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TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

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SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

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STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

The Statement of Accounts showed a deficiency of £19 11s. 4d., compared with an adverse balance of £28 last year.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the Report and Statement of Accounts. He thought it was a matter for congratulation that the restoration of the Abbey Tower had been completed, because it was a great monument not only to the town and county, but also to the Church as a national institution. He hoped sincerely that something would be done with Malins Lee Chapel, because it was of great importance that anything of the Norman period should be preserved and kept up. (Hear, hear.) One thing Mr. Auden in his modesty did not mention, that it was through him the late Mr. Thurstfield presented his grand collection of pipes to the Museum. (Hear, hear.) They also owed a hearty vote of thanks to Sir Olley Wakeman for that magnificent gift of deeds, because unless the deeds of the county were collected and kept they might some day find it difficult to keep up its history. (Hear, hear.)

Prebendary AUDEN, in seconding, said there was always a happy side to the Report and always a sad side, inasmuch as while they recorded progress, they also had to remember the loss of one or other of their friends and supporters. He would not make any reference to Malins Lee Chapel then except to say that they as a Society were greatly interested in it, and if it could be restored on really conservative principles he was sure they would give it their best help. He would like to refer to the kindness of Sir Olley Wakeman. They would notice the Report said "besides other acts of kindness." There was one particular act of kindness that was not mentioned in detail in the Report he would like to mention. Those members who had been at the Museum in the last few days would notice in the antiquarian section a fine specimen of a dug-out pre-historic canoe that was found near to Marton Pool, in the neighbourhood of Rorrington, Sir Olley Wakeman's place in Montgomeryshire. Sir Olley called his attention to it and was good enough to take him over to see it, and then Mr. Edmunds, on whose land it was found, was persuaded to kindly give it to the Museum. It was a canoe cut out of solid oak, and it was of somewhat unusual shape. They really owed the gift of that canoe to Sir Olley Wakeman, and he would not like to omit mentioning it as one of those other acts of kindness which he might say Sir Olley Wakeman was constantly in the habit of doing for them. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was carried.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL : INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT
MALINS LEE CHAPEL.

The Rev. E. PARRY, in moving that the members of the Council be re-elected, said he was glad to have an opportunity of saying a word or two about the little chapel at Malins Lee. Very little was known about the history of the Chapel, but what was left of the building spoke for itself. If the restoration was carried out he thought it would be done on the most conservative lines. He would like, if it were possible, to reproduce exactly what was there before the building became a ruin. He would do everything to get the best possible expert opinion on the matter and submit the recommendations to the Society before anything was done. The Rev. R. C. Wanstall, some time vicar of Dawley, lectured at Shifnal on the subject, and he said:—

“Malins Lee, a portion of the Norman manor of Lee Cumbray, now Lee Gomery, possessed formerly a Norman chapel of which the ruins still exist. This was no doubt founded by a layman, probably by a foffeee of the Lords of Lee Cumbray. Like Dawley, Malins Lee was a chapel of Idsall (Shifnal), but when Dawley became an independent parish Malins Lee shared in the change and lost all connection with the mother Church (Shifnal), becoming associated with the daughter (Dawley). Possibly, however, the founder did not endow it, or was only able to give a small endowment, which was early lost or became merged in that of the Mother Church.”

If that was correct, Mr. Parry continued, the building seemed to go back to the 12th century. He had asked Mr. Auden to come over and see the chapel, and he believed that had the approval of the Society. (Hear, hear.) He was prepared to do all he could in getting money, and he did not think that would be a difficult matter, because he thought the project would so approve itself to all people of an antiquarian turn of mind that the money would be forthcoming. The chapel, if restored, would serve a very good purpose. It was within 300 yards of a mission room, and interest would be awakened in the old place. Some of the leading people in his parish to whom he had been talking had never heard of the place.

Dr. WHITE seconded, and said as a young member it seemed to him that in that Society they had an institution of considerable value in preserving the ancient relics and monuments of the Church, and all that was old and delightful in that charming county,—a county unspoiled by civilisation or by the mark of the jerry-builder. (Hear, hear.) Long might it continue so, and it was only by a Society like that that they could insure a continuance of the existing state of affairs, because the Council were ever quick and alert to everything that was going on, and he hoped they would take all the steps necessary to preserve

intact all that was good and beautiful and ancient in the county.
(Hear, hear.)

ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

On the motion of the Rev. W. G. CLARK-MAXWELL, seconded by Mr. PICKERING, Mr. Naunton was re-elected Auditor, and thanked for his services in the past year.

THE HABITS OF THE CUCKOO.

Mr. STANIER said he was afraid he had not chosen a very interesting bird as his subject. He meant originally to have taken quite another class of bird, but a paragraph in "Punch" last week suggested to him that so little was known about cuckoos that those birds might well claim their attention that afternoon. There were three cuckoos in the British list—(1) the Common Cuckoo (*Cuculus Canorus*), (2) the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus Americanus*), and (3) the Great Spotted Cuckoo (*Coccyzus Glandarius*). The first was their friend of the spring, who was described in the old saying:—

In April come he will,
In May he sings all day,
In June he alters his tune,
In July he prepares to fly,
Come August go he must.

The bird's range of travel was immense. He knew of no country in Europe where the cuckoo was not found, from Norway to Greece, and from Spain to Turkey; Japan, India and Egypt also saw the bird. It wintered in Africa in a climate suitable for its needs in the way of food, and visited the northern countries at the season when the climate there was at its best. The first history of the bird was written by Aristotle, more than 2,000 years ago. He refuted the statement that the cuckoo turned into a hawk in the winter, though the tale was often told us to this day. Mr. Stanier brought with him from the Peplow Museum splendidly mounted specimens of the three cuckoos, including one of a young bird which has very similar markings to and could easily be mistaken for a hawk. Hence, no doubt, the origin of the old fiction. He would like to have brought with him, he said, other birds connected with cuckoos, such as the Wryneck, but they were all, no doubt, known to those present. If not he hoped they would go over and see the collection at Peplow.

The cuckoo, he went on to say, was a real parasite, differing in that respect from almost all other birds as he would try to show. Even in its migratory habits its customs were peculiar. The birds came in small parties of about 12 or 16, the sexes being absolutely separate. The male arrived a fortnight before the females, and the males did not begin to call "Cuckoo"

until the females arrived. Then the well-known call was heard, and, if one listened carefully, the observer could get to know the female's answer, a kind of gurgling chatter which was often heard without being recognised. The joyful call was in the strictest sense a song, for it was uttered by the male, and then only in the season of mating. A good mimic could deceive a cuckoo and call it right up to him. The dates on which the birds came to these islands varied; an early spring brought them earlier than a late one, but April 20th was an average date for the Midlands. The parents birds left us in July, but the young often remained till September.

There arose the first problem—was it that abnormal impulse to migrate early which had led the cuckoo to put its eggs into other birds' nests, or were they able to leave early because they were relieved of their domestic duties? Anyhow they differed from other birds in their great greediness—the males almost beyond imagination. Their voracity was enormous, and the love for a female was subordinate to the love of food. They guarded with great care their feeding grounds, and it was generally believed the females had to search for the males. They received the attention of as many males as they required, and did not stay with any one in particular. Therefore, unlike other birds, they did not pair. Thus they were not polygamous, but polyandrous. Also there was no doubt there were more male cuckoos than female, and yet it was very rarely that they heard of cuckoos fighting. Therefore they could not describe the birds as jealous. Of the many peculiar habits of the cuckoo he supposed its nesting habits were the most remarkable. When the time came the female went bird-nesting, and when she had found a suitable nest she laid her egg on the ground, picked it up in her mouth, and placed it in the nest she had chosen, and then left it to the foster parent. Often she took one of the other eggs out, flew a short way with it, and then dropped it. There was an old superstition, founded on this habit, that the cuckoo sucked little bird's eggs to clear her voice! This ignored the fact that it was the female who took the eggs, but the male who sang! The period of incubation was 12 days, and the cuckoo generally used a nest which already contained eggs.

The nests chosen were usually those of the Hedge-sparrow, Meadow Pipit, and Reed Warbler, but there were 120 species of birds which the cuckoo had used to do her domestic work for her. Eggs had even been found in the nest of the Dipper, Jay, Jackdaw, Green Woodpecker, Wood Pigeon, and, most remarkable of all, the Little Grebe or Dabchick. The eggs of the cuckoo varied much in colour, but it was generally agreed that eggs laid by each individual cuckoo were all of the same type. But the cuckoo which laid blue eggs might or might not lay them in the nest of a bird which laid blue eggs.

Once it was thought the cuckoo only laid one egg once a week, and this was put forward as a reason why she did not make a nest and so became a parasite. This idea had been long exploded, however, and now 20 eggs in a season, one laid every other day was the recognised version. It had been often stated and proved that the eggs of the cuckoo resembled in colour the eggs of the host, but this was not the rule, as they would find if they examined the collections of cuckoo's eggs, of which there were several in Great Britain. One thing they would notice was that the cuckoo's eggs varied more than those of any other bird, green, red, grey and blue in various tints, some with spots and some without any. In 1896 the British Ornithologists' Club had over 900 eggs on exhibition, and some remarkable facts were brought out.

In some birds' nests, such as the Redstart, the colour of the cuckoo's egg resembled those of the host, but in others, such as the Hedge-sparrow, it did not. His own belief was that birds were colour blind, and therefore did not notice a strange egg as long as it was not very much bigger than their own. He had heard it said that the cuckoo was a bird that was degenerating, but he did not see that that was so, because they saw just as many every year, and all were in a flourishing state.

The Cow Bird of America had the same habits as the Common Cuckoo, though it had no relationship, so the parasitic habit must have been fixed by long use. Anyhow the cuckoo took no interest in her eggs after she had placed them in the selected nest.

Now it might be asked why did not the cuckoo sit on her eggs even if she would not take the trouble to build a nest? A French naturalist (Herissant) said that the cuckoo's stomach lay behind the sternum and so formed a protuberance which made incubation impossible. But White, of Selborne, showed that the Night-jar and Cuckoo had similar viscera, and the first-named sat on her eggs. Again, the two American cuckoos had the same viscera, and they both sat on their eggs. Thus the inquirer was left in the dark, and it could only be supposed that our cuckoo was too lazy to do so.

Now let them suppose the 12 days were over and the young cuckoo was hatched. He, like his parents, was most greedy, and it took all the time of his two foster parents to feed him. The other eggs in the nest might also hatch, but the cuckoo was the boss; within 24 hours he always contrived to throw the other youngsters out of the nest by getting them on to his back and pushing them one by one over the edge.

The curious process of accomplishing this was beautifully described by Harold Russell in the April "National Review." He says:—"The little animal with the assistance of its rump and wings contrived to get the bird upon its back, and making

a lodgment for the burden by elevating its elbows, clambered backward with it up the side of the nest till it reached the top, where, resting for a moment, it threw off its load with a jerk, and quite disengaged it from the nest. It remained in this situation for a short time, feeling about with the extremities of its wings, as if to be convinced whether the business was properly executed, and then dropped into the nest again. With these (the extremities of its wings) I have often seen it examine, as it were, an egg and nestling before it began its operations : and the nice sensibility which these parts appeared to possess seemed sufficiently to compensate the want of sight, which as yet it was destitute of. I afterwards put in an egg, and this, by a similar process, was conveyed to the edge of the nest and thrown out. Those experiments I have since repeated several times in different nests and have always found the young cuckoo disposed to act in the same manner. In climbing up the nest it sometimes drops its burden and thus is foiled in its endeavours; but after a little respite the work is resumed, and goes on almost incessantly until it is effected. It is wonderful to see the extraordinary exertions of the young cuckoo, when it is two or three days old, if a bird be put into the nest with it that is too weighty for it to lift out. In this state it seems ever restless and uneasy. But this disposition for turning out its companions begins to decline from the time it is two or three till it is about twelve days old, when, as far as I have hitherto seen, it ceases. Indeed, the disposition for throwing out the eggs appears to cease a few days sooner; for I have frequently seen the young cuckoo, after it had been hatched nine or ten days remove a nestling that had been placed in the nest with it, when it suffered an egg, put there at the same time, to remain unmolested. The singularity of its shape is well adapted for these purposes; for, different from other newly-hatched birds, its back from the scapulae downwards is very broad, with a considerable depression in the middle. This depression seems formed by nature for the design of giving a more secure lodgment to the egg of the hedge-sparrow, or its young one, when the young cuckoo is employed in removing either of them from the nest. When it is about twelve days old this cavity is quite filled up, and then the back assumes the shape of nestling birds in general."

Thus for 14 days the cuckoo chick stayed in the nest, but after it had left, the parents who thought themselves as such continued to feed the cuckoo for some time. Some people went so far as to say that the old cuckoos came and helped to feed, but he could not vouch for that, nor did he know of any who could.

So far he had tried to give all the points about the cuckoo except its food, and in going into that he quoted from Mr. Robert Newstead's Board of Agriculture Journal article, which gave a summary of 13 birds whose stomachs he examined. All

Thirteen contained insects of the injurious group.
 Six contained insects beneficial to agriculture.
 Five contained insects of the indifferent group.
 One contained eggs of the earthworm.
 One contained egg-shells of the meadow-pipit.
 Two contained bud scales.
 One contained seeds.

It would be seen that the cuckoo, as to its food, was the friend of all, and really did a lot of good, living as it did on insects, spiders, and caterpillars. The indigestible food of the cuckoo was cast up (as in the case of the hawks) in pellets.

The cuckoo was a great drinker. It could be hand reared, but only with great trouble, and it never sang in confinement. A peculiarity of the bird was that the outer hind toe was reversible—i.e., it could be turned forward or backward.

The Yellow-billed Cuckoo inhabited the North American continent, and only eight had been recorded in Britain. It differed from the British variety in that it built its own nest, and its song was "Kowe kowe." It migrated from and to the southern parts of America; and it was called the Cow-bird and Rain-bird. It was peculiar in that it began to sit directly the first egg was laid, so that the birds in the hatch were all of different ages.

With regard to the third variety, the Great Spotted Cuckoo, Mr. Stanier said one was caught in Ireland in 1842, and another was shot in Northumberland August 5, 1870. An inhabitant of North Africa and Spain, it was usually known as the "cow-bird" from its note being "cow," but it was also called "Rain-bird" because of its habit of calling a lot before rain. In habits it resembled our own cuckoo. In Spain it generally selected the magpie as fosterer for its progeny.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER moved a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Stanier for his very interesting and instructive address. They were all very fond of birds, he said, and he believed they were beginning to realise that birds were some of their best friends—that they did a great deal more good than they did harm—(hear, hear)—and although some singing birds were shot down mercilessly in certain parts of the country the idea was getting abroad that they ought to preserve them, with very few exceptions. Much of the information given them that afternoon had been new to him; although he had taken an interest in birds on this side of the Atlantic and on the other side, he had learned a great deal more than he knew before. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that was not the last lecture they would have on that or similar subjects, and that they would be able to persuade Mr. Stanier to come and tell them something more. (Hear,

hear.) They would never tire of hearing him, and when the notice of that paper got abroad he thought they would have a very much larger attendance next time, and a much larger hall would be required to hold the people who would come to hear. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. MORIARTY said, in seconding, that they were not only an Archaeological Society but a Natural History Society. He thought they almost lost sight in the *Transactions* of the fact that they were a Natural History Society; it rarely got referred to in any way whatever. (Laughter and hear, hear.)

The Rev. Prebendary AUDEN added his cordial support of the motion, and said Dr. Moriarty had hit a point they might very well hear in mind, viz., that they were a Natural History Society as well as an Archaeological Society, and he thought that afternoon Mr. Stanier had amply vindicated their claim to the title. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was carried with acclamation, and Mr. STANIER, in reply, said they knew his time was not occupied now with natural history, and he had not the leisure nor opportunity to watch birds and make notes as he used to do. But he still loved them and took an interest in them, and he hoped in some days to come when political life would allow him he would be able to go deeper into the subject. His object in giving that paper had been to try and show what a useful bird the cuckoo was, and to try and stop people taking its eggs, because if they went deeper into the feeding of the bird they would find it did an extraordinary amount of good in eating the caterpillars it lived on. If they watched they would always find the cuckoo most numerous in districts where there were most caterpillars. He had always noticed that. People remarked "There is no cuckoo in my district this time," and generally the explanation was that there were not many caterpillars in the district. He hoped people would take care of that bird, because he knew of no harm that it did, and he could vouch for the enormous amount of good. (Hear, hear)

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society took place on Wednesday, August 11th, 1909. The district chosen was that part of Herefordshire which in the 11th and 12th centuries was accounted part of Shropshire, and which to modern times was still in the Rural Deanery of Clun. The party numbered nearly 30, including Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., and the Misses Auden, Rev. W. G. Clark-Maxwell, F.S.A., and Mrs. Clark-Maxwell, Rev. O. M. Feilden, Rev. J. R. Burton and Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Wood-Acton.

Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, F.S.A., Rev. J. W. Lee and Mrs. Lee, Rev. R. Jowett Burton, Rev. S. A. Woolward, Miss Quick, Rev. G. R. Peak, Mr. W. E. Harding, Mr. J. Nurse, Rev. E. H. G. de Castro, Mr. T. F. Poole, and others.

The party met at Bucknell Station at 11.34, and proceeded at once in the carriages which were in waiting to Brampton Bryan Church, where the Rev. W. G. Clark-Maxwell gave a short sketch of its history.

BRAMPTON BRYAN CHURCH.

The former church of Brampton Bryan dates possibly from Saxon days, and the first entry in the earliest extant Register of Hereford Diocese in 1275 refers to the appointment of Robert de Lacy as Rector. But nothing whatever remains of the earlier building, which was dedicated to St. Barnabas¹, as it was burnt in 1643, during the seven weeks' siege of the Castle. It was rebuilt by Sir Robert Harley, and first used for public worship on December 10, 1656, the occasion of Sir Robert's funeral. Sir Robert was an ardent Puritan and before the troubles of the Civil War the living of Brampton Bryan had been held by a succession of notable men of his way of thinking. It is an interesting example of a parish church expressly constructed for Presbyterian or Independent worship, with no structural division of nave and chancel, and noticeable for its great proportionate breadth. The handsome and remarkable roof supported on oaken columns next the wall, has been said to have been taken from the Banqueting Hall of the Castle, but the details do not bear this out, and agree very well with the date 1656.² One only relic survives from the earlier church, the monumental effigy, supposed to be that of the heiress of the Bromptons, who brought the property to the Harley family.

BRAMPTON BRYAN CASTLE.

From the church a move was made to the ruins of the Castle, or rather the fortified Manor House, where the party were met by Mr. Shaw, who kindly had brought the earliest volume of the parish register with the entry of the burning of the "Towne" at the beginning of the siege, in July, 1643, and from which he read a number of interesting extracts. Mr. Clark-Maxwell then gave some account of Brampton Bryan and its Castle.

Brampton Bryan is stated in the Domesday for Shropshire, to be held under Mortimer of Wigmore,—and, owing to this, was, like other places in the neighbourhood, early drawn by

¹ Brampton Brian Fair, a noted local horse fair, is still held on "Old St. Barnabas' Day," *i.e.*, June 22nd, by the modern reckoning.

² The remains of the great Hall of the Castle show that its roof must have been of quite different construction.

them into the "Franchise of Wigmore," and eventually attached to the county of Hereford. Little is known of its early history: it was not a castle, in the strict sense of the term, as its duty of castle-guard was returnable at Wigmore; in a survey of 1295 it is described as "a tower."¹ About this time the line of the Bromptons ended in an heiress, Margaret de Brompton, who married Robert de Harley, a junior member of the Harleys of Harley, and henceforward the importance of the place increases, and successive additions seem to have been made to the building. At the Reformation, the Harleys were Romanists, though they were also "farmers" of the advowson of Clun, but Sir Robert Harley was one of the strongest Parliamentarians in the Civil War. The chief title to fame which Brampton Bryan Castle possesses is due to its heroic defence by Lady Brilliana, his wife, in the summer of 1643, lasting seven weeks. She was a daughter of Lord Conway, and born about 1600 at the Brill in Holland, to which circumstance she owes her peculiar name. She married Sir Robert in 1623, and in October, 1643, she died in consequence of the privations she had undergone. Her letters to her son Edward, at Oxford, have been published by the Camden Society. The Castle was besieged again in the early part of 1644, after Hopton Castle had been taken by the Royalists, and this time surrendered on April 17, after a siege of three weeks. The gateway of the house still stands, but the remaining ruins of the building surrounding a small inner courtyard are difficult to make out. There are traces of seven stair-cases, which seem to have led to a number of small rooms.

From Brampton Bryan the drive was continued to Leintwardine, where the party was met by the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Colvin, who kindly acted as guide to the fine church, and Mr. Clark-Maxwell gave some further particulars about the building.

LEINTWARDINE CHURCH.

This was originally the mother church of a large Saxon parish, which included Downton, Burriington and Aston, and perhaps more besides. The earliest feature now remaining, however, is a Norman doorway placed somewhat unsymmetrically in the West Wall. Internally a remarkable and impressive effect is produced by the elevation of the Chancel high above the nave, owing to the ground rising to the east. The large chapel to the North of the Chancel is peculiarly interesting, as being almost certainly the site of the Chantry, for which Roger Mortimer obtained licence to devote lands to support nine chaplains, December 15th, 1328; and on February 10, 1330, he obtained leave to assign the Rectory of Stretton for the maintenance of the chaplains, now increased to ten: but his

¹ See *Transactions*, x. 32.

execution the same year probably upset all these arrangements. The scheme appears to have been carried out by Wigmore Abbey, though probably on a smaller scale; and one of the charges made against Bishop John Smart, last Abbot but one of that house, was that he had neglected the annual sermon he should have delivered in this place, and had also stripped a certain image of our Lady of silver plate of the value of £40, which he converted to his own use. In 1535 the value of this chantry is put at £5 per annum. The handsome choir stalls with quaintly carved "misericordes," which are said to have been brought from Wigmore Abbey, are more probably part of the furniture of the Mortimer Chantry.

Bishop Swinfield, on his visit in 1289, made a present of twelve pence to the " anchoress " or recluse at Leintwardine.

ROMAN LEINTWARDINE.

Leaving the Church, Mr. Colvin showed the line of what was probably the corner of the earthen rampart that surrounded the old Roman Station, on the site of which the Saxon village of Leintwardine was placed.

Leintwardine was the Roman BRAVINIUM, the first station southward on that branch of Watling Street which leads from Wroxeter to Caerleon. Whatever view may be taken of the claim of Coxwall Knoll to be the scene of Caractacus' fight, it is pretty certain that the camps on this line were built to reduce the Silures in A.D. 52. The Camp on Brandon Hill was probably the first post occupied, and the settlement at Leintwardine itself a little later. It presents all the features of the situations which the Romans chose by preference for their stations, and the N.W. angle of the *Vallum* is fairly well preserved. A few antiquities have been picked up, but not as many as might have been expected. Coins are not infrequently turned up, and digging reveals layers of ashes and burnt material some 4 or 5 feet below the present surface of the ground.

WIGMORE ABBEY.

The next point on the programme was Wigmore Grange, the site of the important Abbey of Austin Canons, which had great possessions in Shropshire. Here, Mr. Clark-Maxwell pointed out the remains of the former buildings.

The first foundation of the house of Austin Canons of Wigmore Abbey was made in the reign of Stephen, by Oliver de Merlymond, seneschal to Hugh de Mortimer. Their first settlement was at Shobdon, which they left on account of the want of water, moving to Aymestrey, whence in turn they were ejected for strategic reasons by Mortimer, who placed them at Wigmore itself. The lack of water, however, and the rude

oaths of the soldiery, however, drove them to look for a fresh resting place, which they finally found at the present spot: the building being sufficiently advanced for consecration by St. James' Day, 1179. The subsequent history of the house is as scanty as usual; the reputation of the canons for discipline was bad. Bishops had to rebuke the house severely, Swinfield in 1287, Orleton in 1318, and Trilleck in 1354. A specimen of what Orleton found may be given. The Bishop visited Wigmore in December, 1318. He found the state of things even worse than had been represented; the refectory was open at all times, and to all comers,—the members of the convent, together with their friends from outside, coming into carouse at whatever hour they chose; and after grumbling at the food, they either stayed on in the refectory or went in little groups to other rooms to drink. Some had their relatives and friends for indefinite periods as guests of the Monastery. Others again pleading illness, but not going to the infirmary, had their meals served apart. Women frequented the abbey and joined in these revels. On various feigned excuses, the Canons regularly absented themselves from the services of the Church, and omitted to say their masses. Instead of the silence which should be kept in Church, cell, refectory and dormitory, shameful oaths could be heard everywhere. Beyond the abbey doors, which would seem to have stood continually open, the Canons trafficked like laymen in horses, pigs, sheep and greyhounds. The Bishop acted with vigour and sternness; he deposed the abbot, exiled two canons and appointed a fresh head of the Monastery.¹

The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* gives the gross income as £302, net £201. It was surrendered on November 18, 1538, containing then the abbot, John Skypp, Titular Bishop of Pavada, and ten canons. The site was granted in the second year of Edward VI to Sir Thomas Palmer.

Dugdale says:—"In the Abbey Church of Wigmore many of the Mortimers were buried, and among them five Earls of March, all of whose monuments were destroyed at the Dissolution, together with the building itself to the bare walls." The present remains include a small part of the North wall of the Nave, and the greater part of the South wall with part of the south transept; excavations, however, recently made show that there was a magnificent choir of later work, making a church about 300 feet long in all. The gate-house still remains, and is an interesting specimen of 15th century work, stone below and timber above, as well as part of what seems to have belonged to the Cellarer's lodging of even later date. There are many beautiful fragments of the original 12th century work

¹ Orleton Register (Cantilupe Society), p. xvi.

scattered about. The Abbey Barn was accidentally burnt in 1890. It seems to have been a timber framed building of 14th century date; and an illustration of it is given in Wright's *History of Ludlow*. Many interesting fragments are built into the present house, or are preserved in the garden. The party were received, in the absence of Mr. Green, by his son and daughter. After returning thanks for Mr. Green's kind permission to see the Abbey, a move was made to the village of Wigmore.

WIGMORE CHURCH.

Here, the Vicar, the Rev. W. Bamford, and Mrs. Bamford, received the party, and guided them over the church, an interesting building of various dates, standing high above the surrounding country. There is some fine herring-bone masonry in the north wall, but it seems to be less early than is often thought, as, if it is earlier than the original Norman nave, that must have been of very unusual height and width. The Mortimers were great benefactors to the church, and founded more than one chantry in it. There seems to have been, as might be expected, a large rood loft across the chancel arch, as it contained an altar, the piscina of which remains in the south wall; and a large squint-opening from the south aisle was needed to give light to the altar that stood beneath the rood loft, or perhaps to light its stairs. Mr. Bamford having pointed out some of the chief features of interest, including the base of the old cross, said to have been moved from the village to its present position, those of the party who were not obliged to catch the 6.2 train at Ludlow walked up to the castle ruins.

WIGMORE CASTLE.

The scanty remains of what was in its day one of the most notable fortresses of the Welsh border stand on the ridge above the village. The gateway and surrounding wall and the keep on its precipitous mound still remain, but all traces of roofs and floors have perished.

Here a paper was read by the Rev. Prebendary Auden on the historical associations of the building, which will be found printed in another part of the present volume of *Transactions*.

Leaving the Castle ruins, the party dispersed in the village for tea, and some of them visited the interesting little local museum, gathered together by the energy of Mrs. Bamford, the profits of the admission to which are devoted to the fund for the repair of the nave roof, which is becoming a matter of urgent necessity.

From Wigmore the party drove to Ludlow through eight miles of most beautiful country, visiting on the way the little church of Aston, with its very fine Norman tympanum, and a view of Ludlow in the evening sunlight closed a very enjoyable and interesting day.

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

October 14th, 1908—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

Mr George Woolley, Corve Street, Ludlow, was elected a member of the Society.

It was resolved that the best thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. W. H. St. John Hope for his most interesting description of Ludlow Church and Castle on the occasion of the Annual Excursion of this Society.

A letter was read from Miss Plum, Malins Lee Hall, asking the Council to provide barbed wire for the protection of the old Church at Malins Lee.

It was reported that Sir Otley Wakeman had promised to purchase, for the Free Library and Museum at Shrewsbury, the late Mr. James Coleman's collection of Deeds relating to Shropshire, at a cost of £50.

November 11th, 1908—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

Mr. R. R. James, F.R.C.S., of 119, Oxford Street, W., was elected a member of the Society.

It was decided to make a grant of fifteen shillings towards the cost of barbed wire fencing around Malins Lee Chapel.

The Chairman reported that a dug-out canoe found at Marton Pool had been presented to the Shrewsbury Museum.

The thanks of the Council were given to Miss Owen for her trouble in copying and translating Anglo-Saxon MSS. at the British Museum.

The printers' account for printing Part 1 of Vol. VIII. of the *Transactions* was again considered, and a member of the Council undertook to examine it with the estimate of May, 1900, and report to the next meeting.

December 9th, 1908—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

The following new members were elected:—Mr. W. F. Beddoes, J.P., Minton, Church Stretton; and The Shrewsbury School Library.

The printers' account for printing Parts 1 & 2 of Vol. VIII. was laid on the table. It was reported that the account was correct so far as the number and price per sheet was concerned, but that the charge for extras appeared to be too heavy.

The Chairman promised to ask the authorities at the British Museum for advice as to what steps should be taken to preserve the dug-out canoe recently placed in the Shrewsbury Museum.

A letter was read from Rev. D. H. S. Cranage, F.S.A., calling attention to the state of Langley Chapel, and suggesting that a small charge be made to the public for admission, which should defray the cost of printing a guide, the balance going to the caretaker as payment for his trouble.

A letter was read from the Royal Institute of British Architects, asking the Council's assistance in preparing a list of buildings in the County suitable for study by Architectural Students.

January 13th, 1909—Rev. C. H. Drinkwater in the chair.

E. M. White, Esq., M.D., of Betley House, Bayston Hill, was elected a member of the Society.

A letter was read from the printers, stating that they were making some reduction in their charges for the future. The Chairman was requested to ask them to specify exactly the reductions they purposed making.

The use of the plan of St. Chad's crypt, which had appeared in the *Transactions*, was granted to the Rev. D. H. S. Cranage, F.S.A., for his work on the Churches of Shropshire.

The following resolution, proposed by the Chairman, was carried unanimously, and a copy was ordered to be sent to the Rev. A. H. Thursby-Pelham, of Upton Magna :—

“The Council of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society desire to record their sense of the loss which the study of archæology in the county has sustained by the death of their colleague, Rev. A. Thursby-Pelham. Connected with Shropshire by ties of ancestry and family associations, his interest in its history was life-long, and only ended with his death. When the Society was re-constituted, in 1877, his name readily suggested itself for election on the new Council, and he continued to occupy that position as long as he lived. His colleagues will miss him in carrying on the work of the Society; and they desire to add their sympathy with the members of his family in the more personal sorrow which has fallen on them.”

February 10th, 1909—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

A letter was read from Rev. A. H. Thursby-Pelham, thanking the Council for the vote of sympathy on the death of his father.

The question of reducing the cost of printing was again considered.

March 10th, 1909—Rev. C. H. Drinkwater in the Chair.

The accounts for 1908 were laid on the table, and preliminary arrangements were made for the Annual General Meeting.

April 14th, 1909—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

The following new members of the Society were elected :—Rev. Prebendary A. H. Talbot, M.A., Edgmond Rectory, Newport, Salop; Daniel Jones, Esq., J.P., F.G.S., The Blue House, Albrighton, Wolverhampton; the Manchester Free Library.

A letter was read from Rev. E. Parry, Vicar of Malins Lee, calling attention to the need of repairs at Malins Lee Chapel. The Chairman promised to enquire whether there was any prospect of re-opening the chapel for Divine service.

May 12th, 1909—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

Mrs. Wood-Acton, of Acton Scott, Church Stretton, was elected a member of the Society.

A letter was read from Rev. E. Parry, stating that the chapel at Malins Lee would probably be re-opened for public worship, and asking for advice as to the restoration. The matter was left in the hands of the Chairman, who promised to visit and report.

The Annual General Meeting was fixed for June 5th. Mr. Beville Stanier, M.P., had promised to preside and read a paper.

The Annual Excursion was fixed for August 11th, in the district of Brampton Brian, Leintwardine, and Wigmore, the details being left in the hands of the Chairman and the Rev. W. G. Clark-Maxwell, F.S.A.

The sum of £5 was granted for copying MSS. at the Record Office for the *Transactions*, the work to be spread, if possible, over two years.

It was decided to issue a copy of Mr. W. H. St. John Hope's 'Ludlow Castle' to each member of the Society instead of part 3 of the current volume of the *Transactions*, provided that a sufficient number of copies could be obtained from the Society of Antiquaries.

June 5th, 1909—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A., in the Chair.

Mr. W. Medlicott, Wilmcote, Craven Arms, was elected a member of the Society.

It was reported that not more than 25 copies of Mr. Hope's paper on "Ludlow Castle" could be obtained for the use of members.

The draft Report of the Council for the General Meeting was read and approved.

July 14th, 1909—Rev. C. H. Drinkwater in the Chair.

1,000 copies of Mr. Fox's *Guide to Uriconium* were ordered to be printed.

Several matters connected with the Excursion were considered.

Attention was called to letters which appeared in the *Standard*, from Lord Barnard and others, as to the advisability of resuming

the excavations at Uriconium, as well as excavating Sarum and Verulamium.

Lord Barnard's letter is as follows:—

“ To the Editor of *The Standard*.

“ Sir,—I am very glad to see that your correspondent, ‘An Antiquary,’ has drawn attention to the fact that, although it is proposed to excavate the Roman remains of Sarum and Verulamium, no further progress appears to be contemplated at Uriconium, on my estate in Shropshire.

“ A few years ago arrangements were made by the Shropshire Archæological Society (of which I have the honour to be president) and the Society of Antiquaries for extensive, systematic, and exhaustive excavation of these most interesting remains, of which considerable fragments are visible and accessible to the public. Money was raised and arrangements were made with my agricultural tenants as to the manner and the terms on which the work should be carried on. Unfortunately, various circumstances at the time, and, as I understood, the unfinished state of the excavation at Silchester, rendered it necessary to suspend the Uriconium undertaking.

“ I earnestly hope that those interested in Roman remains in this country will use their best endeavours to ensure that Uriconium, as well as Sarum and Verulamium shall be included in any scheme which may at present be under consideration. I am not aware under whose auspices the excavation referred to by ‘An Antiquary’ is to be undertaken, but, so far as I know, no proposition on the subject has been laid before my agent or before the Shropshire Archæological Society.

“ I am, faithfully yours,

“ Raby Castle, Darlington.”

“ BARNARD.”

September 8th, 1909—Rev. Prebendary Auden, F.S.A, in the Chair.

The Rev. R. D. Machen, M.A., of Clun Vicarage, was elected a member of the Society.

The Chairman reported the steps taken as to the proposed excavations at Uriconium, and read two letters on the subject from Lord Barnard. It was agreed to bring the matter formally before the Society of Antiquaries when their meetings are resumed in November next.

It was reported that the numbers on the iron posts at Uriconium had been nearly obliterated by the wet, and needed re painting. The Revds. C. H. Drinkwater and W. G. D. Fletcher were appointed a sub-committee, to arrange for the necessary renewal being carried out.

The Cotteswold Naturalists Field Club asked for an exchange of Transactions. It was decided that enquiries be made as to the publications of the Field Club, before an exchange is agreed upon.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

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 The Mayor of Shrewsbury } during their year of office.
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SHROPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Statement of Accounts for the year 1908.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s. d.
To Members' Subscriptions...	170	1 0
" Sale of <i>Transactions</i> ...	1	1 0
" Sale of <i>Guide to Uriconium</i> ...	7	16 8
" Donation from Mrs. Baldwin-Childe ...	5	0 0
" Balance due to Bankers, 31st December, 1908	14	6 1

£198 4 9

EXPENDITURE.

By Balance overdrawn, January 1st, 1908 ..	28	7 10
" Messrs. Woodall, Minshall, Thomas & Co., for Printing <i>Transactions</i> ...	100	0 0
" Messrs. Adnitt & Naunton ...	30	19 7
" Salary of Assistant Secretary ...	5	0 0
" Wroxeter: Rent, Rates, Tithe, &c. ...	5	11 2
" Editorial Committee, Postage Stamps, and Carriage of Parcels ..	1	0 0
" Postage Stamps, General Correspondence, Calling Meetings, Collecting Subscriptions, &c. ...	2	15 0
" Railway Carriage and Postage of <i>Transactions</i> ...	7	0 8
" (Commission ...)	8	10 0
" Fee for Indexing Vol. VIII., 3rd Series, of the <i>Transactions</i> ...	2	2 0
" Subscriptions to Congress of Archaeological Societies ...	1	0 0
" Engraving Blocks for History of Church Bells ...	2	10 0
" Expenses in connection with Annual Excursion and General Meeting ...	0	10 0
" Index of Archaeological Papers 1907) ...	1	2 6
" Copying MSS. at British Museum ...	1	1 0
" Grant in Aid of Repairs of Fencing Malinslee Chapel ...	0	15 0
	£198	4 9

19th March, 1909.

Examined with Vouchers and
found correct.

(Signed) W. W. NAUNTON,
Auditor

THE CHURCH BELLS OF SHROPSHIRE. VII.

BY H. B. WALTERS, M.A., F.S.A.

DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD.

(ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP).

(Continued from 3rd Series, Vol. VIII., p. 38.)

6. DEANERY OF WEM.

ALBRIGHTON. ST. JOHN BAPTIST. One bell.

1. WILLIAM IONES & THOMAS MALL C W 1710
A : R

In an open gable-cot of brick; chimed by lever. Inspected through glasses, 21 Oct., 1902; everything is certain except the stamp at the end, which is indistinct, and may be either a bell or a bit of ornament. Diameter about 20 in.

ASTLEY. ST. MARY. One bell.

1. *No inscription; probably 13th century.* (20 in.)

A long-waisted bell, with narrow double band round shoulder, and the same on sound-bow; the clapper terminates in a bottle-shaped "flight" like those of the bells at Ratlinghope.

No bell-chamber; bell hung in a small frame over the clock, which is very old, and according to tradition, came from St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. It would, however, be rash to attempt to identify it with Falstaff's "Shrewsbury clock"!

Browne Willis wrongly gives Astley among the places with Rudhall bells; possibly he means Albrighton. In 1800 the bell hung in a wooden turret (Parkes MS.).

BROUGHTON. ST. MARY. Two bells.

1. + O AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA DOMINVS
CECVM (22½ in.)

2. THO: COTTON HVGH EDWARDS CH WARDENS
 1719  A  R  (25 in.)

Broughton is a signal instance of the danger of trusting to outside information. As I had been confidently assured that "there was nothing of interest up there," in fact, that the bells were certainly re-cast when the church was built in 1858—I am not sure that this statement has not got into print!—the results of personal investigation, as recorded above, were the more satisfactory.

The bells hang in an open wooden turret with floor of lead, placed diagonally; the clappers are tied, and there is an odd arrangement of levers, with hammers striking on the upper part.

The smaller bell is similar to those at Acton Scott and Onibury (see Plate IX., Figs. 8, 9, 11); the first letter *may* be a Q, but O seems a more satisfactory reading. The cannons are broken.

Larger bell by Abraham Rudhall; smallest type; border Fig. 2.

24 May [1549]: 'Remayning . . . two smale belles.'

23 Aug., 1552. No mention of bells.

1740: '2 Bells, one Rudhall.'

It is curious that to such an antiquary as Browne Willis the Rudhall bell should have seemed the more worthy of mention.

Many thanks to Mr. S. M. Nevett, of Yorton Villa, for kindly providing the necessary ladders.

CLIVE.

ALL SAINTS.

Six bells.

1. FRANK	AD PATRAM	(34 ¹ / ₂ in.)
2. JAMES & THOMAS COOK	DOMINI NOSTRI	(38 ¹ / ₂ in.)
3. AGNES JESSIE & GERTRUDA	IHSV ANRISTI	(38 ¹ / ₂ in.)
4. FRANCIS & SARAH	EX QVO NOMIN	(41 ¹ / ₂ in.)
	[AGVR	(41 ¹ / ₂ in.)
5. SARAH	IN COELIS AT	(45 ¹ / ₂ in.)
	[IN TERRA	(45 ¹ / ₂ in.)
6. JAMES JANKINSON	OMNIS PATR	(51 ¹ / ₂ in.)
	[NICAS	(51 ¹ / ₂ in.)

On the waist: --JOHANNES TAYLOR

FECIT A.D. 1894.

The beautiful Gothic lettering which Messrs. Taylor have placed on these six bells is copied from a well-known group of bells in Lincolnshire, dating about 1420--1430 (see North's *Church Bells of Lincolnshire*, p. 79 ff). They have also used it on their bells at Worcester Cathedral. Each letter is elaborately ornamented, as will be seen by a reference to North's plates.

The names on the different bells are those of the family of Mr. Bibby of Sansaw, who gave the ring, and placed his own name on the tenor. On the opposite side to the name on each bell is a portion of the text *Eph.* iii. 15.

The bells are in perfect order, hung with curved iron stocks and no cannons, in Taylor's modern iron frames. The weights are:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
(1)	6	3	25	(4)	12	2	16
(2)	8	2	23	(5)	17	0	16
(3)	11	0	9	(6)	25	0	9.

Note of tenor, E flat.

1552: 'The chapele of the Cleue. Item on belle.'

1740: 'Clive capella 7 bells.'

Down to about 1855 there was one large bell, said to have been obtained from St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. This was succeeded by two small ones, which are said to have been sold for hand-bells by the architect of the present tower (Mr. Ferguson of Carlisle).

There was formerly only a turret here (see a drawing in the Parkes MSS., Brit. Mus. Add. 21,010).

The new bells were dedicated on All Saints' Day, 1894, as is stated on a board in the ringing-chamber, which also gives the inscriptions. On another board are the names of the ringers

See *Bell News*, 1895, p. 561.

The bells are rung or chimed on Sundays.

Best thanks to Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough for information.

EDSTASTON.

ST. MARY.

Two bells.

1. J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1854.

On waist:—Royal Arms, and PATENT. (19½ in.)

2. HE THAT GIVETH TO THE POORE LENDETH TO THE LORD 1681

(20½ in.)

Hung with wheels in a double open gable-cot at west end; angular cannons to smaller bell. The larger is by Thomas Roberts of Shrewsbury; the bell at Berwick Chapel, near Shrewsbury, is of the same date and has the same inscription. In 1812 the church had a wooden box-turret, as may be seen from Parkes' drawing. Down to 1854, the year in which it was restored, there was only the one bell. I am much indebted to the Vicar, Rev. F. T. Purcell, for affording facilities for access to these bells, and other kindnesses.

The following extracts from the Churchwardens' Accounts of Wem (from which parish Edstaston was only separated in 1850) have been published by the late Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. Vane in the *Transactions* for 1904 (3rd Ser., IV. 240 ff.):—

1685	p ^d for y ^e founding of y ^e bell for Edstaston	...	£6
	Repaid Thos. Hill Esq. for y ^e bell at Edstaston		
	Chappell	... ..	£1
1698	paide for a tilter for y ^e Chappill Bell	...	0 0 6

As the bell was cast in 1681, there appears to have been no hurry to pay the founder, at least on the part of the Churchwardens!

Ringing on Christmas Day and on New Year's Eve from 11-45 to 12-15.

GRINSHILL. ALL SAINTS. One bell.

1. **VICKERS SNOS & CO LIMD SHEFFIELD 1872**
PATENT CAST STEEL 5674 (24½ in.)

Bell very rusty; wheels and all fittings of iron; circular cap in place of cannons, and curved stock. The tower is just like a chimney, except that dust and birds' refuse take the place of soot. It is possible to squeeze up, with the aid of three ladders, though the middle one has to be content with a very slight support.

Many thanks to Rev. J. Wright, Vicar, for assistance.

23 May [1549]: 'GRYNSELL. Remaying . . . ij smale bells.'

23 Aug., 1552: 'It. ij small' bellis.'

1752: '3 Bells' (probably an error).

Browne Willis in his list of Rudhall bells gives two under Grinshill. These two remained until 1872, when they were re-cast into the present inelegant object.

Formerly only a turret here (see drawing by Parkes, Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21,010).

HADNALL. ST. MARY MAGDALENE. One bell.

1. 1695 (19¾ in.)

Tower under restoration and bell down on floor at the time of my visit (21 Oct., 1902). An additional set of tubular "bells" has since been presented by Mr. and Mrs. Bibby, but the old bell is preserved for tolling purposes, and for the clock. It is by Ellis Hughes of Shrewsbury (see *Bye-Gones*, 8 Jan., 1908); cf. also the treble at Norbury, Staffs. (Lynam, pl. 101) for similar date figures.

22 Aug., 1552: 'Fyrst ij byllys It. a lytyll bell.'

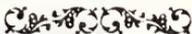
23 May, 1553: 'HADNOLL. Remaying . . . too smale belles.'

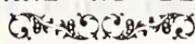
In 1800 the bell hung in a wooden turret (Parkes' MS).

Best thanks to Rev. B. C. Mortimer, Vicar.

LEE BROCKHURST. ST. PETER. Two bells.

1. *No inscription.*

2. COME AWAY MAKE NO DELAY 

A  R 1721 

Hung in two arches of a gable-turret; the smaller is long-waisted, with a beading round the shoulder, and probably mediæval. The

inscription on the larger and the dimensions of both are given in *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, v. (1882), p. 132, having probably been taken when the bells were on the ground, that being the date of the turret. The former I verified through glasses as correct; the smaller bell is given as 13½ in. high, with diam. 16 in., the larger, 21½ in. high, with diam. 17½ in.¹ The larger bell is, of course, by Abraham Rudhall; border, Fig. 2.

3 May, 1553: 'LEE UNDER BROCHURST. Two bells.'

LOPPINGTON. ST. MICHAEL. Three bells.

1. I PEMBERTON & E. HAMPSON CHURCH
WARDENS 1787    (31¼ in.

2.  GLORIA ++++++ IN ++++++
+++++ EXCELSIS ++++++
DEO

1	6	2	4
---	---	---	---

 (34⅞ in.



3.  CANTATE DOMENO CANTICVM
NOVIM

1	6	0	5
---	---	---	---

 (37 in.

1st: by John Rudhall; cf. Pulverbatch 1st. Border, Fig. 1.

2nd and 3rd: by William Clibury; the 3rd is one of his earliest bells; letters on 3rd thinner than on 2nd. Cross on 2nd, Plate XII, Fig. 1; border, Plate XIII, Fig. 2; cross on 3rd, Plate V., Fig. 1.

Re-hung by Carr in 1895 with new wheels and stocks.

[1549]: 'LOPINGTON. iij belles of one accorde.'

9 May, 1553: 'Three bells of a cord, with a sanctus bell'

1740 and 1752: '3 bells.'

Inscriptions given in Brit. Mus. Add. MS. 21,236.

MORETON CORBET. ST. BARTHOLOMEW. Six bells.

1. THE REV^D G QICKEN MINISTER. JOHN RUD-
HALL FEC^T 1808 . . . (26¼ in.

¹ These dimensions hardly seem to be correct.

2. **ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R LORD OF THE MANOR**
 GAVE ME 1782 
Below :—**CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT**
 (27½ in.)
3. *The same to date ; then same pattern, followed by stamp of eagles and crown.*
Below :—*The same, followed by pattern as before.* (29 in.)
4. **CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782**
 (31 in.)
5. **JOHN RUDHALL GLOCESTER FEC^T 1808** 
 (33 in.)
6. **THE GIFT OF ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R LORD OF**
THIS MANOR (*eagles and crown*) **CHAPMAN &**
MEARS LONDON FECERUNT 1782 (35 in.)

Bells untidy and dirty; clappers tied. The 1st and 5th have cabled cannons. On the 3rd and 6th is an ornament representing a crown between two eagles, also found at Great Yeldham, Essex (Deedes and Walters, *Church Bells of Essex*, pl. 33, fig. 6).

Bells by Chapman and Mears are rare; they were only in partnership two or three years. The tenor weighs 8 or 9 cwt., note A.

Border on 5th, Fig. 1.

3 May, 1553: 'ij belles one sacarynge bell . . . beyng at the p'sent remaying w^hin the p'yshe church & steapull of Moreton Corbet.'

1740: '1 bell.'

1752: '2 bells.'

In the Williams MSS. (Brit. Mus. Add. 21,236) five bells are given (previous to 1808); the inscription on the old 4th, re-cast in 1808, was the same as on the present 2nd as far as the date.

See *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, v., p. 62.

Andrew Corbet was a member of the well-known Shropshire family who owned Moreton Corbet for so many generations; some account of them is given in these *Transactions*, VII. (1884), p. 323 ff. He was born in 1720, and died unmarried in 1796. The baronetcy was in abeyance from 1688 to 1808.

On Sundays chime for 15 minutes, followed by two bells for five minutes, tenor for five, and treble for five.

No other customs; the bells have not been rung for some years, but do not need much to put them in order.

Thanks to Rev. J. R. Legh, Rector.

At Preston Brockhurst Hall in this parish there is said to be a bell on the gable of a granary inscribed A S R T C W 1564. It is evidently from some church, but I doubt the correctness of the date. I have been unable to ascertain whether the bell still exists. See *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, v, p. 132.

MYDDLE.

ST. PETER.

Three bells.

1. M^R EDWARD HAMNOR: M^R ADAM DOWNES
C^H: WARDENS: 1715: (30 in.
2. ✱ PECRVS APOSTOLVS EC PAVELVS
DOCTOR GEDCIVM (32½ in.
3. ✠ CAETEROS | VOCO | IPSE | NON | INTRO
RICH | GOVGHE | WILL | FORMESTON

Below:—

C | W

116 | 618

(35½ in.

Pits for five; clappers tied; clock strikes on tenor. Spiral iron stays from stock to wheel; frames in good order. Treble has cabled cannons; side-cannons of 2nd gone, and an iron bolt screwed into the crown each side. The bells cannot be rung, the 3rd being out of order.

Treble by Abraham Rudhall.

2nd: by the same founder as Hope Bowdler 1st and Shrawardine. For cross and lettering see Plate X., Figs. 3-6. The inscription is unique and original.

3rd: by Thomas Clibury; cross, Plate XVIII., Fig. 4; usual small thick letters. Here again is a good original inscription. This bell is interesting for another reason, the Richard Gough who is mentioned thereon being the well-known author of the *History of Myddle*, written in 1700-01. He spent the whole of his long life (1634-1723) in the parish, and lived at Newton-on-the-Hill. The sixth Richard of the family, he married Johan, daughter of William Wood of Peplow, by whom he had a family of eight. See his *History*, p. 105. He probably composed the inscription for the 3rd bell, being fond of such quaint conceits.

William Furnmeston, his colleague, is also mentioned in the *History*, p. 68. He was the third son of Thomas Furnmeston, and married Alice, daughter of Robert Jukes, a tenant of the Earl of Bridgwater, whose cottage thus came to him. In 1700 his family was almost extinct. Edward Hamnor, or Hamnor (see treble) was one of the Hammers of Marton.

9 May, 1553: 'MYDELL. Three bells and a sanctus bell.'
1740 and 1752: '3 bells.'

See also Brit. Mus. Add MSS. 21,236; George Morris MSS.; Hartshorne, *Salopia Antiqua*, p. 590; *Bye-Gones*, 22 Jan., 1873, p. 126; Hare, p. 194, who speaks of the 2nd as "the bell"; *Transactions*, IX. (1886), p. 236, and 2nd Ser. VII. (1895), p. ix.
Many thanks to the late Rev. G. H. Egerton, Rector.

