafford, second Earl of Wiltshire, grandson of Humphrey, first Duke of Buckingham. He died without issue, 24th March, 1499, when the earldom became extinct. His fine tomb and effigy are in Lowick Church, Northamptonshire. Secondly, she married his first cousin, Henry Stafford, younger son of Henry, second Duke of Buckingham, and in him Henry VIII, in 1509, revived the title of Earl of Wiltshire. There was no issue by this marriage, her husband survived her, and married secondly as her second husband, Cicely Bonville of Shute, widow of the Marquis of Dorset. He died in 1523.

John Grey, her son, second Viscount L'Isle of that creation, married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk.

He died in 1512, leaving an only daughter Elizabeth. She

was contracted in marriage with Charles Brandon, afterward Duke of Suffolk, and he was in consequence on 5th March, 5 Henry VIII (1514), created Viscount L'Isle, but when she became of age, she refused to have him, and the patent was cancelled. She soon afterwards married Henry Courtenay, the unfortunate Marquis of Exeter (of Colcombe), as his first wife, but died without issue before 1526, leaving her aunt, Elizabeth Grey, her father's surviving sister as her heir. The Marquis married secondly Gertrude, daughter of William Blount, fourth Lord Montjoy, ob. 1535, to whose grandson Charles Blount, eighth Lord Montjoy, K.G., created Earl of Devon, James I subsequently gave Olditch and Weycroft, after the attainder of Henry, the last ill-fated Lord Cobham.

The wardship of Elizabeth, the surviving daughter of the before-named Sir Edward Grey, had been obtained by Edmund Dudley, the rapacious minister of Henry VIII, and he subsequently married her, but was attainted and beheaded by Henry VIII on Tower Hill, 28th August, 1511. There were four children, John, Andrew, and Jerome, and a daughter Elizabeth, married to William, sixth Lord Stourton.

John, their eldest son, only eight years old at his father's death, was restored "in name, blood, and degree," and inherited all his father's property; but his life was a troublesome one, notwithstanding his honours and ambition, and ended at last like his father's, on the scaffold. In him the Viscounty of L'Isle was again revived, the antient dignity of his mother's family, on 12th March, 1542, the year following the death without male issue of his step-father, Arthur Plantagenet, who had been so created. He became the well-known Duke of Northumberland, who together with his son, Lord Guilford, and his wife, the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey, all perished successively at the headsman's block.

A further and distinguished alliance awaited Elizabeth Grey, the widow of Edmund Dudley, and grand-daughter of Johanna Chedder. She married secondly Arthur Plantagenet, natural

son of King Edward IV, by the Lady Elizabeth Lucy. He was installed Knight of the Garter, and created on 26th April, 1533, on surrender of that dignity by Charles Brandon, Viscount L'Isle.

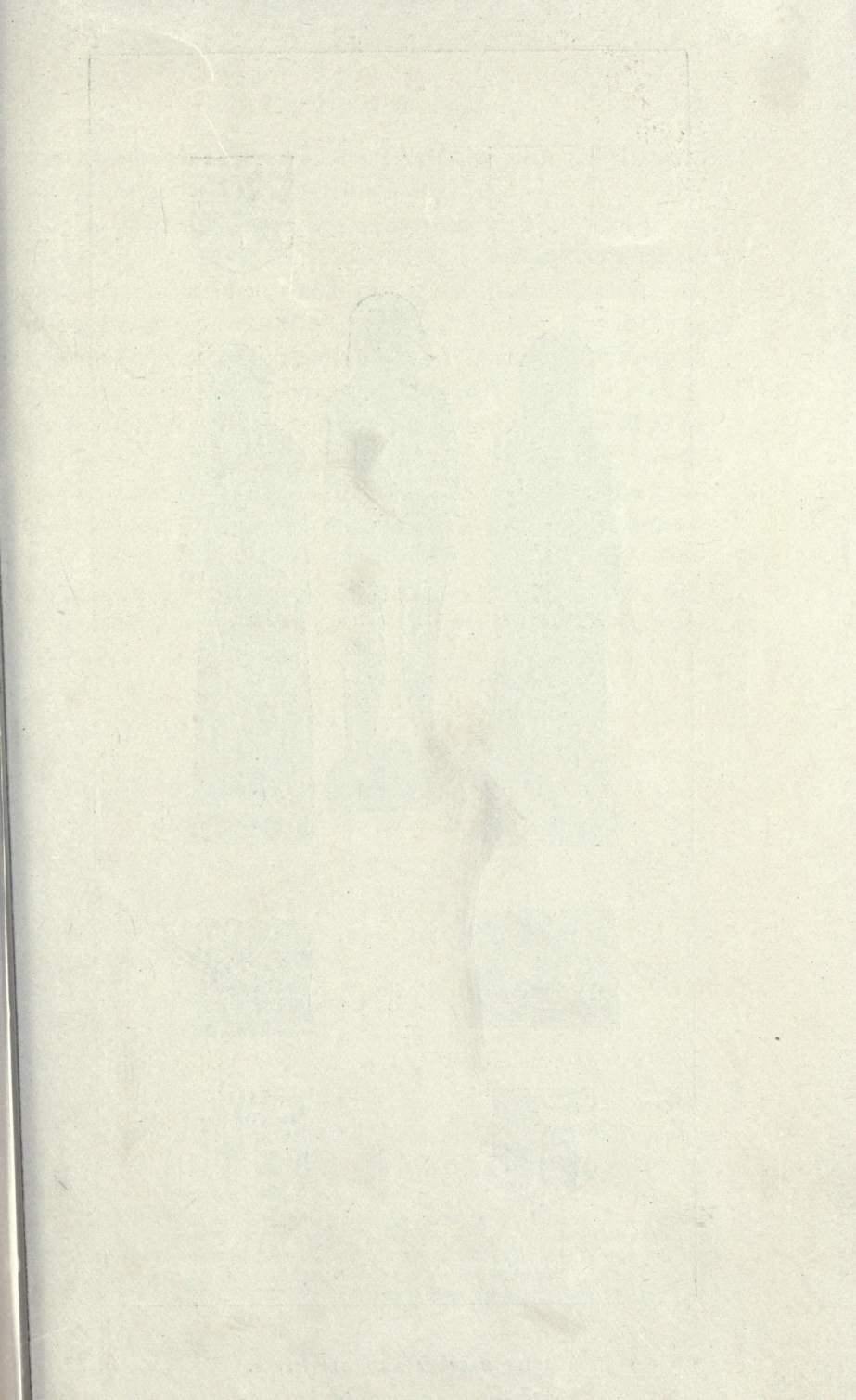
In Risdon's *Note Book*, it is stated that "he was knighted at Turney," and is included among the Devonshire peers as "Arthur Plantaginet, Viscount Lisley, of Umberley," in Devon, with the arms—Quarterly, first and fourth, England quartering France, second and third; *or, a cross gules, over all a bendlet sinister sable.*

His death, although happening in an indirect manner, must include him among the victims that perished in the blood-stained reign of Henry VIII.

"In 1533, he was Lieutenant of Calais, and sometime after incurring suspicion of being privy to a plot to deliver the garrison to the French, he was recalled and committed to the Tower; but his innocence appearing manifest upon investigation, the King not only gave immediate orders for his release, but sent him a diamond ring, and a most gracious message, which made such an impression on the sensitive nobleman that he died the night following, 3rd March, 1541, of excessive joy."

Three daughters and co-heirs only, were the issue of this marriage, Bridget, Frances, and Elizabeth. Bridget married Sir William Carden; Elizabeth, Sir Thomas Jobson; Frances, the second daughter, by both her marriages found her home in Devon.

Her first husband was John Basset, of Umberleigh, in North Devon. He was the eldest son and heir of Sir John Basset, Knt., of Umberleigh, Sheriff of Devon, 1524-5, died 31st January, 1539, by his first wife Honor, daughter of Sir Thomas Grenville, Knt., ob. 17th March, 1513, whose tomb and effigy are in Bideford Church. The brass of himself, his wives, and their twelve children is in Atherington Church; he is bare-headed, but otherwise in full armour; his wives, Honor Grenville, and Ann, daughter of John Dennys, of Orleigh, in pedimental head-dresses, gowns with full sleeves guarded with fur, and girdles with dependant chains and





JOHN BASSETT AND HIS WIVES.

ATHERINGTON CHURCH, DEVON.

pomander balls. The arms are Basset quartering Willington and Beaumont, impaling Grenville and Demmys.*

John Basset, the first husband of Frances Plantagenet, was Sheriff of Cornwall, 1518 and 1523, and died 20th April, 1541. There were two children, a son described on an adjoining tomb as "*the Worshipful and Worthy Sir Arthur,*" perished of gaol fever after the Black Assizes at Exeter, in 1586, and a daughter married to William Whiddon.

Secondly, she married Thomas Monke, of Potheridge in Merton, North Devon (as his first wife), ob. 1583, by whom she had three sons and three daughters. By her eldest son she was great-grandmother of George Monke, the "Restoration" Duke of Albemarle.

Thus through this long and intricate genealogy are interesting local associations constantly interwoven, and the strain of Chedder perpetuated.

Newton = Chedder = Brook,

OF YATTON AND EAST HARPTREE.

THE descent from Isabel, second daughter of Thomas Chedder and Isabel Scobahull, and grand-daughter of Lady Johanna Brook, of Olditch, by her first husband Robert Chedder, although not so distinguished as her elder sister, is nevertheless most interesting in connection with our little history.

Presumably—for there is some obscurity in the early published pedigrees of Newton—it was Frances Newton, a descendant of Thomas Newton, brother to Sir John Newton, the husband of Isabel Chedder, who was destined to become the second wife of William Brook, K.G., fifth Baron of

* It may be noted here that the series of brasses illustrating this account have all been engraved from rubbings specially taken and completed by the author and are fac-similes; as also the views of Olditch and Weycroft from photographs taken by him; and for three of the other illustrations that bear his initials, to the kindness of Mr. Roscoe Gibbs, from his original drawings.

Cobham, and mother with seven other children of Henry Brook, K.G., the sixth and last unfortunate Baron of that descent, so cruelly used by James I, as also of his brother, George Brook, who perished on the scaffold at Winchester, 5th December, 1603, for alleged participation in what was termed "Raleigh's conspiracy."

Isabel Chedder married Sir John Newton, who was the eldest son of Sir Richard Newton, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, by Emma, daughter of Sir John Perrot, of Islington.

The Judge and his wife are buried in the Court-de-Wyck Chapel, or north transept of Yatton Church, under a high tomb, whereon are their effigies in alabaster, originally painted and gilded, and displaying fine examples of the legal and social costume of the age. The Judge wears a long red robe with tippet and hood, collar of S.S., a narrow jewelled belt from which depends a short sword, and scrip or purse, on his head a coif, pulled down over the ears and tied under the chin, a fringe of hair shewing over the forehead. There is great expression in the features indicating a powerful mind, and is probably a portrait. His head rests on a helmet with crest of Newton (or Cradoc), *a wheat sheaf issuant from a ducal coronet*, both gilded. Several rings are on his fingers, and one on the thumb of the right hand. At his feet two dogs. The lady in rich robes and a profusion of massive jewellery, with rosary, at her feet a dog with collar and bells.

There is no inscription, underneath are angels bearing shields, the bearings denuded, but they appear to have been Newton, *Or, on a chevron azure, three garbs of the first*, and Newton quartering Perrot, *Gules, three pears pendant or*, and those of his ancestor, Nicholas Sherborne, *Ermine, four fusils in fess sable*. He was admitted Sergeant-at-law, 1424; Judge on Circuit, 1426; Recorder of Bristol, 1430; Justice of the Common Pleas, 8th November, 1438, and died soon after. He appears to have left two sons, John and Thomas.

Sir John Newton, the eldest, in right of his wife, appears to have been of Court-de-Wyck, in Yatton, a manor originally belonging to the de Wycks, or Wykes, from them to the de Gyenes, and from them to the Chedders, and to have built or rebuilt the mansion there, on which were his arms, with those of his wife, and also of Norris. From the similarity of the details of the portions preserved of Court-de-Wyck, now at Clevedon Court, which are given as the frontispiece of Rutter's *Somerset*, and those found on Yatton Church, together with apparently the arms of Sherborne impaling Chedder on the fine south porch, it is probable they were considerably interested in the rebuilding of that edifice, in addition to the construction of the "New Chapel" of St. John, east of the north transept in which they were interred.

According to the *Visitations*, 1531-73, they appear to have had one son *Richard*, ob. 1501, who married Elizabeth St. John, and they had issue two daughters, *Isabel*, who married Sir Giles Capel (buried at Abbots-Roothing in Essex, 1613), and *Joan* to Sir Thomas Griffin, of Braybrook, to whom Court-de-Wyck ultimately descended.

"His will was proved 20th April, 1487; for his burial in Yatton Church, £6 8s. 8d., this good man also directed twenty shillings to be paid to his tailor in Bristol, and the document ends thus—'In witness of this my effectual and last will, I have hereto put my seale in this church of our Lady of Yatton.'

His widow, Isabel, died in 1498, she made her will, 14th March, 1498-9, and ordered her executors, 'to find a well disposed priest to sing for my soul within the Church of Yatton, and the new Chapel of St. John, during the space of five years.' She also bequeathed six shillings and eight pence in money, 'for the poor prisoners of Newgate in the town of Bristowe.'⁵⁵ (Som. Arch. and Nat. History Society's *Proceedings*, vol. xxvii).

They were both buried under a splendid tomb in this new Chapel or Chantry of St. John the Evangelist, which is situate in the angle between the north transept and the chancel. It is on the north side, or Founders place, of the Chantry altar, and consists of a fine canopy flanked by buttresses richly pinnacled, and with niches. Across the top a string-course studded with square four-leaved ornament, and above a trefoil pierced cresting. Below are ten large niches with rich canopies, in one the lower portion of the figure

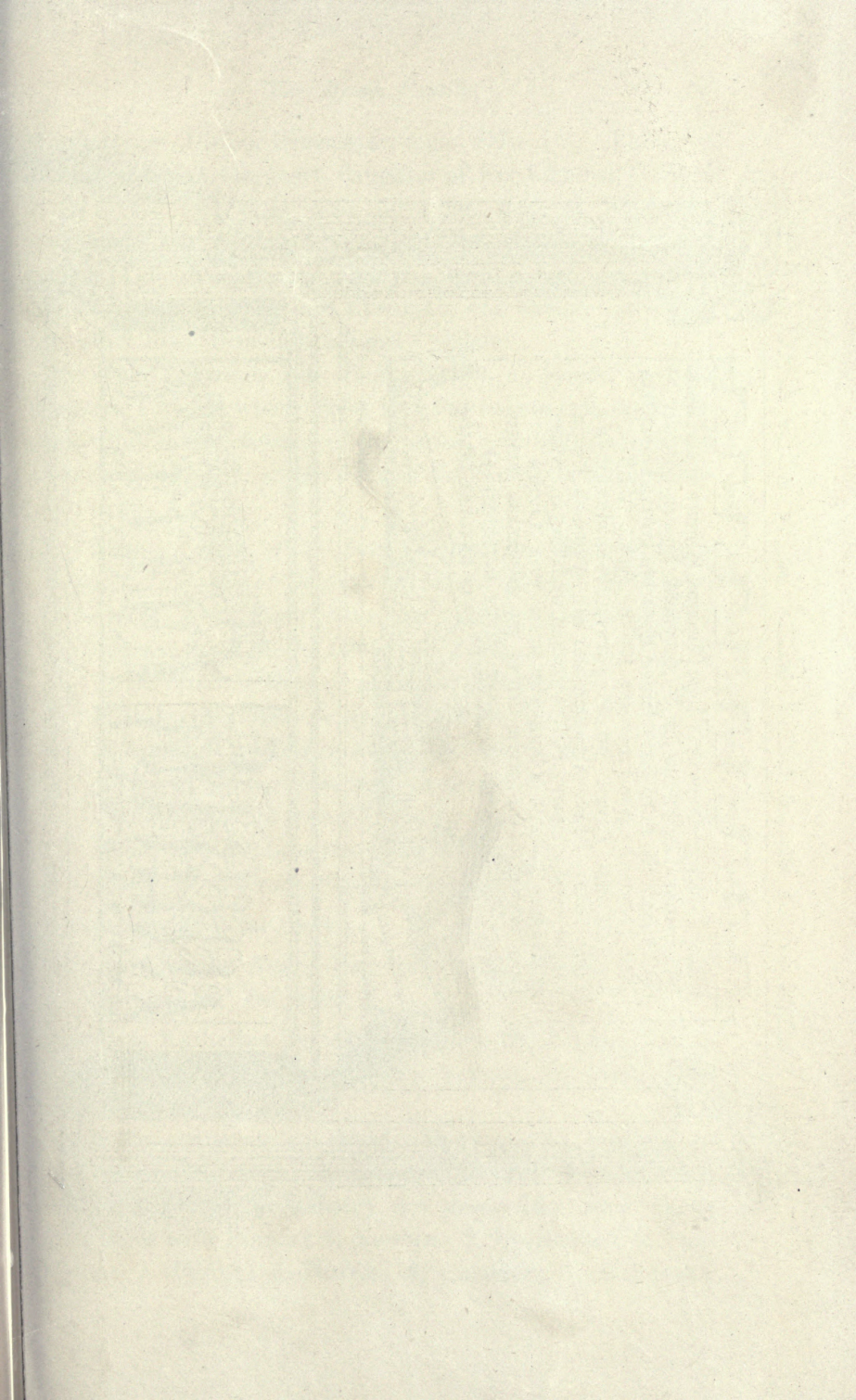
remains. These are succeeded by another string-course with four-leaved ornament, below which a pierced and cusped canopy of open work enriched with leaf-work and bosses.

At the back of the canopy over the effigies is a remarkable sculpture of the Annunciation. The Virgin crowned, sits on a cushion before a lily, rising from a vessel with a handle, and above the lily flowers, from clouds, issues a beam of light ending in a dove streaming toward the Virgin, and behind her is a book-stand with a book on it. She has her hands raised and extended, as if surprised at her devotions by the angel on the other side of the lily, who, advancing towards her, holds a long scroll (emblematic of the angelic salutation) which surrounds the stem of the lily, and floats back over the head of the angel, who wears a cap with a band round the brow studded with roses, and in front rises a Maltese cross.

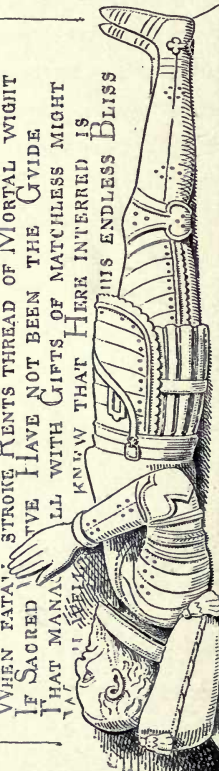
The knight is bare-headed, but otherwise in complete plate armour, he wears the collar of S.S., and his head rests on a helmet with the crest of Newton. The lady wears a pyramidal head-dress with flowing front lappets, and has a band or collar of rich jewellery round the neck.

Thomas Newton, second son of the Judge was of East Harptree. The manor of East Harptree belonged to a family of that name, the last of whom William Harptree had a daughter and heiress Ellen, who married Robert Gourney, the son of Sir Anselm Gourney, whose descendants "lived at the noble Richmonte Castle at Harptree, now in ruins." His great-grandson, Sir Thomas Gourney, was the father of the redoubtable Sir Matthew (of Stoke-sub-Hamdon) and three other sons, who all died without issue, and a daughter Joan, married to Philip Caldicott, whose daughter Alice, married Philip, the son of Richard Hampton and Elizabeth Bitton. Their grand-daughter Lucy, ob. 1504, married Thomas Newton, who thus succeeded to the manor.

Thomas Newton and Lucy Hampton had a son Thomas, who married Joan, daughter and heiress of Sir John Barr, of



HERE LIETH Y^e BODY OF S^r JOHN NEWTON KNIGHT WHO MARRIED
 MARGARET DAUGHTER OF S^r ANTHONY POINTZ KNIGHT
 BY WHOME HE HAD ISSVE EIGHT SONS AND TWELVE DAUGHTERS
 AND DEPARTED THIS LIFE THE 10th OF APRIL 1568
 IN ASSURED HOPE OF A JOYFVL RESVRRECTION
 WHAT MERIT HONOR BRINGS AND ALL WORLDS PRIDE
 WHEN FATA^l STROKE RENTS THREAD OF MORTAL WIGHT
 IF SACRED W^oVE HAVE NOT BEEN THE GUIDE
 THAT MANA^g LL WITH GIFTS OF MATCHLESS MIGHT
 Y^e KNOW THAT HERE INTERRED IS
 HIS ENDLESS BLISS



Barr's Court, Bitton, Gloucester, temp. Edw. IV. Their son Thomas married Margaret, daughter of Sir Edmond Gorges, of Wraxall, and their son Sir John married Margaret, daughter of Sir Anthony Pointz, of Iron-Acton, Gloucester, by whom he had twenty children, eight sons, and twelve daughters, one of whom was Elizabeth, who became the second wife of William Brook, fifth Lord Cobham.

Sir John Newton, who died in 1568, is buried in East Harptree Church, where there is a fine monument, on which is his effigy in the costume of the period, and below him kneel his twenty children; at the back of the canopy is this inscription:—

Here Lieth ye Body of Sr John Newton, who Married Margaret, Daughter of Sr Anthony Pointz, Knight, By Whome he Had Issue Eight Sons, and Twelve Daughters, and Departed this Life the 10th April, 1568.

*In Assured Hope of a Joyfull Resurrection.
What merit Honour brings and all World's Pride,
When fatall stroke Rents thread of Mortal wight;
If Sacred Vertue Have not been the Guide
That manag'd all with Gifts of matchless might?
Which well hee knew that Here interred is,
Whose Vertues rare Proclaime his endless Bliss.*

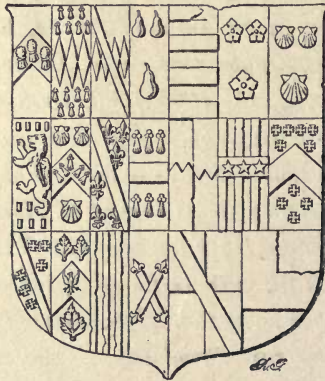
And on the end of the tomb:—

Katharina Newton, Nuper Vxor Henrici Newton Extruît Hoc Tumulum An' Do', 1605.

This was Katherine Paston, daughter of Sir Thomas Paston of Norfolk, and wife of Sir Henry Newton, ob. 1599, eldest son and heir of Sir John.

Over the monument is a shield with twenty quarterings, interesting as illustrating the descent of Newton (including Chedder, although presumably not descending from them) and alliance with Pointz: 1, Newton; 2, Sherborne; 3, Pennington; 4, Perrot; 5, Norris; 6, Chedder; 7, Hampton;

8, Bitton; 9, Furneaux; 10, *Between three leaves, on a chevron an eaglet displayed*; 11, Gourney; 12, Harptree, impaling 1, Pointz; 2, Bardolf; 3, *Three escallops*; 4, Acton; 5, Clambow; 6, Berkeley; 7, Fitz-Nicholl; 8, *Per fess, and a canton sinister*. Above is the crest of Newton, a *King of the Moors, clad in mail, and crowned or, kneeling and delivering up his sword*, allusive to an exploit of their maternal ancestor, Sir Anselm Gourney, at the "winning of Accom," temp. Rich. I.



ON THE MONUMENT AT EAST HARPTREE.

Succeeding Sir Henry was Sir Theodore, ob. 1608, who married Penelope, daughter of Sir John Rodney, of Rodney-Stoke, who was succeeded by his son, Sir John, the last of the Newtons of Barr's Court, who married Grace Stone, was created a Baronet, 16th August, 1660, died *sine prole*, and was buried in Bristol Cathedral.

Brook = Newton,

BARON OF COBHAM.

FRANCES Newton was married to William Lord Brook, 29th February, 1559-60, and died 17th October, 1592; her husband, 6th March, 1596-7. "She was constituted one of Queen Elizabeth's ladies of the Bedchamber, with great and quaint ceremony at Westminster in the presence of the Queen herself. Her Majesty also stood sponsor for her first-born, a son called Maximilian, who however died at Naples in 1583." (*Waller*).

He erected in 1561, in Cobham Church, the splendid tomb with alabaster effigies, to his father George Brook, K.G., fourth Baron, ob. 1558, and mother Anne, daughter of Edmund, Lord Bray; their fourteen tabarded children kneel below, and among them is William Brook.* An escutcheon at the west end has twenty-seven quarterings, the impalement of twelve thereof being for his second wife Frances Newton, among them the sixth quarter is Chedder; the crest, *a Saracen's head*, the ancient crest of Cobham. At the east end is his father's escutcheon, quartering Bray—crest, *a lion passant, crowned*, with the motto JE · ME · FIE · EN · DIEV.

George Brook, third son of George Lord Cobham, ob. 1558, and brother to Frances Newton's husband, came into Devonshire for a wife. "He appears," says Mr. Waller,

"In his parent's magnificent tomb, kneeling on one knee, and his tabard shews Cobham impaling Duke (of Otterton, Devon), *parted per pale argent and azure, three wreaths counterchanged*. He was born 27th January, 1532-3, was sent abroad with a tutor, and studied Greek, Latin, and Italian with him at Venice, 1545-6. Returning to England, he was apprenticed to his father (his father was Deputy of Calais), 31st December, 1552, as Merchant of the Staple of Calais in the usual form, (Sir) George Barnes (Haberdasher), Lord Mayor of London, (William Gerard and John Maynard) the Sheriffs being witnesses. And this is all that can be said of him, except that in 1561, he took refuge at Antwerp, from his German creditors. He married Christina, daughter and heir of Richard Duke of Poerhayes, Otterton, Sheriff of Devon 1565, died 8th September, 1572, by his first wife, Elizabeth Franke, of York. She appears to have been previously married, for as joint administratrix to her father she is described as Christian Sprente *alias* Duke."

This match is recorded in the *Visitations* for Devon.

* The tomb was terribly mutilated, and the brasses injured, restorations of both were made at the cost of F. C. Brooke, Esq., of Ufford, carried out under distinguished authorities and documentary evidence, and completed 1865-6."—*Waller*.

Brook,

OF ILCHESTER, OLDITCH AND WEYCROFT ;
BARONS OF COBHAM.

A SHORT notice in continuation of their descent, may be included.

I. SIR THOMAS BROOK, KNT., the younger, who married JOAN DE LA POLE-BRAYBROKE, Lady of Cobham, and previously noticed, was succeeded by his son *Edward*.

II. SIR EDWARD BROOK, KNT., summoned to Parliament as a BARON, from 1445 to 1462, was a firm adherent to the House of York ; at the battle of St. Alban's, 1445, and Northampton, 1460. He married ELIZABETH, daughter of James Tuchet, Lord Audley, died 1464, leaving a son *John*.

III. SIR JOHN BROOK, KNT., summoned as a BARON, 1472 to 1511. Was at the coronation of Richard III ; employed by Henry VII in an expedition to Flanders ; and helped to defeat the Cornish insurrection on Blackheath, in 1497, where his cousin Lord Audley was taken prisoner and afterward executed. He married first ELEANOR, daughter of *Austell*, of Suffolk, and secondly ELIZABETH, daughter of *Edward Nevill, Lord Abergavenny* ; she died 30th September, 1506 ; he died 9th March, 1511-2. Both buried at Cobham, where there is a fine brass to his memory. Weever gives this inscription :—

“ Hic jacet Johannes Broke miles ac Baro Baronie de Cobham ac domina Margareta uxor sua quondam filia nobilis viri Edouardi Nevil nuper Domini de Burgaveny, qui quidem Johannes obiit die mens' Septemb' Ann' Dom' 1506, quorum animabus Amen.”

He was succeeded by his son *Thomas*.

IV. SIR THOMAS BROOK, KNT., summoned as a BARON, 1515 to 1523. Was at the siege of Tournay ; the “ battle of Spurs,” in 1513 ; made a Knight Banneret by the King, 1514 ; and at the “ Field of the Cloth of Gold,” 1520. He married, first, DOROTHY, daughter of Sir Henry Heydon, by whom he

had thirteen children; secondly, DOROTHY SOUTHWELL, a widow, and thirdly, ELIZABETH HART, who both died without issue. He died 19th July, 1529, buried at Cobham where is his brass, the last of the remarkable series of these memorials there. Weever gives the following inscription:—

“*Orate pro anima Tho' Broke militis Domini de Cobham consanguinei et heredis Richardi Beauchampe militis, qui quidem Thomas cepit in uxorem Dorotheam, filiam Henrici Heydon militis; et habuerunt exitum inter eos, septem filios, et sex filias, et predicta Dorothea obiit . . . et predictus Thomas cepit in uxorem Dorotheam Southewel viduam, que obiit sine exitu; et postea cepit in uxorem Elizabetham Harte et habuerunt nullum exitum inter eos; qui quidem Thomas obiit 19 Julii, 1529.*”

He was succeeded by his son *George*.

V. SIR GEORGE BROOK, KNT., summoned as a BARON, 1529 to 1557. Attended with his father at the marriage of the Princess Mary with Louis XII, in France, 1514; knighted in the French war by Earl of Surrey, 1522; one of the Peers at the trial of Anne Boleyn, 1536; in the expedition against the Scots under the Earl of Hertford, 1546; Deputy of Calais, and K.G., 1549. Obtained large grants of ecclesiastical lands, including the manor of Chattingdon, and the college of Cobham. One of the four laylords at the trial of the Protector Somerset, and constituted in 1551, Lieutenant-General of the forces sent to the north. Although he acquiesced in Queen Mary's Proclamation, he was considered implicated in Sir Thomas Wyatt's treason (which his younger son Thomas had joined), and was with his son William committed to the Tower, but whose pardon with others “was extorted from the Queen by the Council.” He entertained Cardinal Pole on his progress at Cowling Castle, in 1555, and the year following was on the Commission to “enquire about heretics.” He married ANNE, daughter of *Edmund Lord Braye*, by whom he had ten sons and four daughters. She died 1st November, 1558, and he deceased 29th September, 1558: were both buried at Cobham, where his son and successor *William*, in 1561, erected the magnificent tomb to his memory, whereon are the effigies of

himself and wife, and below them their fourteen children kneel around.

VI. SIR WILLIAM BROOK, KNT., summoned as a BARON, 1558 to 1593. Lord-Warden and Chancellor of the Cinque Ports, Constable of Dover, and Lord-Lieutenant of Kent, 1558 to 1596. In November, 1558, was sent to Brussels to announce to King Philip of Spain, the death of his Consort, Queen Mary; and again in 1578 and 1588, was on an embassy to the Spanish Governor of the Netherlands. Entertained Queen Elizabeth at Cobham Hall during her progresses in 1559 and 1573. Privy Councillor and K.G., 1585; Custos of Eltham Palace, 1592; and Lord Chamberlain a short time before his decease, which took place 6th March, 1596-7. He added greatly to Cobham Hall, refounded Cobham College for the good of the poor, and was a great patron of literature. In 1572, was one of those committed to the Tower for participating in the designs of the Duke of Norfolk, regarding his marriage with Mary, Queen of Scots, and made a discovery of the whole affair, in the hope of attaining his own pardon.

He married first, DOROTHY, daughter of *George Lord Abergavenny*, who died 22nd September, 1559, and by whom he had an only daughter, Frances; and secondly to FRANCES, daughter of *Sir John Newton*, of East Harptree, who died 17th October, 1592, and by whom he had (1) *Maximilian*, (2) *Henry*, his successor, (3) *George*, executed at Winchester for alleged participation in Raleigh's conspiracy, (4) *William*, (5) *Elizabeth*, (6) *Frances*, (7) *Margaret*. He died in 1596, and was succeeded by his second son, *Henry*.

VII. SIR HENRY BROOK, KNT., summoned as a BARON, 1597, and K.G., 1599; died in 1619. A notice of this unfortunate man, the last of the Brooks, and also of the Barons of Cobham, in Kent, of the original creation which was by writ in 1313, will be subsequently given.

Brook,

OF HECKINGTON, BARON OF COBHAM.

SIR JOHN BROOK, KNT., styled "of Heckington, in the county of Lincoln," was the son of *Sir Henry Brook*, ob. 1591, of Sutton-at-Hone, Kent (who was the fifth son of George Brook, fourth Baron of Cobham, ob. 1558), by his wife Anne, ob. 1612, daughter of *Sir Henry Sutton*, of Notts. He was raised to the peerage as a BARON by Charles I, 3rd January, 1645, "to enjoy that title in as ample a manner as any of his ancestors, and to have the same place and precedency," save that the remaindership was limited to heirs male. He married first, ANNE . . . buried 23rd February, 1625, at Kensington; secondly, FRANCES, daughter of *Sir William Bamfield*, by whom he had a son, *George*, who died in infancy; she was buried in 1676, at Surfleet, co. Lincoln. He appears to have been a weak-minded man, similar to his cousin Henry, and described as a worthless spendthrift, who dispersed the family estates. He died *sine prole*, and was buried 20th May, 1660, at Wakerley, in Northamptonshire.

Temple,

OF STOWE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

VISCOUNTS AND BARONS OF COBHAM.

DESCENDING through a succession of distaffs from *Margaret* (daughter of William Brook, fifth Baron of Cobham, ob. 1597), wife of *Sir Thomas Sondes*, ob. 1592, of Throwley, Kent; SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, BART., of Stowe, Buckinghamshire, ob. 1749; was on the 19th October, 1714, created BARON COBHAM,

of Cobham, in Kent; and on 23rd May, 1718, was re-created a BARON with the same title, and also VISCOUNT COBHAM, with remainder to his sisters, *Hester Grenville* and *Christian Lyttelton*. The titles subsequently, through Hester Grenville, merged in the Earldom of Temple, and Dukedom of Buckingham.

Cowling Castle,

IN KENT.

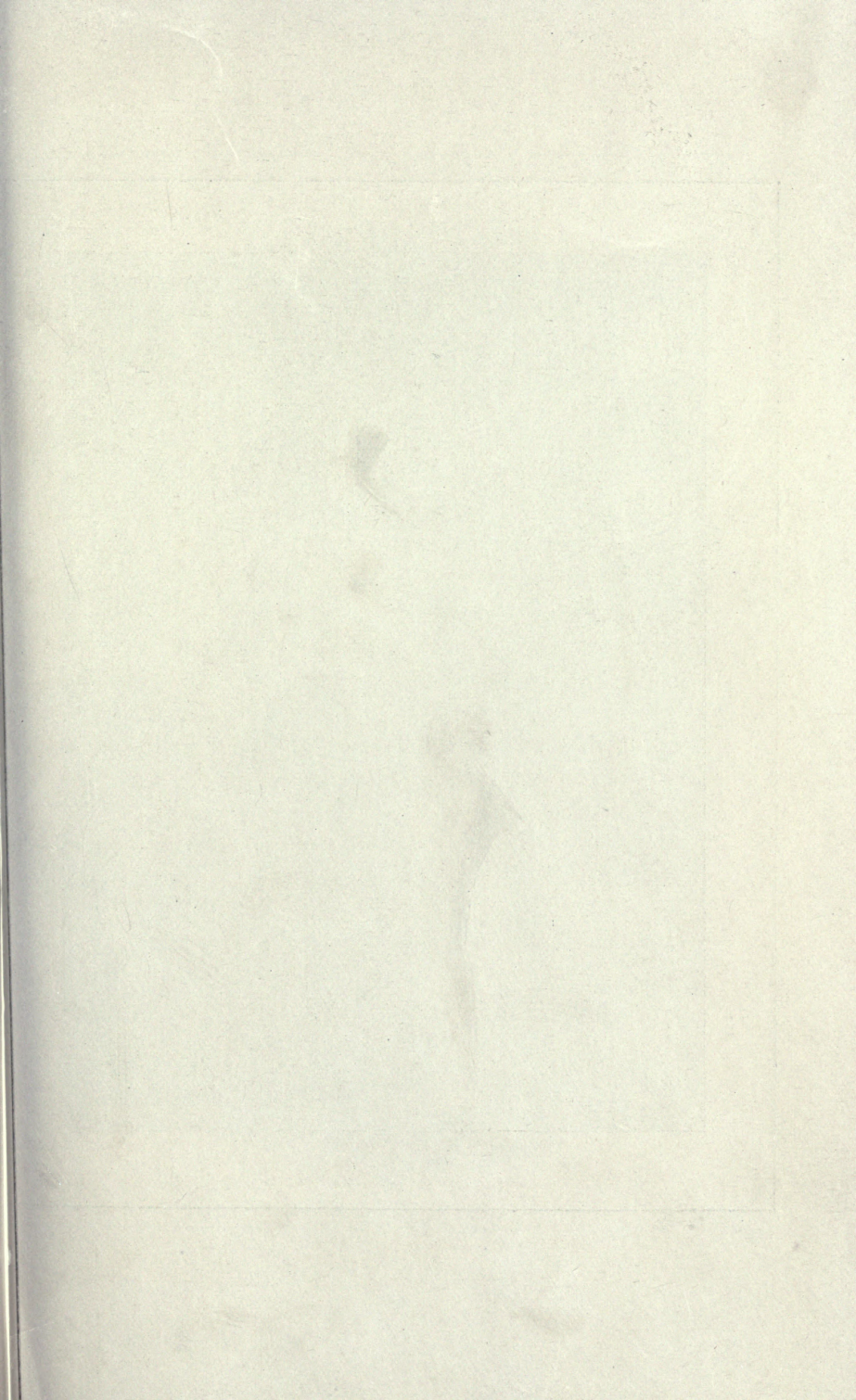
THIS was the original seat of the Cobhams in Kent, and situate in the parish of Cowling, near Rochester. The manor was acquired by them temp. Henry III, 1216-72, and the manor house was erected by John de Cobham, the founder, temp. Richard II, and he obtained that King's license to crenellate it, 2nd February, 1380-1.

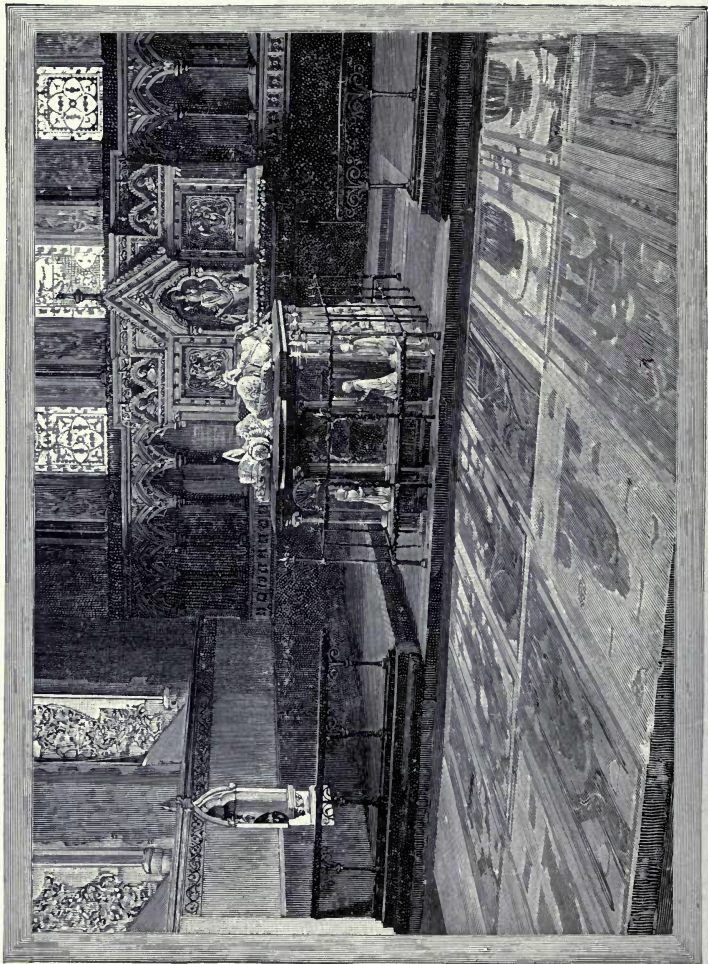
“It was of large size, and the two wards or courts, cover nearly eight acres of ground, and considerable remains still exist. The outer gate towers are forty feet high, and the gateway altogether fifty feet wide, and other large portions of the buildings, and flanking towers, attest the original strength and size of the structure, which was enclosed by a moat fed from the Thames.”

It seems to have been the principal residence of the Cobhams, Joan de la Pole, the grand-daughter of its builder, appears to have lived here, for her third husband, Sir Nicholas Hawberk, died here in 1407, and her fourth husband, the unfortunate Sir John Oldcastle, took refuge here, until arrested by order of King Henry IV, with an armed force, in 1413.

But the most remarkable event in its history was—

“Its assault and capture by Sir Thos. Wyatt, 30th January, 1554, who had married the sister of its then possessor, George Brook, Lord of Cobham and Cowling. Wyatt had a large force with him with artillery, and the attack lasted from eleven in the morning until five in the afternoon, when Brook capitulated, as he had only a few men of whom four or five were killed and others wounded. Although he had been made promise to join Wyatt the next







THE QUADRANGLE, COBHAM COLLEGE.



day, as soon as Wyatt's back was turned, Brook despatched a messenger to Queen Mary giving her an account of the whole affair, superscribed with '*hast, hast, post hast, with all dyligence possible, for the lyfe, for the lyfe,*' for well he knew the jeopardy of his relationship to Wyatt, and what was likely to be made out of it. It did not avert the Queen's displeasure, for he and his sons were sent to the Tower. where the name of his younger son, Thomas, still appears carved on the wall of the Beauchamp Tower—'*Thomas Cobham, 1553*'—but they did not remain long, intercession was made for them and they were released in March, 1553-4. It is probable Cowling Castle was seldom afterward occupied as a residence, and suffered to fall to decay." (Waller).

It is now a ruin of considerable size.

Cobham Hall,

AT COBHAM, IN KENT.

It is not known when this fine structure was begun, nor the style or size of the original building. Of what at present appears, it is probable the two last Brooks, Barons of Cobham, erected the north and south wings between 1584 and 1603, but Henry, Lord Cobham apparently never completed the original house, previous to his attainder. The date on the north porch, shewn in the engraving, is 1594.

On 13th August, 1613, James I granted to his relative, Ludovic Stuart, second Duke of Lenox and Richmond, ob. 1624, Cobham Hall, and some of the forfeited estates. James Stuart, fourth Duke of Lenox, employed Inigo Jones to complete the main portion of the structure between the wings, and was probably the first of his race that resided within it.

Subsequently it descended to the Earls of Darnley, who made important additions and alterations to the edifice, finishing it as it now appears. Built of red brick with white stone dressings, the array of large windows, flanking turrets, and its great size, forms a splendid and picturesque structure, surrounded by an extensive park.

Henry Brook,

THE LAST LORD OF COBHAM.

ALTHOUGH the story of his misfortunes, or rather tragedy of fate, that waited on Henry Brook, tenth and last of the Barons of Cobham, and hereditary possessor of Cobham Hall, is now correctly known through the able investigations and research of Mr. Waller, from whom the following account is derived, a short reference to them here, as the closing scene of the Brooks, and connected with their west-country associations may not be out of place.