The following entries in the Churchwardens' Accounts are taken from the *Transactions*, IX. (1886), p. 231:—

1652.	It paid to Richard Clarke for stocking ye three bells	14 ^s	
	It. paid to Richard Clarke for mending the brase of y ^e litell bell & for a lace to y ^e clocke	1 ^s	
1656.	To Bat. Mancell for 2 baltrockes & a hinge	2 ^s	6 ^d
1657-58.	For mending the Bells	1 ^s	
1659-60.	For baltrockes for the bells	3 ^s	6 ^d
	To Allen Challener for mending the bell wheles & hammer	1 ^s	
166 -62.	To Tho. Hayghway for iron work about the bells	1 ^s	
1663-64.	Spent on workmen that came to take the making of the Bell wheels	1 ^s	
	Spent at taking down the three bells	1 ^s	6 ^d
	To Henry Maddox for making the bell wheels	£2	10 0
	To Henry Maddox for a stock for the first bell	3 ^s	8 ^d
	For the smithes work at the bells	£1	0 0
	For the Brasses of the Bells	£1	0 0
	Nayles for the bell wheels	5 ⁿ	8 ^d
	For two Belropes	7 ⁿ	
	For Ale for the workmen for hanging the bells	2 ^s	
1667.	Paide to Rich. Madox & severall others for taking down the bell to fasten y ^e gudgin in y ^e stock	2 ^s	6 ^d
1668.	To the Ringers on the coronac'on day	3 ^s	
	Laid out in proping up the roof of the steeple for makeing the scaffoldes & timber worke about the steple & takeinge down the bells	£2	10 0
	For stocking the second bell & for tow gudgeons	4 ⁿ	4 ^d
	For the Bell founders charges & his man when he came to take the tune of the Bell	5 ^s	4 ^d
	For a dinner for him his wife & servants att casteing the Bell which they claime as a custome	8 ^s	

For ale to the workemen which they claime					
as a custome	...	...	..	12 ^s	6 ^d
For casteing the Bell	...	..	...£	12	0
For over metle	...	...	..	£4	10
The Bell founders charges & his 2 men att					
hangeing the bell	...	...	...	6 ^s	
Carrying the Bell to Wellington & fetching					
itt backe...	...	...	... £	1	0 ^s 0 ^d

NEWTOWN. KING CHARLES THE MARTYR. One bell + 6 hemispherical.

1. *No inscription.*

The old bell, which is said to be the original one of the church (first built about 1660¹), hangs in the apex of the open gable-cot, and is quite inaccessible. It is not even possible to see from below whether it bears any inscription, but it is very small, and does not look very old. The six hemispherical bells are ranged in a row below it overlapping one another; on the rim of each is inscribed

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1889

They resemble nothing so much as six washing-bowls set up on edge. The old bell is still used as a "ting-tang" and for occasions when only tolling is required.

The late Vicar kindly informed me that the hemispherical bells were put up by subscription when the turret was re-built in 1889. There is a set of verses in existence telling how before the nineteenth century the bell was hung in a fir tree still standing, there being no turret till about the year 1800.

They run as follows:—

Verse 8 " But the old bell of Newtown
Must not forgotten be :
In earliest days of Newtown church
'Twas hung within a tree !
Now raised above the others,
It holds the highest place,
And first gives out its welcome
To God's own House of Grace."

9 " And when the mourners gather
To lay their blessed dead
Where the tall ancient Pine Tree
Aloft doth raise its head,

¹ Garbet, *Hist. of Wem*, p. 314, says after the end of the Civil War Parkes (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21,180) says it was consecrated in 1663. The present church was built in 1868.

The old Bell tolling slowly
 Shall calm each heart oppressed
 With thought of the dear country
 Where those they love are blessed."

M. R. S.

Many thanks to Rev. H. K. Hope, formerly Vicar, and Rev. H. P. Lee, his successor.

PRESTON GOBALDS. ST. MARTIN. One bell.

1. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD  1720

 A  R  (21 in.)

By Abraham Rudhall: smallest type of lettering; border, fig. 2. Hung (without wheel) in frame in corner of first stage of tower.

16 Aug., 1552: 'P'STON GOBBL ij lytyll bells.'

24 May, 1553: 'Remaynyng ij lytyll bells.'

1740: '2 Bells.' 1752: '1 Bell.'

About 1800 the bell hung in a turret (cf drawing in Parkes MSS.).

SHAWBURY. ST. MARY THE VIRGIN. Six bells.

1. ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R SHAWBURY PARKE

 1774 

(2nd line):—ROBERT HARRISON IOHN PITCH-
 FORD CH-WARDENS  (28½ in.)

2. M^R ROBERT PAYNE  A:R:  1705

 (30¼ in.)

3. IO^{HN} CHARLTON ESQ^R BENEFACTOR &

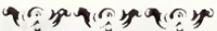
OTHERS 1705 A  R  

(32½ in.)

4. IOH^N CHARLTON: OF APPLEY CASTLE · ESQ^R ·

& · HIS ANCEST^S GAVE TO  (33½ in.)

5. IAMES STILLINGFLEET VICAR  1774 

 T  R  (37 in.)

6. IOH^N ETHERINGTON VICAR GOD SAVE THE

CHVRCH  · RICH · CORBET ESQ 

(2nd line):—W^M WOOD GE^N^R: M^R RALPH PAYNE

CHVRCH WARDENS 1705  A R 

  42 in.

1st: E of ANDREW incised, as is the A of Vicar on the 5th.

Borders, Fig. 1 throughout, except for Fig. 3 on 3rd and a bit of the same on 6th.

Inscription on 4th apparently incomplete, but may have run on to the old 5th, subsequently re-cast.

Bells out of order, and have not been rung for some years; some wheels new or repaired; first and third have ornamented cannons; cannons off the 4th, which is badly cracked; on its stock is the date 850. Tenor weighs 1 cwt., note G; said to have a very good tone.

The Blakeway MSS. in the Bodleian mention the re-casting of the bells at Wellington in 1647, and "much expense in getting them up again" (*Transactions*, VII. 1884, p. 306). In 705 these were replaced by five by Rudhall, of which the 4th was re-cast and a treble added in 1774.

1740: '5 & a s^d bell 1700.'

1752: '5 bells.'

See also *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, v., p. 60.

Andrew Corbet (see treble) gave three bells to Moreton Corbet (*q.v.*). Richard Corbet (see tenor) succeeded his father Richard in the Moreton estates in 1690; he married Judith, daughter of Sir John Bridgeman, and died in 1718.

STANTON-ON-HINE-HEATH. ST. ANDREW. Six bells.

1 **C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1853** (26 in.

2. *The same.* (27 in.

3. *The same.* (28½ in.

4. *The same.* (30½ in.

5. *The same.*

On waist:—**SIR ANDREW VINCENT CORBET BART**
DONO DEDIT AUGUST 10TH 1853 (32 in.

6. *The same.*

On waist:—**THE RIGHT HON LORD VISCOUNT HILL**
DONO DEDIT AUGUST 10TH 1853 (36 in.

Belfry dirty and untidy, but bells in good repair.

Weights and notes of bells:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.			
(1)	4	:	0	:	5	F sharp.
(2)	4	:	1	:	10	E.
(3)	4	:	3	:	20	D.

(1)	5	:	2	:	0	C sharp.
(5)	6	:	1	:	10	B.
(6)	8	:	0	:	3	A.
	33	:	0	:	20	

The five old bells weighed 27 cwt 2 qrs. 15 lbs.

3 May, 1553: 'STAWNTON Three great bells and one small bell.
1740 and 1752: '4 bells.'

I am indebted to Mr. R. E. Davies for a copy of the inscriptions on the four bells which hung in the tower between 1640 and 1742. They are as follows:—

1. SVR VINCENT CORBIT CAUSED MEE 1621
W C (*see below*).
2. **SANCTA MARIA VIRGO INTERCEDE PRO
TOTO MUNDO**
3. GLORIA IN EXCELLSIS DEO 1618
4. RICHARD HIGGISON ROBERT MENLOVE
WARDENS 1640

The 1st and 3rd by William Clibury, probably the 4th also. The 2nd has the same inscription as the 2nd at Adderley, and was probably by the same founder. It is given by Hartshorne, *Salopia Antiqua*, p. 590, but could not have been in existence when he wrote, as it was re-cast by Abel Rudhall in 1742. Needless to say, Hartshorne is copied by Hare (p. 205) without any verification. In 1782 a new treble was added by Chapman and Mears (cf. Moreton Corbet).

Thus from 1782 to 1853 the ring was as follows:—

1. **ANDREW CORBET ESQ^R SHAWBURY PARK
CHAPMAN & MEARS OF LONDON FECERUNT 1782
R. BETTEN & J. BARLOW CH. WARDENS.**
2. *The old 1st.*
3. **THE REV^D THO^S HUGHES MINISTER A R 1742**
4. *The old 3rd.*
5. *The old 4th.*

For this information we are indebted to the Williams MSS. (Brit. Mus. Add. 21,236), which also gives a revised and improved version of the inscription on the bell of 1621 :—

SVR VINSIT CORBET CAUSED MEE 1621 [W C]
BY THE GIFT OF MANEY WAS I BOVDHT
BY THOMAS FELTON WAS I SOVGH T.

The ring of five was destroyed by fire (*Salopian Shreds and Patches*, v., p. 62).

Sir Vincent Corbet, who gave the former treble, succeeded his brother Richard in the Moreton Corbet estates; he was knighted by James I., and died in 1623.

His descendant, Sir Andrew V. Corbet (see 5th bell), second Baronet, was born in 1800 and died in 1855. He was High Sheriff in 1843, and married Rachel, sister of Viscount Hill, who gave the tenor; the latter (Rowland, second Viscount) was born in 1800, succeeded 1842, and died 1875.

Bells rung on special occasions.

WEM.

SS. PETER AND PAUL.

Eight bells.

1. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS LONDON.

On the waist :

V 3 C T O R 3 A

	<i>Bust of Queen Victoria</i>	
1837		1897

*Below :—*ENGLAND, THY QUEEN SIXTY YEARS
HAST THOU SEEN,
AND THY WEALTH, PEACE AND GLORY
ARE FAMOUS IN STORY.
THESE SOON MIGHT BE PAST : BUT THY
CHURCH STILL WILL LAST
FOR ONLY GOD'S GLORY IS NOT
TRANSITORY. (28 in.)

2. *On the shoulder, as No. 1.*

On the waist :— 1837 W. R. J. 1897

*Below :—*ANGLIA, REGINÆ STAT SEXAGESIMUS
ANNUS
STANT TIBI NUNC ETIAM GLORIA, PAX,
ET OPES.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

ROBERT H. COOPER
1935-1936
PH.D. THESIS
ON THE CHEMISTRY OF
THE HYDROLYSIS OF
ESTERS

ADVISOR: ROBERT H. COOPER
COMMITTEE: ROBERT H. COOPER, ROBERT H. COOPER, ROBERT H. COOPER

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**CÆTERA FAC PEREANT, STAT STETQUE
ECCLESIA : STABIT.**

**GLORIA QUOD NOSTRI STAT SINE FIDE
DEI** (28½ in.

3. PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD T  R
1768 
Below Fig. 1 all round. (30½ in.

4. FEAR GOD HONOUR THE KING  1768
 (33 in.

5. THOMAS RUDHALL CAST US ALL 1768 
 (34½ in.

6. SAMUEL BRADSHAW SAMUEL IONES
CHURCH WARDENS T  R 1768 
(36 in.

7. PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH  T  R
1771 
Below, Fig. 1 all round.

8. I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL & TO
THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL T  R
1768 (43 in.

New stocks, wheels, etc.; the two new bells hung by F. Barber (of Wem?). All the Rudhall bells have cabled cannons; the border is Fig. 1 throughout. Clock strikes on 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th. Mr. Weatherly of Market Drayton says: "Re-hung by Mears and Stainbank 1898; first peal rung on them, 6 May, 1898; all go very well."

Weights:—

(1) 4 cwt. 3 qrs. 18 lbs.	Note F.	(5) 7 cwt. B flat.
(2) 5 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.	E.	(6) 8 cwt. A
(3) 5½ cwt.	D.	(7) 10 cwt. G
(4) 6 cwt.	C.	(8) 13 cwt. F.

9 May, 1553: 'Two great bells & a sanctus bell.'

1740: '5 bells recast 679-80.'

1752: '6 bells.'

The re-casting in 1679-80 was necessitated by the fire which destroyed the old bells in 1677; this ring was probably by

Thomas Roberts. See Garbet's *History of Wem*, p. 233; also *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, iii., p. 101, where the tenor is said to weigh 14 cwt., note F sharp. Garbet states that the clock was put up 1726; it had chimes, which were discontinued in 1832.

A bell is rung daily at 6 a.m.; on Sundays at 7 a.m.

For 8 a.m. services on Sundays three are chimed and then one tolled.

Pancake Bell on Shrove Tuesday.

Many thanks to the late Rector, the Hon. and Rev. G. F. H. Vane.

7. DEANERY OF WROCKWARDINE.

BUILDWAS.	HOLY TRINITY.	Three bells.
1	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1846	(18 in.
2.	<i>The same.</i>	(19½ in.
3.	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON	

On waist:—**THE GIFT OF WALTER MOSELEY ESQ^R**
AND
THE REV^D JOHN BARTLETT
 1847 (21 in.

Frames somewhat rotten; bells hung round two sides of the turret.

2 June [1549]: 'BYLDWAS oone smale bell.'
 1740: '2 Bells.'

Nothing is known of the bells previous to 1846; the turret dates from about 1800 (Parkes MSS. in Brit. Mus. Add. 21011).

EATON CONSTANTINE. ST. MARY. One bell.

1 **J: TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH**

In an open gable-cot; put up in 1893.

Inspected by telescope 28 July 1896, and again 1 Sept., 1905.

[1549]: 'CHAPEL OF YETON C. ij smale bell' of a coorde.'

4 May, 1553: 'YETON CONSTANTYD. Two small bells.'

1740 and 1752: '2 bells.'

In 1814 there was a turret with one bell (Parkes MS.).

The Vicar, Rev. J. Paine, informs me that the bell re-cast in 1893 had no inscription.

HIGH ERCALL. ST. MICHAEL. Eight bells.

1. † JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1812 †

On sound-bow :—TWIN SISTERS WE UNITE OUR TUNEFUL
POWERS WITH THIS SWEET BAND TO CHARM THE
VACANT HOURS ;

IN MAZY CHANGES CHEAR THE LANDSCAPE WIDE,
AND COURT COY ECHOES FROM YON MOUNTAIN'S
SIDE. (28 in.)

2. *As No 1.*

On sound-bow :—WHERE MEANDERING RODEN GENTLY
GLIDES OR TURNES PROUD CURRENT FILLS ITS
AMPLE SIDES :

THENCE MEDITATION VIEWS OUR CALM ABODE ;
HEALS THE SICK MIND AND YIELDS IT PURE TO GOD.
(29 in.)

3. M^R : W^M : RANDELS & M^R THO^S SLATER CH-
WARDENS T  R 1767 (30½ in.)4. RECAST BY ABEL RUDHALL 1759  (31½ in.)5. IOHN LORD GOWER  & RICH CORBET ESQ^R
BENEFACT : 1707 : (32½ in.)6. THOMAS RUDHALL FOUNDER 
1776  (34½ in.)7. ROBERT CLARKE & WILLIAM WOOD CHVRCH-
WARDENS 1707 

2nd line :—PROSPERITY TO ALL OVR BENE-
FACTORS  1707  A R  
(36½ in.)

8. FRANCIS EARL OF BRADFORD  RICH^R
LORD NEWPORT BENEFACTORS 1707 

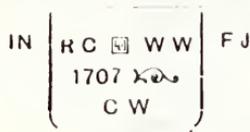
2nd line :—RICHARD BLAKEWAY VICAR GOD
SAVE OVR QVEEN & CHVRCH 
A R   (41 in.)

1st and 2nd : The couplets on the sound-bow were composed by
a local schoolmaster named Wilding, who also wrote the inscriptions

for the bells at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and the treble at Wrockwardine. "Yon mountain" is, of course, the Wrekin, and the "Turne" is the Tern. The last four letters of POWERS on the treble are engraved, not in relief.

3rd—8th: the remains of an original six by Abraham Rudhall (1707); borders in all cases Fig. 1, with bits of Fig. 3 on 5th and 8th.

Wheel of 2nd broken; 3rd—7th bells kept "up." On the bell frame is cut



Weights and notes of bells (exclusive of 1st and 2nd, not given in Mears' list):—

(3)	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.	E.	(6)	6 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.	B.
(4)	5 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.	D.	(7)	8 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.	A.
(5)	6 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.	C.	(8)	11 cwt.	G.

[1549]: 'ERCALL MAGNA. ij bellys and oone broken bell'
4 MAY, 1553: 'ERCALL MAGNA. Four great bells and one sanctus bell.'

1740: '6 bells.'

1752: 'Arcall Magna 6 bells.'

Inscriptions on 1st and 2nd given in Brit Mus. Add. 21,180 and 21,236; also in *Bre-Gones*, 25 June, 1873, p. 185.

John, Lord Gower (see 5th bell) was created Baron Gower of Stuttonham, Yorks., in 1703, and is an ancestor of the Dukes of Sutherland. Francis, first Earl of Bradford (8th bell) was born 1620, created Viscount Newport 1674, Earl in 1694, and died 1708. He was Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire and Treasurer of the Household. His son Richard, Lord Newport (1645—1723) succeeded him as Lord-Lieutenant.

The Rev. Richard Blakeway (see 8th), M.A., Student of Christ Church, Oxford, was instituted Vicar in 1685, and died and was buried at Ercall in 1717 (see Blakeway MSS.).

CUSTOMS:

On Sundays six bells (sometimes eight) are rung for half-an-hour before services; one bell at 8 a.m.

Special Ringing on Great Festivals at 7.30 a.m. and at 7.45 p.m. (after Evensong); on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day at 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. Also ringing on King's Birthday and for Weddings by request.

Tolling at Funerals; muffled peals on special occasions.

The Curfew was rung down to 1876.

Very many thanks to the Vicar, Rev. W. H. Philpott, to whom I am also indebted for the following extracts from the Churchwardens'

Accounts which he has been at pains to copy out and annotate. The accounts extend from 1685 to the present day, the earliest entry relating to the bells being in 1687, when the parish paid 7s. for ringing the annual peal on November 5th. This payment is repeated for many years subsequently. Entries for Royal Birthdays, Coronations, Victories, etc., are very numerous, the first of interest being:—

1696	pd for tolling y ^e Bell for y ^e Queen ¹...	...	00	02	06
1702	pd for ringing on the Coronation and thanks giving days ... ..	...	00	08	00
1703	pd for Ringing for the Queen's coming to the Crowne ... ..	...	00	02	00
1706	Given the ringers on the fast day ... ..	...	00	04	00
	given the ringers on two thanksgiving days ... ..	...	00	03	08
	given the ringers upon another thanksgiving day	...	00	02	00
1707 & 1708	To the ringers for a Victory ² ... ..	...	00	01	00
	To the ringers for a Victory ³ ... ..	...	00	01	00
1713	for ringing on the account of y ^e peace (i.e., of Utrecht) ... ..	...	00	01	06
1714	pd for ringing upon y ^e Kings Coronation ... ..	...	00	03	00
1719	For ringing on King George's Birthday ... ..	...	00	02	04
	To the ringers for a victory in Scotland ⁴ ... ..	...	00	02	00
1722	pd for ringing y ^e 29 May ⁵... ..	...	00	03	00
1724	pd for ringing y ^e 28 th & 29 th May ... ..	...	00	05	00
1726 27	For ringing y ^e proclamation, Coronation of King George 2 nd and his birthday	...	00	11	00
1741 & 1742	For ringing on the Coronation and birthday and the 5 th of Nov. ... ..	...	00	13	00
This is improved upon in the next year as follows:—					
1743	p ^d the Ringing for the Croudashion & Bearth Day ... ..	...	00	06	00
1752	p ^d M ^{rs} Barlow for a whole year's ringing viz. May 29, June 11, Oct. 11 and 31, and Nov. 5 th	...	00	19	00

¹ Queen Mary died 28 Dec., 1694.

² I.e., of Ramilies, fought 23 May, 1706.

³ I.e., probably for Oudenarde, fought 11 July, 1708.

⁴ This victory it is difficult to identify, unless perhaps there is a somewhat belated and inaccurate reference to the victory over the Pretender at Preston on 13 Nov., 1715.—W. H. P.

⁵ This appears to be the first entry denoting the observance of that day which was so fatal in the life of King Charles II., as being not only his birthday, but the date of his entering London in triumph at his restoration; the day when his fleet was beaten by the Dutch; lastly, the day when the rebellion of the Covenanters broke out in Scotland.—W. H. P.

⁶ This curious entry seems to shew both how often and how seldom in the year the bells were rung about the middle of the last century, and also that the *caupona* of the place—for such subsequent entries seem to imply was the calling of Dame Barlow—profited to this extent by the thirst engendered by this scientific exercise, a thirst which we greatly fear was quenched within the House called the House of prayer.—W. H. P.

In 1755 was

p ^d for ringing 4 Kings Days	...	...	00	12	00
And 1756 p ^d the 5 th Nov. for the Beefe	...	..	00	07	06
1762 Hops for the Psalm singers drink	...	...	00	01	06

There are several entries of this nature for Hops, Malt, Ale, Bread, Wine, Geese, and so forth. The climax appears to have been reached when in 1833 the wardens

Paid M ^{rs} Brayne's Bill for ringers for 2 years	...	10	4	0
--	-----	----	---	---

After this the sole note of expenditure in 1839 on matters connected with the bells is modest and sober indeed, viz.—

P ^d tow ^d Ale for the ringers at the Queen's Coronation	0	5	0
---	---	---	---

This is followed in 1840 by

P ^d for the marriage of the Queen	...	1	1	0
P ^d the ringers for the Princess's Birthday	...	0	10	0

In 1842 by

Aug. 23 P ^d the ringers for the Prince of Wales christening	0	10	0
--	-----	-----	---	----	---

There are many other entries of interest, chief perhaps among which are those recording the ringing of a Curfew bell. The first of these appears to be in 1774, when there was

p ^d for Candles to ring Carfue	0	0	7
---	-----	-----	---	---	---

Similar entries for ringing "Curfew and day bell" and for candles recur frequently until 1863, and in 1876

Peters ringing 8 o'clock bell (i.e., on Sunday morning)	1	0	0
---	-----	-----	---	---	---

shows the existence, perhaps the rise, of a custom still continued.

In 1817 the Parish

P ^d for minuting the Bell 8 hours on the day the Princess Charlotte was buried	0	5	0
---	-----	-----	---	---	---

and in 1827, Jan. 20th

for minuting the Bell on the Day of the Duke of York's funeral	0	5	0
--	-----	-----	---	---	---

and again in 1864

Feb. 1. W. Amies, minuting the bell on the day of the interment of the late Duke of Cleveland (the Lord of the Manor)	0	14	0
---	-----	-----	---	----	---

Here perhaps we may add that in 1704 appears the following:—

p ^d for gloves for the Ringers 2 years	00	10	00
---	-----	-----	----	----	----

Similar entries re-appear at intervals until 1733, when apparently the provision of this luxury ceased, or perhaps the "sally" was invented. From the entry of 1720 we learn that 8 pairs were bought that year at 1/2 each, though in the year following the same number of "pare" cost the parish only as many shillings.

In 1689 "the Great Bell," which was afterwards recast by Abel Rudhall in 1759, was furnished with a new wheel, new brasses, screws and stays at a cost of £2 6s. 4d., and its clapper was also repaired at a cost of 5s.

The next entry of interest relating to the bells is a long and wordy resolution arrived at by the Vestry on May 30, 1707, charging the Wardens to bargain, and contract with Abraham Rudhall in the city of Gloucester, Bellfounder, for casting "anew" the said bells and adding a "fifth," the money to be raised by subscriptions and any deficiency covered by a rate.

On Sept. 30, 1707, it was agreed at a parish meeting lawfully called "that ten Lewns in addition to five Lewns determined on on June 8th should be gathered toward defraying the charge of recasting the Bells."

This was apparently done, and several entries of receipts and disbursements occur which it is not necessary to add here, except perhaps the following:—

	P ^d to a messenger for fetching Lancet to blood l ^o x that was hurt by getting up y ^e bells	... 00 00 06
1753	P ^d Thomas Broxton for hanging Tenor Bell anew	... £9 6 5
"	" Gunner Hazeldine for casting part of the Brasses for the Bells	... 1 10 6
1759	The old Treble (now the 3rd) bell was recast, as the inscription testifies.	

It is to be regretted that the sole entry referring to the two small bells added to the peal in 1812 under that date is the record of their carriage, having cost £3 os. 2d.

Under date 1827, however, the books show the following:—

p^d the old Balance due for the two Treble Bells 35 17 8

EYTON-ON-THE-WEALD-MOORS. ST. CATHERINE.

Three bells.

1. A  R 1732 (*border, Fig 2 continuous*). (17½ in.)
2. *The same.* (18¼ in.)
3. ABEL RUDHALL FOUNDER 1732 (*border as before*). (19¼ in.)

One of the earliest essays, albeit an unambitious one, of Abel Rudhall. Border on all Fig. 2.

Belfry dirty and untidy; Cimmerian darkness reigns supreme.

On the stock of the 3rd bell is cut the date 1753.

Clock strikes on 3rd.

[1519]: 'EYTON under Wyldmore. Oone bell.'

4 May 1553: 'Two bells now remaining in the chapel.'

1740: 'Byton sup' Wildmore 2 bells' (*sic*).

1752: '3 bells.'

HADLEY. HOLY TRINITY. One bell.

In a small narrow tower, inaccessible; but undoubtedly modern.
Church built 1856.

KETLEY. ST. MARY. One bell.

1 **T. MEARS GLOUCESTER & LONDON F^ECIT 1836**

Cf. Llanymynech. Church built 1836.

Thanks to Rev. P. L. Underhill, Vicar.

LAWLEY. ST. JOHN. One bell.

One bell of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. supplied by Mears and Stainbank in 1865,
in which year the church was erected.

LEIGHTON. ST. MARY. Three bells.

1. A  R 1716  

(24 in.

2. *The same.* (25½ in.

3. GEORGE HIGGINSON IOHN DAVIS CH ·
WARDENS 1716  (27½ in.

All three by Abraham Rudhall. Tenor badly cracked for some years; cannons gone and six holes drilled in crown for bolts to the stock; clapper tied. All in filthy condition.

2 June [1549]: 'iij bellys of accorde and a sackryng bell.'

4 May, 1553: 'NORTON (*sic*). Three bells within the steeple of Leyghton.'

1740: '3 Bells (Rudhall).' 1752: '3 Bells.'

See *Transactions*, st Ser., VI. (1883), p. 373; also under Little Wenlock for a tradition about these bells.

The treble is used singly as a rule, but occasionally all three are chimed.

LONGDON-ON-TERN. ST. BARTHOLOMEW. One bell.

1.  GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH 1656

By Thomas Clibury; cross, Plate V., Fig. 3; letters as at Acton Burnell. Diameter about 22 in. It hangs in an open gable turret; inspected through telescope 28 July, 1896. and again through glasses in Sept., 1905.

2 June [1549]: 'ij smale bellis of oone accorde to be Rogon togethur.'

4 May, 1553: 'Two small bells.'

RODINGTON.

ST. GEORGE.

Two bells.

Both bells uninscribed, the smaller probably ancient, the larger of the 17th century. They hang in an open double gable-cot; formerly a wooden turret (Parkes MSS., Brit. Mus. Add. 21,180).

2 June [1549]: 'ij smale bellis of one accorde to be Rogon togethur.'

4 May, 1553: 'Two bells.'

1740: 'Roddington 2 Bells no circu's'p'n.'

1752: '2 Bells.'

ROWTON.

One bell.

The bell, which hangs in an open turret, has no inscription, but is one of two which were cast in 1698. What has become of the other (and probably larger) one is unknown, but the Rev. J. Paine of Eaton Constantine informs me by letter (8 Sept., 1903) that a bell was removed from the old church to the new (built 1881), and not recast. The diameter of this bell is about 20 inches.

1752. 'Boughton (*sic*) in Ercall 2 bells.'

The two bells cast in 1698 (which, as indicated above, were both there in 1752) were from the Wellington foundry, being by the same man as those at Waters Upton and Boningale. There are some entries about them in the accounts of High Ercall for that year, for a copy of which I am indebted to Rev. W. H. Philpott

p^d for Casting the Bells for Rowton Chappell & for seaven & (?) twenty pound of New Mettall that was added to them & for a Bond for performance of the Bargain & for charges & carriage of the Bells to Wellington & back again & for New Brasses £ s. d.
08 04 06

p^d to William Haselomd for new Clappers & Hanging the Bells & to Thomas Machold for work that he did about y^e Bells & for a new key etc. 00 19 03

Received of Mr. Wood of Muckleton a gift towards the repairing of Rowton Chappell & the new Bells given by Mr. Smith

£01 . 00^s . 00^d £00 . 10^s . 00^d

It is unfortunate that here again, as at Boningale, the name of the founder is not given.

UPPINGTON.

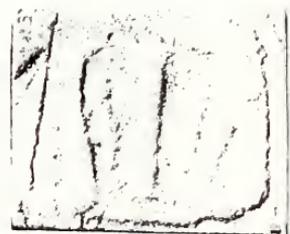
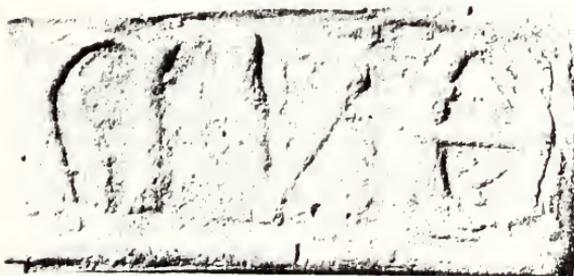
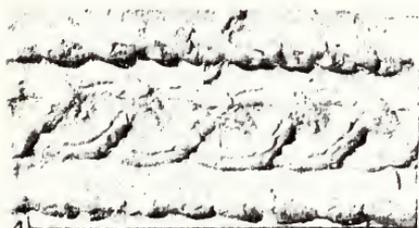
HOLY TRINITY.

Six bells.

1. **CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1885.** (274 in.

2 *The same.* (28½ in.

3. *The same.* (30½ in.



Figs. 1-3. UPTON MAGNA (Treble).

Fig. 4. Do. (Newcombe's Border).

Figs. 5-10. WROCKWARDINE 3rd and 6th.

三 三 三

三 三

三 三

三 三 三

Below :—1664

(34 in.

4. ✠ BE - YT - KNOWNE - TO - ALL - THAT - DOTH -
MEE - SEE - THAT - NEWCOMBE - OF - LEI-
CESTER - MADE MEE - 1605 (*plait-band*).

Above and below the inscription, arabesques as Plate XIV.,
Fig. 6. (36½ in.

Treble : An interesting bell of the 15th century, whose presence in this county is difficult to account for, as it was cast by an Exeter founder, whose initials on the foundry-stamp appear as I. T. His full name is not known. See Ellacombe's *Church Bells of Devon*, p. 48. The stamps are illustrated on Plate XXV., Figs. 1-3.

2nd : By Newcombe of Leicester : cross, Plate XXIII., Fig. 12, as at Tong ; after the date a plait-band (Plate XXV., Fig. 4).

3rd : By Thomas Clibury ; fleur-de-lys Plate XII., Fig. 4.

4th : By Newcombe, with plait b and as on 2nd, and arabesques (Plate XIV., Fig. 6). Lettering as on 2nd.

The bells have not been rung for many years, owing to the defective condition of the belfry.

(1549) : 'UPTON SUBT' HAGMOND.' iij bellis of cone accorde to be rogon together.'

1740 and 1752 : '4 Bells.'

Inscriptions given in Brit Mus. Add. MSS. 21,011 ; *Transactions*, VI. (1883), p. 365 ; Hartshorne, *Salopia Antiqua*, p. 590 ; *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, v., pp. 182, 217 ; and Hare, p. 227 (treble only, inaccurately).

"Roast beef and mutton say the bells of Old Upton" (Burne) ; cf. Church Stretton.

Bells chimed for Services on Sundays, 10 30—10 35 and 10 50—11 0, and correspondingly in evening ; also chimed for ten minutes before service at 8 a.m.

At Funerals they are chimed for two or three minutes immediately before and after the service.

Thanks to Rev. A. H. Thursby-Pelham, Rector.

WELLINGTON.

ALL SAINTS.

Eight bells.

1. PLACED IN THIS CHURCH BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIP-
TION 1890

On the waist :—



(27¾ in.

2. *The same.*

(28½ in.

3. LET VS RING FOR PEACE & PLENTY

A : R 1713

(30 in.

4. NOW PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD
A : R  1713  (33 in.)
5. ABRA RUDHALL OF GLOVCESTER BELL-
FOVNDER 1713  (34½ in.)
6. S^R WILLIAM FORESTER K^T: & BENEFACTOR
 A R  1713 
 (37 in.)
7. PROSPERITY TO ALL OVR WORTHY BENE-
FACTORS  A : R  1713
 (40 in.)
8. **MAY ALL WHOM I SHALL SUMMON TO THE GRAVE
THE BLESSING OF A WELL SPENT LIFE RECEIVE.
REV^D JOHN ROCK VICAR W. EMERY T. RIDDING**
2nd line:—**CHURCH WARDENS 1798 THOMAS MEARS
OF LONDON FECIT** (46¼ in.)

Re-hung by Taylor in 1890, when the two trebles were added (see *Church Bells*, 25 July, 1890); all cannons knocked off. 2nd and 3rd hung above the rest.

The two new bells have Taylor's medallion (Fig. 6) on the waist. Rudhall's borders on 3rd-7th 3rd and 4th, Fig. 1; 5th, Fig. 3; 6th and 7th, Fig. 5

Weights of new bells, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs., and 5 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lbs.; tenor, 19 cwt, note E.

- 4 May, 1553: 'WELYNTON Remaynynge iij belles.'
[1519]: 'iij bellys of oone accorde.'
1752: '6 bells.'

Parkes (Brit. Mus. Add. 21,013) gives inscriptions on three of the bells. See also *Gentleman's Mag. Topogr.*, x, p. 155.

Bells rung for Sunday services; a bell at 8 a.m. for Holy Communion.

Tolling at Funerals.

Ringings on Christmas Day, Easter Day, and New Year's Eve; for Weddings by request.

A bell was rung at 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. up to the death of the old Sexton in 1904.

In the ringing chamber are two peal-boards, one dated 5 Dec., 1891 (5,040 Plain Bob Triples), the other 5 March, 1893 (5,040 Grandsire Triples).

WELLINGTON. CHRIST CHURCH. One bell.

1. **THOMAS MEARS LONDON FOUNDER 1838** (22 in.

Hung in a frame with wheel; used for clock.
Church built 1838.

WITHINGTON. ST. JOHN. Two bells.

Both small and of early "long-waisted" type; devoid of any inscription, and probably dating from the fourteenth century.

- 2 June [1549]: 'CHAPEL OF WETHYNGTON . . . small bell of accorde.'

- 4 May, 1553: 'WHETHENTON. Two small bells and a little visiting bell.'¹

1740: 2 Bells no Inscription.'

WROCKWARDINE. ST. PETER. Six bells

1. **T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1828**

Below:—THIS BELL WAS PRESENTED TO THE PARISH-
IONERS OF WROCKWARDINE BY.

WILLIAM CLUDDE ESQ^R

EDW^D AUSTIN }

THO^S CLARKE } CHURCH WARDENS 1828

LONG AS OLD WREKIN ON HIS BASE STANDS GOOD

SO LONG MAY ORLETON BOAST THE NAME OF CLUDDE

(30 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.

2.  I DGE A GREE IN VNITIE TO SING
VNTO THE TRINITIE T B R B WARDINS
1650 (30 $\frac{1}{4}$ in.

Below border Plate XIII., Fig. 2 inverted all round.

3.  **AVE MARIA GRACIA P^REN^A DOMINVS
CECVM** (32 in.

¹ *I.e.*, a bell that accompanied the reserved Sacrament when carried to the sick, and was rung on arriving at the house; also known as the "houcelling bell."

4. *Above, arabesques (Plate XIII., Fig 4); also bits of the same between the cannons.*



Below:—running border as Plate XII., Fig. 3, and below the date:—



(34 in.)

5. ✱ GLORI A IN EXCELSIS DEO
ANNO DOMINI 1616

Above, running border (Plate XIII., Fig. 3);

Below:—Border as on No. 2 (Plate XIII., Fig. 2 inverted).



(37 in.)

6. *As No. 3, with fleur-de-lys after cross and at end of inscription.*

(42 in.)

Bells re-hung by Taylor, 1881; cannons knocked off 3rd, 5th, and 6th.

Treble: The couplet is probably by Mr. Wilding of High Ercall.

2nd: By Thomas Clibury; small thin letters as Stockton 6th; initial mark, Plate XII., Fig. 1. The N's and the S of SING are reversed. Border below, Plate XIII., Fig. 2.

3rd and 6th: By an unknown founder, probably from their archaic shape of early 14th century date (two similar bells at Weston-under-Lyziard, Staffs.). This founder probably worked in Staffordshire, but had some connection with the Worcester foundry, and his lettering was also used by the founder of the bells at Hope Bowdler, Adderley, etc. (see under Adderley). See Plate XXV., Figs. 5-10.

4th: By Henry Clibury; cross, Plate XVIII., Fig. 4; Borders, Plate XIII., Figs. 3, 4.

5th: By William Clibury; cross, Plate V., Fig. 1; borders, Plate XIII., Figs. 2, 3. A very square-shouldered bell.

[1549]: 'iiij bell' of oone accorde.'

1740 and 1752: '5 Bells.'

1833 (G. Morris MSS.): '5 Bells' (*sic*). There were only five bells down to 1828, but the addition of that year has been overlooked.

3rd and 6th : At first sight these look like Clibury's bells, but they are by Hemy Oldfield of Nottingham (cf. Adderley, Tong, Stinchley), from whom Thomas Clibury evidently acquired his lettering and style of inscription. See Plate XXVI. The letter N is reversed throughout.

4th : By Thomas Clibury ; fleur-de-lys Plate XII., Fig. 4 ; shield Plate V., Fig. 2.

5th : A late example of William Clibury's work ; initial mark, Plate XII., Fig. 1 ; border, Plate V., Fig. 5 ; shield as at Wrockwardine.

Weight of treble, about 5 cwt.

[1549] : ' iij bell' of oone accorde & oone oth' bell called a savnse bell.'

4 May, 1553 : ' ROCKSETER. Four bells one sanctus bell.'

1752 : ' 5 Bells.'

See Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21,236 (Williams, 1798), 21,011 (Parkes, 1812), and George Morris MSS. in Shrewsbury Free Library.

CUSTOMS :

Bells chimed (three only) or rung for Sunday services ; tenor at 8 a.m.

Ringng at 6 a.m. on Christmas Day ; on New Year's Eve before and after midnight.

At Funerals, tenor tolled for 15 minutes, followed by chiming on three bells when the procession comes in sight.

The Rev. D. H. S. Cranage kindly communicates the following notes :—

Against the N. wall of the nave is a brass to Thomas Alcock, yeoman, who died in 1627 and gave a bell to the church.

In the Churchwardens' Accounts are these entries :—

1666 p^d to Thomas Clibury for y^e Casting of y^e Bell 7 - 10 - 0

1673 p^d to the bell founder for casting of the bell 05 - 00 - 00

1751 Paid the clerk for ringng y^e Sermon Bell ... 0 - 10 - 0

1752 etc. Similar entries.

Mr. R. E. Davies tells me that the following " bell jingle " is associated with Wroxeter :—

" One, two, three, four, five

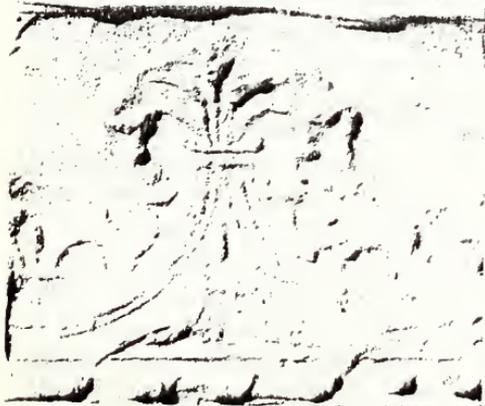
Catch a hare alive

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten

Let him out again."

(See also Boore, *Wrekin Sketches*, p. 293).

Best thanks to Rev. R. Steavenson, Rector.



WROXETER Tenor (OLDFIELD of NOTTINGHAM).

1870

Handwritten text in a cursive script, possibly a ledger or account book. The text is arranged in vertical columns and includes various numbers and characters, such as "1000", "100", and "10".

NOTES ON ALBRIGHTON,¹

NEAR SHIFFNAL.

BY H. F. J. VAUGHAN, B.A., S.C.L., OXON.

THE name Albrighton is usually dismissed as derived from a Saxon possessor Alberic, of whom nothing is known. In modern times the stress in the pronunciation of the name is thrown on the latter portion, i.e., Albrighton, partly perhaps from the name as called out by railway porters, partly because the former part of the word sinks into insignificance before the better known name of the fashionable watering place. In former times, however, and even at the present day, the stress in the pronunciation is often thrown on the first syllable, i.e., Albrighton; and when we take into consideration the fact that the Normans frequently, upon founding a new Church, altered the dedication from what it had borne in Saxon times, it suggests the idea that Albrighton may mean the village of St. Aelbriht or Aethelbriht, shortened into Albriht. Wulfgate of Donington, after mentioning Dunningtune and Cylles-hal in his Will, gives the worth of half a pound to St. Aethelbriht.

A Gazetteer of 1824 thus describes Albrighton:—"A parish in the Shiffnal division of the Hundred of Brimstrey, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.E. of Shiffnal. A vicarage in charge, in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, the deanery of Newport and arch-deaconry of Salop. 198 houses, 908 inhabitants. Fairs, March 5, May 23, July 18, Nov. 9 for horned cattle, sheep and hogs. A good deal of business is done at these fairs."

The following is shortly Eyton's account:—

"Domesday. Normannus holds Albricstone. Algar and Godhit held it in the Confessor's time for two Manors. Norman Venator held 7 manors under Earl Roger (de

¹ The Rev. J. B. Blakeway's "History of Albrighton" was printed in the *Transactions*, 2nd Series, XI., 25, &c.

Montgomery). A wood in Albrighton is specially exempted from the demesnes of the Palatine Earl of Shropshire. Norman Venator and his brother Roger Venator were at the consecration of Quatford Church in 1086, Pichford was probably Norman's heir. The custom amongst the earlier Normans of taking their name or being called from the manor which they owned has caused much confusion, thus we find that a scion of the great family of Verdon being settled at Wrottesley received the name of the place and become progenitor of the Wrottesleys; again Richard de Oldynton of Oldynton, near Patshull, was called indifferently Richard de Oldynton and Richard de Beckbury (*qui cognoscatur per nomen Ricardi de Beckebury et Ricardi de Oldynton indifferente*). Of course, the Welsh had no surnames as a rule until the time of the Tudors. To take other instances from the neighbourhood, we have in 1296 John de Beaumeis, lord of Donington, granting land to John Humphrey, otherwise called John son of William Humphrey of Humphreyston, and somewhat earlier we have a Deed commencing '*Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Robertus de Weston filius Gilberti de la mare, &c.*'"

I. Ralf de Pichford had two sons: 1, Richard, 2, Engelhard.

II. Richard the eldest son obiit ante 1157, leaving issue,

III. Richard, a minor at his father's death. He granted the service of Richard Cresset in the Manor of Cosford to Buildwas Abbey, a religious house of the Cistercian order. He was also a benefactor to Haughmond Abbey, and died about 1176. His son,

IV. Hugh was fined in 1188 for not producing those for whom he was surety. He is returned as a Knight holding of the crown in 1211, and died about the same time. His wife was Burga, daughter and sole heir of Ralph de Baskerville. They had issue,

V. Ralph, a Juror at Shrewsbury in Nov. 1221. In 1232 he paid 40 shillings to the Crown for a Market and Fair at Albrighton, and had a charter for it. He had also lands in Ireland, and was dead 5 Oct., 1252, leaving issue,

VI. John, aged 16 at his father's death. In 2 Aug., 1282, he attended at Rhuddlan as bound by tenure to proceed against the Welsh, but departed in consequence of infirmity.

In 1284 he is entered as holding the Manor of Albrighton with Humphreyston, Wystan and Bipeston. The Writ of diem clausit supremum is dated 13 April, 1285. He married Margaret, who had dower in Albrighton and Pichford, and who in 1304 complains of a redesseizin by Roger Carles and William the Beadle of Brimstree. Their son,

VII. Ralph, the heir, was of age in 1292, but not a knight, ergo in misericordia. In 31 May, 1295, as Lord of Albrighton, he grants to William de Parco of Ettingestal 2 burgages in Albrighton which he had of the escheat of Ysabel de Persone of Albrighton. He was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1297. Within three years from that date he had sold his Manor of Albrighton to John Baron Tregoz of Ewyas Harold, Co. Hereford, who died seized of it 21 Aug., 1300.

John Lord Tregoz purchased the Manor of Albrighton about 1300, but before leaving the family of Pichford it may be said that they had other interests in the neighbourhood. Thus Richard de Pichford was joint lord of Blymhill in 1255, having married a daughter and coheir of John Bagot of Blymhill, dead in 1284. Their son Roger was lord of Blymhill, and occurs in 1284 and 1291. His son John de Pichford was slain in 1324, and was succeeded by Roger, son of John de Pichford 1331, who died 1397, leaving by his wife Hawise, who survived him, a daughter Jese, wife of William Humfreston of Humfreston s.p., and a son William, 30 and more in 1404, dead in 1415, whose daughter and heir, Isabella, was wife of William Walton of Walton Grange 1415, but ob. s.p. There are other members of the family mentioned. Eyton omits Ralph or Ranulph de Pycheford enfeoffed by King Henry I. of Littlebrug, co. Salop, for his valiant conduct at Bridgnorth Castle, to be held by finding fuel for the castle during the King's visits. The Pichtfords bore as Arms, Azure a cinquefoil between six martlets or. The cinquefoil is also borne by the Astleys, and as was usual at the time, is probably derived from the bearing of some over-lord, for in the earlier days of heraldry few private gentlemen had arms of their own, and hereditary arms were not borne until a later date, indeed, it was not an uncommon honour for a man to receive a new coat of arms from his Sovereign. Sir George Sitwell observes in his history of the

Barons of Pulford that heraldry first became an exact science in the middle of the 13th century.

The Barons Tregoz bore Gules two bars gemelles or, and in chief a lion passant of the last. William de Tregoz was living in the 5th year of King Stephen, and was succeeded by Geoffrey, who marrying Annabel, daughter of Robert Gresley, was father of William, who died to John, leaving by his wife, the daughter of Robert de Luci, a son and heir, Robert, who married Sibil, daughter and heir of Robert de Ewyas, a man of some position and owner of Lydiard in Wiltshire, he is said in a MS. of Cooke (Clarencieux) to be a descendant of a base son of the Saxon King Harold. Leland says that this Robert Tregoz had issue, John Baron Tregoz, who was the purchaser of Albrighton, and who by Julia, daughter of Lord William Cantilupe, left two daughters coheirs, Clarice (who was dead in 1300) and Sibil, wife of Sir William Grandison. Clarice, the elder of these coheirs, carried Albrighton to her husband, Roger de la Warre. However, there was a law-suit between the coheirs as to the property, which was settled by Act of Parliament in 1302.

Before this time, viz. in January, 1270, we find Nicholas Kareles and Burgia his wife, and Ranulf de Albrighton and Alice his wife selling lands in Donington to Hugh de Belmeis or Beaumes.

Dugdale first mentions John de la Warre as Lord of Bristolton in the 8th year of King John's reign, whose son Jordan was among the Barons in rebellion against Henry III., but made his peace after the battle of Evesham. He had a son John, father of

I. Roger de la Warre, husband of Clarice Tregoz, and so lord of Albrighton. He died in the 14th year of Edward II. leaving issue

II. John, who was in the van of the English army at Cressy and also in the fight by sea at Sluys in Flanders, died 21 Edward III., having married Joan, daughter of Robert and sister and heir of Thomas de Gresley, a family still resident in the neighbouring county at Drakelow. It is possible that through this match came the connection with Manchester, for Robert Gresley, 1134, had his chief seat at Manchester, co. Lancaster. Thomas, the brother of Joan,

was made Knight of the Bath with Prince Edward with the full ceremonies of bathing, &c. Thomas Gresley, an ancestor of this Lady of Albrighton, married Hawise, one of the daughters and coheirs of John de Burgh, son of John, son of Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, founder of the White Ladies. Their eldest son

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III. John de la Warre or Delaware, died during the lifetime of his father, having married Margaret, daughter of Robert de Holland, apparently Robert de Holland who died in 1373, and whose father, Robert de Holland, had married Maul, daughter and co-heir of Alan la Zouche of Ashby de la Zouche. Through this marriage there was a relationship to the Lords of Tong. Their son

IV. Roger, assisted at the celebrated battle of Poitiers, when John the King of France and his eldest son were taken prisoners. It is related by Froissart that Sir Dennis Morbeck first took the French King, but being forced from him more than ten Knights and Esquires claimed that honour, the chief amongst which were Sir Roger le Warr and Sir John Pelham, in memory of which gallant action Sir Roger Lord la Warre had the chape of his sword for a badge and Sir John Pelham had the buckle of his belt as a mark of the same honour. The buckle of the Pelhams is to be seen carved on many Sussex churches. This Roger Lord la Warre died in the 44th year of King Edward III., having married twice—1stly, Elizabeth, daughter of Adam Lord Welles, by whom he had two sons, John, who died s.p. 22 Richard II., and Thomas, of whom presently. 2ndly, Eleanor, daughter of John Lord Mowbray, by whom he had issue, Joanna, wife of Thomas West, from whom the present Lord Delawar is descended.

V. Thomas de la Warre, the second son by the first wife, became lord of Albrighton, but he being a priest and Rector of Manchester, whose Parish Church, now called the Cathedral, he founded, of course, was unmarried and died without issue in the 5th year of Henry VI. This Thomas de la Warre sold the Manor of Albrighton to Sir Hugh Hulse of Cheshire.

Before leaving the family of La Warre, Lords of Albrighton, we may remark that they bore for their cognizance Gules

semée of crosslets fitché, a lion rampant argent, and also that Roger de la Warre was only one of others who received distinction for his gallant conduct at the battle of Poitiers. Sir John Wynn in his *History of the Gwydir Family*, speaks of Sir Howel y fwyall ab Gruffudd ab Howel ab Meredydd of Evioneth, which Sir Howel was called y fwyall, i.e., of the battle axe, because he encountered the King of France at the battle of Poitiers, and with one blow of his battle axe struck off his horse's head, thus causing his capture. For this service the King ordered a "messe of meate to be served up dayly during his life before his battle axe, which after was bestowed upon the poore, whereof he was called Sir Howel y fwyall." Sir Howel was in receipt of an annuity of £20 per annum from the Crown at Michaelmas 2 Richard II., between which date and 6 Richard II. he died.

I. Sir Hugh Hulse, Holes or Holles, as variously written, who became Lord of Albrighton by purchase from Thomas de la Warre, was of a Cheshire family, and bore Argent three piles, one issuant from the chief and two from the base sable. It is questionable whether he was of the same family as that of Holles subsequently created Dukes of Newcastle, or as Blakeway erroneously calls it on page 46, "ennobled" by the Dukedom of Newcastle. This common but incorrect mode of designating a family which has received precedence and a title is misleading. Every gentleman who has had a grant of coat armour is ennobled, and a nobleman, rank and title give precedence among the nobility. Many who have received titles are by lineage far less noble than others who at present have not gained titles and precedence. The nobility of a Corbet, a Sandford, a Walcot, a Plowden, and families of such lineage gains no addition by the accretion of a title, though they would have precedence through it. It is well that this should be understood. In former times it was usual for a man to be noble before he received a title, now some are given titles to ennoble them. Sir Hugh Hulse married Margery, relict of Henry de Torbock, and second daughter and coheir of John de Domville of Oxton and Brunstath (by Cicely, daughter of William de Moberley and sister and heir of Sir Ralph de Moberley), son of John Domville by Maud, daughter of Sir William Brereton.

Since the Inq. post mortem of Sir Hugh is dated 3 Henry V. he must have died before Thomas de la Warre, who deceased 5 Henry VI. Sir Hugh seems to have acquired considerable wealth as Justice of Chester. Ormerod gives the Arms of Domville as Azure a lion rampant, argent collared gules; but Harl. MS. 2,187 says that John de Domville de Moberley bore Argent two chevrons gules, on a canton of the last a crosslet fitché or. The same MS. says that Sir Hugh and his wife Margery had besides his son Thomas a daughter Philippa, wife of Sir William Breton. Ormerod gives their issue as 1. Eleanor, married by dispensation, 1408, to Richard de Vernon; 2. Isabella, living 1408; 3. Edmond, who married Ellen . . . but died s.p., and Thomas.

II. Thomas Hulse of Brunstath, Oxton and Moberley, who received from his grandfather Domville an injunction as above stated, to take his arms. He was apparently also of Albrighton, since he survived his father, who had purchased that manor, his Inq. post mort. being 9 Henry V. Harl. MS. 2,187 says that he bore Argent three piles points meeting in base sable. By his wife Alice he left a sole daughter and heir.

III. Margaret Hulse, heir, carried Albrighton with other manors to her husband, Sir John Troutbeck of Dunham, co. Chester. She died 35 Henry VI. Harl. MS. 2,187 calls him Johannes Troutbeck arm. ao. 17 Henry VI. fil. Wm. Troutbeck de Stony Donham als Dunham sup. le mont. This John was son of William Troutbeck, Chamberlain of Chester, who had held Dunham from the Fitzalans, and finally purchased the Manor from the coheirs of Thomas Fitzalan, 15th Earl of Arundel. He is said to have married Joan, daughter of William Rixton of Rixton, and had issue this Sir John Troutbeck, who was slain with his brother-in-law, Sir Hugh Venables, at the battle of Bloreheath. His lady, the heiress of Albrighton, died 11 Nov., 35 or 36 Henry VI. They were succeeded by their son

IV. Sir William Troutbeck, lord of Albrighton, buried in the Troutbeck Chapel at St. Mary's, Chester, 2 Edward IV. He married Margery, daughter of Thomas Lord Stanley, who after his death married Sir John Butler of Bewsey, and then Lord Grey of Codnor. She was daughter of Thomas

Lord Stanley, Comptroller of the Household to King Henry VI., by Joan his wife, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Goushill, by Ellen his wife, daughter of Richard, Earl of Arundel. This last named lady is called Elizabeth in the pedigree of the Earls of Arundel, and was one of the sisters and coheirs of the above named Thomas Fitzalan, 15th Earl of Arundel. By this match, therefore, the descendants of Sir William Troutbeck and subsequent Lords of Albrighton, acquired the blood of the old lords of Dunham, and since Elizabeth Fitzalan's grandmother, Eleanor, was the daughter of Henry Earl of Lancaster, and widow of John of Gaunt, a descent also from the reigning family of England. The Troutbecks bore a coat of arms founded upon the name, being Azure three trouts fretted or enowed in triangle, proper. The eldest son of Sir William and Margaret his wife died without issue, so he was succeeded by his second son's heir.

V. Adam Troutbeck, the second son of Sir William, died before his elder brother, 2 Henry VIII., but left by his wife Margaret, daughter of Sir John Butler of Bewsey, a daughter and heir, Margaret, of whom presently.

VI. Margaret Troutbeck, Lady of Albrighton, was heir to her uncle, Sir William, who died s.p., and at the time of his death already the wife of John Talbot, Esq., who afterwards became Sir John Talbot of Grafton.

Before proceeding further the question arises whether the Albrighton Manor had become a residential estate of the Troutbecks. It seems highly improbable that the former Lords of the Manor made it their residence. The chief seat of the Troutbecks was in Cheshire, but it is very possible that Adam Troutbeck, the second son, may during the life of his elder brother have resided at Albrighton. The situation of their seat in that parish has been a matter of question; all, however, agree that it was near the Church, and the data given above seems sufficient to show that it was near the Hall pool and the Hall orchard; but the question seems practically settled by the testimony of the late Rev. G. W. Woodhouse, for so many years the venerable and revered Vicar of Albrighton, who told the writer that when the late Mr. Barker of Albrighton Hall generously purchased from Lord Shrewsbury a portion of his estate lying between the

Church at Albrighton and the Hall Pool and gave it to the parish to enlarge the churchyard, the workmen employed in digging foundations for the new enclosure wall came upon the foundations of the old Hall, which would thus appear to have been totally destroyed. The ancient hostel of the Talbot, now called the Shrewsbury Arms, must have stood opposite, or nearly opposite, the old Hall, and may have been the steward's house, but the Hall itself occupied a position more immediately above the Hall pool. The sign of the Talbot, to which Mr. Blakeway alludes, must be remembered by many now living, and consisted of a painting or panel of a talbot, i.e., a hound, not unlike a foxhound, but becoming dilapidated and dangerous some years ago, it was taken down, and in its stead an emblazonment of the Earl of Shrewsbury's arms substituted. There are still a few tombs remaining outside but adjoining the churchyard wall at Albrighton which mark the site of the former cemetery for Catholics at Albrighton, but the enclosure having perished many of the memorials have disappeared, little to the credit of the inhabitants of Albrighton. This neighbourhood was a stronghold of Catholics, who under the protection of the great House of Talbot, which never changed its Faith, were able, though surreptitiously, to follow out their worship even during the long years of persecution under the penal laws, when to say or hear Mass rendered the actor liable to a most cruel and humiliating death. But religious persecution seldom attains its end, indeed, the cruelties endured for so long a season by the unfortunate Catholics may be regarded as to some extent, a retribution or continuation on the opposite side, of the flames of Smithfield and other places during the reign of Queen Mary Tudor. Catholics were driven to build hiding places to conceal their Priests, and Mass was said in a place under the roof where all access could be watched, and if any danger threatened time allowed for the Priest to escape. This was the motive with which on the adjoining estate at Chillington Boscobel was built with its hiding places, which subsequently played so signal a part in the concealment of King Charles II., who himself died a Catholic. Persecution was the order of the day, and was at different times employed against Protestants, Catholics and

Dissenters of various denominations, as is perfectly obvious from existing records. The contiguous estates of the Fitzherberts of Norbury and Swinnerton, the Giffards of Chillington, the Whitgreaves of Moseley, the Talbots of Albrighton, the Talbots of Shiffnal, and the Brookes of Madeley were all Catholic, and it speaks well for the sense of justice of their protestant neighbours that they did not suffer more severely than they did under the existing penalties. The secrecy required in Catholic households has done much to render the pedigrees of those families somewhat confused. It is unnecessary to enter upon the earlier descents of the Talbots, but at the same time, some interest attaches to the Arms on the tomb in Albrighton Church, which are thus quartered:—1. Azure a lion rampant or. 2. Gules in a bordure engrailed a lion rampant or. 3. Bendy of ten argent and gules, &c. The last of these, viz. the bendlets, are the proper arms of Talbot, the first is the coat of Belesme or de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, and usually emblazoned Azure a lion rampant in a bordure or. The descent of the Talbots from the old Earls of Shrewsbury i.e., the de Montgomery family, is not entirely without difficulties. The second coat is that of the Princes of South Wales, and was assumed by the descendants of Gilbert Talbot, obt. 1274, who had married Gwenllian, daughter of Rhys ab Gruffudd, Prince of South Wales. In Harl. MS. 1,396, a copy of the Visitation of Shropshire in 1623, the Talbot pedigree is given, and an account of the arms with thirty-five quarterings; there is also an account of the family given in an article in the *Transactions on Inscriptions on Tombs, &c.*, Vol. V. 313 et seq., so that it is unnecessary to repeat the earlier descents. It should, however, be observed that an earlier connection existed between the family of Hulse and that of Humphreston, vide *Transactions*, IX. 31, Further particulars of Doninton. We shall therefore begin the account of Talbot with that great hero,

1. John Talbot, victorious in forty several battles and dangerous skirmishes, one of England's greatest heroes, created 17 July, 1445, Earl of Shrewsbury and Wexford, Knight of the Garter. Advancing against the French near Chastillon on the 20th July, 1453, he was shot through the

thigh by a cannon ball and his horse killed under him. So this great Earl died. A further account of his body and tomb has also appeared in the *Transactions* (VIII. 413). He married firstly, Maud, daughter and heir of Thomas Lord Furnival, by whom he had issue—1. Thomas, who pre-deceased him; 2. John, of whom presently; 3. Sir Christopher. He married secondly, Margaret, eldest daughter and coheir of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, by whom he had 1. John; 2. Sir Humphrey, who married Mary, daughter and heir of John Champernown, but died s.p. on Mount Sinai; 3. Sir Lewis. Of these latter sons John was created Lord Lisle of Kingston Lisle, co. Berks, and was slain at Chastillon with his father. He had married Joan, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Chedder of Chedder, co. Somerset, and had issue a son, Thomas, and two daughters. The son Thomas having a quarrel with William Lord Berkeley about some property, the two met at Wotton under Edge, co. Gloucester, 20 March, 1469, and a skirmish ensuing, Lord Lisle lost his life, being shot through the mouth with an arrow, so that his sisters, Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward, second son of Edward Grey, Lord Ferrers of Groby, and Margaret, wife of Sir George Vere, became his co-heirs.

II. Sir John, second Earl of Shrewsbury, eldest surviving son, succeeded. He was 40 years old at his father's death, and was created K.G. and made Lord Treasurer of England. Nor did he fail to evince the hereditary fighting blood of the Talbots, being slain with his half-brother Sir Christopher, on the part of the Lancastrians at the battle of Northampton, 10 July, 1460. By his first wife, Catherine, daughter and coheir of Sir Edward Burnel, son of Hugh Lord Burnel, he had no issue; but by his second wife, Lady Elizabeth Butler, daughter of James Earl of Ormond and Wiltshire, he had—1. John, of whom presently; 2. Sir James, ob. s.p.; 3. Sir Gilbert of Grafton, of whom hereafter; 4. Christopher, a Priest; 5. George; 6. Anne, wife of Sir Henry Vernon of Tong Castle and Haddon Hall, from whom many families in the neighbourhood descend; 7. Margaret, wife of Thomas, son of Sir William Claworth of Wyverton, co. Notts.

III. John, 3rd Earl of Shrewsbury, was sent to treat with James III., King of Scotland, concerning certain disturbances

there, and dying 18 June, 1473, was buried in Worksop Priory. He married the Lady Catherine Stafford, daughter of Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, and had issue—1. George, his heir; 2. Thomas, ob. s.p.; and 3. Anne, wife of Thomas Butler, Lord Sudeley.

IV. George, K.G., 4th Earl of Shrewsbury, was present in 1520 at the field of the Cloth of Gold, where Henry VIII. of England and Francis I. of France met. He signed the Articles against Cardinal Wolsey, and as the King's Lieutenant proceeded against those engaged in the Pilgrimage of Grace, an attempt to restore the old Faith on the part of the people of the North. He was conjoined with the Duke of Norfolk in this affair. Vide Dom. Gasquet's *English Monasteries*. He died 26th July, 1541, and was buried at Sheffield. By his first wife, Anne, daughter of William Lord Hastings, he had issue—1. Henry, died young; 2. Francis his successor; 3 and 4. John and John, died infants; 5. William, ob. s.p.; 6. Richard; 7. Margaret, wife of Henry Clifford, Earl of Cumberland, ob. s.p.; 8. Elizabeth, wife of William Lord Dacre of Gillesland; 9. Anne; 10. Dorothy; 11. Mary, wife of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland. He married secondly, Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Richard Walden of Earith, co. Kent, by whom he had—1. John, who died in his cradle; and 2. Lady Anne, wife of Peter, son and heir of Sir William Compton, by whom amongst others she was ancestress of the Brookes of Madeley. She married 2ndly, William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke.

V. Francis, eldest surviving son, was summoned to Parliament in the lifetime of his father. He was born in 1500, and exchanged with Henry VIII. the estate of Farnham Royal, co. Bucks, for the Priory of Worksop, co. Notts. K.G. In the Parliament of the 2nd year of Elizabeth he and Anthony Viscount Montague were the only two Peers who opposed the Bill for abolishing the Pope's Supremacy and Reformation of religion. He died 21 Sept., 1560, and was buried at Sheffield, having married 1stly, Mary, daughter of Thomas Lord Dacres of Gillesland, and had issue by her with a son Thomas, who pre-deceased him unmarried, 1. George his successor; 2. Anne, wife first of John Lord Bray, and 2ndly

of Thomas Lord Wharton. He married 2ndly, Grace, daughter of Robert Shakerley, but by her had no issue.

VI. George, 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, K.G., a warrior under his father. He was the Lord Shrewsbury who in the 11th year of Elizabeth had Mary Queen of Scotland committed to his charge, which is said to have caused some jealousy on the part of his wife. There is a tradition in Albrighton and the neighbourhood that this unfortunate Queen was confined at Pepper Hill, but it is evident that Pepper Hill did not then belong to this branch of the family, and the tradition is probably founded upon a confusion of names, and untrue. He died 18th Nov., 1590. Mary Queen of Scots was under his care from 1568 to 1584. He married 1stly, Gertrude, daughter of Thomas Manners, Earl of Rutland, by whom he had issue—1. Francis Lord Talbot, ob. s.p. 1582, having married Anne, daughter of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke; 2. Gilbert, of whom presently; 3. Edward, afterwards Earl; 4. Henry, ob. 20 Jan., 1595-6, leaving by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir William Reyner of Overton Longvile, co. Hunts., two daughters coheirs, viz., Gertrude, wife of Robert Pierpoint, by her ancestor of the Dukes of Kingston of Tong Castle, and Mary, wife 1stly of Thomas Holcroft, 2ndly of Sir William Armine of Osgodby, co. Linc., Bart.; 5. Catherine, wife of Henry Earl of Pembroke; 6. Mary, wife of Sir George Savile, Bt., of Thornhill, co. York, ancestor of George Savile, Marquis of Halifax, of Rufford Abbey, co. Notts; 7. Grace, wife of Sir William Cavendish of Chatsworth. He married 2ndly Elizabeth, the celebrated Bess of Hardwick, daughter and coheir of John Hardwick of Hardwick, co. Derby, and widow of the above mentioned Sir William Cavendish, but by her had no issue.

VII. Gilbert became 7th Earl of Shrewsbury, K.G. He died 8 May, 1616, in London, and was buried at Sheffield, having had issue by Mary, daughter of Sir William Cavendish of Chatsworth Priory—1. George, who died an infant, leaving his sisters coheirs; 2. Mary, wife of William Herbert, Earl of Pembroke; 3. Elizabeth, wife of Henry Grey, Earl of Kent, of Wrest Park, co. Beds., and 4. Lady Alethea, who by the death of her sisters s.p. was the final heiress. She

married Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, and brought him and his descendants great estates, some of which are still held by their descendant, the Duke of Norfolk. Their younger son, Sir William Howard, derived from his mother the Shiffnall estate, and was created Baron and Viscount Stafford, having married Mary, sister of Henry Lord Stafford, but fell a victim to the perjuries of Titus Oates and the framers of the fictitious popish plot, and was beheaded in 1678. His younger son, John Stafford-Howard left a daughter Mary, who became heiress of the family, and married Francis Plowden, of an ancient Shropshire family, and by him was mother of a daughter and heir, Mary Plowden, who having married in 1733 Sir George Jerningham of Cossey, co. Norfolk, carried the estates to that family, in which they still remain. (Ex inform Lord Stafford). There is an interesting miniature of Lady Alatheia in the possession of her descendant, Sir Henry Howard, Her Majesty's Minister at the Hague, which came to him from the Petre family.

VIII. Edward, the younger brother of the last Earl, succeeded as heir male and became 8th Earl of Shrewsbury. He married Jane, eldest daughter and coheir of Cuthbert Lord Ogle, but dying in London without issue 8 Feb., 1617-18, was buried in St. Edmund's Chapel in Westminster Abbey, and with him this senior line of the great House of Talbot died out.

Having thus disposed of the senior branch of the Talbots we return to that founded by Sir Gilbert Talbot of Grafton, the third son of John, 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury (*vide supra*).

I. Sir Gilbert Talbot, K.G., 3rd son of the 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury, was Sheriff of Shropshire at the time of Henry Earl of Richmond's landing at Milford Haven, and being guardian of his nephew, the young Earl of Shrewsbury, he gathered the retainers together and joined Henry at Newport in Shropshire, marching with him to Bosworth, where in the battle fought 22 August, 1485, Richard was slain. Henry assumed the crown, and Sir Gilbert, though sore wounded, was made a Knight. When duly seated upon the throne, Henry VII. rewarded his followers with lands, many of which were confiscated from the Yorkists, in pursuance of which policy on 18 July, 1486, he granted to Sir Gilbert Talbot and

his heirs male the Manors of Grafton and Upton Wawen, with lands in Hanbury, Bromsgrove, King's Norton, &c., Co. Worcester. He was one of the commanders at the battle of Stoke, co. Notts, where the Earl of Lincoln and Lambert Simnel were defeated. This eminent nobleman died 19 Sept., 1516, having been twice married. His first wife was, according to Dugdale and Collins, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Lord Scrope, of Bolton, by Alice, his second wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Lord Scrope, of Upsall, by Elizabeth (coheir of her brother, George Duke of Bedford), daughter of John Nevill, Marquess of Montacute, and Isabel his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir Edmund Inglethorpe of Borough Green, Co. Cambridge. However, other authorities, e.g., Harl. MSS. 1352, 1396, call her Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Lord Greystoke, and widow of John Lord Scrope, of Upsall. The former seems to be correct. By this alliance, which connected him with all the older nobility, he had issue—1. Sir Gilbert, of whom presently; 2. Sir Humphrey, who died s.p. in the Holy Land; 3. Catherine; 4. Jane. His 2nd wife was Etheldreda, daughter of Sir John Cotton of Lanwade, Co. Camb., relict of Thomas Barton and Sir Richard Gardiner, Lord Mayor of London. By her he had issue Sir John, of whom hereafter.

II. Sir Gilbert Talbot of Grafton, the heir, was Sheriff of Worcestershire in 31 Henry VIII. In his Will he ordered his body to be buried in the Chapel of St. John the Evangelist in the Parish Church of Whitchurch, Co. Salop, and died 22 Oct., 1542. He married Anne, daughter and coheir of Sir William Paston of Paston, Co. Norfolk, *vide* Harl. MS. 1552, by the Lady Anne his wife, sister and coheir of Edmund Beaufort, 4th Duke of Somerset, and daughter of Edmund Marquess of Dorset and Duke of Somerset, who was some time Regent of France, and became very unpopular with the people, who accused him of having lost Normandy. He had, however, the reputation of a brave and honourable man, and was slain in the first battle of St. Albans. The Beauforts bore France and England quarterly in a bordure gobony Argent and azure, John de Beaufort being the eldest son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, by Catherine Swinford. He was created Earl of Somerset by Richard II. He married

Margaret, daughter of Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent (by Alice, daughter of Richard Earl of Arundel), eldest son of Thomas Holland, K.G., Earl of Kent, by his wife, the Lady Joane Plantagenet, commonly called "the fair maid of Kent," only daughter of Edmund Plantagenet, Earl of Kent (Edmund of Woodstock), second son of King Edward III. This John Beaufort died 11 Henry IV., and was succeeded by his son Henry, who dying without issue, John Beaufort, his brother, succeeded, and was created by Henry VI. Duke of Somerset and Earl of Kendal. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Beauchamp of Bletsho, a lady celebrated for her humility and other virtues, of whom it is related that she often said, "If the princes of Christendom would combine and march against their common enemy the Turk, she would most willingly attend them and be their laundress in the camp." This John and Margaret his wife had issue an only daughter, Lady Margaret Beaufort, a portrait of whom is at Hampton Court. She married 1stly Edmund of Hadham, Earl of Richmond, by whom she was mother of King Henry VII. She married 2ndly Sir Henry Stafford; and 3rdly, Thomas Lord Stanley, but had no further issue. Upon the death of this John Duke of Somerset without male issue, his brother Edmund succeeded, who in the earlier part of Henry VI.'s reign bore the title of Earl of Mortain, but was subsequently Marquis of Dorset and Duke of Somerset, and having married Alianor, daughter and coheir of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (whose sister Margaret had married John Earl of Shrewsbury), was father of Anne, the wife of Sir William Paston, as related above. From this it is evident that the Talbots at this time were nearly connected with the Tudors, the reigning Royal House. By his wife Anne, Sir Gilbert Talbot of Grafton had issue—1. Walter, ob. s.p.; 2. Humphrey, ob. s.p.; 3. Margaret, coheir of her brothers, married Sir Robert Newport of Rushoke, 2 Elizabeth, coheir, wife of Sir John Lyttelton of Frankley, from whom the present Lord Lyttelton descends; 3. Mary, coheir, wife of Sir Thomas Astley of Patshull, from whom descend the subsequent Astleys of Patshull, Barts., Astleys of Everleigh, co. Wilts, Barts., Wrottesleys of Wrottesley, Vaughans of Humphreston, Eldes of Seighford, Durants of Tong, &c.

This second line of the Talbots having thus gone out in coheirs we return to the issue of the first Sir Gilbert of Grafton by his second wife, Etheldreda or Audry Cotton, *vide supra*.

I. Sir John Talbot, *jure uxoris*, of Albrighton, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1528. It is, of course, possible that the Troutbecks began the alterations at Albrighton, but it is far more probable that this Sir John and his wife finding the old Hall at Albrighton dilapidated and disliking the lowness of its situation, determined to remove their residence to a more elevated part of the estate, and selected Pepper Hill, where he made a park and built a house early in the 16th century. This is corroborated by a Deed dated 1519, whereby Thomas Stokes of Wyldicott grants to Sir John Talbot and Dame Margery his wife, six butt ends of land in Rowband, near Copestree Heath, as they are enclosed in the new Park. This shows that in 1519 Sir John and his wife, the heiress of Albrighton, had already made a new park at Pepper Hill, and probably built their house, which, from its remains, was a castellated Manor House of brick and stone, somewhat of the same type as old Tong Castle, which had been re-built by Sir John's relative, Sir Henry Vernon, in 1500. Albrighton Hall was, probably, pulled down at the same time. Sir John died 10 Sept, 1549, and was possessed of Grafton and Salwarp, co. Worcester. He married 1stly Margaret, daughter of Adam Troutbeck, and heir of her uncle, Sir William, as shown above, with whom he acquired the Manor of Albrighton, by whom he had his heir—1. Sir John, who was 30 years old at his father's death; 2. Anne; 3. Audrey, wife of Thomas Needham of Shavington; 4. Constance, wife of Sir George Blount of Kinlet. He married 2ndly, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Walter Wrottesley of Wrottesley, by whom he had issue—5. Gilbert of Salwarp, who died *s.p.* at Paris in 1571; 6. Margaret, wife of 1stly, Richard Ligon of Madersfield, co. Worcester; 2ndly, Walter Blount of Sodington, and 3rdly, Sir Arnold Ligon; 7. Bridgett, wife of Sir John Talbot of Malahide in Ireland; 8. Ursula; 9. Elizabeth, wife of Charles Acton of Elmley Lovett; 10. John of Salwarp, ob. 9 Dec., 14 Elizabeth, who married Oliva, daughter and coheir of Sir Henry Shavington of Lacock Abbey, co. Wilts., and was by her ancestor of the

Talbots of Salwarp, Talbots of Worfield, and Talbots of Lacock Abbey, the courteous representative of which family at the present time descends in a paternal line from the Davenportes of Davenport House, co. Salop. (*Vide* Harl. MSS. 1396, 1566, 1043, 1486, 1352, &c.).

II. Sir John Talbot, the eldest son, succeeded, and dying in June, 1555, was buried with his wife in Albrighton Church, where an alabaster monument still commemorates them. He married Frances, daughter of Sir John Giffard of Chillington, by his 2nd wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Gresley of Drakelow. She was aunt of Dorothy Giffard, who married Gilbert Astley of Patshull. They had with other issue a son

III. Sir John Talbot, who married 1stly Catherine, daughter of Sir William Petre of Ingatestone, co. Essex, Principal Secretary of State to Queen Mary, by whom, according to Collins, he had issue—1. George, of whom presently as 9th Earl; 2. John Talbot of Longford, co. Salop, of whom hereafter; 3. Gertrude, who Collins says died young, but others call her wife of Robert Wynter of Hodington, co. Worcester; 4. Anne, according to Collins, wife of Thomas Needham of Shavington, co. Salop, but others say, of Thomas Hanmer of co. Flint; 5. Mary, ob. s.p. He married 2ndly Margaret, daughter of Edward, 3rd Lord Windsor, but had no issue by her.

IV. George, the eldest son, succeeded his distant cousin Edward, the 8th Earl of Shrewsbury, as 9th Earl, but dying unmarried 2 April, 1630, was buried at Albrighton, being succeeded by his nephew.

V. John, 10th Earl of Shrewsbury, son and heir of John Talbot of Longford (2nd son of the above Sir John), by Eleanor, his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Baskerville of Wolverhill, co. Worcester. The pedigree here becomes involved, confused, and probably defective from the secrecy which was necessarily observed in Catholic families during the time of the Penal Laws. Collins says this 10th Earl had also two sons and four daughters, of whom Catherine was wife of James Pool of Pool, co. Chester. The sons were George Talbot, who is said to have died s.p. 1623, and Gilbert Talbot, ob. infans. But it must be

remembered that in such a case as that of this family where the chief interest centres in the Earldom which descends to males only, female issue is very liable to drop out as of little consequence, and finally to be omitted as though non-existent. This John the 10th Earl married 1stly Mary, daughter of Sir Francis Fortescue, K.B., of Salden Hall, co. Bucks, by whom he had issue—1. George Lord Talbot, who died in the lifetime of his father, and was buried at Albrighton. He married Mary, daughter of Percy Herbert, 2nd Lord Powis, and Collins says died without issue.¹ This George Lord Talbot died in 1644. 2. Francis, of whom presently; 3. Edward, killed at Marston Moor *ex parte Regis*, 2 July, 1644; 4. Gilbert, of Cooksey, co. Worcester; 5. Frances, wife of Sir George Wynter of Hodington; 6. Catherine, wife of Thomas Whettenhall of East Peckham, co. Kent; 7. Mary, wife of 1stly, Charles Arundel; 2ndly, Mervin Touchet, Lord Audley. John, 10th Earl, died 8 Feb., 1653. He had married 2ndly Frances, daughter of Thomas Lord Arundel, of Wardour, by whom he had issue—8. Thomas Talbot of Longford, co. Salop. father by Anne, daughter of Sir John Yate of Buckland, co. Berks, of John Talbot, who married Catherine, daughter of John Lord Belasyse, of Worlaby, but died without issue; 9. John died young; 10. Bruno, Chancellor of the Exchequer of Ireland.

VI. Francis, the eldest son, succeeded as 11th Earl of Shrewsbury, and was slain 16 March, 1667. He was twice married: 1stly to Anne, daughter and heir of Sir John Conyers of Sockburn, co. Durham, by whom he had issue—1. Conyers, died young; 2. George, died young; 3. Mary, wife of John Stonor of Watlington Park, co. Oxon. 2ndly, Anna Maria, daughter of Robert, 2nd Earl of Cardigan, by whom he had—4. Charles, of whom presently; 5. John, killed just before he came of age by Henry, 1st Duke of Grafton, 2 Feb., 1685-6. It was on account of this second

¹ At Market Bosworth Hall, co. Leicester, the seat of one of the branches of the Fortescues of Salden, is a fine portrait of Mary, Countess of Shrewsbury, and in a receptacle in the frame of the picture is a small contemporary history of this lady, wherein it is also stated that her eldest son George Lord Talbot died without issue during the life of his father, which seems to show that Elizabeth Talbot (or Talbott, as the name was often spelt), who married Robert Jordan at Newport on 8 Oct., 1631, was daughter of some other member of the family.

wife, as related before, that the Earl fought a duel with George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, in which he was mortally wounded.

VII. Charles, the eldest surviving son, succeeded as 12th Earl of Shrewsbury. King Charles II. had stood as his godfather. Alarmed at the stir caused by Oates' fictitious Popish Plot, and being a man of no principle, he abjured the Catholic Faith, and on the accession of King James II. quitting his command of a Regiment of Horse, went over to William Prince of Orange, by whom he was favoured, and when that potentate had succeeded in taking his father-in-law's throne, was rewarded by being created on the 30th April, 1694, Marquis of Alton and Duke of Shrewsbury. When Anne, the other undutiful daughter of James II., was on her deathbed and struck with remorse for having dishonoured her father, was anxious to secure the kingdom according to hereditary right for her half-brother, the Duke joined the opposing party, and was one of those instrumental in making the Elector of Hanover King of England, with the title of George I. This unhappy, though successful man, died on 1 Feb., 1717-18, and was buried at Albrighton on 23rd February of that year. With him expired the titles of Marquis and Duke. It is curious that he appointed as one of the trustees of his will William Talbot, the Bishop of Salisbury, but afterwards of Durham, the ancestor of the Lords Talbot who in our own time have obtained possession of the greater part of the Shrewsbury estates and the Earldom. As previously stated, the Duke of Shrewsbury married Adelhida, daughter of the Marchese Paliotti, and at his death left her his house in Warwick Street, plate and £1,200 per annum. The history of this Duchess of Shrewsbury and Lady of Albrighton is interesting, though she very probably never resided at Albrighton. Thomas Lord Berkeley married Margaret, sole daughter and heir of Warine de l' Isle, and had a daughter and heir, Elizabeth, first wife of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, ob. 17 Henry VI., by whom she had three coheirs—1. Margaret, coheir, wife of John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury (*vide supra*); 2. Alianor, coheir, wife 1stly of Thomas Lord Roos, ob. 1431, and 2ndly of Edmund, Duke of Somerset, slain 1455; 3. Elizabeth,

wife of George Nevill, Lord Latimer. The above Margaret was second wife of Lord Shrewsbury, and their son John was created Baron and Viscount Lisle. He married Joan, widow of Richard Stafford, and daughter and coheir of Thomas Cheddar, by whom he had a daughter, Elizabeth Talbot, who became coheir of her brother, Lord Lisle. This Elizabeth married Sir Edward Grey, second son of Edward Grey, Lord Ferriers of Groby. He was created Viscount Lisle, and died 7 Henry VII. They left issue, Elizabeth Grey, who in her issue became co-heir. She married 1stly Edmund Dudley, and 2ndly, Arthur Plantagenet, Viscount Lisle, who ob. 1541. By her first husband, Edmund Dudley (whose name was derived from the place of his birth, not from any relationship to the Suttons, Lords Dudley) she was mother of the celebrated, or should we not rather say notorious, John Dudley, created Viscount Lisle, Earl of Warwick and Duke of Northumberland, who lost his scheming head on Tower Hill in 1553. By Jane his wife, a good and quiet lady, who is buried in the old Church at Chelsea, daughter and heir of Sir Edward Guilford, he had issue with others a 5th son, Robert Dudley, ob. 1588, created Earl of Leicester, who was very intimate with Queen Elizabeth, and by many thought to be secretly married to her (*vide* Lingard's *History of England*, Courtships of Queen Elizabeth, Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, &c.). This Robert Lord Leicester married several times, his third wife being Lady Douglas Howard, daughter of William Lord Howard of Effingham, by whom he had issue Sir Robert Dudley, born at Sheen, near Richmond, Surrey, in 1573. In July, 1575, Leicester entertained Queen Elizabeth with great magnificence at Kenilworth, and until 1576 treated his son Robert as his legitimate offspring, but in that year, becoming connected with the widow of the Earl of Essex, who died on 21 Aug., 1576, he ceased to do so, as is believed, by her influence. The same year Mons^r Seignier, to damage Leicester in Elizabeth's opinion, told her of his marriage with Lettice Knollys, and the Queen was so enraged that she confined him in Greenwich Castle. In 1583, Sir Robert was living with his mother, Lady Douglas, but was then sent to school at Ollington, co. Sussex, by his father, who also in

1588 sent him up to Christ Church, Oxford, entering him as "Comitis filius," and about the same time Sir Robert came into possession of Kenilworth. In 1595 he married a daughter of Thomas Cavendish, but she died shortly afterwards. He was knighted for his gallantry at Cadiz, 5 July, 1596, later in which year he married Alice, 3rd daughter of Sir Thomas Leigh of Stoneleigh. A suit was now instituted against Sir Robert in the Star Chamber, and in 1605 sentence was given against him, which he in vain tried to get altered. In 1611 the Kenilworth property was sold to Prince Henry by force for £14,500, which sum, however, was never paid, and Sir Robert (who seems to have retained his Manor of Cleobury in Shropshire) left England and settled at Carbello, near Florence. He here became a Catholic, and Ferdinand II., Emperor of Germany, gave him a diploma to enjoy the titles of Duca di Nortombria and Comte de Varvicense in reparation of the cruel injustice with which he had been treated. Sir John Huband and George Digby swore that Leicester offered in their presence to settle £700 per annum on Lady Douglas, his wife, if she would disavow her marriage. Sir Robert found that by canon law he was not rightly married to Alice Leigh (*vide Baronia Anglica Concentrata*, by Sir T. C. Banks), and consequently he used his freedom to marry Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Southwell, Bt., of Woodrising, co. Norfolk, by whom he had a numerous issue, some of whom returned to England. The marriage with Alice Leigh was maintained in England, and Charles II. having in 1642 been refused admission at Coventry but received at Stoneleigh Abbey, in 1645 created Sir Thomas, Lord Leigh, and a little later in the same year, created Alice, wife of Sir Robert Dudley, Duchess, with the precedence of a Duke's children to her daughters, this was confirmed in 1660, so that the King of England virtually acknowledged the right of Sir Robert, who, however, had died at Carbello, 6 Sept., 1649. The Duke's eldest son (by Elizabeth née Southwell) Charles died in 1686, having married Maria Maddelena, daughter of the Duke of Rohant in Picardy, by whom he had with other issue a daughter, who became the wife of the Marchese Paleotti of Bologna, and whose daughter Adellida was the above-named Duchess of Shrewsbury. She had an unfortunate brother, who was hanged at Tyburn.

In 1663 a Survey of the Manor of Albrighton was made, the Right Hon. Dame Mary Talbot being the Lady of the Manor by virtue of dower, with remainder to Francis Earl of Shrewsbury. This Dame Mary was the daughter of Sir Percy Herbert and Elizabeth Craven, and it states that the Lord of Albrighton "of auntient time past hath holden the Mannor of Albrighton with Humfreston, Wyston and Bipeston of the King's Majesty, in capite by the service of one Knight's fee," &c. It would seem that the lords of Albrighton retained some rights of the overlordship until about this time, when they passed to the several owners of the aforesaid estates. This Dame Mary Talbot was great-grand-daughter of Sir Edward Herbert, who purchased Powis Castle from Edward Grey, the ancestor of Dame Cresagon Brigges, Lady of Humphreston at the same time. Lady Mary's mother Elizabeth was the daughter of Sir William Craven by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Whitmore of London, and sister of Sir William Whitmore who purchased the estate of Apley, near Bridgnorth. Her life as a "popish recusant" under the terrible penal laws of which Englishmen are now for the most part justly ashamed, could have been no enviable one (*vide Burns' Justice* and Dr. Jessopp's *One generation of a Norfolk House*), and it seems probable that the Talbots at this time enfranchised the manors held under their overlordship. One thing must be recorded in favour of the Duke of Shrewsbury, he was loyal to his own family. He leased previously to 1694 the Bowling Green in Albrighton parish to the Hon. Gilbert Talbot, and under this lease we find it in 1715 in possession of Edward Talbot of Albrighton, gentleman, who then holds a moiety of the house in possession of himself and his daughters Anne and Mary. While Lady Mary Talbot enjoyed her dower Sir Richard Astley of Patshull acted as Steward of the Manor. He was made a Bart. 13 Aug., 1662, and died 24 Feb., 1687, his son, Sir John of Patshull, being the last Baronet of that line, and his estates passing by purchase to the Pigotts, from whom in a similar manner they passed to the Earls of Dartmouth about the middle of the nineteenth century. This Sir Richard settled his estate of Beckbury on his natural daughter Anne, wife of Walter Stubbs of Harrington, near Shiffnal, in whose

descendants it continued and partly continues (for the Hall was recently sold by Miss Stubbs, the heiress) to the present day (*vide Transactions*, 2 S., VI. 251, Wenlock Corporation Records). From Sir Richard's brother Thomas, of East Court House, co. Warwick, descend the Astleys of Everleigh, Barts., and from his sister Margaret the present Lady of Humphreston, Scotts, Reades of Ipsden, co. Oxon, &c.

It seems unnecessary to proceed further with the several Lords of Albrighton which descended in the noble family of Talbot until the death of Bertram, 17th Earl of Shrewsbury, who died unmarried 10th August, 1856, upon which event one of the most celebrated lawsuits of modern times ensued, as to who should be his successor. This was terminated in favour of Earl Talbot, who thereupon succeeded to the title as 18th Earl and the principal portion of the estates, though a considerable portion passed by Will to Lord Edmund Howard, brother of the Duke of Norfolk, who upon coming into possession took the name of Talbot. Pepperhill, the mansion house of the Talbots, was the abode of John Talbot, who died in 1610, and was probably used by junior members of the family until a later period.

The Hills who lived at Lower Pepper Hill descended from

I. John Hill of Castle Morton, co. Worcester, an officer in the army of King Charles, believed to descend (*vide Nash's Hist. co. Worcester*) from the family of De Monte. He bore Sable a chevron or between three wild cats passant guardant. His son

II. William Hill was of Pepperhill, and muster master of Staffordshire. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Arden, and had issue

III. Anthony Hill of Pepperhill, who married Catherine, daughter of Mark Coyney of Weston Coyney, co. Stafford. They were married 8 July, 1710. The Coyneys of Weston Coyney were an ancient Staffordshire family, and related to some of the oldest families in that county. In the *Transactions*, VI. 45, Donington Church and Lordship, is some mention of the family, where a slight correction is required, it being stated that in 6 Charles I. Margaret, coheir of John Beist, Lord of the Manor of Atcham, alienated it to John Troyner, gentleman, which name "is probably a mistake for Coyney."

Such, however, was not the case, since from another MS. it is clear that the name should be Frogmer. Sampson Coyney had in 1633 married Anne, daughter and coheir of Philip Draycot of Paynsley, co. Stafford, and had issue with others John, his heir, and Mark, 5th son, ob. 2 July, 1695, of whom presently. The eldest son John married October, 1661, Helen, daughter and coheir of John Dawes of Caughley, near Broseley, Salop. Her sister Margaret married Ralph Browne, and carried the Caughley estate to him. He is called in some MS. "of Staffordshire," and since Ralph Browne of Caughley, parish of Broseley, was buried at Caverswall, co. Stafford, 29 March, 1743-4, it has been suggested that he was one of the Brownes of Caverswall, but the arms on the monuments at Benthall are those of the Brownes, Viscounts Montague. They are represented by the Wylde-Brownes, Vaughans, &c. John Coyney and Helen his wife had issue Sampson, who ob. s.p., and a daughter and heir Ellen, who in Sept., 1694, married William Gower of co. Worcester. Their only son, William Gower, who was Lord of Weston Coyney jure matris, was unfairly killed in a duel at a tavern in Drury Lane, Feb., 1725, by Major Orreby, who was tried at the Old Bailey, found guilty of murder and ordered for execution, but during the night he cut his throat in prison (Harl. MS. 7,178. Mark Coyney, the 5th son, mentioned above, ob. 2 July, 1695, had issue, John of Alveton Lodge, co. Stafford, Edward, a Catholic Priest, and the above-named Catherine, born April, 1692, wife of Anthony Hill of Pepperhill, whose son Edward had two sons, Walter William, who upon succeeding to the estate of his relations at Weston Coyney took the name of Coyney, and Richard, who purchased the estate of Stallington Hall, co. Stafford.

In the earlier history of Albrighton the family of Careles comes before us as of consequence in the neighbourhood and parish. Thus Eyton speaks of Roger, son of Nicholas Careles, who was a great benefactor to Albrighton Church:— On 2 May, 1332, a writ issued to see if the King would be injured by this Roger Careles granting a messuage, 60 acres of land and 20 shillings annual rent in Albrighton to a Chaplain to say Mass daily in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and for the souls of Roger and all the faithful

departed at the Altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Albrighton Church, which virtually means that he established a chantry in the Parish Church. The writer has been informed that the house at the cross roads, a fine specimen of timber and plaster work, was formerly the residence of the Careles family, but they seem rather to have been connected with Atcheley, an estate lying on the confines of the parish, and now divided into two portions, one of which some years ago belonged to a Mr. Head, and the other to a Mr. Angeworth, whose relative, Ann Angeworth, married John Wheeler. Their son Humphrey Wheeler, ob. 1834, by his wife Margaret, nee Foxall, had issue George, who married Jane Barbara, daughter of William Temple Best of co. Worcester, son of William Best and Annie Dicken, whose mother was Henrietta, daughter of Sir William Temple. George Wheeler and Jane Barbara his wife had with other issue a son George William Wheeler, born 3 Jan., 1845, who married Kathleen, daughter and coheir of Rev. Francis Newport by Catherine his wife, daughter of Sir John Rupert Humble, Bart., of Cloncoskoran, co. Waterford. He came into possession of the Atcheley Manor estate, and sold it lately to the late Col. Kenyon-Slaney, M.P., of Hatton Grange. The other portion of the Atcheley estate has also been recently sold (Ex inform. G. W. Wheeler). Blakeway says that John Corbett, gent., 35 Henry VI. married the heiress of Careless of Albrighton, with whom he had Acheley and Longnor. This John Corbet, or Corbett, was son of John who was appointed forester of the Wrekin in 4 Henry V., son of John of Besford, supers 10 Richard II., son of John of Stanford, who in 41 Edward III. granted to his son a lease of lands in Habberley.

The name of Careless has been rendered famous by the valour and loyalty of Col. Careless, who was instrumental in saving the life of King Charles II., and the following particulars taken from Add. MSS. 14,844c in the British Museum may be interesting. The MS. refers to a lawsuit for the Careless property.

I. John Carlos, gent., bore Ermine on a chief gules three lozenges of the first. He married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Thomas Broomhall of Broomhall, co. Stafford, gent. They had issue

II. John Carlos, of whom presently. 2. Col. William Carlos of Broomhall, co. Stafford, ob. s.p. 1689, who was the preserver of the life of Charles II. He purchased the estates, and gave them away in his life to his nephew Edward. Over the name of Col. Carlos is a coat of arms in pencil, part of the Crest being inked in. It is a tree erased & bruised by a fess charged with three modern crowns. The Crest is two sceptres in saltire crossing a wreath. The motto, *Subditus fidelis est regni salus*.

III. John Carlos of Broomhall, co. Stafford, gent., elder son, married a daughter of . . . Darne (? Deane) of Brewood, co. Stafford, gent., and had issue.

IV. Edward of Broomhall, ob. 1714. He purchased part of the estate. By Dorothy, his wife, daughter of George Smith of Queensborough, co. Leicester, Esq., he had issue—1. Charles, of whom presently; 2. William, of whom hereafter; 3. Lawrence Carlos, gent.

V. Charles Carlos of Broomhall, co. Stafford, Esq., ob. 1725. He married Mary, eldest daughter of Robert Willcox of Stafford town, gent., and had issue—1. Edward Carlos, Esq., ob. 1764; 2. Elizabeth, ob. s.p. 1775, wife of Robert Chambers; 3. Mary, a spinster, who ob. s.p. 1780. The eldest branch of the family thus became extinct.

VI. William Carlos, gent., 2nd son of Edward and Dorothy his wife (see No. III. above), married Ann, daughter of Thomas Grisold, gent., of Wooton Wawen, co. Warwick, and had issue

VII. William Carlos, gent., ob. 1784, who married Ann, daughter of Mr. Thomas Smith, and had issue—1. Thomas Carlos, gent., heir, claimant and remainder in fee simple; 2. William Carlos, gent.

The name Grisold in the above pedigree is the more modern form of the old name Greswold, a family seated at Solihull and Longdon, co. Warwick.

It will be seen above that Albrighton Hall, the old Manor House, was pulled down, probably upon the removal of the Lords of the Manor to Pepper Hill. Without entering further into the subject, it may be remarked that there can be but one Hall in each Manor, and that every Manor had its Manor House, the residence of the Lord of the Manor,

who customarily held the Courts, &c., of his Manor in the hall of his mansion house, which thence was habitually spoken of as the Hall. The Norman Manors frequently disregarded the limits of the Saxon Manors and parishes. Strictly speaking, the only houses which have any right to the title "Hall" are the original residences of the Lords of the Manor, thus in this neighbourhood we have Beamish Hall, Boninghale Hall, Humphreston Hall, Bishton Hall, &c., and we may include one old Saxon Hall, i.e., Cylles Hall, now called Kilsall, which though not the Hall of a Manor subsequently, apparently in Saxon times, bore that title. When the Lord of a Manor removed his residence to some other spot or built a new mansion where he held his Court, that bore the title of Court or Court House, thus in this neighbourhood we have Moseley Hall, the seat of the old family of Whitgreave, but when that building was converted into a farm house, the Lord of the Manor rightly named the new mansion which he had built Moseley Court. It is well to have a clear knowledge upon this subject, and not to call every house of a superior kind a Hall. In comparatively speaking modern times two houses sprang up in Albrighton, one called Albrighton Hall at the east side of the parish, another called Albrighton Old Hall, formerly the residence of the late James Loxdale, Esq., who presented an organ of very sweet tone to Albrighton Church, which has lately given place to a larger instrument. Of the other Albrighton Hall and the estate attaching to it an account has already been given in the *Transactions*, VI. 86, &c., Donington Church and Lordship, and Further Particulars of Donington, IX. 62 et seq., so that to bring it up to the present date it is only necessary to add that shortly previously to his death in 1892 the late G. J. Barker of Albrighton Hall removed to London, and ordered the sale of this estate, which was divided into several lots, the Mansion House becoming the property of Mr. Lyon, who now resides there; other parts were sold as building plots, so that as an estate it has been practically dispersed.

We find attached to the Lordship of Albrighton, Bishton, Whiston and Humphreston, and Blakeway speaks (2 S., XI., 104), of a grant of land in Stanton, near Shiffnal, which was

part of the Talbot estate, to Simon Harrington de Bysheton for his services as counsellor. The original of this grant is given in the *Transactions*, IX. 33. Further particulars of Donington. The date of the grant is 9 Henry VII., and it is evident from it that Bishton was at that time in their possession. If the Pedigree following the above transcript of the grant be looked at, and we bear in mind that Sydnall (as now spelt) and Sydnall lane form the boundary of what is called the Red House Estate, the oldest possession of the Bishtons, it seems likely that there was a connection between the family of Harrington and that of Bishton, and this is confirmed by Harl. MS. 1,557 which says that Henry Sydenhall married Catherine, daughter and coheir of Philip Lunell, and had issue Thomas Sydenhall, father of Thomas Sydenhall, father of two coheirs, viz., 1. Joan, wife of Thomas Shuckburgh of co. Warwick, and 2. Alice, wife of John Warren. The latter had issue, Thomas Warren, father of an heiress, Anne, wife of Thomas Bishton in Com. Salop. This Anne Warren, the heiress, was also wife of Thomas Harrington of Bishton. It seems far from improbable, therefore, that a branch of the de Bipestons or Bishtons settled down on this estate after the above marriage. The latest member of this old family of Bishton having property in Albrighton was the late Rev. Henry Bishton.

I. Roger Bishton (believed to be grandson of Roger Bishton buried at Donington, Dec., 1587, by Joanna, his wife, buried Feb., 1593), buried at Donington, March, 1657. Had issue by his wife Dorothea, who was buried in October, 1617,

II. William, only son, bapt. 1603, married 1631, ob. viv. pat. 1649. Married Sarah Beech of Arstoll or Arstoft, and had issue—1. Roger, of whom presently; 2. John, who left issue

III. Roger, the eldest son, was bapt. 1632, and buried 17 Jan., 1670, having issue by his wife Ruth,

IV. William, eldest son, bapt. May, 1663, buried 1741. He married 1stly in 1701, Elizabeth Lovatt of Lapley; and 2ndly in 1706, Sarah Whiston. By the first wife he had issue

V. William, born 1704, married June, 1732, buried 1770. He married Lucy Whiston, heiress of the Kilsall White House estate. She brought the Manor or Lordship of Donington into the family. They had issue—1. John, of whom presently; 2. William born 1740, ob. s.p. 1814, who married Frances Blakemore; 3. Anne, born 1737, married 1759, Thomas Cuxson; 4. Lucy, born 1742, married in 1769 John Minor of Shawbury, co. Salop.

VI. John Bishton, the elder son, was born Feb., 1735, and died in 1806. Having married in 1765 Elizabeth (christened Betty) Jellicorse of Donington, daughter of William Jellicorse of Donington, ob. 1792, by Mary, buried 27 March, 1823, daughter of Thomas Jellicoe (*vid. Transactions*, IX., 4, 7, Further particulars of Donington). The Writer is kindly informed by a member of the family that this marriage brought the Shackerley Estate to the Bishtons, and that this John Bishton, who was a Banker in Wolverhampton, was one of the founders of what is now the Lilleshall Company. He is an instance, and others will follow, of a gentleman of old family engaging in the development of iron and coal mines, and thereby amassing considerable wealth. By his wife Elizabeth he had issue—1. John, of whom presently; 2. William, born 1773, ob. 1805, who married Elizabeth Wright, by whom he had issue, a. John, who was at one time the owner of Ruckley Grange, in the neighbouring parish of Tong, born 1802. He died in Van Dieman's land, where he held a government living, and left issue by his wife Anne Wright, who was also his cousin; b. William, who died unmarried; c. Anne, ob. in 1853, wife of Captain, afterwards Admiral Adderley, but had no issue. 3. George, a man of a most sanguine temperament and persuasive tongue, ever expecting to realize a colossal fortune. He embarked his own wealth and persuaded his relatives to embark theirs in speculations, which, so far from succeeding, turned out disastrous failures, and thus the fortunes of this old family were shipwrecked and George himself, a ruined man, died in a small house in Sydnal lane, though most kindly treated and cared for by the excellent man who had purchased his family estates. 4. Thomas, born 1785, who married in 1811 the daughter of Joseph Dale of Chester, and sister of Rev. Joseph

Dale, for so long a period Curate-in-charge of Donington. He died in 1839 at Kilsall White House, aged 54, and that estate was sold soon after. He was the father of the late Rev. Henry Bishton, born at Donington Rectory, 3 January, 1812, a well read and most amiable man, lived a life of seclusion at his house in Albrighton, and died 25th August, 1887, aged 75. By his first wife, whom he married on 4th July, 1854, he had a son, Henry Dale Bishton, born at Tong Vicarage, 28 April, 1855; by his second wife he had no issue. 5. Lucy, born 1770, who in 1794 married William Botfield of Decker Hill, and died s'p. in 1853.

VII. John Bishton, the eldest son, was born in 1766 and died in 1810. In 1791 he married Sophia Baylis, whose family owned Neachill and other property in the neighbourhood, and Admaston, near Wellington. The Bishtons purchased Neachill, as it is now called, from the Baylis family, members of which, though in reduced circumstances, still continue in the vicinity of their former property. They had issue a daughter and heiress, Elizabeth Sophia, who about 1815 married Rev. William Garnett, and was mother of the late Rev. William Bishton Garnett Botfield of Decker Hill, co. Salop.

It will be noticed from the above pedigree that the representation of the principal surviving branch of the Whiston family vested in the Bishtons, and that they gathered into themselves the blood of many of the later landowners in the neighbourhood, so that one feels a deep touch of regret that their ruin should have been accomplished by the speculative indiscretions of one member of their family. Their family mansion on the Red House estate has entirely disappeared. It was a good house of brick, standing nearly in a direct line between Shackerley and Kilsall. When Capt. Durant had purchased the Tong Castle estate from the Duke of Kingston many alterations were made upon it, and one of the possessors built near the walled garden a large and conspicuous farm house, which looked across the stream in the valley on to the Bishtons home at the Red House. This stream, which was then only a brook, was much deepened and widened in 1847 by John Jones of Kilsall, to form a trout pool. George

Bishton disgusted with Mr. Durant's irrepressible farm house pulled down the old *cunabulum gentis* and carried the materials across to Neachill, then quite a small house, and with them built two fine rooms, the drawing room and dining room facing the East, thus making Neachill the chief seat of the family; so perished the Red House, which has now become *nomen et preterea nihil*.

The Oatleys who held Bishton were living there within the memory of man, and the family is commemorated by a tablet in the church. The last who lived at Bishton, a tall and handsomely made man, left issue a son and a daughter, who removed from Bishton to Brighton.

With respect to the family of Whiston, the details are scanty, the name. Thomas Whiston, appears as one of the first High Burgesses of Albrighton 1663-4, and the name of Alexander Sheinton in the same capacity. It would appear that the latter family subsequently owned property at Whiston, which was partly transmitted by a coheir to the family of Mr. John Wood. Thomas Whiston also appears as giving a goose and plover in 1600 for the use of the larder at Pepper Hill. The principal residence at Whiston was lately occupied by Col. Lane, descended from the ancient Staffordshire family of Lane of Kings Bromley, formerly of Bentley, which was connected so intimately with the preservation of King Charles II.'s life after the battle of Worcester, and which bears in commemoration of that event an honourable augmentation to their arms, viz., three lions passant guardant or on a Canton gules. Col. Lane was acting as chief agent to his relative the Earl of Dartmouth on his Patshull estate. In the Ashmolean Library at Oxford is preserved a small salver of wood bearing on a silver plate the inscription: "This salver is part of that oak in which his Majesty King Charles 2nd concealed himself from the Rebels, and was given to this University by M^{rs} Lætitia Lane." Whiston's Cross, where, doubtlessly, in the ages of our faithful forefathers there stood a cross, is the name now applied to the vicinity where the road from Boningale to Shifnal is crossed by that from Albrighton to Burnhill Green and Rudge.