“He was the second son of Sir William Brook, ninth Lord Cobham (by Frances Newton, of Harptree), and Maximilian the eldest having died young, he succeeded to the barony on the death of his father, in 1596-7, being then thirty-two years old. No one could have entered life with more brilliant prospects. In his blood were represented many noble and historic names. The vast estates of the family had been constantly on the increase, and an addition had been made to them by Queen Elizabeth in 1564 of St. Augustine’s Abbey, at Canterbury. At her Court, indeed, the lords of Cobham were in high favour, and she had honoured his father, Sir William, on two occasions with a visit to Cobham Hall, where she was entertained with much magnificence. Without any great ability, and still less personal character, he nevertheless fell in naturally, as it were, to those honours which his ancestors had engaged. In 1597 he was made Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, an office of much importance in those days. He was installed on St. Bartholomew’s day (1598) at Canterbury, “at which ceremonious solemnities were assembled almost 4000 horse, and he kept the feast very magnificently, and spent 26 oxen with all provision suitable” The following year he was installed Knight of the Garter, as his father and grandfather before him, and here his honours and good luck, seem to have culminated.”

Then came his marriage, and with it arose the first little cloud in the golden horizon of distinction that surrounded him.

“So great a favourite of fortune, and yet in his prime of youthful manhood, it will not be a matter of wonder, that the ladies of the Court considered him as a matrimonial prize. The prize fell to Frances, daughter of Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham, and widow of Henry, Earl of Kildare. She was a warm-hearted woman, but of strong passions, and a violent temper, yet there is no doubt she had conceived for Lord Cobham a powerful affection. It did not take place until 1601, and does not appear to have been one of good omen, for it is thus alluded to in a letter of the time—‘The Lord Cobham hath married the Lady of Kildare, but I hear of no great agreement.’ It was not a happy marriage, but the union was destined to be soon abruptly dissolved.”

The cloud gradually, but at last surely and rapidly spread, and the remainder of his history simply becomes one of misfortune and misery.

“In this age of Court intrigue and political plotting, Lord Cobham and Sir Walter Raleigh (who had been his father’s friend) took the same side. They were both the enemies of the unfortunate Earl of Essex. At the attack upon Essex House in 1601, Lord Cobham took part, and afterwards sat as one of his peers at the trial, little thinking then how soon his own turn was to come. It is extremely probable that this enmity to Essex was the shadow cast before, a warning to the event fatal to himself. Between Essex and James of Scotland a warm friendship subsisted, and when the latter ascended the throne of England, the enemies of that nobleman soon felt his displeasure.”

The last and great misfortune was now at hand.

“James was no sooner upon the throne than there arose those plots against him which to comprehend or unravel is one of the most difficult tasks in English history. In the phraseology of the time, they were known as the Treasons of the Bye and the Main, the Priests’ Treason (or the Surprising Treason) and the Spanish Treason. It was the Treason of the Main, or Spanish Treason, in which Lord Cobham and Sir Walter Raleigh are said to have plotted, and if we are to believe his accusers, the latter was the soul of the conspiracy.

The Priests’ Treason, so called from two Catholic priests, Watson and Clarke, said to have been its promoters, was to surprise the person of the King. In this George Brook, Lord Cobham’s brother, Sir Griffin Markham, and Lord Grey of Wilton, were joint actors, and Lord Cobham was said to be privy to it. As before mentioned, Cobham and Raleigh were the actors in the Main or Spanish Treason. These unfortunate men were tried and found guilty, and Raleigh’s trial, from the eminence of his character, and also from the able defence which he made, has excited mostly the attention of historians. We cannot rise from its perusal without a sentiment of disgust, and a feeling that it remains a blot upon our history.”

Then came the punishment awarded these unfortunate men.

“The two priests suffered the extremity of the law with all its attendant barbarities, and George Brook, his brother, was beheaded at Winchester.”

But one of the most extraordinary punishments on record, for its studied cruelty, was that practised on Lord Cobham and his two companions.

“The Lords Cobham and Grey, and Sir Griffin Markham, were, one cold morning in November, 1603, brought upon the scaffold at Winchester Castle, Sir Walter Raleigh looking on from the window of his prison; and after being severally played with, as the pike when hooked by the angler, with the bitterness of death before their eyes, they received the commutation of their sentence. Those who have read James’s letter to the Council, wherein he glorifies himself on his royal mercy, and have also read the narrative of an eye witness of the scene enacted on the scaffold, will understand and appreciate his character.

We have now to state their fate. Sir Griffin Markham was banished the realm, and died abroad. The young Lord Grey died after eleven years confinement in the Tower, his high spirit utterly crushed. Sir Walter Raleigh’s fate is well known. Posterity will ever regard his execution as a crime.

Henry Brook and Sir Walter Raleigh were conducted back to the Tower, 16th December, 1603, and henceforth Lord Cobham, like most unfortunate men condemned to imprisonment for life, became as one dead to the outer world.”

But what became of the immense Cobham possessions, of

which Olditch and Weycroft formed a comparatively small portion? These of course were all confiscated, although there was a difficulty in the way, and a legal one, for they were entailed—this however was soon surmounted and over-ridden by cruel subterfuge and other despicable means, and the estates seized and distributed by the magnanimous James to his favourites in various ways. A strong contrast this which befel the fate of the possessions of the *last* Baron of Cobham, to that which attended, under similar circumstances, the possessions of the *first* Baron, John de Cobham, when attainted in the reign of Richard II, sentenced to death, as a traitor, and his estates confiscated. Then, as previously described, in the sentence “there was a saving of entail, showing the jealousy of Parliament over estates that might otherwise pass into the hands of the Crown.” No such patriotic caution appears to have animated the government of James, the sycophants of whose Court were evidently only too ready to further the illegal proceeding, in the hope afterward to share the spoil.

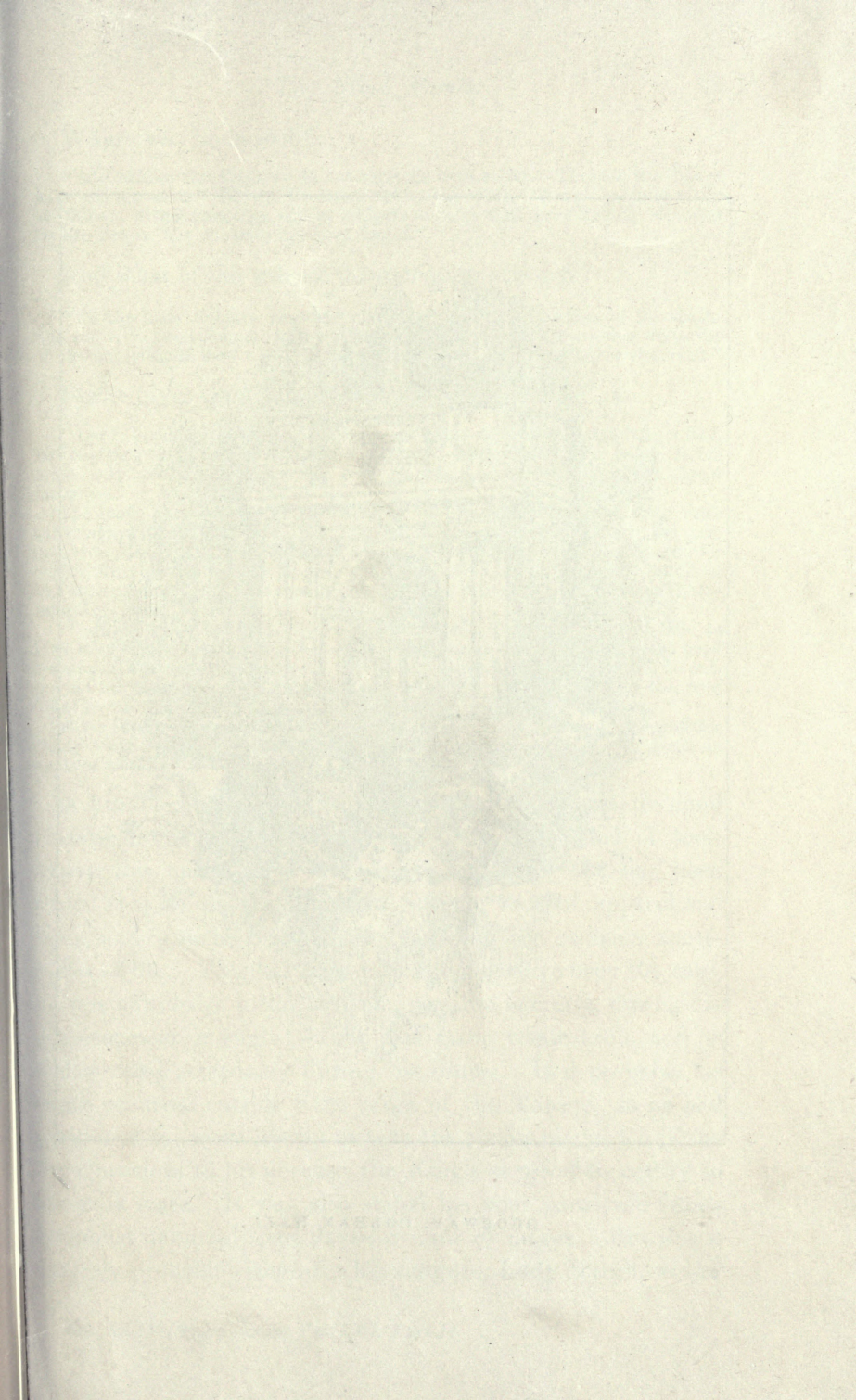
In addition to this confiscation, all his honours were forfeited, and to complete the contumely and ruin heaped on him he was “degraded” from being a Knight of the Garter, and his achievement as such taken down and cast out from his stall in St. George’s Chapel, Windsor, 16th February, 1603-4.

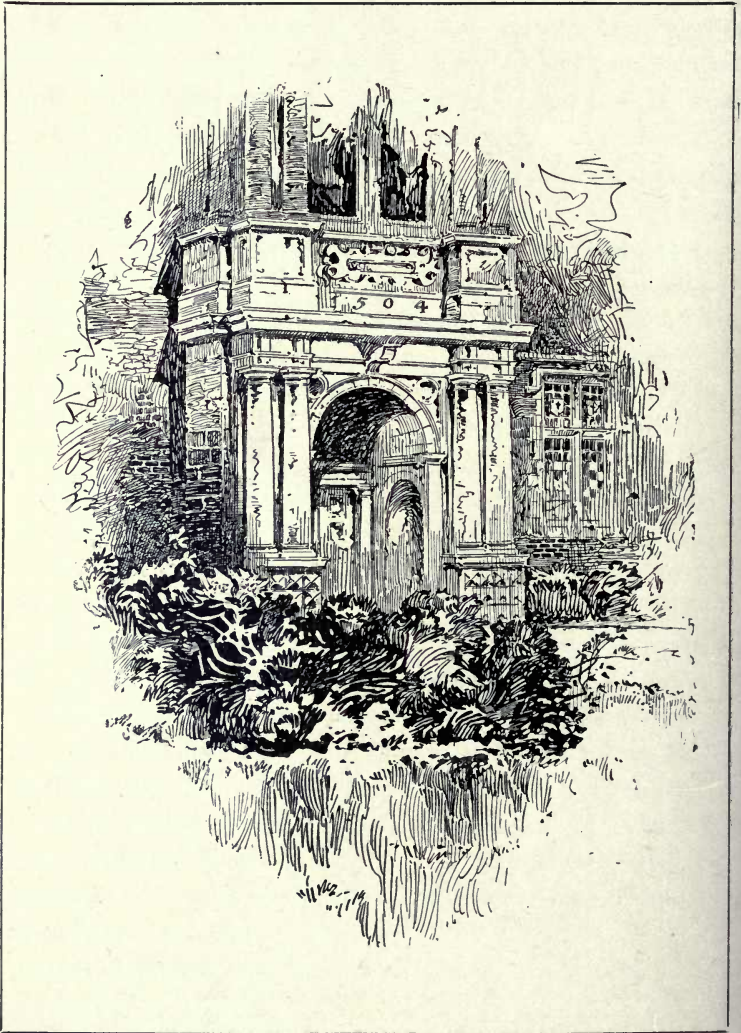
Henry Cobham—for he was a baron no longer—endured his imprisonment fifteen years; it was of varying degrees of severity, and toward the end of the time, on account of ill health, he was allowed—

“For the bettering of his health his Majesty’s leave to go to Bathe attended by his keeper. In his returne being as he conceived thoroughly cured of his maladie, was at Hungerford surprized with a dead palsey; from thence with difficulty he was carried alyve unto Odiam, Sir Edward Moore’s house (who had married his sister, Frances), he is yett livinge but nott like to continew many dayes.”

This was in September, 1617, but—

“From this attack he sufficiently recovered to be enabled to return to the Tower. Soon after we lose all trace of him as a living man. He died 24th January, 1619.”





DOORWAY, COBHAM HALL.

Where was he buried ?

“At Cobham the *Registers* do not carry us back so far. Those in the Tower have not his name. He was therefore not buried there. Search has been made at Odiham without success, and at Aldgate also, as well as at Trinity Minorities by the Tower, but no entry has been found.”

And what of the wife of this unhappy prisoner ?

“Of the Lady Kildare, his widow, nothing is said at this time of his death. She was living at Cobham Hall, and it seems as if she took no notice whatever of the unfortunate man who was her husband, and in whose house she lived.”

Burke gives the further following description of him.

“Lord Cobham appears to have been not many degrees removed from a fool, but enjoying the favour of the Queen, he was a fitting tool in the hands of his more wily associates. Upon his trial he was dastardly to the most abject meanness.

The mode of bringing the prisoners on the scaffold, and aggravating their sufferings with momentary expectation of their catastrophe, before the pre-intended pardon was produced, was a piece of management and contrivance for which King James was by the sycophants of the Court very highly extolled, but such a course was universally esteemed the pitiful policy of a weak, contemptible mind.

‘On this occasion,’ says Sir Dudley Carleton, ‘Cobham who was now to play his part did much cozen the world, for he came to the scaffold with good assurance, and contempt of death.’ And in the short prayers he made, so out-prayed the company which helped to pray with him, that a stander-by observed ‘that he had a good mouth in a cry, but nothing single.’

After they were remanded (Sir Dudley says) and brought back on the scaffold, ‘they looked strange on one another, like men beheaded and met again in another world.’”

A pitiable exhibition, the rightly-constituted humane mind shrinks from contemplating ; no matter what kind of fool-knave this unfortunate man may have been. It has been stated that he died in a state of filth for lack of apparel and linen, and in such abject poverty, wanting the common necessities of life. This has been proved not to have been the case, he was afforded a moderate sum, payable monthly, during his imprisonment, enough to keep him fairly comfortable, and he had medical attendance during his illness. It is probable his death occurred outside “the verge of the Tower,” as he had petitioned for more liberty to take the air for his health in the July previous to his decease, the King’s surgeon to certify to his weak state. It was also stated his poor paralyzed frame remained unburied some days for want of means. But this is scarcely probable either, for his assignee, Lady Burgh, widow

of his brother, George Brook, had an order from the Treasury for a considerable sum due to him, the day after his decease. Where was his rich wife at this final scene? Of her we hear nothing, she had clearly disowned and entirely disassociated herself from him; and where the noble outcast died, and found his last resting-place is not known.

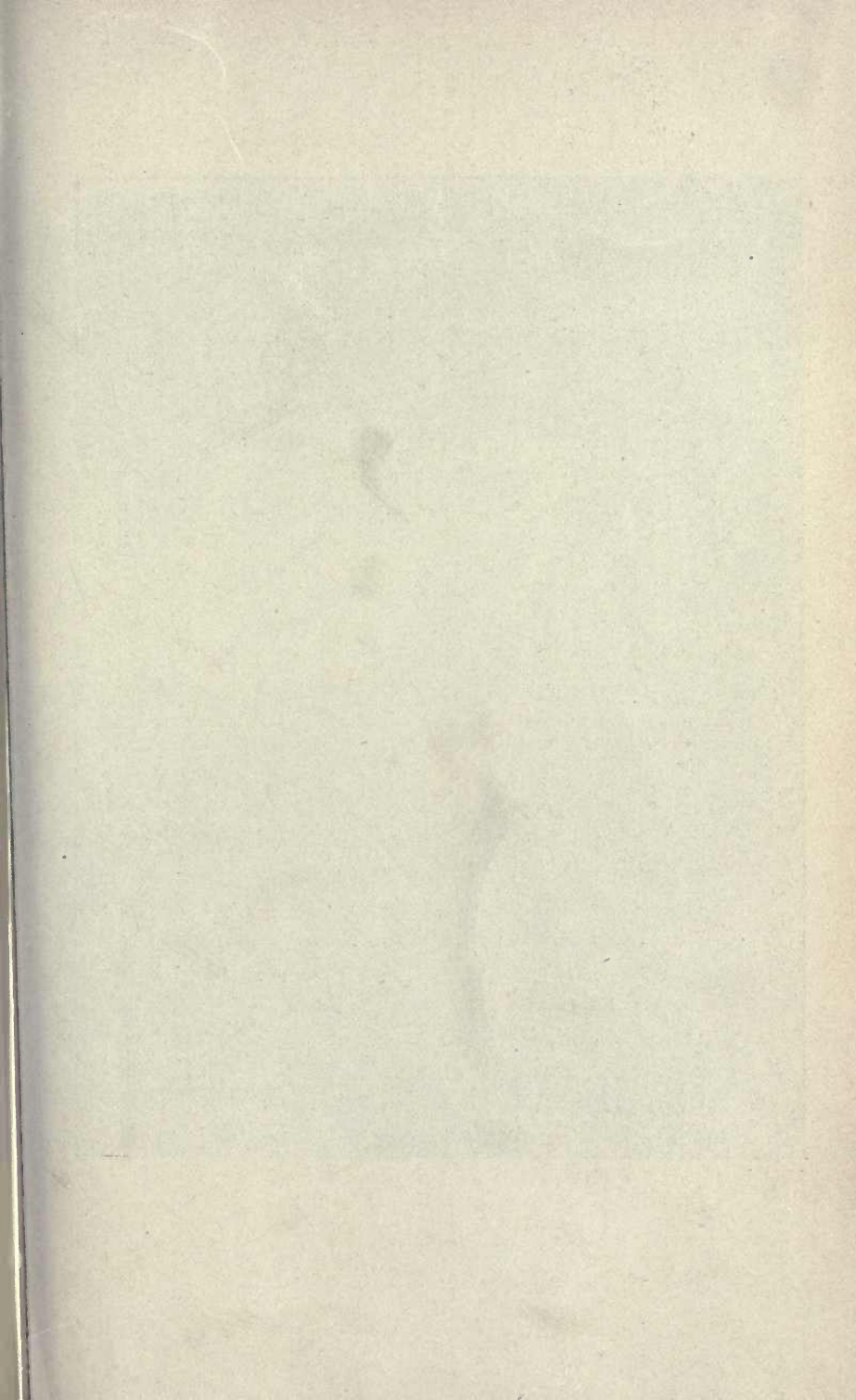
It would be difficult amid the whole current of English history to find a more mournful narrative; and of surpassing interest as connected with the last possession by the Brooks of the crumbling fragment of ruin at Olditch, the original seat of his ancestors, and text of our story. Both have become a sad memory only glimmering in the gloom of the Past.

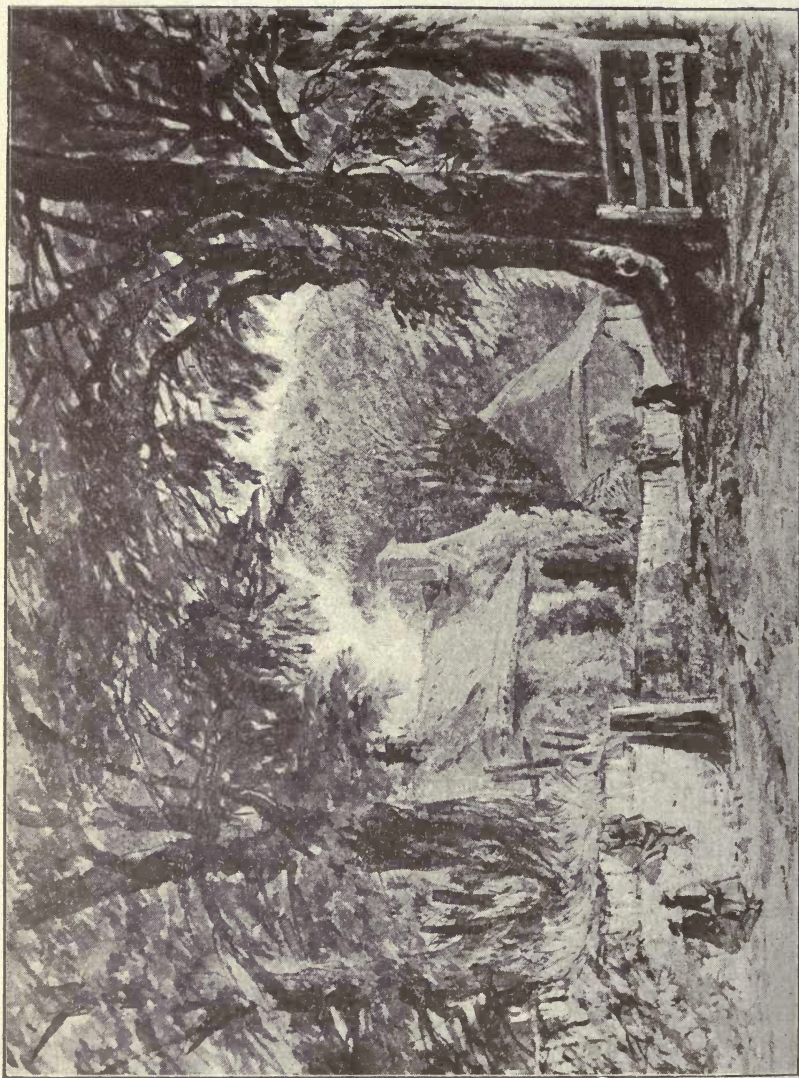
Blount,

LAST POSSESSOR OF OLDITCH AND WEYCROFT,
EARL OF DEVON.

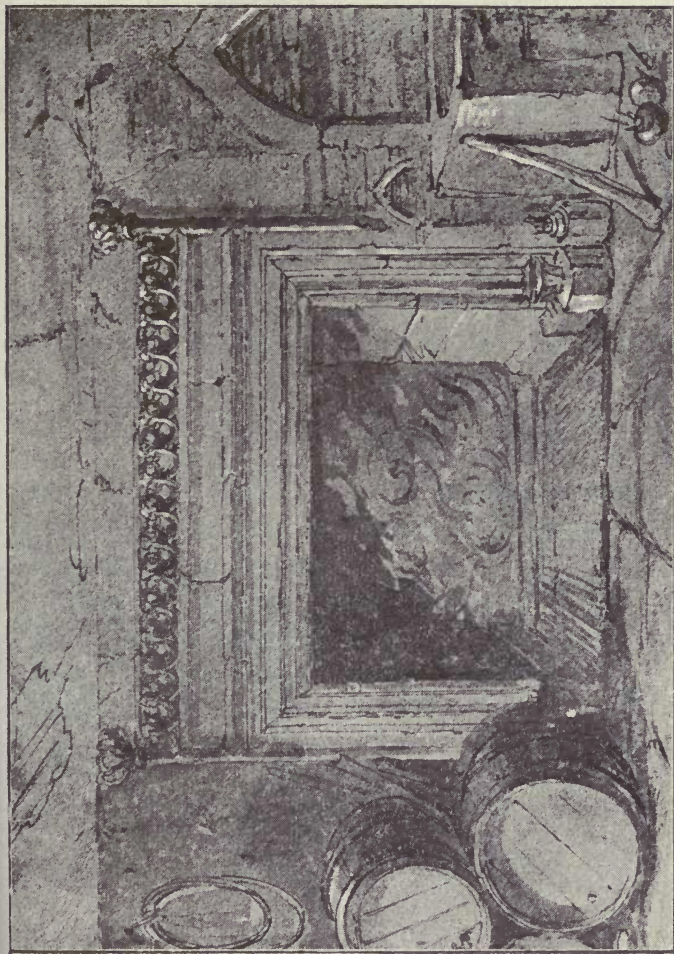
THE cruel attainder of Henry Brook, the last unfortunate Baron of Cobham, and consequent confiscation of his estates, took place in 1603, and that "high and mychtie prince" James I, in 1604, gave the manors of Olditch and Weycroft to one of his favourites, Charles Blount, eighth Baron Mountjoy of Thurveston, in Derbyshire, who in the year previous, 21st July, 1603, he had created Earl of Devon and K.G.

Lord Mountjoy was the *second* of the "interpolated" Earls of Devon—the hereditary honour of the Courtenays—but an ill fate hung over their creations, for Blount held it barely three years, and leaving no legitimate issue, the title became extinct at his death, 3rd April, 1606. The *first* was Humphrey Stafford, of Suthwyke, so created by Edward IV, 7th May, 1469, after that monarch had given him "the bulk of the estates" forfeited by the attainder of the three unfortunate





A GLIMPSE OF WEYCROFT.



FIRE-PLACE AT WEYCROFT.

From a Drawing by W. Newbery.

brothers, Thomas, Henry, and John Courtenay, successively Earls of Devon, who, within nine years, lost their lives on the scaffold and battle field, fighting for the house of Lancaster, and whose deaths ended the first descent of that noble family. But for Stafford's treachery at the battle of Banbury, only three months afterward, "by diligent enquiry by King Edward's order, he was found at Brent, near the river Axe in Somersetshire, and carried to Bridgwater, and there beheaded," the monks of Glastonbury giving him sepulture beneath the central tower of the Abbey Church.

Why Charles Blount chose the title of Earl of Devon, was probably also in part connected with the fate of the above unfortunate Earls, for his ancestor, Walter Blount, first Lord Mountjoy, Lord Treasurer of England, and K.G., ob. 1474, a staunch adherent of Edward IV, "shared largely in the confiscated possessions of the leading Lancastrians," and among others, "particularly those of Thomas Courtenay, Earl of Devon, obtaining thereby extensive territorial possessions in Devon."

But another ancestor of his was further, and in more pleasant, relationship connected, similar to the Cobhams, with the Courtenays by intermarriage.

William Blount, fourth Baron Mountjoy, ob. 1535, grandfather of Charles Blount, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Say, and by her had one daughter Gertrude, who was the second wife of Henry Courtenay, Marquis of Exeter, beheaded by Henry VIII, in 1539, she narrowly escaped the same fate, and afterward resided at Great Canford, near Poole, died in 1558, and is buried within the presbytery of Wimborne Minster, in a tomb of Purbeck marble, with traceried panels, and this fragment of inscription now remaining—

"Conjux quondam Henrici Courteney, Marchionis Exon, & Mater Edwardi Courteney nuper Co"

Edward Courtenay, Earl of Devon, her unfortunate son, a prisoner almost all his life, died at Padua, in 1566, "not

without suspicion of poison," and at his death without issue, the then elder descent of the Courtenays became extinct, and the title of Earl of Devon passed into abeyance, until claimed and allowed to William, third Viscount Courtenay of the Powderham descent, 15th March, 1831.

Charles Blount was a person of high military reputation, and had a command in the fleet that dispersed the Spanish Armada, was constituted Governor of Portsmouth, and subsequently in 1597, Lieutenant of Ireland, and in 1599 repulsed the Spaniards with great gallantry at Kinsale. Camden describes him as being "so eminent for valour and learning, that in those respects he had no superior, and few equals," and Moryson, his secretary, writes, "that he was beautiful in person as well as valiant, and learned as well as wise." But his high public character, and all these accomplishments, were tarnished by his unfortunate intrigue with Penelope, daughter of Walter Devereux, Earl of Essex, and wife of Robert, third Lord Rich, and first Earl of Warwick, ob. 1618, by whom he had several illegitimate children, and who on her divorce he subsequently married at Wanstead, in Essex, 26th December, 1605. William Laud, afterward Archbishop of Canterbury, performing the ceremony.

The portrait is from an old etching, probably of contemporary date. The crest encircled by the Garter is that of Blount: *Within the Sun in splendour, an eye, proper.* Below is inscribed: *Are to be sold by Henry Balam in Lombard Street.*

Another is found in Lodge's *Portraits*, sitting in a chair, the face in profile, from a picture in the possession of the Duke of Hamilton, by Juan Pantoxana.

Pole says, "he conveyed the same (Olditch) unto Mountjoy, his base supposed son, who nowe enjoyeth the same"—this was Mountjoy Blount (one of his children by Penelope Rich) who was afterward created, in 1627, Baron Mountjoy by James I, and in the year following Earl of Newport by Charles I, who died in 1665, and either himself or one of his

descendants, sold it to Mr. John Bowditch, from whom it was acquired in 1714, by an ancestor of Mr. Bragge, of SADBOROUGH, in Thorncombe, its present possessor. Arms of Blount, *Barry nebulée of six, or and sable.*

Weycroft was sold by Charles Blount, Earl of Devon, according to Pole "unto John Bennet, Sherif of London, whose son Mr. Bennet nowe enjoyeth it." He disposed of the manor in parcels, and it is now divided among various owners.

In a social, if not in a political aspect, Charles Blount was as great a transgressor as the hapless man, a large portion of whose confiscated possessions he did not hesitate to accept. And it proved to be no bar in that unscrupulous age, to the bestowal of an Earldom both on the father and his unhappily begotten son, nor hinder at their deaths, the burial of the elder in Westminster Abbey, and the younger in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford. But Nemesis appeared at their graves-side, where their "honours" perished with them.

* * * * *

So concludes our little history of the knightly Brooks, and their possessions in these western parts. The wayfarer, who, carrying within his memory its three centuries of incident, regards the departed importance of Weycroft, and views on the site of their first home, the solitary ivy-clad tower at Olditch—sole relic of its former dignity—standing amid the grass-grown foundations, over which

"Stern ruin's ploughshare drives elate,"

and joins with it the mournful climax that extinguished their honours and fame, in the sad fate that befel their last hereditary possessor, in the grander surroundings of Cobham: sees in them a striking instance of the instability and transitory character of the belongings to human life, which no station can shield, nor wealth avert, or rescue from the sentence of doom which Time pronounces on all earthly things.

From the banks of the Axe our steps first led us to Olditch, and having completed the circuit of our little investigation, terminate in this particular at Weycroft, close overlooking that delightful stream—home of the speckled trout, haunt of the stately heron, the flashing kingfisher, the bounding swallow—and by whose ripe we return to the place from whence they first set out. The air is radiant with summer sunshine, the red kine are dozing and dreaming in the grateful shadow of the tall elms, the bee and butterfly are bustling and flickering among the reeds, the golden iris, the purple flags, that fringe its margin, and all is contentment and peace. Musingly we ask, who, privileged to dwell amid these pure enjoyments, which Nature with perennial hand spreads so bountifully, that bring no care or alloy, would, listening to the syren voice of ambition, be tempted to forsake them for the glamour of Courts, the smiles and suspicions of Princes, with, as we have seen, the attendant dangers of the confiscator's hand, the prison door, the headsman's axe, the exile's fate, an unknown grave?



LET ME, INGLORIOUS, LOVE THE STREAMS AND WOODS.

On the Inquisitiones Post Mortem for Somerset from Henry III to Richard III (1216-1485).

BY EDWARD ALEXANDER FRY.

IT may be useful to those who have not had much experience in early genealogical history to state briefly* what inquisitiones post mortem were and wherein lies their usefulness to us in these latter days.

Inquisitiones post mortem were one of the most distinctive features of the feudal system in England; they were introduced in the reign of Henry III, about 1216, and continuing to be held throughout the course of nearly 450 years were only formally abolished on the accession of Charles II to the throne, though they had practically ceased to be taken after 1640.

When a person, whether male or female, died seized of lands *in capite*, that is holding them from the Crown, a writ was issued to the escheator of the county directing that an inquisition should be held in order to ascertain of what lands he died seized, of whom and by what services the same were held, when he died, and who was his next heir. If the heir happened to be a minor the lands descending to him were held in

* Much fuller accounts will be found in the introduction to the abstracts of inquisitiones published in "Dorset Records" and in various genealogical handbooks, as, for instance, Sim's "Manual," p. 123; Rye's "Records and Record Searching," p. 85; Phillimore's "How to trace the History of a family," p. 130; and particularly the introduction to the "Calendarium Genealogicum," by Roberts, and Mr. Scargill-Bird's "Guide to the Public Records," p. 141.

ward by the Crown till he came of age. The wardship was generally a very lucrative business, because the rents and profits of the estate went to the person having charge of the heir till his coming of age, so that wardships were frequently bought from the Crown for large sums of money.

On the heir attaining his majority he had to sue out his "ousterlemain;" in other words he had to obtain delivery from the Crown of the lands for which he was in ward after first proving to the Court's satisfaction that he was of age.

As may be expected payments of a very exacting nature were extorted on all these occasions of death, proof of age, and delivery of lands.

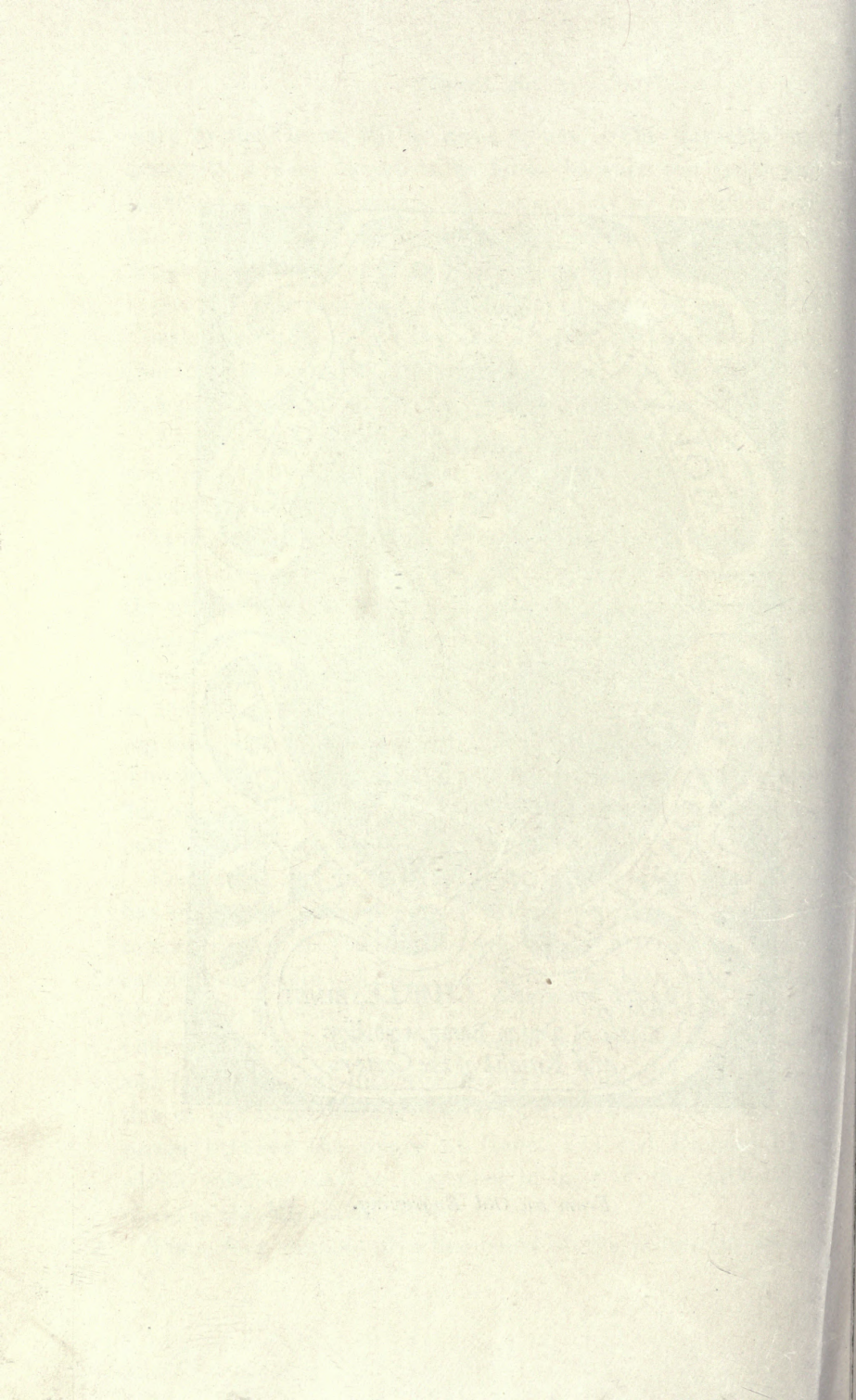
It will be seen, therefore, from the above brief outline, that *Inquisitiones post mortem* are very useful to genealogists of the present day, because in them are recorded the most minute particulars of the deceased's landed property; names of manors long since passed out of existence, field names, names of tenants, etc., etc., are often given, likewise many interesting details as to the services by which the property was held. The date of the deceased's death, the heir's name, relationship, and age at time of his predecessor's death are all stated on the oath of twelve men appointed as a jury.

Proceeding now to a few particulars respecting the Calendar of *Inquisitiones post mortem* for Somerset, it should be remarked that in 1806 it was ordered by Parliament that a calendar be printed of the *inquisitiones* then kept in the Tower of London, but since that date deposited in the Public Record Office. The outcome of this order was that between 1806 and 1828 four large folio volumes were issued under the direction of the Commissioners of Public Records, covering the period between the reigns of Henry III and Richard III, which volumes may be consulted in most of the public libraries in the Kingdom.

These four volumes give the names of the people on whose



From an Old Engraving.



properties the inquisitiones were held and the names of the manors, etc., and the counties in which they are situated, but fail to give any further information.

As a partial remedy for these omissions there appeared in 1865 two volumes entitled "Calendarium Genealogicum," by Mr. Charles Roberts, which, for the reigns of Henry III and Edward I, gives short abstracts of the inquisitiones, stating the heir and his age at the taking of the inquisition, and many other particulars omitted in the calendars published by the Commissioners.

It was a great pity the "Calendarium Genealogicum" was not carried out for the whole of the period covered by the official calendar, for by combining the two one might have arrived at the pith of all the inquisitiones down to Richard III, whereas now recourse has to be made to the documents themselves for any inquisition that occurs after Edward I.

The calendar of Somerset inquisitiones here given is a compilation of all that relate to this county from the four volumes, with such corrections and additions as appear in the copy kept at the Public Record Office, thus rendering it more reliable and up-to-date.

What the compiler would like to see carried out by degrees, is, that full abstracts in English of these valuable documents should be made as far as Somerset is concerned, when many an obscure point in mediæval genealogies would be cleared up and set completely at rest. With a little combination by people interested in these subjects, or even by a small sum devoted to it year by year by this Society, this desirable object could in course of time be effected, and thus place Somerset foremost among the counties having materials for a history of its early times.

EDW. ALEX. FRY.

TABLE OF REGNAL YEARS.

HENRY III A.D. 1216—1272	HENRY IV A.D. 1399—1413
EDWARD I „ 1272—1307	„ V „ 1413—1422
„ II „ 1307—1327	„ VI „ 1422—1461
„ III „ 1327—1377	EDWARD IV „ 1461—1483
RICHARD II „ 1377—1399	„ V „ 1483
	RICHARD III „ 1483—1485

CALENDAR OF INQUISITIONES POST MORTEM FOR
SOMERSET FROM HENRY III TO RICHARD III
(1216—1485).

THIS calendar is not confined to inquisitiones post mortem only; there are also inquisitiones ad quod damnum, proofs of age, documents dealing with the properties of lunatics and idiots, fugitives and felons, inquisitiones taken on special occasions, as, for instance, to ascertain boundaries, rights to hold fairs, markets, fisheries and ferries, or to inquire into tithes, common of pasture, and free warren.

In many of the years in Edward III's reign there are two series of numbers to the inquisitiones, the second of which are called "2nd numbers." They are identified in this calendar by an asterisk,* and when applying for a document thus marked, care should always be taken to add the words "2nd numbers."

The King (concerning the Honors of Babyngton, Hardington, Holcombe and Radestok, members of the Hundred of Kenmersdon)	} 11 Edw. I, 56
Concerning the manor of Horsington, <i>deest</i> ...	
The King, <i>Inquis. ad inquirend.</i> , (concerning Kingeswere fishery.)	} 27 Edw. III, 75
The King, <i>Inquis. ad inquirend.</i> , (concerning the manors of Bishopstone, Clonewurde, Cruche, Cymoch, Gerlintone, and Tyn-tehale.)	
	} 7 Rich. II, 111

The King, <i>Inquis. ad inquirend.</i> , (concerning the manor of Spacheton, etc.)	} 1st part 15 Rich. II, 118
The King (concerning the manors of Chilton Cauntelowe, Hardington, etc.)	} 3 Hen. IV, 66
Abbadam, John, and Elizabeth, his wife	27 Edw. I, 132
Abbotsbury, Abbottsburry, Abbot of. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	17 Hen. VI, 63
„ Abbodesbury, Abbot of, pro John de Brudeport	3 Edw. III, 11*
„ Abrodesbury Abbey, per Thomas de Luda and Alianora, his wife. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 242
Abergavenny <i>see</i> Bergevenny.	
Abroghton, John, sen.	app. 8 Hen. VII, 1
Achard, Thomas, <i>see</i> Luscombe, Joan.	
„ Thomas, kin and heir of Johannis de Knovill'	32 Edw. III, 56
Acre, Walter del	36 Hen. III, 32
Acton, John de, and Sibilla, his wife	6 Edw. II, 55
„ Richard de, chev. pro Priory of Munechene Barowe	35 Edw. III, 20*
„ Richard de, miles, pro Abbey of Glastonbury	38 Edw. III, 46*
„ Richard de, pro Priory of Barouwe	44 Edw. III, 46*
Adymot, Robert, <i>see</i> Braunche.	
Albemarl, Albamarl, William	17 Edw. I, 22
„ Albamarlia, William de	1st part, 36 Edw. III, 5
Albiniaco, William de	<i>Inq. manca</i> , 13 Edw. I, 1
„ Phillip	19 Edw. I, 23
„ Ralph de	20 Edw. I, 27
„ Albinyaco, Philip de	22 Edw. I, 38
„ Elias de	33 Edw. I, 81
„ Elie, <i>see</i> Heyle, John	3 Edw. II, 4
„ Ralph, son and heir of Elias de	11 Edw. II, 53
„ Elie de, John de Holte, de herede de	14 Edw. II, 21
Albe Aule, Priory of, Ivelchester, <i>see</i> Bryen Guido.	
Aldham, Francis de	1 Edw. III, 7
Alvardeston, Parson of, <i>see</i> Daumerle, Wm.	