Humphreston has already been treated of somewhat copiously, but a few remarks may be added. The name is evidently derived from an early inhabitant and holder of the Manor, and is personal. So late as 1296 there is a grant of land to John Humphrey, who was living as late as 1350, and was the son of William Humphrey of Humphreston, which looks like the family being of British or Welsh origin. The Arms are Argent an eagle displayed vert debruised by a chevron gules charged with three roses of the first. The eagle displayed might come from the Arms of Prince Owain Gwynedd, but the same cognizance, though of a different tincture, was borne by the family of Mitton of Weston, in this neighbourhood; the Mitton eagle, however, has two heads. The red chevron charged with three white roses suggests the neighbouring family of Pembruge. The eldest line of the family ended in an heiress, Margaret, 1412, wife of John Wynnesbury, and their daughter and heir Margaret, 1447, was the wife of Sir Fulke Sprencheaux, by whom she had four coheirs, three of whom only are known to have left issue, and from each of these three the ancient family of Sandford of the Isle, near Shrewsbury, is descended. The eldest of these coheirs, i.e. Margaret Sprencheaux, married 1stly Richard Lee of Langley, and 2ndly, William Leighton of Plash. To this branch of the family the following deed refers:—"Willus Humfreiston dedit D'næ Margaritæ Sprenchose nuper uxori Fulconis Sprenchose manerium de Dotinton alias dict Bemysshall et manerium de Stanway ad term' vitæ remanere post mortem dæ Margaritæ Rico Lee et Margeritæ uxori ejus ad eorum vitam remanere Johi Lee filio ãni Rici et Margaritæ remanere Rico et Robto fratribus dci Johis remanere Fulconi Lee filio dci Rici et Margaritæ uxori ejus remanere Fulconi Sprenchose et Margaritæ uxori ejus filiæ Johis Wynnysbury et heredibus. Dat. 21 Ed. IV." (Stowe MSS. 778). John Lee, the son here mentioned, left an only daughter and heir, Margaret Lee, who married Richard Brooke of Claverley, and from them by a series of heiresses descend the present family at Humphreston, who are also descended in female lines from most of the oldest families in the neighbourhood. But the Humphreston Manor itself, and indeed those of Donington and Stanway, under the

The first of these was the... the second was... the third was... the fourth was... the fifth was... the sixth was... the seventh was... the eighth was... the ninth was... the tenth was... the eleventh was... the twelfth was... the thirteenth was... the fourteenth was... the fifteenth was... the sixteenth was... the seventeenth was... the eighteenth was... the nineteenth was... the twentieth was... the twenty-first was... the twenty-second was... the twenty-third was... the twenty-fourth was... the twenty-fifth was... the twenty-sixth was... the twenty-seventh was... the twenty-eighth was... the twenty-ninth was... the thirtieth was... the thirty-first was... the thirty-second was... the thirty-third was... the thirty-fourth was... the thirty-fifth was... the thirty-sixth was... the thirty-seventh was... the thirty-eighth was... the thirty-ninth was... the fortieth was... the forty-first was... the forty-second was... the forty-third was... the forty-fourth was... the forty-fifth was... the forty-sixth was... the forty-seventh was... the forty-eighth was... the forty-ninth was... the fiftieth was... the fifty-first was... the fifty-second was... the fifty-third was... the fifty-fourth was... the fifty-fifth was... the fifty-sixth was... the fifty-seventh was... the fifty-eighth was... the fifty-ninth was... the sixtieth was... the sixty-first was... the sixty-second was... the sixty-third was... the sixty-fourth was... the sixty-fifth was... the sixty-sixth was... the sixty-seventh was... the sixty-eighth was... the sixty-ninth was... the seventieth was... the seventy-first was... the seventy-second was... the seventy-third was... the seventy-fourth was... the seventy-fifth was... the seventy-sixth was... the seventy-seventh was... the seventy-eighth was... the seventy-ninth was... the eightieth was... the eighty-first was... the eighty-second was... the eighty-third was... the eighty-fourth was... the eighty-fifth was... the eighty-sixth was... the eighty-seventh was... the eighty-eighth was... the eighty-ninth was... the ninetieth was... the ninety-first was... the ninety-second was... the ninety-third was... the ninety-fourth was... the ninety-fifth was... the ninety-sixth was... the ninety-seventh was... the ninety-eighth was... the ninety-ninth was... the hundredth was...

above limitation, passed to others. The first to the male line of Humphreston, which continued in a regular succession of William Humphrestons until, as Stowe MS. 475 tells us, "William Humphreston sonne slain et. 20, A^o 1623." It seems probable that his father survived him for some few years. On p. 94 of Blakeway's *History* it is stated that Robert Corbet lived at Humphreston about the year 1723, where the 7 seems a mistake for a 6. At the Visitation of 1623 the last William Humphreston is entered as son and heir. Robert Corbet, the 2nd son of Sir Vincent Corbet of Moreton Corbet by Frances, daughter of William Humphreston (she was buried at Moreton Corbet, 13 Feb., 1615) succeeded to the estate, and there are still evidences of his occupation in sundry architectural remains at the old Hall. Upon succeeding to the larger and more important estate of Ynysymaengwyn (the isle of the white stone) Humphreston seems to have been given, as was formerly often the case, as the portion of a daughter, and passed to the Greys, who were, like their connections the Foresters of Tong, Catholics, of which some evidences remain under the roof at Humphreston. The family of Briggs of Haughton acted as their agent, and from such conduct incurred the anger of the authorities of the time, who fined Humphrey Briggs £5 for negligence in levying fines on recusants, &c. *Vide Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. VIII., p. 130, and *Elizabethan Religious Settlement* by Dom H. N. Birt, O.S.B. Thomas Grey was buried at Donington, 4 Dec., 1652. John Grey jure uxoris of Humphreston (some have supposed, the name is a mistake for Edward) was son of Edward Grey "who challengeth to be Lord Powis" (Harl. MS. 1552) by Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Southwell of Woodrising, co. Norfolk, by Alice, daughter of Sir Thomas Cornwallis of Broome Hall, co. Suffolk, and grandson of Edward Grey, ob. 9 Sept., 1592, at Buildwas, by Grisagona or Cresagon, daughter of Sir John Gifford of Weston sub Edge, co. Gloucester, *not* as Blakeway's *History* says on page 108, of Chillington. This error is absolutely recorded in Harl. MS. 1396. The Greys, of course, had property in the neighbourhood at Sutton Maddock, and still nearer, at Ruckley. The Giffards at Chillington are descended from the Humphrestons, hence the following:—

On the morrow of the Ascension, 22 Ed. IV. Between Thomas Knyghtley, Chaplain, John Dudston, Chaplain, John Hoorde, William Humfreyston, William Clerk and Humphrey Swynerton, complainants, and Robert Giffard, Esq^{re}, and Cassandra his wife, deforcians, of the Manor of Whyston in the Parish of Penkerych, Robert and Cassandra remitted all rights to the complainants and heirs of Thomas, for which the complainants gave them 400 marks of silver.—Brewood, “*Hic jacet Domina Cassandra filia Thomæ Humferston Armigeri et uxor Roberti Gifford Armigeri, ac domini de Chillington, ac postea uxor Johannis Brodoke Armigeri, quæ Cassandra obiit . . . die mensis Januarii Anno Dom. 1537 ejus animâ propitietur Deus.*” The family of Grey was ruined by lawsuits. Their Buildwas estate was sold to Lord Bridgewater, one of whom becoming a Catholic his property was seized and used for defraying expenses in the Civil War. It was then sold to the Actons, and from them passed with a daughter to the Moseley family, the present owners. Among the Deeds of the Vaughans of Nannau is one of Lord Powis, signed John Lord P., and dated 22 May, 1 Henry VII., also an Indenture dated 30 Oct., 1600, between Peter Semyne of London “*marchaunt and framiger,*” Henry Williams of Cowhitlande (which means Cochwillan), in the county of Carnarvon, gent., and Edward Grey of Buyldwas, in the county of Salop, Esquier, which concerns the sum of £1,200.

Since the family of Grey and its connections, which at one time exercised considerable influence in Shropshire, has now passed away, it may be of interest to give a pedigree of the Giffords of Weston sub Edge, taken from Harl. MSS. 1,544, 1,041, 1,543, and other authorities, to the match with this family.

I. Sir William Gifford of Weston under Edge, co. Gloucester, bore, Argent ten torteaux four, three, two and one, and married twice. 1stly, Jane, daughter of Sir John Rogers; and 2ndly, Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Paulet, K.B., who was a commander under Lord Audley at Blackheath, 1497. This Sir John Paulet married Alice, daughter of Sir William Paulet, who for his valour in the French wars had been knighted by Henry VI. (by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of

John Deneband of Hinton St. George, which came to them from the Giffards, who had it from the Poutrals). Sir William was son of Sir Thomas Paulet (by Margaret, daughter and heir of Henry Boniton, who had married Alice, daughter and heir of John de Bois), which Sir Thomas was son of Sir John (by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir John Creedy of Creedy, co. Devon). This last named Sir John Paulet was also father of a second son William, a Sergeant-at-Law, who (by Eleanor, daughter of Philip de la Mere of Noney, co. Devon) had a son, Sir John Paulet, who married Constance, eldest coheir of Hugh St. John, ob. vit. pat., son of Thomas, 5th Lord St. John of Bazing, by the Lady Philippa, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, by Philippa his wife, daughter and heir of Lionel Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence. Their son and heir, John Paulet, died in 1488, leaving (by his wife Eleanor, daughter and coheir of Robert Roos of Gedney, co. Lincoln, a younger son of William of Belvoir) a son, Sir John, K.B., mentioned above as commander under Lord Audley. Sir William Gifford and Eleanor his wife had issue

II. John Gifford of Weston under Edge, who married Joane, daughter of Henry Brydges, Bruges or Bridges (for the name is very variously spelt) of Berkshire, son of Thomas Bruges, 14 Henry VII. (by Florence, daughter of William Darreil of Littlecote, co. Wilts), son of Sir Giles, ob. 6 Edward IV. (by Catherine, daughter of James Clifford of Frampton), son of Sir Thomas Bridges (by Alice, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Berkeley of Coberley and his wife Elizabeth, sister and heir of John Lord Chandos), son of Sir Baldwin Bridges of Solers by Isabel his wife, second daughter of Sir Peter Grandison, son of William and Sibyl Tregoz. By his wife Joane, nee Brydges, this John Gifford had issue,

III. Sir John Gifford, Knt., of Weston under Edge, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir George Throckmorton of Coughton. Her mother Catherine was the daughter of Nicholas Lord Vaux of Harrowden, ob. 1524, by his first wife Elizabeth, widow of Sir William Parr and daughter and coheir of Henry Lord Fitzhugh, a firm supporter of the House of Lancaster (by Alice, daughter of Richard Nevill,

Earl of Salisbury), which Henry Lord Fitzhugh was son of William Lord Fitzhugh (by Margery, daughter of William Lord Willoughby D'Éresby and his 2nd wife Joane, sister and coheir of Edmund Holland, Earl of Kent), son of Henry Lord Fitzhugh, K.G., who more than once travelled to Jerusalem and Cairo, and died 11 Jan., 1424 (by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Grey, son of Sir John Grey of Rotherfield, son of John Lord Grey of Rotherfield). Since Elizabeth (née Throckmorton) wife of Sir John Gifford was sister of Sir Robert who married Muriel, daughter of Thomas Lord Berkeley, her daughter Grisagona, wife of Edward Grey of Buildwas, was first cousin to Mary, wife of Edward Arden of Park Hall, co. Warwick, whose daughter Catherine married Sir Edward Devereux of Castle Bromwich, and also of Emma or Anne Throckmorton, wife of Ralph Sheldon of Beoley, and mother of Muriel, wife of William Gower of Redmarley, co. Worcester, a family mentioned previously as related to the Coyneys of Weston Coyney. This William Gower's coheir Ursula married William Adams of Cleeton.

Grisagona or Cresagon Grey, then Lady Brigges, was of Humphreston in 1664, and her daughter Frances having married Ferrers Fowke of Wyrley Grove, had two children buried at Donington, one in 1650, the other, Mary, in 1653. They were probably staying with their grandmother at Humphreston.

There was a connection between the Moretons and this neighbourhood, Sarah, daughter of Matthew Moreton, having married Thomas Chapman of Albrighton, and had issue—1. Thomas; 2. Richard; 3. John; 4. Edward; 5. Sarah; 6. Apolina; 7. Elizabeth. Lady Brigges in conjunction with her son Sir Humphrey sold the Manor to Edmund Waring, a Colonel in the Parliamentary army, to whom, however much they may disapprove of his principles, his successors owe a debt of gratitude for having relieved the estate from several burdens. As previously related the Manor passed with a daughter and coheir of Edmund Waring to the Colmores, and it was during their tenure that many alterations took place in the present old Hall, the former one perishing by decay. The Colmores resided chiefly in London, being engaged

in avocations to which that locality was more suitable. Though the estate lies partly in Albrighton, yet Humphreston Hall itself is in the parish of Donington. On page 31 of Blakeway's *History*, for Colonel Warren should be read Colonel Waring. The Warings bore Argent a chevron between three storks' heads erased at the neck sable. The Colmores bore Gules billettée and three crescents or. The present family bear Argent a lion rampant vert armed and vulned in the breast gules.

There was a branch of the old Staffordshire family of Wightwick had a property in Albrighton. Francis Wightwick, an Utter Barrister of the Inner Temple, aged 45 in 1663, died 1692, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Pyott of Strethay, co. Stafford, and was father of Richard, 7 years old in 1663, who married Martha, daughter of Thomas Willett of Fulham, co. Middlesex, by whom he was father of William, a burgess of Albrighton, who by Catherine his wife, daughter of Lutyge (Lutwich) had an only son, Thomas, ob. 15 July, 1754, who married 18 May, 1714, Anne, daughter of Tristram, and had issue, with others, William, who by Anne his wife, daughter of . . . Green, Esq., had a son, Thomas Wightwick of Sutton House, Albrighton. He married Sarah, daughter and heir of Roden of Ruckley Grange, and she seems to have been a widow in 1790, when she held 166 acres in Albrighton. She was remembered by old people in the parish of Tong in 1866 as the last person who lived in old Ruckley Grange, subsequently the residence and property of Sir Edward Durand, Bart. After her death the place was sold, the old Grange nearly entirely pulled down and a new mansion erected. At the west end of Albrighton Church, near the tower, is a stone commemorating some of the last of the Wightwicks of Albrighton and also the family of Bidwell. Some still remember Mr. Orson Bidwell, a medical man at Albrighton, who was the last Mayor of Albrighton, and whose son, Dr. Bidwell, ob. s.p. The Wightwicks were an ancient family deriving their name from Wightwick not far from Wolverhampton. They intermarried with the families of Brooke of Lichfield, from which came the Earls of Warwick, the Milstons or Milsoms of the Barnhurst Manor House (now a sewage farm of the Wolver-

hampton Corporation), the Brookes of Blackland (from whom by females come those of Haughton, near Shiffnall), the Grosvenors of Bridgnorth, and the Moretons of Engleton. Many of them were lawyers of eminence.

Francis Wightwick of Wightwick, 1614, had by Margaret, daughter of Matthew Moreton of Engleton three sons, the eldest of whom, Alexander, had the paternal estate at Wightwick. He was a Royalist, and died in 1660. By his 1st wife, Anne, daughter and coheir of John Hunt of Shrewsbury, he had Francis the Utter Barrister, mentioned above; his 2nd wife was Alice, daughter of John Lane of Bentley, co. Stafford, and so aunt of Jane Lane "of immortal memory." The 2nd son of the above Francis and Margaret was John, who married Mary, daughter of Richard Jones of Shrewsbury, whose issue died out. The 3rd son was Samuel, of Marleston, co. Berks, whose son John married Jane, daughter and coheir of Edward Prichard of Llancaiach, and their daughter Anne became the 2nd wife of Henry Fermor of Banbury, who by his 1st wife Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Brooke of Madeley, co. Salop, had an only child, Eleanor, wife of William Adams of Broseley, co. Salop, ob. 1798. By this 2nd wife Henry Fermor (who was 2nd son of Henry Fermor of Tusmore, co. Oxford), had a son, Henry Fermor of Worcester, ob. in 1800, who by his wife Catherine, neé Bowyer, had an only child, Catherine, ob. s.p. 13 September, 1824, wife of Henry Maire of Lartington. The family of Prichard, i.e. ab Richard, was descended from Gwaithvoed Vawr, Lord of Ystrad Towy and Gwynvae, co. Carmarthen. Particulars of other descents in this neighbourhood from the Wightwicks have been already given, e.g. that of the Whites of Shrewsbury, and probably of Cosford, the Yates of Shackerley, now of the Wood, the Slaneys of Hatton, &c. *vide Transactions.*, Vol. IX., Further particulars of Donington, pp. 13, 14.

The Meeson property consisted of several portions, but the principal residence is at the eastern extremity of the village, opposite to the present entrance to Albrighton Hall. It was formerly a house consisting of two gables, but in the age when architectural taste lay in flatness and neatness the

portion of the front between the two gables was built up so as to make a straight line between the two gables, which disappeared behind this new parapet, the exterior slopes of the gables, however, were left so that the front presents the aspect of a square (of course, perfectly flat) with the two upper corners cut off, perforated by three rows of windows four in a row. Though a good and commodious house, its present appearance is scarcely calculated to strike the beholder as a thing of beauty. The Meesons came from a place of the same name, a township in the Parish of Bolas Magna, co. Salop, and seem to be of ancient blood and some position, members of the family being designated "gentleman" and "esquire." There is some obscurity as to the exact descent of the Meeson property. We find three coheirs, probably daughters of Henry Whiting, viz., 1. Elizabeth, wife of Robert Salt; 2. Anne, wife of Richard Bailey; 3. Dorothy, wife of Joseph Hill, apparently the son of Thomas Hill the younger, and probably of the Pepperhill family. The daughter of Joseph Hill married John Coöke, and had issue three coheirs, viz., 1. Elizabeth, wife of Richard Reynolds; 2. Anne, wife of Thomas Fallowfield; and 3. Mary, wife of Walter Woodcock 1715, at which date he is mentioned in one of the Harriotts Hayes Deeds in connection with Thomas Devey of Kingslow, co. Salop, whose daughter Margaret married Thomas Wightwick of Billbrook, brother of William Wightwick of Albrighton. Richard Reynolds had by his wife Elizabeth, neé Cooke, four daughters coheirs, viz., Elizabeth, Margaret, Dolly and Mary. Of these Dolly married Thomas Meeson, and had issue Richard, John, Elizabeth and Catherine. It would appear that Thomas Meeson bought up the rights of Hill in 1781. From a Deed of 1771 it appears that at that date Elizabeth and Margaret Reynolds were unmarried, and their sister Mary wife of . . . Hahn, and also that William Wightwick had some common interest with them, perhaps as a trustee. Richard and John Meeson appear in a Deed of 1820. Another portion of the property is connected with the old family of Stubbs and that of Plimley, the former of which must have been of great influence formerly in this neighbourhood, and the latter possessed the Brewood Hall estate, the old home

of the Fowkes, and sold it to one of Lord Galway's family. Sir Henry Bridgeman, afterwards created the 1st Lord Bradford of that family, a man greatly respected, was also connected with the estate. In 1735 is an Indenture between 1. Edward Jordan; 2. Thomas Devey; 3. Walter Woodcock and wife, and 4. Walter Stubbs.

Edward Jordan, be it remembered, had married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Wightwick, and his daughter Joan had by her husband Thomas Offley of Gorscote a daughter Joan, who brought lands in Stonall to her husband, John Turner of Sutton Coldfield, 1684. He had also a son Edward Jordan, who died in 1699, having married the daughter and coheir of John Wyke of Priors Lee, near Shifnal, by whom he had issue a son, Edward Jordan of Priors Lee, who in 1720 was Sheriff of Shropshire, and in 1757 had also an estate in the Abbey Foregate at Shrewsbury, and this is the Edward of the Deed mentioned above. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Henry Greswold, and had several children, but the only one who survived was Sarah, born 1684, and who died in 1763, having married Humphrey Pitt of Priors Lee, who died at Bath in the summer of 1769, leaving four daughters coheirs. The connection with the Bridgeman family came through the Greswoldes, since Mrs. Jordan's brother, Rev. Marshall Greswolde succeeding his brothers, became finally heir of Rev. Henry Greswolde, and was succeeded by his daughter, Mary Greswolde of Malvern Hall, wife of David Lewis, Esq., by whom she had issue—1. Henry Greswolde Lewis of Malvern Hall, who married Hon. Charlotte Bridgeman, daughter of Henry, 1st Lord Bradford of that family, but died s.p. in 1829. 2. Anna Maria, married in 1773 Wilbraham, 5th Earl of Dysart, s.p.; 3. Magdalene, married in 1791 Lionel, 4th Earl of Dysart, s.p.; 4. Elizabeth, died unmarried.

The Meeson estate at Albrighton went to the 2nd son, John Meeson, who had also purchased from the Pigots of Patsbui the Harriotts Hayes estate; and in 1837 we have deeds showing that this John Meeson and Maria his wife sold the latter property to James Heath, from whom it passed in 1847 to George Jones, Esq., who at one time had nearly been the purchaser of the Priors Lee Estate.

With respect to John Meeson and his wife Maria, nee Green, we find that John Green of Dixon's Green, Dudley, married 26 August, 1784, Elizabeth Woodcock, who was born 12 November, 1755, and died at Hales Owen, 22 Jan., 1837. John Green himself was born 5 December, 1752, and died 8 December, 1802. Their third daughter, Maria Green, was born 7 November, 1792, and married at Albrighton, 8 April, 1824, to John Meeson, Esq., of that place. He was buried at the same place, 7 July, 1840, and Maria his wife on 29 December, 1852. They died without issue. There is a copy of agreement of 11 July, 1854, between John Meeson and George Jones, and an indenture of the next year mentions George Parsons, John Meeson Parsons, John Green and John Meeson, and in that year John Meeson (presumably a nephew of the John above) sold the estate to George Jones. In 1856 an exchange of lands took place between George Jones, Esq., and George J. Barker, Esq., by which the portion of Meesons estate adjoining that of Albrighton Hall became a part of the latter estate, and a portion of the Albrighton Hall property was incorporated with the Beamish Hall estate. In 1857 George Jones died, having incorporated the remaining portion of the Meeson estate, which contained lands formerly belonging to Woodcock, Wightwick, Plymley, &c., in his Humphreston Hall estate. The Albrighton Hall property continued in the possession of G. J. Barker, Esq., until 1891, when the larger portion was sold, but a remnant, including the residence of the Meesons, passed by Will to Raymond Barker, Esq., who continues to own it, though being a Barrister and resident in London, he seldom visits the neighbourhood.

We give some further particulars of families who owned portions of the Meeson estate, and who from their position and descent, are of considerable interest.

I. Edward Lord Dudley, who died in 1643, married Theodosia, daughter of Sir James Harrington, by Lucy, daughter of Sir William Sidney of Penshurst. This Lord Dudley was a dissolute man, and father by his mistress, Elizabeth Tomlinson, of Dud Dudley, who took great interest in his father's iron works and collieries, and wrote a work upon the subject entitled *Metallum Martis*. A writer speaking of

this Lord Dudley says: "the only creditable thing I find recorded of this Edward Sutton is, that in 1588 he in conjunction with divers other noblemen and gentlemen went to sea to serve in the queen's army against the Spanish Armada." He and his wife had issue an only son,

II. Sir Ferdinando Sutton, K.B., who joined with his father in ousting a poor gentlewoman, Martha Gravenor or Grosvenor, from her possessions, she being a recusant, and they taking advantage of the tyrannical and disgraceful penal laws against Catholics. However, little good accrued to him from this injustice, for he died more than twenty years before his father. His wife was Honora, only daughter of Edward Seymour, Lord Beauchamp, who brought him a fortune of £10,000. They had issue

III. Frances Sutton, only child, much neglected by her grandfather, but upon his death Baroness Dudley in her own right. She died 11 August, 1607, having married Humble Ward, created Lord Ward of Birmingham, with remainder to his issue male, the descendant of a younger son of an old family seated at Bexley Hall, co. Norfolk. They had issue—
1. Edward, of whom presently; 2. John, ob. infans; 3. William of Willingsworth, in Sedgeley parish, ancestor of the Viscounts Dudley and Ward and Earls of Dudley; 4. Anne, died unmarried; 5. Theodosia, wife 1stly of Sir Thomas Brereton, son and heir of the Parliamentary General, Sir William, 2ndly of Charles Brereton; 6. Honour or Honora, wife of William Dilke of Maxstoke Castle; 7. Frances, wife of Sir William Noel of Kirkby Mallory, co. Leicester.

IV. Edward, eldest son, Lord Dudley and Ward, buried at Himley 1701, married Frances, daughter of Sir William Brereton (sister of Sir Thomas previously mentioned). They had issue—1. John, ob. s.p., buried at Himley; 2. Humble, ob. s.p.; 3. William, of whom presently; 4. Ferdinando Dudley, ob. s.p.; 5. Catherine, wife of Hon. John Grey of Enville, co. Stafford; 6. Letitia, died unmarried; 7. Humbletta, wife of Thomas Porter.

V. William, eldest surviving son, died during his father's lifetime 16 May, 1602. It was about this time, when there was every appearance of a continuance of the male line, that a settlement of the Castle of Dudley and other family estates

was made on the heirs male, which subsequently proved so disastrous to this branch of the family. He married Frances, his cousin, daughter of William Dilke of Maxstoke Castle, co. Warwick, by whom he had issue—1. John, who died an infant in 1696; 2. Edward Lord Dudley and Ward, ob. 1704, who married Diana, daughter of Thomas Howard of Ashtead, co. Surrey, by Diana, daughter of Francis Newport, Earl of Bradford. She was buried at Ashtead, near Leatherhead, Surrey. They had issue an only son, Edward Lord Dudley and Ward, who died unmarried 6 Sept., 1731, and was buried at Ashtead. 3. William, who succeeded his nephew as Lord Dudley and Ward, but died s.p. 20 May, 1740, and was buried at Himley, near Penn, co. Stafford; 4. Frances, of whom presently.

VI. Frances Ward, sole heir of her brother William, the last Baron Dudley and Ward, at whose death the title of Ward of Birmingham and the bulk of the family estates passed away under the settlement mentioned above to the heir male of the family who succeeded to the title of Lord Ward. Thus the old Barony of Dudley became little more than a title divided from the old Castle and estates, and this branch of the family suffered a disastrous collapse. Frances Ward had married in 1709 William Lea of Hales Owen Grange. (Argent on a pale between two leopards' faces sable three crescents or). The Wards bear, chequy or and azure a dexter bend ermine, and the old Suttons bore Or a lion rampant double queued vert. She was buried at Himley 1737, and had issue—1. Ferdinando Dudley Lea, Lord Dudley, of whom presently; 2. William, ob. s.p.; 3. Anne, wife of William Smith of Ridgacre, who left issue, which still survives; 4. Frances, wife of Walter Woodcock; 5. Mary, wife of Dr. Hervey, a physician of Stourbridge and Birmingham; 6. Catherine, wife 1stly of Thomas Jordan of Birmingham, 2ndly, of Henry Turner of Lyndon, Stonall, &c.; 7. Elizabeth, wife of Rev. Benjamin Briscoe of Ashton Keynes, co. Gloucester.

VII. Ferdinando Dudley Lea succeeded his maternal uncle in the Barony of Dudley, and was the last to bear that title, since he died unmarried 21 Oct., 1757, and his brother William having pre-deceased him, his five sisters became his

coheirs, and among them the Barony went into abeyance. There are still portraits of this last Lord Dudley preserved among the descendants of his sisters. Someone apparently with a greater regard for his will than his intelligence or conscience entered the sisters and coheirs of Lord Dudley in the Peerages of that day as all dying without issue, a mis-statement which has been sufficiently refuted by the labours of several authors. Nothing can be more detrimental to truth and history than this careless *suppressio veri*, though it is not uncommon. Lord Dudley made his Will on the 28 Oct., 1755, and added a codicil on 11 Oct., 1757, and he was buried in Hales Owen Church, 26 Oct., 1757. In that document he mentions his leasehold mansion house, &c., called the Grange or Grange farm, mines of coal and ironstone in the counties of Worcester, Stafford, Salop and Warwick. It appears that his income was derived from his mineral property at Hales Owen, Eardington, Coseley, Sedgeley, &c. The Will is strongly in favour of the Smiths, with a provision for his only unmarried sister Elizabeth Lea, but if she married without the approbation of the Trustees of the Will her portion was to pass to his nephew, Harry Smith. The Author's copy of the Will has annotations added, apparently by the advisers of Lord Dudley's nephew by marriage, the Rev. Thomas Hughes of Colwall in Herefordshire, who must have had a full knowledge of Lord Dudley himself and his family affairs. One of these notes says that Elizabeth Lea married the Rev. Mr. Briscoe at Dudley without the approbation of the Trustees, in consequence of which Harry Smith became entitled to the property for life. This Henry Grey Smith, called in the Will Harry Smith, died unmarried in 1760, and his father, William Smith, claimed for his second son William. In 1766 he took possession of the Grange, and resided upon it until his death, when his son Ferdinando resided upon it, and it has continued in that, the senior line of the coheirs of Dudley, to the present day. The Will gives a power of exchange of lands with Lord Ward, and mentions in connection with this "my said sister Elizabeth Lea and my said sisters with their respective husbands, namely, Ann Smith and William Smith her husband, Frances Woodcock

and Walter Woodcock her husband, Catherine Jordan and Thomas Jordan y^e younger her husband," &c. Having devised his "ffire engine, Ginus, Ropes, Tools, Utensills and all other Materialls belonging to . . . my Coal Work or Colliery in the Parish of Dudley," &c., he leaves all his household goods and plate to his sister Elizabeth for her life, and after her death to be divided, share and share alike, between Ann Smith, Frances Woodcock and Catherine Jordan, who were evidently then living, so that a memorial ring inscribed "Catherine Jordan ob. 8 April, 1756" must refer to a relative, probably mother of Thomas Jordan, husband of Lord Dudley's sister. It would be tedious to quote the legal documents in all their prolixity, suffice it to say that Lord Dudley's Will was disputed by the other coheirs on account of alleged undue influence on the part of Mrs. Smith. Among the Commissioners mentioned 28 Feb., 1758, are Revs. Thomas Lockyer Foley and Josiah Durant, clerks, the latter of whom was Rector of Hagley and Tettenthal, and father of Capt. George Durant, who in 1762 purchased the Tong Castle estate from the Duke of Kingston. His portrait still remains in the possession of his descendant, Miss Durant. The issue of the coheirs is given, viz., 1. Anne, senior coheir, by her husband William Smith had issue: *a.* Henry Grey, called in Lord Dudley's Will "Harry Smith," ob. s.p.; *b.* William, ob. s.p.; *c.* Ferdinando, married and left issue; *d.* Frances, married her cousin, Walter Woodcock; *e.* Anne, wife of Edward Baker of Hill Court. 2. Frances, 2nd coheir, married Walter Woodcock of Hales Owen, and of their issue presently. 3. Mary, 3rd coheir, married Dr. Hervey, and their issue is not accurately ascertained. 4. Catherine, 4th coheir, married 1stly Thomas Jordan, the younger, of Birmingham, by whom she had issue three daughters: *a.* Catherine, wife of Capt. Lancelot Rutter of the Marines; *b.* Frances, wife of Hugh Edwards, Attorney of St. Ives, afterwards in the War Office, from one of whose letters it would appear that they had a son and three daughters, Frances, Catherine and Anne; *c.* Anne, wife of Thomas Smith of Whitley, near the Hundred House, co, Worcester, who also left issue still surviving. She married 2ndly, Henry Turner of Lyndon, &c., co. Stafford, and had

issue two sons, of whom William died young s.p., and Daniel married when very young Sarah, daughter and heir of Robert Hanbury, which for some time caused ill-feeling in the family, but it was subsequently condoned. They had a numerous family, of whom the three sons died without issue, and the eldest daughter Catherine, born 13 July, 1775, married George Jones, Esq., and had a son John and two daughters, Theodosia, wife of John Barker, and Eleanor, who died young and unmarried, and is buried in the Jordan and Turner vault in St. John's Churchyard, Wolverhampton. This is the George Jones mentioned in the Deeds above, after whose death his estates were divided up according to a most complicated Will. 5. Elizabeth, 5th coheir, married Rev. Benjamin Briscoe of Ashton Keynes, co. Gloucester, and had issue: *a.* Mary, who died unmarried, and *b.* Rev. William Lea Briscoe, LL D. who died s.p.

VIII. Frances, 2nd sister and coheir of Ferdinando Lord Dudley, had issue by her husband Walter Woodcock, who died in February, 1821—1. Walter, who married his cousin Frances, neé Smith, but died s.p.; 2. Ferdinando, who married Mary Crane, but ob. s.p.; 3. Frances, eldest coheir of her brother, wife of Joseph Green of Dudley, died s.p.; 4. Catherine, coheir, died unmarried; 5. Mary, coheir, married Benjamin Smart of Hales Owen, and had *a* Joseph, *b* Robert; 6. Ann, coheir, wife of William Wilmot of Bromsgrove, co. Worcester, and had a numerous issue; 7. Elizabeth, coheir, who married John Green of Dudley, and had issue: *a* John Green; *b* Elizabeth, wife of Edward Butler Walton of Edgbaston; *c* Frances, wife of Alexander Symon Wills; *d* Maria, frequently mentioned above, wife of John Meeson of Albrighton, ob. s.p.; *e* Sarah, wife of Rev. Thomas Hughes of Colwall, co. Hereford, by whom she was mother of Rev. Thomas, Frances, Elizabeth, Maria and Jane.

The last Lord Dudley was connected with minerals, and it was natural that his relatives should enter upon similar avocations, which, however, though they may succeed with some are liable to lead others, and especially those of an over-sanguine temperament, to ruin as we have seen above in the case of Mr. George Bishton. William Wilmot had by his wife Ann, daughter of Walter Woodcock and coheir of

her brother, five sons and three daughters, of whom Catherine Wilmot married Joseph Fereday, Esq., of Dudley. The Feredays entered into mining operations pleno corde. We find the name at Madeley in Shropshire, and a no distant relative of this Mr. Joseph Fereday was one of those who, without great experience and competency, expect to succeed in whatever speculations they enter. He was much trusted by his relatives, who allowed him to invest funds for them, and when his total ruin was completed a like calamity fell upon them. This is the origin of that picturesque downfall so graphically described by the late Sir Bernard Burke in his interesting work, *The Vicissitudes of Families*, and some of these descendants of the Royal Tudors suffered terribly, and were reduced to a low pitch of fortune, though others maintained their position and still continue to do so. Sed fors non mutat genus.

Walter Woodcock is described as of Dovehouse Fields in the Parish of Hales Owen, co. Salop, and among his papers he speaks of his land at Albrighton, and mentions the sum of £400 lent to him by Mrs. Turner, for whom Messrs. Pritchard and Son of Broseley acted. He was evidently a man of some influence in the political world, as the following interesting letter and reply show:—

“Dear Wat,—I came to Town on Wednesday last and found your kind letter on my Table mentioning the letter you had received from Sir Corbet Corbet desiring your support in his favour in case of a Vacaney for a Member for the County of Salop. I have likewise had one from him to the same effect, but previous to Sir Corbet’s letter I had one from Mr. Lyster, the other candidate, whom I have promised to give my interest to, and I shall be much obliged if you will do the same and get as many of your friends as you can to join you. I desire to be kindly remembered to Mrs. Woodcock and your sister Fanny when you see her, and am Dr. Wat, Most sincerely yours, &c. (signed) Bradford.”

The reply is:—“My Lord, —On my return home last night I received your Lordship’s letter of the 10th Instant and another from Mr. Lyster (who is a Relation to us) on the same subject, and am exceedingly sorry I did not get them sooner, as Sir Corbet Corbet had canvassed all our

Freeholders before your letter arrived. I have been from home a fortnight, but the moment your letter came here Mrs. Woodcock communicated your wishes to our Friends, who I hope will unite heartily with you in the Cause, I am, Your Lordship's Most Dutiful & hum^{ble} Ser^t (signed) W. Woodcock."

This expected election never took place. Sir Thomas Lyster, of Rowton, co. Salop, had married 2ndly, Mary, daughter of Sir John Hanmer, Bart., by whom he had issue a son, Thomas, who died unmarried, and two daughters, Dorothy, wife of William Jordan, Esq., and Mary, who died unmarried.

The Meesons took so much interest in their descent that one of them compiled some notes on it, and had them printed, a copy of which was presented to a former Vicar of Albrighton, and was preserved by the Rev. T. Priestley, the Vicar, with laudable care amongst the parochial archives.

We now turn to the estate of Cosford, and are at once confronted again with the unfortunate family of Grey, the recipients from Henry VIII. of the lands of Buildwas Abbey, which had been granted to him by Parliament. Church lands are proverbially unfortunate, as Sir Henry Spelman has shown, and the fate of the Greys, the owners of Cosford, Ruckley, and other lands in this neighbourhood is no exception to the rule. Our forefathers in their rough honesty felt the plunder of the old Church to be an act of tyrannous theft, and said as little about it as possible; at the present day we invent a theory to prove it just and right. It will be remembered that the principal assailants of the Greys were the Kynastons and Vernons, each of which families obtained some portion of the Greys' estate to make peace. Blakeway states that Edward Grey died at Buildwas, 9 Sept., 1592, so that the Edward Grey who wrote to his "loving cosen" Edward Kynaston of Hordley, on 29 Sept., 1597, must be his son, the grantor of the lease of Cosford to Richard Giffard, whose family seem to have held it until about 1630, but it does not seem that Giffard had the fee simple, and the next possessor we find is Scott. Now, if we turn to the private papers of the Scott family we have the following:—

I. Sir John Scott of Scot's Hall, co. Kent, married Anne, daughter and heir of Reginald Pympe of Nettlestead Place, co. Kent, and had issue with others Sir Reginald, of whom presently, and Richard Scott, 4th son.

II. Sir Reginald Scott of Scot's Hall married 2ndly Mary, daughter of Sir Bryan Take, and had issue,

III. Charles Scott of Egerton in Godmersham, who married Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Wyatt (the rebel) of Allington Castle. This Sir Thomas Wyatt was beheaded on Tower Hill in April, 1554. They left issue,

IV. Anthony Scott, who married (Elizabeth), daughter and heir of Richard Betton of Betton, co. Salop, and had issue—1. William of Cosford; 2. Isaac of Betton, co. Salop (where there still exists on the ends of a large stable two vanes perforated, one with I S 1663, and the other I S 1665, commemorative of this Isaac Scott), whose daughter and heir Elizabeth married 1stly Brinsley of London, and 2ndly, Richard Scott of Shrewsbury, born 22 July, 1617, married 16 December, 1637, ob. 30 March, 1662, by the latter of whom she had issue: *a.* Jonathan Scott, who purchased other lands in Betton from Edward Haynes 22 June, 1676, but ob. s.p.; *b.* Richard, ancestor of the Scotts of Shrewsbury, and through the female line of the present family at Betton; *c.* Nehemiah; *d.* Ruth; *e.* Abigail); and 3. Thomas of the Heath, Shiffnal, from whom descended the Scotts of Tong Norton, who are still extant. His daughter (by Elizabeth Mitton his wife) Mary, married 1stly Francis Forester of Ruckley Grange, and 2ndly, Sir William Glascock of Wormley, co. Herts.

V. William Scott was of Cosford, and married Anne Woodcock, by whom he had issue—1. William; 2. Thomas of Shrewsbury; 3. Dorothy, wife of John Barbour of Flashbrooke, co. Stafford. The eldest son,

VI. William, married Anne, daughter of John Barbour of Flashbrooke, co. Stafford, and died in 1684, leaving issue—1. William, B.D., of whom presently; 2. John; 3. Thomas; 4. Isaac; 5. Benjamin; 6. Anne; 7. Elizabeth; 8. Dorothy, wife of . . . Cook; 9. Mary, wife of . . . Smitheman.

VII. William, B.D., the eldest son, was a Fellow of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 1673, and died in 1700.

He was a benefactor to the poor of Albrighton, and a tablet on the south side of the chancel in the Parish Church commemorates him, the inscription upon which is given on page 94 of our History. By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. D. C. Fisher of Hickling, co. Notts, he had issue—1. William, M.A., born 1686; 2. George; 3. John; 4. Elizabeth; 5. Frances; 6. Lucy; 7. Anne; 8. Mary.

The connection between the Scotts and Cosford came after their marriage with the heiress of Betton, and there is reason to believe that it came through that alliance. There were at an early period two brothers, John Betton of Shrewsbury, and Richard Betton; they both had sons, that of the elder was Sir John, Vicar of Oswestry, who in 1453 assigns a messuage and fields in Altmere, near Betton Strange, to his cousin Edward, who was the son of his uncle Richard. Sir John being a priest, ob. s.p., and Edward thus became of Altmere, which still forms part of the Betton estate. Edward had two sons—1. John; 2. Richard. John, the elder, left a daughter and heir, Eleanor, 1519, wife of Robert Wicherley of Wicherley. Richard, the second son, had issue Edward, who married Elizabeth Kynaston, which family, it will be remembered, was contending as to title and estates with Edward Grey of Cosford, &c., on account of the marriage of Sir Roger Kynaston with Lady Elizabeth Grey, daughter of Henry, Earl of Tankerville and Lord Powis, whom the Kynastons claimed to be heiress in her issue. This Edward and Elizabeth (née Kynaston) had issue—1. Richard Betton of Betton, and 2. Edward. Of these the elder, Richard (who had married his cousin Eleanor, daughter of Richard Wicherley by Eleanor, daughter of Richard Hammer son of the aforementioned Robert Wicherley of Wicherley (and Eleanor née Betton)) conveyed lands, &c., to Richard Heynes. Richard Heynes was son of Walter who received lands in Nobolde from his brother Edward, and himself had a mortgage on the lands of Edward Powys (who had married his cousin Mary) in Betton. His son was father of Edward Heynes who in 1676 sold his lands in Betton to Jonathan Scott, in which family they continued. Richard Betton above named (who conveyed Betton lands to Heynes) was father of Mrs. Anthony Scott, the mother of Isaac of Betton.

The Rev. William Scott, Vicar of Albrighton, died in 1700, and in 1697 John Stanier, Esq., was of Cosford, but how the estate passed from the one to the other, in the absence of the Deeds of the estate, is not shown, probably by sale.

With respect to the family of Giffard, who had interests in Cosford, there is in the writer's possession an old pedigree of some interest. Being but a fragment some portions are difficult to decipher. It is written in Latin, of which the following is a translation:—

28 Ed. III. The Jurors say that John Giffard held the Manor of Sheritton. co. Wilts, as a part of his barony, &c., and that Margaret, the mother of the said John, held for the term of her life the manor of . . . iston, &c., and that the same John Gifford died in the month of March 15 Ed. II., and that Johanna, daughter of Alexander Giffard, and John, son and heir of Edith, sister and coheir of the aforesaid Johanna, blood relations of the aforesaid John Gifford, are heirs and near of kin to the said John, namely the aforesaid Johanna and Edith are daughters of Alexander, son of Gilbert, son of Gilbert, brother to Elias Giffard, grandfather of the aforesaid John, and that the said Johanna is of full age, namely 30 years, and the aforesaid John is of full age, namely 23 years.

1224. A man of the highest nobility, John Giffard, Knt., illustrious both by race and strength of limb, was killed at the siege of the Castle of Bedford, while bravely fighting for his king, by an arrow from an arbalast.

I. Giffard (or Gifford) had issue with others, Richard, 2nd son. and Gilbert.

II. Richard, the elder, lived temp. Henry II. and had issue

III. Thomas Giffard, 7 Richard I., who by Eleanor his wife had issue,

IV. Roger Giffard, who married Johanna, daughter of Sir Baldwin Montfort, and had issue,

V. Sir John Giffard, to whom Henry III. in the 50th year of his reign, gave the Manors of Twiford, Somerton, and Tyneburg. He had issue—1. Osbert, of whom presently; 2. Sir John of Twiford, who by Alexandra de Gardinis, his wife, had John Giffard, Lord of B . . . ; 3. Thomas. The eldest son,

VI. Osbert Gifford of Accot, co. Devon, Knt., and Pastenet in Wales, to whom his brother gave . . . Newenton and the Manor of Aston and Faunt. He married twice, by Beatrice, daughter and coheir of Ralph Murdac, lord of the 4th part of Stanlac, in co. Oxon, he had issue Osbert Giffard, 13 years old 31 Henry III., by his other wife he had issue,

VII. John Gifford of Heynton, in co. Somerset, Knt., who released to John Gifford of Twiford all his right in the Manor of Accote 18 Edward II. He married the daughter and heir of Roger Powtrel, Lord of Heynton St. George, and had issue Edmund, ob. s.p., and Alice.

VIII. Alice, heir of her brother, married Sir Philip Deneband, Knt., of Pescayth, co. Monmouth.

It was by this match that Hinton St. George came to the Paulets through the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter of John Deneband with Sir William Paulet, *vide supra*, sub Grey of Buildwas.

We return to Gilbert, the younger brother of Richard, who also married and had issue Gilbert, father of Alexander, who left two coheirs. 1. Johanna, blood relation and one of the heirs of John Gifford of Brimesfield; 2. Editha, mother of John, who was also a blood relation and coheir of John Gifford of Brimesfield, and aged 23 in 28 Edward III. This Gilbert, younger brother of Richard, had also a son and daughter, of whom the latter married Peter Corbizon, and had issue William Corbizon, and the son whose name was William, and who is said to be the first to bear the arms Azure three stirrups with leathers or, was the father of

I. Peter Giffard had a grant of Chillington from Peter Corbizon, who calls him his wife's nephew. His son,

II. Peter fitz Giffard, was of Chillington, co. Stafford, 1231, and by his wife Avice had issue-- 1. Sir Hugh, married Sibilla, but ob. s.p.; 2. Peter; 3. Walter; 4. Sir John.

III. Sir John succeeded his brother, and died 1314, leaving by Ada his wife-- 1. Sir John, of whom presently; 2. Sir Peter, who had lands from his mother in Gunston, and was custodian of Chirk Castle 15 Edward II. He left a son Robert.

IV. Sir John held Chillington and the Hyde under Guy de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and was Knight of the

Shire. He died in 1366, leaving issue John, and a daughter Matilda, who had lands in Derbyshire from her father.

V. John, the son, died in his father's lifetime, leaving issue—1. John, ob. s.p.; 2. Sir Edmund.

VI. Sir Edmund was much in France, and died 1379. He married Agnes, sister of Sir John de Whiston of Whiston, near Penkridge, co. Stafford. This Whiston is quite distinct from the Whiston, near Albrighton. It was the estate of Robert de Whiston, whose son Robert was father of Robert, 16 Edward III. lord of Little Sarndon, father of John 1322, father of John ob. 1358, who married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Thomas de Weston, her second husband being Adam de Peshale (Salt MS. 180). Over the wooden effigies of knights in armour in Weston Church are the following modern inscriptions—1. "Sir Adam de Weston, Knight of the Order of Templars, father of Robert and Osbert, grandfather to John, great-grandfather to Sir Hugh, Knt., departed this life about MCLXXXVIII." Arms: Or an eagle regardant displayed sable. 2. "Sir Hugh de Weston Kt. of the Order of the Templars who married . . . Audithley of Newport in Shropshire, by whom he had John, who married Isabella de Bromley, and had by her Thomas, who married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Foulhurst, Esq., died about MCCCIV." Three shields—1. Weston impaling Gules fretty or = Aldithley; 2. Weston impaling per fess dancettée or and gules = Bromley; 3. Weston impaling Gules fretty or and a chief ermine. The Order of Knights Hospitallers had two branches, the one celibate, the other capable of marriage, but was the same the case with the Templars? John de Whiston had by Elizabeth his wife a son Nicholas, who ob. s.p., and a daughter, the above Agnes, wife of Edmund Giffard, temp. Edward III. The Weston estate is one of those which has never been bought or sold, but has descended by a line of blood to the present possessors from the above Elizabeth de Weston and her husband, Adam Peshale. Sir Edmund Giffard had issue by Agnes his wife,

VII. John of Chillington, under age in 1379, by Mary, daughter of Richard Whitmore of Whitmore, co. Stafford, and Susan his wife, daughter of Philip Draycot of Painsley. They had issue,

VIII. Thomas, Sheriff of Staffordshire 1411, and a commander at the battle of Agincourt, ob. 1416. He married Joyce, daughter of Sir Robert Franceys of co. Stafford, who had Whiston as her dower, and had issue,

IX. Robert of Chillington, whose first wife was a Blount of Sodington, but by her he had no issue. His second wife was Cassandra, daughter of Thomas Humphreston of Humphreston, whose epitaph has been given above. They had issue,

X. Sir John of Chillington, ob. 1556, who married firstly Joan, daughter of Thomas Hoorde of Bridgnorth, who died 8 December, 1481, leaving issue—1. Cassandra, wife of Humphrey Swynerton of Swynerton; 2. Dorothy, wife 1stly of John Congreve, and 2ndly of Francis Shirley of Stanton Harold, co. Leicester, by whom she was mother of Anne, wife of John Brooke of Madeley, co. Salop. Sir John married 2ndly, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Gresley of Drakelow (by Katherine, daughter of Sir Edward Aston of Tixall), son of Sir George Gresley (by Katherine, daughter of Edmund, son of Lord Dudley), son of Sir Thomas (by Anne, daughter of . . . Ferrers of Tamworth), son of Sir John Gresley, ob. 31 July, 1486, by Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Stanley of Elford, co. Stafford. By this second wife Sir John had issue—1. Sir Thomas, of whom presently; 2. Frances, wife of Sir John Talbot of Grafton, buried in Albrighton Church. The son,

XI. Sir Thomas of Chillington, ob. 27 May, 1560. He married 1stly, Dorothy, daughter and coheir of Sir John Montgomery (whose mother was Joan Vernon of Haddon), and his wife Elizabeth Gresley. By this wife Sir Thomas was father of Elizabeth, heiress of her mother and wife of Sir John Port of Etwall, co. Derby, who left coheirs: *a* Margaret, wife of Sir Thomas Stanhope of Shelford, and *b* Dorothy, wife of George, 4th Earl of Huntingdon. He married 2ndly, Ursula, daughter of Sir Robert Throckmorton of Coughton, ob. 1581, by whom he had issue—1. John, of whom presently; 2. Edward of the White Ladies, co. Salop, who left issue; 3. Humphrey of the Black Ladies, living 1583, who left issue; 4. Robert, died unmarried; 5. Dorothy, wife of Gilbert Astley of Patshull; 6. Isabella, wife of

Francis Biddulph; 7. Cassandra, wife of Erasmus Wolseley; 8. Elizabeth; 9. Anne, wife of George Smith. The eldest son,

XII. John of Chillington was Sheriff of Staffordshire in 1573, and died in 1613, leaving issue by his wife, Joyce, daughter of James Leveson of Lilleshall, co. Salop, and of Wolverhampton—1. Mary, wife of Richard Brooke of Lapley; 2. Walter of Chillington, ob. 27 April, 1632, who married Philippa, daughter and coheir of Henry White of South Warnborough, co. Herts, and sister of Jane, wife of Henry Ferrers of Baddesley Clinton, co. Warwick, an eminent antiquary, and as Dugdale says, “a man of distinguished worth, reflecting lustre on the ancient and noble family to which he belonged.” This Walter continued the line of the family which, by God’s blessing, are still Lords of Chillington. 3. Cassandra, wife of Thomas Cassey and mother of Catherine Cassey, wife of Lawrence Benthall of Benthall; 4 and 5. Jane and Ursula, twins; 6. Frances; 7. Dorothy; 8. Richard, gent., of whom presently; 9. Thomas; 10. Gilbert; 11. Giles; 12. George; 13. Gerald; 14. Edward. The eighth child,

XIII. Richard Giffard of Ashmores, is the one who succeeded his father in his interests in Cosford, co. Salop, and died on the 29th April, 1606. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Leveson of Wolverhampton, Sheriff of Staffordshire in 1591, by Joan his wife, daughter of Sir Robert Brooke of Madeley, co. Salop, and had issue.