Alwy, Walter	5 Edw. II, 24
Amorey, Gilbert, pro Abbey of Kaynesham. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 129
„ Amori, Gilbert, of Keynesham, pro Abbey of Keynesham. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 225
Andrewe, Elizabeth, wife of John, arm.	1 Hen. VI, 22
Appulton, Robert, gen.	app. 13 Hen. VIII, 4
Archiaco, Adomar de	7 Edw. II, 50
Arthur, Richard	21 Edw. IV, 17
Arundell, Richard, Earl of, <i>see</i> Bohun, Humfrey.	
„ Thomas	12 Edw. III, 10
„ Edmund de, miles	48 Edw. III, 9*
„ John de, miles, and Alianor, his wife	3 Rich. II, 1
„ Richard, Earl of	6 Rich. II, 159
„ Richard, Earl of, and Phillippa, his wife	21 Rich. II, 2
„ Richard, Earl of	extra bundle, 21 Rich. II, 5g
„ Alianora, wife of John	6 Hen. IV, 31
„ John, Earl of	13 Hen. VI, 37
„ Matilda, wife of John, Earl of	15 Hen. VI, 39
„ Catherine, formerly wife of Roger Lenkenou	19 Edw. IV, 47
„ Joan, wife of Nicholas, of Treerishe	22 Edw. IV, 48
Asschloude, John de	6 Edw. II, 52a
Asseleg, Walter de	40 Hen. III, 55
Assheton, Robert de, chev.	7 Rich. II, 5
Asthorp, William, chev.	1 Hen. IV, 44
Athelney, Abbot of, <i>see</i> Hayt, Henry.	
„ Abbey of, <i>see</i> Beauchamp, John.	
„ Athelygneye, Abbot of, <i>see</i> Sydenham, Richard.	
„ Athelyngye, Abbey of. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 144
„ Abbot of, <i>placita</i>	7 Rich. II, 157
Atte Berough, Peter, pro Chapel in Holy Cross, Temple Church, Bristol.	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 80
Atte Forde, Valentine, pro Cecilia Turbervile	43 Edw. III, 55*
„ „ chaplin	45 Edw. III, 33*
Atte Hull, Christina, wife of John	9 Hen. IV, 37

Atte Hull, Nicholas, son of John and Cristina, <i>probatio etatis</i>	2 Hen. V, 56
„ Nicholas, son of John	2 Hen. V, 56
Atte Lode, Hugh, <i>felo</i>	34 Edw. I, 85
„ Thomas, and Simon Michel, <i>placita</i>	8 Rich. II, 104
Atte Mulle, John, and Matilda, and John de Blakenale	18 Edw. III, 3*
Atte Ree, Thomas and Alena	33 Edw. III, 54*
Atte Zerde, John, <i>felo</i>	4 Rich. II, 85
Atton, John de, pro Abbey of St. Augustine's, Bristol	32 Edw. III, 28*
Aubyne, Ralph de, chev., feoffavit Ralph de Aubyne	20 Edw. III, 29*
Audeham, Thomas de	4 Edw. I, 45
Audley, Nicholas, Lord, <i>see</i> Hillary, Margaret.	
„ Audele, James de. <i>Inquis. de valore maner'</i>	27 Edw. III, 38
„ Audeley, James de, of Heley, chev.	9 Rich. II, 1
„ Audelegh, Nicholas de, chev., and Elizabeth, his wife	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 1
„ „ Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas, mil.	17 Rich. II, 75
„ Audeley, Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas de, chev.	2 Hen. IV, 56
„ „ „ wife of John Tucketmil	<i>null ten. terr.</i> 25 Hen. VI, 33
Auno, Godfrey de	43 Hen. III, 2
„ Aunoh, Godfrey de	Uncertain, Hen. III. 252
Averenges, John de	42 Hen. III, 12
Baa, <i>see</i> Bath.	
Badelesmere, Giles. and Elizabeth, <i>see</i> Despenser.	
Bagge, Cecilia, and Robert, <i>see</i> Blaunchesale, Prioress of.	
Baggeworth, John de, <i>see</i> Keynsham Abbey.	
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Bakeler, John, and Sibilla	30 Edw. III, 48*
Baker, Thomas	47 Edw. III, 49*
Bakhous, John, and Alice, per Botreaux, William, sen.	14 Rich. II, 75

Ball, Thomas, of Balles-Heyes	20 Rich. II, 59
Balon, John	5 Hen. V, 44
Banastre, William	19 Rich. II, 6
Bardeye, Thomas de, of Bristol	24 Edw. I, 44
Barbe, Thomas, <i>appreciacione terrarum</i>	13 Rich. II, 77
Barouwe, Priory of, <i>see</i> Acton, Richard de.	
Barre, Joan, widow	2 Rich. III, 10
Barun, Walter	35 Edw. I, 1
Barwe, William, and William Brewere, pro Priory of Bruton	7 Rich. II, 106
Basset, John, pro Prior de Bath	32 Edw. I, 133
„ Edmund	4 Edw. II, 41
„ Alice, d. and h. John B.	5 Rich. II, 8
„ John	6 Rich. II, 16
„ John	7 Rich. II, 166
„ Bassett, John, son of Simon, chev.	13 Rich. II, 4
„ John, father of Margaret, wife of Walter Broun	21 Rich. II, 105
Basyng, Gilbert, and Sibilla, his wife	16 Hen. VI, 45
Bath (Baa), Prior of, <i>see</i> Dudmerton, John de.	
„ Osbert de	24 Edw. I, 49
„ Reginald de	39 Hen. III, 22
„ Bishop of, <i>see</i> Harewelle, John de.	
„ House of the King there, <i>breve tantum</i>	51 Hen. III, 57
„ Priory of, <i>see</i> Forde, Henry de.	
„ „ <i>see</i> Forde, Thomas de.	
„ Prior of, <i>see</i> Rodeneye, Walter de.	
„ Priory of, <i>see</i> Vynour, William.	
„ Prior de, John Basset, pro	32 Edw. I, 133
„ Priory, per Peter Fil. Robert. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 231
„ „ per Bp. of Bath and Wells. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 240
„ „ per John Sheot	13 Rich. II, 122
„ „ per William Botreaux, mil.	38 and 39 Hen. VI, 61
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Bathon, William de, chev., and John de	4 Edw. III, 29*

Bath and Wells,	Bishop of, <i>see</i> Harwell, John.	
„	Bishop of, <i>see</i> Rodeney, Walter de.	
„	Bishop of, and Joan de Lideyard	9 Edw. I, 80
„	Robert Burnell, Bp. of	21 Edw. I, 50
„	Bishop of	30 Edw. I, 34
„	Walter, Bp. of, pro Richard de Rodeneye, and Lucy, his wife	32 Edw. I, 99
„	Bp. of, pro Bath Priory. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 240
„	Walter, Bishop of, pro decan' of St. Andrew's church, Wells. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 179
„	Bishop of, John de Drokensford	3 Edw. III, 41
„	Bishop of, Ralph	22 Edw. III, 69*
„	Ralph, Bishop of	32 Edw. III, 36*
„	Ralph, Bishop of, pro William and Margaret le Bole	37 Edw. III, 20*
„	John, Bishop of	45 Edw. III, 66*
Baudryp, Adam		28 Edw. I, 97
Baumfeld, Walter, arm.		18 Edw. IV, 32
Bavaria, Matilda, wife of William, Duke of Bavaria, daughter and heir of Henry, Duke of Lancaster		1st part, 36 Edw. III, 37
Baynton, Beynton, John, mil.		5 Edw. IV, 30
„	Robert, of Farleston, mil. attainted	15 Edw. IV, 43
Bays, Robert, clericus, <i>appreciation terrarum</i>		7 Rich. II, 89
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„	John de, <i>see</i> Meriet, John.	
„	John, <i>see</i> Scoland, Franco de.	
„	John de, <i>see</i> Seymor, Cecilia.	
„	John, <i>see</i> Cecilia Turbervile.	
„	Bello Campo, John de	12 Edw. I, 30
„	John de	14 Edw. I, 25
„	John de, pro Capell' de S. Nich' de Stoke super Hameldon. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	30 Edw. I, 72
„	Cecilia de	14 Edw. II, 38
„	John de	10 Edw. III, 42
„	John, and Margaret	17 Edw. III, 58

Beauchamp, John, son and heir of John, of Somerset,	
<i>probatio ætatis</i>	24 Edw. III, 135
,, John, of Somerset	26 Edw. III, 30*
,, William de	29 Edw. III, 24
,, Margaret, wife of John de	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 35
,, John	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 36
,, William, chev., pro Matthew de Gourney	48 Edw. III, 7*
,, John de, of Lillidon, chev., pro Abbot of Athelney	6 Rich. II, 156
,, William, arm.	7 Hen. V, 61
,, Richard de, Earl of Warwick	17 Hen. VI, 54
,, Isabella, formerly Countess of Warwick	18 Hen. VI, 3
,, Thomas, mil.	22 Hen. VI, 31
,, Henry de, Duke of Warwick	24 Hen. VI, 43
,, Anna, dau. of H., Duke of Warwick, messuages in Bristol	28 Hen. VI, 33
,, Margaret, wife of John, arm., <i>null ten. terr.</i>	37 Hen. VI, 38
Beauford, see Somerset, Earls of.	
,, Henry, s. and h. of John, Earl of Somerset	3 Hen. VI, 18
Beaumont, Beaumonte, Isabella, wife of William, arm.	2 Hen. VI, 28
,, Beaumont, Thomas, mil.	29 Hen. VI, 30
,, William, arm.	32 Hen. VI, 28
,, Beaumont, Philip	13 Edw. IV, 50
Becket, Richard, arm.	14 Hen. IV, 11
Bedford, John, duke of	14 Hen. VI, 36
Bel, Robert le	40 Hen. III, 18
Bello Campo, see Beauchamp.	
Benet, William, Capellanus	38 Edw. III, 44*
,, Thomas, lands of John Delyngton, <i>retinere possit.</i>	5 Rich. II, 89
Benpine, Margaret, wife of Thomas	10 Hen. IV, 23
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Bere, Richard de la, pro Edmund Everard, parson of Colstreworth	2 Edw. III, 38*
„ Richard de la	19 Edw. III, 34
Bergevenny, Lord of, John de Hastynges	18 Edw. II, 83
Berkeley, Berkelay, Thomas de, pro Prioress of Boclond	
<i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 178
„ Maurice de	9 Edw. I, 27
„ Berkele, Thomas de	11 Edw. I, 117
„ John de, de Erlyngham	14 Edw. II, 24
„ Thomas de	15 Edw. II, 46
„ Maurice, son of Thomas de, <i>manca</i>	1 Edw. III, 54
„ Berkele, Thomas de, pro Priory of St. John of Jerusalem	18 Edw. III, 5*
„ „ Thomas de, and Katherine of Ule	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 11
„ „ Thomas de, chev.	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 12
„ „ Thomas	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 124
„ Berkle, Maurice, son of Thomas de, chev.	42 Edw. III, 12
„ Catherine, wife of Thomas de, chev.	9 Rich. II, 10
„ Berkele, Catherine, wife of Thos. de, mil.	12 Rich II, 160
„ Elizabeth, wife of Maurice, chev.	13 Rich. II, 1
„ Cecilia, wife of Nicholas de, chev.	17 Rich. II, 5
„ Maurice de, <i>inquis. ad inquirend.</i>	18 Rich. II, 109
„ Berkelee, Thomas de, chev., and Margaret, his wife	5 Hen. V, 50
„ Maurice de, chev.	1 Hen. VI, 23
„ John, chev.	6 Hen. VI, 50
„ Maurice, of Beverston, co. Glouc., mil.	38 and 39, Hen. VI, 57
„ Maurice, mil., of Ulegh	4 Edw. IV, 29
„ Maurice, of Beverston, mil	14 Edw. IV, 41
„ John, arm.	19 Edw. IV, 40
Berkerolles, William, pro Abbey of Clyve. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	20 Edw. I, 108
Berlegh, Thomas, and James Husse, chev., <i>placita</i>	8 Rich. II, 116
Berliche, prior of	14 Rich. II, 120
Bermondseye, Abbot of, <i>de placita</i>	5 Hen. V, 60a

Bersiles, Besyles, Mathias	24 Edw. I, 2
„ Elizabeth, wife of Matthew de	8 Edw. II, 38
„ Besilles, Thomas, chev.	3 Rich. II, 6
„ Besyls, John, son of John, s. and h. of Thomas, chev.	7 Rich. II, 18
„ Catherine, wife of Thomas de, chev.	7 Hen. IV, 33
„ Peter, mil.	3 Hen. VI, 28
„ Besyles, Peter, chev.	14 Hen. VI, 42
„ Besyls, John, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	37 Hen. VI, 22
Bettesthorne, John	22 Rich. II, 6
„ John de, pro Chantry of Meere	22 Rich. II, 99
Bettevill, William	18 Edw. III, 45*
Bevyale, Agnes, wife of John, arm.	20 Hen. VI, 10
Bikcombe, Hugh, arm.	38 and 39 Hen. VI, 44
Bikeley, Bykeleye, William de	13 Edw. I, 15b
„ Bikeleye, William	35 Hen. III, 49
Bingham, William de	7 Edw. II, 15
„ Byngham, William de	30 Edw. III, 28b, 60
Blakenale, John de, <i>see</i> Atte Mulle, John.	
Blakett, Margaret, wife of John, chev.	8 Hen. V, 38
Blaunchesale, Prioress and nuns of, per Bagge, Cecilia, and Robert, her son. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	9 Edw. I, 79
Bluet, Joan, <i>see</i> Lovell, Joan.	
„ John, arm.	3 Edw. IV, 25
„ Walter, arm.	21 Edw. IV, 56
Blund, David le	17 Edw. II, 53
„ John de	48 Hen. III, 5
Blunt, Edmund, arm.	8 Edw. IV, 50
„ Simon, s. and h. of Edmund, arm.	16 Edw. IV, 79
Bochard, Anne, now wife of Thomas Latymer	3 Hen. IV, 30
Boclond, Abbess of, per Thomas de Berkelay. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 178
„ <i>see</i> also Bokeland.	
Bodecle, Robert Fromond, parson of	11 Rich. II, 97
Bodrugan, Henry, arm.	3 Edw. IV, 39
„ „	4 Edw. IV, 64
„ „	5 Edw. IV, 61

Bohun, Alianora, daughter and heir of Humphry de, <i>see</i> Gloucester, Alianora	
„ of Kilpeck, Joan de	1 Edw. III, 81
„ Humfrey de, Earl of Hereford and Essex, and Joan, his wife, dau. of Rich., Earl of Arundel	46 Edw. III, 10
„ Alianora, daughter of Henry, <i>see</i> Gloucester, Duke of, Thomas	21 Rich. II, 29
Bokelond, Thomas de, <i>see</i> Meryet, John.	
„ Boukeland, Matilda, wife of Thomas, chev.	21 Rich. II, 5
„ <i>see</i> also Boclond.	
Bole, William and Margaret, <i>see</i> Bath and Wells, Bishop of.	
„ Alice, wife of Thomas	9 and 10 Edw. IV. 36
Bolevyle, Nicholas de, chiv. pro Prior of Taunton	14 Edw. III, 48*
Boleyn, Thomas, and John Trevenaunt, clerici, pro Dean and Chapter of Cathedral of Wells. <i>Inq. ad quod. dam.</i>	27—33 Hen. VI, 25
Boneham, Thomas, arm.	13 Edw. IV, 41
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„ Bonville, Elizabeth, <i>see</i> Stucle, Elizabeth,	
„ „ Nicholas	48 Hen. III, 37
„ Bonevill, Hawisia, wife of Nicholas, Also <i>Inq. p. m.</i> of said Nicholas, who died first—said Hawis was previously wife of Thomas de Pyne	23 Edw. I, 44
„ Boneville, William, for Guido de Brian	41 Edw. III, 27*
„ Bonevyle, William	41 Edw. III, 45*
„ Bonevyll, John, and Elizabeth, his wife	20 Rich. II., 11
„ Bonvile, William, chev.	9 Hen. IV, 42
„ „ William, son of Thomas	14 Hen. IV, 12
„ Boneville, Margaret, wife of William	1 Hen. V, 34
„ Bonevile, William, arm.	4 Hen. VI, 9
„ „ John, arm.	4 Hen. VI, 19
„ „ Alice, wife of William, chev., formerly wife of John Rodenay, chev.	4 Hen. VI, 34
„ Boneville, William, mil., of Chilton	1 Edw. IV, 37
„ „ Thomas, arm.	6 Edw. IV, 46

Bonvil, Bonvyle, John, sen., arm., of Dylington	1 Rich. III, 17
„ Bonevyle, John, arm.	App. 9 Hen. VII, 2
Bonham, Walter	16 Edw. IV, 69
Bosco, John de	3 Edw. II, 42
Boteler, John, mil.	17 Edw. IV, 25
„ James, Earl of Ormond	7 Hen. V, 49
„ James, Earl of Ormond	6 Rich. II, 15
„ Alianor, Countess of Ormond	37 Edw. III, 24
„ James, Earl of	31 Hen. VI, 11
„ Botiller, James le, Earl of Ormond	7 Rich. II, 13
„ „ Elizabeth, wife of James le, Earl of Ormond, <i>assignation dotis</i>	8 Rich. II, 102
„ „ Elizabeth, wife of James, Earl of Ormond	13 Rich. II, 5
„ „ John of Hoke, attainted	12 Edw. IV, 21
Boter, John	31 Edw. III, 13*
Botreaux, William, and Elizabeth, <i>see</i> D'Aubeneye, Ralph.	
„ Lord of, <i>see</i> Stafford, John.	
„ Reginald de	20 Edw. III, 7
„ Botereux, William de	28 Edw. III, 76
„ Botreaux, William, chev., pro Nicholas de Cadebury	35 Edw. III, 7*
„ William de <i>extenta terrarum</i>	5 Rich. II. 71
„ William, sen., chev. pro John Bakhous and Alice, his wife	14 Rich. II, 75
„ William, sen., chev.	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 6
„ William de, chev., and Elizabeth, his wife	18 Rich. II, 5
„ William chev., who died	18 Rich. II. 13 Hen. IV, 17
„ William, s. and h. of William de <i>probatione etatis</i>	13 Hen. IV, 48
„ Elizabeth, wife of William, mil., defunct	12 Hen. VI, 24
„ William, mil., pro priory of Bath	38 and 39 Hen. VI, 61
„ William, mil.	2 Edw. IV, 15
„ Margaret, Lady, wife of Robert Hungerford	18 Edw. IV, 40
Boupoynne, Thomas	5 Hen. IV, 40
Bourne, Alice	14 Edw. IV, 9

Boyl, Nicholas, Vicar of Redeclyve, <i>see</i> Lyouns, Thomas.	
Bradeneye, Joachim de	17 Edw. II. 50
„ Simon de	4 Edw. III, 109*
Bratton, Peter	2nd part, 16 Rich. II, 37
„ Thomas, s. and h. of Peter de, <i>probatio etatis</i>	22 Rich. II, 124
„ Peter de	2nd part, 16 Rich. II, 142
„ Thomas	38 and 39 Hen. VI. 37
„ John	5 Edw. IV, 1
„ John, son of Simon	6 Edw. IV, 80
Braunche, Joan	8 Edw. I, 1
„ Andrew, s. and h. of Nicholas, <i>probatio etatis</i>	7 Edw. III, 46
„ Andrew, chev., pro Robert Adymot	19 Edw. III, 20*
„ Andrew	2nd part, 23 Edw. III, 98
„ Thomas, son of Andrew	34 Edw. III, 58
„ John, per Philip Bryene, chev.	11 Rich. II., 80
Brembill (Brombill), Agnes	10 Rich. II, 124
Brent, Robert, mil.	9 Hen. V., 25
Bret, Ralph le	10 Edw. I, 9
Brewere, William, and William Barwe, pro priory of Bruton	7 Rich. II, 106
Brian, Guido de, <i>see</i> Boneville, William.	
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Bridgwater, Hospital, St. John, <i>see</i> Redemore, Henry de.	
„ Hospital of, <i>see</i> Redmore, Henry.	
„ St. John's Hospital, <i>see</i> Walsyngham, John de.	
„ Hospital of St. John, <i>see</i> Fitz James, Thomas.	
„ Hospital, St. John, <i>see</i> Cadecote, Thomas de.	
„ Hospital of St. John Baptist of. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	12 Edw. I, 64
„ Master of the Hospital of St. John at, acquired from Robert Wigbere	1 Edw. III, 106*
„ Hospital of St. John Baptist	3 Rich. II, 95
„ St. Mary's Church, per John de Sydenham	2nd part, 16 Rich. II, 101

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„ Brudeport, William de	2 Edw. II, 74
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„ Bailly, Richard, chaplain	45 Edw. III, 64*
„ Mayor of, per John Barstable	18 Rich. II, 70
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„ Inquis. de depretatione navium	A Hen. VI, 23
„ „ ad inquirend. libertatis	47 Edw. III, 89*
„ „ de custuma, etc.	13 Edw. I, 122
„ Carmelite Brothers of Bristol, per John de Villa Torta	17 Edw. I, 35
„ Gloucester homines liberi fuerunt theolonio apud Bristol	Uncertain, Hen. III, 66
„ Gaunt College, Master of, for a Chantry in Bristol. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	30 Hen. VII, 1
„ Holy Cross Chapel in, <i>see</i> Atte Berough, Peter	
	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 80
„ „ Chaplain of, <i>see</i> Dyare, Wm.	
	2nd part, 16 Rich. II, 46
„ Kalend, De statu domus priorat' de. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	
	18 Hen. VI, 2
„ Knights' Templars (Fratres malicie Templi)	37 Hen. III, 38
„ St. Augustine's Priory (or Abbey), Henry, Presidens de	45 Edw. III, 72*
„ „ <i>see</i> Atton, John de	32 Edw. III, 28*
„ „ „ Gornay, John de	26 Edw. III, 35*
„ „ „ Lyons, Edmund	4 Edw. III, 115*
„ „ „ Panes, Richard	16 Edw. II, 149
„ St. John's Church, <i>see</i> Cowely, William	13 Rich. II, 83
„ „ „ „ Knyghton, John	13 Rich. II, 118
„ „ Hospital, <i>see</i> Burne, Wm. de	32 Edw. I, 141
„ „ „ „ „ <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	
	33 Edw. I, 196
„ St. Nicholas, <i>see</i> Wylkyns, John, sen.	6 Rich. II, 137
„ St. Thomas, <i>see</i> Cheddre, Robert	6 Rich. II, 101
„ „ „ Fortescue, John. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	
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Bristol, Tenements, etc, in, see	Bardeye, Thomas	24 Edw. I, 44
„	„	
„	Cannings, William	8 Edw. IV, 65
„	„	
„	Gloucester, Thomas, Duke of	
		21 Rich. II, 121
„	„	
„	Gyene, Robert	27 Edw. III, 52
„	„	
„	London, John de	
		App. 14 Edw. III, 8
„	„	
„	Malverne, Thomas	7 Hen. V, 38b
„	„	
„	Middleworth, John	21 Rich II, 77
„	„	
„	Say, James, Lord of	29 Edw. VI, 11
„	„	
„	Thorp, John	9 and 10 Edw. IV, 13
„	„	
„	Warwick, Anna, dau. of	
	Henry, Duke of	28 Hen. VI, 33
Britache, John		15 Edw. I, 20
Briwes, Robert de		4 Edw. I, 46
„	Brywes, John de	21 Edw. I, 32
Briweton, Prior of		40 Hen. III, 12
Brok, Nicholas, pro Abbey of Muchelney	2nd part,	15 Rich II, 35
„	Henry de	18 Edw. II, 72
Broke, John, son of Henry de la, senior		1 Edw. III, 43
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Brooke, Broke, John le		22 Edw. III, 26
„	Thomas, chev.	5 Hen. V, 54
„	Joan, wife of Thomas, mil.	15 Hen. VI, 62
„	Booke (sic) Thomas, mil.	17 Hen. VI, 32
„	Edward, of Cobham	4 Edw. IV, 26
Broughton, Phillippa, wife of John Dynham		5 Edw. IV, 18
Broun, Walter, and Margaret, see Basset, John.		
Bruere, Bruare, Lady Joan		49 Hen. III, 5
„	Priory of, William Michel, pro.	<i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i> 19 Edw. I, 36
Brumpton, Church of St. Andrew, per Peter de		
	Deverey. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 186
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„	„	„ Wellesegh, Philip.
„	„	„ Merston, John de.

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„ Brueton, Prior of, Thomas, Bp. of Exeter, pro.	28 Edw. I, 115
Bryen, Guido, chev., pro Priory Albe Aule de Ivelchester	48 Edw. III, 30*
„ Brian, <i>see</i> Boneville, William	
„ Bryene, Guido Miles	48 Edw. III, 34*
„ „ Brien, Philip, chev.	10 Rich. II, 7
„ „ Philip, chev., pro John Braunche	11 Rich. II, 80
„ „ Brien, William, chev.	20 Rich. II, 8
„ „ William, chev.	22 Rich. II, 12
„ „ Joan, wife of William, chev., <i>assignatione dotis</i>	21 Rich. II, 4
Brysford, rector of	4 Rich. II, 125
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Bukyngham, Henry de	41 Edw. III, 37*
Bulbek, John, <i>see</i> Thorne, Henry.	
Bullesdon, Thomas, arm	13 Edw. IV, 37
Burcy, Robert	<i>deest</i> Uncertain, Hen. III, 5
Bures, John de	24 Edw. III, 101
Burghershe, Burgherssh, Bartholomew, sen.	29 Edw. III, 44
„ Barthol., <i>see</i> Despenser, Edward de.	
Burgo, John de	3 Edw. I, 66
„ John de	8 Edw. I, 9
Burne, William de, pro Master of St. John's Hospital at Bristol	32 Edw. I, 141
„ William de, pro St. John's Hospital, Bristol. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 196
„ William de, pro Abbot of Glaston. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 207
Burnell, Philip	22 Edw. I, 45
„ Robert, Bp. of Bath and Wells	21 Edw. I, 50
„ Edward, and Alice, his wife	9 Edw. II, 67
„ Burnel, Alice, wife of Edward mil.	37, Edw. III, 14
„ „ Alina, wife of Edward	40 Edw. III, 11
„ John	48 Edw. III, 4
„ Nicholas, chev.	6 Rich. II, 20

Burnell, Hugh, chev., lord of Holgote and Weolegh	8 Hen. V, 116
„ Agnes, widow of Tristram	19 Edw. IV, 36
Bush, Ralph, arm., <i>breve tantum</i>	19 Hen. VI, 1
„ Ralph, arm.	20 Hen. VI, 26
Butler, <i>see</i> Boteler.	
Bygod, Roger le, Earl of Norfolk, and Marshall of England, and Alice, his wife	35 Edw. I, 46
Byrte, John	18 Edw. IV, 38
Cadebury, Nicholas de, <i>see</i> Botreux, William.	
Cadecote, Thomas de, magister hospital St. John, Bridgewater, <i>tenere possit.</i>	5 Rich. II, 83
Caille, als Keyle, William	44 Edw. III, 15
Campo Florido, Matthew de. <i>Inquis. manca and imperfecta</i>	2 Edw. II, 60
Cannings, William, licenc. dandi ad cantar. in Bristoll	8 Edw. IV, 65
„ Canynges, William, of Bristol	6 Edw. IV, 57
Cannington, Prioress of, <i>see</i> Fitzpayn, Robert.	
„ Priory, <i>see</i> Crosse, Robert.	
Cantelo, Emma, a daughter and heir of John de, <i>probatio etatis</i>	29 Edw. III, 69
Canterbury, <i>see</i> Cauntebregg.	
„ John, Archbp. of, <i>see</i> Peytevyne Walter.	
Cantilupe, George de	1 Edw. I, 16
„ Cantilupo, William de	16 Edw. I, 68
Cappes, Elizabeth, wife of Robert	13 Edw. IV, 60
„ Robert	16 Edw. IV, 13
Carant, Catherine, wife of William	13 Edw. IV, 30
„ Carente, William	22 Edw. III, 27
„ William, arm.	16 Edw. IV, 46
Carbonel, Peter	2 Edw. III, 35
Carminowe, Catherine, wife of Thomas de, <i>assignatione dotis</i>	13 Rich. II, 105
Cary, John, <i>see</i> Pontyngdon, Thomas.	
„ Henry, vicar of Lockyng, and Robert Atte Nye, pro Prior of Worspryng	5 Edw. III, 154*
„ Thomas	30 Edw. III, 37

Cary, Edmund		45 Edw. III, 10
„ Edmund	1st part,	49 Edw. III, 20
„ John, chev., <i>forisfact.</i>		11 Rich. II, 136
„ John, chaplain		7 Hen. VI, 52
Catecote, Walter		6 Hen. IV, 8
Caucy, Matilda		34 Edw. III, 57
Caudel, Adam, <i>see</i> Redmore, Henry.		
Caune, Herbert de		34 Edw. I, 143
Cauntebregg, Matilda de		6 Edw. III, 47
Cauntelo, John de	1st part,	23 Edw. III, 47
Caunvyll, John, arm.		29 Hen. VI, 32
Cause, Walter		19 Hen. VI, 14
Cave, Philip		11 Edw. IV, 43
Cayner, Robert		22 Edw. III, 6*
Cervington, Servington, William de		39 Edw. III, 39*
„ Oliver, arm.		7 Hen. V, 45
„ Servyngton, David, arm.		35 Hen. VI, 5
Chalcote, William		1 Rich. III, 4
Chalers, Matilda, wife of John, mil., defuncti		11 Edw. IV, 25
Champernoun, Richard, son of Thomas, kin and heir of Elizabeth, wife of Robert		
Herle, <i>probatio etatis</i>		40 Edw. III, 83
„ Campernoun, Otto		1 Hen. VI, 44
„ Champernoun, Joan, wife of Hugh, arm.		2 Edw. IV, 13
„ „ Hugh, arm.		22 Edw. IV, 32
Champflour (Chamflour), John de, feoffavit Geoffrey de Wroxhale		19 Edw. III, 40*
„ John, son of John		28 Edw. III, 35*
Champoins, Henry		4 Edw. IV, 8
Chapei, John, and Baldwin Walvesford	1st part,	15 Rich. II, 67
Charterhouse, Priory of, per Edmund, Earl of Cornwall. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>		13 Edw. I, 52
Chastelyn, Thomas, <i>see</i> Wyke, Joan.		
Chastillan, Alanus de		17 Edw. II, 2
Chaumbre, John de la, of Whyttukkesmede		9 Edw. II, 26
Chebeseye, William, <i>see</i> Courtenay, Hugh de, jun.		

Chedder, Cheddre, Robert, pro Priory of Witham, tenements in Bristol	50, Edw. III, 48*
„ Cheddre, Robert, for two chaplains, in St. Thomas, Bristol	6 Rich. II, 101
„ Thomas, arm.	21 Hen. VI, 55
„ Chodder, Isabella, widow	16 Edw. IV, 67
Chediok, John, chev.	3 Hen. V, 58
„ Chediocke, John, chev.	1 Hen. VI, 64
„ Alianora, wife of John, mil., defunct	12 Hen. VI, 38
„ Chidyoke, John de	11 Rich. II, 14
„ Chediok, John, sen., miles	12 Rich. II, 10
„ Chydiok, John, mil.	28 Hen. VI, 26
Chelworth, Robert, <i>fatuus</i>	18 Edw. IV, 20
Cherleton Makerell, <i>see</i> Horsy, John.	
„ William de	4 Edw. III, 30
„ William de, pro Priory of Bermundeseye	24 Edw. III, 38*
Cheyny, Nicholas de, and Alianora his wife	20 Edw. II, 51
„ William, chev.	19 Edw. III, 49
„ Cheyne, Edmundus de, <i>fil et hæc.</i> Wm. de Cheyne, <i>probatio cetatis</i>	21 Edw. III, 83
„ William, chev.	8 Hen. V, 46
„ Cecilia, wife of William, mfl., and Edmond, mil.	9 Hen. VI, 42
„ Cecilia, daughter and heir of Edmond, mil.	9 Hen. VI, 53
„ Margaret, wife of William, mil.	21 Hen. VI, 37
Chichester, Thomasia, wife of John	5 Hen. IV, 36
Childfrome, <i>see</i> Hardy, John.	
Chiltenham, Nicholas de, pro Abbey of Kayneshan	34 Edw. I, 96
Chitterne, John de	6 Edw. III, 7
Chodder, <i>see</i> Chedder.	
Choke, Richard, mil.	1 Rich. III, 40
„ Chokke, Margret, widow of Richard	2 Rich. III, 38
Chubbeworthe, Robert de	7 Edw. III, 7
Chubley, Roger, <i>felo</i>	33 Hen. III, 3
Churchull, John de	56 Hen. III, 38

- Chute, Elizabeth, *see* Lorty, John de.
- Clare, Richard de, Earl of Gloucester and Herts 47 Hen. III, 34
 „ Gilbert de, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford 24 Edw. I, 107
 „ Joana, wife of Gilbert de, Earl of Gloucester
 and Hertford 35 Edw. I, 47
 „ Gilbert de, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford 8 Edw. II, 68
- Clarence, Lionel, Duke of, and Elizabeth, his wife
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 „ Margaret, Duchess of 18 Hen. VI, 73
 „ George, Duke of, attainted, and Isabella,
 his wife 18, Edw. IV, 46 & 47
- Clerc, Isolda, daughter and heir of Peter le, wife of
 Roger Bercham 5 Edw. I, 57
- Clevedon, Richard 3 Rich. II, 164
 „ Clyvedon, Edmund, mil., *see* Hogshawe,
 Edmund.
 „ Clyvedon, Matthew de, *see* Dammory,
 Richard.
 „ Clyvedon, Richard de 49 Edw. III, 77
 „ „ Edmund de 50 Edw. III, 14
 „ „ Richard, *extenta terrarum* 5 Rich. II, 70
- Clive, Abbot of, *see* Pyron, Hugh.
 „ Clyve, Abbey of, William Berkeroles, pro.
In. ad. q. d. 20 Edw. I, 108
 „ Clyve Abbey, per Gilbert de Wolavyngton.
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 „ Clyve, Abbot of 3 Edw. III, 99*
- Clopton, Christiana, wife of Richard 14 Hen. IV, 13
- Cobham, John, of Blakeburgh, chev. 12 Rich. II, 12
 „ Reginald, sen., chev. 4 Hen. IV, 34
- Coffyn, Emma and Isabella 51 Edw. III, 7
- Cogan, William, chev., *see* de la Haye, William.
 „ John de 30 Edw. I, 29
 „ Thomas de 8 Edw. II, 60
 „ Richard, chev. 42 Edw. III, 15
 „ William, chev., and Isabella, his wife 6 Rich. II., 22
 „ John, son and heir of William, chev. 12 Rich. II, 9

Cogan, Elizabeth, wife of William, mil.	8 Hen. V, 102
Coke, Henry	15 Edw. IV, 52
Coker, Thomas de, pro Prior de Monteacuto	28 Edw. I, 137
„ William	18 Edw. III, 84*
„ Agnes, wife of Robert	7 Hen. V, 42
„ Robert and Michaela, his wife	9 Hen. V, 49
(This is entered under Robert Derby, but she is the same person as next entry.)	
„ Michaela, wife of Robert, arm.	4 Hen. VI, 38
Cole, John, and Margery, <i>see</i> Erleigh, John de	
Colne, Hugh de	14 Edw. III, 37*
Colshill, Colshull, John, who married Elizabeth, a daughter of Edmond Cheyne, mil., son of Cecilia, wife of William Cheyney, mil., <i>probatio etatis.</i>	17 Hen. VI, 70
„ John, mil.	1 Rich. III, 42
Columbariis, Philip de	46 Hen. III, 12
„ Philip de	5 Edw. I, 5
„ John de. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	27 Edw. I, 71
„ John de	34 Edw. I, 54
„ Philip de, and Alianora, his wife, pro Lodowic de Kemmeys, parson of Combe Martin	1 Edw. III, 82*
„ Philip de	16 Edw. III, 50
„ Alianora, wife of Philip	16 Edw. III, 51
„ Philip de	16 Hen. VI, 58
Cornwall, Edmund, Earl of, pro Priory of Charterhouse. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	13 Edw. I, 52
„ Edmund, Earl of	28 Edw. I, 44
Corscombe, Elias de, <i>see</i> Wellislegh Philip de.	
Corston, John, pro Abbey of Malmesbury	13 Rich. II, 127
Coumbe, John de, chev.	45 Edw. III, 12
Courteney, Curtenay, John de	2 Edw. I, 27
„ Hugh de	20 Edw. I, 38
„ Hugh de	20 Edw. I, 133

Courteney, Hugh de, jun., feoffavit Robert Pil and William Chebeseye	9 Edw. III, 61*
„ Hugh de, Earl of Devon	14 Edw. III, 27
„ Thomas de, chev.	1st part, 36 Edw. III, 48
„ Thomas de, chev.	39 Edw. III, 48*
„ Hugh de, son and heir of Thomas	1st part, 43 Edw. III, 24
„ Thomas de	1st part, 43 Edw. III, 70
„ Emelina, wife of Edward, daughter and heir of John D'Aunay	45 Edw. III, 15
„ Elizabeth, wife of Hugh de	1st part, 49 Edw. III, 27
„ Hugh de, Earl of Devon	51 Edw. III, 6
„ Hugh de, Earl of Devon	1 Rich. II, 12
„ Margaret, wife of Hugh de, Earl of Devon	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 16
„ Peter, chev.	6 Hen. IV, 38
„ Philip, chev.	7 Hen. IV, 51
„ Richard	3 Hen. V, 49
„ Cortney, Edward, Earl of Devon	7 Hen. V, 75
„ Hugh, Earl of Devon	10 Hen. V, 29b
„ Richard, Bishop of Norwich	3 Hen. V, 49
„ Hugh, who died temp. Henry IV.	1 Hen. VI, 63
„ Hugh, chev.	3 Hen. VI, 30
„ Anna, Countess of Devon	19 Hen. VI, 40
„ Humphry, mil.	35 Hen. VI, 14
„ Thomas, Earl of Devon	36 Hen. VI, 38
„ Joan, wife of Humphry, mil.	1 Edw. IV, 8
„ Philip, mil,	3 Edw. IV, 29
Coweley, William, pro John Knyghton and Richard de Leycestre, Chaplains in St. John's church, Bristol	13 Rich. II, 83
Craucumbe, Simon de	1st part, 23 Edw. III, 1
Crikelade, Elizabeth, <i>traverse</i>	6 Edw. IV, 55
Crikkad, Elizabeth	5 Edw. IV, 11
Cristesham, Nicholas, pro Thomas Hore, magistro burgi de Welles	18 Rich. II, 97
Crome, John, <i>see</i> Wylkyns John.	

Cropenhull, Robert and Margaret, of Pen- delesford	33 Edw. III, 20*
Crosse, Robert, parson of Spaxton, pro Priory of Canyngton	5 Rich. II, 81
Crukern, Richard de, Chaplain	33 Edw. III, 23*
„ Crokehorn, John, formerly of South Perot	28 Hen. VI, 17
Cruket, William de	7 Edw. II, 35
Cryspyn, Joan, wife of William	13 Edw. II, 24
Cultura, Juliana de	40 Hen. III, 10
Cuture, Robert de la	50 Hen. III, 14
Dammory, John	33 Edw. I, 52
„ Richard	4 Edw. III, 13
„ Richard, feoffavit Matthew Clyvedon	16 Edw. III, 20*
„ Damory, Peter, <i>felo</i>	40 Edw. III, 3*
Dando, or Dauno, <i>see</i> Anno, Godfrey.	
Dansey, Daneseye, Richard (query if co. Som.)	38 Hen. III, 3
„ Danteseye, Richard, pro Priory of Henton	17 Edw. I, 34
„ Dauncy, John, chev.	20 Edw. III, 33
„ Thomas	18 Edw. IV, 30
Daubeney, D'Aubeneye, Ralph, pro William de Botreaux, and Elizabeth, his wife	44 Edw. III, 37*
„ D'Aubeneye, Ralph, feoffavit Giles D'Aubeneye	45 Edw. III, 11*
„ Daubenay, Giles and Alianora, his wife, <i>assignatio dotis</i>	10 Rich. II, 12
„ Giles, chev.	11 Rich. II, 20
„ Alianora, wife of Giles, chev., <i>assignatio dotis</i>	12 Rich. II, 17
„ Alianora, wife of Giles	1 Hen. IV, 54
„ Giles, chev.	4 Hen. IV, 23
„ John, son and heir of Giles	11 Hen. IV, 42
„ Margaret, wife of Giles, chev.	8 Hen. V, 83
„ Giles, mil.	24 Hen. VI, 26
„ Alice, wife of John, mil.	33 Hen. VI, 20

Daubeney, William, arm., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	1 Edw. IV, 58
Daubernonn, John, <i>see</i> St. Clair John, <i>fil.</i> John.	
D'Aumarle, William and Matilda, his wife	9 Edw. III, 30
„ D'Aumerle, William, feoffavit Walter de Kynewardesleye, parson of Alvardeston	6 Edw. III, 29*
Daunay, D'Aunay, John, <i>see</i> Courtenay, Emilina.	
„ Nicholas	6 Edw. III, 79*
„ Dauney, Sibilla, wife of John, chev., <i>assignatio dotis</i>	21 Edw. III, 82
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David, Henry, vicar of Clonford, pro Abbey of Keynesham	1st part, 16 Rich. II, 39
Davillers, Bathus, <i>fil.</i> John	5, Edw. III, 76
De la Haye, William, <i>tenuit de</i> William Cogan, chev.	6 Rich. II, 95
De la Lynde, John	1 Edw. I, 2
„ Walter, pro Thomas de Lodelawe, <i>delicencia feofandi. Inq. ad q. d.</i>	25 Edw. I, 53
„ Elias and Johanna, his wife	11 Rich. II, 35
De la Mare, Robert, inheritance of Nicholas de Seymour	44 Edw. III, 23
„ John, chev., pro Laurence Watyssche, chaplain of Frome	1 Rich. II, 125
Delyngton, John, <i>see</i> Benet, Thomas.	
Dene, Agnes, wife of Adam de	1st part, 23 Edw. III, 32
Denebaud, Philip	30 Hen. III, 8, 34
„ Denebaude, John	14 Rich. II, 18
Denebonde, John, son and heir of Thomas	44 Edw. III, 84
Derby, John, <i>see</i> Mershton, John de	
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„ William, chaplain, pro Abbey of Mucheleneye	32, Edw. III, 58*
„ Anicia, wife of Stephen	8 Hen. V, 81
„ Alice, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	38 and 39 Hen. VI, 9
Dispenser, Hugh le and Elizabeth, relict of Giles de Badelesmere	2nd part, 23 Edw. III, 169

Dispenser, Edward le, chev, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and heir of Bartholomew Burghershe	2nd part, 49 Edw. III, 46
Devere, Peter de, pro Church of St. Andrew's, Brumpton. <i>Inq. ad. q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 186
Devon, Thomas, Earl of, <i>see</i> Moyle, Walter.	
„ Earl of, <i>see</i> Stafford, Humphry.	
„ Earl of, <i>see</i> Courtney.	
Doddesham, William	20 Edw. IV, 78
Dodington, Dodyngton, John, sen.	22 Hen. VI, 4
„ John, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	2 Edw. IV, 24
„ Dodyngton, Philip	1 Rich. III, 7
Dore, Roger and Johanna, his wife, <i>see</i> Inge, Johana.	
„ Roger and Joan, feoffaverunt Thomas Knoel	47 Edw. III, 24*
„ Joan, wife of Roger	6 Rich. II, 34
Dorset, Isabella, wife of John Nevill, Marquis of	17 Edw. IV, 33
Doumere, John de (<i>vide</i> Rot. Fin. a ^o 18 Edw. II, m. 5)	18 Edw. II, 74
Dourborgh, Hugh	2 Rich. II, 79
Dovebande, Thomas	1st part, 36 Edw. III, 61
Draycote, Robert de	21 Edw. I, 23b
„ John de	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 71
„ Simon	1st part, 49 Edw. III, 35
Drokenesford, John de, Bishop of Bath and Wells	3 Edw. III, 41
„ John de	3 Edw. III, 48*
„ John de	15 Edw. III, 40
„ Thomas de	1st part, 36 Edw. III, 54
Dryfford, Richard, rector of, <i>placita</i>	6 Rich. II, 113
Dubbe, Richard, of Horfy (<i>sic</i>) pro Abbey of Muchelnye. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	18 Edw. I, 69
Dudmerton, John de, Chaplain pro Priory of Baa. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	5 Rich. II, 104
Dunster, Robert, bailiff of	47 Edw. III, 77*
Durant, Avelina	5 Edw. II, 58
„ Richard	7 Edw. III, 21
„ Duraunt, Thomas	2nd part, 23 Edw. III, 146

Durburgh, John de	26 Edw. III, 48
Durcote, John	4 Hen. V, 8
„ Richard, son and heir of John, <i>probatio etatis</i>	5 Hen. V, 70
Durdent, Nicholas	21 Edw. I, 21
Durneford, William de, <i>see</i> Faucumberge, Matilda de	
Durvill, Eustace de, <i>felo</i>	8 Edw. I, 70
Dyare, William, pro Chapel of Holy Trinity, Bristol	2nd part, 16 Rich. II, 46
Dynham, Phillippa, <i>see</i> Broughton, Phillippa.	
„ Dyneham, Oliver	27 Edw. I, 42
„ Joceus de. Also assignment of dower of Margaret, widow of said Joceus	29 Edw. I, 56
„ John de, pro Matilda de Moleton	2 Edw. III, 97*
„ John de	6 Edw. III, 59
„ Dyneham, Margaret, wife of John, <i>assignatio dotis</i>	6 Edw. III, 82
„ Oliver de	16 Edw. III, 17
„ Margaret, wife of John de	App. 36 Edw. III, 131
„ John de, mil.	6 Rich. II, 28
„ Dinham, Matilda, wife of John, mil.	7 Hen. IV, 24
„ John, mil.	7 Hen. VI, 56
„ John, mil.	36 Hen. VI, 39
Echingham, William. (Chorlebery manor, co. Surrey, in calendar, but should be Cheselb' manor, co. Som.)	37 Hen. III, 57*
Edington, Edyndon, Gilbert de	1st part, 36 Edw. III, 67
„ Edyngton, Thomas son and heir of Gilbert, <i>probatio etatis</i>	37 Edw. III, 95
Edward, John	19 Edw. III, 4*
Elyndon, Thomas de	5 Edw. I, 8
Engayne, Vital'	33 Hen. III, 70
„ Henry	54 Hen. III, 46
Erle, Elizabeth, wife of John de	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 77
Erleigh, Erlegh, John de	17 Edw. II, 62
„ Erleye, John de	11 Edw. III, 11
„ John, son and heir of John de, <i>probatio etatis</i>	28 Edw. III, 71

Erleigh, Erlegh, John de, pro John Cole, of Bridg-	} 44 Edw. III, 42*
water, and Margery his wife	
„ „ John de, feoffavit Rich. Brice and Edith	} 45 Edw. III, 9*
his wife	
Erlestoke, Thomas, parson of Fisssherton, pro Priory	
of Witham	1 Rich. II, 89
Essex and Hereford, Earl of, <i>see</i> Bohun, Humfrey de.	
Esheleye, Walter de	30 Hen. III, 19
Euerti, Peter de, and Isabella his wife	18 Edw. II, 54
Everard, Edmund, cler., <i>see</i> Bere, Richard de la, and Everard,	
William.	
„ William	7 Edw. I, 5
„ Edmund	15 Edw. II, 43
„ William	17 Edw. III, 27
„ William, pro Edmund Everard, parson of	
Colstreworth	2 Edw. III, 87*
„ Edmund, mil.	44 Edw. III, 26
„ Patricius	50 Edw. III, 40*
Exeter, Dean and Chapter of St. Peter's, <i>see</i> Stapeldone, Thomas de.	
„ Thomas, Bp. of, pro Prior de Brueton	28 Edw. I, 115
„ Excestr., Philip, of Bristol, pro Vicar of All Saints,	
Bristol	20 Rich. II, 67
„ John, Duke of	25 Hen. VI, 25
„ Ann, Duchess of	36 Hen. VI, 41
„ Anna, Duchess of, sister of the King, subsequently	
wife of Thomas Selenger (St. Leger), arm.	
	15 Edw. IV, 36
Fagg, John	29 Edw. I, 27
„ Fag, Marmaduke	34 Edw. III, 64
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	1st part, 23 Edw. III, 56
„ Matilda de, pro William de	
Durneford	7 Edw. III, 58*
Fauconer, John le	15 Edw. III, 27
„ John	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 102
Felde, Richard de la	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 80
Fenlis, John de	5 Edw. III, 29*

- Fenys, Margaret, *see* Hervey, Margaret.
- Fermour, Thomas, pro Abbey of Glastonbury,
Inq. ad. quod dam. C. Hen. VI, 32
- Ferrers, Joan de 37 Hen. III, 21
 ,, Robert, chev. 1 Hen. V, 26
 ,, Edmond, of Charteleye, mil. 14 Hen. VI, 33
 ,, William de, mil., of Charteley 28 Hen. VI, 22
- Fichet, *see* Fytchet.
- Fil. Bernardi, John Uncertain, Hen. III, 183
- Fil. Galfrid de Rumesye, John, *fatuus* 27 Edw. I, 101
- Fitz Herberd, Reginald 33 Edw. III, 115*
 ,, Edmund, chev., and Joan, his wife 10 Rich. II, 18
 ,, Fitzherbert, Reginald le 20 Edw. III, 48
- Fitz James, Thomas, pro Hospital of St. John, Bridgwater
 23 Edw. III, 41*
 ,, John 16 Edw. IV, 35
- Fil. John le Parker, William, pro Priory of Loco Dei
 of Henton. *Inq. ad q. d.* 33 Edw. I, 256
- Fil. Maurice, Maurice of Berkle 21 Edw. III, 51
- Fitz Ours, Ralph, chev. 24 Edw. III, 79
- Fil. Pagani, Robert 9 Edw. I, 23
 ,, Robert, and Isabella his wife 9 Edw. II, 63
- Fitz Payn, Robert le, licencia feoffandi, pro John de
 Maundevill. *Inq. ad. q. d.* 33 Edw. I, 182
 ,, Robert, for Prioress of Canyngton 6 Edw. III, 94*
 ,, Ela, wife of Robert 30 Edw. III, 14
 ,, Robert, and Ela his wife 28 Edw. III, 41
 ,, Robert, chev. 1st part, 16 Rich. II, 12
- Fil. Peter, Reginald 14 Edw. I, 18
 ,, Joan, wife of Reginald, *de lic. feoffandi.*
 pro Petro and Reginaldo filius
 Reginaldi 28 Edw. I, 144
 ,, Joan, wife of Reginald, [*see* also 28 Edw. I.
 168, and 30 Edw. I, 150] 31 Edw. I, 99
 ,, Reginald, Joan de Vinonia, wife of Fil.
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„	„ Alice, wife of John arm., defunct	15 Hen. VI, 7
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Lincoln, Alured de	48 Hen. III, 19
„ Earl of, Henry de Lacy, Margaret Longespeé, sometime his wife	4 Edw. II, 51
Lisle, Viscountess, <i>see</i> Talbot, Joan.	
„ Lysle, John, Viscount	32 Hen. VI, 38
Luccumbe, Parson of, <i>see</i> St. John, Alexander de.	
Luda, Thomas de, and Alianora his wife, pro Abbey of Abrodesbury (? Abbotsbury, Dorset). <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 242
Luscote, Joan, dau. and h. of Alice, wife of William de, and kin and heir of Thomas Archard, and kin and heir of Gilbert de Knovitt	41 Edw. III, 79
Lutcombe, Hugh de	16 Edw. II, 45
„ Lutcumbe, John de, and Sibilla his wife	19 Edw. II, 60
„ Hugh de	19 Edw. II, 61
„ Luttecoumbe, John, son of Hugh de	8 Edw. III, 37
Lutte, John, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	2 Edw. IV, 23
Lutterell, Luterel, Hugh, chev.	6 Hen. VI, 32
„ John, mil., and Margaret his wife	9 Hen. VI, 51
„ James, mil	1 Edw. IV, 43
„ Lutrell, Catherine, wife of Hugh, chev., <i>assignatio dotis</i>	6 Hen. VI, 83
„ „ Catherine	14 Hen. VI, 30
„ „ Margaret, wife of John, chev.	17 Hen. VI, 14
„ Loterell, Elizabeth	15 Edw. IV, 57
„ „ Elizabeth, wife of James	App., 9 Hen. VII, 8
Luttswell, Thomas de	4 Edw. III, 56*
Lynd, Alexander	20 Edw. IV, 81
„ Lynde, de la, <i>see</i> de la Lynde.	
Lyons, Lyouns, William de	5 Edw. II, 63
„ „ Adam de	6 Edw. II, 25
„ „ Thomas de	1 Edw. III, 84*

Lyons, de Ayshton, Edmund de, pro Abbot of St.	
Augustines, Bristol	4 Edw. III, 115*
,, William de, feoffavit Thomas de Lyons	40 Edw. III, 48*
,, Lyouns, William, son of Edmund 1st part,	43 Edw. III, 63
,, ,, Thomas, feoffavit Nicholas Boyl,	
Vicar of Redeclyve	45 Edw. III, 8*
,, Thomas, pro Priory of St. John, Wells	19 Rich. II, 86
Mayott, William	1 Hen. V, 22
Malet, Lucy, wife of Richard	44 Edw. III, 43
,, Hugh	5 Edw. IV, 8
Maleyns, Edmund, chev., and Isabella his wife	9 Rich. II, 37
Malmesbury, Abbey of, per John Corston	13 Rich. II, 127
Malverne, Thomas, tenements in Bristol	7 Hen. V, 38b
March, Earls of, <i>see</i> Mortuo Mari.	
Marisco, William de	12 Edw. I, 23
Marland, John	3 Hen. V, 29
Marlborough, Marleberghe, Thomas de	2 Edw. III, 81* and 91*
,, Marleberge, William de	8 Edw. III, 63*
Marney, Christina, wife of John, mil.	App., 9 Hen. VIII, 1
Marreys, Mareis, Herbert de	1 Edw. III, 34
,, Stephen, chev., and Lucy his wife	5 Rich. II, 39
,, Mareys, Lucy, wife of Stephen	9 Rich. II, 61
,, Lucy, wife of Stephen	10 Rich. II, 87
,, Stephen, chev.	14 Rich. II, 37
Marshall, Earl, <i>see</i> Moubray, Thomas.	
,, Marescallus, William de	45 Hen. III, 34
,, Mareschal, William le	20 Edw. I, 148
,, ,, Ralph	20 Edw. III, 36
,, ,, Walter, Earl of Pembroke	40 Edw. III, 53*
,, ,, Thomas, mil., <i>appreciation terrarum</i>	
	9 Rich. II, 82
,, Marchall, Thomas, chev., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	11 Rich. II, 36
,, John	11 Edw. IV, 28
,, Marchall, Elizabeth	20 Edw. IV, 18
Martyn, Martyne, William, son of William	19 Edw. II, 100
,, Margaret, wife of William	33 Edw. III, 10
,, Richard, <i>extent.</i>	21 Rich. II, 133

Maundevill, John	4 Edw. I, 48
„ Galfrid de	11 Edw. I, 59
„ John de, <i>licencia feoffandi</i> , pro Robert le Fitzpayn. <i>Ing. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 182
Mautravers, John	25 Edw. I, 33
„ John, son of John	1st part, 23 Edw. III, 52
„ Agnes, wife of John, sen.	2nd part, 49 Edw. III, 17
„ John, chev., and Elizabeth his wife	9 Rich. II, 35
„ John, chev., and Elizabeth his wife	10 Rich. II, 25
„ Matravers, Alianora, wife of John Arundel, sen.	6 Hen. IV, 31
Mayloysel, Dionisia, wife of Richard	3 Edw. I, 48
Mede, Philip	16 Edw. IV, 23
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Meere, Chantry of, <i>see</i> Bettesthorpe, John de	
Meriet, Matilda, wife of John, <i>see</i> Punchedard, John and Alice	
„ Hugh de	20 Hen. III, 16e
„ Nicholas de	47 Hen. III, 7
„ Meriott, John de	13 Edw. I, 20
„ John, s. and h. of John de and Roger Basset and Ella his wife	30 Edw. I, 147
„ John, lord of	1 Edw. II, 62, and 2 Edw. II, 2
„ John, and Elizabeth his wife	1 Edw. III, 50
„ George de, and Isabella his wife	2 Edw. III, 48
„ Meryet, Walter de, pro frat. de Monte Carmel	15 Edw. III, 58*
„ Walter de, Clericus	17 Edw. III, 43*
„ Meryet, Walter de	19, Edw. III, 55
„ „ John de, chev., feoffavit, Robert Samborn, Parson of Meryet	36 Edw. III, 53*
„ John, son of John, heir of John de Beauchamp	42 Edw. III, 40* and 81
„ John, mil.	45 Edw. III, 45*
„ John de chev. pro John de, Lapene and Isolda his wife	47 Edw. III, 84*
„ Meryet, John de	48 Edw. III, 81
„ John, chev.	2nd part, 49 Edw. III, 15*

Meriet, Meryet, John, chev., pro Thomas de Bokeland, chev.	3 Rich. II, 96
„ John, chev., and Matilda his wife, formerly wife of Ralph Seymour, mil. 1st pt., 15 Rich. II, 48	
Merland, Merlaund, Henry de, <i>deest.</i>	12 Edw. II, 24
„ Merlaunde, Henry de	20 Edw. III, 20
„ Henry, son of Henry de, feoffavit William Flemmyng, cler.	22 Edw. III, 17*
„ Merlaund, Joan de	2nd part, 23 Edw. III, 81
„ Merlaunde, Henry de, and Joan his wife	45 Edw. III, 43
„ Merlond, Margaret, wife of Henry	9 Rich. II, 38
Mershton, Mersshton, John, pro Priory of Bruyton	28 Edw. III, 6*
„ John de, pro Abbey of Keynesham	34 Edw. III, 40*
„ John de and John Derby, pro Priory of Witham	35 Edw. III, 18*
„ Merston, John de, pro Priory of Bruton	36 Edw. III, 55*
„ Mersheton, John de, pro Abbey of Key- nesham	37 Edw. III, 68*
„ Merston, Emma, wife of John, formerly wife of Richard de la Ryvere	41 Edw. III, 41
Merton, Mertone, Richard de	16 Edw. III, 44
„ Richard de	47 Edw. III, 25
Meysy, Robert, pro Priory of Staverdale	19 Edw. III, 39*
Michel, William, pro Priory of Bruere. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	19 Edw. I, 36
„ Simon and Thomas Atte Lode, <i>placita</i>	8 Rich. II, 104
Middelneye, Ralph de	13 Edw. III, 47*
„ Middelnye, Ralph de	14 Edw. III, 41*
„ Middelnay, Ralph de, chev., and Eliza- beth, feoffaverunt John, Parson of Putteneve	29 Edw. III, 54*
„ Middelney, Ralph de	37 Edw. III, 48
„ „ John, <i>retinere possit</i>	19 Rich. II, 120
Middelton, John, <i>see</i> Latymer, Thomas.	
Middelworth, John, Parson of Wryngton, pro Abbot of Glastonbury	21 Rich. II, 77
Milborn, Simon	4 Edw. IV, 12
Miles, Richard	15 Edw. IV, 23

Modesley, Modusley, Joan, wife of John	46 Edw. III, 37
„ William, son and heir of Joan, wife of John	46 Edw. III, 88
Moeles, Nicholas de, <i>see</i> Thornhull, Walter de	
„ Roger de	23 Edw. I, 59
„ Nicholas de, and Margaret his wife	9 Edw. II, 60
„ John de,	11 Edw. III, 56
„ Margaret, wife of Nicholas	11 Edw. III, 57
„ „ wife of Nicholas de 2nd part,	23 Edw. III, 168
Mohun, John de	7 Edw. I, 13
„ William de	10 Edw. I, 19
„ John de	14 Edw. I, 23
„ Mohoun, John de	4 Edw. III, 35
„ Joan, wife of John, chev.	6 Hen. IV, 33
Moigne, Edmund	50 Edw. III, 82
„ Edmund	6 Rich. II, 54
„ Edmund	7 Rich. II, 53
Moleton, Matilda de, <i>see</i> Dynham, John de	
Molyns, John de, chev. feoffavit, Walter de Notyngham, Clericus	20 Edw. III, 1*
„ Henry, jun., and Joan	34 Edw. III, 14*
„ John	11 Rich. II, 38
„ John and Alice his wife	12 Rich. II, 131
„ Nicholas, son and heir of John, <i>probatione</i> <i>etatis</i>	4 Hen. IV, 49
„ Henry	7 Hen. IV, 39
Montagu and Montacute, <i>see</i> Monte Acuto.	
Monte Acuto, John de, <i>see</i> Grauntsoun, John de	
„ Prior of, Thomas de Coker, pro	28 Edw. I, 137
„ William de, and Elizabeth his wife	13 Edw. II, 31
„ Marcus, Prior of	6 Edw. III, 127*
„ William de, Earl of Salisbury	18 Edw. III, 51
„ Katherine, wife of William de, Earl of Salisbury 2nd part,	23 Edw. III, 58
„ William, s. and h. of William, Earl of Salisbury	23 Edw. III, 97
„ Elizabeth de	28 Edw. III, 39

Monte Acuto, William de, Earl of Salisbury, pro	
Brian de Stapleton	42 Edw. III, 26*
,, Prior of, <i>de temporalibus</i>	7 Rich. II, 127
,, Margaret, wife of John, mil.	18 Rich. II, 31
,, William de, Earl of Salisbury	20 Rich. II, 35
,, Thomas de, Earl of Salisbury. <i>Inq.</i> <i>super forisfacturam</i>	10 Hen. IV, 54
,, Elizabeth, wife of William, Earl of Salisbury	2 Hen. V, 39
,, Elizabeth, wife of William de, Earl of Salisbury	4 Hen. V, 55
,, Elizabeth, wife of William de, Earl of Salisbury, <i>milius inquirend.</i>	5 Hen. V, 56
,, Thomas, Earl of Salisbury	7 Hen. VI, 57
,, Richard de, chev.	8 Hen. VI, 39
,, John, Prior of the church of St. Peter and St. Paul at	App., 1 Edw. V, 1
,, Mountague, William, arm.	1 Rich. III, 16
Monte Alto, Milisenta de	27 Edw. I, 50
Monte Carmel, Frat. de, see Meryet, Walter de.	
Montfort, Monte Forti, Henry de	32 Edw. I, 54
,, Mountford, Richard, s. and h. of Henry, <i>probatio cetatis.</i>	6 Edw. II, 70
,, Roger, <i>outlaw</i>	44 Edw. III, 45
Morcestre, Richard de, Parson of Lucombe, see St. John, Alexander de.	
,, Richard de, and Alexander St. John, and Elizabeth his wife, <i>placita</i>	8 Rich. II, 114
More, Stephen de la	2 Edw. III, 46
,, John, arm.	20 Edw. IV, 69
,, Richard of Pykyet, and Elizabeth his wife	11 Hen. VI, 26
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Mortuo Mari, Roger	33 Hen. III, 41
,, Roger de, sen.	11 Edw. I, 28
,, Robert de	15 Edw. I, 30
,, William de	25 Edw. I, 36

Mortuo Mari, Mortimer, William, and others, pro Prior	
de Mountagu	28 Edw. I, 48, 137
,, Matilda de	29 Edw. I, 53
,, Edmund, and Margaret his wife	32 Edw. I, 63
,, Matilda, wife of Hugh	1 Edw. II, 59
,, Margareta, wife of Edmund de	16 Edw. II, 81
,, Senior, Margareta, wife of Edmund de	8 Edw. III, 19
,, Roger de	34 Edw. III, 86
,, Philippa, wife of Roger, formerly Earl of March	5 Rich. II, 44
,, Roger de, Earl of March	22 Rich. II, 34
,, Alianora, wife of Roger de, Earl of March	7 Hen. IV, 23
,, Edmund de, Earl of March	3 Hen. VI, 32
,, Anna, wife of Edmund, Earl of	11 Hen. VI, 39
Morward, Henry le, <i>felo</i>	35 Edw. I, 51
Moubray, Thomas, Earl Marshall	{ 6 Hen. IV, 44
,, Constance, Countess Marescall	{ 8 Hen. IV, 76
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Moyle, Walter, for the use of Thomas, Earl of Devon	9 and 10 Edw. IV, 38
Mucheldenere, Richard, pro Chaplain of Ryme	12 Rich. II, 157
Muchelneye, Abbey of, <i>see</i> Willyng, William.	
,, ,, ,, Derby, William.	
,, Muchelney, Abbey of, <i>see</i> Rossydenek, Richard.	
,, Abbot of, <i>see</i> Godwyne, William de.	
,, Muchelnye, Abbey of, Rich. Dubbe of Horfy, pro. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	18 Edw. I, 69
,, Muchelney, Abbey of, per Nicholas Brok	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 35
Multon, Matildis de	21 Edw. I, 25
Munehene Barowe, Priory of, <i>see</i> Acton, Richard de.	
Murdac, Alice, and Osbert Giffard	31 Hen. III, 41
Muscegro, Robert de	38 Hen. III, 39
,, John de	3 Edw. I, 23
,, Robert de	9 Edw. I, 24
,, Robert de, <i>see</i> fil. Richard, John.	

Muscegros, Robert	38 Hen. III, 39
Musket, John, of Hescombe	25 Edw. III, 17
„ William, pro John and Alianora Musket	33 Edw. III, 40*
„ John, son of William	47 Edw. III, 23
„ Alianora	9 Rich. II, 36
Mutton, Margaret, wife of William, arm., formerly wife of John Sydenham, arm.	17 Edw. IV, 36
Mylbourne, Thomas, mil.	{ App., 8 Hen. VII, 2 { App., 9 Hen. VII, 1
Mynty, Ralph de, <i>see</i> Stonford, John.	
Newton, William, <i>see</i> Lorty, Matilda.	
„ William	31 Hen. VI, 14
„ Emma	16 Edw. IV, 12
Nevile, Hawisia de, <i>de valore tantum</i>	Uncertain, Hen. III, 84
„ Nevyle, John de	10 Edw. I, 22
„ Nevill, Elizabeth, wife of John de, chev.	1 Hen. VI, 4b
„ „ Isabella, wife of John, Marquis of Dorset	17 Edw. IV, 33
Newburgh, Novo Burgo, Robert	30 Hen. III, 33
„ John	1 Rich. III, 41
„ Nebourgh, John, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	22 Hen. VI, 44
Newbury, William	4 Hen. V, 35
Newnham, Nyweham, Abbey of, <i>see</i> Fychet, Thomas.	
Nicol, John, <i>felo</i>	45 Edw. III, 10*
Noneton, Baldricus de	3 Edw. II, 45
Norfolk, Earl of, Roger le Bygod, and Marshall of England, and Alice his wife	35 Edw. I, 46
Norman, Agnes	2 Rich. III, 27
Northumberland, Alianora, Countess of	1 Rich. III, 26
Norton, Jordan de, <i>felo</i>	55 Hen. III, 20
„ Thomas de	20 Edw. III, 23
„ Agnes, wife of Thomas, arm.	7 Hen. V, 40
„ Thomas	28 Hen. VI, 13
„ St. Philip, Giles, Parson of, and John Talbot, pro Priory of Henton	36 Edw. III, 60*
Norwich, Bishop of, <i>see</i> Courtnaye, Richard.	
Notyngham, Walter de, <i>see</i> Molyns, John.	

Novo Burgo, <i>see</i> Newburgh.	
Nurse, Thomas, arm.	App., 16 Jas. 1, 7
Nye, Robert atte, <i>see</i> Cary, Henry.	
Olyver, Simon. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	18 Rich. II, 112
Orchard, Robert	1 Hen. V, 47
„ William, and Richard his son	8 Hen. V, 90
Organ, Emote, heiress of Nicholas Wotton, defunct, <i>probatio cetatis</i>	37 Hen. VI, 50
Ormond, Earls of, <i>see</i> Botiller.	
Othe, Thomas, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	16 Hen. VI, 16
Oultyng, Thomas, cler. for Chantry of Long Ashton, near Bristol	1 Rich. III, 50
Ovill-Eyvill, William de	50 Hen. III, 30
„ Ovile, William de, and Joan his wife	33 Edw. I, 34
Packere, Matthew le	21 Edw. I, 67
Pagan, <i>see</i> fil. Pagani.	
Palton, Robert de	2 Hen. IV, 29
„ William, mil.	28 Hen. VI, 28
Panes, Richard de, of Bristol, for Priory of St. August- tine's, Bristol. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	16 Edw. II, 149
„ Thomas de, by Henry fil. Roger	17 Edw. III, 61*
„ John fil. Robert de, <i>idiota</i>	2nd part, 36 Edw. III, 16
„ John, son of Robert, <i>fatuus et idiota</i>	3 Rich. II, 48
Pappeworth, William de, <i>see</i> Tournament, John.	
„ Elizabeth, wife of William de, dau. and h. of John de Preston	2nd part, 35 Edw. III, 22
„ William de, pro John de Stourton and Alice his wife	3 Rich. II, 148
Park, Walter, <i>see</i> Wyke, Joan.	
„ Walter	2nd part, 35 Edw. III, 34
Parys, William de	40 Hen. III, 17
Pasturel, William, pro Abbey of Glastonbury. <i>Inq.</i> <i>ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 208
Paulet, Idonea, wife of John	5 Hen. IV, 42
„ John, chev.	16 Hen. VI, 49
„ Pawlett, Isabella, wife of William, formerly wife of Thomas Rodeney	18 Edw. IV, 49

Paulet, William	1 Rich. III, 29
Paunsefete, Walter, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	20 Hen. VI, 5
Paveley, John de	9 Edw. I, 21
„ Pavely, John de	15 Edw. I, 60
„ „ John de	19 Edw. II, 76
„ Robert de, <i>deest</i>	1 Edw. III, 73*
„ P'aveley, Robert de, <i>feoffavit</i> Nicholas Tryvet and N. de Leddered	5 Edw. III, 41*
Payn, John	51 Edw. III, 27a
„ Payne, John, of London, Armurer	2 Rich. II, 41
„ Thomas, and Thomas Strete, <i>retinere possint</i>	4 Rich. II, 67
„ John, of London, Armorer (who died 49 Edw. III)	17 Rich. II, 66
„ John, of London, Armourer	21 Rich. II, 45
„ Payne, Thomas	26 Hen. VI, 20
Paynel, Panell, William	33 Hen. III, 23, 32
Peche, Nicholas	23 Edw. I, 132
„ Pecche, Sabina	1 Edw. II, 6
„ „ Nicholas	17 Edw. II, 21
„ „ Thomas fil. Richard	6 Edw. III, 46
Pembroke, Earls of, <i>see</i> Hastynges, and Marescall, Walter.	
Penbrigg, Hugh de, Chaplain	37 Edw. III, 64*
„ Penbrugge, Magr. Hugh de, for Abbott of Glastonbury	10 Edw. III, 82*
„ Penbrugg, Hugh	39 Edw. III, 13b*
„ „ Hugo, for the Abbot and Convent of Glastonbury	39 Edw. III, 27*
„ Pembrigge, Hugh, clericus, for Henry Atte Hole, Vicar of Sowy	46 Edw. III, 28*
Percy, John de and Emma his wife, pro Abbot of Glaston. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	11 Edw. I, 61
Percyvalle, Ralph	17 Edw. IV, 9
„ Percyvale, Richard	22 Edw. IV, 44
Perham, John fil., John	6 Edw. III, 64
Perrers, Alice	1 Rich. II, 30
Person, John	27 Hen. VI, 6
„ Roger	20 Edw. IV, 45

Pever, Thomas, arm.	8 Hen. VI, 21
Peverell, Nicholas	17 Rich. II, 62
„ Margaret	1 Hen. VI, 43
Peytevyn, Peter	20 Edw. III, 12
„ Walter, <i>feoffavit</i> John, Archbishop of Canterbury	20 Edw. III, 28*
„ Robert, pro Abbot of Keynsham	10 Rich. II, 77
Pil, Robert, <i>see</i> Courtenay, Hugh de, junr.	
Pistore, Thomas, junr.	2nd part, 36 Edw. III, 19
Planke, William de la, s. and. h. of William, <i>probatio etatis</i>	20 Edw. III, 61
Pleycy, Plexy, Nicholas de, chev.	31 Edw. III, 18
„ Nicholas	2nd part, 36 Edw. III, 15
„ John	8 Hen. IV, 63
Plessetis, William de	2 Edw. I, 37
„ Richard de	17 Edw. I, 21
„ Margery, wife of Richard de	21 Edw. I, 9
„ John de	7 Edw. II, 5
Plukenet, Plugenet, Alanus de	27 Edw. I, 54
„ Joan, wife of Alan	10 Edw. II, 25
„ Plunkenet, Oliver	2 Edw. III, 1
„ Sibilla, wife of Alan	27 Edw. III, 37
Pokeswell, Elizabeth, <i>see</i> Tame, Elizabeth	
„ John, and Alianora his wife	7 Hen. IV, 40
„ John	1 Hen. V, 48
„ Robert	8 Hen. VI, 30
Pole, Thomas, de la, mil.	1st part, 35 Edw. III, 61
„ John de la, clericus	3 Hen. V, 47
„ Michael de la, Earl of Suffolk	3 Hen. V, 48a
„ Michael de la, son and heir of Michael de la, Earl of Suffolk	3 Hen. V, 48b
„ Thomas de la, chev.	8 Hen. V, 56
„ Anna, wife of Thomas de la, chev. <i>Assignatio dotis</i>	8 Hen. V, 125
„ Thomas, son and heir of Thomas de la, chev.	9 Hen. VI, 45
Polmark, Thomas, <i>see</i> Preston, John	27 Edw. III, 14*
Pomeray, Thomas	12 Rich. II, 77

Ponte Fracto, Robert de	39 Hen. III, 41
Pontesyde, Richard de, and Matilda his wife	33 Edw. III, 24*
Pontyngdon, Thomas, pro John Cary	44 Edw. III, 13*
Ponynges, Isabella, wife of Richard de, chev.	{ 17 Rich. II, 46
	{ 22 Rich. II, 36
„ Robert, mil.	25 Hen. VI, 24
Popham, William	18 Edw. IV, 29
Portbury, Richard de, pro Priory of Taunton.	<i>Inq.</i>
„ <i>ad q. d.</i>	18 Edw. I, 64
Portebrief, William	21 Rich. II, 43
Porteshed, Nicholas	21 Rich. II, 109b
Portman, Christiana	12 Edw. IV, 43
Poulet, Idonia, wife of John, sister and h. of Thomas,	
„ s. and h. of John Kayle, <i>probatio etatis</i>	20 Rich. II, 149
„ Idonea, wife of John	3 Hen. IV, 42
„ John, and Thomas his brother	1 Hen. V, 54
„ Constance, wife of John, chev., defunct	21 Hen. VI, 22
„ John	App., 9 Hen. VII, 9
Power, Henry	2nd part, 35 Edw. III, 35
Poyntz, Poynz, Nicholas	1 Edw. I, 17
„ Hugh	1 Edw. II, 46
„ Nicholas de, and Matilda and Elizabeth	5 Edw. II, 62
„ Hugh	11 Edw. III, 43
„ Pointz, Nicholas, chev.	19 Edw. III, 63
Preston, John de	2 Edw. III, 1*
„ John de, feoffavit Thomam Polmark of	
„ Preston, chaplain	27 Edw. III, 14*
„ John de	2nd part, 35 Edw. III, 40
„ Stephen	14 Edw. IV, 30
Proudhou, John de, pro Richard de Stapleldon	3 Edw. III, 22*
Provost, Thomas, Prior of Stokecurey	49 Edw. III, 41*
Pukynton, capellan. in eccl. de, per Gilbert de Knovill.	
„ <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	29 Edw. I, 134
Punchard, John, and Alice his wife, lands of Matilda,	
„ wife of John Meriet, <i>retinere possint</i>	5 Rich. II, 90
Putteneeye, John Parson of, <i>see</i> Middelnay, Ralph de	

Pyke, Nicholas, and Joan his wife	{	2 Edw. III, 15
	}	1st. Nos. 76
Pym, William, of Cannington		8 Hen. VI, 23
Pyne, Hawisia, <i>see</i> Bonevill, Hawisia.		
„ Hawisia de		4 Edw. III, 25
Pyron, Hugh, of Woketrowe, pro Abbot of Clive		20 Edw. III, 44*
Radeston, John, <i>see</i> Meryet, John		48 Edw. III, 81
„ John, and Margaret his wife		19 Rich. II, 39
Radington, Baldwin de, chev., and William Wrother		3 Hen. IV, 17
Ralegh, Ralee, John, mil., and Warre, John de		28 Edw. III, 21
„ „ John de, of Netelcombe, chev.		46 Edw. III, 50
„ Simon, arm.		18 Hen. VI, 67
„ Joan, wife of Simon, arm., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>		33 Hen. VI, 6
„ William, son of Walter		7 Edw. IV, 36
Redeclyve, Nicholas Boyl, Vicar of, <i>see</i> Lyouns, Thomas.		
Redmore, Henry, and Caudel Adam, pro Hospital of		
Bridgwater		31 Edw. III, 26*
„ Redemore, Henry de, for Hospital of St.		
John, Bridgwater		40 Edw. III, 36*
Reigney, John		20 Edw. IV, 87
Remyngnam, Hugo de, and Matilda his wife		33 Edw. III, 18*
Revell, Mabila		36 Hen. III, 77
Reynald, John, pro Dean of Wells. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>		20 Hen. VI, 23
Ripariis, John de		7 Edw. I, 31
Rixin, Tholomeus atte, <i>see</i> Gilbert, G.		
Rodeney, Isabella, <i>see</i> Pawlett, Isabella.		
„ Rodenay, Alice, <i>see</i> Bonevile, Alice.		
„ Rodeneye, Richard de, and Lucy his wife,		
per Walter, Bishop of Bath and Wells		32 Edw. I, 99
„ Walter de		3 Edw. III, 44*
„ Walter de		8 Edw. III, 50*
„ Rodeneye, Walter de, pro Prior of Bath		12 Edw. III, 33*
„ Walter de, pro Ralph, Bishop of Bath and		
Wells, and Priory of Worsprynge		16 Edw. III, 58*
„ John, chev.		2 Hen. IV, 32
„ Rodenay, Walter, chev.		1 Hen. V, 51
„ John, chev		8 Hen. V, 105

Rodeney, Rodenay, Walter, mil.	6 Edw. IV, 42
„ „ Thomas, arm.	9 and 10 Edw. IV, 63
„ Thomas	18 Edw. IV, 4
Rodeston, John	10 Rich. II, 60
Roger, John	20 Hen. VI, 32
„ John, sen.	28 Hen. VI, 34
Rogers, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas, defunct	15 Edw. IV, 14
„ Thomas, serjeant-at-law	18 Edw. IV, 7
Roges, Simon, of Porlok	34 Edw. I, 31
„ John. <i>Inquis. tantum</i>	10 Rich. II, 121
„ <i>als.</i> Rokes, John	11 Rich. II, 45
Rokes, Roges, <i>als.</i> John	11 Rich. II, 45
Romesey, Romesighe, Walter de	7 Edw. III, 16
„ Walter, s. and h. of John de	App., 20 Edw. III, 63
„ Romeseye, Margaret de	47 Edw. III, 29
„ Walter, chev.	5 Hen. IV, 32
„ Romeseye, Alice, wife of Walter, chev.	6 Hen. IV, 29
„ Thomas	13 Hen. IV, 10
„ Thomas, chev.	8 Hen. V, 89
„ Romeseye, Joan, wife of Thomas, chev.	
<i>assignatio dotis</i>	9 Hen. V, 76
„ Walter, arm.	7 Hen. VI, 26
„ Romeseye, Walter s. and h. of Walter, arm.	8 Hen. VI, 22
Roose, Alianora, <i>see</i> Somerset, Alianora, Duchess of	
Rossedene, Rossydenek, Richard, pro Abbot of Muchelney	34 Edw. III, 43*
„ Richard, pro Abbey of Muchelney	42 Edw. III, 25*
Roudon, Isabella, wife of John, mil.	13 Hen. VI, 32
Roundel, Roger	50 Edw. III, 83
Roynon, John	5 Edw. IV, 13
Rumesye, John, son of Galfrid de, <i>fatuus</i>	27 Edw. I, 101
Rus, John le	40 Hen. III, 2
Russell, Robert	25 Edw. I, 28
„ Ralph, chev.	2nd part, 49 Edw. III, 32
„ Alice, wife of Ralph	2 Rich. II, 46
„ Alice, wife of Ralph, mil.	11 Rich. II, 46

Russell, Thomas, s. and h. of Maurice, chev., and Margaret, d. and h. of Thomas, <i>assignatio dotis</i> of Joan, wife of Thomas	10 Hen. VI, 39
Ryme, Chaplain of, per Richard Mucheldenere	12 Rich. II, 157
Rysyngdon, John de, Parson of Yevel, <i>see</i> Sambourn, Robert de	
Ryvere, Emma and Richard, <i>see</i> Merston, Emma.	
„ John de la	8 Edw. II, 27
„ Richard de la	2nd part, 36 Edw. III, 27
„ Thomas de la	48 Edw. III, 60
Ryvers, Thomas de, and William Taillour	36 Edw. III, 52*
„ Robert	19 Hen. VI, 31
Sabyne, Adam, of Bekyngdon	44 Edw. III, 62
St. Aubyn, John de, mil., and Joan his wife	8 Rich. II, 32
„ John, mil.	{ 8 Rich. II, 32 9 Rich. II, 139
St. Barbe, Seyntbarbe, Thomas, arm.	1 Rich. III, 8
St. Clair, St. Clare, Richard de	Uncertain, Hen. III, 116
„ St. Claro, Robert de	2 Edw. II, 72
„ John, fil. John de, pro John Daubernoun	4 Edw. III, 15
„ John, fil. John de	9 Edw. III, 48
„ St. Clare, Robert de	10 Edw. III, 56
„ Saint cler, Alice, wife of John	17 Edw. III, 9
„ Robert, pro Thomas Waryn	25 Edw. III, 7*
„ Robert de	33 Edw. III, 105
„ Elizabeth	2nd part, 35 Edw. III, 51
„ Seyncler, Robert	42 Edw. III, 51
„ „ Robert	45 Edw. III, 50
„ Seyntcler, Sibila, wife of Robert	46 Edw. III, 61
„ Seintcler, Sibila, wife of Roger	48 Edw. III, 64
„ Seynclere, Leticia, wife of William	50 Edw. III, 59
„ „ John, son and heir of William	51 Edw. III, 41
„ „ John, chev., and Mary his wife	10 Rich. II, 40
„ Seyntcler, Mary, wife of John, chev. <i>Assignat. dotis.</i>	11 Rich. II, 47
„ St. Clere, Philip	9 Hen. IV, 44

Say, Lord of, <i>see</i> Hervy, Margaret.	
„ James, Lord of, mil., rent in Bristol	29 Hen. VI, 11
Segere, Thomas, son of Agnes, wife of Henry of	
Yeovil, <i>fatuus</i>	3 Hen. IV, 19
„ Thomas, son of Agnes, wife of Henry of	
Yeovil	8 Hen. IV, 12
Selenger, Anna, wife of Thomas, <i>see</i> Exeter, Anna, Duchess of	
Servington, <i>see</i> Cervington	
Seward, William, son and heir of Robert	28 Hen. VI, 39
Seymour, Nicholas de, <i>see</i> De La Mare, Robert	
„ Semore, <i>see</i> Zouch, William	
„ Seymor, Matilda, late wife of Ralph, <i>see</i> Meriet, John	
„ St. Mauro, Laurence de	25 Edw. I, 13
„ Sancto Mauro, Nicholas de, and Eva his wife, <i>de licencio feoff.</i> , pro Walter de Skydemore	35 Edw. I, 141
„ Sancto Mauro, Nicholas de, and Muriella, <i>feoffaverunt</i> John Derby	31 Edw. III, 16*
„ Nicholas de	2nd part, 35 Edw. III, 52
„ Nicholas, chev. and Nicholas his son	2nd part, 49 Edw. III, 42
„ Saymour, Richard, brother and heir of Nicholas, son and heir of Nicholas	50 Edw. III, 96
„ William, and Margaret his wife	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 58
„ Seymor, Cecilia, wife of Roger, sister and heir of John de Beauchamp	17 Rich. II, 52
„ Sancto Mauro, Richard de, chev.	2 Hen. IV, 55
„ St. Maur, Richard de, chev., and Mary his wife	10 Hen. IV, 38
„ St. Mauro, Ela, wife of Richard de, chev.	11 Hen. IV, 23
„ Robert	1 Hen. V, 38
„ St. Mauro, John de, mil., of Castle Cary	3 Hen. V, 36
„ „ Richard and Mary	2 Hen. VI, 10
„ „ John de, <i>probatio etatis</i>	9 Hen. VI, 74
„ „ John de, mil.	17 Hen. VI, 40

Seymour, St. Mauro, Elizabeth, wife of John	35 Hen. VI, 2
„ Seymoure, John, mil.	4 Edw. IV, 32
„ Richard	13 Edw. IV, 12
„ Seymoure, Isabella, widow of John	2 Rich. III, 36
Seys, Philip	Date not known, App., Hen. III, 81
Shaftesbury Abbey. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	32 Edw. I, 166
Sheote, John, pro Priory of Bath	13 Rich. II, 122
Short, John	22 Rich. II, 42
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, Margaret, Viscountess	7 Edw. IV, 44
Scolande, Scothlaund, Galfrid de	15 Edw. I, 11
„ Galfrid de	18 Edw. I, 46
„ Scolond, Francis de	12 Edw. III, 19
„ Scoland, Henry	41 Edw. III, 55
„ Franco de, pro John Beauchamp	3 Rich. II, 78
Skydemore, Walter de, <i>see</i> Sancto Mauro	35 Edw. I, 141
Slade, Richard and Isabella	11 Rich. II, 70
Slegh, John, <i>felo</i>	34 Edw. III, 4*
Sm'ton (?Southampton), Robert de	28 Edw. III, 40
Solers, John, s. and h. of William, deceased, <i>probatio etatis</i>	7 Hen. V, 87
Somerset, Earl of, John, <i>see</i> Beaufort, Henry.	
„ John Beaufort, Earl of	11 Hen. IV, 44
„ John Beaufort, Duke of	22 Hen. VI, 19
„ Edmund Beaufort, Duke of	33 Hen. VI, 38
„ Alianora, Duchess of, wife of Thomas, Lord Roose	7 Edw. IV, 20
Sormavile, Joan de	35 Edw. I, 36
South Petherton, John de Stafford, pro Parson of chapel of. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	21 Edw. I, 118
Sparewe, John	5 Hen. V, 35
Speke, John, mil., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	20 Hen. VI, 3
Spelly, Elias, pro Priory of Worspryng	7 Rich. II, 91
Spencer, William, for Chantry of Long Ashton, near Bristol	1 Rich. III, 50
Stafford, John de, pro Parson of chapel of Suthpederton. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	21 Edw. I, 118
„ Hugh, Earl of	13 Rich. II, 49

Stafford, Thomas, Earl of	1st part, 16 Rich. II, 27
„ William, brother and h. of Thomas, Earl of	22 Rich. II, 46
„ Edmund, Earl of	4 Hen. IV, 41
„ Humphry, mil., and Elizabeth his wife	1 Hen. V, 41
„ Catherine, wife of Humphry, arm.	5 Hen. V, 58
„ John, mil., Lord of Botreaux	6 Hen. VI, 39
„ Humphry, mil.	20 Hen. VI, 9
„ William, arm.	28 Hen. VI, 14
„ Humphry, Earl of Devon	9 and 10. Edw. IV, 30
Stapeldon, Richard de, <i>see</i> Proudhou, John.	
„ Stapeldone, Thomas de, pro Dean and Chapter of St. Peter's, Exeter	2 Edw. III, 93*
„ Stapelton, Brian de, <i>see</i> Monte Acuto, William de.	
„ Stapilton, John and Cecila	16 Edw. III, 34
Staple, Parson of, <i>see</i> Leyst, Richard.	
Staunton, William de, clericus	31 Edw. I, 60
„ John, for Chantry of Long Ashton	1 Rich. III, 50
„ William, arm, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	7 Hen. V, 5
Staverdale, Priory of, <i>see</i> Meysy, Robert.	
„ Priory of, <i>see</i> Stourton, John.	
Stawell, Thomas, mil.	17 Hen. VI, 23
„ Homines de, <i>see</i> Sanford.	
„ Stowell, Galfrid, and Juliana his wife	37 Edw. III, 68
Stenyng, Robert, gent.	2 Rich. III, 3
Stoke super Hameldon, pro Capella de St. Nicholas, per John de Bello Campo. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	30 Edw. I, 72
Stoke under Hampton Manor, extent of. <i>Inq.</i> <i>ad q. d.</i>	22 Hen. VI, 5
Stokelinche, Ralph de	4 Edw. III, 104*
Stokes, William de	22 Edw. I, 61
Stonford, John de, and Ralph de Mynty, pro Priory of St. John, Wells	16 Edw. III, 9*
Stourton, John de, and Alice, <i>see</i> Pappeworth, William de.	
„ William, pro Priory of Wytham	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 54
„ William, <i>retinere possit</i>	19 Rich. II, 97
„ William	1 Hen. V, 49
„ John, pro Dean of Wells. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	15 Hen. VI, 5

Stourton, John, of Preston, arm., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	17 Hen. VI, 6
„ John, mil., pro Prior of Staverdale. <i>Inq.</i>	
„ <i>ad q. d.</i>	20 Hen. VI, 22
„ John, mil., of Stourton	2 Edw. IV, 18
„ William, mil., of Stourton	17 Edw. IV, 55
Stradlyng, Edward, mil.	31 Edw. VI, 13
„ Stradling, Joan, wife of John, mil.	35 Hen. VI, 6
„ Joan	20 Edw. IV, 52
Stretche, John, and Alice his wife	29 Edw. III, 33
„ Streche, John, chev., <i>feoffavit</i> John Tomer	13 Rich. II, 82
„ Strettche, John, mil.	14 Rich. II, 42
„ Streche, Catherine, wife of John, chev.	1 Hen. VI, 29
Strete, Thomas, and Thomas Payn, <i>retinere possint</i>	4 Rich. II, 67
Stucle, Elizabeth, wife of Richard, and formerly of John Bonville	2 Hen. V, 18
Sturmy, William, chev.	5 Hen. VI, 22
Suffolk, Earl of, <i>see</i> Pole, Michael de la.	
„ William, formerly Duke of	28 Hen. VI, 25
Sullen, Andrew	44 Hen. III, 36
Sulleny, Galfrid de	50 Hen. III, 31
Surrey, <i>see</i> Joan, wife of John de Warena, Earl of.	
Sydenham, Margaret, <i>see</i> Mutton, Margaret.	
„ Richard, pro Abbot of Athelygneye	44 Edw. III, 31*
„ John de, pro St. Mary of Bridgewater	
	2nd part, 16 Rich. II, 101
„ John, sen., arm.	8 Edw. IV, 22
„ Walter	9 and 10 Edw. IV, 18
„ John	9 and 10 Edw. IV, 19
„ Joan, wife of John, arm.	12 Edw. IV, 45
Taillour, William, and Thomas de Ryvers	36 Edw. III, 52*
„ William, <i>appreciacione terrarum</i>	13 Rich. II, 103
Talbot, John, <i>see</i> Norton St. Philip.	
„ Joan, wife of John, Viscount Lisle, a dau. and h. of Thomas Chedder	7 Edw. IV, 42
Tame, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas, arm., formerly wife of John Pokeswell	11 Hen. VI, 28
Taunton, Archdeaconry of, <i>see</i> Goldclyve, Prior of.	