XIV. Sir John, who in the Giffard Pedigree is called a Knight of Malta, and said to have died 7 March, 1672. He is called of Cosford 1629-30, and with his younger brother Thomas seems to have conveyed away their interest in Cosford. Query, did not their interest in Cosford pass with their sister to the father of William White of Cosford and Shrewsbury, 1663, who married Mary, daughter of Robert Corbet of Humphreston, and had issue—1. Charles, born 1656, and 2. Mary, wife of Francis Forster?

On page 30 of Blakeway’s *History* it is stated that Cosford Mill lies upon a small stream that runs from *Ryton*. This is a mistake, since the stream in question is the Humphreston Brook, which rising from two separate sources in the higher

lands towards Chilmington flows through the Humphreston estate past Brooklands, and being dammed up forms the Albrighton Hall Pool, which lies between the Churches of Albrighton and Donington, the overflow stream from which passes under the road from Albrighton to Tong, and above the cottage still called the Clock Mill, supplying, as the tradition is, water for a water wheel used in grinding parts of the machinery used in those instruments. It then passes on and supplies the shallow pools at the Bowling Green but itself by another dam, forms the Cosford mill pool, which lies on the right hand side of the road from Whiston's Cross to Shifnal. This pool also receives the water flowing along the older and natural course of the brook, which passing at a lower level under the Albrighton and Tong road, below the Clock mill, continues through the lands of Chappel House Farm, which is the Donington glebe, past the Bowling Green cottages, and so supplies the Cosford Mill pool. Passing through the mill and forming the boundary line between Albrighton and Donington, it continues down a secluded valley richly wooded upon its sides until being dammed up below for a third time, it expands into a beautiful and romantic sheet of water, the Cosford Pool. A charming sylvan walk winds through the wood on one side of the pool, carried above the red sandstone rocks which here overhang the water, and in the crevices of which used to flourish the delicate fern *Asplenium Trichomanes*, the only spot in the neighbourhood where it grew. After passing through the Cosford Pool and below Cosford Grange, the brook falls into the larger one formed by the confluence of the Ruckley Brook, the Morning Brook and the Tong Brook, and is thence designated by the more dignified title of the river Werf. At the angle formed by the confluence of the Werf and the Cosford brook were built some years ago the Wolverhampton Waterworks, which, however handsome in a builder's eyes, greatly deface the rural beauty of the country and spoil Cosford Grange as a residence. Since the deep wells have been sunk for the supply of these waterworks many of the springs and wells of the neighbourhood have become dry, and the only thing left for the inhabitants is to pay the Water Company for what was previously their own water.

After the Staniers the Cosford estate passed to the Preslands, by whom it was sold in September, 1856, to the late John Jones, Esq., of Ruckley Grange, who was the owner at the time the Waterworks were built, and to the best of his power opposed them, pointing out that a supply could be found at less expense nearer Wolverhampton, but to no purpose, and rather more than ten years later he sold the estate to the Earl of Shrewsbury, whose descendant is the present possessor. Near Cosford Bridge the river Werf forms the boundary between the parish of Shifnal and those of Albrighton, Donington and Tong, which all converge towards this spot.

We must now pass to the other end of the parish and speak of Beamish. The late John Jones, Esq., used to say that he had been told by one who was considered an authority upon such matters, that the name of this place, which has a twofold form, i.e., Belmeis and Beaumeys, was taken from the fine sheet of water which was contiguous to the house, and is mentioned by most who have written about the locality. It gave its name to a family, de Belmeis or de Beaumeys, of which an account has already been given (*vide Transactions*, Vol. VI., pp. 25-28 et passim), but the following notices are of interest.

17 Ed. II. Hugh de Beaumeys and Elena his wife give a mark for licence of concord with Roger de Pyvelesdon (now Puleston) respecting tenements in Culsale and Donynton near Albrington.

7-8 Ed. II. The Sheriff was ordered to distrain William de Stalbrok and produce him in Court to acknowledge by what service he held his tenements in Dodynton of Roger son of Thomas de Pynlesdon, and what services the said Roger had conceded in Court by a fine to Hugh son of John de Beaumeys.

17 Ed. II. A dispute arose between Thomas de Brumpton and William de Ipstones concerning the presentation to the Church of Chirche-Eyton, to which Thomas had been instituted, but was ejected forcibly by William de Ipstones and others, and William de Ipstones had maintained himself in the said Church until about the Nativity of S. John Baptist 17 Ed. II., when Thomas de Brumpton and others, among whom was Robert de Beaumeys, forcibly ejected him.

19 Ed. II., March, 1326. The Jury say that Robert Beaumeys and others had held the Church of Eyton by the maintenance of William de Stafford, Kt., and of Isabella, Lady of Ingestre, and had ridden armed about the country to the great terror of the people, &c. He was admitted to bail.

19 Ed. II., Michaelmas. Roger Hiliary sued William Blanchard and Clemence his wife, John de Ipstones, Hugh de Beaumeys and William Tittleye for a debt of 200 marks. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned that William and Clemence and John were attached for the Octave of St. Martin, and that the others held nothing in his Bailiwick, and it was testified they held sufficient in co-Salop. The Sheriff of Salop was therefore ordered to attach them for the same date.

10 Ed. III., Easter. Robert Corbet of Hadleye, Chiv., and Matilda his wife sued Hugh Beaumeys and Robert and Richard his brothers and Roger de Ovyoteshay (nunc Ivetsey) for breaking forcibly into the Park of the said Matilda at Tonge and driving away her game. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them at the Quindene of St. Michael.

This family of Belmeis rose to eminence under the patronage of the Church, one of them being Bishop of London, who had thus naturally an opportunity of introducing his nephews at Court. The head of their Manor was Beamish Hall, and it was called the Manor of Beynishall in early deeds, but as they afterwards became owners of considerable lands in the Parish of Donington, it became customary to designate their Manor from the name of the parish rather than from its original seat, which is in the Parish of Albrighton. The subsequent descent of that Manor has been already given, so we restrain ourselves to that of the estate.

The Southalls were of Beamish in later mediæval times,¹ an account of whom will be found in *Transactions*, Donington

¹ In an interesting and able article on Kinlet (*Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. VIII., pp. 98, 99) the Southalls are mentioned as of Moor Hall and Foxcote in that parish, and in a Hun phreston Deed "land of John Southall's called the Whitleys, wherein a brickkiln was heretofore built with other lands purchased by Edmund Waring from John Southall," are mentioned.

Church, &c., Vol. VIII., p. 19 *et seq.*, from whom it passed by purchase to the Shadwells, the owners until modern times, and of whom, by the kindness of the present head of the family, I am able to give a more detailed account.

I. Thomas Shadwell of Lyndon and Enville, co. Stafford. Arms: Party per pale or and azure on a chevron between three annulets, four escallops all counterchanged. Crest: a demi griffon proper. These arms were granted in 1537. Thomas Shadwell ob. cir. 1553, leaving issue by Joan his wife—1. Henry Shadwell of London, born 1543, who married Mary, daughter of Robert Golder of Eton and London; 2. Edward, of whom presently.

II. Edward Shadwell of Lyndon, co. Stafford, ob. 1630, having married in 1577 Ellinor, daughter of William Barker of Claverley, co. Salop. She died 1641. Being daughter of William Barker or Coverall of Aston, in the Parish of Claverley, buried at Claverley, 30 Oct., 1590, son of Humphrey, son of John, son of John who married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of William Grene of Aston, and thus acquired that property. John Barker was second son of William Barker of Hallon, gent., ob. 1480, and younger brother of George Barker of Hallon, who possessed lands in Worfield, and is ancestor of the Davenportes of Davenport House in Worfield Parish. They had issue—1. John, of whom presently; 2. Whorwood Shadwell, Serjeant-at-Arms, ob. 1639, whose wife was named Elizabeth; 3. Thomas Shadwell of the Middle Temple.

III. John Shadwell of Lyndon, ob. 1652, and by his wife Elizabeth, who died 1663, had issue—1. Thomas, of whom presently; 2. Elizabeth, wife of John Reynolds; 3. Abigail, wife of . . . Downes; 4. Mary, wife of John Wilcox; 5. Jane. Among the Beamish Deeds is a Deed of Settlement dated 24 June, 1587, from Hugh Southall, yeoman, on the marriage of William his son with Johanna, daughter of John Chapman of Donington, Clerk.

IV. Thomas Shadwell of Lyndon and Westminster, Clerk to the Auditor of the Exchequer. It was he who by a Deed of sale dated 26 March, 1668, purchased the Beamish Hall estate from John Southall, Clerk, and John Southall, the younger. He died 1682-3, having married in 1665 Anne,

daughter of Lancelot Lee of Coton and Alvelde, co. Salop, who died in 1699—1700. From this marriage, as Blakeway remarks, came the name of Lancelot. Her mother was Jane, daughter of Thomas Clempson of Bonington, co. Stafford. Lancelot was the son of Thomas Lee (by Dorothy, daughter of Richard Ottley of Pichford, married 2 Sept., 1589), son of John Lee (by Joyce, daughter of John Romney of co. Worcester, by Anne, daughter of John Berington of Stoke Lacy, co. Hereford), son of Humphrey Lee (by Katherine, daughter of John Blount of Yeo. co. Salop, who was the 2nd son of Sir Humphrey Blount of Kinlet, co. Salop, Sheriff in 1461), son of Thomas Lee of Nordléy, co. Salop (by Joan, daughter of Robert Morton of Haughton), son of John Lee of Nordley (by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Corbyn), son of John Lee of Alveley, co. Salop (by Joyce, daughter of . . . Packington), who was a younger brother of Robert (or Roger) Lee of Langley, co. Salop. This match connected the family of Shadwell with most of the old Shropshire Houses. Thomas Shadwell and Anne his wife had issue—1. Lancelot, of whom presently; 2. Elizabeth.

V. Lancelot Shadwell of Beamish Hall and Lyndon, ob. 1713. and to him must be attributed the perforated weather cock which has become quite historical, formerly adorning a summer house, now surmounting the gable of one of the outbuildings. He married Alice, daughter of Hayes of Wolverhampton, who died in 1723, having had issue by him—1. Thomas, of whom presently; 2. John; 3. Lancelot, of whom hereafter; 4. Edward, born 1711, ob. 1763, having married in 1736 Margaret, daughter of Bagnold of Eccleshall; 5. Anne, wife of William Turton of Bristol.

VI. Thomas of Beamish Hall, ob. 1731, having married in 1721 Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Cowper and relict of Thomas Jevon of Sedgley. She died in 1737, having had issue by him—1. Lancelot Shadwell of Bridgnorth, born 1722, who sold the estate at Lyndon in 1745, and died s.p. 1752, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas of Epping; 2. Alice ob. 1757, having married in 1744 John Horton of London.

VII. Lancelot Shadwell, younger brother of the last named Thomas, was born in 1704 and died in 1755, having had by his 1st wife Margaret an only child, Alice, who died an infant. By his 2nd wife, Esther (daughter of James Hunt of Gravesend), who died in 1765, he had issue—1. Lancelot, of whom presently; 2. Esther, ob. 1825.

VIII. Lancelot Shadwell of Lincoln's Inn and Beamish Hall, was born in 1751 and died in 1815, having married in 1776 Elizabeth Sophia, daughter of Charles Whitmore, and sister of Thomas Whitmore of Apley and William Whitmore of Dudmaston, co. Salop. He had issue with five other children,

IX. Sir Lancelot Shadwell, Kt., Vice-Chancellor of England, born 1779, of Beamish Hall, who died in 1850, and is buried in the churchyard of the then pretty village of Barnes in Surrey, under a handsome white marble tombstone. He married Harriet, daughter of Anthony Richardson. She died in 1814, having had issue—1. Lancelot, of whom presently; 2. Sir Charles Frederick Alexander Shadwell, K.C.B., Admiral R.N., and three other children.

X. Lancelot Shadwell of Lincoln's Inn, the eldest son, was born in 1808 and died in 1861, having married Jane Ellen (ob. 1879), daughter of Iltid Nicholl, of an ancient Glamorganshire family. They had issue—1. Lancelot, ob. 1875; 2. Charles Lancelot Shadwell of Oriel Coll., Oxon, the present head of the family; 3. John Lancelot Shadwell; 4. Lionel Lancelot Shadwell; 5. Walter Harvey Lancelot Shadwell and four other children. In 1852 this Lancelot Shadwell, Esq., sold an outlying portion of the estate to the late George Jones, Esq., who incorporated it in his Humphreston Hall estate, and next year he sold another outlying portion, which was incorporated in the Harriotts Hayes estate, and finally in 1854 he sold the Beamish Hall estate to the same purchaser.

The late Vicar of Albrighton, Rev. George Windus Woodhouse, told the author that the Shadwells maintained a high position in the neighbourhood, and were one of the neighbouring families who traditionally drove their carriage and four to Albrighton Church. A plan of the old Hall as it existed in 1764 is extant, and the late Vicar remembered

what was left of it, but in 1847 it was pulled down, the Shrewsbury and Birmingham Railway passing over its site, and a commodious farm house erected in its place. The late George Jones, Esq., the purchaser, was a man of high principles and great wealth, which he used extensively for the benefit of his poorer neighbours, tenants and others. He was born at Broseley, co. Salop, in March, 1781, and died at Donington 1857. He left to his son, the late John Jones, Esq., of Ruckley Grange, born 2 April, 1805, a life interest in the Beamish estate, and it was he who let the historic pool at Beamish run dry, planting the upper end of it as a covert for game. At his death in October, 1882, the estate passed to his son, the late Herwayn Jones, Esq., of Beamish Hall, born 20th December, 1843, who intended to restore the pool, but resided away from his estate, at Trefriw, amidst the wilds of the Carnarvonshire mountains, and in his last illness desired that his body should be buried in the Cemetery at that place. He died in Liverpool, 19th August, 1891. By his wife, Louisa, daughter of William Owen Niccolls of Hanwood, who survived him, he had no issue. She was coheir of her mother, Eliza, daughter of John Maxon of Yorkshire. Her father was son of John Niccolls (by Anne, daughter and coheir of Rev. David Owen of Ruyton-of-the-eleven-towns), son of Robert (by Eleanor Barker of the Cheshire family of that name), son of John (by Martha Phillips of Cruck Meole), youngest son of Richard of Newnham, co. Salop, *jure uxoris*, Amy Dennis, 2nd son of Rowland, son of Thomas Niccolls, Sheriff of Salop 1640 (*vide* Blakeway's *Sheriffs*), by Mary, 2nd daughter and coheir of John Kynaston of Morton. George Jones Mitton, Esq., of Mitton, near Penkridge, co. Stafford, is the present possessor, and married a daughter of Col. Northey of Bathampton, co. Somerset, by whom he has issue a son and daughters.¹

With respect to the Church of Albrighton Eyton gives the following list of Incumbents, which differs somewhat from that of Blakeway:—Nicholas, Priest of Albrighton 1186-7;

¹ In 1007 Mr. Mitton sold nearly the whole of the Beamish Estate to a son of the late Rev. Garnett Bothfield of Decker Hill.

William de Pichford 1300; Ingelard de Warleye Nov. 30, 1307, canonically inducted 1308; John Merton presented by Edward II. 9 Feb., 1319; Robert, Rector of Albrighton, had license of non-residence for the purpose of study 1 July, 1319, probably the same person as Robert de Arden; Philip de Warle Rector 1323-5; John de Aston, Vicar of the "newly founded" Vicarage, admitted 18 Dec., 1329; Sir William de Aston vacated the Vicarage by dying 9 Nov., 1332; William Anseyor, Reginald de Chetwynd 1353; Henry, son of William le Smith of Albrighton presented the same year.

It appears that the Abbey and Convent of Dore, near the Black Mountains, co. Hereford, having the patronage converted the Rectory into a Vicarage. Their patronage, of course, came to an end with themselves under Henry VIII. cir. 1535. The lands belonging to the Vicarage, the income of which is principally derived from tithes, are scattered, and the late Vicar, Rev. G. W. Woodhouse, a man of extensive reading, cultivated intellect, and great kindness, informed the author that some small portion lay in Patshull Park. This venerable clergyman, who died at an age exceeding ninety years, had preached at Shifnal on the Accession of Queen Victoria and took part in the celebration of that monarch's Jubilee. His father lived in London and his grandparents at Hendon.

The Church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, and formerly consisted of an ancient tower and chancel, with nave and one aisle, the pulpit being on the north side of the nave. It was in a neglected state and filled with unsightly pews, but upon a bequest of a considerable sum of money for that purpose about fifty-five years ago the body of the church was taken down and a new one built, consisting of a nave and north and south aisles, leaving the original tower and chancel. It was during these alterations that a beautiful altar tomb of sandstone was discovered, of early English design, and enriched on its top and sides with many shields of arms. Though inside the old church, it was placed outside the new one, in the angle formed by the east end of the south aisle and south wall of the chancel, where it still remains. An organ of sweet tone was presented by the late

James Loxdale, Esq., lately replaced by a larger instrument, and still later a new clock of superior workmanship has been given by Mr. Brisco of St. Cuthbert's. The churchyard was enlarged at the expense of the late George J. Barker, Esq., of Albrighton Hall.

Many changes have taken place within the last ninety years in the village. The Toll Shop has disappeared, and in comparatively recent times those emblems of discipline, the stocks, have also been removed. One of the last Catholic Earls of Shrewsbury ornamented the village by planting a row of lime trees, which for the most part still remain. The two windmills mentioned by Blakeway are no longer used, and have become ruinous. Several new houses have sprung up, notably one at the west end of the village built by Mr. Frank Walton, called St. Cuthbert's, and another built upon one of the portions of the Albrighton Hall estate after its sale by Mr. Barker. Some new Schools have also been erected near the road leading to the railway station, and there are evidences of the modern spirit in several small villas, rows of respectable cottages, and a dissenting chapel of Wesleyan proclivities. The principal Inns are the Crown, a fine specimen of black and white work, the Talbot or Shrewsbury Arms, the Last Inn, and the Bush. The Whipped Cat mentioned by Blakeway, has disappeared, as has also the Harp. The poor of Albrighton own several pieces of property in the parish. One great feature of late years was the revival of the May Day Festival, when a procession was formed, which escorted the May Queen with music through the village, after a service in the church, thus affording a spectacle to the rural neighbours which they seldom obtain.

Albrighton exists as a town no longer, the last Mayor being the late Orson Bidwell, and after the dissolution of the Corporation the insignia were presented to the Talbot family.

The Parish slopes westward from the higher ground near Kingswood Common, whence a fine view is obtained over this part of Shropshire. There have been many encroachments upon this piece of wild common land where the bell heather, ling and gorse still flourish, and where an outlying group of cottages sprang up at some distance from the village, and still further from the Church of Tettenhall, which

parish it borders. In order to supply religious services for those living here, a neat little chapel-of-ease has been built, which is served in rotation by the neighbouring clergymen. There are no considerable streams in Albrighton, the largest being the Humphreston brook. The Beamish Pool was supplied with water by the drainage of the higher land surrounding it and from the lower end flowed a small stream which finally empties itself into the large sheet of water in Patshull Park. Streams having their origin in the high land, of which Kingswood Common forms a part, and flowing from the east side of it, are traceable to the German Ocean, while those on the west side flow into the Severn, and so to the Bristol Channel.

The living is valued at £560 per annum, and there is an old-fashioned Vicarage with large garden adjoining the churchyard, which has been lately much repaired and improved by the Rev. Thomas Priestley, the late Vicar.

The Land of the parish is for the more part a rich marl, but in places becomes light and sandy, the whole, however, resting upon a basis of the old red sandstone rock.

SHROPSHIRE HERMITS AND ANCHORITES.

BY H. M. AUDEN, F.R.Hist.S.

WE are all conversant with the fact that in the Middle Ages, especially in the earlier portion of that period, there were a number of hermits to be found within the limits of our county, but probably we have only a vague impression as to the existence of anchorites, or in what particulars they differed from hermits.

The attraction of the life of a hermit or of a recluse was early felt in the Christian Church, especially in the East, and the earliest monks were, as their name denotes, originally men who lived alone. The gathering together into a religious community was a later development, and the Carthusian rule is to this day a combination of the solitary and the conventual life. Every Carthusian brother had his *cell* of three rooms¹—his bedroom, his study, and his living room, with a little garden to till. His meals were handed to him through a revolving shutter, and his day was spent almost entirely in solitary study, manual labour, and long hours of prayer. He only left his cell on festivals or for the funeral of a brother monk, and his fasting and night-watches were in solitude.

The early hermits sought out wild and solitary places, and lived a wild and solitary life, but in later days, when they became a recognised order in Church life, they not unfrequently had their homes near ferries, or by the side of the main roads, where they might be of help to travellers in lonely places. The author of the "Vision of Piers Plowman" laments that the old hermits who "were of high kin, Forsook land and lordship, and likings of the body," had made way to a different class in his day :

¹ L. *cella* = small room or hut.

“ But these eremites that edify the highways
 Whilome were workmen, webbers and tailors
 And carter’s knaves and clerks without grace.
 They held a hungry house, and had much want
 Long labour and light winnings, and at last espied
 That lazy fellows in friars’ clothing had fat cheeks.
 Forthwith left they their labour, the lewd knaves
 And clothed them in copes, as they were clerks,
 Or one of some order.”

[*The Vision of Piers the Plowman, Whitaker’s Edition.*]

The hermit-priest was mid-way between these beggar hermits and the gentle-hermit, i.e., the man of gentle birth who had retired to a hermitage, and the majority of hermits of whom we find record in Shropshire were probably priests, or at least in one of the minor orders, as they had their hermitage chapels. In 1279, among those ordained as subdeacons by Thomas de Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford, was Thomas de Chadlington, hermit,¹ by letters dimissory from the Bishop of Lincoln. If tradition be correct, a very early Shropshire hermit was St. Owen, who at one time lived at Wenlock, and the fame of whose sanctity attracted the Princess Milborough to found her religious house on the spot that had been hallowed by his presence. St. Samson, the Celtic bishop, once spent three years in solitary life² “ in a desert by the Severn,” and though some authorities claim that his place of retreat was a cave overlooking the Severn Sea, yet the dedication of the old Church of Cressage to his memory seems to connect him with our Severn Valley. In Saxon times a “ gentle-hermit,” a king’s³ brother, is said to have inhabited the hermitage that overlooks the river at Bridgnorth, and there was a hermitage in quite early days in the wood at Haughmond,⁴ on the site of which rose, about 1135, the house of Austin Canons. “ One Blethern,⁵ a hermit,” lived on the spot where Leebotwood Church stands, or where Beelcote Chapel stood, and the “ hermit of Mount

¹ *Register of Bishop Cantilupe*, published by Cantilupe Society, p. 310.

² *Dict. of Christian Biography*, v. Samson.

³ Eyton I. 352.

⁴ Eyton VII. 285.

⁵ Eyton VI. 245.

Gilbert" had a cell on the Wrekin for centuries. One of them,¹ Nicholas de Denton, obtained the royal gift from Henry III. of an endowment of corn from Pendlestone Mill, near Bridgnorth, and the hermit of Bridgnorth had apparently an assured income and position. The little chapel of "S^ta Maria de Rocherio"² (S^te Marie des Rochers) at Nesscliff succeeded a hermitage, which perhaps was the cave where Humphrey Kynaston took refuge in later days.

The hermit-calling was from its very nature peculiarly subject to misuse, and it was with the view of checking abuses that Pope Innocent IV. in the 13th century enrolled various minor orders of hermits into that of the Augustine Friars, and it is possibly this connection with hermit life that caused the Austin Friars to possess a house at Woodhouse, near Cleobury Mortimer, away from a centre of population. Hermits had originally their little house (often with its chapel), and sufficient land to support themselves, either by tilling the ground or by keeping cattle, and they were not supposed to be dependent on the alms of the faithful, for the beggar-hermit was alien to the ideal of hermit life. On the other hand, anchorites were dependent for their livelihood on gifts. Hermits were always men, and lived, generally speaking, away from towns; anchorites were either men or women, as the service for admission shows—often the latter, and were expressly commanded to settle in towns or villages, where they could be supported by the alms of their neighbours. The terms hermit and recluse, or anchorite, are sometimes, however, used interchangeably, and a hermit living in a town, if true to his ideal, might very well be classed as a recluse. In 1433³ the Mayor of Sudbury, in Suffolk, complained that the Bishop of Norwich had refused to admit "Richard Applebury of Sudbury, conversant with John Levynton, of the same town, heremyte, to the order of Hermits unless he was sure to be inhabited in a solitary place where virtues might be increased, and vice exiled;" and that therefore they had granted him, "by the assent of all the sayd parish and chereh reves, to be inhabited with

¹ Eyton's *Antiquities*, I. 310; IX. 149.

² Eyton X. 275.

³ Cutts' *Scenes and Characters of the Middle Ages*, p. 104.

the sayd John Levynton in his solitary place and heremytage, whych is made at the cost of the parysh, in the cherchyard of S^t Gregory Cherche, to dwellen togedyr as long as they liven, or whiche of them longest liveth;" and they prayed the Bishop to admit him. The two friends living together as hermits recall the monument from St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury, now in the Abbey Church, and we wonder whether the lost history of the knight-monks was similar to that of Richard Applebury and John Levynton.

Shrewsbury seems to have possessed two hermits as well as several anchorites, for in 1356 Brother Keyner, hermit of the Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen without Salop, had a grant from Edward III. of an acre of land at Spelcross, near to the said chapel, to hold the same to him and his successors, hermits there, for their habitation, and to find a chaplain to pray in the chapel for the King's soul. Owen and Blakeway, who mention this in their *History of Shrewsbury* (v. II., p. 165, n.) say that it refers to a site not very far from the Hermitage houses in Belle Vue, which occupy the site of a tea garden started in 1773. The Hermitage Walk, near St. George's Church, is not far from the dwelling of the Hermit of Cadogan's Cross, mentioned in 1355 in the Will of Thomas Gamel of Salop.

The difference between a hermit and an anchorite is illustrated at Acton Burnell, where in 1180¹ we have the mention of a hermit living at Langley, paying 1/- for having tilled 2 acres of land within the forest, and where in 1280 Bishop Burnell built an ankerhold on the north side of the church of the village he hoped to make into a flourishing market town.

At Ruyton-xi-Towns there is a trace on the north side of the chancel² of what was possibly a similar ankerhold, dating from the 14th century. Edmund, Earl of Arundel, about 1311 raised Ruyton to the dignity of a borough.

It is a little difficult to know how far the "inclusion" of a recluse or anchorite of the 13th century was a literal fact. In early times, especially in the East, we read of lives led by

¹ Eyton's *Antiquities*, VI. 145.

² Cranage's *Churches of Shropshire*, II. 820.

anchorites, both men and women, which remind us of those of Hindoo devotees. They lived on the least possible allowance of food, they practised austerities of every kind, and some were literally walled up in their cells. Theoretically this was the case of later recluses, but the practice seems to have become modified. In the account of Dame Julian of Norwich, whose visions and meditations, "The Revelations of Divine Love," are still extant, we learn that in her old age, in 1443, she had two maids to give her the extra care she required. This shows that they came in and out of her cell, and the legend¹ of Hazeka, a German anchoress of the 13th century, pictures her as sitting down to a meal with her maid Bertha. She had a cell near a Cistercian monastery at Schermbeck in Westphalia, and wore the Cistercian habit. The daily food for herself and her maid was supplied from the monastery, and Hazeka spent her time in her cell in prayer and work for 36 years. The legend tells that one day the butter given in return for her work was bad, but instead of sharing Bertha's indignation, the anchoress knelt in prayer, and when they again sat down to their narrow table the butter was as fresh as though churned that day. Hazeka died in 1261, and there seems to have been an unseemly dispute between the monks and the townspeople as to the possession of her body, in which the monastery triumphed.

The "Chronicle of Lanercost" in a legend given by the late Mr. Arthur Sparrow in his "History of Church Preen,"² speaks of the maid of an anchoress coming in to light the candle on the altar of her mistress' room. In Norwich about 1300,³ the Grey Friars bought the site of a disused church, near which was an anchorhold, and assigned part of the churchyard to the anchorite as a garden. The White Friars also had two cells under their patronage in Norwich, one of which, near St. Martin's Bridge, had a garden which ran down to the river. Thomas Scroope, a Benedictine monk, was in 1430 received as a brother of the Carmelite

¹ *Anchoresses of the West*, p. 171.

² p. 139.

³ *Cutt's Scenes and Characters of the Middle Ages*, p. 129, quoted from Bloomfield.

order, and lived there as a recluse many years, "seldom going out of his cell but when he preached." About 1116 he was consecrated Bishop of Down, and later returned to his convent, and became Suffragan to the Bishop of Norwich.

In 1315, Bishop Swinfield¹ granted a licence for Isabella de Leye to be settled as a recluse near the chapel of Leye in the diocese of Hereford, with the consent of the Rector and parishioners, at the request of herself and her friends. Her friends were to provide her with necessary food and clothing, that she might not be compelled to go out "contrary to her vow to the peril of her soul, and the scandal of many people."

Bishop Orleton in 1321 granted a similar licence to Alice, daughter of Richard de Atferton, to settle near the Church of St. Giles in the suburbs of Hereford.² In this case only her own wish is mentioned, and there is no mention as to the provision of the necessaries of life for her. Probably a recluse was no new thing at St. Giles', Hereford, but at Ley her settlement required special arrangement.

Bishop Swinfield himself gave an alms of 12^d to the recluse of Leintwardine³ when he was there on May 13, 1290, and the anchoress of Kensington received a similar dole when he stayed at his manor house there on his way to or from London.

Our knowledge of the life of an anchoress is mainly derived from the 12th century *Ancren Rīcle*, one of the oldest existing specimens of English literature, but this does not tell us how far the "inclusion" was literal. Ailred of Rievaulx also between 1131 and 1161 wrote a letter to a sister recluse containing advice as to the life, which gives some details of the standard to which an anchoress aspired. It sometimes happened that a man or woman, not satisfied with the rule of a convent wished to become a recluse or a hermit, in which case they were to remain for a year among their brethren before being accepted by the bishop for the solitary life. Legends tell of several such monastic recluses who had their cell within monastic precincts. In

¹ *Household Roll of Bishop Swinfield* (Camden Society), p. 213. (See Appendix).

² *Register of Bishop Orleton* (Cantilupe Society), p. 205.

³ Eyton XI. 324.

1409, Brother Richard de Gouldston,¹ canon of Wombridge, then a recluse at Prior's Lee, was allowed by the Bishop of Lichfield to hear confessions. Those not living in a conventual house were required to take a longer probation time when possible, before taking up the life, but we have no direct information as to whether this rule was strictly enforced. Judging from the names we possess of Shropshire anchoresses, they were frequently women of gentle birth, who would almost as a matter of course be convent bred. Emma Sprengnose was admitted an anchoress to dwell in the houses in the churchyard of St. George's Chapel, Shrewsbury, in 1310, and Isolda de Hungerford was admitted in 1314 one of several dwelling in the churchyard of St. Romald. It was not unusual for anchorites to live together, and the *Ancren Riwle* was written for three sisters who in the bloom of their youth, the author says, had decided to forsake the world and serve God as recluses. The *cell* of a recluse sometimes consisted of at least three rooms; the living room, which was to be about 12 feet square, the servant's room, and a guest chamber, and occasionally a garden was included within the precincts. The living room had three windows, one into the Church, another through which to communicate with the servant, and another, closed by a shutter and a black curtain with a white cross upon it, for communication with the outside world. It seems probable that many cells were smaller, and possibly in case of a male recluse were only one room. In a few cases a recluse lived actually within the church itself, and it has been conjectured that the fireplaces found in one or two instances in an aisle or transept of a church are remains of the cell of an anchorite, of which the enclosing timber partitions have disappeared. The fireplaces in a parvise or a tower chamber apparently do not come under the same category, except in the few cases where they have a window into the church itself.

Ankerholds were occasionally of more than one storey. In the Church of Staindrop, co. Durham, the room over the present vestry has been an ankerhold, and still retains its

¹ Owen and Blakeway I. 315; II. 475.

window into the church. It is a little difficult to see how the window for food can have been arranged, but possibly by means of some wooden partition that has now disappeared. At Chester-le-Street in the same county there are considerable remains of an ankerhold, which after the Reformation was used as a dwelling for four old widows (probably successors of anchoresses) and the vicar of the parish. We have no record whether anchoresses quarrelled with their chaplains, but the vicar and the widows lived in a perpetual state of feud. In both these cases, as at Acton Burnell and Ruyton, the ankerhold was on the north side of the Church.

The interesting account already referred to in the *Chronicle of Lanercost* is of an anchoress who lived six miles from Slopesbury (which some authorities take to mean Salisbury, but which the late Mr. Arthur Sparrow thought was probably Shrewsbury).¹ Her name was Emma, and she dwelt by a Church of St. John the Baptist (the dedication of Preen and of Stapleton). It was the eve of St. Francis' Day (July 16), her patron saint, and the anniversary of her profession as an anchoress. She had been entertaining two travelling Franciscan brothers who were asleep in her guest chamber, while she was herself keeping her vigil at the little altar in her room. Suddenly the candle upon her altar went out and the room was flooded with light from the window into the Church, which streamed through into the next room and fell upon the faces of the sleeping maids there. She called her servant, who woke the friars, and together they watched a vision of saints ministering in the church.

From this we find that a lady-anchorite had sometimes a larger household than the two servants prescribed by rule, and we gather that she was not wholly dependent upon charity, but had probably means of her own. The *Ancren Riwle*² counsels its readers to have nothing to do with buying and selling, as a trading anchoress traded her soul with the devil. They might, if necessary, keep a cow, but if so they must be careful not be too absorbed in their interest

¹ *v. History of Preen*, p. 139.

² The extracts from the *Ancren Riwle* as taken from "Woman under Monasticism," by Lina Eckenstein, pp. 311—325.

in it, and the only animal the writer willingly allowed was a cat. They were not to keep a school for boys and girls, but if some girl needed special teaching, it might be given by their maids. Apparently anchoresses not unfrequently had taught the children near them, for both Ailred of Rievaulx and the writer of the *Ancren Riwle* speak of the practice as undesirable, as bringing in outside troubles and jealousies. The care of the Church vestments also is mentioned as a charge that might lead to temptations from the outside world, and that therefore must be undertaken with caution. There is a solemn warning against the more obvious temptations that might come from evil men, who professing distress of conscience and need of spiritual comfort, only wished to tempt the recluse from her vows. Such penitents they were not to interview at their window alone, nor allow so much as their white hands to be seen. When we think of the sunburnt hands of the women toilers in the fields we can realize the contrast in colouring of the recluse, whose time was passed almost entirely within four walls. In the early mediæval days, the door of the cell of a recluse was locked or sealed, and the inmate was only to go out in case of dire necessity, and other people only to enter in case of sickness or death, but later the rule was somewhat relaxed. Anchoresses are warned not to go to churchyard plays in the *Ancren Riwle*, and the precincts of a "cell" were apparently not confined to a single room, but to the whole surroundings of an ankerhold. In case of plague or other distress they might leave one cell for another, or for some urgent reason they might go out for a time. The life of Richard of Hampole, the hermit and devotional writer of the 14th century, tells how he left his cell to visit Dame Margaret, the recluse of Ainderby, who was ill with a mysterious malady that had taken away her speech. He was hospitably received, and ate his meal in the guest-chamber by the window into Dame Margaret's room. She apparently ate hers at the same time, though this was a practice discountenanced in the *Ancren Riwle*. When the meal was ended she sat by the window on one side and he on the other, and both fell asleep. Dame Margaret's head leant upon the saint's shoulder, and when she awoke with a convulsion of fright her speech

returned. Mediæval writers saw in this a testimony to the power of the sanctity of St. Richard, but to a modern mind the start of her awakening would account for a good deal! Out of gratitude and friendship to the hermit, Dame Margaret left her cell when she heard of his death, which occurred in 1349, and went to be present at his funeral.

The traditions that linger at Ledbury, not very far from our Shropshire border, of St. Katherine, the local saint, seem to point to a recluse. The story is that the Lady Katherine and her maid Mabel, were driven by the plague from their home and came to Ledbury, where they settled, and where they collected the money that built or rebuilt the north transept of the Church, in which the carved heads of the hood moulding of the arch are those of the lady and her maid. We can well believe that the Lady Katherine was a recluse driven from her cell by plague, who went out into the world followed by her faithful maid, and settled down in the shadow of Ledbury Church, where later the Hospital was founded in her honour.

The *Ancren Riwle* recommends with good common sense that an anchoress should not begin by making her rule of life more strict than could be carried out when the first enthusiasm waned. We gather from this that each recluse drew up his or her own rule for prayers and fasting and vigils, and that some went to wild excesses of austerity, though the majority chose a more moderate self-denial. They were to see that their clothing was plain, warm, and well made, but the colour was no matter, and might be white or black. In cases where the recluse was associated with one of the religious orders, she naturally wore the dress of that to which she belonged. Her two servants, the one to stay at home while the other went abroad, were to have a distinctive dress that their calling could be known. They were not to receive more alms than were needed for their mistress' household, and if they had enough to give away to the poor, the maid was to privately take her lady's gift, and she was not herself to publicly give. When we think of the crowds of beggars at the gates of the monasteries, it is easy to understand this advice. The title "Lady" is frequently given to recluses, and the *Ancren Riwle* warns rich anchor-

esses against the danger of covetousness, so we gather that those who sought the peace of an ankerhold were sometimes wealthy and well-born women of too independent a spirit for conventual rule, or those who after experience of the world wished for a life of devotion free from outside distractions. All who sought the life were not fitted for it, and we read in the history of Whalley¹ in Yorkshire, that Henry, Duke of Lancaster, in 1349 endowed a cell for two anchoresses and their two servants in the churchyard of Whalley. The endowment was ample: 17 ordinary loaves, 7 inferior loaves, 8 gallons of bitter beer, and 3d., a week; and yearly 10 large stockfish, 1 bushel of oatmeal, 1 of rye, 2 gallons of oil for lamps, one pound of tallow for candles, six loads of turf and one load of faggots. The Duke was to repair their habitations, and find a chaplain to say Mass daily in the chapel of the recluses. In 1436, Henry VI. as heir of the founder, appointed Isabel de Heton, widow, as an anchorite for life there, but a few years later it was reported to the King that she had quitted the solitary life, and was not willing to return, and that the anchoresses had not always had respectable women as servants nor taken care of their morals. Henry VI. then dissolved the foundation and appointed two chaplains in place of the anchoresses.

Probably such cases of faithless anchorites were rare, and the *Ancient Rievle* gives a picture of a beautiful life of the contemplative order, divided between religious duties and useful work. The writer bids his readers "to shape and sew and mend Church vestments and poor people's clothes," and not to make embroidered purses and trifles for gaining friends. His counsel on self-examination bids them not only to think of grave sins, but to ask themselves whether they had been of morose countenance, or whether they had wasted crumbs, or spilt ale, or let things grow mouldy, rusty or rotten; whether they had left clothes mised, wet with rain, or unwashed; if they had carelessly broken a cup or dish, or not looked after anything that they should have taken care of. All these come under much the same heading as carelessly said services or inattention at prayers. A

¹ Quoted in Cutts' *Scenes and Characters of the Middle Ages*, p. 129.

special sin they were warned against was gossip, and an unfriendly critic of recluses in Reformation times said that every recluse had an old woman to bring her tales.

It is possible that some of the low-side windows that now puzzle archaeologists were intended for use from an anchorite's cell built of timber outside the church, for it seems probable that recluses were more common than existing records would lead us to suppose. In addition to those already mentioned, we have a notice¹ in 1272 of Petronilla, the recluse of the Church of St. Mary, Shrewsbury, who had brought a law-suit against Burga de Willey and her guardian for depriving her of a rent of 20s. and 13 quarters of corn in Kenley. The recluse (*inclusa*) of St. Chad's is mentioned in 1355² in the Will of Thomas Gamel of Shrewsbury, and possibly the foundress of St. Chad's almshouses, who, according to the Taylor MS., came along the roof of the church to hear Mass through a window, was also a professed recluse. She was a wealthy woman, but according to tradition, she was a leper. The recluse, who received 2s. in 1355, may have been Alice Breton at St. Chad's, who in 1366, eleven years later than the proving of Thomas Gamel's Will, had permission from Richard de Stretton, Bishop of Lichfield, to choose a confessor for two years. She is then described as "Recluse in the Recluseroy within the cemetery of the Collegiate Church of S^t Cedde, Salop." Thomas Gamel also left bequests of 18d. to the Hermit of the Wrekin, 40d. to the Hermit of Newport (*Novi Burgi*), and 2s. to the Hermit of Cadwgan's Cross. Cadwgan's Chapel, which stood at the top of the Mount, somewhere east of the spot where the Bull at the Barn Inn stood in later days, near a windmill, was probably the chapel for this hermitage, and many travellers may have been glad to reach this place of refuge after crossing the rough ground of Bicton Heath, with its danger from foot-pads or sturdy beggars. The old Chapel of St. George stood north of the Welsh Bridge, and the

¹ Eyton VI. 89.

² *Transactions* of Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, 3rd Series, Vol. V., p. 394.

Hospital¹ of St. John, sometimes mentioned with it, possibly was in New Street, near the gate of Millington's Hospital. We might picture a traveller in the early 14th century passing the wayside cross on the outskirts of the town, near the chapel and the hermitage, with a greeting to the hermit busy in his field; then going down the steep hill into Frankwell, and turning aside into the precinct of St. George's Hospital, to kneel at the curtained window of one of the low grey houses adjoining the chapel, there to ask a blessing from one of the pious women who made it their home, and after bestowing an alms in the box placed near the ankerhold, going on over the bridge into the crowded and narrow streets of the town.

It is interesting in connection with this subject to note that there was only one convent for women in Shropshire, and that was the Cistercian house in the Forest of Brewood, on the borders of Staffordshire, which we now know as Whiteladies.

Several daughters of well-to-do Shropshire houses must have made their home there, for among the recorded names of prioresses of the Convent we find Joan de Huggford in 1332, succeeded by Alice de Harley. The income of the house was derived from rents in Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, and Shropshire. Those in the last mentioned county were from small portions of land in various places, and probably represented the portion given with sisters of the convent. The nuns had a grange at Neachley, in Donington parish, and land at Higley, Chatwall, Rudge, Bold, Sutton Madoc, Rowton, High Ercall, Berrington, Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Ingwardine, Tedstill, Beckbury, Humphreston. They received a pension from the chapel of Bold, and were patrons of Montford Rectory.

Staffordshire possessed the rival house of Blackladies for Benedictine nuns, and two other convents of Benedictine sisters, and the neighbouring county of Warwick had four Benedictine nunneries.

To the west of Salop was the Cistercian house of Llanllugan in Montgomeryshire, but that was always small and slenderly

¹ Owen and Blakeway II., p. 469.

endowed, and probably would not have attracted English sisters. Another scantily endowed convent was that at Limebrook, near Lingen, some five miles from the Shropshire border of Herefordshire, founded about 1200, for Benedictine nuns. Bishop Swinfield at Ascensiontide, 1290, when he gave an alms of 12d. to the recluse of Leintwardine, gave 6s. 8d. to the nuns of Limebrook. We have no record of Shropshire sisters of Limebrook, but the house of Austin canonesses at Acornbury, about four miles from Hereford and ten from Ross, possessed considerable property in Salop. Katherine de Lacy, prioress of the convent in 1262, bestowed large gifts upon it, and her kinswomen, the two younger daughters of Peter de Genevill, lord of Stanton Lacy, probably did come empty handed when they became sisters at Acornbury. They were little more than babies at the time of their father's death in 1292, and by their becoming nuns their elder sister Joan took the bulk of the De Genevill lands to her husband Roger Mortimer. About the year 1250, John le Strange (III.) affiliated to Acornbury the hospital and chapel of St. Mary de Rocherio at Nesscliff. The convent was to enjoy the property of the chapel and to provide a priest to say mass there. Other estates of the nuns of Acornbury were at Lower Heyton, Corham, and Burley, and they had mills in Ludlow.

We find occasional notes of members of Shropshire families having been nuns. Two occur in the Heralds' Visitation of the county. One is given in the early part of the pedigree of Hall of Northall as "*monialis apud Sion*," but as Edward Hall the Chronicler, who died in 1547, is credited with having invented that part, the statement does not carry much weight. One of the Burtons of Longner is called "*monialis juxta Shrewsbury*." Her name was Ankalet, and from this Owen and Blakeway conjecture that she was an anchoress. Her name, however, is not uncommon on both in its English and its Welsh form (*Angharawd*), though if she were a nun "near Shrewsbury," she must have been a recluse. She probably lived almost into the time of the Reformation, when recluses had become somewhat unusual. In the Pontesbury Register is the entry of the burial on April 22, 1568, of "*Margeria Higgins, olim Monialis*," but no

clue is given as to the convent from which she had been ejected more than 30 years before.

There must have been women in Shropshire throughout the mediaeval times, who wished to live a cloistered life, and it seems probable that more than we think found their wish satisfied by the calm of a reclusory, where they could lead a quiet life of prayer and praise

“ Far from the madding crowd’s ignoble strife.”

APPENDIX.

I. *Licence of Bishop Swinfield.*

Ricardus permissione divina Herefordensis Episcopus, discreto viro sibi que in Christo dilecto fratri Johanni de Morcote doctori sacrae theologiae salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Attendentes devotionem laudabilem dilectae in Christo filiae Isabellae de Leye, quae anachoriticam vitam ducendo, cupit Altissimo famulari apud capellam de Leye praedictam nostrae diocesis; ad devotam instantiam amicorum, et piis devotionis ipsius precibus inclinate, vobis tenore praesentium licentiam concedimus specialem, ut accedente ad hoc consensu . . .¹ Rectoris capellae praedictae et . . .¹ parochianorum ejusdem et consideratis circumstantiis universis quae circa idoneitatem personae dictae mulieris ac loci ubi ipsa cupit recludi, fuerint attendendae, cum per ipsam et per amicos ipsius congrue fueritis requisiti, ipsam vice et auctoritate nostra recludatis in loco praedicto, officium quod in hujus reclusionem fieri consuevit debite et sollemniter peragendo, Proviso tamen quod de hiis quae ad ipsius victum et vestitum fuerint necessaria per amicos ipsius competenter provideatur eidem, ne, quod absit, pro defectu victualium ab hujus suo proposito laudabili resilire vel contra votum suum exire cogatur, in animae suae periculum et scandalum plurimorum.

Datum apud Bosbury, xj^o kal. Augusti, anno domini M.CCC^{mo} quinto decimo.

Roll of Bishop Swinfield, Camden Society, p. 213.

¹ Names not filled in.

2. In Bishop Robert de Stretton's Register [*William Salt Collections*, N.S. viii. 6] is a licence dated 4 Kal. Jan., 1371, to Brother William, Hermit of Newport, to choose a confessor during the Bishop's pleasure.

3. Joan, widow of Sir William Clopton, and daughter of Alexander Besford of Besford, on her husband's death in 1419 became a recluse at Quinton, near Chipping Campden. She died in 1439, and there is a brass to her memory upon an altar tomb in Quinton Church, in a small chapel east of the South aisle. In her effigy she wears the dress of a widow (or vowess) with veil and wimple, and a long cloak fastened with two cords with tassels at the ends. Her tight sleeves have a narrow band of fur at the wrist, and on one hand she wears a jewelled ring. The inscription is as follows:—

“Christe nepos Annae Clopton miserere Johanna
 Que tibi sacrata clandestine hic vidua;
 Milite defuncto sponso, pro te Jesu fuit ista,
 Larga libens miseris prodiga hospitibus,
 Sic venerabilibus Templis, sic fudit egenis
 Mittent ut coelis quas sequeretur opes.
 Pro tantis meritis, sibi dones regna beata
 Nec premat urna su beet aula Dei.”

(*Anchoresses of the West*, p. 101).

The Cloptons were connected with Shropshire by the marriage of Joan, the heiress of Sir William Clopton of Redbrook with Sir John Burgh of Mawddy, whose four daughters were the great heiresses of their day. They married into the Mytton, Leighton, Lingen and Newport families.

THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THE
PARISH OF WORFIELD.

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY H. B. WALTERS, M.A., F.S.A.

(Continued from 3rd Series, Vol. VII., p. 210).

PART V., 1549—1572.¹

1549.²

Comptus Willelmi byllyngsley et Iohanis marrall¹ magisterii (*sic*) ecclesie parochialis de Worfeld habitus coram parochianis ibidem xxiiij^o die mensis februarij anno domini 1549 et anno regni regis Edwardi sexti quarto (*sic*).

De eorum receptis.

In primis had out of the paresche boxe...	...	xxxix ^s
Item recevyd for a cix ^{li} of bell mettell and brasse ³	xxxiiij ^s	iiij ^d
Item for a chalece ⁴ conteinyng ix ownces after iiij ^s viij ^d an ownce	...	...
Item for a braren ⁵ cowe	...	xj ^s iiij ^d
Item recevyd for xxiiij ^{wo} pounce of olde yran	...	ij ^s
Item for the legacye of William rowlowe to the reparatyon of the church	...	...
Summa totalis	...	vj ^{li} viij ^s viij ^d

De solucionibus.

In primis payd to a plymmer for remaynge of ix cowurses ⁶ of leade and for sooder for hys labur and meate and drynke	...	...
	...	xiiij ^s iiij ^d

¹ Thanks are due to Mr. J. A. Herbert for assistance with this instalment.

² Down to 1551 the entries are nearly all in the handwriting of the priest, Sir Richard Knollys. He does not appear to have been affected by the changes of Queen May's reign.

³ Probably from the sale of sacring or other small bells of "superstitious" use.

⁴ Communion in both kinds was restored in 1547, and this led to the disuse of the mediaeval chalice as too small for the general use. The new form of Communion cup was introduced in Edward VI.'s reign, but very few examples remain.

⁵ Barren (see entry below under 1553).

⁶ Remaking nine courses.

Item payd to John dauley and his servant for shynglyne and for nayles to the same ...	xx ^d
Item paid to dyckyns and to Ryc' garbott for coverynge of Ryc' newes grave and wyttlymyng the church	xiiij ^d
Item for ij ^{li} of waxe and for the makynge and for meate and drynke	ij ^s iiij ^d
Item payd to Ryc' broke for stand ¹ stone and careage	xj ^d
Item payd to Wylliam catchame for shuttyng ² of a bell clapper and for yron to the same	viiij ^d
Item for nayles	iiij ^d
Item for wax and for the makynge	ij ^s ij ^d
Item payd to sir wylliam ³ for halfe a yeres wages ij ^{li}	ij ^s ij ^d
Item payd for ij ^{li} of waxe and for the makynge	ij ^s ij ^d
Item payd for the shuttyng of a bell clapper to Wylliam catchame	iiij ^d
Item payd for the makynge of ij taperes ...	ij ^d
Item payd to a plymmer for the mendynge of on course of leade and the mendynge of certayne places under the sothe wyndow ...	xiiiij ^d
Item spend in goynge before the Kings comyssyoners at severall tymes havynge diverse of the parryscheners in there companye for the Inventorye of the churche goodes ⁴ and for the surveyynge of the church landes	xj ^s iiij ^d
Item payd for the pullynge downe of the ymages	viiij ^d
Item spend at ij vysytatyons	ij ^s
Item payd to Wylliam byllyngysley and to Thomas garbot for the stockes	ij ^s ij ^d
Item payd for the mendynge of a syrplease ...	iiij ^d
Item payd for the Kynges booke ⁵ and for a salter to sertve) the churche	vj ^s

¹ Sc. sand.

² Splicing. See *Trans.*, 3rd Ser., II., p. 179.

³ Sc. Sir W. Hampton.

⁴ The Inventories of Church Goods made for Shropshire in Edward VI.'s reign have been published in Vol. XII., 2nd Ser. of these *Transactions*. But the parish of Worfield is not included, and these Inventories are presumably lost. See also the entries for 1553.

⁵ I.e., the First Prayer Book of 1549.