Taunton, Prior of, <i>see</i> Bolevyle, Nicholas de.	
„ John de	Uncertain, Hen. III, 127
„ Abbey of, per Philip de Thorlakeston. <i>Inq.</i>	
<i>ad q. d.</i>	18 Edw. I, 63
„ Priory of, per Richard de Portbury. <i>Inq.</i>	
<i>ad q. d.</i>	18 Edw. I, 64
Tewkesbury, Abbot of	7 Rich. II, 85
„ Abbot of	13 Rich. II, 95
Thomas, Richard, arm.	2 Hen. IV, 26
Thomer, William, chaplin	3 Rich. II, 82.
„ Edith, sister of John, son and heir of	
Richard	10 Hen. IV, 41
Thorlakeston, Philip de, pro Abbey of Taunton.	
<i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	18 Edw. I, 63
Thorne, Henry, and John Bulbek, pro John Canoun,	
<i>deest.</i>	4 Rich. II, 70
Thornhull, Walter de, ex concessione Nicholas de	
Moeles	9 Edw. II, 35
Thorpe, Catherine, wife of John de, mil.	{ 11 Rich. II, 50
	{ 13 Rich. II, 155
„ Thorp, John, messuage in Bristol	9 and 10 Edw. IV, 13
Thurmond, Thosmound, Agnes, wife of Nicholas	{ 2 Hen. IV, 18
	{ 13, Hen. IV, 18
Tilly, William, fil. Richard, pro Abbot of Glas-	
tonbury	6 Edw. III, 4a*
Tiptoft, Phillipa, wife of John, chev.	5 Hen. V, 40
„ Typtot, John, mil.	21 Hen. VI, 45
Tomer, John, <i>see</i> Streche, John, chev.	
Torynton, John, <i>extent</i> ,	App. 5 Hen. IV, 58
Tour, Thomas de la	21 Edw. I, 11
„ Hugh, s. and h. of Thomas, <i>probatio etatis</i>	3 Edw. II, 69
„ William de la, s. and h. of Hugh, <i>probatio</i>	
<i>etatis</i>	9 Edw. III, 66
„ Toure, William de la	24 Edw. III, 18
Tournament, John and Cecilia, pro William de	
Pappeworth	41 Edw. III, 28*
Travers, Lucy, wife of Richard, <i>deest</i>	46 Edw. III, 2*

Tregoze, John de	28 Edw. I, 43
Trevenaunt, John, clericus, <i>see</i> Boleyn, Thomas	
Trewythosa, Simon de	13 Edw. III, 3
Trevylyan, John, arm,	App. 8 Hen. VII, 7
Trippe, Stephen, Parson of Canmell	22 Edw. III, 20*
Trivet, Thomas, mil. <i>Appreciacione terra-</i> <i>rum</i>	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 10
Tromyn, Humphrey	25 Edw. III, 69
Trowe, Hugh, and Elizabeth his wife	App. 8 Hen. VII, 9
Tryl, Walter de	2 Edw. III, 142*
Tryvet, Nicholas, <i>see</i> Pavely, Robert de.	
„ Thomas	9 Edw. I, 37
„ William	8 Edw. II, 36
„ Thomas, son of William and Joan his wife	10 Edw. II, 75
„ Thomas, chev., and Elizabeth his wife	12 Rich. II, 52
„ John, chev.	22 Rich. II, 45
„ Elizabeth, wife of Thomas, mil., defunct	12 Hen. VI, 35
Tuchet, Elizabeth, <i>see</i> Audeley, Elizabeth.	
„ John, chev.	10 Hen. IV, 47
Turbervile, Cecilia, <i>see</i> Atte Forde, Valentine.	
„ Cecilia de	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 103
„ Cecilia, sister and h. of John Beauchamp	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 27
Turney, John	19 Edw. IV, 16
„ Walter	19 Edw. IV, 17
Turri, Hugh de	11 Edw. I, 23
Tyrell, John	34 Edw. III, 66
„ Hugh, chev. and Katherine his wife	4 Rich. II, 54
Ufflete, John, s. and h. of Edmond, arm., <i>probatio</i> <i>etatis</i>	26 Hen. VI, 36
Urlegh, Agnes, dau. and h. of Alice	8 Hen. IV, 10
„ <i>see also</i> Verlegh.	
Urtiaco, Urtyaco, Sabina de	38 Hen. III, 43
„ „ Sabina de	42 Hen. III, 22
„ Henry de	22 Edw. I, 80
„ Walter de, and Matilda his wife	34 Edw. I, 49

Urtiaco, Henry de	15 Edw. II, 50?
This Inquisition is placed under 15 Edw III, no. 35, but was found on examination (for the purposes of elucidating the pedigree of the Urtiaco's, as set forth in the Transac- tions of the Som. Arch. Society, vol. xlii, 26—55) to belong really to 15 Edw. II.	
„ Sibilla, wife of Henry	17 Edw. II, 3
„ John de	9 Rich. II, 127
Valey, Roland de la	3 Edw. II, 5b
Valle Torta, John de, pro Carmelite Brothers of Bristol	17 Edw. I, 35
Vallibus, Ralph de. (Reginald de) <i>in brevi.</i>	12 Edw. I, 37
Veel, Peter and Katherine de	17 Edw. III, 55
Veer, Margaret, wife of George, mil.	12 Edw. IV, 40
Verlegh, Juliana	11 Rich. II, 52
„ <i>see also</i> Urlegh.	
Veym, William de, <i>deest</i>	30 Edw. I, 28
Vinonia, Joan de, wife of Reginald fil. Peter	8 Edw. II, 42
Vivon, Hugh de	28 Hen. III, 22, 25
Vynour, William, chaplain, for Priory of Bath	41 Edw. III, 15*
Wac, John	Uncertain, Hen. III, 129
Wadham, John, chev.	13 Hen. IV, 39
„ William, <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	30 Hen. VI, 27
„ John. arm.	14 Edw. IV, 19
Wake, John,	22 Edw. III, 46
„ John de	34 Edw. III, 69
„ Thomas, arm.	38 and 39, Hen. VI, 43
Wale, Richard, <i>outlaw</i>	8 Hen. IV, 70
Waleraund, Robert	1 Edw. I, 6
„ Matilda	1 Edw. I, 35
Walgrave, Elizabeth, wife of Warin, defunct	19 Hen. VI, 41
Walissh, <i>see</i> Walshe	
Walraund, John and Robert, and Isabella	2 Edw. II, 80
Walshe, Walssh, Nicholas le, <i>see</i> Salmon, Elizabeth	
„ Adam le. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 206
„ John le	7 Edw. III, 26

Walshe, Walissh, Nicholas le, of Podyngton	13 Edw. III, 23
„ Walissh, Nicholas le	13 Edw. III, 45
„ Walssh, Joan and Elizabeth, daus. and heirs of Nicholas le	24 Edw. III, 45
„ Walyssh, Roesa, wife of John la 2nd part,	36 Edw. III, 68
Walsymgham, John de, for Hospital of St. John, Bridgewater	17 Edw. III, 58*
Walton, Isabella, wife of Alan de	37 Edw. III, 76
Wamburgh, Robt. de, pro Abbot of Glaston.	2 Edw. III, 129*
„ see also Wauberghe.	
Wardon, John Middelton, Parson of, see Latymer, Thomas	
Warr, Lord de la, see West, Richard	
„ Richard de la Date not known, App.,	Hen. III, 91
„ Ware, Roger la	14 Edw. II, 32
„ John la, pro Warino le Latimer	13 Edw. III, 3*
„ Margaret, wife of John le	1st part, 23 Edw. III, 90
„ John le, and John Ralee, mil.	28 Edw. III, 21
„ Richard, s. and h. of John le Warre and Joan his wife	42 Edw. III, 71
„ Roger le, chev., and Alinor his wife	44 Edw. III, 68
„ John de la, chev., and Elizabeth his wife	22 Rich. II, 53
„ John	1 Hen. IV, 58
„ Thomas la	5 Hen. VI, 54
„ Joan, wife of John, arm., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	17 Hen. VI, 7
„ Robert	5 Edw. IV, 17
„ Richard, arm., of Hestercombe	22 Edw. IV, 37
Warrena, John de, Earl of Surrey	21 Edw. III, 58
„ Warena, Joan, wife of John, Earl of Surrey	2nd pt., 35 Edw. III, 79
Warmbrugge, Richard, Parson of St. John's, Bristol, per John Knighton, clericus	13 Rich. II, 118
Warmewell, Roger, and Felicia his wife	10 Rich. II, 51
Warmyll, John	14 Hen. VI, 31
Warwick, Dukes and Earls of, see Beauchamp.	
Waryn, Thomas, see St. Clair, Robert.	
Wattis, Thomas	38 and 39 Hen. VI, 1
„ Wattys, Thomas, <i>deest</i>	3 Edw. IV, 2

Wattyssche, Laurence, <i>see</i> De La Mare, Thomas.	
Wauberghe, Robert, pro Abbot of Glaston.	2 Edw. III, 99*
„ <i>see</i> also Wamburgh.	
Waye, Emma de	Uncertain, Hen. III, 125
Wayte, William le, <i>see</i> Glamorgan, Peter.	
„ John la	2nd part, 36 Edw. III, 72
„ Guido, son of John	46 Edw. III, 69
Weborne, John, for College of Yeovil. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	17 Edw. IV, 61
Wedegrave, Homines de, <i>see</i> Sanford.	
Wedergrave, Nicholas de	1 Edw. III, 14*
Weld, Welde, William, pro Priory of St. John, Wells	
	28 Edw. III, 16*
„ Richard, of Yevele, <i>extenta terrarum</i>	4 Rich. II, 78
Wellington, John, brother and h. of Ralph, who was	
s. and. h. of John de, mil.	20 Rich. II, 55
„ Welington, John, and John son of John	
Wrothe	13 Hen. IV, 25
Wells, <i>see</i> Cristesham, Nicholas	
„ Dean and Chapter of, <i>see</i> Gardener, Peter	
„ Dean and Chapter of St. Andrews, <i>see</i> Godele, H. de	
„ Dean and Chapter of Cathedral, <i>see</i> Boleyn, Thomas	
„ Dean of, <i>see</i> Reynald, John	
„ Dean of, <i>see</i> Stourton, John	
„ Priory of St. John, <i>see</i> Stonford, John de	
„ Priory of St. John, <i>see</i> Welde, William.	
„ St. Andrew's Church, per Walter, Bishop of	
Bath and Wells. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	34 Edw. I, 179
„ Dean of, St. Andrews, per Hamelinus de	
Godelee	35 Edw. I, 117
„ Priory of St. John, per Thomas Lyons	19 Rich. II, 86
Wellesley, Welleslegh, William de	37 Hen. III, 15
„ William de	38 Hen. III, 13
„ Welleslegh, Thomas de	17 Edw. I, 4
„ Wellesleye, Thomas de	3 Edw. III, 9*
„ Welleslegh, Philip de, <i>feoffavit</i> Elias de	
Corscombe	13 Edw. III, 50*
„ „ Philip de	18 Edw. III, 17*

Wellesley, Welleslegh, Philip de, pro Priory of Bruton	19 Edw. III, 66*
„ Philip de	22 Edw. III, 43
Weolegh, <i>see</i> Burnell, Hugh	
Wermewelle, William de, and Alianora his wife	35 Edw. I, 17
Wermyll, John	16 Hen. VI, 22
West, Thomas, chev.	10 Rich II, 52
„ Alice, wife of Thomas, mil.	19 Rich. II, 49
„ Thomas, chev.	4 Hen. V, 28
„ Reginald, mil.	29 Hen. VI, 21
„ Richard, Lord de la Warr, mil.	16 Edw. IV, 62
Westbury, William, sen.	28 Hen. VI, 23
„ William	36 Hen. VI, 31
Weston, Gundreda de, and Roesia de Weston, pro Prior, etc., of Bath. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	33 Edw. I, 240
Weyland, William de	1 Edw. III, 79
„ Weylond, John chev., and Burga his wife	10 Rich. II, 47
„ „ Burga, wife of John, chev.	12 Rich. II, 55
„ „ John, chev., and Burga his wife	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 69
„ „ John, chev., and Burga his wife <i>breve tantum</i>	20 Rich. II, 96
Whaddon, Humphry de, <i>deest</i>	14 Edw. I, 29
Whalisburgh, Thomas	21 Edw. IV, 41
Whateley, Elizabeth, wife of Richard	12 Edw. IV, 16
Whittockesmede, William	App., 35 Hen. VIII, 1
Whiteley, Agnes, wife of William, defunct	14 Edw. IV, 5
Whitwode, John	21 Edw. IV, 23
Whyton, John	50 Edw. III, 64
Wigbere, Robert, <i>see</i> Bridgewater, Hospital of.	
„ Wygheberg, Richard	55 Hen. III, 12
„ Wigbergh, Elena de	Uncertain, Hen. III, 123
„ Wyggebere, William de, and Joan his wife	18 Edw. II, 64
„ Wygebeare, Richard de, and Matilda his wife	1 Edw. III, 35*
„ Wygebere, Richard de	1 Edw. III, 89*
„ Wykebere, Matilda	33 Edw. III, 23

Wilyng, William, for Abbey of Muchelneye	40 Edw. III, 25*
Wilts, Amicia, wife of James, Earl of	35 Hen. VI, 16
„ James, Earl of	1 Edw. IV, 29
Winchester, Bishop of, pro Hospital of St. Cross, near Winchester. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	24 Hen. VI, 13
Winslade, Stephen	6 Hen. IV, 35
Wirkele, William, pro Priory of St. John, Jerusalem	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 68
Witham, Priory of, <i>see</i> Cheddre, Robert.	
„ „ „ Erlestoke, Thomas.	
„ „ „ Mershton, John de.	
„ „ „ per William Stourton	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 54
Wivelescombe, John	6 Hen. V, 22
Wolavington, Henry de	16 Edw. I, 64
„ Wolavyngton, Gilbert de, pro Clyve Abbey. <i>Inq. ad q. d.</i>	27 Edw. I, 82
Wolvesford, Baldwin, and John Chapei	1st part, 15 Rich. II, 67
Worcester, Godefrid, Bishop of	30 Edw. I, 41
Wormbrugge, Parson of St. John's, Bristol, <i>see</i> Knyghton, John, cler.	
Worsope, John	14 Edw. IV, 34
Worspryng, Prior of, <i>see</i> Cary, Henry.	
„ Priory of, <i>see</i> Rodeney, Walter de.	
„ „ „ Spelley, Elias.	
„ Worsprynge, Priory of	32 Edw. III, 88*
Wotton, Nicholas, <i>see</i> Organ, Emote.	
„ Nicholas	32 Hen. VI, 27
Wrofton or Wroston, William	10 Hen. IV, 50
Wroth, William, arm.	10 Hen. IV, 18
„ Wrothe, John, son of John, and John Wel- lington	13 Hen. IV, 25
„ William	28 Hen. VI, 6
„ Wrothe, John, arm.	20 Edw. IV, 28
Wrotham, Richard de	35 Hen. III, 47
„ Richard de	37 Hen. III, 12
Wrother, William and Baldwin de Radington	3 Hen. IV, 17

Wroxhale, Galfrid de, <i>see</i> Champflour.	
„ Galfrid de	5 Edw. I, 56
Wychele, Henry de	3 Edw. III, 19
Wydeford, John, <i>extenta terrarum</i>	5 Rich. II, 73
„ John, <i>appreciatione terrarum</i>	5 Rich. II, 82
„ John and Margaret his wife, <i>appreciatione terrarum</i>	13 Rich. II, 104
Wydeslade, Richard de	29 Edw. III, 22
Wygeton, Walter de	14 Edw. I, 15
„ John de, and Dionisia his wife	8 Edw. II, 61
Wyke, Joan, wife of Robert, daughter of Thomas Chastelyn, kin and heiress of Emma, wife of Walter Park, <i>probatio etatis</i>	1st part, 36 Edw. III, 136
„ John	12 Hen. IV, 23
„ John	11 Edw. IV, 24
Wykeham, William, arm., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	35 Hen. VI, 29
Wykes, Richard	1 Rich. III, 22
Wyking, Walter	19 Edw. I, 32
„ John, pro priory of Bruton	1st part, 16 Rich. II, 105
Wylkyns, John, sen., of Bristol, pro John Crome, Vicar of St. Nicholas, Bristol	6 Rich. II, 137
Wyndesore, William de, chev.	8 Rich. II, 38
Wythele, Reginald de	4 Edw. II, 23
Yelverton, Robert, chev. <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	7 Hen. VI, 1
Yeovil, College of, <i>see</i> Weborn, John.	
„ Jevele, John Latton, <i>prepositus</i> of	2nd part, 15 Rich. II, 136
Yonge, Thomas	17 Edw. IV, 26
York, Archbishop of, <i>see</i> Giffard, Walter.	
„ Phillippa, Duchess of, formerly wife of Walter Fitz Wauter, mil.	10 Hen. VI, 45
Zouch, William la, of Haryngworth, mil.	19 Rich. II, 52
„ William le, chev.	3 Hen. V, 46
„ Zouche, Elizabeth, wife of William la, chev.	4 Hen. VI, 7
„ „ William, mil., <i>null. ten. terr.</i>	2 Edw. IV, 29
„ William, mil., Lord Zouch and Semore	8 Edw. IV, 53
„ Zouche, Catherine, wife of William, mil.	11 Edw. IV, 40

The Division of the Bishopricks of Wesser.

A PAPER BY THE RIGHT REV. W. R. BROWNLOW, D.D.,

Bishop of Clifton.

THE *Proceedings* of the Somerset Archæological Society do not contain any notice of a remarkable letter of St. Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, which was published in 1895 by Messrs. Napier and Stevenson, among the "Early Charters," called the Crawford Collection, in the Bodleian Library. This letter, which they tell us "has hitherto been entirely unknown," throws considerable light on what Bishop Stubbs calls "one of the most vexed questions of Anglo-Saxon history"—the Division of the Bishopricks of Wessex. The MS. is written in characters of the end of the tenth or beginning of the eleventh century. It is probably a copy, for it is among documents relating to Crediton, where it was likely to be preserved after the union of the Sees of Cornwall (St. Germans) and Crediton. I propose to give Professor Napier's translation of the Saxon letter, and then proceed to show its bearing on the bishopricks mentioned. Dunstan's name is not mentioned in it; but it is addressed to King Æthelred II (the Unready), and has to do entirely with the South-West of England, so it could not have been written by Oswald, Archbishop of York. The letter runs thus:—

"This writing the Archbishop sends to his lord, Æthelred the king. It happened that the West Welsh (the inhabitants

of Cornwall) rose against King Ecgabriht. The king then went thither and subdued them, and gave a tenth part of the land (to God) and disposed of it as it seemed fit to him. He gave to Sherborne three estates, Polltun, Caellwic, Landwithan. And that remained so for many years until heathen hordes overran this country and occupied it. Then there came another time after that, when the teachers fell away, and departed from England on account of the unbelief that had then assailed it; and all the kingdom of the West Saxons stood for seven years without a bishop. Then Formosus the Pope sent from Rome, and admonished King Edward and archbishop Plegmund to amend this. And they did so; with the counsel of the Pope and all the witan of the English nation they appointed five bishops where there were formerly two: one at Winchester, that was Frythestan; a second at Ramsbury, that was Æthelstan; a third at Sherborne, that was Waerstan; a fourth at Wells, that was Æthelm; a fifth at Crediton, that was Eadulf. And to him (Eadulf) were assigned three estates in Wales (*i.e.*, West Wales, or Cornwall), to be under the authority of the people of Devon, because they (the Cornish) had formerly been disobedient, without awe of the West Saxons. And Bishop Eadulf enjoyed those lands during his life, and Bishop Aethelgar in like manner. Then it happened that King Æthelstan gave to Conan the Bishopric as far as the Tamar flowed (*i.e.*, Cornwall). Then it happened that King Eadred commanded Daniel to be consecrated, and gave the estates, as the witan advised him, to the bishop-stool at St. Germans. Afterwards, when King Edgar bade me consecrate Wulfsige, he and all our bishops said that they did not know who could possess the estates with greater right than the bishop of the diocese, seeing that he was loyal, and preached the belief of God aright, and loved his lord (the king). If, then, this bishop does so now, I know not why he should not be worthy of the estates, if God and our lord (the king) grant them to him.

For it does not seem to us that any man can possess them more rightfully than he, and if any (other) man take them to himself, may he have them without God's blessing or ours." (pp. 106-7.)

Before mentioning the great difficulties that this letter by no means settles, it may be well to point out that it proves that the account of the Division of the Wessex Bishopricks, as given by William of Malmesbury, was known in the time of St. Dunstan. Bishop Stubbs, before the discovery of this letter, was of opinion that the statement which is found in the records of the Cathedrals of Exeter, Winchester, and Canterbury "acquired its present form soon after the middle of the eleventh century." (Malmesbury, *Gesta reg.* ii, p. lvi.) St. Dunstan died in 988, and he must have consecrated Wulfsige after 975, in which year his predecessor's signature as bishop appears for the last time. The letter apparently contemplates a successor to Wulfsige. That successor was Ealdred, who must have been consecrated before 988, although his first signature appears in a document of 993. It also proves that Æthelstan bestowed on Conan the bishopric of Cornwall, which had been stated by Leland, although the Charter of Æthelstan, on the authority of which he had rested, is now lost. Another point is proved by it, viz., that Daniel, a monk of Glastonbury, had been appointed by Eadred bishop of Cornwall. He is said by Malmesbury to have died in 956.*

The three manors, to use the Norman term, given to the Bishoprick of Sherborne are called Polltun, Caellwic and Landwithan. Polltun is called Pauntona in the Exeter

* The editors note: "The first four Bishops of the West-Saxon See of Cornwall are therefore: (1) Conan, consecrated under Aethelstan (A.D. 926 ?); Daniel, consecrated under Eadred, signs 955 to 959; (3) Comoere, who appears in the Bodmin manumissions as 'Comuyre presbyter' under Eadred (946-955), and as bishop under Edgar (959-975); (4) Wulfsige, consecrated under Eadgar; signatures 963 to 980. That Comoere preceded Wulfsige is evident from the fact proved by this letter, that the latter survived King Eadgar, in whose reign he was consecrated; hence Comoere, who is mentioned as bishop in the time of this king, must have been bishop during the earlier years of the reign." (p. 104, n.)

Domesday, where it is held by the Bishop of Exeter. Mr. Warren identifies it with the manor of Pawton, in the parish of St. Breock, a few miles from Padstow. Caelling is called Caelling in the statement above referred to, Caluuitona in the Exeter Domesday, and is identified by Mr. Warren as Callington, a small town between Launceston and St. Ives. Landwithan is spelt Languitetona in the Exeter Domesday, and was held by the Bishop of Exeter. Mr. Warren says it is the present parish of Lawhitton in the borough of Launceston, which is now the property of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, having remained connected with the Bishoprick of Exeter. The three estates seem, after the Danish invasion, to have been transferred from the Bishoprick of Sherborne to that of St. Germans, or Cornwall; then to have been merged in that of Crediton; and finally to have formed part of the property of the See of Exeter at the time when St. Edward the Confessor obtained from the Pope permission to remove the See from Crediton to Exeter. The editors note that this letter "enables us to add another name to the Bishops of Cornwall, namely that of Daniel, who, we learn, was consecrated at the command of King Eadred (946-955). This is no doubt the Bishop Daniel who signs from 955 to 959, who, Bishop Stubbs suggested, was Bishop of Rochester or Selsey. Daniel, Bishop of Cornwall, is probably the Bishop Daniel who is named in an Exeter manumission of King Eadwig's. As he was appointed under Eadred, and signs through Eadwig's reign, he must have preceded Comoere, who subscribes in the time of King Edgar" (p. 104).

The principal value of the letter, however, consists in its authentication, in the time of St. Dunstan, of the record given by William of Malmesbury. That record is as follows:—

"In the 904th year from the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, Formosus, the apostolic Pontiff of the Roman Church, sent to King Edward in the land of the English, moved with great anger and devotion, and called down upon him and all his

(counsellors) a malediction in place of the benediction which blessed Gregory had formerly sent to the nation of the English by the holy man Augustine—unless he and his bishops instituted (pastors for) the dioceses destitute of bishops, according to the tradition which had been delivered to the nation of the English by the See of St. Peter. For the country of the Gewissi had for seven years been entirely without any bishop.

Upon this, King Edward assembled a Synod of the senators of the nation of the English, over which Archbishop Plegmund presided, and recited to the King, and discussed the severe words of the apostolic message which blessed Pope Formosus sent. Then the King, with his (counsellors) and Plegmund the Archbishop took salutary counsel, applying to themselves the sentence of our Lord, “the harvest indeed is great, but the labourers are few.” They appointed separate bishops to each of the tribes of the Gewissi, and assigned an episcopal residence (*episcopía*) to each; and what before had two, they divided into five.

“This resolution having been passed, Archbishop Plegmund returned to Rome with honourable gifts, and with great humility appeased the apostolic (Lord) Formosus, announced the decrees of the King, and the senate of the country, which greatly pleased his apostolic (lordship).

“Returning home, in the city of Canterbury he ordained seven bishops to seven churches in one day. Frithestan to the Church of Winchester; Æthelstan to the Church of Corvinensis (really Ramsbury); Waerstan to the Church of Sherborne; Æthelm to the Church of Wells; Eadulf to the Church of Crediton. Moreover, they gave him in addition three villas in Cornwall, named Polltun, Caelling, and Landwithan, in order that every year from thence he should visit the people of Cornwall to repress their errors. For of old they used to resist the truth as much as they could, and did not obey the apostolic decrees. Moreover (Archbishop Plegmund) ordained two bishops for the South Saxons, Beorneh,

a fitting man, and for the Mercians Coenulf for the city which is called Dorchester.

“All this the apostolic Pope confirmed in Synods at St. Peter’s Church, and condemned for ever anyone who should change this salutary resolution.”

William of Malmesbury, not knowing the origin of the name “*Corvinensis*,” supposed it to be meant for “*Cornubiensis*,” and so made Æthelstan Bishop of Cornwall. The late Canon Jones, of Bradford-on-Avon, gives the following explanation of how it came to mean Ramsbury:—

“The Bishops of Ramsbury are usually styled ‘*Episcopi Corvinensis Ecclesiæ*.’ The town chosen as their See is in the north-east of Wilts, and was originally called ‘Hraefenes byrig,’ that is Ravensbury: an estate close by being still called ‘Crow-wood.’ The Latin name is a simple translation of the Anglo-Saxon.” (*Fasti Sarisb.*, i, 34).

In the catalogue given by Florence of Worcester, they are called “Epi Sunningenses.” In our MS. it is called “Hramnes byrig.” Canon Jones endorses the contemptuous remark of the editor of the “*Monumenta Historica Britannica*”: “that the tale of seven bishops consecrated in one day by Archbishop Plegmund, which had given so much trouble to many learned men, was not yet concocted in the tenth century.” Dr. Giles makes a similar remark in a note to Bohn’s translation of William of Malmesbury, and says: “though it may not be easy to assign a rational motive for the invention of such an instrument, it is a decided forgery.” Dr. Oliver also says: “Of course we reject the letter of Pope Formosus.” If the judgment of the editors of the Crawford MS. be accepted, this rough and ready treatment cannot be sustained. The date may easily have got miscopied; but so remarkable an event as seven bishops being consecrated in one day can hardly have been invented, and certainly was well known in the tenth century. The Cornish more than once took part with the Danes against the Saxons; and a report of this might well

have led the Pope to suppose that they were lapsing into paganism, and the Bishop of Sherborne probably found no opportunity of visiting Devon and Cornwall during the Danish incursions on the coasts of Devon. It is true that Asser, whom Canon Jones considers Bishop of Sherborne, did not die until 910; but it might well have happened that no Bishop had been in Somerset, Devon, or Cornwall for seven years before 894. And Asser was really domestic prelate to King Alfred, and might rather be called Bishop of Cornwall than of Sherborne.

Mansi (Sacr. Council. Tom. xviii, pp. 111-120) discusses in considerable length the difficulties of this remarkable record, with the corrections suggested by Baronius, Pagi, Wharton, Wilkins, and Cossart. The pontificate of Formosus lasted from 891 to 895; and during that time Alfred the Great was King of Wessex, and Edward did not succeed him until 901. Plegmund went to Rome for his consecration in 890, or 891, and died in 914.

Jaffè, in his "*Regesta Pontificum Romanorum*," gives among the *Gesta* of Pope Formosus, as occurring A.D. 892-896:

"He writes to the Bishops of England that it was in his mind to excommunicate them, because they had ceased to root out the abominable pagan customs which were sprouting out afresh in England. But great joy had been brought to him by Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, who had brought word that they had returned into the right way. He exhorts them that they should neither violate Christian faith, or allow the flock of God to go astray, be dispersed, or be destroyed through lack of pastors, nor permit the churches to stand vacant on the death of bishops. He confirms the Primacy of the Church of Canterbury." (p. 301.)

The letter of Formosus, "*Audito nefandos*," is given by Mansi with Wilkins' dissertation upon it. Birch follows Jaffè, *Cartul. Sax.* ii, p. 214. Cossart considers that the best way out of the difficulty is to suppose that the real date of the

English Synod was about 894; and that Alfred should be substituted for Edward as the name of the King. This is precisely what we find in Higden, who says in his *Polychronicon*, Lib. VI, of the year 894:

“Plegmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, nobly learned in letters, having lately received the pallium from Pope Formosus, in one day ordained seven Bishops for seven Churches of the English. This year King Alfred drove out the Danes, first from Kent, then from Oxford, and then from Chichester.”

This, however, lands us in another difficulty, that it is stated that there were no bishops in Wessex for seven years, whereas we find Denwulf, Bishop of Winchester, signing a charter of King Alfred in 889 as Bishop, and in 895 he signs at full length: “Ego Denewulfus Wentanae urbis episcopus assencio aet conscribo.✠.” In a charter of the year 900 for 901, “in which year also King Alfred died,” Denewulf is styled “that venerable Bishop of the city of Winchester.” In 902 he gives a grant of land to Beornulf; in 903 he witnesses the Golden Charter to the Abbey of Newminster; in 904 a grant of King Edward to St. Peter’s, Winchester, and other charters. The first grant by Edward to Frithestan, Bishop of Winchester, is of A.D. 909; and in the same year a grant is made to Denewulf, Bishop of Winchester, which fixes Denewulf’s death as in that year. It is true this grant is signed, not by Denewulf, but by Frithestan. Unless Frithestan was consecrated as coadjutor to Denewulf, it is difficult to see how he could have been consecrated by Plegmund in 905, still less in 894. (See Birch, *Cartul. Sax.* Vol. ii, pp. 169-289.)

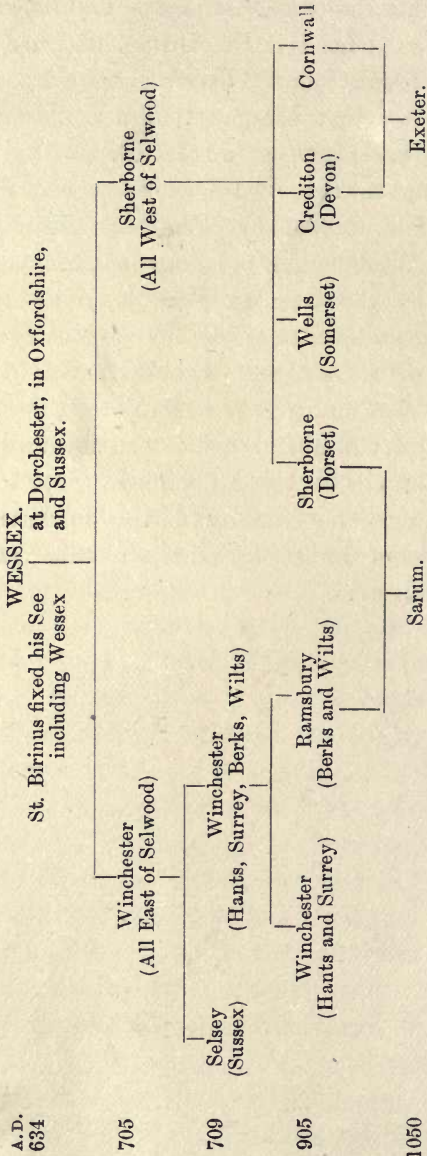
There are no signatures in the Charters published by Birch, of either Æthelstan, Bishop of Ramsbury, unless as “Mass priest” in 903, Waerstan, Bishop of Sherborne, or Æthelm, Bishop of Wells. Waerstan is named in the list of Bishops of Sherborne in the Hyde, *Liber Vitæ*, and Mr. Clark, in 1873, at Sherborne, stated that “Werstan, the fourteenth bishop, fell in battle” against the Danes. This was stated probably on the

authority of William of Malmesbury, who says that he fell in the night attack that Anlaf made on the camp of Æthelstan. Bishop Stubbs, however, has proved that it could not have been Werstan, as Alfred was the Bishop of Sherborne when that * battle was fought; and Alfred's signature is found both before and after that date, so that it could not have been a Bishop of Sherborne that was killed.

According to the record as preserved in the Abingdon Register, and quoted by Wharton, Æthelm was the first Bishop of Wells. An old fragment of a history of Wells, published by the Camden Society, gives Daniel as its first Bishop, in consequence of his having blessed the marriage of King Ine with the Queen Ethelburga of Mercia. But the account of that marriage is so improbable as to make Daniel's episcopate very doubtful, and it was not until 200 years afterwards that Wells became an episcopal See.

For other points of interest in this document, we must refer to the Notes of the learned editors of this Crawford Collection of Early Charters.

TABLE SHOWING THE DIVISIONS OF THE DIOCESES OF WESSEX.



THE SUCCESSION OF BISHOPS IN WESSEX AFTER 905.

KING.	A.D.	WINCHESTER.	RAMSBURY.	SHERBORNE.	WELLS.	CREDITON.	CORNWALL.
Edward the Elder	905	(Denewulf) Frithestan	Æthelstan	(Asser) Werstan	Athelm	Eadulf	(Athelstan)
Athelstan	915 918 920 924		Odo (Abp. Cant.)	Ethelbald	Wulfhelm	Ethelgar (931)	Conan Ruidoc Aldred
Edmund	931	Brinstan	Oswulf	Alfred	Elfege		* Brihtwin * Athelstan II * Daniel
Edred	934	Elfege		Wulfus	Wulfhelm	(Algar) Alfwald	
Edwy	942	Elsin		Alfwald	Brihtelm	(Alfwulf)	* Comoere * Wulfsig * Woron
Edgar	951	Brihtelm		Æthelsige	Kinewald	Sideman (972) Alfred	
Edward the M.	958	Ethelwald	Ælfstan			Alfwald	
Ethelred	971		Wulfgar Siric (Abp.)		Sigar		
	978						
	981						
	985	Elfege, M.					
	988						
	994						
Edmund	1005	Kenulf	Aelfric (Abp.) Brihtwald (Living)	Wulfsig Brihtwin	Burwald	Ednod (1022)	Burwald
Canute	1008	Brihtwald			Living		
	1015	Elsin		Ælmar	Ethelwin		
	1025		(Ethelwin)	Brihtwin	Merewith	Living	Living
Edward the Conf.	1045	Alwain	Herman	Ælfwald	Duduco		
	1050	Stigand	Herman united the Sees Ramsbury and Sherborne, transferred to Sarum.				

* Dates uncertain.

(Adapted from the late Canon Jones' "Fasti Sarisberiensis.")

An Inventory of Church Plate in Somerset.

*Part II.**

BY THE REV. E. H. BATES, M.A.

AN inventory of the Communion plate of the Deanery-districts of Frome and Martock now follows on the start made last year. It is not by any means as much as I had hoped to do, but man proposes and the influenza indisposes. For the same reason there are no reproduction of drawings, but some photographs kindly furnished by friends.

In these two Deanery-districts there are forty-three ancient parishes and chapelries, and seven modern parishes and districts, total fifty. Although there is no instance of mediæval silver plate to be recorded, there is a considerable quantity of interesting pieces. The Elizabethan cup is found at Lullington as early as 1562, and there are quite a number of cups and covers earlier than 1572, so it is evident that many parishes did not wait for the word of command from Wells before adopting the new fashion. One consequence of this is that we find a greater variety of patterns in the shape and ornamentation of these cups, as the work of the silversmith I. P. is not found in this county before 1572. In the seventeenth century, there are examples of post-mediæval chalices at Pendomer and Marston Bigot, the latter being a beautiful specimen of the high art of the reign of Charles I. At Od-

* Part I, containing Deanery-districts of Bruton, Cary, Shepton Mallet, Merston, and Milborne Port, appeared in vol xliii, ii, 172.

combe is an example of the standing cup of the Edmond's pattern, a gift of the last century. There are also some very primitive patens at North Perrott, Middle Chinnock, and Charterhouse Hinton, which have no regular marks. The paten at the last-named place bears a mark which has hitherto only been found in Wilts. For the probable maker of the Pendomer chalice see notes on that place. Of eighteenth century work there is a typical collection at Mellis, and a beautiful salver and ewer at Montacute. But the possible list has been greatly limited by the extraordinary denudation of Frome Deanery district in the matter of old plate. Out of twenty-four ancient parishes, ten possess no plate older than the present reign, and only five retain the Elizabethan cups; while, in the Martock district, out of nineteen parishes, ten possess the original cups and covers, whose beauty, value, and interest, ought to form a triple alliance against the attack of the pseudo-mediævalist.

In conclusion, I desire to return my best thanks to the clergy and laity who have so kindly assisted me in making these notes. If there is an *amari aliquid* in the memory, it is that a few would not answer their letters, and thereby somewhat dislocated my plans, but "all's well that ends well."

Puckington Rectory, Ilminster.

*Chronological List of Church Plate to the end of the
18th century.*

MEDIÆVAL PERIOD.

Coffin chalice, pewter, at Orchardleigh.

16TH CENTURY AFTER THE REFORMATION.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1562 Lullington, cup and cover.
1570 Beckington (2), cup and cover.
West Chinnock, cup and cover.
1571 Beckington (1), cup and cover.
Chiselborough, cup and cover.
East Chinnock, cup and cover.
Elm, cup and cover.
North Perrott, cup and cover.</p> | <p>1573 Hardington Mand., cup and cover.
Montacute, cup and cover.
Tellisford, cup and cover.
Thorne nr. Yeovil, cup and cover.
1574 Middle Chinnock, cup and cover.
Odcombe, cup and cover.
1592 Witham Friary, cup and cover.</p> |
|--|---|

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1601 Norton-sub-Hambdon, cup and cover. | 1635 Stoke-s-Hamdon. cup and cover, Tintinhull, cup and cover, |
| 1614 Odcombe, standing cup. | 1636 Marston Bigot, paten. |
| 1619 Brympton, flagon. | 1637 Charterhouse Hinton, cup. |
| 1627 Orchardleigh, cup and cover. | 1661 Nunney, cup. |
| 1628 Marston Bigot, flagon. | 1673 Leigh-on-Mendip, cup and cover. |
| 1629 Brympton, cup. | 1691 Montacute, candlesticks. |
| 1632 Wanstrow, cover. | 1693 Pendomer, paten. |
| 1633 Marston Bigot, chalice. | 1694 North Perrott, paten. |
| | 1699 Brympton, paten. |

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1705 East Chinnock, cup. | 1732 Rodden, paten. |
| 1708 Marston Bigot, almsdish. | 1737 Nunney, paten. |
| 1711 Frome, S. John's, Bp. Ken's cup. | 1740 Rodden, cup and flagon. |
| 1713 Lufton, cup. | 1742 Haselbury Plucknett, salver. |
| Montacute, patens. | 1746 Road, cup. |
| Road, paten. | 1748 Mells, set of vessels. |
| 1720 Beckington, flagon. | 1752 North Perrott, salvers. |
| 1721 Lufton, paten. | 1755 Mells, knife. |
| 1724 Leigh-on-Mendip, patens. | 1758 Martock, paten and flagon. |
| Montacute, salver. | 1760 Haselbury Plucknett, flagon. |
| 1725 East Chinnock, salver. | 1768 North Perrott, flagon. |
| 1730 Woolverton, cup and paten. | 1783 Nunney, cup. |
| 1732 Elm, paten. | 1796 Norton-sub-Hamdon, cup. |

ARMORIALS.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Horner, Mells. | Phillips, Montacute, |
| Hoskyns, Haselbury Plucknett. | Sainsbury, Beckington. |
| Houlton, Farleigh Hungerford. | Strangways, Mells. |
| Napier, Montacute. | Sydenham, Brympton. |
| Phelips, Montacute. | Worsley, Montacute. |
| | Wright, Montacute. |

FROME DISTRICT.

BECKINGTON.—There are here two Elizabethan cups and cover, one the result of the Reformation settlement, the other a gift of late date. The original cup is a very fine one; it stands 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, and is parcel-gilt. The bowl is deep and trumpet-shaped; there is one band of running ornament. Above and below the stem are bands of small prick-holes. The knop has the hyphen ornament; the foot is plain. The cover is also quite plain; on the button is the date 1571. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1571; maker's mark doubtful, perhaps a mullet with fiery points (also found at Chiselborough and Elm).

The other Elizabethan cup and cover is a year earlier in date. The cup stands 7in. high; the bowl is straight-sided, with wide lip; there is one band of running ornament between fillets without the usual upright arabesques at the intersections; round the base of the bowl is a belt of egg-and-dart ornament, which is also found on the foot. Above and below the stem are bands of upright strokes. The knop and perhaps the stem seem to have been repaired. The foot rests on an added rim of silver plate, on which is engraved: 'The gift of Elizabeth Langford to the Parish of Beckington 1838.' The cover is quite plain. The Sacred Monogram has been engraved on both pieces. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark, within a circle a cross pommée; not in *Cripps*.

There is also a good solid plain flagon, 9½in. high to lip. It bears the same inscription that is found on the Elizabethan cup above. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1720; maker's mark illegible. Two dishes, 9½in. in diameter, quite plain, with Sacred Monogram in the centre, and date-letter for 1811. Round brim: 'The gift of Mrs. Grace Sainsbury to the Parish of Beckington 1812.' Arms, in a lozenge: Az., within a bord. engr., 3 lozenges conjoined in bend or. A small box of plated metal for the service of the Holy Table.

William Sainsbury was patron of Beckington in 1704; and the family have continued here to the present time, being now represented by the Rev. Thomas Ernest Langford Sainsbury.

BERKLEY.—A cup, paten and flagon, all intensely modern of an uninteresting pattern. The cup is inscribed: 'Parish of Berkley, Somerset. H. T. Wheler, M.A., Rector A.D. 1852.' All the pieces have the date-letter for that year.

BUCKLAND DINHAM.—A chalice and paten, parcel-gilt, of modern mediæval design, with the date-letter for 1853. A plated dish and two pewter ditto, one patterned over with thistles.

CHANTRY.—A modern ecclesiastical parish, formed in 1846. The plate consists of a chalice, paten on foot, flagon and alms-dish, all good of their kind, with the date-letter for 1846.

CHARTERHOUSE HINTON.—An early seventeenth-century cup, which, in its proportions, more resembles the bulkier patterns in vogue at the end of the century. It stands $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; the bowl is cylindrical, with slight lip, perfectly plain; the moulded foot has a flange round the upper part. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1637; maker's mark, the initials D. G. with an anchor between in shield. The bowl is inscribed: 'Robert Shaa Junior Churchwarden of Charterhouse Hinton in Somsetshr.' His will is in *Brown v. 67*. It was made 30th May, 1657, and proved 13th May, 1658. He was the owner of Hinton Abbey Farm. A paten, plain and solid, with a wide brim, total width $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. It stands on a tall thick stem with clumsy foot. The only mark (struck thrice) is a shield containing the initials G. L. above a dog trotting to dexter. This mark is also found at Bishop's Knoyle and Winkfield (just three miles away), in the adjacent county of Wilts. The mark at Bishop's Knoyle is accompanied by the date 1677, and the paten here is most probably about this period. It is inscribed: 'Ex dono Johannis Bayly generosi de Winfeild.'

CLOFORD.—The plate is all modern; there are a chalice and two patens of mediæval design, silver-gilt, with the date-letter for 1851.

ELM.—This parish still retains its Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is 7in. high; there is one band of running ornament round the bowl; the knop has the hyphen ornament; above and below the stem are bands of pin-holes; the foot is quite plain. The cover has no ornament about it; on the button is the date 1571. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1571; maker's mark, as at Beckington *q.v.* and Chiselborough. There is also a small paten on moulded foot, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter

for 1732; maker's mark, T.P. in oblong punch, not in *Cripps*. A cup, salver, and flagon of plated metal.

FARLEIGH HUNGERFORD.—The church plate of this parish has undergone several changes, presumably for the worse each time. In 1803, Joseph Houlton, of Farleigh Hungerford, gave to the church a large silver cup, with handle and cover, and three silver plates bearing his arms. Being of an inconvenient shape, the cup was exchanged for a chalice and paten of modern mediæval design, with the date-letter for 1847. A silver flagon was added by the Rev. Henry Ward, at that time curate of Farleigh. [‘Ex Guide to Farleigh Hungerford by Canon Jackson 1879,’ communicated by Rev. R. W. Baker, rector of the parish.]

The flagon and a small silver plate have disappeared. The two survivors bear the Houlton arms—Arg., on a fess wavy betw. 3 talbots' heads az., as many bezants. Crest, a talbot's head. Motto, *Semper fidelis*. Inscription: ‘The gift of Joseph Houlton Esq. to the Parish of Farleigh 25th March 1803.’ The date-letter is, however, that for 1805. A glass cruet with silver-gilt mountings.

FROME (*S. John's*).—The plate here, though beautiful and valuable, is of too modern a date to call for a long description.

A large chalice with paten to match, silver-gilt and enamelled, with the Birmingham date-letter for 1850. A smaller chalice and paten silver-gilt, with the date-letter for 1860.

A ciborium wholly gilt and enriched with precious stones; under the foot is an inscription: ‘+ This ciborium constructed from two flagons the gifts of Thomas Prigge 1686 and Thomas Husbands 1695, and two chalices the gifts of John Ross Bishop of Exeter and Vicar 1783 with the jewels added (the gift of a Communicant) is dedicated to the use of the Church of S. John of Froome for ever, S. John Bapt. Day 1866. Wm. J. E. Bennett Vicar +.’ A smaller ciborium also wholly gilt with the inscription: ‘+ Presented to William James Early Bennett Parish Priest of Frome Selwood, by the

Frome Ward of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament, November 15, 1875.' A very handsome processional cross, gilt. Another cross with the inscription: 'This cross is given by members of the congregation in memory of Clement John Sparkes, Priest—who died in the discharge of his duty in the Central African Mission, September 22nd, 1889.'

But, undoubtedly, the most interesting object among the plate is the pocket Communion Service of Bishop Ken, which is still preserved in the original case of cuir bouillé. This case is $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. high, covered with stamped patterns, and lined internally with green baize. The cup and cover are wholly gilt. The cup is $4\frac{3}{8}$ in. high; the depth of bowl being 2in. This is devoid of any embellishment; it rests on a trumpet-shaped stem with moulded foot. The general design is like the illustration on p. 218 of Cripps' *Old English Plate*, 5th edit. The only mark is that of the maker R.P. above a mullet in heart-shaped shield. This mark is given in *Cripps* under the year 1640, but the pattern of the cup is like one found in the early part of the eighteenth century (Lufton 1713, Sutton Bingham 1735). It is inscribed: 'Given to the Parsh of Froome by the late L^d. Bp. Ken 1711.' He died 19 Mar. 1710-1; and was buried under the east window of the chancel, where his grave may still be seen:

'A basket-work where bars are bent, iron in place of osier,
And shapes above that represent a mitre and a crosier.'

FROME (*Christ Church*.)—A parish formed in 1844. The plate is modern. It consists of a large chalice, paten on foot, and almsdish with the hall-marks and date-letter for 1818, 'the gift of Anne Jenkyns 1818.' A ciborium with cover, silver, jewelled, bearing the date-letter for 1885, and this inscription: 'The gift of Rev. R. Raikes Branage, in memory of his wife 1886.' A small chalice (date-letter for 1876), 'The gift of friends in memory of E. H. H. Branage 1886.' A small paten (date-letter for 1886): 'The gift of the Guild of the Good Shepherd, Easter 1886.' Two silver-mounted

glass cruets. A silver rack, to fit into ciborium, for carrying the Blessed Sacrament to the sick (no mark) presented by Rev. S. Cooper 1897. A brass and copper almsdish, embossed with figure of our Lord, made by Messrs. Singer in 1886, in exchange for a silver chalice of the size and pattern of the first above mentioned, the gift of Anne Jenkyns. [This inventory was kindly furnished by the Rev. S. Cooper, vicar of the parish.]

FROME (*Trinity*).—A parish formed in 1844. The first set of communion vessels were only plated; but a silver chalice and paten were added in 1872. [Communicated.]

FROME (*St. Mary Virg.*).—A parish formed in 1873. The plate is all modern. It consists of a flagon, chalice, two patens, almsdish, and baptismal shell (1897); all silver-gilt. [Communicated by Rev. H. Hickman, late vicar.]

LAVERTON.—The plate here is all modern. It consists of a cup, parcel-gilt, egg-cup pattern, with the Sheffield hall-mark and date-letter for 1842. The paten on foot has the London date-letter for 1851. Each piece bears this inscription: ‘Presented by the Rev. George Rous to the Parish of Laverton 1854.’

LEIGH-ON-MENDIP.—There is here a cup and cover of the time of Charles II, without any regular marks. The cup stands $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; it is a tall plain vessel with a small knop on the stem, and a circular moulded foot. It is inscribed: ‘William Raynes, James Raye, Churchwardens, 1673.’ The cover is quite plain; on the foot: ‘W.R., J.R. + 1673.’ Each piece bears the same solitary mark (struck thrice), I.P., in shaped punch, not in *Cripps*. A pair of plain patens on foot, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1724; maker’s mark, R.B., in oblong punch, with the angles sloped off. Underneath the patens are the initials E.I.G., the first above the other two.

LULLINGTON.—This parish possesses an Elizabethan cup and cover of a considerably earlier date than the generality of

the plate of this reign. The cup is of a peculiar shape ; it stands $6\frac{1}{8}$ in. high ; the bowl is $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. across at lip, and $3\frac{3}{8}$ in. deep ; it is perfectly plain. The stem is very short and thick, without knop, with a band of upright strokes at either end ; the foot is poorly moulded. The cover is also perfectly plain ; the stem of the button is abnormally thick. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1562 ; maker's mark, two letters in monogram, perhaps P.S., as given in *Cripps* under that year. A small, plain, silver-gilt paten of Victorian era. Pewter : A large flagon and a bowl.

MARSTON BIGOT.—The plate here is remarkable for its artistic beauty. The cup is designed after the pattern of a mediæval chalice. It is silver gilt, $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. high, with a large deep bowl, quite plain. The stem is hexagonal, having a large knop with diamond facets. At the bottom of the stem is a wide flange ; below this the foot gradually spreads out into six semi-circular lobes, elaborately covered with engraved and repoussé work. The stem also is engraved with representations of single-light Gothic windows. There are two sets of marks on this piece. Under the foot : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1633 ; maker's mark W.R., with small ornament above in shield, not in *Cripps*. On the bowl : 2 offic., and the maker's mark B.F., with trefoil slipped below in shield, given by *Cripps* under 1635. The paten, diam. 7 in., silver-gilt, on foot, has a wide brim, and a broad band of engraved ornament in the central depression. Within this band is the sacred monogram surrounded by a rayed circle. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1636 ; maker's mark as on bowl of chalice. A straight-sided flagon, silver-gilt, with flat lid. The drum is elaborately covered with engraved and repoussé work of a different pattern to that on the pieces described above. At the base of the drum is a bold band of cable pattern. The handle is large and plain. The foot is comparatively small. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1628 ; maker's mark R.S. above a heart in shield. A large almsdish, $12\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter, silver-gilt, elaborately

engraved. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; date letter for 1708 ; maker's mark L.O. above a small roundel in shaped punch, perhaps a variation of John Lock's mark given in *Cripps* under 1711.

It is quite impossible to describe the beauty of the engraved and repoussé work on these pieces, particularly on those of the reign of Charles I. It is a striking testimony to the artistic taste which the king in the earlier part of his reign did so much to foster.

MELLS.—This parish, like so many which have belonged to the Strangways-Horner family, has been greatly enriched as regards its plate-chest. The gift included a cup 9 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, with a large bowl encircled by a rib. The stem is trumpet-shaped, gradually broadening out into a wide spreading foot. On this is engraved a band of cherubs. On the cup is the sacred monogram within a rayed circle. This ornamentation is found on all the pieces which are fully gilt. Weight of the cup, 18oz. 1dwt. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1748 ; maker's mark, D.P. in shaped punch=Daniel Piers. The inscription runs : 'The gift of Mrs. Strangways Horner, 1748.' Arms (in a lozenge)—Quarterly : 1 and 4, sa. 2 lions pass. paly of six arg. and gu. (Strangways) ; 2 and 3, sa. 3 talbots pass. 2 and 1, arg. (Horner). Supporters : dexter, a talbot ; sinister, a wolf. Motto : Soys ioyevz et ne dovbte pont. By these arms the donor can be identified as Susannah, daughter and coheirress of Thomas Strangways of Melbury Osmund, Esq., and wife of Thomas Horner of Mells, Esq. [See more about the family under Milton Clevedon in Bruton Deanery.] The paten-cover fits loosely on the cup. It is fully gilt, and weighs 5oz. 17dwt. Same marks and inscription as on cup. Another larger paten on foot, 8 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. across. Weight, 15oz. 9dwt. Same marks, etc. A tall flagon, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. high to lip, and 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to top of domed cover. The drum is of an unusual shape, the upper part being cylindrical and then gradually swelling out, yet never approaching the amazing

dimensions of the ordinary flagon of this period. The handle is engraved with a band of leaves and flowers; and the superiority of the workmanship is no doubt due to the fact that it was made by Paul Lamerie, whose mark, the initials P.L. under a crown, appear on this piece. The other marks are the same as on the cup. The weight is 40oz. 18dwt. Of a slightly later date is a knife in metal sheath inscribed: 'The gift of Mrs. Strangways Horner to the Parish of Mells 1755.' The handle of the knife and the sheath are gilt and ornamented with the acanthus-leaf pattern. There are no marks visible.

The modern plate consists of a chalice and paten fully gilt, with the date-letter for 1852. A large and handsome alms-dish, silver washed over with burnished copper; the date letter is that for 1853.

NORTON ST. PHILIP.—The plate here is of the Victorian era. It consists of a large silver-gilt chalice and paten of mediæval design. There is also a very tall pewter flagon of the tankard pattern, with a spreading foot and curious double handle.

NUNNEY.—The oldest piece of plate here bears the date of the year following 'His Majesty's happy Restoration.' The Castle here was besieged and taken by Fairfax in 1645, when it is quite possible and probable that the old plate disappeared. The general feeling of uncertainty about the future would seem to have kept the parish from getting a new cup. [For another instance of delay in this period, see under Batcombe in Bruton Deanery.] The present cup is of the baluster-stem pattern. It stands $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches high; the bowl is quite plain, and the foot is without mouldings. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1661; maker's mark, R.S., with mullet beneath in shield. Another cup, no less than $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, and 5 in. across the lip. The stem has an annular knop and moulded foot. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1783; maker's mark, W.T., in plain punch=Walter Tweedie. The cup is in-

scribed: 'A present to the Parishioners of Noney by their affectionate RECTOR, Samuel Whitchurch.'

In Som. Arch. and N. H. *Proc.* XXII, ii, 71, there is a paper on Nunney by E. Green, Esq., who traces the history of the castle after the sequestration of Col. Richard Prater, through the purchasers from the Parliament, Messrs. Foxley and Colbey in 1652, to William Whitchurch. The guardians of William Whitchurch presented Samuel Whitchurch to the rectory 19th April, 1734. As he was buried 11th April, 1797 [Par. Reg., communicated by the rector], this incumbency lasted nearly sixty-three years. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Coward, of Spargrove, in Batcombe. In the church are monuments to three of his children, including James Wadham, 'the beloved curate of this parish, who was called off the 5th day of January, 1776.'

A plain paten on foot, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. Inscribed 'Nony, 1737.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1737; maker's mark, I.F. in oblong punch=John ffawdery.

ORCHARDLEIGH.—Here there is preserved a pewter coffin chalice, dug up in the churchyard in 1878. It was found on the east side of the porch, and was considered by the workman to be an old candlestick, but Mr. Singer pronounced it to be a coffin chalice of the thirteenth century [*v. Proc.* xxxix. i. 28.] It is $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, and $4\frac{5}{8}$ in. across the lip of the bowl, which is shallow. The stem has an annular knop and circular foot.

The communion plate consists of a cup and cover of a Jacobean pattern. The cup is $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. high; the bowl is quite plain with slight lip; the outline is reversed conical. The stem and the knop are very coarse, and seem a renovation. The foot is moulded. Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1627; maker's mark illegible. The cover is of the usual pattern without a flange. It has the same marks as the cup, and again the maker's mark is worn away.

ROAD.—A tall, slender cup of the Georgian period. It stands $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high; the bowl is deep in proportion to its width;

the stem has an annular knop, and a shallow, spreading foot. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1746 ; maker's mark, the first initial is worn away, the second is a capital black-letter S, perhaps the initials of John Swift, entered 1739. A large paten on foot, 8in. across. It is inscribed : ' For the use of the parish of Road, 1724.' Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; date letter for 1713 ; maker's mark an R within a large G = Richard Greene. A small silver flagon, tankard pattern, with the date letter for 1873. Two pewter dishes.

RODDEN.—The cup, paten, and flagon were subscribed for by the parishioners, and each piece bears the inscription : ' The gift of the Parishioners of Rodden. William Moore, chappel-warden, 1741.' The cup is 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. high : the bowl has a slight lip ; there is an annular knop on the thick stem ; the foot is moulded. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1740 ; maker's mark obliterated.

The plain paten is 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. across, on foot. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1732 ; maker's mark, I.F. = John ffawdery. The flagon is simply a larger cup with a spout fitted to the lip of the bowl, and a handle placed on the opposite side. The lip is scalloped ; and a small rib encircles the middle of the bowl. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1740 ; maker's mark, F.S. under a crown in shaped punch = Francis Spilsbury.

A plain almsdish 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, inscribed : ' Presented to Rodden Church by Nathaniel Barton Esq. A.D. 1855.' The date-letter is for that year.

TELLISFORD.—A diminutive cup and cover by I.P. It is only 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ in. high, yet the bowl is encircled with two bands of running ornament. The knop has a band of hyphens ; the foot appears to have been renovated. The cover has one band of running ornament ; on the button is the date ' 1573.' Marks (same on both pieces) : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark, I.P. A paten of mediæval design, with the Elizabethan ornamentation round brim, and the date-letter for 1856 ! A small silver flagon given in 1870 by the Rev. G. Baker.

VOBSTER.—This hamlet was formed into an ecclesiastical parish from the civil parish of Mellis Jan. 9, 1852. [Kelly, *P.O. Directory* 1897.] The Communion plate is modern.

WANSTROW.—The only piece of silver plate left here is the paten-cover of a vanished cup. It is of the usual pattern, 4½ in. in diameter, with a small button. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1632 ; maker's mark, I.B., with a buckle beneath in shield, given by *Cripps* under 1638, 'the buckle probably referring to the maker's name.'

A plated cup, inscribed : 'Presented to the Parish of Wanstrow, Somerset by the Rev. E. D. Slade, A.B., Rector Easter 1834.' A plated flagon inscribed : 'Presented to the Parish of Wanstrow, Somerset on the reopening of the Church after Restoration by the Rev. C. H. Bousfield M.A, curate Oct. 11, 1876.' The donor, after fruitful labours at Poole, became rector of Bratton St. Maur in 1896, and was killed by a fall from his tricycle the following year. A plated salver : 'Wanstrow Church.'

WHATLEY.—A chalice and paten, wholly gilt, of good mediæval design, bearing the date-letter for 1857. A shallow dish, 6 in. in diameter, wholly gilt, no marks. The only ornament is a small floriated cross, within circle on the brim. A pewter bowl once used as an almsdish.

WITHAM FRIARY.—An Elizabethan cup and cover of late date. The cup is 7¾ in. high, with a deep, narrow bowl devoid of ornamentation. The foot is slightly moulded ; the cover is also perfectly plain. Marks (same on both pieces) : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1592 ; maker's mark, M. in shield ; also found at East Cranmore (1576), and Odcombe (1574). A silver flagon of jug pattern, with date-letter for 1868.

WOODLANDS.—The original church here was built by Viscount Weymouth in 1712, but the communion plate is of the Victorian era. It consists of a chalice and paten, silver-gilt, of modern ecclesiastical design, with the date-letter for 1857.

WOOLVERTON.—A large cup of the Georgian era. It stands $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high, and weighs 15oz. 1dwt. Inscription on the bowl runs: 'Woolverton in Com. Somfett 1731.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1730; maker's mark, illegible. The accompanying paten, though plain, is very good of its kind. It measures $5\frac{1}{8}$ in. across. There are the same inscription and marks as on the cup, and again the maker's mark is obliterated. A modern pewter flagon, and a plated salver.

MARTOCK DISTRICT.

ASH.—A modern parish formerly part of Martock. The church was built and the plate given in 1841. There are two cups, a paten on foot, and a salver, each inscribed: 'Trinity Chapel, Martock Somerset 1841.' A glass cruet with silver fittings was given at the re-consecration of the chancel 1889. A small plate, electro.

BRYMPTON.—A cup of the baluster-stem pattern with cover, very plain. The cup stands 7in. high. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1629; maker's mark, C.C. separated by a column or tree in shield, given in *Cripps* under this year. It is inscribed: 'The guift of John Sidenham Esq.' The cover is $5\frac{1}{4}$ in. wide with a flange to fit on the lip of the cup, rudely made, no marks visible. On the button within an oval surrounded by mantling is a ram's head charged with the badge of Ulster; underneath the motto *Medio tutissimus*. The flagon, 8in. high, is of the round-bellied pattern, with a rounded lid and a whistle handle. An ugly and clumsily-made spout has been added, and openings pierced in the lip to allow the contents to be poured out the new way. On the lid and the left side of the neck, the latter a very unusual position, are the marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1619; maker's mark in shield, H.S. with small object beneath. The flagon is inscribed: 'Given · to · Brmpton · Parish · by · the · Gvarden · of · the ·

Persones : of · Iohn · Sidenhame · Esqr · his Maties Warde · 25 · September 1637.' 'The Sydenham crest, on a chapeau a wolf rampant, is engraved on the lid and on the front of the spout. Mr. Franks has found that this device was the third crest of Sir Philip Sydenham, and was therefore added *c.* 1720, after the flagon was given to the Church.' [This is from the Proc. Soc. Antiq. 8th May, 1890, kindly communicated by the Hon. Sir S. B. Ponsonby Fane of Brympton House, but I venture to read the second initial of the maker as an S instead of I.] This mark is not in *Cripps*. John Sydenham, the ward, the donor of the flagon, and most probably of the cup and cover as well, succeeded his father John 10th March, 1626. He was created a Baronet 1641. His grandson, Sir Philip Sydenham, presented a paten on foot with goffered mouldings. It is 8½in. wide. Marks : 2 of Brit. sterling ; date-letter for 1699 ; maker's mark, S.H. in elaborate shield ; not in *Cripps*. It is inscribed : 'The gift of ye Honble Sr Philip Sydenham Bart to ye Church of Brympton Anno Domi 1699.' Within mantling is a shield bearing his arms : 'A chevron betw. 3 rams trippant.' Crest, ram's head. The donor was the last baronet. For an account of his life and misfortunes, see Mr. Batten's Historical Notes on South Somerset under Brympton.

CHILTHORNE DOMER.—The plate here is all modern. It consists of two cups, two patens, and a flagon, each piece bearing the date letter for 1817, and the inscription, 'The gift of John Bayly, vicar to the parish of Chilthorne, 1817.' The donor died in 1857, aged 89 years, after an incumbency of 43 years' duration ; M.I. in chancel.

CHISELBOROUGH.—An Elizabethan cup and cover, differing in details from the usual pattern in the diocese. The cup stands 6½in. high ; the bowl is deep and rounded at the base : it has one band of running ornament. The stem has a small knop ; the foot is flattened and plain. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1571 ; maker's mark doubtful, perhaps a mullet with

fiery points. This mark is also found at Beckington (1571), and Elms (1571), in this county, see *ante*. It is not in *Cripps*. The cover is devoid of ornament, instead of the usual flat button, it has a rounded top, which once had a small object on it, but this is now broken off; the whole of the top part may be a reparation. It has the same date letter as the cup, but the maker's mark are the letters A.K. in monogram as at Ashington and Doulting. There is also a chalice with paten of mediæval design, which, with a flagon, were given by Mrs. Garrow, widow of the late incumbent, in 1868. A plated paten on foot, inscribed—'De : do : Geo : Garrow : Rec : Chiselbro', A.D. 1857.' A pewter plate, stamped A.N., on the under side is scratched, 'Chiselborough Church; a present from John and Amy Davy, Dec. 8, 1833.'

EAST CHINNOCK.—A fine Elizabethan cup and cover, silver-gilt. The cup stands 6½ in. high; the bowl is trumpet-shaped with one band of running ornament, but without the usual vertical designs at the intersections of the fillets. The knop and foot are plain, the latter being slightly moulded. The cover is of the usual pattern; it has been roughly mended; on the bottom is the date 1571. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date letter for 1571; maker's mark, a bird's head erased in shaped punch as on cover (1570) at Holton.

A very large cup, silver-gilt, 10½ in. high. The bowl is nearly straight-sided, with a thick, clumsy stem, encircled by a rudimentary knop, and a moulded foot. Marks: 2 offic. of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1705; maker's initials P.E. in shield; not in *Cripps*. Partly within and partly without a circle on the bowl is a dedicatory inscription: 'The gift of Mr. Wm. Salisbury gentleman of Barkin Essex 1705.' 'Mr. William Salisbury, of Barking, in Essex, who lies buried in the chancel here, gave to this parish a large silver cup, gilt, for the use of the altar; and five pounds a year to the poor for ever. He also left ten shillings to the minister to preach a sermon on the eighteenth day of June, to be paid out of his

estate lying in the forest of Neroche, and in the parish of Barrington, in this county'—*Collinson*, vol. II, p. 328. A plain salver, 8½in. in diameter, inscribed 'A gift to the Church of East Chincock (*sic*) 1726.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1725; maker's mark, I.S. in shield; not in *Cripps*.

HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE.—An Elizabethan cup and cover in good preservation by I.P., and of his usual pattern. The cup is 6¾in. high; two bands of ornament round bowl, hyphen band round knob and foot. There is also a band of ornament round the cover, on the button of which is engraved the date 1574. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1573; maker's mark, the initials I.P. in shield.

HASELBURY PLUCKNETT.—The cup is very handsome; it stands 6½in. high. The bowl is large; the upper part is plain; midway there is a band of three-cornered patterns inclosing small ornaments; the lower part of the bowl is fluted. On the stem is a small knob; the spreading foot is elaborately moulded. Marks: 2 offic.; no date-letter visible; maker's mark partly worn away, either I.S. or S.I. in shaped punch. So far as it is visible it does not appear to resemble any mark in *Cripps*. The cup somewhat resembles one at Evercreech *c.* 1700, and another at Swanage 1692, and may be dated about the close of the seventeenth century. A salver with gad-rooned edge, on three feet, diam. 6¾in. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1742; maker's mark, R.A., in script letters=Robert Abercromby, entered 1739. A large and handsome flagon of the coffee-pot pattern. It is 10½in. high to lip, and 12½in. to top of lid. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1760; maker's initials E.R., probably E. Romer; *v. Cripps*, p. 419. The flagon is inscribed 'The gift of William Hoskins of Hasselbury in the County of Somerset, who died October 12th, 1760.' Arms in shield: Per pale gu. and az., a chevr. engr. betw. three lions ramp. or. Crest: A cock's head. In the chancel of H. P. church there is his monument: 'In a vault underneath lies the body of William Hoskyns, late of this parish,

gentleman, who died the 12th of October, 1760, aged 52 years. Also the body of Joan Hoskyns, his wife, who died the 21st of May 1776 aged 62 years.' Arms, etc., as on flagon.

LONG LOAD.—This tithing, though part of Martock parish, has generally possessed a separate place of worship. The original building 'callyd or ladyes chapell scituate nere unto the mansion place of the saide Manor was plucked down and solde by the Duke of Suffolk lord of the manor in 1541' (Som. Rec. Soc. ii, 111, 296). It is some comfort to think that the Duke was himself plucked down and beheaded in 1553. A chalice of silver, weighing 13oz., disappeared in the ruins of the chapel. The chapel was re-endowed 1733, but it is arguable that it may have been rebuilt at an earlier date, as *Collinson*, in 1791, describes it as 'a small *ruinous* building, fifty-three feet long, and seventeen wide, with a wooden turret at the west end containing a clock and two bells.' The present building dates from 1856. The vessels consist of a cup and salver of plated metal. Each piece is inscribed 'Rev. C. Harbin; Mr. Joseph Williams, Mr. Will^m Perrin, Churchwardens, Load 1825.'

LUFTON.—The cup is one of those shapeless vessels found at the dawn of the eighteenth century, and very similar to that at Sutton Bingham and Bishop Ken's at Frome. It is 6½in. high; the bowl passes imperceptibly into the stem except that the incised lines mark the boundary. The foot is slightly moulded. On the bowl is 'Lufton.' Marks: 2 of Brit. sterling; date-letter for 1713; maker's mark, F.A., in oblong punch=John Fawdery. A small plain paten on foot; diam. 4½in. Only mark, the initials F.A. as above repeated four times in a row. Another paten on large foot, diam 5in. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1721; maker's mark, B.N., above a fleur-de-lys in heart-shaped punch=Bowles Nash.

MARTOCK.—This the largest parish in the Deanery possesses hardly any ancient plate. There are two cups of the usual pattern of the Victorian era with the date-letter for

1861. One bears this tell-tale inscription : ‘The gift of Eliz : Daughter of John Jeans of Aish* To the Communion Table of Martock.’

The patens are also two in number of the usual shape. One is of the same date as the cups ; the other has the date letter for 1758 ; 2 offic. marks, and the maker’s name R. Cox in a shaped punch (not in *Cripps*) ; and the same dedicatory inscription as on the cup. The flagon is a good specimen of its kind, tall, the drum slightly increasing in diameter towards the base, a massive handle and domed cover. It has the same marks and inscription as on the paten. No doubt the gift of Elizabeth Jeans originally included a cup as well as paten and flagon. However, when a second cup was provided in 1861, it was thought well, for the sake of symmetry, to make it match the new comer ; as to which deed one can only say : “je ne vois pas la nécessité.”

MIDDLE CHINNOCK.—Here there is still preserved the original Elizabethan cup and cover (the latter somewhat damaged.) The cup is 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. high. Contrary to the maker’s usual practice there is only one belt of running ornament round the bowl ; the knop has the hyphen ornament ; the foot is plain. The hyphen ornament is also found on the cover. Marks (same on both) : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1574 ; maker’s mark I.P. There is also a rudely designed paten consisting of a flat roundel of silver-plate turned up at the rim, and mounted on a tall, slender foot ; no marks nor inscription. An electro-plated flagon.

MONTACUTE.—This parish has some interesting pieces, both ecclesiastical and secular. The Elizabethan cup and cover, silver-gilt, are of the usual pattern of I.P.’s work. The cup is 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. high ; on the button of the cover is the date 1574. Marks : 2 offic. ; date letter for 1573 ; maker’s mark, I.P. Two patens silver-gilt. Each piece is 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. in diameter, with a plainly moulded edge. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ;

* A hamlet in Martock.

date letter for 1713 ; maker's mark G, inclosing A in ornamental shield = Francis Garthorne. In the centre of each piece are the arms of the family of Phelips, of Montacute —arg. a chevron betw. 3 roses, gu., in a lozenge supported by two lions. Motto, *pro aris et focis*.

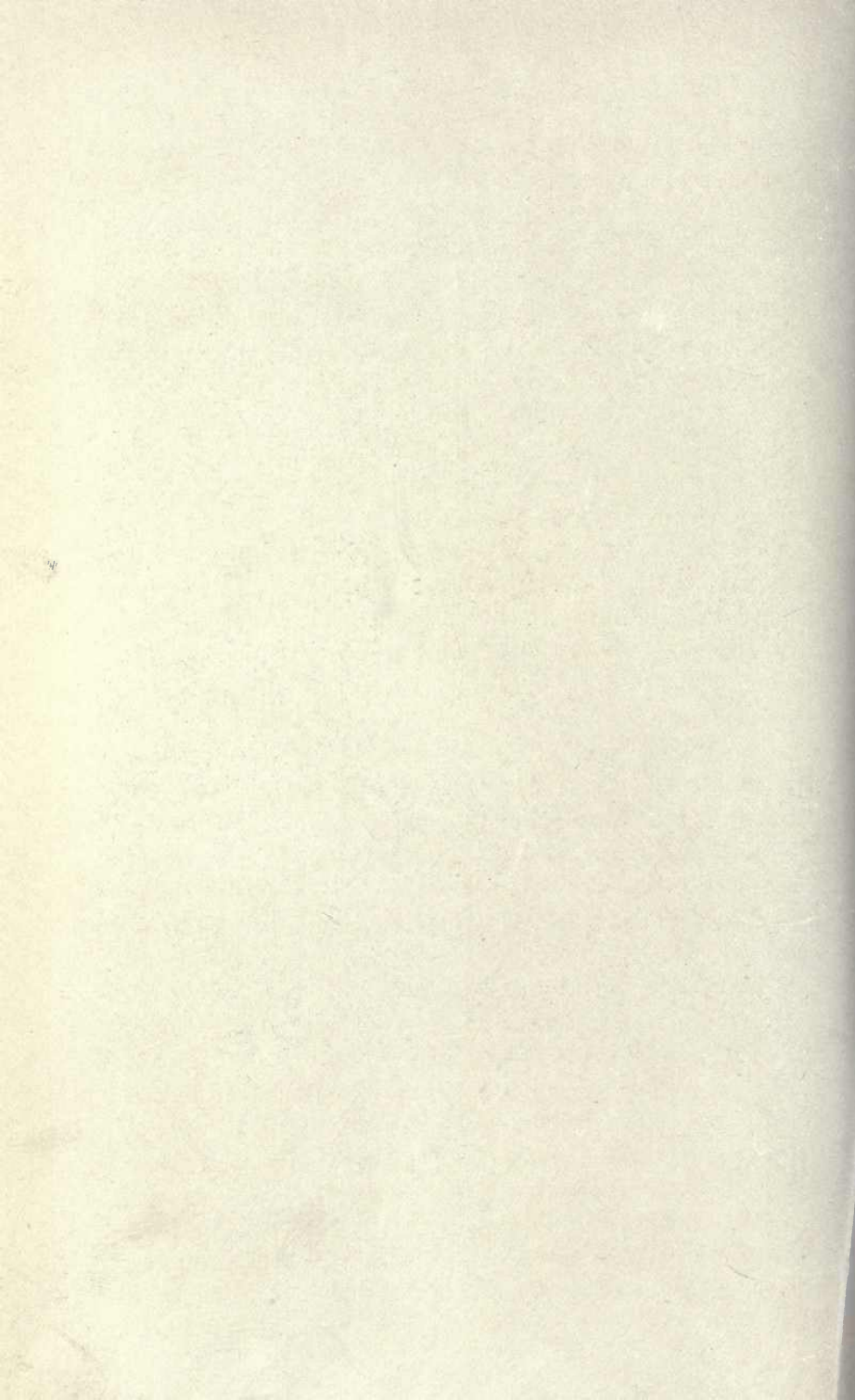
A Victorian communion-cup, silver-gilt, with the date letter for 1870, bearing the inscription : 'Presented by C. C. Goodden, Vicar of Montacute, 1871.'

A pair of candlesticks silver-gilt on broad octagonal feet. The stems are fluted, and there are bands of oblique gadroon ornament round the top, the flange at base of stem, and on the foot. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1691 ; maker's mark, within a shield the initials D.B. with a small crescent below. These initials with crescent in a differently shaped shield are ascribed to Buteux in 1685. These pieces are inscribed : 'In memorial of an excellent WIFE and her 7 children, These are D.D. to the use of the ALTER (*sic*) in Montacute Church A.D. 1796.' This inscription is accompanied by a shield surrounded by mantling, bearing : a saltire engr. betw. 4 roses (Napier), Imp., a chevron betw. 3 falcons (Worsley).

A beautiful oblong salver and ewer. The salver is 14in. long, and 10½in. wide ; weight, 43oz. 13dwt. The moulded edge encloses a band of engraved and repoussé work. Within this is an oval depression. In the centre is a circular flange to secure the foot of the ewer. Marks : 2 offic. of Brit. sterling ; date-letter for 1724 ; maker's mark in a shaped punch, S.A. under crown ; not in *Cripps*. Within the flange is a silver plate on which is engraved a female figure resting on an anchor and supporting a shield bearing the Phelips arms ; round this is an inscription : 'In memory of John Phelips who Died in the Service of his Country, a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy in the year 1781 Aged 26. This Dish and Ewer Purchased by his Effects is Dedicated for the Use of the Sacramental Altar in the Church of Montacute, in the year 1786.' The ewer will be best explained by the accompanying illustra-



MONTACUTE.
EWER.
EARLY 18TH CENT.



tion (from a photograph taken by W. R. Phelps of Montacute House, Esq.) It weighs 30oz. ; there are no marks visible, but they may be hidden by a silver plate which has been affixed under the spout. On this plate is a shield, bearing : Phelps the quarterly coat *i.e.* 1 and 4 Phelps, 2 and 3 on a chevr. 3 birds' heads erased (Phillips), Imp. az. within a double tressure flory-counter-flory, on a fess betw. 3 martlets arg. as many crosses crosslet of the field (Wright). Supporters and motto as on the patens.

Sir Nathaniel Napier, Bart., of More Critchell, Dorset, married firstly, Jane, daughter of Sir Robert Worsley, of Appledurcomb, Isle of Wight, and secondly, Catherine, daughter of William Lord Allington, who died 1724. His eldest surviving son, by the second marriage, Sir Gerard Napier, married Bridget, daughter of Edward Phelps, of Montacute, and on his death, 23rd October, 1759, was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Sir Gerard Napier, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir W. Oglander, of Nunwell, Isle of Wight. He died 26th January, 1765, when the Baronetcy became extinct. By his will he divided his property between his cousins, Humphrey Sturt and Edward Phelps.

Edward Phelps married Maria Wright, and had a family of seven children:—1, Edward, M.P. for Somerset d.v.p. 1797 ; 2, William, rector of Cucklington and Stoke Trister, succeeded his father in 1799 ; 3, John, Lieut. R.N., died 1781 ; 4, Charles, of Briggins Park, Herts. 1, Elizabeth, *m.* 1 John Clarke, Esq., 2 Peter Bluett, Esq. ; 2, Maria, *m.* John Old Goodford, Esq. ; 3, Rhoda, *m.* William Harbin, Esq.

NORTH PERROTT.—The plate here is interesting and curious. An Elizabethan cup and cover of an earlier date than is usual in this diocese. The cup is 5½in. high ; there is one band of running ornament round the bowl, under its base egg-and-dart ornament ; above and below the stem bands of upright strokes ; on the foot another band of egg-and-dart ornament. Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1571 ; maker's

mark, a stag's head caboshed in punch, not in *Cripps*. The cover is quite plain; on the button is the date 1571. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1571; maker's mark, M.L. in monogram in shield, not in *Cripps*. A small paten of peculiar design. An octagonal piece of thin silver plate $4\frac{3}{8}$ in. across has had a circle cut in the middle, and a shallow dish fitted in the opening. Round the flat portion is the inscription: 'John Myñtern And William Bragge wardens 1694.' There are no marks.

A plain cup, parcel-gilt, 7in. high, inscribed: 'North Perrott A.D. MDCCCXIX.' Marks: 3 offic.; date-letter for 1817.

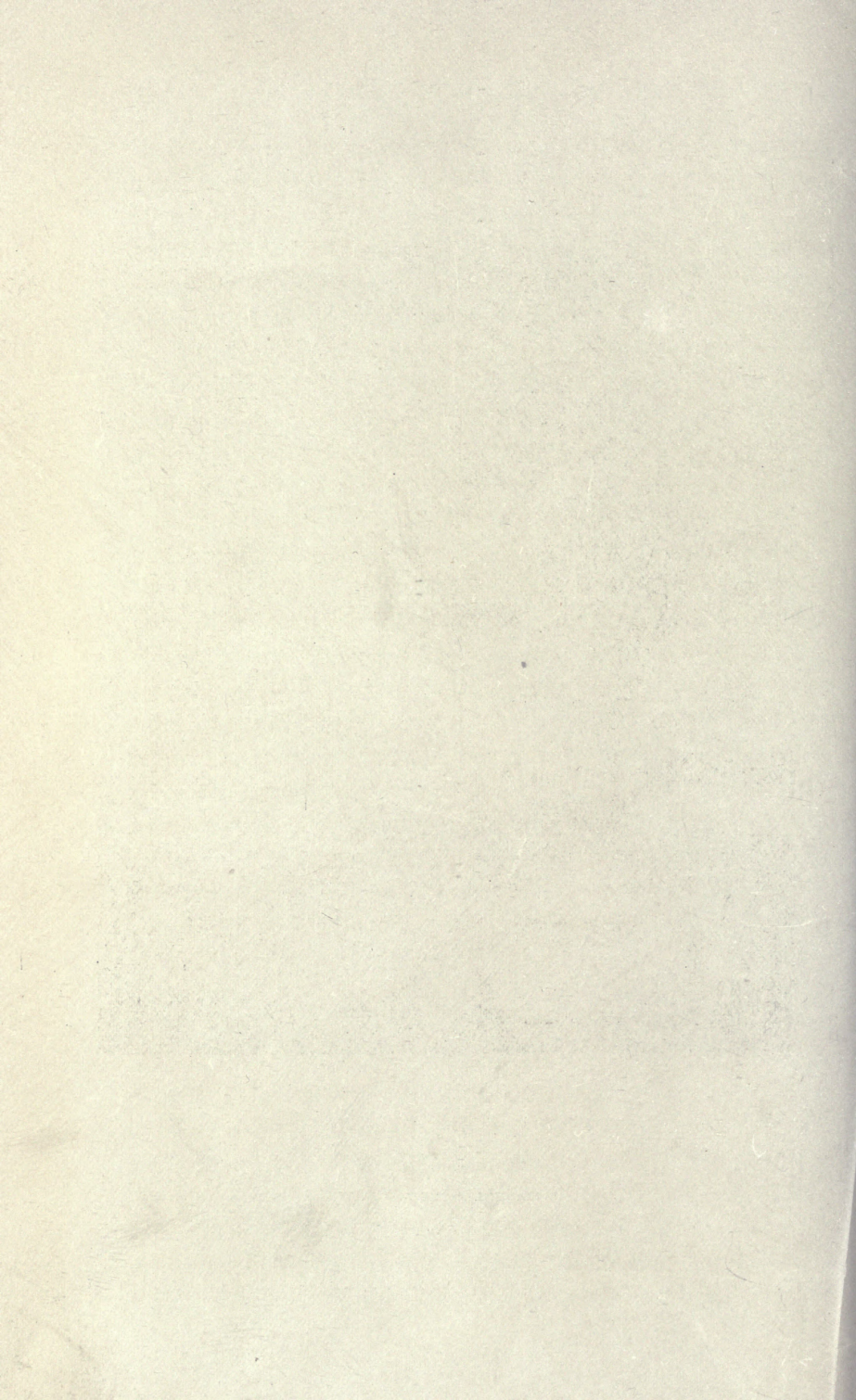
A pair of salvers, with gadrooned edges, on three feet; diameter $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1752, maker's mark in punch I.M., in script letters; not in *Cripps*. Same inscription as on cup. A flagon of tankard type, with sloping sides, 8in. high to lip, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. to button on lid, diam. of foot $5\frac{5}{8}$ in. It is inscribed: 'Given to the parish of North Perrott by William Hoskins churchwarden 1845.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1768; maker's mark, I.K. in oblong punch; perhaps the initials of John King.