Item payd for the wrythyng and pryckyng of a syngyng [booke] to serve the quere ¹ ...	xvj ^d
Item payd for iij ^{li} of waxe and for the makyng of the same	ij ^s ij ^d
Item Spend for the bryngyng fourth of the bookes to lychefeld	iiij ^s
Item payd for vij stryckes ² of wyttyme and for the bryngyng whome	xxj ^d
Item payd for halfe a thowsand of shyngylles to Wylliam bradney	iiij ^s
Item payd to John dauley for on day worke ...	viiij ^d
Item payd to Wylliam boorder for makyng the lordes coat and sloppys ³	vj ^d
em payd to dyckyns for a wyckes worke and for mete and drynke... .. .	iiij ^s viij ^d
Item payd for candylles	ij ^d

Summa totalis Solucionum	vj ^{li}	vij ^s	ij ^d
and so the sayd wardens clerely do owe to the said parrychioners			xviiij ^d

Memorandum recevyd of Thomas glover for on yeres rent	x ^s
Item of george sond for on yeres rent	viiij ^s
Item rec ^t of Thomas yate for on yeres rent ...	iiij ^s

the totall summe	xxij ^s
---------------------------	-------------------

Item payd the sayd xxij^s to Sir Ryc^t Knowlles for parte of
payment of hys wages

Memorandum that John Marrall^t and William byllingsley
haven receivid in redy money xj^s ix^d and also shall
receve all rentes due to our lady day next thanu'gate (?)
and upon the receyt thereof to make a true accompt to
them that be named church masters at this tyme.

Hunfrey baret	} church masters ^t
John Rowlowe	

¹ On the choir-books of the early years of Edward VI, see Procter and Frere, *Hist. of the Book of Common Prayer*, pp. 42, 65. The music was of the old plain-song type.

² Busheis.

³ Breeches. What is meant by this entry?

⁴ The whole of this paragraph is in another hand.

Memorandum that I Ryc' Knowlles have received at the handes of John Merall' and Wylliam byllyngysley churche wardens forsayd in parte of payment of my wagys the Summe v^{li} vj^s viij^d—iiij^{li} vij^s and so restyth to me due for on yeres wages to be payd of the sayd John and William at the fest of sent Johanis baptyste xxxix^s viij^d

1550.

[The accounts for this year seem to be mostly wanting; but those for 1553-54 are followed (on pp. 244—249 of the book) by sundry odd notes and memoranda without date, nearly all being repetitions of the 1548-49 accounts, and in the hand of Sir Richard Knowlles. Some, however, seem to relate to 1550.]

Anno domini 1550 a festo sancti Johannis baptiste

Memorandum that I Ryc' Knowlles clerke have recevyd of humfrey barret and Johan rowlowe for parte of payment of on yeres wages begynnynge at the fest of sent John' baptyst in the yere afore sayd xx^s

Item recevyd of the said humfre and John' xl^s in parte of payment of vj^{li} xiiij^s iiiij^d due to me the sayd sir Ryc' for my wages at the fest of sent mykahille tharcangell last passyd w^c was in anno domini 1551 et anno E. sexti quinto.

(Signed in pencil) per Ric' Knowlles.

[Three or four lines unintelligible or erased.]

Item in the boxe iiij^{li} iiij^s iiiij^d

Item deliverid to ma... .. iiij^s

Memorandum recevyd by me Ryc' Knowlles at the handes of Wylliam byllyngysley and John merralle xj^s ix^d of the a rearage and allso xvj^s iiiij^d of rent by them recevyd in parte of payment of my wageges (*sic*).

Summa xxviiij^s j^d

Item payd the summe of v^s to the sayd Sir Ryc'

more then ys above wrytten viij^{li} vj^s vj^d

[The rest of the page is torn.]

1551.

Ihesu.

Computus humfridi barret et Iohanis Rowlow magistri sive gardiani ecclesie parochialis de Worfelde habitus coram parochanis ibidem primo die mensis aprilis anno domini 1551 et anno regni regis Edwardi sexti quinto.

De eorum receptionibus.

In primis recevyd in parte of a payment of the					
Scolle money beinge of charytie money ¹ ...	xxxij ^s	iiij ^d			
It. of the rentes of Land	..	..	..	j ^{li}	ij ^s ij ^d

Summa totalis per annum	(sic) iiiij ^{li}	iiij ^s	vj ^d		

De soluacionibus.

In primis for a syrplese and for the makynge of					
the same	...	..	...	...	xj ^s viij ^d
Item for a salter booke	...	...	...	...	xvj ^d
Item for the parrsche parte of the parraraces ²					vj ^s
Item for makynge of the lyghte for iiij tymes	...				iiij ^s iiij ^d
Item spent at the vysytatyon at lapley	...				xx ^d
Item for a matt	...	..	...	...	ij ^d
Item for the defasyng of the alltars at to tymes					x ^d
Item payd to John Dawley for synggulynge					
a bout the churche and for on to serve hym					
for the same	...	..	...	...	iiij ^s v ^d
Item payd for iiij hundwt nayles for the same					
work	...	...	...	..	xx ^d
Item payd for to trescylls for the lordes table ³					viiij ^d
Item for the mendynge of the lockes of the					
powre menes box	...	...	...	...	iiij ^d
Item payd for the reparynge of Thomas garbettes					
yrounes for bollynge downe of the chapelle					
now our scole howse	...	...	...		ij ^d

¹ As already noted in the introductory remarks to these Accounts, the money originally collected for the Chantry of St. Mary was now devoted to a school, held in the same part of the church. The receipts for this year are partly in a new hand.

² The Royal Injunctions of Edward VI. issued in 1547 laid down that a copy of "the Paraphrasis of Erasmus in English upon the Gospels" should be set up in the churches and possessed and studied by the clergy.

³ An indication that the mediæval stone altar had been removed and replaced by a temporary wooden affair.

Item payd to thomas bradburne for vj thraves ¹ of thache strawe .. .. .	.. .. .	iijs ^s
payd to elyzabetes Frodley for the drawyng of the same .. .. .	.. .. .	vjd ^d
Item payd for ij burthen of logge and twyke ² ..	.. .. .	ij ^d
Item payd to William bradeney for leyng of the same and to Ryc' garbett for to serve hym .. .. .	.. .. .	iijs ^s vjd ^d
Item payd to Sir Ryc' Knowlles for parte of payment of hys wages in parte of payment of vj ^{li} .. .. .	.. .. .	xls ^s

Summa totalis solutionis ... iijs^h xix^s v^d
and so all thynges account' and alowyd the sayd
masteres or wardens do clerely owe to the
said parrychionors the sume of iiijs^s j^d

Memorandum recevyd by me Ric' Knowlles clerke the vj^{te}
day of January in anno domini 1551 et anno regni regis
Edwardi sexti quinto of humfrey barrett and william
rowlowe xx^s in parte of payment of vj^{li} due to me for
my stypend wages at the fest of the nativite of our lord
last passyd and so restyth to me due v^{li}

[Below is written in pencil:—per me Ricardum Knowlles
clerke.]

1552.

ihc.

The accountes of humfrey barret and John Rowlowe wardens
of the parresche of Worfelde had before the parryschyonors
there the xxvij day of marche anno domini 1552 et anno
regni regis Edwardi sexti sexto.

Memorandum the sayd wardens yeld accounte of all there
recetes for on whole yere.

In primis recevyd of the rentes of the parresche lands to the use of there scole .. .. .	.. .. .	lijs ^s ij ^d
Item recevyd of charytye money for the may- tenaunce of the sayd scole ³ of dyvers of the parish as apereth in a bylle .. .. .	.. .. .	iijs ^h

¹ See entry for 1528 (*Trans.* VI., p. 14).

² Pointed stakes (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

³ The next two lines are in another hand.

It' for the last yeres accompt as apereth by the same	iiij ^s	j ^d
Summa totalis recept'	v ^{li}	xvj ^s iij ^d
Memorandum paymentes payd by the sayd wardens this present yere.		
In primis payd and spent at the vysytatyon at buscheburye... ..	ij ^s	ij ^d
Item spend at Sallope for to answeare to a melius inquirendo ¹	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
<i>Item payd to Thomas marralle for defasyng of the pcyctures</i>		ij ^d
Item payd to Thomas marralle for leyyng up of certayne shyngulles		viiij ^d
Item payd to Wylliam catchame for a locke and key and for the mendyng of a locke ...		viiij ^d
Item payd and spend at brugenorth for to answeare to a melius inquirendo		xx ^d
Item payd to Sir Robert wade for a booke of the comyne preyer ²	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
Item payd to Sir Ryc' Knowlles viij ^{li} in full contentatyon and payment of all hys wages and rerages frome hys fyrst cummyng . untyll the fest of the natyvyte of owre lord last passyd		
Item payd to the sayd Sir Ryc' for hys wages and for the scole for this quarter passyd		
It' the aske (?) allowaunce for too yeres rent of Thomas barret admytted to have the same for hys service in the churche in the parishe clerkes office ³	viiij ^s	
Item spend at brugenorth for to answeare to a melius inquirendo		ij
Item payd to thomas tydder for mendyng certayne wyndowes in the churche ...	viiij ^s	iiij ^d

¹ "A writ that lieth for a second inquiry . . . , particularly of what lands or tenements a man died seised on finding an office for the King" (Tomline's *Law Dict.*).

² *I.e.*, the Second Prayer Book of Edward VI

³ In another hand.

It' of humfrey Doye for too yeres rent in Acleton' ¹	ij ^s
Summa allocationum	ix ⁱⁱ xiiij ^s j ^d
Allocatis allocandis parochiani debent clere gardianis sive magistris	iiij ^{li} xvj ^s x ^d
Rogerus Barryt } Rychard Rowley }	gardiani

1553.

The accountes of Roger barret and Ryc' Rowlowe wardens of the parresche of Worfelde hadd before the parryscyoners there the xxv^{ti} day of Aprell anno domini 1553 and anno regni regis Edwardi sexti septimo.

Memorandum the sayd wardens yeld accountes of all there recetes for on whole yere.

In primis recevyd of the parresche rentes for there landes to the use of there scole ...	lij ^s ij ^d ob.
rec ^d of Sir Ryc' Knowlles and other for parte of the church goodes	xxxj ^s vij ^d
The totall sume of receutes ...	iiij ^{li} iiij ^s ix ^d ob.

Memorandum paymentes payd by the sayd wardens this present yere.

In primis payd to Sir Ryc' Knowlles the for-
sayd parresche rent in parte of payment
for hys paynes taken for the scole ...
 lij^s ij^dob. |

Item payd to Thomas tydder for glasyng about
the churche wyndows and for mendyng of
the gutteres and for soder and othere stufte
to the same
 xxvij^s |

Item spent at the gooyng to the vysytatyon at
lapley
 iiij^s |

Item spent at brugnorth for aperyng afore the
Kynge's commysyoners for the lampe²
meddoo
 xvj^d |

¹ In another hand.

² Lands of which the rent was formerly bequeathed to the church for the maintenance of altar lights were known as lamp-lands." (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

Item paid for the makinge a booke for the provycyon for the poore	vij ^d
Item paid for the mendyng of a belle whele	ij ^d
Item spent at brugnorth for leyng before the Kynge's commysyoners for a melyus in- quirendi about oure church goodes ¹ ...	v ^s vij ^d
Item spent at brugnorth for aperyng before m ^r flowyd and m ^r Jong the Kynge's com- mysyoners	iiij ^s iiij ^d
Item paid for the optaynyng of a lycens to tarye at whome from the vysytatyon late kepe at segeley	xij ^d
Item paid to thomas maralle for certayne workes done about the schole house ...	ij ^s
Item paid to Wylliam Catham for the shut- tyng of a bell clapper	viii ^d
Item paid for the wasshyng of the church lynyn by yere	ij ^d
Item paid to thomas barrett the deaken for supplyng oure clerkes offices and ryngyng	iiij ^s
Item paid for the boke of comyn preye ...	v ^s
Item paid to Wylliam catchame for a locke and a key and for hookes hyngys and staples had abowte the scole howse ...	ij ^s vj ^d
<hr/>	
The totalle sume of payments	v ^{ll} vij ^s
Et sic allocatis allocandis dicti parochiani clare debent dictis gardianis	xxiiij ^s ij ^d ob.

[Here follows a repetition of some of the 1549 entries.]

In a new hand :—

The charges of William billingsley chorche maister.	
To John Dawlleye and his servande and for nayles to ley the shyngulles	xx ^s
Item to Dykyns and Ric' garbott for coveryng Ric' newes graffe ² and whytlymyng the chorche	xiiij ^d

¹ See notes above under 1549 and 1552.

² Grave.

Item for iij ^h of wax the makeyng and meate and drynke	ij ^s iiij ^d
Item to Ric' broke for stone and carryge ...	xj ^d
Item to William catcham for shuttyng the bell clappar and thre penyworth of learne ¹ ...	viiij ^d
Item to the plymmare for Removing ix cowrse of leyde and for fodder for his labour and meate and drynke	xiiij ^s iiij ^d
Item for naylles	iiij ^d
Item for iij ^h of wax and for the makeyng ...	ij ^s ij ^d
It' p ^d to Sir William for his wax	iiij ^h
Item payd for iij poundes of wax and for the makeyng ²	ij ^s ij ^d
<i>Memorandum William billyngsley rec^d for a barren cowe of Roger wever... ..</i>	xj ^s iiij ^d

1554.

The accountes of Roger barrett and Ryc' Rowlowe wardens
of the parresch of Worfelde hadd before the parrychoners
the xxvijth day of marche anno domini 1554 et anno regni
regine marie primo primo (*sic*).

Memorandum the sayd wardens yeld accountes of all there
receates for on whole yere.

In primis recevyd of the parresh rentes for the
there landes to the use of there scole ... lij^s ij^dob.

Memorandum paymentes payd by the sayd wardens this
present yere.

In primis sent (<i>sic</i>) at a visitation at churche eaton... ..	v ^s
Item payd for the mendyng of the crosse ³ ...	xij ^d
Item for a bell roppe	vj ^d
Item payd for ij taperes to ser(ve) the alltar ayaynste (the) fest of the natyvy (tie of our) lord	[torn]

¹ Iron.

² With this entry Knollys' handwriting reappears.

³ The first definite indication of revived ceremonial under Queen Mary, of which there is henceforward plenty of evidence down to 1560 (see below).

Item payd for the of the alitar	[torn]
Item payd for of the lyghtes for the sepulcre of the same	v ^s
Item spent at brugenorth at the delyverans of the church stufe	v ^s
Item payd for the waschyng of the church lynnynys by the yere	iiij ^d
Item payd to Sir Ryc' Knowlles the for seyde parresch rent for hys payns for the scole	xxvj ^s j ^d
Item payd to Thomas barret for supplyng our clerkes offyces	iiij ^s
Item payd for pace ¹ candylles	ij ^d
Summa allocata per annum ...	liij ^s v ^d
Et sic allocatis allocandis iidem parochiani clare debent gardianis ²	xxv ^s v ^d

[Signed in the margin: "W. Rowlowe"; below, in pencil:
"per me Ricardum Knowllys."]

[Here follow the various entries already noted as repetitions from the accounts of 1549, at the end of which the accounts (in the present arrangement of the book) continue with the year 1601. The succeeding years are found following on directly after the year 1522.]

1554-55.³

Compotus Stephani Jannis et Iohan' wever gardiani sive magistri ecclesie parochialis de Worfeld a festo annunciationis beate marie Verginis anno domini 1554^{to} usque ad eundem festum in anno sequenti viz. anno 1555^{to} per unum annum integrum de omnibus Recepcionibus solutionibus reparacionibus et expencis circa prefatam ecclesiam per eodem factis.

Unde Idem gardiani sive magistri Reddent compotum de recepcionibus eodem anno.

¹ Paschal. Cf. "peace-egg" for an Easter egg.

² These two entries in another hand.

³ There are no more entries henceforth in Knollys' handwriting; the new handwriting occurs almost throughout from now until 1562.

In primis Rec' of the arrerages of Roger barret & Richard Rowlowe of hawcum ¹ of the laste yeres accomptes	vij ^s
Item of ffrancise barret	x ^s
Item of the same ffrancise for the garden of the skole housse	xx ^d
Item of John Shyfton	x ^s
Item for the buryalles of Thomas Bradburne and John yeate	xiijs ^s iiiij ^d
Item the Rent Rowle of oure lady vergin ² ...	lij ^s ij ^d ob.

Somma totalis Recepcionum per annum v^h vij^s iiiij^dob.
Et predicti gardiani petunt allocacionem pro solucionibus de
somma predicta eodem anno.

In primis to William catcham for naylles to amend the bell whilis	ij ^d
Item to ffranciss barret ffor the mendynge of the same whilis	ij ^d
Item for hookis and buccalles to the sepulcre and amend' the fformis	ij ^d
Item for netes to distroye the choyes ³ that dyd defowle the churche	xviiij ^d
Item for ffranc Incensse to the churche ...	ij ^d
Item for wax and makynge of the lightis agaynstc the ffeast of Estor	ix ^s ix ^d
Item to the man that made the clocke ...	x ^s viij ^d
Item for cordes and barrelles to the clocke	xiiij ^d
Item for the expences goynge to lappeley to the visitacon	ij ^b j ^d
Item to dickyns for makynge of the ground worke of the clocke housse and pargettynge and whitynge of the churche	ij ^s j ^d
Item to William catcham for lokes keyes and hyndges	ij ^s ij ^d
Item to Thomas marrall ffor makynge of the clocke housse	iijs ^s iiiij ^d

¹ Hoccum (?).

² Subsequently entries and references to "Saint Mary House" seem to imply that the old chantry chapel made into a school in 1551, was now again put to religious uses and an altar to the Virgin set up therein.

³ Choughs.

Item for naylles to the same and expendid about the churche	iiij ^d
Item ffor postis to amend the churche yeates and unsurset ¹ the pales at sayncte marye housse	j ^d
Item to Roger Smyth for a plate and a pecge ² that beryth the churche gate	ij ^d
Item for amendinge the surplis and for clothe to the same	ij ^d
Item to Richard barret for mendynge the Kope (?)	ij ^d
Item for pichynge of the clapur of the bell ...	iiij ^a vij ^d
Item ffor papure to write the cristenynges wedinges and buryalles ³	j ^d
Item to Thomas barret decon ffor tymbur to the clockhouse	ij ^d
Item to Ric' broke and John Wever for tymbur to the same	ij ^s iiiij ^d
Item ffor bordes to the same	iiij ^s ij ^d
Item for drynkyng at the same worke ...	vj ^d
Item to ffrauncisse barret for settinge up of the netes in the churche to kepe out the chowes	iiiij ^d
Item for settinge up a dexke at the font and a Iron' peche ⁴ to set the holy watur potte apon	iiiij ^a
Item to John Wever for keypyng the clocke ...	xij ^s vj ^d
Item to the plumber for his paynis to se the worke and for his drynkyng at the same tyme	xiiiij ^d
Item for naylles sowder and the plomeres wages mendynge about the churche	xix ^s iiij ^d
Item for a lawnterne to go a visetyng ...	xj ^d
Item to William wever for a bracken (?) to make clamscuddis ⁵ to sayncte maryes housse	j ^d

¹ Sc. underset. ² Peg (?).

³ The first note of a Register being kept.

⁴ Peg (as above) or piece.

⁵ ? Camp-shutting, or paivading. A word more properly associated with the Thames river-side.

Item Candillis apou cristenmas day and Estor	
Daye	ij ^d
Item for the makynge of the processionall	
tapurs at too tymis	ij ^d
Item expences goynge to the byshopps visita-	
cion to churche yeyton	iiij ^s v ^d
Item to Roger Smythe for mendynge a hooke	
and a hyndge to th' over chuche gate ...	j ^d
Item to Thomas Dyckens ffor leyng the tyle	
in the churche fflowre	x ^d
Item to William Catcham for mendynge a	
laddure	ij ^d
Item washinge of the churche clothes per	
annum	iiij ^d
Item for makynge of the light at Estor after	
this present day and waxe to the same ...	viiij ^s ij ^d
Item to alice bradney for candelles apou Estor	
Day	j ^d
Item for the makynge of this accomptes ...	iiij ^d
Item allowance for a quarter of a yere of Johan	
Shiftons housse	ij ^s vj ^d
Somma totalis Solucionum per annum	
Et predicti parochiani debent dictis gardianis	viiij ^d ob.

1555-56.

Compotus Stephani Jannis et Johannis Wever gardiani sive magistri ecclesie parochialis de Worfeld a festo annunciationis beate marie virginis Anno domini 1555^{to} usque ad eundem festum in anno sequenti viz. anno 1556^{to} per unum annum integrum de omnibus Recepcionibus solucionibus reparacionibus et expencis per eosdem factis.

Unde Idem magistri sive gardiani Reddent Compotum de recepcionibus eodem anno.

In primis Rec' of hugh Newton	v ^s
Item Rec' of Edward broke in parte of payment	
of a fyne of his housse	x ^s
Item of the Rentes of our lydy servis	liij ^s ij ^d ob.
Item of ffrauncisco for the old skole housse ...	xvj ^d
It' m ^r George bromleys burialle	vj ^v viij ^d

Summa totalis Rec' per annum ... iiij^{li} x^s ij^dob.

Et predicti gardiani sive magistri petunt allocacionem a summa predicta pro diversis Solucionibus eodem anno.

In primis for the mendyng of the walles of Seynte marye housse	xiiij ^d
Item for bordes to amend the lovers ¹ of the same housse	xj ^d
Item for naylles to the same... ..	iiij ^d
Item ffor the workeman wages	viiij ^d
Item for lyne	ix ^d
Item for strawe and drawyng and carreyng of the same	xvj ^d
Item for naylles yron lithers ² and other stuff to amend the organum	ix ^d
Item for the thackers wages and one to serve hym at saynte marys housse	xxij ^d
Item ffor mendyng the pales at the same housse	xij ^d
Item for goyng to the visitacion of the archidiacon ³ to lapley	ij ^s v ^d
Item ffor too Candelstyckes of woode	vj ^d
Item ffor frankyn incense	ij ^d
Item ffor hynge and naylles to amend the churche yates	ij ^d
Item ffor goyng to lichefeld to my lorde Cardinalles visitacion	iiij ^s viij ^d
Item for a fforme in the chauncell	v ^d
Item ffor stoone to our ladye aulter and for hewyng of the same stoone and carrige of the same from benethe bacher ³ mylle	iiij ^s viij ^d
Item for makyng of the tapurs and waxe to the same	iiij ^s
Item to William Catcham for mendyng of the bell clapur	ix ^d
Item to the same William for mendyng of the churche yeat	j ^d
Item to the same for mendyng with a Iron the cannell of the ffor bell	vj ^d
Item to Sir Ric' Knolles for the Rest of his wages	xx ^s

¹ Louvres.² Laths or leathers³ Badger.

Item paid to the man that dyd amend the organes	xviiij ^d iiiij ^d
Item to Dyckens for makyng the alter ...	iiij ^s
Item in expences to the visitacion to hampton	iiij ^s
Item ffor candelles	iiij ^d
Item ffor tylis and lyme and leyng of the graves	iiij ^s vj ^d
Item for keypyng of the clocke	x ^s
Item to Edward broke to help to Kyd' the stepull	ij ^d
Item washyng the church stuff per annum	iiij ^d
It' ffor makyng of this accomptes	vj ^d
It' for arrerages for the last yere	viiij ^d ob.

Somma totalis Solucionum per annum iiiij^{li} viij^s xj^d

Et sic predicti parochiani debent prefatis
gardianis isto anno xviiij^s ob.

Eligerunt gardianos in Annum sequenten Johanem Wever &
Willelmum Rowlowe.

Memorandum that at is accomptes the day and yere
above written John hichekoxe knowleged the
legacye and bequeste of John hichekoxe his fadur
to the Reparacion of the parish church of Worfeld } x^s
to be x^s and become dettor for the payment of the
same to be paid at the nativite of saynet Johan }
Baptiste next comynge after this date.

xviiij^s x^d

Item William Walcar in like maner become in
det at the same tyme to the said church
ffor the buryall of Ric' gyldon vj^s viij^d

It' ffor lyke Roger Catstre ffor the buryall of
Roger catstre his ffadnr vj^s viij^d

Item ther is harnes in the custody of Johan
bradburne ffor the buryall of Ric' Newe ...

Memorandum that above agreement of all the parochiance(?)
at the same acomptes that the church masters shall
assigne x or els xij of the substanciall men of the same
parishe to sesse a lewen withyn the (the) same to be levead
to the use of the reparacion of the said church.

[The accounts for the years 1556—1558 are wanting; the first two pages of 1558-60, down to the second entry relating to the "Judace at Easter" have been misplaced and bound up in the middle of the accounts for 1532.]

1558—1560.¹

Th' accomptes of Wylliam Rowley of Wyken and Iohn Baker Churchwardens of the parish church of Worfeld from the feast of thannunciacion of oure Ladye in the yeare of oure Lord God anno ~~MCCCC~~ lvij vntyll the vth day of May in the yeare of our Lord God 1560 Being two yeares accomptes and more of all Receptes expences charges and paymentes.

Idem gardiani reddent comptum de Receptis.

In primis the sacke Rentess ² for ii yeares being	lij ^s ij ^d ob. a yeare cometh vnto	...	...	v ^h iiij ^s	v ^d
It'm for the burriall of wylliam ffelton and his sonne...	...	...	...	xij ^s iiij ^d	
It'm for the burialles of Richarde Brooke of Roughton and his wyfe	...	...	...	xij ^s iiij ^d	
It'm for the buriall of mawde almer	..	...	...	vj ^s viij ^d	
It'm for the buriall of Iohn sadler	...	...	...	vj ^s viij ^d	
It'm for the buriall of Sir Iohn pryne	...	...	...	vj ^s viij ^d	
It'm for the buriall of the wyfe of Iohn Bradburne	...	...	...	vj ^s viij ^d	
It'm for the buriall of the wyfe of Robart Barrett	...	...	...	vj ^s viij ^d	
It'm Rec ^e of M ^r Wannerton for halfe a yeares rent of the Saynt maryes house	...	...	...	v ^s	

¹ It is remarkable that a number of the entries of these two years refer to items which we should rather associate with the Marian régime than the Elizabethan. Probably changes were not effected all at once. The paschal or Easter lights and the light on the rood-screen may in particular be noted. The use of incense is not so significant, as we know that it was used for fumigatory purposes (as for instance by George Herbert) for many years afterwards. The Elizabethan Prayer Book seems to have been introduced in 1560; but the rood-lott was not pulled down until 1562.

² This expression seems to be explained by the receipts for the previous years 1551-56 as equivalent to "the rents for sacred purposes," i.e., for keeping up St. Mary's house. The usual amount is £2 12s. 2d. per annum. See note above, for the year 1500 (*Trans.*, III., p. 105).

It'm Rec' of thexecutors of Richarde catstrey of Astley, for a Legacye to the church of Worfeld	ij ^s iij ^d
Summa totalis Receptorum ... vij ^h xij ^s ix ^d	

The account of John Baker of bromley and Wm. Rowley of
Wikin Anno domini 1560 churchwardens.

Compotus Solucionum.

In primis payde for the making of theaster lyght and the tapers abowte the sepulture	x ^s
It'm for Candells to branne vpon (vpon) the Iudace ¹ at easter	ij ^d
It'm for frankeincense	ij ^d
It'm for thexpenses to the visitacion at Lapley	ij ^s ix ^d
It'm for CC and xx ^{ti} shingelles	ij ^s
It'm for CC of neyles et dimidium ...	vij ^d ob.
It'm for an amyssse ²	x ^d
It'm of making the church yate towardes Halone... ..	vj ^d
It'm for Leing the shingilles afore named and the workemanes table	ij ^s
It'm payde to the plumar for mending the Leades and his table	iiij ^s
It'm for a sawed boorde to ley under the shingelles	ij ^d
It'm for Yron and shooting of the seconde bell clapper	ij ^s
It'm for the keping of the clocke by yeare	x ^s
It'm for expenses to the Bushoppes visitation to Lapley	xij ^d
It'm for the high crosse lyght	iiij ^s iij ^d
It'm for Iron and shooting the iij th bell clappar	xx ^d

¹ The Judas light, a wooden imitation of the candle which held the real paschal in the seventh or vertical branch. For the paschal candle see note to year 1502 (Vol. III., p. 110).

² Amice. This vestment was abolished in 1571.

It'm for the easter light the last yeare	ix ^s	iiij ^d
It'm expenses to the visitation at Bushbury	iiii ^s	
It'm to Thomas Wartar for a tree to make postes to S. mary house iij sylles v sawed boordes and v sawed reyles ...	v ^s	v ^d
It'm for neyles to the same		xij ^d
It'm for worke menes wages xij days for x ^d a day	x ^s	
It'm for the drinking to the cariage of the tymbar		xij ^d
It'm for Candelles to the Iudace at Easter		iiiiij ^d
It'm for Incense then		ij ^d
It'm for ij thraves of strawe to George Sonnde		xvj ^d
It'm to Wylliam Bradeney for thatching		xvj ^d
It'm expenses at the queenes visitacion at Lychfeld	v ^s	
It'm for the Communion booke and the Saltar ¹	vj ^s	viiij ^d
It'm a m ² of shingell	viiij ^s	
It'm drinking at the cariage of the Shingell		viiij ^d
It'm payde to the glasiar for glas ...	xvij ^s	
It'm to hym for Sodar		xviiij ^d
It'm to hym for Leade	ij ^s	viiij ^d
It'm to hym and his man for vij days worke after ix ^d the day	v ^s	iiij ^d
It'm for an C of Lathnayle to nayle the glasse		ij ^d
It'm for halfe a stryke of lyme		ij ^d
It'm for keping the clocke a yeare ...	x ^s	
It'm for the glasiar's boorde	iiiiij ^s	iiiiij ^d
It'm payde to the scoolemaster for his wages		iiiiij ^h
It'm to the shinglar for vj days worke before christmas	iiij ^s	
It'm for his table		xx ^d

¹ Probably the Prayer-Book of 1559 is intended.

² Thousand. D (for 500) has been written before this and erased.

And thus with the xxj ^s ix ^d ob. above written the parish oweth these church- wardens	... ..	xlvs ^a iij ^d ob.
It'm the parish oweth to Stephen Jannes		ij ^s
It'm to John Wever	... ..	vjs ^a iij ^d
		<hr/>
Summa	... ..	liij ^a vij ^d ob
It'm reseued the sacke rent	... ..	lij ^s ij ^d ob.
It'm payed to the scolemaster	... ..	lij ^s ij ^d ob.
Elegerunt Iohn' hitchcox et Ricardum Barrett gardianos serviciae beate marie.		
It'm the charges at the visitacion syns the last accompt	... ..	vjs ^a iij ^d
It'm Wyne and Singing bred ¹ at Easte...		liij ^s vij ^d
		<hr/>
Summa	... ..	xjs ^a
The whole Summe dew to the church- wardens	... ..	lvjs ^a iij ^d ob.
Besydes to Stephen Jannes	... viij ^s	} xliij ^s iij ^d
It'm to John Wever	... vjs ^a iij ^d	
		<hr/>
The whole Summa	... ..	liij ^{li} xs ^a vij ^d
Of this Summa we Rec' at Whitsontyde at thandes of John hichcoxe besydes Stephen Jannes and John Wever	... ..	xliij ^s iij ^d
and So Remeyned vnpayde	.. ..	xij ^s xj ^d ob.
Charges from whitsontyde to this Day viz. xxvij ^o marcii 1562.		
In primis to John wever for keping the clocke		xs ^a
It'm our charges afore the officiall at Hampton	... ..	liij ^s iij ^d
It'm at Lychfeld for our excommunicacion		xij ^s
It'm payde to Stockton for takinge downe the housing of the Roode lofte	... ..	ijs ^a

¹ Wafers. A form of wafer was still recognised under Elizabeth for use in the Holy Communion. The Injunctions of 1559 direct the use of a wafer, larger than the old form, in place of the common bread used under Edward VI. "for the more reverence to be given to these holy mysteries." Archbishop Parker wrote, "It shall suffice where . . . superstition be feared in the wafer-bread, they may have the Communion in fine usual bread." Hence the rubric following the Communion Service in our Prayer Book still seems to admit the wafer as the normal form. But as in the case of Baptism by immersion the exception has become the rule.

It'm for taking downe the Roode lofte and caring away the aulter Stones	xviii ^d
Summa	xxix ^s x ^d
And thus all cometh to	xlij ^s ix ^d ob.
It'm receued of Rychard yeate for his mothers buriall	vj ^s viij ^d

1562.

The charges of Rychard yeat & Jhon' Hychecokes churche maysters xiiij ^o die Aprilis anno quinto Regis (<i>sic</i>) Elizabeth In primys spente at the vysitacion at brydge northe and takyng doune the loftes and tabernacles	vij ^s iiij ^d
It'm for a bottelle of wyne to my lordes officers	xij ^d
It'm for a surples	vj ^s vj ^d
It'm to the plummere for mendyng the leaddes	xxv ^s
It'm for nayles to hundred	xvj ^d
It'm for spykyng nayles to Tomas Taylor for the tymber worke	iiij ^d
It'm spent on the plumber in drynkyng at the fyrst syght of the worke	vj ^d
It'm for hys Carryage	x ^d
It'm for mendyng the leades in the ballynges ¹	vij ^s
It'm for halfe a thousande of shynges (<i>sic</i>)...	vj ^s viij ^d
It'm for carryage of the same	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It'm for shyngle nayle and lath nayle ...	xiiij ^d ob.
It'm for bredd and wyne for the communion at chrystmas	vij ^d
It'm for leyng of the shyngles to Jhon' Hocekys... ..	vj ^s viij ^d
It'm for a hundred of shyngle nayle ...	iiij ^d
It'm for mendyng the shyngles after the tempasse	xij ^d
It'm to Rychard garbote for mendyng the scholehouse walles	viiij ^d

¹ Obviously intended for "battiings" = "battlements" or parapets. The form "battlings" occurs a few years later.

It'm payde to the vycare for bred and wyne					
the laste yeare	...	...	...	...	v ^s
It'm for breade and wyne thys Easter	...				v ^s viij ^d

[There are evidently several pages wanting after this, and the accounts for 1562-66 are wanting. After two blank pages begin the accounts for 1566-69.]

1566—1569.¹

Compotus Willmi goolde et Ricardi barker gardinorum pro parochia de worfeld factus secundo die aprilis in anno Regine domine nostre Elizabetis nunc Regine etc. duodecimo, pro tribus annis proximis antea hoc die.

Receptis in hoc tempore.

In primis pro vno leone ² layd by the seyd parishe of worffylde					
the vilj daye of apyle in anno nono domine nostre					
Elizabetis nunc Regine etc.	...	...			lv ^s
It'm Rec' of every householder for to maintayne bred and wyne to the					
Churche	...	...	...	...	xxxix ^s
It'm the buryalles of Roger Cattystre					
William byllyngysleys wyffe & his Chyld					xv ^s viij ^d
It'm Rec' thre yeares Rent due to the maintenance of the scole and the					
churche	...	...	...	...	vij ^{li} xiiij ^s vij ^d ob.
Summe of the charges	...	xiiij ^{li}	iiij ^s	iiij ^d ob.	

Alowances.

M ^d paied to wylliam Rowlow of wyken and others to Rondeles vse then scole master					
one hole yeares Rent	...	...	...		lj ^s ij ^d ob.
It'm to Wylliam Walker'	...	..	...		vj ^s
It'm to m ^r vycar'	...	...	...	...	xiiij ^s iiij ^d
It'm to Roger barret	...	..	...	..	viiij ^s
It'm to Joyce hatton	...	...	...	...	iiij ^s

¹ A new hand begins here. In the margin of this page are various notes and headings.

² Lewn or levy.

It'm spende at brugenorthe apperynge before the Commyssyoners ... ..	... ..	iiij ^s	
Summa allocationum...	... iiij ^{li}	v ^s	vj ^d ob.
M ^d for bredde and wyne from the viij daye of apryle in anno nono domine nostre Elizabethhe nunc Regine etc. vntylle the viij daye of Apryle in anno decimo dicte domine nostre Elizabethis nunc Regine etc.... ..	... ..	xiiij ^s	vij ^d
It'm for the lycke from the forseyd viij th daye of Aprille in predicto anno decimo etc. vntyll the viij th daye of Apryll in anno vndecimo predicte domine nostre Eliza- betis nunc Regine etc. ... ..	... ..	xiiij ^s	x ^d
It'm for the lycke bredde and wyne from the viij daye of aprylle in anno vndecimo vntyll the xxvij th daye of marche in anno duodecimo dicte domine nostre Eliza- bethe nunc Regine etc. ... ..	... ..	xv ^s	
The hole summe ys ... ..	... ..	xliiiij ^s	vj ^d
It'm at a visitacion holden at pencrege ...	...	iiij ^s	
It'm the bysshopes visitacion holden at stafford ... ..	... ..	iiij ^s	vij ^d
It'm at a vysitacion holden at lapley ...	...	iiij ^s	iiij ^d
It'm at a visitacion holden at byshebery ...	...	ij ^s	iiij ^d
It'm layd out at a vysytacion holden at stafford for halfe a boocke ... ..	... ..	v ^s	iiij ^d
and for meete drynke and horsse mete at the same tyme ... ..	... ..	ij ^s	vj ^d
		xxij ^s	ij ^d
It'm payd to Roberte barret for kepyng the belles for thre yeares .. ...	... ..	x ^s	
It'm to ffrances barret for kepyng the Clocke thre yeares ... ..	... ..	xxj ^s	
		liij ^s	ij ^d

It'm to Rychard barret strynggers man and John tyrland for vj ffoxe heades ...	vj ^s
It'm to thomas merwalle for mendyng the wyndows a bonte the Churche and fynd- yng the tymbur	iiij ^s iiiij ^d
It'm to thomas tayler for nayles to the same	iiij ^d
It'm to m ^r tydder for glassyng the Churche wyndows	x ^d ij ^d
It'm to them that dyd beare the lathers to the churche at that tyme	ij ^d
It'm for nayles to the same worke	iiij ^d
It'm for lime and wodde	vj ^d
It'm for Rydding the gutters about the churche thesse laste thre yeares ...	xij ^d
It'm to Rychard ffelcton for mowdiwarpes ¹	viiij ^d
It'm to thomas Clarke and ffraunces barret for mendyng the Churche yeates and the northe churche dore	iiiiij ^d
It'm to Robert fflemying for pollyng vp ij shetes of leedde on the churche syde ...	ij ^s
It'm for payyng of John garbotes grave in the churche	xij ^d
Summa... .. .	xxv ^s viiiij ^d
It'm pd to thomas tayler and thomas clarke for shutting the belle Clapper	x ^d
It'm for Castyng the Cuppe ² and other the Charges thereto belongyng at that tyme	iiij ^s
It'm to thomas Clarke for mendyng the iiij churche yeates and the wawle and fynd- yng all the stuffe thereto belongyng ...	xvi ^d
It'm to shabre ³ for goyng vp to the steple toppe	xiiij ^s iiiij ^d

¹ Moles. A well-known provincialism. Entries relating to the destruction of vermin are very frequent about this time.

² The number of existing Communion cups dating from 1568 to 1572, and the similarity of their form has often been noted, and seems to point to some special regulation of Elizabeth's reign. But no authority or direction for these has ever been traced.

³ Shawbury.

It'm for Wylliam baches charges and myne at Codssowle in goyng to loocke for one to mend the steple	xij ^d
It'm for wesshyng the Churche geere for three yeres	xij ^d
It'm for mendyng the greate bell clapper and the brasses that belongyth to the greate belle and the second belle ...	iiij ^s ix ^d
It'm for papur and wrytyng	xij ^d
Itim xxxv ^s j ^d the wyche the parishe owed to the seyde churchemasters at the last a Counte	
Summa	iiij ^{li} iiij ^d
Summa totall' of the Receyptes	xiiij ^{li} iiij ^s iiij ^d ob.
Summa totall' of the expenses allowaunces	xiiij ^{li} ix ^s ij ^d ob.
And so the pysshoners doe owe clearelye vnto the churchewardens aforseid vpon the fynysshyng of this accompt ...	iiij ^s xj ^d

1570—1572.

Thacomptes of Jhoan Baker of Bromley and Jhoan Broke
of Roughton Churchwardens of the parish church of
Worilde from the second day of Aprille anno domini
1570 vntylle the viij day of aprille anno domini 1572
beynge full too yeres accomptes of alle Reseytes expences
charges and paymentes.

De eorum receiptis.

Inprimis of the bequest of Wylliam Byllyngsley of Ludson	x ^s
It'm of the bepuest of Wylliam Mathewe of Aston	v ^s
It'm of m ^r bromley for a pece of an olde kyche ⁿ	v ^s
Summa Receptorum	xx ^s

Idem gardiani reddunt Compotum Solucionum de quibus
petunt allocacionem.

Inprimis spent at a visitacion at Pencryche ...	iiij ^s j ^d
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It'm for a boke against the Rebellion ¹	xij ^d
It'm spent at a visitation at Stafford before my lorde byshope	v ^s ij ^d
It'm for thalowance of our communion cuppe a Stafforde before m ^r Sutton and for feese	ijj ^s vj ^d
It'm spent at a visitation at Weddesbury ...	iiij ^s iiij ^d
It'm to Thomas marwalle and Roger Smith for mendynge the seconde belle	ij ^s v ^d
It'm for the plumber for sooder and for hys wages in the gutters	xij ^s viij ^d
It'm for sooder w ^c wee boughte about the paryshe	v ^s ij ^d
It'm for the plumeres table and for meate and drynke of hys servers and ther wages ...	v ^s iiij ^d
It'm for fachynge the plumers kolees at the newe in	ij ^d
It'm for lyme at Rouley..	j ⁿ
It'm for yren and nayles to mende the seconde bell	xj ^d
It'm to Thomas Tayler for three sortes of nayles to the plumber	vj ^d
It'm for mendynge the belclaper	vj ^d
It'm for makynge a belclaper	v ^s xj ^d
It'm to Lowes for whytlymynge the chirche ...	viiij ^s v ^d
It'm for whytlyme for the same	ij ^s
It'm to the same Lowes for coverynge the graves	xvj ^d
It'm for a hundred of shyngles... ..	xviiij ^d
It'm for Juxe borde wages and servynge to laye on the same and to mend other places ...	xxij ^d
It'm for nayles to the same	iiij ^d
It'm to ffraunces barret for (wyndynge) wynd- ynge ² daubyng and dygynge of claye for the scole house	ij ^s ij ^d
It'm to the same ffraunces for mendynge of the scolehouse and the gvdgine of the great bell'	x ^d

¹ Perhaps the Queen's proclamation "against despisers or breakers of the orders prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer."

² Perhaps = winnowing = sifting.

It'm Clare (?) of Apley for ij foxe heades and and a bausiones ¹ heade	iijs
It'm to humfrey barret and wylliam hasylwoode for a foxe heade	xij ^d
It'm to Rychard Grynhouse of Brydgenorthe for a foxe heade	xij ^d
It'm at a commission before m ^r wodcoke and m ^r Lee	xvj ^d
It'm for shyngles and a pece of tymber to beare the leade vnder the glasse wyndowe ...	x ^d
It'm to Juxe for hys table and wages and others that dyd helpe vp w ^t the leade and mend- yng the shyngles synce the snowe (?) ...	ij ^s v ^d
It'm to Thomas Tayler for nayles to the [<i>left blank</i>]	iiij ^d
It'm for wesshyng and mendyng the surpleses	xij ^d
It'm for a carpet for the communion table ...	xx ^d
It'm for a boke of iniuncion ²	iiij ^d
It'm to Rychard barret of Alscote for vj fych- holes ³ heades	x ^d
It'm to Rychard ffelton for iiij ravenes heades	ij ^d
It'm to ffraunces barret for mendyng the church yate	iiij ^d
It'm payed to the last churche maisters vpon the last account	iiij ^s xj ^d
Summa totalis allocationum ...	iiij ^{li} x ^s ij ^d
And so due vnto them in surplusage ...	iiij ^{li} x ^s j ^d
M ^d that the money dewe for the holy lose (?) was not accounted for at thys accompt.	

(To be continued).

¹ Badger's.

² Perhaps the *Book of Discipline* or Canons of 1571.

³ Pole cats. The correct local form is "fichet" (Halliwell). "Fichewe," which occurs in these Accounts for 1575-77, is also found in *Piers Plowman's Crede*, 295. Fitch means a Stoat. See also *New Eng. Dict.* s.v.

VISITATIONS OF WENLOCK PRIORY IN THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.

BY THE REV. W. G. D. FLETCHER, M.A., F.S.A.

THE following records of the Visitations of Wenlock Priory by delegated ecclesiastics from the parent-house of Cluni, are extracted from a volume of *Visitations of English Cluniac Foundations*, by the late Sir George F. Duckett, Bart., 1890. They were copied and translated by Sir George from the original records preserved in the National Library of France.

Cluni had thirty-five subordinate houses in England, and three in Scotland. The Order was divided into ten ecclesiastical provinces, of which England and Scotland formed one. At an early date it obtained exemption from episcopal oversight, this privilege having been granted by Pope Gregory VII.; but Visitations of the subordinate houses were periodically undertaken by two visitors selected for each ecclesiastical Province, and nominated for the duty by the Chapter General which was held each year at Cluni. The object of these Visitations was to promote uniformity in discipline, to correct abuses, to reform morals, and to maintain sound doctrine, and also to watch over the temporal affairs of the House.

The records now printed relate to the years 1262, 1275-6, and 1279. The Prior at the first of these Visitations was Aymo de Montibus, who held the office from 1260 to 1272, and in his time the duties were well carried out. He was succeeded by John de Tyeford (or Thefford), who was in office at the two later Visitations, and who was one of the provincial visitors in 1275-6, when all things were reported as being conducted "with sufficient regularity." In 1279, however, when a more searching enquiry was made, it was found that this Prior was very dishonest, and "guilty of gross fraud," and had run the House into debts which exceeded 1800 marks. Moreover, "in an underhand way he

was manœuvring to be elected Bishop of Rochester," so that he might be independent of Cluni.

Wenlock Priory¹ was originally a house of nuns, but became deserted, and was re-founded about the year 1086 by Earl Roger de Montgomery, who colonized it with Cluniac monks. Like other Cluniac foundations, it was regarded as un-English and foreign at heart, and was frequently fined by the kings as an "alien" cell. It was declared denizen in 1395, but it was not till 1494 that a Papal bull finally severed its yoke from Cluni, and made it independent of its foreign mother. Preen was a subordinate cell of Wenlock, as also were St. James of Dudley and St. Helen in the Isle of Wight. Paisley Abbey, which was founded in 1184 as a house for 25 brethren, was colonized by monks from Wenlock.

There is a descriptive enumeration extant of the English and Scotch Cluniac Houses, which is undated, but appears from internal evidence to be compiled from Visitation reports of 1298, 1390, and 1405. The portion relating to Wenlock is as follows:—

[*Charité-sur-Loire*].—"The Priory also of St. Milburga of Wenlock is a cell to the same Priory of La Charité, and its brotherhood number 40 monks. Every day seven masses should be celebrated as a rule, and of these three are with chant (or music). Alms are daily bestowed (on the poor), and all statutes prescribed by the rule of the Order are duly and strictly carried out." (p. 39).

[*Wenlock*].—"To this Priory, Dudley is a subordinate cell. There are 4 monks in this house, and the Divine office of mass takes place twice daily. One celebration is with chant, the other is said." (p. 43).

The records of the Visitations of Wenlock are as follows:—

1262.

Report made in 1262 (47 Henry III.) by the Priors John and Henry, Visitors of the Abbey of Cluni, on the condition

¹ For the history of Wenlock Priory, see the *Transactions* for 1882, Vol. V., 167, &c.; Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, Vol. III.; Dugdale's *Monasticon*, Vol. V., 71, &c.; Walcott's *Four Minsters round the Wrekin*, 73, &c.—ED.

of the English subordinate-houses of Wenlock, &c., under the authority of Yves de Poyson, 25th Abbot of Cluni.

“In the year of our Lord 1262, We the Brothers John and Henry, Priors respectively of Gassiconrt and Bermoundsey, proceeded to carry out our English Visitation, &c.”

“State of the Cells subject to La Charité.”

“On our return to London, the Prior of Wenlock having been cited to attend, and personally appear before us; Brother Walter the chamberlain, and Brother Philip the land-steward (or bailiff), of Wenlock Priory, having been sent to us on behalf of the convent, these severally made their report to us of that house; its condition, both as to spiritualities and temporalities, being as follows:—The Divine offices are there conducted with all possible solemnity and propriety; silence is observed; and all such things as pertain to correction, and the sub-prior's duties in respect thereof, firmly and strictly observed. The brotherhood number thirty-four, and its pecuniary liabilities amount to sixteen hundred marks, with an additional sum of twenty-six and a half marks; of these eighty marks, and another sum of twelve and a half marks, are owing with interest to different merchants.” (p. 13).

1275-6.

Report in 1275 and 1276 (3 and 4 Edward I.) by the Cluniac Visitors of English subordinate houses, delegated for the duty by Yves de Chassaut, 26th Abbot of Cluni.

“Visitation made in England, in the year of Our Lord 1275-6 by the Brothers John, Prior of Wenlock, and Arnulph (equerry; constable) to the Lord Abbot of Cluni.”

“*Wenlock*. Visitation made at Wenlock on Wednesday next before the Feast of St. Vincent the Martyr (Jan. 22nd) in the same year (*sic*). The religious community amount to 40 monks, and 3 lay-brethren, who conduct themselves with sufficient regularity. The visitors of the Prior of la Charité had already visited this house before our arrival, and had corrected whatever was found amiss. As regards the use of the saddle-crupper and other matters, we gave the same

orders here as at Farley.¹ The Prior found the house upon his entering on office, burdened to the extent of 1,750 marks. at the present moment the debt amounts to 1,500 marks: but bears no interest." (p. 18).

1279.

Visitation of English Cluniac Houses in 1279 (7 Edward I.), made by order of Yves de Chassant, Abbot of Cluni, by the Prior of Mont-Didier in France, and the English Prior of Lenton.

"Cells to the Abbey of la Charité.

"Visitation of England made in the year of Our Lord 1279, by the Priors of Mont-Didier in France, and of Lenton in Notts."

"House subordinate to the Priory of la Charité.

"On Friday after the Feast of St. Bartholomew (25th August) we entered on our visitation of Wenlock, one of the cells of la Charité. At the present time the number of resident monks is only 35, whereas in olden time there used to be 40 and upwards. They perform their Divine offices properly, and live honestly and according to rule. It is upwards of seven, or nearly eight years, since the temporalities were made over to the present Prior, and according to his own account he found it with liabilities amounting to 1,700 marks; but such we ascertained was far from being the case, the debt at the time in question not amounting to more than 500 marks. Probably, by the aid of what is in hand, and what is owing to the house, the said 500 marks may be redeemed. But the following will show the mode in which the said Prior pretended to have taken over the Convent:—"In such and such a locality [he made out] there is a farm-house wanting, worth 200 marks. On another estate a dwelling-house worth 100 marks is also non-existent. On another estate 200 head of cattle, 100 milch cows, 3,000 sheep are unaccounted for. Certain silver utensils are not

¹ At Farley, and also at Montacute, the Prior was enjoined that he was on no account to attempt to ride out on horseback without a crupper [*postella*] to his saddle, or leggings; neither were the brethren ever to abstain from using the same leggings when required. (*p.* 17). They were also warned against eating meat before secular persons, and against remaining in the convent after compline. (*Ibid.*)—Ed.

forthcoming, valued at so much," etc.; and in thus reckoning up, and computing fictitious deficiencies in that manner, he asserted the Convent's debt to amount to the foregoing 1,700 marks, testifying to its truth, and confirming such attestation both by his own seal and that of the house. But the whole matter was a piece of pure invention, and a downright fraud, for neither cattle, cows, or sheep ever existed, as so set down; neither could he, or anyone else, have pretended to have even discovered any such deficiencies, or run up such a total, either in respect of a longer or shorter period of time, for this house happens to be, perhaps, one of the richest and best endowed of any.

In addition to all this, he let on a life lease one of the convent's estates to a certain knight and his wife, and for this he received 800 marks. Neither of the parties are now living, so that the property has reverted to him, the knight and his wife not having enjoyed it above three years. Besides this, he made away with a virgate of the convent's land to one of its officials (named Simon) as a copyhold of inheritance, and on a like tenure he gave the Priory's porter another virgate of land. Again, to an official (named John Trecey) he demised his own prebend for life, with horse and servant, which he is thus entitled to hold as of the Convent of Wenlock during life. Seeing, however, that the said John had conveyed to the Church of Wenlock a full carrucate of land with all its belongings, this arrangement may have had something redeemable in it, but in spite of this, the Prior alienated this very same carrucate of land to a party named Nicholas Brisbane, which he had neither power or right to convey, so that of course he not only got the equivalent, but probably has the money still. He has thus been guilty of gross fraud in respect of the church, which stands still unreleased from its original engagement. Then again, to cite another case; when the Prior first came to Wenlock, he conveyed a yearly rent of 15 marks on the revenues of the Priory to Adam de Straton, for which he gave him security by deed, under his own and the Convent's hand; but he has never satisfied this obligation in respect of one penny. The result of this last business would plainly be, that if another Prior succeeded him in the priorate, who did not chime in

with the arrangement, the said Adam would not only recover the whole, both arrears and rent, but, what would be worse, he would stand possessed of the property. Moreover, when the Lord Abbot [*of Cluni*] was in England, the Prior affirmed that the debt of his convent amounted to 2,200 marks, although he had then been in office for six years; but when I was at Bermondsey he told me the debt was only 800 marks. Coming here, as I have, during his absence abroad (for he is out of the country), I have not been able to ascertain the exact truth, either from the brethren of the house, or from those whom the Convent's debt of 500 marks chiefly concerns, and I have quite come to the conclusion, that it is almost impossible to elicit the truth from English monks.

All the foregoing I discovered to be, as stated, from the Prior's own papers and legal documents, and I told him the state of the case on his return from abroad; at which he appeared, of course, very much astonished. Certainly, if this matter is well looked into, and thoroughly investigated, it will be found that the liabilities of the house exceed 1,800 marks. It is perfectly evident, and clear to any one of sense, that the Priory of Wenlock will not only be liable for this debt, but still greater loss and complications will arise in respect of Bermondsey and Northampton, if the present Prior remains any longer at his post. He sells and alienates whatever he possibly can, and, apart from this, is altogether a restless and discontented character. In an underhand way, he is manœuvring to become elected, if he possibly can, to (the See of) Rochester, and thus to make himself independent of Cluni.¹ In all this matter we see great peril impending." (pp. 28-30).

¹ It seems strange that such a worthless character should be named as even aspiring to a bishopric!—G. F. D.

HISTORY OF THE MANOR OF WESTHOPE.

BY EVELYN H. MARTIN.

I.

NAME OF THE MANOR. BOUNDARIES, SITUATION, AREA.
 NAME OF HILLS, STREAMS, LANES, FIELD NAMES.

WESTHOPE is a township in the Parish of Diddlebury. It has preserved the same way of spelling almost since the Conquest. In the Domesday Book the name is "Wes-hope." in old deeds it is written "Westhop" or "Westhopp," by some local people pronounced as it was spelt. The word "Hope" is derived from the Celtic, meaning "A valley" between two hills, and Westhope would denote the "West of the valley of Hope." It is situated south of the Parish of Diddlebury, and joined by "The Batch" or Hollow to Siefton, once a large forest. It is bounded on the north by Diddlebury and Wenlock Edge, on the south by Culmington and Dinchope, on the west by Acton Scott, and on the east by Culmington and Corfton.

The Valley of Hope must have extended some distance, as Wilderhope, Preshope, Easthope, Middlehope, Dinchope, Burhope, Millichope, and Ratlinghope, although not all adjoining, are no great distance away.

In the time of Domesday the area comprised 600 statute acres. In 1707 the estate was upwards of 1,108 acres. In 1845, as also at the present time, the area shows 1,186 acres 26 perches.

There are many small hills on the estate—"Nether Hill," "Turners Hill on the east of the Manor, planted with Larch in 1891, "Corfield's Bank" on the north of the Manor and overlooking "The Cottage," "Titterhill" to the east of the Estate above Corfton, "The Hill," "Little Hill," and "Upper Hill," lie at the entrance of the property on the

south side. "Greenbryer Hill" and "Footway Hill" on the Morwood estate, "The Coppice Hill," or as it is now called, "The Long Copse," is the boundary on the west overlooking the Long Forest, and joining "Wenlock Edge" and "Churn Head" on the north and "Upper Tipton Field" on the south.

Two streams run through the estate, one from the north, the other from the south, and join below "The Fish Ponds" behind "The Moat Meadow;" from there they continue down "The Batch," and join the River Corve.

Very few of the names of the Lanes remain. "Titterhill Lane," leaning from The Crossways or cross roads to the cottages on Titterhill, is a narrow deep lane in very bad repair, and has been widened part of the way from the lower end, with steep banks on each side. "The Watery Lane," once the old road from Westhope to above Siefert Post Office, leading through "Hill End." I imagine it is now so named, as the water from the side of the road opposite runs down it. This lane is now closed up from about 100 yards from its entrance. "The Green Lane" is the modern name for a grass lane, leading from Upper Westhope Farm and running south and joining the Titterhill Lane. It was the old road from Titterhill to Churn Head.

Of Field Names there are many, and some most curious. The "Dovehouse Close" opposite the Chapel Orchard and close to Westhope Hall. In olden days a dove house was the usual appendage to every Manor, an oblong or circular stone or brick building, with rows of nesting places, and a louvre at the top for the entrance of the birds. The dove house has long ago disappeared. "The Close Barnyards" and "The Greenyard Barn," I presume these to be "The Barnyard" and "Barn Meadow" adjoining Westhope Hall Orchard. "The Great Meadow," lying to the south, and bounded partly by "Watery Lane" and "Chapel Orchard" and "Moat Meadow," is situated on the south of "Watery Lane;" on the west is the road to Moorwood and Dinchope, and on the south-east is "The Wellings." It contains a Pond known as "The Fish Ponds." "Tippings Field and Coppice," called in the map "Upper and Lower Tipton's Field," lie at the extreme south of the property. "Tasker's

Field and Coppice" and "Orchard Coppice." To each house is attached an orchard. "Mill Coppice," adjoining the old Mill, below Hill End; there is nothing now left of it except the High Bank, and there are only a few trees standing there. "Purslowe Coppice," Lambert Crofts," now called "Lumber Croft," between "Ward House" and "Middle Westhope House;" "The Pringle," "Corfton Fields." "The Calf Fields," now called "Calf's Patch," below Hill End Farm," and "Calves Close" by Ward House. These in 1707 were in the tenure of Edward Caldwell (see his Will).

"Moorwood." This part does not now belong to the estate; it was sold in 1790-1, although it is shown in the Tithe Map of 1845. In a *Patent Roll* of 5 Elizabeth, 1563, given at Westminster 29 March, in the 5th year of our reign, is mentioned "that meadow called Morewood, held at the rent of $\frac{3}{4}$, and all those 3 acres of land value per annum 8d, being in a certain wood called Moorwoode, parcel of the Manor of Westhope." In 1707 it was in the tenure of Edward Evans of Westhope. "King's Lees" was in the occupation of Thomas Penny and Elizabeth his wife deceased. "Moat Meadow" is situated near Westhope Hall, adjoining Watery Lane, and the remains are still to be seen, although the moat is now dry. The ground, 14 feet high from the bason of the moat, which is 35 feet across, is 100 yards square. On the north side a piece of ground is connected to the square, and juts out into the moat, thus narrowing it at that corner. This may have been the place for the bridge. Lower down on the same side are the remains of a sluice for letting off the water. Although a trench has been dug across the high ground to the depth of several feet, no trace of any foundations have been found. The local people recollect the Moat having been filled with water. The Moat goes round only three sides of the square; on the fourth side are the "Fish Ponds" and stream. I have been told that constantly, when digging the other side of the "Fish Ponds," bricks have been turned up. The local tradition is that on the high ground was The Castle, which was fortified for troops. It appears most likely that this was the case, and this house would be the old Castle of the estate.

Richard Smout, who was a very old man in 1845, told my informant about the Castle. In 1707, Moat Meadow was in the tenure of Nathaniel Smith. "Tippings Field," situated to the west of "Moat Meadow," now known as "Upper, Lower and Little Tiptons Field," also in the tenure of Nathaniel Smith. "Duke's Tenement" occupied by Hugh Farmer. "Thornes" in the tenure of John Tyler, Joan his wife and Edward his son. "Watercorn Mill" in the tenure of Oliver Appewe; probably this Mill was situated below Hill End. "Likes Tenement," in the tenure of Richard Like. "Whetstones Tenement," on the pasture ground called "Little Corftons Field," divided into several parts, one called "The Nether side of Burwoods Coppice," on the north boundary of the estate, in the tenure of Richard Tyler. The several closes of parcels of land, meadow and pasture, known by the names of "The Three Closes" above the Mill. "Corfton Wood," "The Batches," at the entrance of the property from Siefton. "Westhope Woods," "The Bank" above "Franklin's House," "Wellens Head," "Cockshult Head," now known as "Cockshut Field" on the west boundary. "Barch Head," "Hillstone," and "Burwood," lying on the north boundary. These names are taken from the deed of 1707. In 1845 the Baroness von Zandt was Lady of the Manor, and the Tithe map of that date gives further field names:—"Acorn Coppice," on the north east boundary, "Corfields Plantation," situated between "Westhope Manor" and "The Cottage," "Titterhill Plantation," the field adjoining "The Cockshut." None of these fields paid tithe; they were in the tenure of Richard Smout; "Upper and Lower Heathy Ground," below the "Long Copse," "The Long Leasow," a narrow piece of ground extending from Middle Westhope to the "Long Copse; "Crabtree Leys," below "Lower Heathy Ground;" "Oaky Field," north west below "Pear-Tree Orchard Field;" "Burnt Field," below "Long Copse;" "Pipeclay Field," adjoining "Burnt Field," on the road to Harton; "Churn lid Piece" and "Churn head," on the north boundary, the road to Harton divides them; "Burwood Piece," on the north boundary, below "Churn Head;" "Blue Button Piece," north east of Middle Westhope; "Barn Meadow,"

adjoining the former; "Aldery Field," adjoining "Blue Button Piece;" "Old Hannah's Field," adjoining "Old Woman's Meadow;" "The Sling" and "Broom Piece" adjoining "The Four Acres;" "Titterhill Field," "Crossway Field," "Milking Fold," and "Pikey Piece," east of "The Shoulder of Mutton," now the site of "The Cottage;" "The Poor Field," divided from "Pipe clay Field" by the road leading to Harton; "The Patches," "Little Orchard" and "Spout Meadow," south of Middle Westhope House (the spring of the north. brook rises in the latter meadow); "Big Meadow," east of Ward House"; all pay tithe except the latter and "The Shoulder of Mutton"; this land was in the tenure of Richard Smout; "Upper and Lower Field," with Little Meadow and House, now known as "Burwood Farm"; "Upper and Lower Leys," west of the east boundary plantation; "Brickleys Meadow" and "Middle Field," on the west of Upper Westhope Farm; "Lower Field," "Far Field," "House Field," and "Upper Field," belonging to Burwood Farm; "Crabtree Field," on the north of Middle Westhope; "Quarry Leasow," the east boundary of Titterhill; they all pay tithe except Big and Little Meadow, and the house and Brickleys Meadow in the tenure of Thomas Leighton; "Lower Lumbercroft," west of the Shoulder of Mutton; this field is now planted as a covert, and known as "The Lumbercroft Covert"; "Little Stoney Piece" below "Long Copse;" "Far Hill Field," "Hill Field," and "Burnt Piece," adjoining "Spout Meadow;" "Calves Close," adjoining "Ward House;" "Corfields Bank and Patch" between The Crossways and Westhope Manor, skirting the road. "Fowlers Meadow" and "Pikey Piece" are opposite to Corfields Bank; "Chapel Meadow" and "Chapel Orchard," a big pasture to the east of the chapel; "Good-for-nothing Acres" on the east boundary, "Rocky Field" below "Little Field," and "Hollow Leasow" joining "Turners Hill Plantation," all pay tithe except the Chapel Meadow and Fowlers Meadow. This ground was in the occupation of William Price.

John Banks was the occupier of "Heathy Leasow," "Rainbow Piece," "Lower Field," "Dove house Close," "The Tack," "Goose Rack," "Big Leys," "Big and Lower

Cinquefoil Piece," "Little Orchard," "The Furlong" lying between the Long Copse and Westhope Hall—"Chapel Orchard," "Barnyard," and "Barn Meadow" surrounding Westhope Hall. "Elwell Leasow," "Tumpy Leasow," "Limekiln Leasow," "Halestone Leasow," and "Tipton's Fields," are below the Long Copse to the south of the Estate. "The Great Meadow," and "Rackington" comprised five large fields, "Mount Plock" a small field adjoining "The Fish Ponds" in Moat Meadow. "Big and Little Wellings," now known as "The Wellings," and planted with fir trees. These may be "Wellens Head" named in the 1707 deed. The Big or Great Meadow and Chapel Field and Orchard are exempt from tithe.

Edward Jones was the tenant of "The Alders," "Brookey Piece," "Well Meadow," "Calves Patch," "Crabtree Piece," "Pit Leasow," the land round Hill End House, "Rackington," "Coltolt Piece," "Briary Piece," "Old House Piece," "Upper Orchard," "Broomy Ground," all lying to the south of Hill End House and below Callow Hill. The Lower and Upper Meadow are exempt from tithe.

Thomas Banks occupied the "Batch Leasow and "Long Meadow," situated between Hill End and "Turners Hill,"—"Little Cow Leasow," "Pikey Piece," "Turners Hill," "Banky Field," "Upper Streets Meadow," "Little Croft," "The Rough," "Streets Meadow," "Round-about," which are situated each side of the road leading from the Batch. The Long Meadow and Lime Kiln Bank pay no tithe.

The remainder of the estate belonged in 1845 to Francis Marston, Esq. :—"Callow Hill," "Frisland Coppice," "Gorsy Leasow," "Frog Park," "Cow Pasture," "Rackington," "Binding Gate," "Yew Tree Field," "Six Yokings," "Nine Yokings." Fold, house and garden: and all pay tithe except the latter. This part is known as Moorwood.

"The Fish Ponds" are situated behind the "Moat Meadow," through which the south branch of the stream runs. This pond has now silted up, but some of the old inhabitants remember fish being there; when asked "What sort of fish?" my informant did not seem to know, except to tell me "them was real good 'uns," so evidently he had sampled them! The other "Fish Ponds" are in the Great Meadow.

“Dumble Pool” on the road from Crossway Cottages to “Ward Farm” on the “Shoulder of Mutton” site. This Pond is now partly enclosed in the garden of “The Cottage.” I wish I could discover the origin of the name.

The Brickyard field has a pond, and another has lately been made at the north of the “Shoulder of Mutton.”

II.

HISTORY OF THE MANOR FROM THE DOMESDAY SURVEY.

The Domesday Book places Westhope in the Baschurch Hundred. TERRA ROGERII COMITIS. “In Basechere Hundredo.”

“Isdem Picot tenet Weshope. Elmundus tenuit. Ibi II hidæ geldabiles. Terra est III carucis. In dominio sunt II^æ, et VI servi, et III villani cum I caruca. Tempore regis Edwardi ualebat XV solidos et post VI solidos, modo XXV solidos.”

[*Translation.*] The land of Earl Roger. In Baschurch Hundred.

“The same Picot holds Westhope, [in Saxon times] Elmund held it. There are two hides paying geld. The land is of four ox-teams. In demesne are two [ox teams], and six serfs, and four villans with one ox team. In the time of King Edward it was worth fifteen shillings, and afterwards six shillings; now (it is worth) twenty-five shillings.”

Mr. Eyton, in his *Antiquities of Shropshire*, Volume II., page 295, places Westhope in the Hundred of Lenteurde. He says:—“The Hundred of Lenteurde opens with the names of Minton and Chelmick and after including Willingslow, Acton (Scott) Woolston, Alcaston, Wistanstow, Strefford, Westhope and (Cheney) Longville, it is interrupted by the junction of Stokesay (a Culveston Manor) on the east, and Sibdon (a Rinklau Manor) on the west. In constructing the Table of the Domesday Hundred of Lenteurde, I have departed from the letter of the Record in two instances, Westhope is assigned to the Lenteurde Hundred, though Domesday places it in Bascherch. I believe this to have been a mere inadvertancy of the Domesday scribe. Westhope is preceded in the Record by Gellidone (a Bascherch Manor).

The only alteration required, is to place the marginal affix of Lenteurde Hundred a point higher, that is to make it apply to Westhope." He further says (in Volume XI., page 307):—"I have already given my reasons for supposing that Picot's Manor of Westhope, though assigned by Domesday to the Hundred of Bascherch, was in Lenteurde Hundred, Edmund its Saxon owner, was lord also of the adjoining Manor of Strefford." It is clear that Westhope, or at least one-half of the Domesday Manor, was usually held in demesne by Picot de Say's descendants. In the Forest-Roll of 1180 the "Lady of Clun" is assessed 1s. 6d. for an imbladement of 3 acres of oats in Westhop. This was because Westhope was within the jurisdiction of the Long Forest—the "Lady of Clun" was, of course, Isabel de Say. Again in 1209 the "Lord of Westhope" is similarly assessed by the Regarders of the Long Forest, and I conclude that William fitz Alan (II.) must be the person alluded to.

The Inquest of 1255 places Westhope in Munslow Hundred. "John fitz Alan (II.) held it, for one hide of land immediately of the King. The vill did suit to the county, but not to the Hundred, and paid neither *stretwarde* nor *motfee*." (*Rot. Hundred.*, II. 71).

The Inquest taken in 1267 on John fitz Alan's death, surveys the Villate of Westhop as follows:—With its other adjacent members, it contained two carucates of arable land held in demesne, and worth £1 6s. 8d. yearly. The rents of free and customary tenants were £3 8s. od., including the rent of a mill. Fourteen half virgates were held by as many tenants, whose service was to provide one labourer in autumn for the work of the Manorial Lord. The gross income from Hopesay, Westhope, and Clunton was £14 6s. per annum. (Inquisition, 52 Henry III., No. 37).

The Inquest taken in 1272 on the death of John fitz Alan (III.) states him to have held 60 acres in demesne at Westhope and to have had a free tenant there, one John ad Aulam, who held two virgates. The gross proceeds of the Manor were £4 and upwards. (Inquisition, 56 Henry III., No. 36).

Of *Undertenants* in Westhope, I may name Roger Pollard of Westhope, deceased in 1262, but against whom an information for *vert* had been lodged by the Regarders of the

Forest. In 1271 John de Westhope was one of the Manu-
captors for the appearance of John fitz Alan (III.) in a state
prosecution (Eyton, Vol. X., p. 340). He occurs also on a
Minton Jury in October, 1274.

Ecclesiastically, Westhope was a member of the distant
Parish of Diddlebury. (Eyton, Vol. XI., pages 306-8).
Elsewhere Eyton says:—"I have discharged Weshope from
the Domesday Hundred of Bascherch, being sure that it was
Westhope in South Shropshire, and that it should have been
entered by the Domesday scribe as in the Lenteurde
Hundred." (Vol. X., p. 41). Eyton thus refers to Richard
fitz Alan's tenure of Westhope:—"Richard fitz Alan, the son
of John fitz Alan (III.) and Isabel de Mortimer, was born
3 February, 1267, and attained his majority 3 February,
1288. At the Assizes of 1292, in October of that year, I
first find him styled Earl of Arundel. A Writ of *Quo
Waranto* required him to show his right to hold pleas of the
Crown and to have *wayf* in his Manors of Upton-subtus-
Haweman, Wroxeter, Westhope, Acton Round and Shraw-
ardyne. The King's Writ of *Diem Clausit* on the death of
Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, bears date 15 January
1302. In the Inquests held soon after, Edmund his son and
heir was found to be 18 years of age, on 1 May, 1301.
(Inquisitions, 30 Edward I., No. 30).

The wife of Earl Richard Fitz-Alan is said by Dugdale to
have been Alizon, daughter of the Marquis of Saluce, an
Italian. It is evident that this marriage was consummated
long before Richard fitz-Alan attained his majority, in fact,
before he had completed his sixteenth year, for his son
Edmund was born within three months after that anni-
versary." (Eyton, Vol. VII., pages 260-1).

Speaking of Westhope as a part of the Long Forest,
Eyton says:—"The Forest-Roll of 1180 suggests that very
few concessions in the way of *assart* and *imbladement* had
been allowed to the inhabitants of the district. Rushbury,
Harley, Cressage, Langley and Westhope were the favoured
vills. In 1209 the Regard of the Long Forest shows that
indulgences had been extended to the Lords or the Inhabit-
ants of a far greater number of Vills. Rushbury and
Easthope, Westhope and Acton Scott, etc., had all been

suffered to increase their area of cultivation, or had compounded for so doing." "The Survey of Shropshire Forests in 1235 reports on the state of a great number of Woods and Boscs which were subject to the jurisdiction of the Long Forest." It gives this concerning Westhope:—"Item visus fuit Boscus de Westhope,—Bene custoditus de quercu et subbosco." (Vol. VI., pages 336-8).

"The List of Villis and Boscs declared to be disforested by the great and final Perambulation of the Forest of Shropshire, made 6 June, 1300, varies much from the former Perambulation. I select those only which pertained to the Long Forest Jurisdiction. These I conceive were (*inter alia*)—the villis of Acton, Middlehope, Westhope, etc." (Vol. VI., pages 343-5).

Eyton further says:—"The chief constituents of the Long Forest were several series of mountains and hills. From Halford on the south-west, to Much Wenlock on the north-east, there extends a continuous ridge or terrace, now known throughout its fifteen miles as 'Wenlock Edge.' This was the primary feature of the Forest so aptly called 'Long-The Valley or Basin which flanks this Terrace on the north-west is bounded by a parallel, but more broken and unequal chain of hills. The Stretton, Caradoc, Lawley, Frodesley, and Acton Burnell hills form this series. Again crossing an interval of country to the north-west of this series, we have the range of The Long Mynd, five miles in extent on the one hand, and the isolated Lyth Hill on the other. Another step to the north-west of the Long Mynd we reach the high grounds about Linley." Then we come to the Stiperstone Forest. To obtain some idea of its extent and area, the whole of the Domesday Hundred of Condober was within its jurisdiction except the three Manors of Buildwas, Sheinton, and Belwardine; and great parts of the Hundreds of Patinton, Culvestan, Lenteurde, Rinkau, and Ruesset. In Culvestan Hundred the Jurisdiction of the Long Forest extended to the Manors of Corflam, Diddlebury, Westhope, Culmington, Siefert, Munslow, Corfton, Sutton and Middlehope. In Patinton Hundred, the Jurisdiction of the Long Forest touched Much Wenlock; in Culvestan Hundred, part of Bromfield; in Lenteurde Hundred, it involved Church

Stretton ; in Rinlau, the Manor of Lydbury North ; and in Ruesset, Brace Meole and Sutton, near Shrewsbury. (See Eyton VI., pages 335-6).

Amongst the Harleian Charters, is an imperfect grant in 1216, of lands in Westhope, from Richard, Chaplain of Diddlebury, to Cecilia de Monetone.

(Harleian Charters, 83 E. 4, British Museum, Index Lease Westhope, Salop, Henry III., 1216).

Be it known to all who shall inspect the present writing I, Richard, Chaplain of Dudelwe, have given and granted to Cecilia de Monetone, both for myself and the said Cecilia in the vill of Westhope from John, son of Hugh, son of Baldwyn one place which of the said John, to have and to hold of me and my heirs to the said Cecilia and her heirs for a term of 40 years, freely, quietly, well, and in peace. In all and liberties she, the said Cecilia paying annually 4 pence, two at the Feast of S. Michael, and two at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary On her death bed Richard the Chaplain entered upon the place without any and I, Richard, Chaplain and my heirs have confirmed to the aforesaid Cecilia the said and stables.

These being witnesses : John de Westhop, Walter de Wulsteton, John, son of Walter le Scot, Walter Eshel-mendewic, and others.

(This deed which in Latin, and only a few inches square, is very much faded, the writing is small and is very difficult to read).

In the *Rotulus Perambulationum Forestarum* de Anno 29^o Regis Edwardi primi, 1301, the Vill de Westhope is named. "Edward to all to whom &c. Recites that the Commons have granted 15th of all moveable goods. We will that the Perambulation of our Forest in County Salop be made before Roger le Brabazon and his associates in all the town lands and woods which we have afforested (except those underwritten) ought to be disafforested, according to the Great Charter of the Forest. And the towns are those under written, namely, (amongst many others) the Towns of

Acton, Middlehope, Westhope, Wolnestic, etc., with their woods and plains.”

This is a very lengthy document, and I give only that part which relates to Westhope. It is given in Sir Thomas Phillipps' MS. 11,233, fo. 319b).

The Lay Subsidy Roll of 1327 for the County of Salop, names the following persons assessed in Westhope.

Hundredum de Munselowe. WESTHOP.

Thomas, son of Hugh	...	...	10d.
Richard Bryd	...	...	7½d.
Richard, son of William	...	...	8½d.
William Corbet	...	...	9d.
Philip de Walcote	...	...	10½d.
Richard Heynes	...	..	6d.

The Manor was granted by Queen Elizabeth to John Hotham and others in 1563. (Patent Roll, 5 Elizabeth, 6th part).

“We in consideration of £1,706 . 8 . 8 have granted to John Hotham of Grange in Yorkshire, Thomas Wood, gent., and William Frankland, Citizen and Clothworker, to them and their heirs and assigns, the reversion of Graye of Brerehang, etc., and all that demesne and Manor of ours of Westhopp with all rights, liberties and all appurtenances in the County of Salop, and all those lands and tenements thereon in Westhopp, now or late in the occupation of Thomas Milton or his assigns, and all other rents of assize, and our farm of Westhopp, parcel of the said Manor of Westhopp of the annual value of £4 . 15 . 0, and all those other lands in Westhopp . . . and all that Moor of 8 acres in Westhopp in a certain place there called ‘Le Bache’ of the annual value of 12d., and all those lands, tenements, and hereditaments in Westhopp and parcel of the said Manor, of the value in all of 7/8 . . . which Manor of Westhopp, and all and singular the present Manor of Westhopp, &c., were formerly part of the possessions of the Earl of Arundel, But are ours by an Exchange.” Given at Westminster the 29th day of March in the 5th year of our reign. (1563).

In the 14th of the same reign, 1572 (Patent Rolls, 14 Elizabeth, 7th part), the Queen granted to William James and John Grey, Gent., and their heirs,—“A vacant piece of

land in Westhopp in the tenure of William Hedd, lately belonging to the Monastery of S. John of Jerusalem in England."

In the book of the Freeholders of the County of Salop, Westhope is given as in the Hundred of Monslowe. There is no date. (Sir Thomas Phillipps' MSS. 11,233, in Shrewsbury Free Library).

In 1707 the estate was in the occupation of John Fleming, Lord of the Manor, the father of Richard Fleming, the under-tenants being John Hill, John Meddicott, Edward Tyler, Nathaniel Smith, Richard Garbet, David Jones, Samuel Yates, Richard Amies, Francis Penny, John Trustram, Adam Keysall, John Matthews, Preese Price, John Champion, John Bridgewaters, and John Parker.

Westhope was surveyed in 1774 for the heirs-at-law of Gilbert Fleming, who died intestate. Tenements in the Lordship of Westhope 1774:—

I. Moor Wood Farm, acreage 175 acres, 3 roods, 29 perch; value £86 5s. 6d. Tenant, Richard Goff.

II. Lower House, acreage 183a. 3r. 29p.; value £107 12s. Tenant, Richard Goff.

III. Cocks Barn, acreage 54a. or. op.; value £31 14s. 6d. Tenant, Richard Goff.

IV. Hall Farm, acreage 231a. or. 29p.; value £135 5s. Tenant, Mrs. Henry Haynes.

V. Upper Westhope, acreage 132a. 2r. 15p.; value £68 17s. 6d. Tenant, William Amais.

VI. Upper Westhope, acreage 11a. or. 4p.; value £5 10s. Tenant, Isaac Howels.

VII. Upper Westhope, acreage 32a. 1r. 5p.; value £12 13s. Tenant, Samuel Pryce.

VIII. Hill End Farm, acreage 86a. 3r. 22p.; value £61 os. 6d. Tenant, Thomas Reynolds.

IX. Batley Tenement, acreage 24a. 3r. 27p.; value £21 6s. 6d. Tenant, Richard Batley.

X. A cottage, acreage 3r. 20p.; value £1 10s. Tenant, Widow Pritchard.

XI. In lease, acreage 17a. 1r. 21p.; value £13 13s. Tenant, John Griffiths.

XII. At will, acreage 16a. 1r. 19p.; value £7 13s. 6d. Tenant, John Griffiths.

XIII. A Cottage, acreage 27p.; value 11s. 3d. Tenant, Widow Tharman.

XIV. The Copies, acreage 52a. 3r. 11p. On hand.

In 1777 an Act of Parliament for dividing Corfton tells us,—“The Lands of Corveton are open to certain waste lands in the Townships of Westhope and Burhope,” and the proposal is “to enclose them in a ring fence.”

In 1841 there were seventeen houses on the estate and 103 inhabitants. “Westhope Hall,” occupied by John Banks, farmer, “Lower Westhope” by Thomas Banks, farmer, “Chapel Farm” by William Price, farmer, “The Hill End” by Richard and John Smout, farmers. At this time Baroness von Zandt was Lady of the Manor.

In 1908, Leonard Swinnerton Dyer, Esq., is now the Lord of Westhope, and resides at Westhope Manor, with Lucy his wife, and Leonard Schroeder Swinnerton Dyer his son. There are 20 houses on the estate and 100 inhabitants.

“The Cottage.” E. H. Martin.

“Westhope Hall.” John Corfield and Mary his wife, and their children, Thomas, Henry, Dervise and Mary.

“Burwood Farm.” Edward Jones and wife, Emily and Mary Jones.

“Ward Farm.” William Evans and wife.

“Middle Westhope Farm.” Thomas Manley and Martha his wife, Frederick and John Manley.

“Upper Westhope.” James Bloomfield and his daughter Emily Bloomfield.

“Hill End Farm.” John Corfield.

“Crossway Cottages.” Andrew Hall, Katherine his wife, and their three sons, Andrew, Richard and Evelyn, John Carter and his wife and family.

“The Batch Cottages.” Mrs. Harriet James, widow, aged 90, William Davies and wife.

“The Batch Farm.” Thomas Hince and wife.

“Titterhill.” (3 cottages), Thomas Davies, wife and family.

“The Barracks.” George Reynolds, his wife, and William, Nelly and Howard Reynolds.

“The Cottage” Cottages. Charles Hubbard and wife, Mrs. Mason, Edwin Mason.

“Ward Cottage.” Mr. John William Holt and Emma his wife.

III.

THE MANOR AND ITS LORDS. MONTGOMERY, PICOT DE SAY,
ALBINI, AND FITZ ALAN.

ROGER DE MONTGOMERY, a Norman who came to England with the Conqueror in 1067, was created by him Earl of Shrewsbury and of Arundel. For his services in Normandy during William's invasion of England, he was rewarded by the gift of the greater part of Shropshire, including the Manor of Westhope. He married in 1044 Mabel de Belesme, daughter and sole heiress of William, Earl of Belesme; she was murdered in 1082. He married secondly, Adeliza de Puiset, who founded the Priory of Wenlock. Earl Roger built Shrewsbury Castle, and founded the Abbey, and dying 27 July, 1094, was buried at the Abbey.

He left issue, five sons and four daughters:—

1. ROBERT DE BELESME (the eldest son by his first marriage), who inherited the Norman estates of his mother Mabel, was baptized at Seez about 1045.

2. HUGH, the second son, succeeded his father in the Earldoms of Shrewsbury and Arundel, and to his vast Shropshire estates. He was killed in Anglesea by Vikings in 1098, and buried in the Abbey of Shrewsbury, which Earl Roger had founded, and which replaced the little wooden church erected by Siward the Saxon Thane.

ROBERT succeeded his brother Hugh in the Earldom; he built various castles in Shropshire, including Bridgnorth. He was a bad and cruel man, and his reign marked by the worst qualities of a feudal Baron. He was pronounced an outlaw by Henry I. and banished, when the King took possession of his estates. He died 31 or 32 Henry I., 1131-2.

3. ROGER, EARL OF LANCASTER, called Pictavensis, married ALMODIS, daughter of Audebert, 2nd Count of March.

4. PHILLIP, the Clerk; or "Grammaticus."

5. ARNULPH, created Earl of Pembroke.

1. EMMA, became Abbess of Almenesches in 1074, and died in 1123.

2. MATILDA or MAUD, married Robert, Earl of Mortain.

3. MABEL, married Hugh de Newchatel.

4. SIBEL, married first Robert Fitz Hamon, Earl of Gloucester, and secondly De Reynes.

Earl Robert married first a daughter of Guy, Earl of Ponthieu, and secondly a daughter of Robert Fitz Hamon, Lord and Baron of Torney, and had issue a son William and two daughters, the younger Ella, who was married to William, Earl of Warren and Surrey. At the time of Earl Robert's banishment, Shrewsbury Castle was held by William Fitzalan, who in the Civil War between the King and Queen took her part. Earl Roger had a grant in 1066 of 77 Manors in Sussex, 4 in Surrey, and 357 in Shropshire. As I have before mentioned, the estates fell to the Crown, and were given to Adeliza, second wife of Henry I., who married secondly William de Albini, surnamed Pincerna, and by right of his wife created 1st Earl of Arundel of that surname. Although Earl Roger was in possession of the whole County of Shropshire, it does not appear from any early deeds, or even from Domesday, that he was much or ever at Westhope, for we read in Domesday that "Picot holds Westhope." PICOT DE SAY was one of Earl Roger's chief vassals in Shropshire, and held under him 27 manors, including Westhope. He, and his wife Adaloya, and sons Robert and Henry, are named in a charter of the Abbey of Seez, dated 1060. Picot's son Henry de Say, who was living in the time of Henry I., succeeded to his father's large Shropshire estates. Helias de Say was probably son and heir of Henry. (See Eyton XI. 225—228) Helyas had a daughter and heiress Isabel, who on the death of her father became Lady of Clun, and in 1180 Lady of the Manor of Westhope. She was a great benefactress to the Monastery of Wenlock, and she married first Geoffrey de Vere, and secondly William Fitzalan, who became Lord of Clun and Westhope. The former, now a ruin, is the property of the present Duke of Norfolk. So much has been written of the descent of the Fitzalans that I will only touch on their earlier progenitors who are named in the annexed pedigree.

WILLIAM DE ALBINI I. married Adeliza, daughter of Godfrey, Duke of Brabant, and widow of Henry I. She was created Countess of Arundel. From all accounts, he seems

to have been a brave man, and at the request of Empress Maud, his step-mother, King Stephen created him Earl of Arundel, Chichester and Sussex, and all the lands in Shropshire were given him. The Countess died 1151. He was buried at Wymondham, Co. Norfolk, in 1156. He had issue,

WILLIAM DE ALBINI II. (2nd Earl of Arundel) Lord of Buckenham, Co. Norfolk, Lord of Westhope and Stretton. He married Maud, daughter and heiress of James de St. Hilary and widow of Roger, Earl of Clare and Hertford, he accompanied the Crusade to the Holy Land, and dying on his return from Palestine in 1176, was buried at Wymondham, having issue,

WILLIAM DE ALBINI III., Earl of Arundel and Sussex, Lord of Buckenham, Westhope and Stretton. He inherited all his father's estates, and married Maud, daughter of William de Warren, by his second wife Bextrede, daughter of Simon, Count de Evreux. The Earl died in 1199, and was buried by his father.

His son, WILLIAM DE ALBINI IV., succeeded him in all his titles and estates, he married Isabella, sister and co-heir of Ranulf, last Earl of Chester. He died in Italy in 1221, and was buried at Wymondham, and had issue two sons, William and Hugh, and one daughter. His elder son,

WILLIAM DE ALBINI V., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, died without issue in 1223.

The younger son, HUGH DE ALBINI, Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, also died without issue in 1243, leaving his sister ISABEL sole heiress to all his vast possessions and estates. She married the great nephew of Isabel de Say, ✓ JOHN FITZALAN I., Lord of Clun, who by right of his wife, Countess Isabel, became Lord of Westhope. He died in 1243, and she in 1255, and had issue,

JOHN FITZALAN II., Earl of Arundel, and Lord of Westhope after his mother's death in 1255. He married Maud, daughter ✓ of Theobald de Butler and Roese de Verdon. She was Lady of Oswestry (Album Monasterium). His under-tenant at Westhope was Roger Pollard, who died in 1264. In the 52nd year of Henry III. (1264), John, son of Alan, holds Westhope (Phillipps MS. 11226, folio 288), and in the Roll

of Perambulations, 29 Edward I. (1301) mention is made of the Village of Westhope, as being in the Hundred of Munslow. In the time of Henry III. a MS. in Shrewsbury Free Library, under Westhop, states that in the time of Henry III., "John son of Alan holds Westhop for one hide of land of our Lord the King and does suit to the County, not to the hundred, and does not pay stretward or motfee."

In 52 Henry III. this occurs:—"The extent of the Manors of Oswestry (Albomonasterium), of Westhop and of Clowne and Hale Hampeston and Hethe, all which John fitzAlan held of our Lord the King by service. And they say that John, son of the aforesaid Sir John Fitzalan is the first-born and heir of the aforesaid Sir John Fitzalan and is of the age of 22 years."—(*Phillipps MS.*)

Earl John II. died 52 Henry III. (1268), leaving issue, JOHN FITZALAN III., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. He inherited all his father's honours and estates. Born the 14th of September, 1240, he married Isabel, daughter of Sir Roger de Mortimer of Wigmore, Knight, Baron Mortimer of Chirk, Co. Salop, and died 18 March, 56 Henry III. (1272). The Inquisition post Mortem (see *Phillipps MS.* 11226, folio 288) states that he held Westhope.

RICHARD FITZALAN IV., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, was created Baron of Kedy and Kedewy, Clun, Oswestrie, and Chirk, Co. Salop. He married Alice or Alisona, daughter of the Marquis de Saluzzo, in Italy. In the *Placita quæ Waranto*, temp. Edward I. (1274), "Richard, son of John Alan, the Earl of Arundel, was summoned to answer to our Lord the King to show by what authority he claimed to hold pleas of the Crown, and have weyfs (stray cattle) in his Manors of Upton-under-Haweman, Wrocestre, Westhop, Acton Round, and Shrewardyne. He pleaded his right to hold two Great Courts. &c., by immemorial usage. (See Eyton, VII., 260.1.) He died 9 March, 1303, and left issue:

EDMUND FITZALAN V., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. He distinguished himself to a great extent during the reign of Edward II.; he attended him in the expedition to Scotland, and with him was taken prisoner. By order of the Queen he was beheaded at Bristol, 17th

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November, 1326, in the horribly cruel manner in which those execution were carried out at that time. In the Patent Rolls of 31 Edward I. (1303) it is stated that a "Commission was granted to William Inge, William de Mortuo Mari, and John Nevill, touching the person who during his minority cut down trees of Edmund, Earl of Arundel, at Sirewardyn, Upton-under-Haghemon, Wrocestre, Hopesay, Alghamston (Alcaston), Westhope, and Acton Round, in co. Salop, and other places, also hunted his free warrens at Upton, Wrocestre, Alghamston, Westhope, and Acton le Round." He married, June 1305, Alice, daughter of William, and sister and heiress of John Plantagenet, 8th and last Earl of Warren and Surrey, and had issue :

RICHARD FITZALAN VI., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, who was born in 1306, and in 1330 Parliament restored to him all his father's estates, Edward III. declaring his father's death was a gross miscarriage of justice. He was Earl of Warren and Surrey by right of his mother ; Lord of the Manors of Westhope, Bromfield, Oswestrie, Yale, Clun, and Chirk, co. Salop, and Dinas Bran, North Wales : Baron Fitzalan, Life Sheriff of Shropshire, Governor of Chirk Castle, which he bought from a descendant of Helyas de Say, and Knight of the Garter. He married twice, first to Isabel, daughter of Hugh, Lord Despenser, and secondly, in 1345, Elianor, daughter of Henry Plantagenet, 3rd Earl of Lancaster, and sister of Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Lancaster, whose natural daughter Juliana, married William Dannett, of Westhope, who, I surmise, was his undertenant. He died the 24th January, 1376, and Elianor, his wife, in 1372.

In the *Patent Rolls* of 1st March, 1347, "Licence is given for Richard, Earl of Arundel, to enfeof John de Alresford and others of the Castle and towne and the Manor of Arundel, and of the Manors of Stretton and Westhope, and for them to grant the whole to him for life."

In the *Patent Rolls* of 3rd Edward III., part 2, 4th December, 1329, occurs a "Pardon to the convent of Wenlock for acquiring lands in Mortmain, in Presthope, 15 acres and 3 acres of meadow, of Margaret Presthope. In Sutton, half a virgate of land of Alice daughter of Thomas de Sutton.

In Wolveston a messuage and 2 virgates of land for Juliana, daughter of John de Westhope."

In the *Calendar of Patent Rolls* 19th Edward III., Part I., 1345-6, June 24th, "Richard, Earl of Arundel, Grants to the King several Manors, amongst them Stretton, Westhope, Sideleye, Conede, Acton Round, Wroxeter, and Upton. The King of special grace had granted to the Earl the said castle and Manors, etc., so surrendered to him."

In the 4th Edward III. (1331), in an Inquisition, Roger de Chenny is styled of Westhope (*Phillipps MS.*, 11226, p. 333.) The *Close Roll* of 1348, 21st Edward III., part I. (See *Phillipps' MS.*, 11227, folio 353 B) has the following:—
 "To all to whom, etc. Maurice de Berkele and Edward de St. John de Neuers, etc.. Know ye that we have granted to Richard, Earl of Arundel the right and claim which have in the Castle, town and Manor of Arundel in County of Sussex (and many Manors in other counties), and the castle, town, and Manor of Clone, in the Marches of Wales; the Castle, town, and Manor of Osewaldestre in the same Marches; the Manor of Ruton in the same Marches; also the Manors of Bokenhull in County of Salop, of Clunbury, of Dodynton, of Hethe, of Stretton, of Westhope, of Sidney, of Conede, of Acton Rounde, of Wroxcestre, of Upton, of Dalile; the Castle, town, and Manor of Shrewardyn, with the appurtenances in the said County of Salop, of Alghamston, of Hyntes, in the said County. To have and to hold, etc., to the said Richard; and be it remembered that the King confirms and caused it to be inrolled. Witness the King, near Caleys, the 20th January."

The Will of Richard, Earl of Arundel, 1376, in the Lambeth Palace Library (92B Sudbury) is written in Norman-French.

To be buried in the Priory of Lewes beside the tomb of my "treschere Compaigne Alianora de Lancaster q dieu essoile." He mentions my son Richard Arundel, my daughter Johane Arundel, my son John Arundel, my son Thomas Arundel, John, son of my son John Arundel, William, Henry and Edward, sons of my son John Arundel, my nephews and nieces, the sons and daughters of Roger Lestrangle and my daughter, Elizabeth Lestrangle, Aleise my daughter.

My Bible in two volumes. He bequeaths to the Augustin Friars of Ludlow, 10 marks. To the Augustin Friars of Wodehous, Salop, 10 marks. To the Friars Minor of Bridgnorth, 10 marks.

My uncle John Darrundell. Will dated 5 December, 1375. proved 11 Kal. November, 1376.

The Will of Alianore Arundell widow (daughter of the Earl of Lancaster) is also in the Lambeth Palace Library.

(Arundel, I., 222 B.)

Will dated 10 September, 5 Henry IV., 1404.

To be buried in the Priory of Lewys, where Seigneur Lord John Arundell lies buried. She bequeaths to my Lady of Hereford, a gold tablet: and a legacy to my Lady of Kent. She mentions my daughter de Roos, my daughter Johan, my son Richard Arundel, and my son Reynald. She bequeaths to Elizabeth Arderne a russet gowne, and to William and Thomas Arderne silver.

Executors; William Deerannt, Vicar of Spettesbury, and John Ouynton. Supervisors: Sir Richard Arundell and Master John Tybythyng. Proved at Lambeth, 17 February, 1404-5.

EARL RICHARD VI. had issue two sons:—Richard his heir, and Sir John de Arundel, whose grandson eventually succeeded.

RICHARD FITZALAN VII., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, K.G., was born in 1345, and married in 1359. Elizabeth, daughter of William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, who died in 1385. He was charged with high treason and sent to the Tower, found guilty; he was beheaded at Cheapside, 18 September, 1397. His Inquisition Post Mortem 21 Richard II. (1397-8) gives a good number of names and holdings of the early Shropshire sub-tenants. (Record Commission Volume).

He had issue:

THOMAS FITZALAN VIII., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, who was born 13 October, 1381, and created Knight of the Garter, and Lord Treasurer of England. He inherited all his father's vast possessions. He held various distinguished appointments, and was considered a wise and

just minister. He married the 1st of May, 1405. Beatrix, daughter of Joam I., King of Portugal, and dying without issue in 1415 was succeeded by his cousin. He and his wife are buried in the Church of Arundel; their monument in alabaster is of great beauty. The Inquisition *Post Mortem* of Beatrix, Countess of Arundel, 18 Henry VI. (1440) states that she was of Westhop Manor, co. Salop.

Will of Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, 3 Henry V. (Lambeth Palace, Chicheley, Vol. I., 287A). Dated 10 August, 3 Henry V., 1416, mentions his property in Sussex, Surrey, Southampton, Kent, Norfolk, Gloucester, Salop, and Hereford. The property in Salop was placed in the hands of Edward, Lord of Pows (Powys), Robert Pobelewe, Thomas Harlyng Clerk, and John Bartelot. He devises to his son John, the Manor of Kensing, etc. He gives lands for a Chaplain at the Colleege at Arundel: a Legacy to Austin Friars of London, to pray for the soul of his father Richard, Earl of Arundel. He orders a pilgrimage, which he had vowed to make himself, to be undertaken by William Ryman, or someone else, to St. Thomas of Canterbury and St. Richard of Cicester. He bequeaths to Elizabeth Arundel my Kinswoman, for her kindness to me during my illness £40. For a vestment to the blessed Wynefred of Salop £20.

The executors are Henry, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Thomas, Bishop of Durham, Beatrix, my most loving wife, Sir John Wiltes, Kt., Robert Pobelowe, Thomas Harling, Clerks, William Boerly, William Ryman, and John Bartelot.

Codicil. "I will that John Well, have my Manors of Bolden and Middlehop in Salop to the end of his life, then to my wife, and then to be sold and the money distributed for the good of my soul. I will that John Young who came with me from Calles (Calais) at my first coming into Yngland to my master's dominion (The King), have £10 per annum. My consort to have the governance of my lands till my son John is of age."

Proved in the Church of Poules (Pauls) Wharf 11 December, 1415. Letters of Administration granted at Lambeth on 13 December, 1415, to Beatrise, Countess of Arundel, Sir John Wilts, Knight, and John Bartelot.

Inquisition Post Mortem 18 Henry VI., No. 28, File 98, 1410.

Inquisition taken at Ludlowe on Tuesday in the week of Pentecost, 18 Henry VI., before John Chetwyn Escheater for Salop and the Marches of Wales, after the death of Beatrix, lately Countess of Arundell, and late wife of Thomas Earl of Arundell. Recites the fine of 31 Edward III. (as in the Inquisition post mortem of John Earl of Arundell) and that Richard Earl of Arundell was seized (with other lands) of the Manor of Westhope, and settled it on the heirs of the body of himself and Alianore, daughter of Henry of Lancaster. Beatrix died 23 October last past, without heir. John, Duke of Norfolk, is aged 24 years and Elizabeth, wife of Edward Nevile, Lord of Berguvenny, is aged 22 years, and Edward Lenthall is aged 20 years.

(This Inquisition is very much faded and stained, and is very long. But it is clearly seen that the Manor of Westhope is mentioned, and it was part of the dower of Beatrix).

Before I continue with the Lords of Westhope I must return to Sir John de Arundel, the brother of Earl Richard VI. He was Marshal of England in 1377, and married in 1364, Alinore, daughter and heir of John, Lord Maltravers: she was Baroness Maltravers in her own right; she died 10 January, 1404, her husband was drowned in the Irish Sea, on 13 December, 1379. His will is dated 26 November, 1379, and an Inquisition Post Mortem was taken 3 Richard II. He had issue an only son, Sir John Arundel, Baron Maltravers, who was born 30 November, 1365, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward, Lord le Despenser. Sir John died 14 August, 1391, and was buried at Missenden Abbey, leaving a son, JOHN DE ARUNDEL IX., who was born at the Manor of Dilton, in the County of Bucks, 1 August, 1387, and who in 1405 succeeded his mother in the Barony of Maltravers, and by virtue of an entail of the Castle of Arundel made in 21 Edward III. (1348) became on the death of his cousin, Earl Thomas VIII., in 1415 Earl of Arundel and Lord of Westhope. He married in 1407 Alianore, daughter of Sir John Berkeley, Knight, of Beverston in the County of Gloucester, and died the 21 April, 1421, and he and his wife are buried in the Church of Arundel.

The Inquisition taken after the death of John, Earl of Arundel, at Dorchester, Co. Dorset, on Monday next before the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, 14 Henry VI., 1435, mentions John Arundel, late Lord of Mautravers, and Alianore his wife (the parents of John, the deceased Earl), and his wife Matilda. It states that John, Earl of Arundel, died 12 May last past: and that Humphrey Arundel, his son and next heir, is aged 7 years and more. (Chancery Inq. P.M., 13 Henry VI., No. 37).

In the Chancery Proceedings, 33 Henry VI. (1455), No. 35, mention is made of Alianore, who was the wife of Walter Hungerford, Knight, lately the wife of Sir Richard Poynges, Kt., and late the wife of John Arundell of Arundell, Chivaler, who held etc. Order to enquire who is next heir, dated 8 August 33 Henry VI. She owned the Manors of Bodyngton, Prynter, Westhope, Melmsley, Eggerley, and Marbrooke, and held one third part of these. The Manor of Westhope is held of our Lord the King by fealty and all services, and is worth in all outgoings 60/-. The Countess Alianore married secondly Sir Richard Poynings, son and heir of Lord Poynings. He died in 1430, leaving issue an only daughter and heir, Alianore, who married Henry Percy, 2nd Earl of Northumberland, and died 10 February, 1482. She married thirdly, Sir Walter Hungerford of Heytesbury, Co. Wilts, and died 1449, leaving issue.

She died in August, 1455, and is buried at Arundel. Her Will is dated 20 July, 33 Henry VI., 1455. In it she styles herself Alianore, Countess of Arundell and Lady Maltravers (although she married secondly Sir Richard Poynings, Knight, and thirdly Sir Walter Hungerford, Knight). She bequeathed her body to be buried in the Chapel of our Lady, within the Collegiate Church of the Holy Trinity at Arundell, and gave to the Master and Fellows of that College a Cross of Silver Gilt, to remain therein perpetually for convenient uses, as also forty pounds sterling, upon condition that the master and Fellows with all the Priests and Officers of that College, and their successors should yearly keep the Obits of John, Earl of Arundell, her late husband, and her own Obit, with Mass and Office of Requiem solemnly with Note, at convenient hours, for their souls, and the souls of their

parents, and ancestors, and all the faithful departed. And likewise ordained that her executors should dispose two hundred marks of her goods, to found a Perpetual Chantry, at the Altar of our Blessed Lady in the same Chapel, for one Priest to celebrate Mass thereat every day for the health of her said husband's soul, and her own soul, and have ten marks per annum for so doing: or at least for twenty years next after her decease. Moreover she gave to William, Earl of Arundell, her son, her best cup of gold, likewise a ring, with a ruby, and an hundred pounds sterling. To Joane, Countess of Arundel (his wife) a cup of silver. To Alianore Percy, her daughter (by Lord Poynings) a golden collar for her neck with a jewel set with precious stones hanging thereat, also a bason of silver with the Armes of the Lord Poynings, and of Sir John Berkeley, Knt., her father, thereon. likewise an ewer of silver, and a hundred pounds sterling. To the Lady Dudley, her sister, a rowe of pearls. To Margaret, the wife of Lord Hungerford, a standing cup of gilt. To Sir Robert Hungerford, Knt., Lord Molyns, then prisoner in France, all her wooll at Haytesbury of an hundred pounds value towards his ransom, provided that he be released of his imprisonment during his life, and that neither he, nor the Lord Hungerford his father, nor any other, disturb the executors of that her Testament. To Sir Morice Berkeley, Knt., her brother, two silver pots with the Armes of the Lord Hungerford, and twenty pounds sterling. To the Lady Lora his wife, a cup of beryl garnished with gold. To Maurice, the son of her said brother, a salt-cellar of silver and ten pounds sterling. To Anne, his wife, a Book of Mattins, covered with velvet. To Thomas Berkeley, her brother's son, ten pounds. To Edward, another of his sons, ten pounds. Her Will was proved on the twenty-third of August, 1455.