NORTON-SUB-HAMDON.—A beautiful cup and cover of the Elizabethan era. The cup is $7\frac{7}{8}$ in. high; the bowl is deep with a slight lip, which is encircled with a band of ornament. Round the middle of the bowl is another band with elaborate designs at the intersections of the fillets. This band of ornament has designs of actual flowers instead of conventional patterns; the rose, convolvulus and acorn being very plain; at the base of the bowl are three fleur-de-lys. The knob and the domed part of the foot have hyphen-bands; on the spread of the foot is the egg-and-dart ornament. The cover is of the usual shape, with one band of ornament; on the button is the date 1601. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1601; maker's mark, in shield, I.R. above four dots; this is not in *Cripps*. The Rev. A. G. Edwards, rector of the parish, kindly took the photograph of the cup and cover.



NORTON-SUB-HAMDON.
ELIZABETHAN CUP AND PATEN

1601.



Another cup, parcel-gilt, with band of ornament round lip, and the sacred monogram in centre of bowl. The date-letter is that for 1796. It bears an inscribed date 1814, so it was no doubt part of a donation which also included a flagon and a dish, which bears this inscription: 'The gift of Phillippa Quantock to the parish of Norton-sub-Hamdon 1814.' There was in the tower of the church, but unfortunately destroyed in the fire of August, 1894, a monument: 'Sacred to the memory of Phillippa Quantock, who died at Bath, May 13th, 1826, aged 82. She was the only surviving daughter of Mathew Quantock, Esq., of Norton-sub-Hamdon, in this County.' [From History of Norton-s-Hamdon, by C. Trask, 1898.]

ODCOMBE.—In addition to a fine Elizabethan cup and cover, the parish possesses a magnificent standing cup of the Edmonds pattern, specimens of which have been already noted at Yarlinton and Horsington. The Elizabethan cup is 8½ in. high; the bowl has one band of running ornament; above and below the stem are bands of raised ovals with pellets in centre; on the spread of the foot is a belt of egg-and-dart ornament. These parts are gilt. The cover is of the usual pattern with a band of ornament gilt. On the button is the date 1575 in such queer figures that it has often been read as 1717. Marks (same on both pieces): 2 offic.; date-letter for 1574; maker's mark, M in shield, as at Cranmore E. 1576, and Witham 1592.

A plain dish (soup-plate pattern), 7½ in. across with the date-letter for 1806. Inscribed: 'The gift of Susanna, Wife of the Rev. P. A. French, Rector of Odcombe Somerset A.D. 1808.'

The standing cup is silver-gilt, 11¼ in. high to lip, the diameter of the bowl being 4¼ in. The bowl is divided by a small rib into two portions. On the upper part is a representation in repoussé work of the sea with various sea monsters; the lower part are upright leaves and flowers. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1614; maker's mark in a shield, I.M. and F.B. The cover is 6½ in. high. It has the same representation of the sea with monsters and a tub floating on the waves. The

sides of the steeple are not pierced; this detracts from its general appearance by making the cover look heavy. There is no inscription on the cup, but in the parish register is this note: '1718, About this time there was given to the parish of Odcombe a Large silver-gilt Chalice and Cover, by Mrs. Wortley, who was the Relict of Mr. Edmund Brickenden, the late Rev^d Rector of ye Parish of Odcombe. This is recorded in a grateful remembrance of their benefaction by Ed. Gilling Curate of Odcomb.' [Communicated by the Rev. E. W. Collin, rector of O.] E. Brickenden was instituted 2nd July, 1702, and died 15th February, 1707-8.

PENDOMER.—This little parish has a very interesting post-mediæval chalice. It stands 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. high; diameter of bowl at lip 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in., depth 3in. The bowl is straight-sided and circular at base. The stem is hexagonal. The round knop is broad and clumsy, channelled into ridges terminating in diamond facets. Below the knop, the stem widens out into a flat foot with concave lobes. The projecting points between the lobes terminate in small ornaments technically called toes. Here they are minute cherubs, only one of which is perfect, the other five being partially or wholly destroyed. The foot terminates in an upright basement moulding encircled by a flat rim. The only mark, partially obliterated, is, perhaps, I.S. in shaped punch. The chalice is inscribed: 'The gift of the lady Ann Pollet to Pendomer Church.' The family of Paulet, of Hinton St. George, owned Pendomer from 1630 to 1803. John, second Baron Paulet, died in 1665, leaving a widow, Anne, second daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Browne, Bart. This is the only "Lady Anne Paulet" in the pedigree of the family (*Collinson* II, 167), and the date agrees very well with that when this particular pattern was in fashion [see Redlynch in *Bruton Deanery*, vol. xliii. ii. 197.] Now, in the church of the adjacent town of Crewkerne, in the north aisle is a monument—'Here lyeth the body of Edward Sweet Goldsmith who departed this life the 15 day of March 1684 In the

44 year of his age. Here also lyeth the body of Thomas Sweet son of Edward and Mary Sweet who departed this life the 15 day of April 1713 In the 32 year of his age.' On another monument—'Here lyeth the body of Anna Sweet widow who was wife to Mr. Richard Sweet of this towne goldsmith. Shee departed this life the 27th day of February in the 72nd year of her age, and was buryed the 5th day of March Anno Dom. 1683-4.' It is quite likely, therefore, that some earlier member of this family may have made the cup. The first initial on the punch, though blurred, is most probably an I, the second is certainly an S.

The cover is of an ordinary pattern with button. On this has been engraved the sacred monogram within rayed circle. This seems to have been done after the marks had been struck, with the result that the two official marks (and they only) are just distinguishable.

A paten on foot, 8in. in diameter, the rim of plate and foot decorated with oblique gadrooning. Marks: 2 offic.; date letter for 1693; maker's mark T.B. in shaped punch, perhaps Thos. Brydon. In middle of the plate is the sacred monogram within rayed circle; on the underside, "In usum Ecclesie Pendermer in comit. Som'sett 1696."

STOKE-SUB-HAMDON.—Here there is a plain cup and cover of the early 17th century work. The cup is 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. high; the bowl is conical-shaped, with slight lip; the stem is thick, with an annular knop, the foot moulded. It is inscribed: 'Stoke Subhamden 1635.' Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1635; maker's mark, an anchor between the initials D.G. in shield. The cover is flattened with a wide brim. It has the same inscription and marks as the cup. A flagon and paten with a cover of plated metal.

THORNE (near Yeovil).—A small but good specimen of I.P.'s work. The cup is only 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ in. high; round the bowl are two bands of ornament; the knop has a band of hyphens; the foot is plain. There is a band of ornament on the paten, on

the button '1574.' Marks (same on both pieces) : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1573 ; maker's mark I.P.

Some pewter vessels are still preserved. They are a small flagon, a gigantic paten on foot (diam. of paten $10\frac{3}{4}$ in.), and an almsdish. There is also a plated flagon.

TINTINHULL.—At the present time this parish possesses a large plain cup and cover very similar to the vessels at Ditcheat, which are by the same maker. The cup is $7\frac{3}{8}$ in. high ; the foot is moulded ; underneath is an inscription : 'This Communion Cupp and Cover of Tyntinhull Parish Weigheth 18 ounces 12 dwt.' Marks : 2 offic. ; date-letter for 1635 ; maker's mark, R.W. with a rose beneath in shaped punch. The cover is $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. across ; it has a wide brim and no flange ; same marks as on the cup.

The Churchwardens' Accounts begin in 1433. From the extracts published by the Somerset Record Society, Vol. IV, p. 175 *seq.*, we learn something about the mediæval plate. 1436-7 : It. pro labore de chalys, unde respeece [?], *iiijd.* 1437-8 : It (Received) de tota parochia pro una cruce et calice de novo emptis, ut patet per parcellam Ecclesie in custod. custodum, *xxxvjs. xd.* In expensis : It. pro uno calice de novo empte per sacramentum computantum, *xxxs.* It. pro una cruce de copre et aurata hoc anno per sacramentum dictorum computantum, *xxjs.* After seventy years the parishioners bought a new chalice ; 1506-7 : It. for making and gyltying of a chalyce with costs made in the puttyng owt of the said warke, ponderat *xxj unc. et dim., xlvijs. vjd.* This sum is nearly twice as much as the cost of the old one, and there are no extracts to tell us how the money was raised. At Morebath, Devon, in 1534, a new chalice to replace one which had been stolen cost 30s. [p. 209 of *op. cit.*] The inventory for this year includes 'ij crewetts off sylver.' In 1513 among the expenses is an item of *xxd.* for 'ij peire of crewetts.'

The extracts become very meagre before they finish in 11. Eliz., 1569. At some future date it may be possible to

find some more items about the plate, and particularly concerning the change from chalice to cup. At present, in a paper with extracts by Rev. J. B. Hyson in *Som. Arch. Proc.* xxxii. ii. 86, I find that in 1614 is this entry:—Laid out for new making the silver cup iijs. vjd. This certainly suggests the idea that the chalice had survived down to that date, but then the question arises, why the parish should have wanted another one so soon as 1635.

WEST CHINNOCK.—A fine Elizabethan cup and cover. The cup is $7\frac{1}{8}$ in. high. The bowl is deep; there is one band of running ornament of an unusual pattern, as the central stem, from which the conventional leaves, etc., spring, does not wave from side to side between the enclosing fillets, but keeps in the middle between them. The knop is small with a band of hyphens. The outer margin of the foot has a peculiar band of ornament made up of alternate bars and pierced circles, with pellets in the interstices. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark indistinct, perhaps H.B. in a monogram within a circle; not in *Cripps*. The cover is broad with a wide band of hyphen marks. Marks: 2 offic.; date-letter for 1570; maker's mark practically illegible. A small salver on three feet and a flagon, both plated.

St. Anne's Chapel, Brislington.

BY THE REV. A. RICHARDSON.

THE manor of Brislington was in the honour of Gloucester, which included Bristol and Bristol Castle, and was given to Robert Fitzhamon by Rufus.

Fitzhamon's¹ eldest daughter and heiress, Mabile, married Count Robert, illegitimate son of Henry I, and who was created Earl of Gloucester² on his marriage with Mabile, as she objected to marry a commoner.³

On the death of Robert Earl of Gloucester the manor of Brislington passed to his son, William Earl of Gloucester, who, having no heir, left it to Henry II in trust for his younger son, John, afterwards King of England, but Henry II gave it back to Isabel, sister of William Earl of Gloucester, and she, on her marriage with King John, requested that it might be given to a knight named Sir John de la Warre, in whose family it remained until the middle of the sixteenth century. The De la Warres were raised to the peerage by

(1). Fitzhamon is said to have founded Tewkesbury Abbey, where he is buried, and to have been with Rufus at Winchester the night before his death in the New Forest, of which he was warned by a monk who had a dream, in which he saw the King die whilst out hunting.

(2). Robert Earl of Gloucester espoused the cause of Maud, daughter of Henry I, in her war with Stephen, the Conqueror's youngest son, and imprisoned Stephen in Bristol Castle, which he rebuilt. Robert Earl of Gloucester's figure is upon one of the Bristol gates, hung up above the entrance to the castle at Arno's Vale (the property of J. C. Clayfield-Ireland, Esq.)

(3). The story of their marriage is given at length in *Seyer's Bristol and Bristol Past and Present*, vol. i, 72. See *Seyer*, vol. i, 342; *Collinson*, vol. ii, 400; *Bristol Past and Present*, vol. i, 70, 71.

Edward I, 1298, and one of the family in 1356 was present at the battle of Poitiers with Edward the Black Prince.⁴

The manor was sold by the De la Warre family to the Lacys in the sixteenth century, and sold by the Lacys to the Langtons in 1653. The Langtons built Langton Court soon after coming into possession, which is still standing—the former manor house having been situated at the other end of the parish towards Filton, now known as the Manor House Farm, on the property of J. Cooke-Hurle, Esq.⁵

Colonel William Gore married⁶ Miss Langton, the heiress to the property, and by right of his wife became owner of the manor towards the end of the eighteenth century, and from him it passed in direct descent to the present Lord Temple, who sold it about fifteen years ago.⁷

William Wycester (in his *Itinerary*, page 191) states that a certain Lord de la Warre founded the chapel of St. Anne, and there is little doubt that Collinson and other writers are correct in stating that the founder gave certain endowments to the chapel, *viz*: land for the erection of a house for a chaplain at Newycke (traditionally said to have been situated where Wick House, the residence of Mr. T. Harding, now stands), and some land at Hanham and Warley Wood.

The chapel and its endowments are mentioned in a lease granted by John, last abbot of Keynsham, on 30th of June, 1538, to Robert Stafford, yeoman, of Brislington.

“To all the faithful in Christ to whom this our present indented writing cometh, John, by divine permission, abbot of the monastery of the Blessed Virgin, and the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul of Keynsham, in the

(4). See Collinson, vol. ii, 410, 411, who quotes a charter of 8 John for gift of manor to De la Warre.

(5). Mr. J. Cooke-Hurle's title deeds.

(6). This marriage is in the Brislington Parish registers of marriages.

(7). A considerable portion of the original manorial estates had passed away previous to this sale, the village of Brislington having formerly belonged to the manor, as well as property now owned by Messrs. Clayfield-Ireland, J. Cooke-Hurle, and W. J. Braikenridge, etc.

county of Somerset, and the convent of the same place send greeting in our Lord everlasting, and know ye that in the aforesaid abbot and convent by our unanimous assent and consent for the sum of forty shillings sterling to us in hand paid by Robert Stafford of Bristtelen, yeoman, the receipt, so have granted all that one house, situate near the chapel of St. Anne, in the wood at the southern part of the said chapel in the parish of Brislington, in the county aforesaid, and called Newyke, with all houses, out-houses, orchards, to the said house belonging or appertaining; also the 'chapel' or 'shrine' in which the image of St. Anne formerly was, with the cemetery in which the said 'chapel' or 'shrine' now is with all other commodities, profits, advantages, and easements and the said house, with the gardens, orchards, chapel, and cemetary belonging or appertaining."

This lease also grants "Hamcliffe Wood in West Hannam," and "Cosyner's lez under Warley Wood," to Stafford (evidently the original endowments of the chapel, the gift of Lord de la Warre).

The date of the foundation of the chapel is uncertain, but it was after the foundation of Keynsham Abbey in 1170,⁸ as the chapel was founded in connection with that abbey. It was before 1392, as a will of that date is extant in which a small legacy is left to the chapel.

Dallanay, in his *History of Bristol*, thinks that the chapel was founded by the same Lord de la Warre, who founded St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Bristol. (*See* Dallany, p. 61).

Messrs. Nicholls and Taylor, in *Bristol Past and Present*, place St. Anne's and St. Bartholomew's at the end of the thirteenth century.

Wycester, in his *Itinerary*, says St. Bartholomew's Hos-

(8). Keynsham Abbey was founded by William Earl of Gloucester, to the memory of his son Robert, who died in his twentieth year (*see* deed, Bristol Museum). *Seyer*, vol. i, 253. *Farmer's Notitia Monastica* (Som.) *Dugdale's Monasticon Anglicanum*, vol. vi.

pital was formerly a priory of canons regular, founded by the ancestors of Lord de la Warre, and adds that it is now a hospital for poor persons. (Wycester's *Itinerary*, p. 408).

Barrett, in his *Bristol Antiquities*, refers to a deed dated 1386, by which the patronage of St. Bartholomew's Hospital was vested in the De la Warre family, "whose ancestors founded it." (Barrett, p. 430).

It is probable that the founder of St. Anne's Chapel and also of St. Bartholomew's Hospital was *Roger de la Warre*, raised to the peerage in 1298 by Edward I. He is described in the *Complete Peerage*, by G. E. C., as of Isfield, Sussex, and Wick-Warr, co. Gloucester, in which county it says he had considerable estates.

If this Lord Roger de la Warre (who died seized of Brislington, 1320, *see* Collinson, vol. ii, 411) was the founder, as is probable, it will meet Wycester's statement that it was founded by a *Lord de la Warre* (he being first Baron de la Warre); it will also agree with the date usually given as the date of the foundation of the chapel, *viz.*, the thirteenth century, as he died in 1320, an old man, having a son forty years old (*see* Collinson, vol. ii, 411); and it will also agree with Dallanay's surmise as to the foundation of St. Bartholomew's Hospital having been by the same founder as St. Anne's, as the land endowments of St. Bartholomew's lay in *Brislington* and *Wickwarr*, as well as in other parishes in Gloucestershire and Somerset.

In the Record Society's Somerset Feet of Fines, vol. vi, p. 237, there is an account of a trial at Westminster, when Roger de la Warre, in 1274, claimed the manor of Brislington from John, son of Jordan de la Warre, when judgment was given in favour of John, but at his decease the said manor was "wholly to revert to Roger." It is also stated at the same trial that the *Abbot of Keynsham appeared to put in his claim for an endowment*, possibly the Chapel of St. Anne.

The chapel had evidently become a popular place of pil-

grimage before William Wycester's time, 1414—1480. In his *Itinerary* he describes its structure as follows: "The Chapel of St. Anne contained in length 19 yards; the breadth contained 5 yards; there are 19 buttresses (*Capella Sanctæ Annæ continet in longitudine 19 virgas; Latituro ejus continet 5 virgas; et sunt de boterasses circa capellium 19*). See *Itinerary*, p. 408.

He also describes its interior as follows:

"The chapel contains two four-sided wax lights, the gift of the Weavers' Guild (*artes textorium*) which contain in height from the ground to the arch of the roof (probably the tower) eighty feet, and the through measurement of one four-sided light from the Guild of Shoemakers (*corduanarii*) contains in width ten inches, and the breadth eight inches—and the four-sided wax lights given by the Guild of Weavers, contains in height to the roof of the chapel, eighty feet, width eight inches, breadth seven inches, and in each year the said wax lights are renewed about the day of Pentecost, and the wax and the making cost £5 (£60 of our modern currency); and there are in the chapel thirty-two ships and little ships (*naves and naviculæ*⁹) and five are of silver, each costing twenty shillings, and before the image of St. Anne are thirteen four-sided wax lights."

The first authentic record of St. Anne's Chapel is, as has been already alluded to, in a will dated 1392 (a copy of which is in the possession of the Bristol Corporation), when John Becket, merchant of Bristol, left a small legacy to Sir Richard, chaplain of St. Anne's, and another to the abbot and monastery of Keynsham, of which Sir Richard was doubtless a canon, as two tombstones¹⁰ were dug up in the abbey cemetery

(9). Dallany thinks the ships were for burning incense and receiving and containing offerings, and says that William Wykeham gave one eleemosynary dish, in the form of a ship, to Winchester Cathedral. He also adds that amongst Cardinal Wolsey's plate there were some "lytell shippes," some "silver," and some "gilte," for collecting offerings on Christmas Day.

(10). These tombstones were broken up some years ago to make coping stones for a garden wall by the owner of the Abbey lands.

some years ago bearing the names of canons of Keynsham, who were also chaplains of St. Anne's.

The inscription on one of them runs as follows: "Here lies Walter Joie, canon, formerly custos of the chapel of St. Anne's in the wood, on whose soul may The Most High have mercy."

(Hic jacet Walternus Joie (or Joce) canonicus super custos capelli Sancti Anni in the wode, etc.)

The lettering is said to be of the sixteenth century in which case this was probably the last chaplain of St. Anne. (*See Journal of Archæological Society Paper on "Keynsham Abbey,"* by Loftus Brock.)

Another Bristol Will, relating to St. Anne's chapel, is that of Maud Esterfeld, wife of John Esterfeld, dated 21st July, 1491, in which, amongst other behests, she leaves a gold ring to the use of the chapel of St. Anne's in the wood. (*See Wadley's Bristol Wills,* p. 177).

Amongst the illustrious visitors to this chapel was Henry VII, who first visited Bristol in the spring of the year, after the battle of Bosworth, 1485, and at that visit made a pilgrimage to St. Anne's Chapel.

A manuscript in the Cottonian Library, quoted by Leland in his *Coll. De Rebus, etc.*, vol. iv, p. 185, contains this extract:

"And on the morne when the King had dyned he roode on pilgrimage to Sainte Anne's in the Woode."

Elizabeth of York, wife of Henry VII, also visited the chapel during a progress in the West of England, and left an offertory of 2s. 6d.

The following extract is given in her almoner's account:

"1502. Itm the xxist day of August to the King's Almoner—For the queen's offering to St. Anne in the wood besides Bristol 17s. vjd. (*See Privy purse expenses, Elizabeth of York,* p. 42).

The Duke of Buckingham, the builder of Thornbury Castle, and the last who held the office of High Constable of England,

made a pilgrimage to St. Anne's in 1508, with his wife and daughter, and the following entry is recorded in the duke's private account, now at the Record Office :

“1508, 6 May. My lord, my lady's, and my young lady's oblation to St. Anne in the Wood 7s. 4d.”

The Duke of Buckingham revisited the chapel in 1521, shortly before being put to death as a traitor, and the entry appears in his account as follows :

“1521, January. Oblation to St. Anne in the Wood, 7s.”

There is another previous entry in these accounts relating to St. Anne's Chapel, which is given as follows :

“22 June, 1508. To a Welsh harper at St. Anne's, 1s.”

(See Brewer's *Letters and Papers of Henry VIII's Reign*, vol. iii, part 1, p. 497).

There is an interesting reference in *Bristol Past and Present* to a pilgrimage made by two hundred pilgrims from St. Anne's to Compostellia, in Spain, in 1448. (See *Bristol Past and Present*, vol. ii, 126. Quoted from Rymer's *Fœdera*, vol. vi, p. 79).

The historian Leland also refers to St. Anne's Chapel in his *Itinerary*, probably about the year 1542, when he relates :

“A 2 miles above Bristow was a common Trafectus by bote wher was a chapelle of St. Anne on the same side of the Avon that Bath standeth on and heere was great pilgrimage to St. Anne. (Leland's *Itinerary*, vol. ii, p. 57).

But not long after the chapel had become so famous as to attract royalty and nobility, the tide of the Reformation had set in, and in 1533, Hugh Latimer, then an incumbent of the Wiltshire parish of West Kington (then in the Diocese of Bath and Wells), was invited by some of the Reformist clergy to visit Bristol, and in the pulpits of St. Nicholas and St. Thomas he denounced certain doctrines of the Romish church, especially pilgrimage, as mischievous and superstitious.

Being prohibited from preaching in the Diocese of Worcester, in which diocese Bristol then was, he defended himself,

one of his opponents being Dr. Powell, and in the following letter to the Chancellor of the Diocese of Worcester he mentioned St. Anne's Chapel as being no less famous for pilgrimage than the shrine at Walsingham.

Latimer to Dr. Bagard (Chancellor of the Diocese of Worcester).

“The reason why you have not moved your parishioners so instantly to pilgrimages as you have to works of charity, arises, as I suppose, for lack of scripture to bear you out. Therefore, I send you one of Dr. Powell's finding, who deriveth pilgrimages to Master John Sharne, Walsingham *St. Anne's in the Wood*, from the text in St. Mathew, xix, 29, ‘Every one that foresaketh houses,’ &c. The seven sacraments he picked out of Psalm xxii (xxiii). Dominus regit me. Tuus L.”¹¹

But the destruction of what Latimer deemed an evil was even nearer than he imagined. In January, 1539, the abbot and canons of Keynsham surrendered their monastery to the king, and the chapel of St. Anne's, already dismantled, and let on lease to Robert Stafford, yeoman of Brislington was sold by King Edw. VI, in 1552, to Robert Bridges, a brother to Lord Chandos, who, along with this chapel, purchased most of the abbey property for a small sum.

The part of the conveyance referring to the chapel, which is slightly different from the lease of 1538, runs as follows :

“All that Tenement called Newycke with its appurtenances situate near the late chapel of St. Anne at Bristleton, and all houses, gardens, and profits belonging to the said messuage of Newycke. Also all the chapel of St. Anne aforesaid, the churchyard where it was situated, and all rents belonging to the said messuage, chapel and churchyard.”

And then follows the description of the rest of the endowment,

(11). This controversy is given at length in *Seyer's Memoirs of Bristol*, vol. ii, 216, and in *Nicholls and Taylor's Past and Present*.

viz., the land at "Hamcliffe Wood in West Hannam and at Warley Wood." (*See* copy of conveyance, Collinson, vol. ii. Keynsham Abbey).

It is impossible to say how much of the chapel had been demolished between the years 1538 and 1552, the time between which it was let on lease and sold.

Probably it shared the fate of other similar edifices, and, bereft of its roof timbers and stained glass windows, it was left during this period to fall into decay.

The walls had probably fallen in or been pulled down before 1790, as Collinson speaks of the Chapel at that date as being "long since ruined."

There are old people who say that a portion of the ruins were used as a cart-shed when they were children, and that this cart-shed was nearly all pulled down, about the year 1860, to make a garden wall, on a farm near the chapel, called St. Anne's Farm.

A portion of this ruined cart-shed was, however, still standing in 1880, and possibly forms the subject of a sketch made in that year by a Roman Catholic clergyman, named Father Grant. Now almost all these remains are gone, there is little more than a grassy mound to mark the site, which is on the Brislington side of the Avon, near the end of the lane running through St. Anne's Wood, and opposite Crew's Hole, in the parish of Hanham.

The old well and ferry are still in existence, and there is a right of way to the ferry and chapel site from both the Somerset and Gloucestershire sides of the Avon.

The names "Pilgrim Inn" and "Pilgrim Street," retained in the village of Brislington, still keep alive the memory of the chapel, and though it is gone for ever, yet the romantic associations and natural beauty of the place remain. Nor can any one visit this still charming locality so near a great city and yet so secluded in its nature, without sympathising with

Collinson who, evidently struck with the quiet beauty of the place, writes in 1790 :

“The place where the chapel (long since ruined) stood is but little known, being in a nook of the county opposite Crew's Hole, in the parish of Hanham, in Gloucester, by which it is divided by the Avon. A more retired spot could hardly be found. A deep well,¹² overhung with aged oaks, alders, and poplars, bounds its southern aspect ; through it runs a languid brook, gently murmuring over a rocky bottom and making several waterfalls.”



RUINS ON THE SITE OF ST. ANNE'S CHAPEL.

(From a sketch made by Father Grant, in 1880.)

[The writer of this paper desires to express his thanks to the Librarian of the British Museum, the Rev. F. J. Poynton, Rector of Kelston, and to Mr. Latimer, of Bristol, and also to Mr. James Sinnott, the present owner of St. Anne's Wood, for their kind assistance, and wishes to add that Mr. Latimer's *Notes on St. Anne's*, written about ten years ago, for the Bristol and District Pathway Preservation Society, contain considerable information on the subject.]

(12). Some coins were found in this well about ten years ago by Father Grant, and were as follows : 1. Half groat, Edw. IV ; 2. An abbey token ; 3. A half groat, Hen. VII ; 4. A Portuguese coin ; 5. A reckon-penny or counter.

Norton Camp.

BY WILLIAM BIDGOOD.

THIS ancient entrenchment occupies the crest of a hill of slight elevation, but still commanding situation, about 200 yards to the north of the Church of Norton Fitzwarren. The shape of the camp is somewhat roughly circular in form, corresponding to the course of the hill on which it is situated. From the earthworks forming the fortifications there is a gentle slope on all sides to the valley below. The entrenchments consist of an inner and an outer bank, with a broad ditch between. The banks were originally of considerably greater height than they are now, and the ditch was much deeper. The effect of denudation for so many centuries has been to lessen the height of the ramparts and to fill up the ditch. Sufficient, however, remains to trace clearly the course of the defences in their whole circuit. The enclosure is about 12 or 13 acres in area, and being of convenient size for agricultural purposes, the entrenchments also forming a good fence, has tended to the preservation of this interesting earthwork. There are three main entrances, north, west, and south-east. That to the west is probably the best preserved, and most typical, although the main defences of the camp for some distance on either side of it have been obliterated, and a modern hedge substituted. This entrance consists of a hollow way, projecting from the camp some 400 or 500 feet into the adjoining field, which would enable the defenders to sally forth unseen, and attack their assailants in the rear : on the other hand, if the invaders got possession of the approach, they would be met on reaching

the camp by a barrier thrown across the road, causing it to bifurcate into two narrow passages easily held by the defenders. The entrance on the north is prolonged to a much greater distance, and terminates in a narrow lane, leading in the direction of a place called "Conquest," on the Bishop's Lydeard road. This camp appears to be of purely British construction, and although remains of Roman occupation have been found in the valley below, there is nothing to show that the camp was even occupied, much less constructed, by them. Whether it be of pre-Roman construction, or of the later British period, it probably played its most important part in history at the time of the West Saxon conquest of the valley of the Tone.

At what precise date Norton Camp was captured by the West Saxons does not appear. The Parret remained the boundary of the Welsh for about a quarter of a century; but in A.D. 683, the Saxon Chronicle records that "Centwine drove the Brito-Welsh as far as the sea." This is interpreted as the country west of the Parret along the coast to Quantoxhead, and would have included the forts of Dousborough and Ruborough, with the ridge of the Quantocks as the boundary. Ine succeeded to the kingdom of the West Saxons in 688, and between this date and the close of the century the camp at Norton and the rich vale of Taunton Deane would appear to have become English, for we find in the early days of the 9th century Ine bestowing lands "on the Tān" to the church at Glastonbury. This land would have been that represented by the parish of West Monkton, which remained as one of the possessions of the abbey until the Dissolution. About the same period the frontier would appear to have been extended southward and westward to the river Tone, and a chain of forts ranging from Elworthy Barrows, Clatworthy, Wiveliscombe, Bathealton, to Castle Hill near West Buckland, with Taunton established as a bulwark on its southern bank. There does not appear to have been any further fighting westward, but the Saxon Chronicle records, A.D. 709, "Ine and Nunna his kins-

man fought against Gerent, king of the Welsh." This must have been a most important and probably sanguinary conflict, for it is seldom that a British leader is mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle, but here it is the king himself who is fighting. The result of this campaign would appear to have been the conquest of the south-western portion of the county—Neroche and Ilminster district. Castle Neroche would at that time have been the principal, if not the only, fort left to the Britons in Somerset, and its possession would have been hotly contested. A relic of this fight might, perhaps, exist in a barrow on the Blackdown Hills, situate about six miles south-west of Taunton, and the same distance west of Castle Neroche. On the old ordnance map this barrow will be found marked "Noons Barrow." The late Mr. Dickinson drew attention to it in the early pages of *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries* (vol. i, p. 159), and suggested that it was the burial-place of Nūn or Nunna. This is extremely probable, from the circumstance of the fight, and the fact that Nunna's name does not again occur in the Chronicle. Had he been living, he would certainly have been mentioned in Ine's subsequent wars. During one of these insurrections, which were constantly occurring among the English, Taunton appears to have been besieged by the rebels, for the Saxon Chronicle records, under date 722, "In this year Queen Æthelburh (Ine's Queen) destroyed Taunton, which Ine had previously built." The king himself was engaged fighting elsewhere. This is the first mention of Taunton in history. Before Ine's time, the Saxons had become converted to Christianity, and the war between the English and Welsh became one of subjugation and government, rather than of conquest and extermination. His great code of laws deals alike with the English and Welsh.

When Norton Camp was taken by the Saxons, the Britons retired to the west and south of the Tone, where they probably afterwards dwelt in peace. There are two or three place-names which would suggest this; Wiveliscombe is but a slight

corruption of Wælas-combe, pronounced by the natives Wulscombe. Another place, a little west of Wellington, on the Tone, is marked Wellisford on the map, but called Welshford by the inhabitants. Wellington as Welshtown, or Wælas-town, is not so clear.

Folk-speech also is important evidence of racial boundaries. While there is a very marked distinction between the pronunciation east and west of the Parret, there is also a correspondingly conspicuous difference between that east and west of Taunton, as Mr. Elworthy has pointed out,* the pronunciation gradually shading into the western dialect, until by the time we reach Wellington, Wiveliscombe, and the western slopes of the Quantocks, the speech has become almost thoroughly Devonian in character. This would tend to prove, as well as Ine's "Dooms," that, after their conversion to Christianity, the English did not drive the conquered Britons out of the country altogether, but that they lived on peaceably and intermarried. Indeed, there is some suspicion that Ine himself was half a Welshman.

There is also a noticeable difference in the physical appearance of the inhabitants westward, a larger proportion of shorter, thick-set people, with dark complexion and black hair, being observable, and this distinction increases until on Exmoor and in Devonshire it becomes the rule.

Local traditions and legends are worth sifting, as generally there may be found some foundation on which they have been built up. Thus the old rhyme

"Norton was a market town
When Taunton was a furzy down,"

has some truth in it, for Norton Camp is undoubtedly a place of greater antiquity than Taunton, and although the latter was never a furzy down, the soil being more congenial to the growth of alder, withies, sedges, and equisetum, than to heath

* "Dialect of West Somerset," p. 6.

or gorse, yet on the north side it was certainly a morass. The selection of its site for the building of Ine's new fortress would seem to mark a fresh era in fortification—a system in which the ordinary defences of earthworks and palisades are strengthened by an outer ditch of water. It is also interesting to note that the date of its foundation is nearly two hundred years earlier than any other fortress mentioned in the Saxon chronicle.

The legend of the Dragon who lived on Norton Camp and ravaged the country round, descending into the valley, devouring the inhabitants and their flocks, has some foundation. It will be remembered that the Dragon was the Standard of the West Saxons. Freeman makes frequent mention of this in his *History of the Norman Conquest*, and we might easily imagine how this monster, stuck on the top of a pole and planted on the camp, menacing the people in the valley below inspired the inhabitants with awe and superstitious wonder. And such a hold does the legend appear to have had on the people, that down to mediæval times it was strongly believed in, for on the beautifully carved fifteenth century screen of the parish church of Norton Fitzwarren, it is depicted in the form of reptiles resembling crocodiles, seizing and devouring men at the plough, and even women and children seem not to have been exempt from their ravages. It may well have been, however, that this dragon legend was turned to account in the religious fervour of the middle ages, and served to typify the evil spirit going about seeking whom he might devour. Even in our own day the inhabitants will tell you of the pestiferous reptile that once upon a time lived on the hill, bred from the corruption of human bodies, breathing disease and death around. Similar dragon legends exist elsewhere, associated with stories of great battles. At the present time the Wessex Dragon, or rather the modern heraldic representation of this mythical monster, waves over the Society's Castle of Taunton.

An Early Chapter of the History of Yeovil.*

BY JOHN BATTEN.

YEOVIL, according to the Domesday Survey, contained altogether eight hides, two of which were held by Robert, Earl of Moretain, and the remaining six by William de Ou, who had sublet them to Hugh Maltravers—a name latinized in the *Inq. Gheldi* as “Hugo Malus-transitus.” He was also William de Ou’s tenant of Hinton Blewet, in Somerset, and of the manors of Mappowder, Lidlinch, Stourton-Candel, Candel-wake, Litchet Maltravers and Woolcombe Maltravers in Dorset.

William de Ou and William de Moretain (son and successor of Earl Robert) were attainted for taking part in the rebellion against William Rufus in 1088, and their possessions at Yeovil and elsewhere were forfeited to the Crown (Freeman’s *Norman Conquest I. 33*), but Hugh Maltravers was probably not disturbed in his holding, as one of the same name, by charter, without date, gave to the Priory of Montacute his “land near Preston (*i.e.*, Preston Plucknet) by Southbroke,” which gift was confirmed by John Maltravers of Gyvele (Yeovil) in 1262 (*Montacute Cartulary*, Som. Rec. Soc.). At a very early period, a portion of Gyvele had been conferred on the Church and endowed with special rights and immunities as a “Frée Ville or Liberty,” but, in the early part of the reign

* This article should be read in connection with an address by the present writer at the meeting of the Society in 1885 (*see vol. xxxii*).

of Henry III, it was known only by tradition that the donor was the "daughter of a certain king" (see more on this head, *Proceedings*, vol. xxxii, p. 11).

The royal endowment (to which perhaps Collinson alludes in his *History*, vol. iii, p. 205) did not extend to the advowson of Gyvele, which remained appendant to the Maltravers manor, out of which, we may fairly presume, the endowment was taken, and the Maltravers family remained in possession of it for many generations, as well as of that part of William de Ou's six hides, which afterwards became known as the manor of Henford Maltravers, answering to the modern tything of that name, in which, indeed, the church is situated.

As to the remainder of the six hides we are left pretty much to conjecture, but, in the reign of King John, it had certainly become a separate manor, known as the manor of Kingston juxta Yeovil, and answering to the modern tythings of Wigdon and Huntley.

Of the two hides held by the Earl of Moretain, one of them may have been the manor of Newton which was held by the family of DeGouiz, descendants of Roger Arundel, the Domesday tenant of many manors in Somerset, and the other, answering to the manor of Lyde, belonged to the Fitzpayns.

The earliest owner of Kingston that has been traced is Hugh Fitz Hugh, *alias* Hugh de Say, second son of Hugh Fitz Osbern, Lord of Richard's Castle, in Herefordshire, and Eustachia his wife, who was daughter and heiress of Theodoric de Say, Lord of Stoke Say, in Shropshire. In honour of their mother, this Hugh and his elder brother, Osbert Fitz Hugh, assumed her paternal name of de Say, which was borne also by the descendants of Hugh, who only left issue. Richard's Castle lies in a village to which it gives its name, about four miles S.W. of Ludlow, close to the old church of St. Bartholomew. The site, from its great eminence and commanding position, is evidently adapted for a fortress of unusual strength, and here, Richard Fitz Scrob and his son Osbern,

in the time of Edward the Confessor, raised, according to Freeman the historian, "the first castle on English ground" (*Norman Conquest*, vol. i). According to him, this was the castle the surrender of which was demanded by the rebellious Earl Godwin in the year 1051. Since the death of Mr. Freeman, his version of the transaction has been attacked by an able, but severe critic, who contends that the castle was not Richard's Castle but the Castle of Euyas Harold in the same county, and that Freeman confused Osbern, son of Richard Fitz Scrob, with another Osbern, whose surname was Pentecost (Round's *Feudal England*, p. 320). Leaving wiser men to decide such a momentous question, our course will now follow that of de Say, in whom the blood of Fitz Osbern was absorbed.

The family of de Say was of Norman origin. In the reign of Henry I, Jordan de Say and Lucy, his wife, in conjunction with Richard de Humet (the King's Constable of Normandy) and Agnes, his wife (a daughter of Jordan de Say), founded the Abbey of Aunay in the Diocese of Bayeux, and their son, Gilbert de Say, contributed to its endowment (*Neustria Pia*, 759-60; *Gallia Christiana XI Instrumenta*; *D'Anisy Extraits de Cartes Normandes I*, 46, p. 89; Stapleton's *Normandy I*, lxxxv, clxxxii.)

In England, their first seat appears to have been at Clun, in Shropshire, and Stokesay was, in 1115, acquired from Walter de Lucy by Picot de Say, the grand-father of Eustachia, wife of Hugh Fitz Osbern. The family also held lands in Oxfordshire, where Jordan de Say was excused a debt due to the Crown in 1131 (*Pipe Roll*, 31, *Hen. I*) *Oxon*, and it may be assumed that this related to his manor of Solethorn (now Souldern), the church of which he bestowed on the neighbouring Abbey of Egnesham (Kennett's *Parochial Antiquities I*, 193, 252, 500; *Cott. MSS.*, *Claud A 8*, p. 135).

On the death s.p. of his elder brother, Osbert, Hugh de Say (I) succeeded to Richard's Castle (which, on account

of the number of knights' fees held of it, was styled the Honour of Richard's Castle) and married Lucy, younger daughter of Walter de Clifford, and sister of Fair Rosamond, the celebrated mistress of Henry II (*Dugd. Mon. II.* 49, 855), whose unfortunate life and miserable end are well known, and—what is perhaps not so well known—whose remains were not allowed to rest in the sanctuary of her tomb, but were, in 1191 (3 Ric. I) by order of Hugh, the stern Bishop of Lincoln, exhumed and cast out of the conventual Church of Godsall.

Hugh de Say must have died before 1177, as in the *Pipe Roll* for that year (*23 Hen. II, Som. and Dors.*) she paid seventy-five marks for license to marry again and to enjoy her dower in peace, and in right of it she presented Thomas Maltravers to the Chapel of All Saints, Kingston. There was issue of the marriage according to the historians of Worcestershire (*Nash I*, 241), and Shropshire (*Eyton*, 303), two sons only—Richard, who died s.p. and Hugh (II), who succeeded to Richard's Castle. He married Mabel, daughter of Robert Marmion, and left at his death, before 1204, two sons, who died s.p., and two daughters, Lucy and Margaret, but Lucy dying, her sister became sole heiress to their father's great possessions. On the 20th October, 1204, the Sheriff of Somerset was ordered to give possession of the manor of "Giffle," "*quod fuit Luce de Say aine fil de Hug de Say*," to William Cantilupe. This was probably a grant of the wardship of the infant Margaret, but on the 8th of November following, the same sheriff was directed to deliver the manor to Gilbert de Say, and two years after to restore to Nicholas de Say his land in "Giffle" which Gilbert de Say held (*Close Rolls*, 6 *John*). Gilbert was a third son of Hugh (I) as is shewn by the record of a trial between him and John Maltravers, in 1213-14, relating to the Chapel of Kingston, when he proved, to the satisfaction of the jury, that Lucy de Say, "his mother," had presented the last clerk (Thomas Maltravers) in right of her dower (*Rot.*

Cur., 15 John, Nos. 58-9). In addition to this, Gilbert was assessed in the aid (13 John) for one knight's fee in Gyvele (*Lib. Rub.*). He had a sister, Lucy, married to Thomas de Arderne, and in 1216 (17 John), the Sheriff of Somerset was ordered to enquire, by jury, whether Hugh de Say, father of Margaret, then the wife of Robert de Mortimer, had given to Thomas de Arderne the manor of Soulthorn in exchange for the manor of "Giffle," and whether Soulthorn was the inheritance of Hugh, and if so, the sheriff was to give possession of Soulthorn to Robert and Margaret (*Close Rolls*). It is probable that the sheriff's return to the writ was in the negative, as we find that the Arderne family continued in the possession of Soulthorn, and, in 1255, Ralph de Arderne held that manor of the Barony of Richard's Castle (*Eyton's Salop II*, 33, quoting *Rot. Hund. II*, 44).

It is very evident that there were many complications and conflicting claims relating to the paternal estates inherited by Margaret de Say—which extended to those in Somersetshire, as well as Shropshire and Worcestershire—and Robert de Mortimer, her husband, was (according to the historian of Shropshire (*Eyton iv.* 303) forced to take proceedings against Gilbert de Say and others in order to recover them. He must have succeeded, ultimately, as he certified that he held no less than "twenty-three fees of the Honour of Richard's Castle by his marriage with the daughter of Hugh de Say, heir of Osbert Fitzhugh" (*Lib. Nig. I*, p. 159). Robert de Mortimer, who was a younger son of Roger de Mortimer, of Wigmore, was the second husband of Margaret de Say, and they were married before 1216 (17 John), as in that year he obtained a grant from the king of all lands in Berewic, Sussex, which formerly belonged to Mabel de Say, mother of Margery his wife (*Dugd. Bar. I*, 152). Her first husband was Hugh de Ferriers, and before 1221, she had married her third, William de Stuteville. She had issue only by De Mortimer, and from them the Mortimers of Richard's Castle and their successors

in the female line, the Talbots, were descended. The male line of the Talbots failed on the death of John Talbot, under age (12 Richard II), when the Honour of Richard's Castle fell to his three sisters and co-heiresses, Elizabeth, wife of Warin Archdeene, Kt.; Philippa, wife of Matthew Gournay and Alianor, who died unmarried (Nash I, 241).

Richard de Say, brother of Gilbert, appears to have bought Kingston juxta Yeovil of Margaret de Say, after her marriage with Stuteville, for by a fine dated in 1221, between William de Stuteville and Margery his wife, plaintiffs, and Richard de Say, defendant, in consideration of 100 marks of silver, they conveyed to Richard and his heirs four carucates [or hides] of land in Gyvele, under the service of one knight's fee to be rendered to them, and the heirs of Margery (*Somt. Fines*, 5 Hen. III, No. 4). Not long after he confirmed to the Canons of Haghmond, Salop, a gift made to them by Lucy, his mother (*Dugd. Mon. II*, 46), and by another charter made in "The Great Church of Gyvele in 1226, he gave lands in Gyvele (part no doubt of his purchase) to the Priory of Montacute, reserving prayers for Lucy, his mother, on her 'obit,' for which provision had been made by 'Lord Gilbert, his brother,' by the gift of two measures of wheat every year. He died soon after s.p. leaving his brother Gilbert his heir, and Lucy de Arderne, his sister, who, 'in her widowhood,' gave one furlong of land in Gyvele to the same Priory as 'a pittance,' to be bestowed every year on the anniversary [of the death] of Richard de Say, her brother" (*Montacute Cartulary*, Nos. 35-36, Som. Rec. Soc.).

Thomas de Arderne, the husband of Lucy de Say, may have been one of the Ardernes of Warwickshire, as Dugdale, in his history for that county, mentions one of that name who before 6 John had married a wife whose Christian name was Lucy, but whose paternal name was unknown to him. She was living he says 1 Hen. III (1216). In the pedigree he gives of the family, the names of Thomas and Ralph frequently

occur, which, as we shall see hereafter, were borne by the Yeovil branch (Dugd. *Hist. Warwickshire II*, 925).

There can be little doubt that the original seat of the Yeovil branch of the Ardernes was at Horndown, in Essex. In 1122, Thomas de Arderne and Thomas, his son, gave to the Abbey of Bermondsey the Chapel of St. George, in Southwark, and the tithes of their demesne on Horndon. Ralph de Arderne, in the reign of Hen. II, married Annabella, second daughter of the illustrious Ralph de Glanville, Chief Justiciary of England (*Annals of Bermondsey II*, 246), from whom descended another Ralph, who acquired lands in Yeovil, and died before 1259, in which year Erneburga, his widow, brought an action for the recovery of one-third of a messuage, and twelve acres of land in Yeovil as part of her dower out of her husband's lands in Essex and Somerset, and Hugh de Mortimer, son and heir of Margaret, as guardian of Thomas, the infant son of Ralph, was called to warrant her title (*De Banco Roll*, Mich., 43-4 Hen. III, No. 15, memb. 35a). She must have succeeded in her claim, as she sold her life-interest in the Yeovil lands to one Richard de Collworth, who forfeited them for joining in the rebellion of the Barons against Hen. III, and possession was taken by the above Hugh de Mortimer as guardian of Thomas (*Inq. de Rebellibus*, 49 Hen. III, No. 113). Putting the above facts together, there can be no doubt that Thomas de Arderne, who married Lucy de Say, was the father of Ralph, of Essex, who inherited her lands in Yeovil, and left a son, Thomas, to whom (subject to the dower of Erneburga) they descended in the reign of Hen. III. It may be that this last-named Thomas was the husband of Hugelina de Nevile, for, in the year 1294, an assize was held to try if John de Wigton, Robert Fitzpayn, and John, the vicar of Yevele, had disseised her of a tenement in Yevele, and of her manor of Yevele, and a plea being put in that she had a husband living—Thomas de Arderne—who was not named in the writ, it was adjudged that he ought to

have been joined. (*Ass. Div. Cos.*, 22 Edw. I, N. 2. 8.-8).

Proceeding now to Gilbert de Say, he married Matilda, daughter of Matthew de Clivedon, Lord of Milton, near Bruton, and Isabella, his wife, who was a daughter of William de Montague of Sutton Montague or Montis, in this county, which event involved him in litigation with his wife's family (*De Banco Rolls*, Michaelmas term 7-8, Hen. III; H. Hil term 10, Hen. III). On his death (which must have occurred soon after), his property at Yeovil, including the lands which he inherited from his brother Richard, descended to his two daughters and co-heiresses, Edith, the wife of Thomas de Huntley, and Matilda, wife of Thomas de Arderne, son and heir of Ralph, already mentioned. The two sisters made partition of their inheritance, and Edith took that part called "La Marshe," now the hamlet of Yeovil Marsh, and Matilda the remainder, which retained the name of Kingston (*De Banco Rolls*, Michaelmas, 43 Edw. III, 150). In the early part of the reign of Edward I, Kingston passed, by sale no doubt, to Walter de Wigton, Lord of Wigton in Cumberland (Nicholson's *Cumberland II*, 190), from whom, at his death in 1286, it descended to John de Wigton, his son and heir, then 22 years of age. In the Inquisition, p.m. of Walter, it is described as half a knight's fee of the Honour of Burford, held of Lord Robert de Mortimer, and consisting of a capital messuage, 200a. of arable, 10a. mead., 15a. wood, 9a. past., £6 0s. 5d.; rents of freehold tenants, £5 10s.; rents of villeins and pleas of Court (Esch. 14 Edw. I, ws. 15). Robert de Mortimer, the superior lord, died about the same time, as by an inquisition of the fees belonging to him the jury found that Thomas de Huntley (Edith, his wife, being probably dead) held of him the manor of Marshe by half a knight's fee, and John de Wigton, the manor of Kingston by another half-fee—the yearly value of which was £21, besides the advowson of a free chapel, within the Court of Kingston, worth 100s. a year (Esch., 15 Edw. I, No. 30). By a fine in the same year (14 Edw. I),

between John de Lovetot (one of the Justices itinerant who was closely connected with John de Wigton) plt., and Thos. de Arderne, deft. (made in the presence and with the consent of John de Wigton) two knights' fees, from the Manor of Kingston in Yeovil, with the appurtenances, viz., the homage and service of John de Wigton and his heirs of the whole tenement formerly held of the said Thomas in Kingston were limited to John de Lovetot and his heirs for ever. This transaction appears to have been a technical contrivance for enabling de Arderne to convey his interest in the manor, for by a fine of even date between John de Wigton, plt., and Thos. de Arderne, deft., he released the manor of Kingston to de Wigton, subject to a yearly rent of £20, payable to to him for his life (*Somt. Fines*, 14 Edw. I, Nos. 90-1). John de Wigton died about 1315, and there being a doubt respecting the legitimacy of his daughter Margaret, his five sisters were at first found to be his heirs (*Esch.*, 8 Edw. II, No. 61; *Close Rolls*, 13 Edw. I), but the ecclesiastical authority having certified that she was legitimate, she succeeded her father as his sole heir (*Plac. Abbrev.*, 316).¹

Before his death, John de Wigton sold Kingston to Sir Robert Fitzpayn (the third of that name), first Baron Fitzpayn, who died about 1316 (*Esch.*, 9 Edw. II, No. 65), leaving a son and heir, Robert (IV). The manor was taken into the king's hands as belonging to the heirs of John de Wigton, and granted to Thos. de Marlberge during pleasure, the heirs of de Wigton denying Fitzpayn's right, alleging that the sale to him was only for his life, but the court was satisfied from the evidence that he bought the fee and inheritance, and so it was adjudged (*Abbrev. Rot. orig.*, 9 Edw. II, No. 3; *Mem. Rolls*, L.T.R., 13 Edw. II, Rot. 8).

The Fitzpayns were a family of distinction, possessing large

¹ At that period the marriage of the parents after the birth of children rendered them legitimate, but the widow in such a case was not entitled to dower, as Diompia, the widow of John de Wigton, made several unsuccessful attempts to recover it.

estates in the western counties. Robert Fitzpayn (the first of that name) being Lord of Cheddon, near Taunton, in the reign of Hen. II. Roger, his son, held the manor of Lyde, in Yeovil, on right of his wife Margaret, one of the three sisters and co-heiresses of Alured de Lincoln, a descendant of Roger Arundel, the Domesday tenant of large possessions in the west, one of which, it has been suggested, was Lyde, under the name of Eslade. Robert Fitzpayn (IV) married Ela, widow of John Mareschal (Bank's *Baronage II*, app., p. 9), and a daughter of Guy, Lord de Bryan (*Complete Peerage*, by G.E.C., title Bryan). Having no son, he adopted Robert de Gray, of Codnore, and settled the bulk of his estates on him and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Guy de Bryan, jun., in special tail, but he reserved the manor of Kingston with the advowson of the chapel, and, in 1344, settled it on his only child Isabella, wife of John de Chydiok, of Chydiok, Dorset (I) (*Somt. Fines*, 19 Edw. III, No. 35), and died in 1355, seized of an annual rent of £6 7s., (charged upon certain lands in a street called Ford Street, in Kingston); a messuage and carucate of land at La Lude (Lyde); and the reversion of another messuage and lands at Yeovil Marsh, called Walrond's Marsh. After the death of John and Isabella, they were succeeded by three generations of sons (all Sir John de Chydiok), but, in the time of the fourth Sir John, there occurs a break in the title which awaits explanation. Towards the end of the reign of Ric. II, the manor of Kingston with the advowson of the chapel there, was in the possession of the Earls of Kent. The first of these was Thos. de Holand, a distinguished knight in the service of the Black Prince, who married de Holand's mother—"the fair maid of Kent." The Earl died in 1397 (*Esch.*, 20 Ric. II, No. 30) and was succeeded by his son, a second Thos. de Holand, also Earl of Kent, who, having joined in the conspiracy against the new King, Henry IV, was beheaded in 1399 (*Esch.*, 22 Ric. II, No. 21). I have no means of ascertaining how they acquired any interest in the

manor, but it is probable that John de Chydiok (III) had mortgaged it to the first Earl, which led to usual complications, and that, after his death, when his son John (IV), who was left a minor, had attained his majority, the whole matter was settled and mutual releases exchanged. This suggestion is strengthened by the fact that a deed is still extant, by which Chydiok released to Alice, Countess of Kent, and others, all actions and claims concerning the manor of Kingston, or any other lands in the parish of Yeovil (*Close Rolls*, 3 Hen. IV, No. 10).

Turning now to Edith de Say and her husband, Thomas de Huntley, I have not been able to trace his family any farther back than this Thomas, or to identify the place from which they derived their name, but they were afterwards considerable land-owners in several manors called Adbere, in the adjoining parish of Mudford. Parts of these manors had belonged to the great estates of the Mohuns, in Somerset, but, in 1311, Geoffrey de Mohun and Margery his wife, settled them by the description of a messuage, 3 carucates of land, 30a. meadow, 26a. wood, and 11 marcs of rent in Nether Attbere, Over Attebere and Homere, on themselves for life, remainder to the heirs of his body; remainder to Nicholas, his brother, in tail; remainder to David, son of Thomas de Huntley, in tail; remainder to brother of David, in tail; remainder to the right heirs of Geoffry (*Somt. Fines*, 4 Edw. II, No. 34). David de Huntley must have succeeded to these lands as (20 Edw. 3) he was assessed 20s. for half-a-fee in Little Adbere, formerly Geoffry de Mohun's. He died s.p. and, consequently, by the terms of the settlement, his brother, Thomas, succeeded to the estate, which devolved on John, his son, and then on Margaret de Huntley, his daughter. Ultimately, the manor of Nether Adbere was settled on Richard Huntley and Alianor, his wife, and the heirs of his body; remainder to John, son of William Carent, in tail; remainder to William Carent, senior, in tail; re-

mainder to the right heirs of Richard Huntley (*Somt. Fines*, 12 Ric. II, No. 1). In this way, I suppose, Adbere fell to the Carents, who were evidently related to the Huntleys. There was another branch of that family resident at Shiplade, in the parish of Bleadon, in this county, and another migrated to Milborn St. Andrew, Dorset.

Returning from this digression, Thomas de Huntley, the husband of Edith de Say, was also involved, with Brian Gouiz and other leading men, in the Rebellion of the Barons against Hen. III, and, after their defeat, was punished by the forfeiture of his lands, and, according to the *Inquisition de Rebellibus*, the bailiff of Lord Hugh de Mortimer, the overlord, had seized one carucate of land on the ville of Givele, worth 10s. a year, besides rents of assize of £6 a year in the same ville, and also a virgate and-half of land there, and 16s. a year rent of assize held of Huntley by one Richard de Peto, "another rebel." The forfeiture was, however, compounded for, in Kirby's *Quest* (12 Edw. I). Walter de Wigton and Thos. de Huntley are said to hold Kingston, East Marsh, and West Marsh (into which "La Marsh" had been sub-divided) of Robert de Mortimer, by knight service, and, in 1307, among the knights' fees held of the king *in capite* by Matilda, widow of Hugh de Mortimer at her death, was the manor of Mersshe held by John de Huntley by half a knight's fee, and the manor of Kingston juxta Yevele, held by Robert Fitzpayn by another half fee (*Esch.*, 1 Edw. II, No. 59). This John de Huntley, son of Thomas and Edith, conveyed the moiety of the Say estate to Walter de Tryl, of Todbere, Dorset, who, in 1324, settled Marsh (with lands derived from another source now unknown) by the description of 13 messuages, 8 acres and $6\frac{1}{2}$ virgates of land, $23\frac{1}{2}$ acres of mead., 11 acres of past., 16 acres wood, 106s. rent, and rent of 1 lb. of pepper, 2 lbs. of eumin, and one rose, with the appurtenance in West Marsh, Kingston juxta Yevele, and Kingeswoode juxta Hardington, and also a moiety of the advowson of the

chapel of Kingston, on himself and his wife, Ela, for their lives; remainder to William de Carent and Johanna, his wife, and the heirs of their bodies; remainder to Nicholas, son of Michael de Stoure, in fee to be held of the King in Chief (*Somt. Fines*, 17 Edw. II, No. 45). The above indicates the first connection of the De Carent family with Yeovil. Joanna, the wife of William de Carent, was probably a daughter of Walter de Tryl. Her husband died in 1347, possessed of one moiety of the manors of Kingston and Marsh, leaving an infant son, another William de Carent (*Inq. p.m.*, Esch., 22 Edw. III, No. 27). In my opinion, Matilda, the wife of John de Huntley, was another sister of De Tryl. She held, at her death, lands in the ville of Marsh in right of her dower, and also lands there by grant of Walter de Romesey; the reversion (her Inquisition states) belonging to William, son of William de Carent, who was heir as well of Walter de Tryl, as of Matilda (Esch., 21 Edw. III, No. 22). From this it may be inferred that Walter de Tryl had two sisters—Matilda, wife of John de Huntly, and Joan, wife of William de Carent—that neither Walter or his sister, Matilda, left any issue, and that, therefore, William de Carent, son of the other sister, Joan, was heir both of his uncle and his aunt.

West Marsh was at one time held by the family of Falconer, or Le Fauconer, who became possessed of it in the reign of Edw. I, for in the Inquisition of knights' fee in 1302 (31 Edw. I) Robert Fitzpayn and John Fauconer (instead of Walter de Wigton and Thomas de Huntley, in Kirby's *Quest*) are said to hold the manors of Kingston, East Marsh, and West Marsh, of Hugh de Mortimer, by the service of one fee. By disposition, or misfortune, Falconer was frequently at law with his neighbours (see *Ass. Rolls Div. Cos.*, 27 Edw. I, Nos. 2-11). He had a wife, Joan, and died in 1342, holding of John Daunay (Lord of Hinton, in Mudford) a messuage and lands at Hulle in Marsh [now called Marsh Hill] with two moors called Brooms Moor and Dichelfords Moor [now Disle-

moor], and he left John le Falconer (II), his son, then 25 years old (Esch, 15 Edw. VI, No. 27).

John le Falconer (II): resided at West Marsh, and is so described in a charter, dated there in 1354 (27 Edw. III), whereby he granted to John Gogh and John Say certain lands in Kingsdon, near Ivelchester, of which he had been enfeoffed by Nicholas Gouys. The witnesses to this charter were Wm. D'aumarle, Wm. D'unfraville, and Walter de Romesey, knights; and Wm. de Bingham and Wm. de Welde; and to it was attached his seal—two bendlets between three falcons, with the legend, “Sigill . . . Fauconer” (Pole’s Collections, Queen’s Coll., Oxford, MS. No. 151, f. 47). There are notices on the records of legal proceedings between the Huntleys, the Carents, and the Falconers, respecting their property at Marsh and Kingston, which it would be unprofitable to explain in detail, but it is important to repeat what Collinson cites from the *Close Rolls*, that (30 Edw. III) John le Falconer released to William, son and heir of Wm. de Carent, then under age and in ward to the king, all his right to the manors of Kingston and Hunteley’s Marsh (*Rot. Claus.*, 30 Edw. III, cited by Collinson III, 207). This document confirmed to the de Carents their title to Marsh and the part of Kingston which did not belong to the Chydioks, and was substantially the property which afterwards passed from the de Carents to the Comptons, and subsequently to their relatives, the Harbins. This transaction with Carent did not, however, denude le Falconer of all his lands in Yeovil. In 1376, he had to resist an unfounded claim set up by Alice, the widow of Wm. Welde, to lands of his in Kingston and West Marsh. It appears that le Falconer, when only 19 years old, agreed to grant a lease of the lands to Welde and his wife for their lives. After he came of age he went beyond seas for several years—during which time Welde died—and, on his return, the widow had the audacity to repudiate the lease and claim the lands as her freehold,

but, of course, she was defeated (*Ass. Rolls, Div. Cos.*, 40-9 Edw. III).

Le Falconer (II) married Matilda, daughter and heiress of John de Warmwell, of Warmwell, Dorset (*Hutch. Dors. I*, 428), and we may attribute the marriage to the fact that a branch of the de Warmwell family was seated at Newton Salmonville, in Yeovil. I have not been able to ascertain the date of his death, but, by that event, if not by previous settlement, his daughter and heiress, Alice, the wife of Nicholas Coker, must have acquired considerable property in Yeovil and the neighbourhood as, 12 Hen. IV (1411), she and her husband sold a farm in Yevell and Kingston to Sir John Chydiok, lord of Kingston (*Somt. Fines*), and as late as 1445 (23 Hen. VI), after her husband's death, she conveyed in Kingston and Marsh to her cousin, Thos. Lyte of Lytes' Cary (*The Lytes of Lytes Cary*, p. 25). Nicholas Coker himself was the purchaser of the manor of Chilthorne Domer, which, by fine, 9 Hen. IV, was conveyed, subject to a life interest in Edmund Dummer, to Nicholas Coker and Alice his wife, and the heirs of Nicholas Coker.

The manor of West Marsh was, in the reign of Edw. II, held by John de Preston (*Nomina Villarum*, 9 Edw. II), who was a considerable land-owner in the adjoining parish of Preston Plucknet. In 1363, the manor was held by Thomas de Preston for his life, and by a fine levied in that year (37 Edw. III) between Henry le Walshe, plaintiff, and Master Robert de Stratforde, defendant, the reversion then vested in de Stratford was settled upon Henry le Walshe for his life; remainder to John his son, and Isabel his wife, and the heirs of their bodies; remainder to his brothers, Henry and Percival, successively in tail; remainder to the right heirs of the said John. He resided at East Marsh, and purchased from the Crown the wardship of William, the infant son of Wm. de Carent, and Joan, his wife; but, going on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land he died on the journey, leaving his wife, Isabel,

surviving, but we hear no mention of him or West Marsh afterwards, and it was probably absorbed into the de Carent Estate (*Exchequer, L. & R., Memoranda Rolls, Hil., 27 Edw. III, No. 12*). I should observe that it was from de Chydiok, and not from de Carent as Collinson states, that Kingston came to the Stourtons.

There was yet another part of La Marsh, called Walerands or Walrond's Marsh. As early as 1340, John Walerand, which held under John de Wigton, died, leaving an infant son, John, and his wife, Matilda, surviving, and she was obliged to take legal steps for the recovery of her dower out of it (*Ass. Rolls Div. Cos., 3 Edw. II, N. 2. 15-1*). The widow probably married again—Dowre, as (28 Edw. III) Robert Fitzpayn held, at his death, the reversion of one messuage, and one carucate of land in Walronde's Marshe, which Matilda Dowre held for her life by grant of John Walrond, which reversion belonged to John Chydiok, and Isabella, his wife (*Esch., No. 41*).

Allusion has already been made to the manor of Henford as part of the Domesday six hides held by Hugh Maltravers under William de Ou. Collinson, in his History (iii, p. 205) gives a fairly accurate pedigree of the Maltravers family, so far as relates to their ownership of Henford, but a much more elaborate and annotated pedigree is to be found in another work of good authority (*Coll. Top. and Gen., vol. vi, p. 334*), verified by charters and documents drawn principally from the archives of the Earl of Ilchester.

Beginning from the reign of King John, no less than six generations of the family were successively owners of part of Gyvele, and Lords of Henford. In 1201 (2 John) an action was pending between John Maltravers (II), son of John Maltravers (the first of that name), and Walter de Turberville, and Alice his wife (widow of John the father), respecting lands at Woolcombe (now Woolcombe Maltravers), Dorset, and, for the purposes of this action it is presumed, John (II) sued the Turbervilles for the delivery up of five

charters relating to his inheritance, all of which Walter Turberville admitted he had held, but alleged that they were stolen when his house was burnt down. Maltravers also complained that the Turbervilles unjustly detained from him five coats of mail which had belonged to his father, and their defence was that the father never had but one coat, which he gave to another son with ten librates (*i.e.*, about 500 acres) of land, but, unfortunately, we do not know the result, as, by default of the parties, the Court was not called on to deliver judgment (P.R.O. Curia Regis., No. 24, *Selden Society Publications*, vol. iii). The burning of these charters (if true) must have been a serious loss; two of them were grants by Henry I, thereby carrying the family title back to about one generation from Hugh, the Domesday sub-tenant; a third was a charter of Mareschal, Earl Striguil, and may have been the grant of the Constablership of Striguil or Chepstow Castle, which was an office held by the family (Esch., 25 Edw. I, no. 33). The fifth was a charter of King John. As regards the coats of mail, in the early days of chivalry coat armour was hereditary, and descended to the heirs with the land, for the defence of which it was used, especially as a dire alternative in "wager of battel."

The litigation, between John Maltravers and Lucy de Say (II), respecting the right of presentation to the Chapel of Kingston has already been noticed, but, a few years later, he was engaged in a very remarkable trial, the incidents of which are fortunately very rare in legal annals. He held, it appears, a knight's fee in Gyvele, by virtue of a fine made between Walter Maltravers, his eldest brother (who, it is presumed, had afterwards died s.p.) and John Maltravers (I), their father; but William Maltravers, another brother, sought to ignore the fine as void, being purported to be made, not in the King's Court (Richard I), but in the Court of John, Earl of Mortain (afterwards King John). On this ground, and also as entitled to the fee under a distinct grant, he proceeded by

a writ of right against John and recovered judgment. Pending this, John died, and then Hawisia his widow, in 1222 (6 Hen. III) sued William for one-third as her dower, to which William pleads that the knight's fee was given to him by his father, John (I), by charter, which he produces, and calls to warranty John (III), son of John (II), who declines. Then William pleads the judgment on the writ of right, whereupon the Sheriff was ordered to return a record of the judgment. The Sheriff, Roger de Forde, was "valettus" and probably nominee of Peter de Mauley, his lord, who had been sheriff for the six preceding years, and according to his return (which, we may presume, he very reluctantly made) the county—that is the freeholders or suitors of the County Court—wholly disavow the judgment, because, after John had appeared and set out his claim to the fee under the fine, and William's rejoinder that it was of no effect not being made in the King's Court, the Sheriff tried to prevail on the county to give judgment in William's favour, which they declined to do, and all went away except two or three who remained until nearly "the vesper hour," and were assured, by the Sheriff, that they might safely give judgment in William's favour, and that he would indemnify them. On hearing this John prayed for recognition on the writ of right, whether he or William was entitled to the land, but the Sheriff objected that he must rely on the fine he had set up, after hearing which the Sheriff and the two or three who remained with him gave judgment in William's favour "without the assent and will of the county," and that "in no other way did William get judgment, as the county offer to prove as the Court shall consider" (*Assize Roll*, No. 755; *Bracton's Note Book*, case 191). So much for mediæval administration of justice!

Proceeding now to the reign of Edw. I, the manor can be regularly traced from that time. We come first to John Maltravers (III), son of John and Hawisia, who held the high office of Seneschal of the King's Household, and died in 1296,

seised of the manor of Henford, to which the advowson of Yeovil was appendant, and left his son and successor, John Maltravers (IV), aged 30 (Esch., 25 Edw. I, No. 33). This John married first Alianor, who, not improbably, was a daughter of Sir Ralph de Gorges, of Wraxall, Somerset (Smith's *Lives of the Berkeleys I*, 241), his first wife, however, and married for his second, Joan, daughter and heiress of Sir Walter Foliôt, of Melbury, and grand-daughter of Sir Lawrence Sampford, by which match he acquired an interest in the manors of Melbury Sampford and Melbury Osmond. The date of his death has not been ascertained, but he was succeeded by his son by his first wife, John Maltravers (V), afterwards Lord Maltravers, whose name is, unfortunately, associated with that of Sir Thomas Gournay, as the contrivers of the revolting murder of King Edward II at Berkeley Castle. He died in 1365, surviving, by several years, his son John, the sixth and last of the name, who died in 1350. As John (VI) left no son, Henford descended to his two daughters, Joan and Alianor. Joan died s.p. and, consequently, Alianor became sole heiress; she was married to John Fitz Alan, younger brother of Richard Fitz Alan, 14th Earl of Arundel, by whom she had a son, John de Arundel, who, in right of his mother, became Lord Maltravers. The manor of Henford continued in the Arundel family until the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when Henry, 22nd Earl, exchanged it with the queen for the manors of Halfnaked and Boxgrave, in Sussex (*Pat. Rolls*, 3 Eliz, 4th part).

The Crown retained Henford in its hands until the end of the reign of Elizabeth, when, the Royal revenues requiring replenishment (as was not uncommon in the Tudor dynasty), it was sold to Sir John Spencer, a city knight of fabulous wealth (*Pat. Roll*, 42 Eliz., pt. 24), and after his death passed to his daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, the wife of William, 2nd Lord Compton, created, 15 James I, Earl of Northampton,

in whose family it continued until sold to the Hooper family, as mentioned by Collinson.

But the advowson of the church devolved in a different course. By a fine levied, 13 Edw. III, between John Maltravers, senior (V), Querent, and Roger Maltravers, and Thomas de Homere, Deforciant, to the manors of Henford, Somerset, and Lytchett, Dorset, the uses whereof, so far as regards the manor, were thereby limited to said John Maltravers for life, with remainder to his son, John Maltravers (VI) in tail, male with remainder to his (the sons) right heirs. The limitations of this fine did not extend to the advowson of the church of Yeovil, and, therefore, it remained in the trustees undisposed of. But, five years afterwards, in 1345 (18 Edw. III), by a charter dated at Witchampton, Wednesday after the Feast of the Annunciation, to which Robert Fitzpayn, Richard Turberville, Robert Martyn, Reginald Fitzherbert, Robert Champayn, knights; and John Wake, Nicholas Pyke, John Smedmore, and Henry Antiocke were witnesses, the trustees, Roger Maltravers and John de Homere, granted to Lord John Maltravers (V), lord of Lytchett, one messuage in Hyneford, and the advowson of the church of Yevell in fee, and he, by a subsequent charter, dated before 36 Edw. III, conveyed it to Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel (Exch. Q.R. Miscell. 911—31). The earl was the brother of John Fitz Alan, husband of Alianor, daughter of John Maltravers (VI), upon whom and her husband the manor of Henford and a rent of 57s. issuing therefrom, had been settled by her grandfather, John Lord Maltravers (V), by a fine dated 33 Edw. III. Richard, 14th Earl of Arundel, was of Royal descent, his mother being Eleanor Plantagenet, daughter of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, but he was beheaded in 1397. He had, on two occasions, exercised his right of patronage over the church, and by his will, dated 4th March, 1392, he directed the advowson to be sold. The words of the bequest are, "Item je vuille que l'avowesoun de Yvele soit venduz auxi tost come home purra

apres mon deces resonablement. et les deniers d'icell loïalment emploiez par mes ditz executours en meilloure mannere q'ils saveront en parfourrissement du testament et voluntee mon seigneur et pierre qi Dieux assoile," with directions for presenting a fit clerk, from time to time, to hold the church until a sale could be effected (*Nichols' Collection of Noble Wills*, p. 137). In pursuance of this bequest, the advowson was sold to King Henry V, who purchased it in order to increase the endowment of his recently founded Monastery of Sion, and by charter, dated at Arundel, 13th July, 3 Henry V, (1315), Thomas, 15th Earl, son of the Testator, conveyed two acres of land in Yevill, in a certain place called Huish, together with the advowson of the church of Yevill to his Majesty, his heirs and assigns (*Exch. Q.R. Miscell.*, ut sup.).

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Rules.

THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the County of Somerset, and the establishment of a Museum and Library.

II.—The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Patron and Trustees, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General and District or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call Special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such Special Meeting and its objects, shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society will be *ex-officio* Members) which shall hold monthly Meetings for receiving Reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; three of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman at Meetings of the Society shall have a casting vote, in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. The property of the Society shall be held in Trust for the Members by twelve Trustees, who shall be chosen from the Members at any General Meeting. All Manuscripts and Communications and other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings and Sixpence on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings and Sixpence as an annual subscription, which shall become due on the first of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII.—At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary and Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When an office shall become vacant, or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same: such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments, which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society, may (with the Author's consent and subject to the discretion of the Committee) be published in the *Proceedings* of the Society.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—Any person contributing books or specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of a dissolution of the Society. Persons shall also have liberty to deposit books or specimens for a specific time only.

XX.—In case of dissolution, the real property of the Society in Taunton shall be held by the Trustees, for the advancement of Literature, Science and Art, in the town of Taunton and the county of Somerset.

Rules for the Government of the Library.

1.—The Library shall be open for the use of the Members of the Society daily (with the exception of Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day), from Ten in the Morning till Five in the Afternoon, from April to August inclusive, and during the remaining months of the year until Four o'clock.

2.—Every Member of the Society whose annual Subscription shall not be more than three months in arrear may borrow out of the Library not more than two volumes at a time, and may exchange any of the borrowed volumes for others as often as he may please, but so that he shall not have more than two in his possession at any one time.

3.—Every application by any Member who shall not attend in person for the loan of any book or books shall be in writing.

4.—So much of the title of every book borrowed as will suffice to distinguish it, the name of the borrower, and the time of borrowing it, shall be entered in a book to be called the "Library Delivery Book;" and such entry, except the application be by letter, shall be signed by the borrower; and the return of books borrowed shall be duly entered in the same book.

5.—The book or books borrowed may either be taken away by the borrower, or sent to him in any reasonable and recognised mode which he may request; and should no request be made, then the Curator shall send the same to the borrower by such mode as the Curator shall think fit.

6.—All cost of the packing, and of the transmission and return of the book or books borrowed, shall in every case be defrayed by the Member who shall have borrowed the same.

7.—No book borrowed out of the Library shall be retained for a longer period than one month, if the same be applied for in the meantime by any other Member; nor in any case shall any book be retained for a longer period than three months.

8.—Every Member who shall borrow any book out of the Library shall be responsible to the Society for its safety and good condition from the time of its leaving the Library ; also if he borrow any book or manuscript within the Library, till it shall be returned by him. And in case of loss or damage, he shall replace the same or make it good ; or, if required by the Committee, shall furnish another copy of the entire work of which it may be part.

9.—No manuscript, nor any drawing, nor any part of the Society's collection of prints or rubbings shall be lent out of the Library without a special order of the Committee, and a bond given for its safe return at such time as the Committee shall appoint.

10.—The Committee shall prepare, and may from time to time add to or alter, a list of such works as shall not be lent out of the Library, on account of their rarity, value, or peculiar liability to damage ; or on account of their being works of reference often needed by Members personally using the Library, and a copy of such list for the time being shall be kept in the Library.

11.—No book shall be lent out until one month after the acquisition of it for the Library.

12.—Extracts from the manuscripts or printed books are allowed to be made freely, but in case of a transcript being desired of a whole manuscript or printed book, the consent of the Committee must be previously obtained.

13.—Persons not being Members of the Society may be admitted for a period not exceeding one week, to consult printed books and manuscripts not of a private nature in the Society's Library, for any special purpose, on being introduced by a Member, either personally or by letter.

14.—No book shall be lent to any person not being a Member of the Society without a special order of the Committee.

15.—Before any Member can borrow a book from the Library, he must acknowledge that he consents to the printed Rules of the Society for the Government of the Library.

* * * *It is requested that contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at the Taunton Castle.*

Rules for the Formation of Local Branch Societies.

1.—On the application of not less than Five Members of the Society the Council may authorise the formation of a Local Branch in any District, and may, if considered advisable, define a specific portion of the County as the District to such Branch.

2.—Societies already in existence, may, on application from the governing bodies, be affiliated as Branches.

3.—All Members of the Parent Society shall be entitled to become Members of any Branch.

4.—A Branch Society may elect Local Associates not necessarily Members of the Parent Society.

5.—Members of the Council of the Parent Society, being Members of, and residing within the District assigned to any Branch, shall be *ex-officio* Members of the Council of such Branch.

6.—A Branch Society may fix the rates of Subscription for Members and Associates, and make Rules and Bye-Laws for the government of such Branch, subject in all cases to the approval of the Council of the Parent Society.

7.—A Branch Society shall not be entitled to pledge the credit of the Parent Society in any manner whatsoever.

8.—The authority given by the Council may at any time be withdrawn by them, subject always to an appeal to a General Meeting.

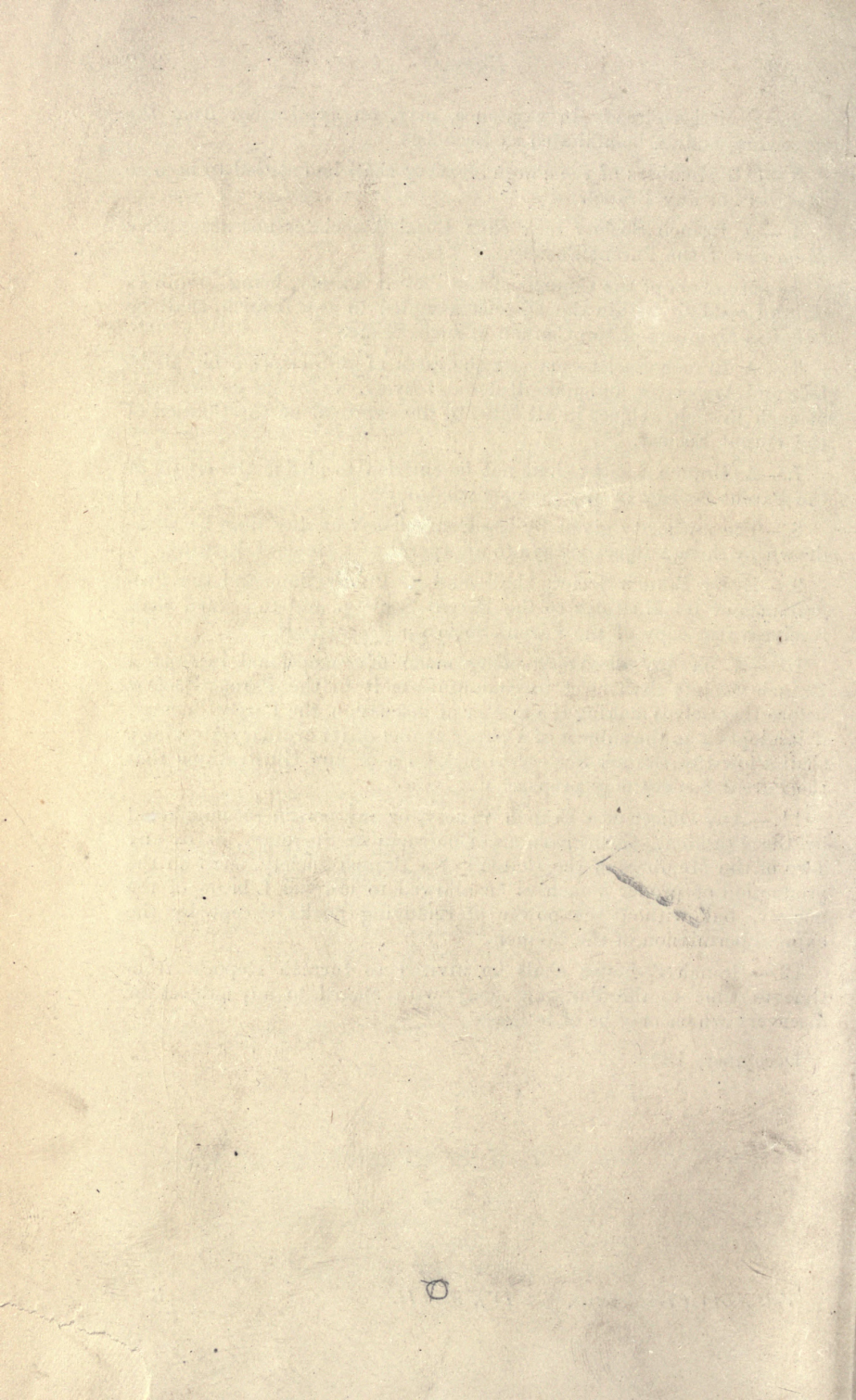
9.—Every Branch Society shall send its Publications and the Programmes of its Meetings to the Parent Society, and in return shall receive a free copy of the Parent Society's *Proceedings*.

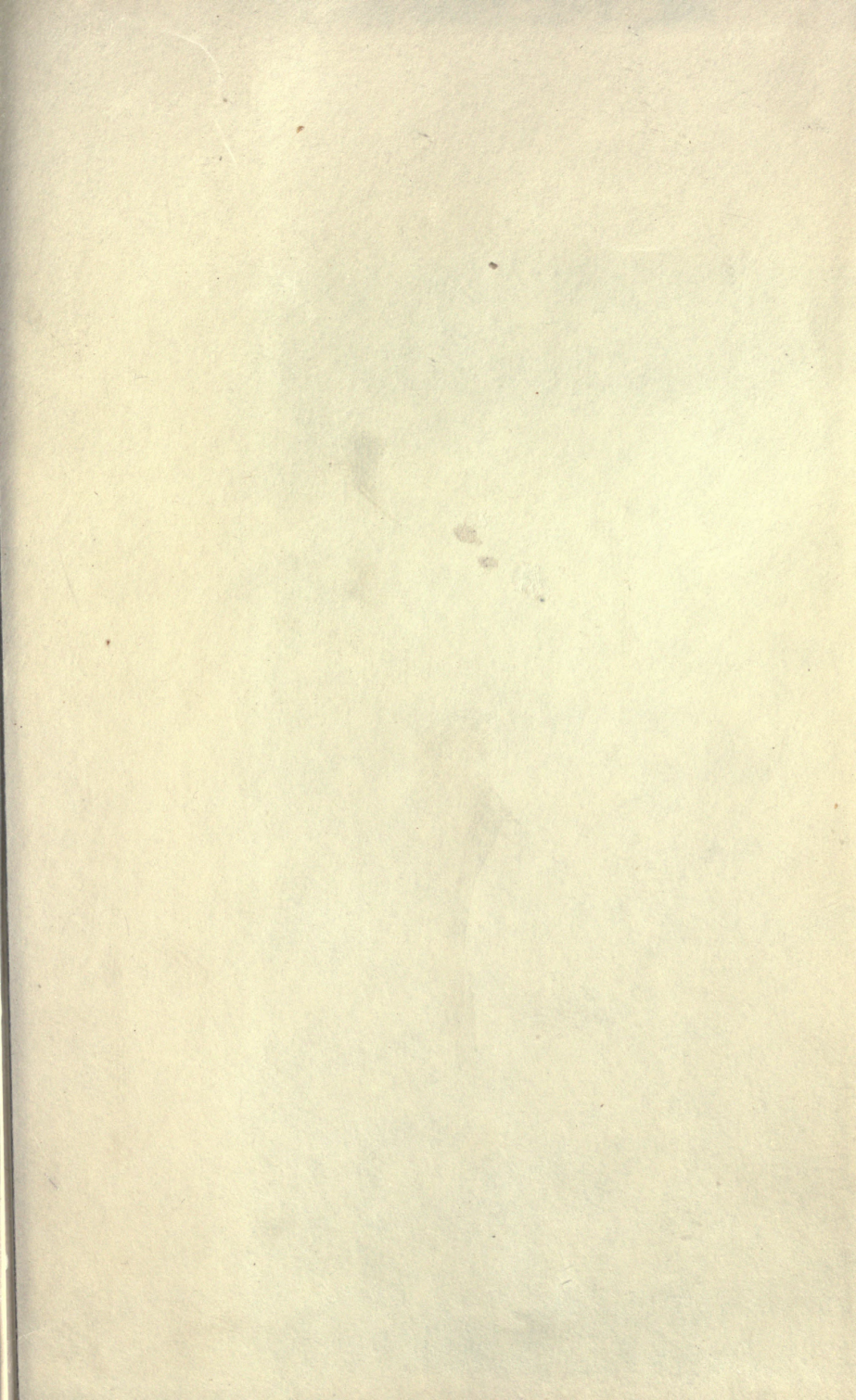
10.—If on any discovery being made of exceptional interest a Branch Society shall elect to communicate it to the Parent Society before themselves making it a matter of discussion, the Parent Society, if it adopts it as the subject of a paper at one of its ordinary Meetings, shall allow the Branch Society to make use of any Illustrations that the Parent Society may prepare.

11.—Any Officer of a Branch Society, or any person recommended by the President, Vice-President, Chairman or Secretary, or by any Two of the Members of the Council of a Branch Society, shall on the production of proper Vouchers be allowed to use the Library of the Society, but without the power of removing books except by the express permission of the Council.

12.—Branch Societies shall be invited to furnish Reports from time to time to the Parent Society with regard to any subject or discovery which may be of interest.

December, 1898.





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