The Inquisition Post Mortem was taken in 34 Henry VI., after her death at Stretton, co. Salop. The Jury found that Alianor held, as Countess of Arundel, certain property, and she held in dower of John Arundel, late of Arundel, Knight, formerly her husband, the Manors of Dodynton, Hyntes and Westhop, with the appurtenances, and other Manors, and the third part of the Manor of Acton. The Manor of

Westhop was held of our Lord the King by fealty, and all services, and is worth 65/-. William, now Earl of Arundel, is son and next heir of the said Countess, and is aged 32 and more. The Countess died 1 August last past.

In the *Phillips MS.* 11,227, folio 264, is an abstract of an Inquisition post mortem 33 Henry VI., No. 35, Gloucester and Marches of Wales. The Jury say that Alianore, who was the wife of Walter Hungerford, Knight, lately wife of Richard Poynings, Knight, holds in the County of Salop and the Marches of Wales of the dower of John Arundell, late of Arundel, Knight, lately her husband, the lands of Dodynton, Acton Round, Westhope, and also the estates of Donne, Besley, Kempton, and Upton, parishes of the Lordship of Clune. The reversion of the said manors, belonging of right to William, now Earl of Arundell, son and heir of the aforesaid John Arundell. And that Alianore died 1 August last past, and William, now Earl of Arundell, is her son and heir, and aged 32 years.

It is rather curious to note that Sir Thomas Dyer, Knight, (1559) married as his second wife a daughter of Henry, Lord Poynings, and as his third wife Johane, daughter of Sir Maurice Berkeley, Knight, of Beverston. And Sir Walter Hungerford, Knight, owned Heytesbury Park, county Wilts, which estate in 1616 belonged to George Dyer, the father of Sir William Dyer, Baronet.

Earl John IX. left issue two sons, John X., and William.

JOHN DE ARUNDEL X., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, who was born at Lychet Maltravers, co. Dorset, 14 February, 1407-8, and succeeded to his father's estates. He married first Constance, daughter of Sir John de Cornwall, K.G., Lord Fanhope, and secondly Maud, daughter of Sir Robert Lovell, and widow of Sir Richard Stafford, Knight; she died the 19th May, 1436. Earl John X. died at Beauvais 12 June, 1433, and was buried there, leaving issue a son, Humphrey.

In the Wills preserved in Lambeth Palace Library, is one of Radulph Hunte of Bath, dated 20 September, 1432, in which is mentioned his executor John de Westhope.

The Will of John, Earl of Arundel, is dated 8th April, 1430. My body to be buried in the College of the Holy

Trinity of Arundel, in the wall between the Choir and the Altar of the Chapel of the Blessed Mary of the same College. Legacy to same College. To Eleanor, my mother, a red girdle adorned with gold and precious stones. To Matilda my wife, a Legacy. To Humphrey my son, the same. Residue of my silver, to my consort. To Roger Conert for good service £10. To William Needham 100/-. To John Frebody, 5 marks. To Jamyn Blanksherd, 5 marks. Residue to Sir Maurice Berkeley, Kt., John Hody and John Greudon, Clerk, for the good of my soul to be disposed by them. They to be executors, and Master Thomas Polton' Bishop of Worcester, supervisor.

The Testator mentions his Manors of Almodyton, Codelow, Bercourt, Wylde . . . gge and Lynche in Sussex, Stoke-tristre, Coklyngton, Sperlegroff and Hyndford in Somerset, ffukelhorp in Herdingham, Norfolk, Grandesden in Cambridge, and the reversion of the Manor of Croxton which William Beauford holdeth for life. He states that "We have granted to our brother William Arundel the reversion of Eyno, co. Northampton, after the decease of Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward Arundel, and also of Croxton." Also that "Sir Morys (Maurice Berkeley Kt.) our uncle is enfeofed of Grantden Manor, if God will that we decease before comyng into Ynglande againe. the Manor of Grantden, to go to our brother and his heirs, if he die without heirs of his body then to our heirs." My son and heir Humfrey. He makes provision for Anne Stanwell, his cosen, and some others.

The Will, with a Codicil, was proved at Lambeth, 15 February, 1435. (Chichele, Vol. I., fo. 457b).

The Inquisition Post Mortem was taken at Shrewsbury, co. Salop, 17 October, 18 Henry VI. (1440). The Jury found that John, Earl of Arundel, deceased, held when he died, the Manors that Richard, late Earl of Arundel when he died was seized of, and the Manors of Ruyton, Bokenhull, Stretton, Westhope, Conede Acton, Rounde Acton, Wroxhall, etc. John, Earl of Arundel, held these as heir of Richard, Earl of Arundel and Alianore his wife: and William his brother is next heir, and is aged 14 years. John, Earl of Arundel, died 20 June, 18 Henry VI. (1440).

Inquisition Post Mortem 18 Henry VI., No. 27, File 98, 1440.

A further Inquisition was taken at Salop on Wednesday after the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary Virgin, 19 Henry VI., before Thomas Hopton and Richard Hoorde, after the death of John, Earl of Arundell. The Jury say that John, late Earl of Arundell, deceased, held at his death the Castle, &c. of Shrewardyn, the Hamlett of Tybreton, part of the Manor of Dalilee, the Manor of Arkall, &c.; and John died seised thereof in fee tail. And they say that Richard, late Earl of Arundell, was seized of the same Castle, &c. of Shrewaydyn, Tybreton, also of the Castles and Manors of Clone and Oswestry, and the Manors of Ruyton, Bokenhill, Strattonheiths, Westhope, Conede, Acton Rounde, Wroxester, Upton, Dalilee, Alghampton and Hynts. And being so seised a Fine was levied in the Octaves of Trinity, 31 Edward III., between the same Richard, late Earl of Arundel, complainant, and John de Mresford and John Sprot, Chaplain, deforciant, of all the same Castles and Manors, to the use of the heirs of Richard, late Earl of Arundell on the body of Alianore, daughter of Henry de Lancastre, to be begotten. And he had issue by Alianore, viz.: Joan, late Countess of Hereford, Richard, Alice, late Countess of Kent, and Thomas, late Archbishop of Canterbury; and he died so seised and they came to Richard, as son and heir of the said late Earl. And Richard had issue, John, late Earl, and died so seised in fee tail by virtue of the fine, and the premises came to Thomas, late Earl, son and heir of Richard, son of Richard. And Thomas died seised in fee tail, and the premises descended to John de Arundell, Chivaler, as kinsman and heir male of Thomas late Earl, viz., son of John, son of John, son of Richard and Alianore, which said John de Arundell, Chivaler, died seised in fee tail, and the premises descended to John, late Earl of Arundell, as son and heir of the said John de Arundell, Chivaler, and then to William, now Earl of Arundell, as brother and heir of John. And that John, late Earl of Arundell, died 20 June, 16 Henry VI., and William, now Earl of Arundell, is his brother and heir, and is aged 29 years and upwards. (An abstract of this Inquisition is also given in Phillipps' MS. 11,226, fo. 263).

The Will of Matildes, Countess of Arundel, is dated 11 May, 1436, and was proved in P.C.C. 25 October, 1436 (21 Luffenham). She mentions her son Humfrey; and leaves the residue of her property in England, Wales, France, and Normandy, to her executors Walter Would and William Lewston, and appoints Elizabeth Lowell, her mother, and Humfrey Stafford, her father, supervisors.

The Inquisition Post Mortem of Matilda, Countess of Arundel, was taken at Sherborne, co. Dorset, on Monday next before the Feast of S.S. Simon and Jude, 15 Henry VI. (1436). The Countess died on 19 May last past, and Humphrey, Earl of Arundel, her son and next heir, is aged 8 years and more (Chancery Inq. P.M., 15 Henry VI., No. 39).

HUMPHREY FITZALAN XI., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. He was born 30 January, 1429, succeeded his father in 1433, and died unmarried 24 April, 1437. The Inquisition Post Mortem taken on his decease states that Humphrey, son and heir of John Arundel, late Earl of Arundel and Matilda his late wife, daughter of Elizabeth, who was the wife of Richard Lovell, died 24 April last past; and William Arundel is uncle and next heir, and was aged 20 years and more on 23 November last past.

Humphrey was succeeded by his uncle William.

WILLIAM DE ARUNDELL XII., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, succeeded his nephew. He was born in 1417, and married Joan, the daughter of Richard Nevill, Earl of Salisbury. In the Chancery Proceedings of the 23 March, 1405, is a "Licence to Sir William Dudley, Knight, and William Ernele, to grant the Castle, town, and Manor, and the Lordship of Cloune, and the Manors of Acton Round, Wroxeter, Upton, and Westhope, to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Exeter, William, Earl of Arundel, and Sir Edmund Grey, Knight." William, Earl of Arundel, dying in the third year of Henry VII. (1487), was succeeded by his son, THOMAS FITZALAN XIII., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Richard Wydeville, Knight, and sister of Elizabeth, Queen of Edward IVth. Earl Thomas dying the 16 Henry VIII. (1524-5) was succeeded by his son, WILLIAM XIV.

PEDIGREE OF ALBINI AND FITZALAN, LORDS OF WESTHOPE.

ALAN FITZ FLAAL, . . . of Castle Madok, co. Salop, Lord of Oswestry, Sheriff of Shropshire 1105.	WILLIAM DE ALBINI I., Lord of Westhope 1156. Died 1176.	= Adeliza, d. of—Henry I., Godfrey, Duke of Eng- land. Died Created Coun- 1 Dec., tess of Arun- 1135, bur. del. at Reading
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William FitzAlan I., Lord of Clun and Oswestry. Founder of Haglmond Abbey 1100. Died 1138.	= Helen, dau. of Sir William Peverell.	William de Albini II., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Died 1196.	= Maud, d. and h. of James St. Hillary, widow of Roger, Earl of Clare and Here- ford.
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William Fitzalan II., Lord of Clun and Oswestry 1138. Died 1166.	= Helen, d. of Ingelram de Say, Lord of Clun, of Richard's Castle.	William de Albini III., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Died 1199.	= Maud, d. of William de Warren.
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William Fitzalan III., Lord of Clun and Oswestry, died 1215.	= . . . , dau. of Hugh de Ludlow.	William de Albini IV., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Died 1221.	= Isabel, sister and coheir of Ranulf, last Earl of Chester.
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William FitzAlan IV., Died s.p. 1216.	= Mary, d. of Giles Erdington, Lord of Montgomery.	John FitzAlan I., Lord of Clun and Westhope. Died 1243.	= Isabel, coheir to her brothers Died 1255.
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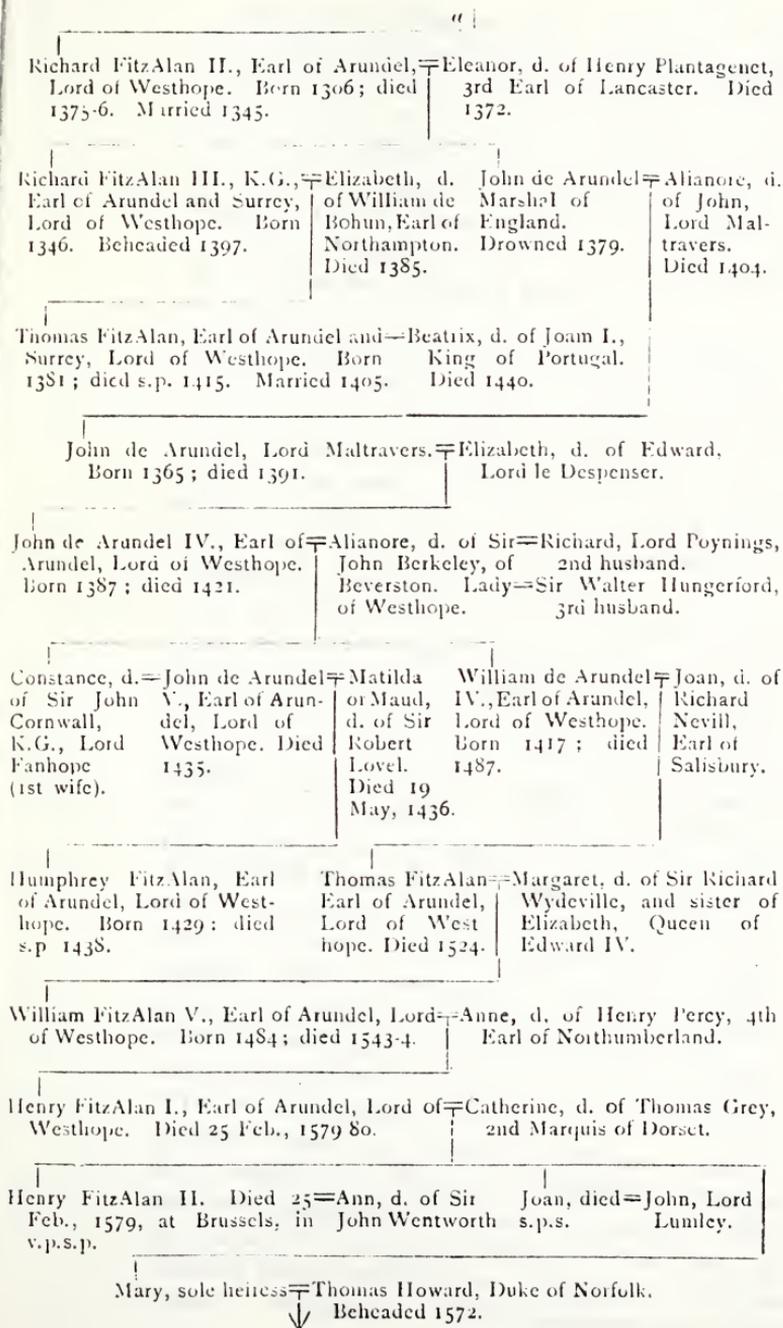
William de Albini V., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Died 1223.	Hugh de Albini VI., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Died 1243.
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John FitzAlan II., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Died 1208.	= Maud, d. of Theobald le Botiler, by Rohese de Verdon.
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John FitzAlan III., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Born 1246. Died 1272.	= Isabella, d. of Sir Roger Mortimer of Wigmore.
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Richard FitzAlan I., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Born 1267; died 1302-3.	= Alisona, d. of the Marquess de Saluzzo.
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Edmund FitzAlan, Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope. Born 1285. Beheaded 1320.	= Alice, sister and heir of John, Earl of Warren and Surrey.
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WILLIAM FITZALAN XIV., Earl of Arundel, Lord of Westhope, who was born in 1484, and created Knight of the Order of the Garter, and he inherited all his father's estates. He was one of the Lords who subscribed a letter in 1530 to the Pope requesting him to comply with Henry VIII.'s request for a divorce from Queen Catherine. He was an advocate for the Reformation. He married Anne, daughter of Henry Percy, 4th Earl of Northumberland, and dying in 1543 was succeeded by his son.

HENRY FITZALAN XV., Earl of Arundel, and last Lord of Westhope of the Arundel family. He married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Grey, 2nd Marquis of Dorset. He sold the Manor of Westhope to the Queen (Elizabeth) in 1561, and died in his 68th year 25 February, 1579, leaving issue, Henry, who died without issue in his lifetime; Joan, who married John, Lord Lumley, but died without surviving issue; and Mary, who became sole heiress, and married Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk.

In the *Feet of Fines*, Hil. 3 Elizabeth (1561), is a Final Concord made before Sir James Dyer, Knight, and other Justices, Between the Queen complainant, and Henry Earl of Arundell, Sir John Lumley, Knight, Lord of Lumley, and Jane his wife, deforciant, touching the Manor of Kyngestanley and Woodchester with the appurtenances, and 60 messuages, 20 cottages, 10 tofts, 60 gardens, 60 orchards, and 2,300 acres of meadow, 1,000 acres of pasture, &c., in Kyngestanley and Woodchester, the Manor of Hindeford, etc. in co. Somerset, the Manor of Stapleford, in co. Wilts, and the Manors of Wroxeter and Westhope, with the appurtenances, and 20 messuages, 10 cottages, 10 tofts, 1,000 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 100 acres of uncultivated land, and 40/- rent, with the appurtenances in Wroxeter and Westhope, co. Salop.

In the *Particulars of Grants*, temp. Elizabeth, No. 2,567, Thomas Wood and William Frankland request to purchase the Lordship and Manor of Westhope, parcel of the lands had in exchange with the Earl of Arundel. The *Patent Rolls* of 5 Elizabeth, 6th part, contains a Grant from the Queen to Thomas Wood and William Frankland of the Lordship and Manor of Westhope, with the appurtenances, and lands and

tenements in the tenure of Thomas Mytton, late parcel of the possessions exchanged with the Earl of Arundel. To hold to them and their heirs of the Queen in socage. Dated 16 July, 5 Elizabeth, 1563.

(From the above it would appear that one Earl of Arundel exchanged the Manor of Westhope with the Crown for some other property. This was probably Henry XV., in 1561).

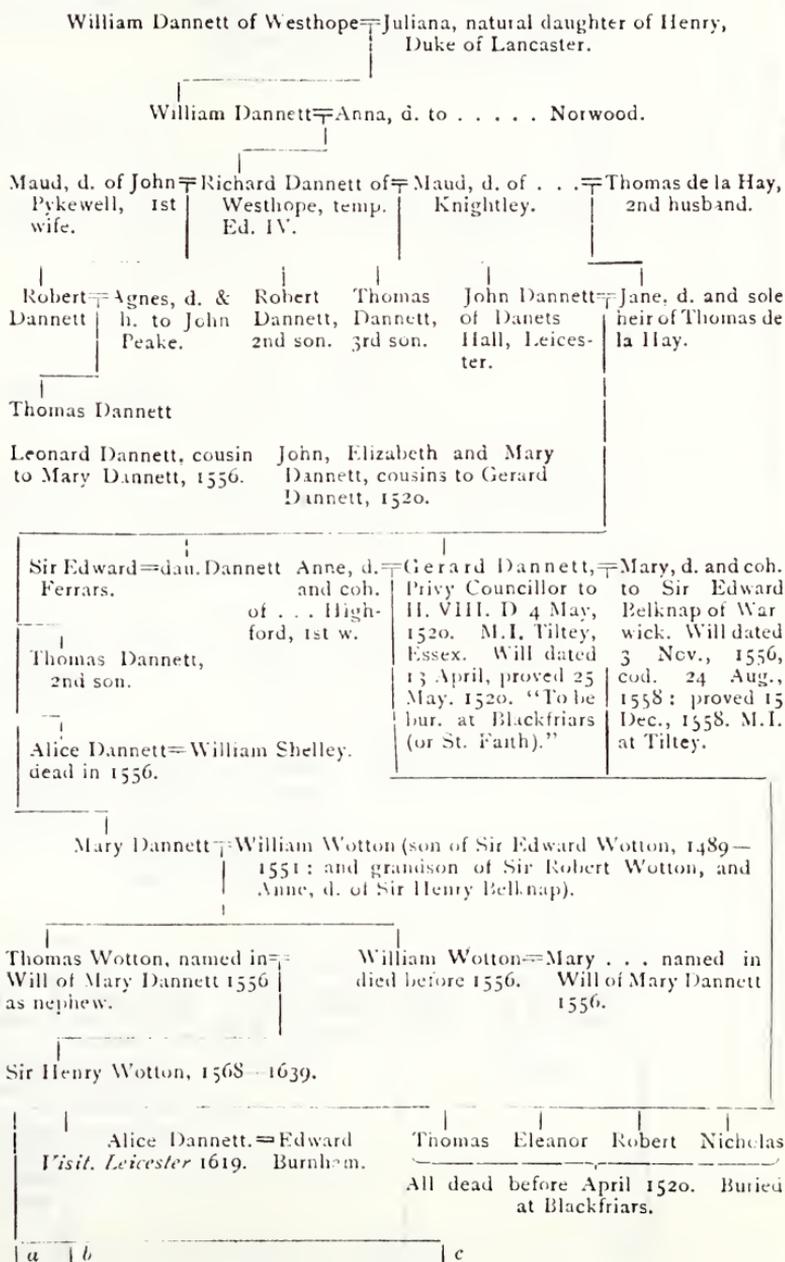
IV.

LORDS OF THE MANOR. DANNATT OF WESTHOPE.

In the last chapter I have shown the Lords of the Manor when the Earls of Arundel had the estate. The *Visitation of Shropshire* 1623 records that William Dannatt of Westhope married Juliana, the natural daughter of Henry, Duke of Lancaster, and we know by previous history that William Dannatt, or Dannett, was living as undertenant of the Earl of Arundel. He had a son, William Dannatt, who married Anna, daughter of Norwood, but this William is not styled of Westhope. His son, Richard Dannatt of Westhope living in the time of Edward IV., married twice, and from his second wife Maud, daughter of Knightley, the Lords of Westhope descend. The Dannatt pedigrees given in the *Visitations of Shropshire* and of *Leicestershire*, and that in Nichols's *History of Leicester*, all differ somewhat, so I give a pedigree embodying the above, with additions taken from Wills and Chancery Proceedings. John Dannatt, the son of Richard Dannatt (temp. Edward IV.) is put down in the *Visitation of Shropshire* as of Leicestershire. He married Jane, daughter of Thomas de la Haye. Nichols states that he died in 1490. He had a son Gerard Dannatt, born 3 July, 1473, and who married Mary, sister and co-heir of Sir Edward Belknap of Knoll, co. Warwick. He was Councillor of State to Henry VIII., and died 4 May, 1520, and was buried at the Abbey of Tiltey, co. Essex, where a monument is erected to his memory.

At Tiltey Dunmow, in the Church, is a brass to Gerard Danet, who died 4 May, 1520, and was buried there with Maria, his wife. The brass contains three shields:— 1st shield, Quarterly, 1. Danet guttée de a canton ermine; 2. on two bars 6 lions rampant; 3. same as

PEDIGREE OF DANNETT OF WESTHOPE.



<p><i>a</i> | <i>b</i> Elizabeth = Sir John Arundel of Dannett Cornwall, Kt.</p>	<p>| <i>c</i> Sir John Dannett, Kt., = Anne, d. & s. h. of Cosham, Croydon, of John Ellen- Surrey, born 1503, bridge, living a living Oct. 17, 1521. widow 1556.</p>
<p>||| Sir John Arundel, Kt. Thomas, George, Edward. In Will of Mary Dannett 1556.</p>	

<p> Jane = (1) . Birkenshaw Dannett (2).. Atkinson</p>	<p> Thomas = Anne, d. of Dannett Matthew of Dork- Browne of ing, 2nd Surrey. son.</p>	<p> Mary = George Medley Dannett of Tilley Abbey Essex, and Whitnes, Warwick.</p>
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Elizabeth Mary Henry William
 (All in Will of Mary Dannett, 1556).

<p> Thomas Dannett, s. & h. In Will of grandmother Mary Dannett, æt. 22.</p>	<p> Awdley Dannett. In Will of his grandmother Mary Dannett 1556, M.A. Oxon. M.P. Rye. Will dated 14 Apr., proved 9 Oct., 1591.</p>	<p> Edward George (In the Will of Mary Dannett 1556).</p>
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<p> John (named in Will of grandmother, Mary Dannett, 1556).</p>	<p> Frances (named in Will of grandmother, Mary Dannett, 1556).</p>	<p> Mary eld. dau.</p>	<p> Jane Dannett, styled elder daughter, named in Will of her brother, Awdley Dannett.</p>
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<p> Anne, or Agnes, d. of = John Bellamy. Will dated 9 Aug., proved 20 Nov., 1626. Bur. at Diddlebury, Salop. ob. s.p.</p>	<p> Sir John Dannett, Kt., = of Westhope, 2nd son, B.A. Oxon, Inner Temple. Will dated 29 Jan., pr. 30 April, 1607. Died 12 Feb., 1607, at Westhope.</p>	<p> Elizabeth, d. of John Lenton, died ob. s.p. young.</p>	<p> Leonard</p>
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<p> Gerard Dannett of = Westhope. In Will of his grand- mother 1558, in will of his brother John 1607, lands in Munslow, Cul- mington & Siefert 1628. Subsidy Roll Will d. 6 June, 1610, bur. at Elm- bridge.</p>	<p> Sara, d. of Edward Cald- well of Upton Warren, Co. Worcester. Married at Elmbridge, 19 Oct., 1595.</p>	<p> Thomas Dannett = of Diddlebury, in grandmother's Will. Admon. 3 June, 1605.</p>	<p> Mercy living 1605.</p>	<p> Jane Dannett men. in Will of her grand- mother, Mary, mar. Henley.</p>
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a | *b* | *c*

2; 4. 3 eagles rising. 2nd shield: Danet, with a quartering as on shield one, impaling quarterly, 1. 3 eagles displayed, a bend cottised . . . 2. Two bendlets; 3. A bend of ten; 4. A fesse chequé between 6 crosses patée fitchée, three and three. 3rd shield: Quarterly 1 and 8 Danet; 2. On two bars 6 lions rampant three and three; 3. Three eagles displayed in bend cottised; 4. Two bendlets; 5. Three eagles displayed; 6. Bendy of ten; 7. A fesse chequé between 6 crosses patée fitchée.

Gerard Dannatt's Will is dated 30 April, 1520.

"I bequeath my body to be buried in the Church of the Black Friars in London, under the old stone with the ragged cross, next adjoyning to the smale stonys of Thomas Danet, Elenor Danet, Robert and Nicholas Danet, my children, or else in the Parish Church of St. Faith. My body to be wrapped only in a simple sheet, without coffer or chest, and the Prior or Churchwardens shall provide 13 old torches, 4 great tapers, or else my executors shall provide with Thomas Linde, wax chaundler, dwelling in the old Bayle in London, so that no money be spent in new fashions. I will there will be provided 12 schocheons of myne armes to be sette about my corps and pillars, next adjoyning to my grave and not past. If I be buried in the Black Friars, I will Master Curlewse, my curate, have 3s. 4d., and Sir Thomas, his Parish priest 20d. Item, I give to my son John Danet, my gilt challis, my mass book, and my best vestment with the outer clothes, with bedding etc., including the counterpane I bought of the executors of my lady Nassan, my plain gilt cup having the greyhounds head in the bottom raised, and my bag of the greyhounds head. I will that all this bequest remain at the pleasure of Mary my wife, till my son come to the age of 23 years at the least. I give to my daughter Anne, wife to my said son, my posenet silver and a gilt spoon. I give to my son John, my small cheyne with the cross which I have been accustomed to wear daily, my greater cheyne to be sold towards the marriage of my two daughters Elizabeth and Mary, to whom I give £100 and £80 respectively towards their marriages. If both my said daughters die before marriage, their portions shall come to my son Thomas, save that some portion shall be spent in the

repair of the bridges and ways about Leicester, Warwick, and the highway at Mestham, leading from Wood Street to the cross at Mestham. Item, I give to the amendyng of the bridge between my house and the Friars Augustines in Leicester £10. I will that my special good lady, the Lady Marques Dorsett have a gold ring to the intent she may have my sinful soul in remembrance, likewise my good Lady and sister Belknappe, and my sisters Wutton and Shelley a gilt spoon apiece. Item, I give to my brother, Sir Edward Belknappe my mule with the apparel. I devise to Mary my wife, such lands as I have bought in Leicestershire for her life, then to remain to the right heirs of my body and in default to the right heirs of John Danet my father. I will that for seven years my executors bestow 20s. yearly to some good religious priest, to sing for the soul of my wife Anne, the souls of my father and mother, of Thomas Danet, Clerk, of Gerard Delahaye, Thomas Elmbrugge, Robert Elmore, Clerk, and Margaret Buteler. I give to Robert Cobbis 6s. 8d, and to every other of my servants in my house 3s. 4d. To my brother William Shelley 5 yards of black cloth. The residue of all my goods, except only the lease of my house in Ive Lane, which I give jointly to my wife Mary and son John, I give to my wife. I give to my son John, my best signet with the greyhound's head, I make my wife Mary, and my brother William Shelley, my executors with the advice of Sir Edward Belknappe. I give to my wife Mary, all my lands purchased in Surrey for her life to remain at her death to the right heirs of my body, and in default to my daughter Anne Danet for life and my right heirs. I will that my servant Robert May have 40s. yearly, during his life out of my lands in the town of Leicester, and that my wife have all the issues of my lands in Leicester, and Coventry, which be no part of her jointure for 7 years to come. Item, I will that my Lady of Salisbury have a like remembrance as I have bequeathed to my Lady Marques."

Witnesses : Sir Edward Greville. Sir Edward Ferrers, my sister his wife, my cosyn John Danett, my cosyn Elizabeth Danett, my cosyn Mary Danett, Maister William Fawke, Sir Thomas Walles, Ales Shelley, my wife, my cosyn Beatrice Rawdon, and Mr. Richard Parker.

Proved in P.C.C. 25 May, 1520, by the executrix (2 Maynwarding.)

The Will of Mary Dannatt, widow of Gerard Dannatt, is dated 3 November, 1556.

“I will that a sermon be made at my burial by a learned man, and I give £10 to be distributed to six score poor folks men or women, and to poor householders in eight Parishes, viz., the Parish where I shall be called out of this world, and six Parishes adjoining, and the Parish of Mestham. I give to my son-in-law, Sir John Arundell, Knight, and my daughter Elizabeth, his wife, a chafing dish of silver, &c. To my son in-law, George Medeley, Esq., and my daughter Marie his wife, two pots of silver, etc., and all my household stuff remaining at Tyltey on the day of my death, To my son Thomas Danett, a basin and ewer of silver, parcel gilt, &c., and to his wife Anne, my ring with a diamond. Item, to Anne Danett, widow of my son Sir John Danet, Knight, deceased, my ring bequeathed me by my sister Shelley. To my nephew (grandson) John Arundell, Esq., son and heir to the said Sir John, one gilt goblet with a cover graven with the greyhound's head and the lizard, To my nephews (grandsons) Thomas, George and Edward Arundell, younger sons of Sir John, a Gilt spoon apiece, with the letter M enamelled on the top, and the like to my nieces (granddaughters) Cecill, Marie and Elizabeth Arundell. To Anne Atkinson £6 13s. 4d. To Leonard Danet, a little standing cup, gilt. To Gerard and Thomas Danet, younger sons of my said son Sir John, a gilt spoon as above. To Jane Danet, one of the daughters of my said late son, a little casting bottle, &c. To my niece, the Lady Mary Carrowe, late wife to Sir Henrie Guldeford, Knight, my little candlestick of silver To my good Lord, the Lord John Graye and Dame Marie his wife, two rings of fine gold. To my nephews Sir Anthony Cooke of Guydyhall, Knight, and Thomas Wootton, Esq. son and heir of Sir Edward Wootton, Knight, deceased, rings enamelled with the letter M on the inside. To Marie Wootton, widow of my nephew William Wootton, deceased, a like ring. To Cecill Elyys 20s. My executors shall have all moneys coming out of my estate of inheritance in Bedford and Broome. I give to Thomas

Danet, son and heir of my son Thomas Danet, my best feather bed and bedding, &c., &c., at his age of 22. To Edward, Awdeley, George, and John Danett, sons of my son Thomas, a gilt spoon apiece with the letter M and the like to their sisters Frances and Jane Danet. To John Danet, second son of my son Sir John, the little pot which the Queen's Majesty gave me for a New Year's gift, two cushions of verders with the greyhound's head, &c. To Henry Medeley, son and heir to my son-in law George Medeley, a goblet of silver. My two suits of hanging of cloth remaining in London to be divided between my son Thomas, and the said Henry Medeley. To Elizabeth Medeley, one of the daughters of the said George, my best damask gown, &c., and my bedstead which I used myself to be in at the Myneris (Minories.) To Mary Medley, her sister, my striped gown of satin. To Mary Danett, daughter of my son Thomas, my gown of satin furred with martins. My executors shall occupy all my lands in Great Dorsett, and Birton alias Dorsett, and Byrton in the county of Warwick. and in Old Lydde and Langporte, co. Kent, except my part of the Manor of Great Dorsett and Birton alias Dorsett, and Birton which I have covenanted to remain at my death to Leonard Danett, Esq., my cousin and heir apparent by Indenture between myself and him dated 15th December 1 and 2 Phillip and Mary, and excepting the lands I have conveyed to my younger son Thomas Danett, they shall also occupy my third part of the woods in St. Mary Cray, Orpington, Folleseraie, and Chiselhurst. for 15 years from my decease. I give to my niece Mary Whitneye £15. To Dorothy Perrie 4 marks. To Elizabeth and Marie Medeley, daughters of George Medeley, Esquire, £50 apiece. To William Medeley, one of the sons of the said George, a holy water stoupe with the sprinkle gilt. To Mary Danet, eldest daughter to my son Thomas £50, if she die before she be married, then to remain successively to her younger sisters, Frances and Jane, to their marriages. To my servants, John Gonne and William Gorton, £10 apiece. My executors shall have as above all rents of certain meadows in the Manor of Bronkynsthorpe, co. Leicester. I ordain my executors, my Lord John Greye, my said nephew Thomas

Wootton, Esquire, George Medeley, Esquire, and my son Thomas Danet."

(Signed) MARIE DANET.

Proved in P.C.C. 15 December, 1558, by Justinian Kidd, Proctor for the executors named. (16 Welles).

Gerard and Mary had besides other issue:—Sir John Dannatt, Kt., and Thomas Dannatt, who married Anne, daughter of Sir Matthew Browne, Knight, a cousin of Lord John Grey's wife.

Sir John Dannatt was born in 1503. and married Anne, daughter and sole heir of John Ellenbridge; he was living in 1539, and had issue:—Sir John Dannatt, Knt., Leonard Dannatt, Esq., Gerard Dannatt, Esq., Thomas Dannatt, Esq., Jane Dannatt, and Mary Dannatt, married to William Jephson, who was executor to the Will of Sir John Dannatt in 1606.

Leonard Dannatt appears to be the first Lord of Westhope. In 1561 Queen Elizabeth purchased the Manor of Westhope from Henry Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, and John Lumley, Lord Lumley, and Jane his wife. In Easter Term, 10 Elizabeth, 1568, Leonard Dannatt purchased the Manor of Westhope from Lodovic Grevell and Thomasina his wife. Final Concord between Leonard Dannatt, Armiger, Complainant, and Ludovic Grevell, Armiger, and Thomasina his wife, deforciant, of the Manor of Westhope, with the appurtenances. and 30 messuages, 20 tofts, 2 water mills, one dove cote, 30 gardens, 500 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 100 acres of furze and heath, rent £.4 10s. od., and free warren with the appurtenances in Westhoppe. (Feet of Fines, Easter Term, 10 Elizabeth, 1568).

In the Chancery Proceedings temp. Elizabeth (Series 2, pars 54, no. 3) is a Suit between "Leonard Danet, Esquire, Plaintiff, and William Head and Francis Head, Defendants. Long before the said supposed entry in the Bill specified, the Honorable Yearle of Arundel was of and the Manor of Westhope whereof the land to which the entry is supposed to be is being holden of the Manor of Westhope day of March in 2 and 3 years of our late Lord and Lady and Quene Philip and Mary

died did by one, Thomas Paulmer Thomas Stradling, &c., authorised by the said Erle, according to the custom of the said Manor, let to Walter Head, 2 messuages, one yard land, and a parcel of ground lying in a place called "The Bache" within the said Manor of Westhope. The Defendants had destroyed a fence. Dated 25 January, 1569. This document is much injured.

In the Chancery Proceedings temp. Elizabeth (Series II., 51, No. 33), is a Suit between Leonard Dannatt, plaintiff, and Robert Bishopp and others, defendants, dated 27 April, 1570. Your orator Leonard Dannett, of Dannetts Hall, co. Leicester, Esqre., is seized of the Manor of Westhop, in the County of Sallopp, in his desmesne as of fee, or of fee tayle, of what estate certyngly youre saide oratoure knoweth not, by Reasone that he wanteth the deed of evidences thereof made, parcell of which Manor, one messuage and divers lands and tenements thereunto belonging, late in the tenure of one Roger Stedman, and now in the occupation of one Robert Bushopp, and William Headd, ys and tyme whereof there ys no memorye to the contraye hath been and yt is percell and demysabill and used to be demysed by Copie of Court Roll of the said Manor for lyf and lyves by the Stewards of the said Manor for the tyme beinge, which messuages, landes, and tenements, one Robert Bushoppe, Ancret Bushoppe, and Robert Cokes, clayme and pretend tytle unto, by Copie of Court Roll of the said Manor for and during their lyves, unto nowe of late that the oryiginal deedes and wrytinges touchinge this said Manor, and whereby your said Oratoure should prove his Title and interest in the said Manor and premises, have casually comen to the hands of the said Robert Bushoppe, John Bushoppe, Anthony Bushoppe, Ancret Bushopps, Robert Curtis, and Thomas Addams, who sithence the obteyning and having thereof, now of late have certayne consideration among them nowe to defraude your Oratoure of the saide premises, and to the end that your saide Oratoure should not know certainly against whom to use his action for the recoverye of the same by the cources and order of the Common Laws of the Readm, yf he know his certayn title as he doth not . . . the said Robert Bushoppe, John Bushoppe, Ancret Bushoppe,

and Robert Cockes, have by deedes conveyed the said message and premises to the said William Hedde, and others, so that youre Oratoure cannot know against whom to use his action by the Comon Laws of the Realme as the said Robert Bushoppe, John Bushoppe, Ancret Bushoppe, Robert Cockes, Thomas Addams, and William Headde, know. For reformation whereof, your said Oratoure is without remedy by the Order of the Common Laws of this Realme, because he knoweth not certainly the contents of the said deedes nor writings what estate is by them lymited or made, nor yet who is tenant of the freeholde of the premises.

Answer of Robert and Ancrete Bishopp. A Long tyme since the Righte Honorable the Earl of Arundell was seized in his demesne as of fee or fee taylor and in the said Manor of Westhope. The customary lands of which Manor whereof the memory of man . . . have byn and yet are demysed and demysable by Copie of Court Roll of the said Manor for term of one, two or three lyves, by the Steward of the Manor. And the said Earl, so being of the said Manor with appurtenances seised, at a Court holden of the same Manor of Westhope 16 March, 2 & 3 Philip and Mary, by Sir Thomas Stradlyng and Sir Thomas Palmer, Knights, and other commissioners and Stewards for the said Earl, they did by Copie of Court Roll demyse and grant unto the saide Robert Bishoppe, Ancret Bishoppe, and one John Cockes, the tenements and lands with the appurtenances then late in the tenure and occupation of one Roger Stedman, being and which tyme out of the mind of man have byn customarye lands and parcel of the said Manor, to have and to hold the same unto the said Robert, Ancret, and John Bishoppe, for their natural lyves, and the longer liver and successively. By force of which Robert Bishoppe, the first named, entered into and was admitted tenant, and did his services, the issues and profits thereof comyng, rising, and growing in his owne righte, and the said Ancret, as his servant and by his command have received and taken as lawful was and is for them to do.

Answer of Anthony Bishopp and Thomas Addams, who utterly disclaim any right or interest to the said tenements

and lands, and deny having made any conveyance to William Hedde of the same.

Answer of William Hedde to complaint of Leonard Dannel (55, No. 8). He says that Leonard Dannel agreed to pay him 100 marks, and the Complainant called him into the parlour of the Mansion House of Westhope, and shutt the door, and set a man to kepe it . . . Then the complainant offered money to the defendant who refused it. (The document is considerably damaged here.) The plaintiff claimed to have paid to William Hedde £6 13s. 4d., and promised 60 marks more on the condition that William Hedde, Johan, his wife and their sons Walter, Francis, John, Edward, Thomas, and Gregorie, gave up all right and claim to the premises.

Feet of Fines, Salop, Easter Term, 18 Elizabeth, 1576. Final concord between Charles Fox, Complainant, and Leonard Dannel, deforciant, of the Manor of Westhope, with the appurtenances and four messuages, seven cottages, six tofts, one watermill, one dovecot, six gardens, 400 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 2 acres of pasture, 400 acres of wood, 100 acres of furse and heath, 2 acres of moors and free warren, with the appurtenances in Westhope and Dydebury. The said Leonard Dannel to make over to the said Charles Fox the said Manor, lands, tenements and free-warren. Charles Fox to hold it of the gift of Leonard Dannel. The said Leonard Dannel remitted and quit claimed for himself and his heirs to the said Charles Fox, and his heirs for ever, the said Manor, tenements, lands, and free warren, with the appurtenances. And the said Leonard Dannel will warrant this against the said Leonard and his heirs, and against Lodovic Grevill, Armiger, and his heirs for ever; and in return for his recognition, remission, and quit claim, Charles Fox pays to the said Leonard Dannel £400 sterling. Salop, the day after the Ascension of our Lord in the 18th year of the reign of Elizabeth (1576).

Early Chancery Proceedings, Series II, 54 No. 3 (no date, but temp. Elizabeth.) To the Ryghte Honourable Sir Nicholas Bacon, Knighte, Lord Keeper of the Greate Seale of England.

Your Orator Leonard Dannel, of Dannelts Hall in Co.

Leicester, Esquire. Whereas your said orator was and yet is lawfully seised in his demesne as of ffee, by good and just tytle of enheritance, by good and sufficient conveyance and assurance in the lawe, of and in the Manor of Westhop with the appurtenances in the County of Salop, and of and in divers messuages, lands, tenements, comons, and hereditaments with the appurtenances belonging to the same, set, lying and being, in the said Countie. So yt is, Right Honorable Lord that divers and sunderie dedes, evidences, charters, escriptes, terrors, rentalls, Court rolls, and other mynyments and writings touching and concerning the said Manor, and other the said premises, with their appurtenances, explanyng, mentonyng, and declaring, the certeyne by mites, metes, and boundes, of the said Manor and other the premises and rightfullie belonging unto your said Orator, are parte casuallie parte, craftelie, dishonestle, and by false and simister meanes come to the hande, and custodie. and possession of one William Hedd of Westhop, yeoman. By reason that one Lodowyck Grevell of Milcot, Esquiere, sometyne Lord of the said Manor who solde the same to your said orator about two yeres laste paste, did constitute, make, and appoynte, the said William, his bayliff within the said Manor, who thereby was permytted by youre said orator, after the purchase of the said Manor to execute the said office as Bayliff, and he, the same William, by colour of the same office hathe sithens gotten into his custodie and possession the said dedes evidences, terrors, Court Rolls, Rentalls, and other the said escriptes, etc., touching the said premises, and by colour of having of the same hathe and dothe unlawfullie without all manner or juste and reasonable cause, clayme, and pretend and title and interest into divers percelles of the said premises to the great disquiet, losse, and prejudyce, of your said orator and hath sundry tymes wrongfullie and unlawfullie entered upon divers and sunderie parcells of the same premises, and hathe not onlie topped and ffelled downe the trees, and underwood, growing and being in and upon the same, and with his beaste and cattell consumed destroyed and plowed upp the comens and severall grounds of your said orator, belonging to the said Manor to your said orators grete losse, and hindrance, and to the grete impoverishment

of your said orator's tennants and fermors, then but also by lyke wronge hath erected there and sett up certen barnes, and edifices, in and upon divers parcells of the said premises, and hath enclosed divers and sundrie parcells of the same, and not so contented hath lykewise verie wrongfullie, and unlawfullie, caused and procured one ffrancis Hedd his sonne, Robert Busshoppe and Anne his wife, and divers other personnes to your said orator unknown, to enter in and upon the said premises, and to dige or caste downe one Bancke or dyche of a certain ground called the Neytheyarde, which saide bancke and dyche your saide orator ys to make and maneteyne, for that the same do stand upon his Manor and inheritance, and albeit your said orator hath divers and sunderie tymes most friendelic and earnestlie asked the said William Hedd to deliver unto him the said Dedes.

Answer of William Hedd and Francis Hedd (54 No. 48.)

Some tyme before the said subposed entrye into the Lands in the bill specified, Henry, Earl of Arundel (was seized) and Manor of Westhope whereof the land where the entry is subposed to be is parcel, seysed in his demesne as of fee, and being so seised, at a Court holden in the Manor of Westhope at Westhope, on the daye of Marche in the 2nd and 3rd yeare of the raigne of our late Sovereigne Lord and Ladye King Phillippe and Quene Marye (1555-6), did by one Thomas Paulmer, Thomas Stradlinge and others then appoynted and authorized by the saide Erle, accordinge to the custom of the said Manor, demyse grant and seli by Coppye of Court Rowle, accordinge to the custom of the saide Manor and to Walter Hed his sonne, two Messuages parcel of the saide Manor, on yard Land being in the several tenures and occupations of William Hearth and John Tasker, by force whereof the said William and Walter entered and were thereof seised in their demesne as of freehold accordinge to a Further the said William, and John Head son of the said William Head, defendant at the Court aforesaid, toke of the said Comysioners accordinge and by Coppye of Court Royle, three acres ground of the said Erle lyinge in a place cawled The Bache within the s^d Manor of Westhope, by force whereof the said defendant & Johane his wife and

the said John the said 3 acres with the Barne one Thomas Mytton gent. of the saide land whereon the s^d Barne is erected lawfullie seised many years yet enduring, and by his dede dated 26 July. 4 Elizabeth (1562), did demyse and grante it to William Head, who denies that he unlawfully cut down trees, etc.

(The document is damaged.)

Close Rolls, 29 Elizabeth (1587), part 28.

Leonard Dannett, of Westhope, Co. Salop, armiger, owes to William Baldwin, of Clements Inn, £200.

On the 8 June, 34 Elizabeth (1592), this has been paid.

Close Rolls, 17 Elizabeth (1575), part 18.

Leonard Dannett, of Danetts Hall, owes Ludovic Greville, of Nidcott, co. Warwick, Armiger, £180.

23 Eliz. (1581) Leonard Dannatt, of Danetts Hall, owes Edward Pytt £800.

In 18 Elizabeth (1576), Charles Fox purchased the Manor of Westhope from Leonard Dannatt; evidently this purchase did not take effect, and the sale was only a mortgage. The family of Fox are well known in Shropshire, their pedigree is in the Visitation of Salop of 1623. It does not appear that Leonard Dannatt married, for on 23 February, 1592-3, a Commission was issued to John Danett, brother of Leonard Danett, Esquire, late of Danetts Hall in the Parish of St. Mary, in the town of Leicester, deceased, to administer the goods of the said deceased, in the person of John Smith notary public, his proctor in that behalf. (P.C.C. Administration Act Book, 1592—1598, folio 6.)

The following Nuncupative Will of Leonard Dannett, of Dannett's Hall, co. Leicester, was proved at Leicester in 1591.

Nuncupative Will or declaration made and delivered 10 Feb., 1590, in the presence of servants Thos. Wilcoxe and Nicholas Ludlam. To every servant of one years service £5 over and above their salary. My Manor of Dannetts Hall and Walch Hall to be sold for the payment of my debts. My brother John To Edw. Cowlie and Dorothy his wife, all my goods, chattels, debts, etc., whom I make my executors. My body to be buried at Leicester.

Upon the morrow being Thursday he said in the presence

of said Witnesses that he did not "remembre cheres Christians year I would not she shalbe utterlie turned out of dorres," but that she may have the things she brought with her, and such parts as may fall to her "fr. Asplye-ard-Elmbridge." (?).

Proved at Leicester xxj. Jan. 1591 (No. 132.)

(No children or other relatives are mentioned).

Sir John Dannatt, of Danett's Hall, co. Leicester, the brother of Leonard Dannatt, became on the death of his brother Lord of Westhope. He married twice, his first wife being Elizabeth, daughter of John Lenton. The Chancery Proceedings of 1553 (49, No. 63), record a suit by John Danet and Elizabeth his wife against Richard Mitton. He . . . Sir Thomas Grey, Knight, late Lord Grey, attainted of high treason, at his apprehension delivered to Richard Mitton, to the use of the said Lord Grey, divers goods, £200 in money, jewells, etc. Queen Mary by letters patent, in the 1st year (1553) of her reign, gave to the said Elizabeth, one of your said Orators, among other things, all the goods of Sir Thomas Grey and possessions at the time of his apprehension. Elizabeth and her husband have applied to Richard Mitton, who refused to give them up.

Richard Mitton, in his answer, says that Sir Thomas Grey possessed, at the time of his apprehension, money and jewels, horses and armour, rings, and a ring of gold with a stone called a ruby, worth 53/4, other rings, a suit of mayle, etc. Lord Grey, fleeing beyond the seas, passed through Oswastre, of which towne Richard Mitton was an officer unto the Right Honorable Henry. . . . Richard Mitton thought it his duty to arrest Sir Thomas Grey, Richard Pedocke, and one or two others with him, and took from him the rings, etc. There is much more, and it is a very interesting case, and throws light on the history of the times.¹ Lord Thomas Grey was uncle to Lady Jane Grey and the Duke of Suffolk, and was beheaded 8 March, 1553-54. Sir John married secondly, Agnes, daughter of John Bellamy. His Will, in which he described as Sir John Dannatt, late of

¹ Reference should be made to an interesting paper by the late Mr. William Phillips, entitled "The Capture of Lord Thomas Grey in Shropshire," printed in the *Shropshire Archaeological Transactions*, 3rd Series, II., 143-150.

Dannett's Hall, but now of Westhope, in the Parish of Diddleburie, co. Salop, Esquire, is dated 29 January, 1606-7.

"I will that my debts be paid, and likewise that small remnant that is yet unpaid of my late brother Leonard Danett's debts. I have conveyed to Agnes my wife, for her life, my lands called Westhope aforesaid; and Milcourte alias Mulcourte in the Parishes of Binstead and Froill, co. Southants. The reversion of Milcourte, which I purchased of Ferdinand, Lord Windsor, deceased, I give to my friends, William Bellamy my brother (in law), and Thomas Lenton, my cousin, in trust to sell the same, with the advice of my brother William Jephson and my friend Mr. Richard Atkins, one of His Majesty's Council in the Marches of Wales, Esquires, for the performance of this my Will. The reversion of my Manor of Westhope shall go to my brother Gerrard in tail mail; remainder to the heirs of my late brother Thomas, John and Thomas successively; remainder to my nephew Sir William Jephson, Knight; remainder to my nephew Sir John Jephson, Knight; and then to my own right heirs. The reversion of Danetts Hall and Walch Hall in the Parish of St. Mary's, in the Borough of Leicester, and all lands which descended to me from my said late brother Leonard Danett, or which I have purchased since his death, shall remain in tail male to my brother Gerrard, and the heirs of my late brother Thomas, "one after the other, John and Thomas," and then to my own right heirs. I give to the last said John and Thomas, annuities of £10 each at their ages of 21.

Item, to John and Latimer Sampson, sons of Mr. Nathaniel Sampson, Master of the New Hospital in Leicester, £6 13s. 4d. yearly, for their lives, so long as my heirs of Danett Hall shall enjoy the lease of the New Hospital. Edward Cooley, my servant, shall have £4 a year abated of his rent of Aspley during his life, and the life of Dorothy his wife. Whereas I levied a fine of the Manor of Aspley, and of all my lands in Co. Stafford, for the making of leases, &c., I now entail it again in the same manner as it is entailed in the deeds that were before of my mother's conveyance.

I bequeath to my brothers Jephson and Gerrard, to Sir William and Sir John Jephson, to my nieces Mervin and

Lucas, to Mr. Sacheverell, and Mr. Nathaniel Sampson, of Leicester, preachers, to Mr. Robert Horne, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Ellis, and Mr. Farmer, minister and preachers, and my brother (in law) William Bellamy, to every one of them a ring, in every ring to be the word, "Praise God." Item, to Mary Jewell £20. To Elizabeth Bellamy, my wife's niece, £10. To John Bellamy my servant, my lease of the fulling mill of Milcourte. To Thomasine Streek, my wife's niece, 40s. To John Porter, my late servant, a debt he claimeth of my late brother Leonard Danett, and the like to Edward Purslowe my servant.

I will that Mr. Robert Horne, preacher, with Mary his wife, after my decease shall have their continuance with Agnes my wife, according to covenants under my hand dated 30th April, 2 James I. (1605). I will that John ap Powell and William Dyke my tenants, shall have leases of their houses.

I forgive my brother Gerrard the £100 he oweth me, on condition he in no sort trouble Agnes my wife. He hath no cause so to do, because though Milcourt be sold, I have bequeathed to him my purchased land of better value than £2000. To his son John, and to every of his children I give a piece of gold. I will that when Thomas Lenton, my cousin, reneweth the lease, he shall have ten years' rent or £100

I make executors of this my Will my dear brother (in law) Mr. William Jephson, Agnes my wife, and William Bellamy her brother, and I bequeath to the said Mr. Jephson whose integrity I know, a gilt silver jug of the value of £10, and do will to be written upon it, "God thanke you." I give to my friend Mr. William Baldwyn gent., a gold ring. To the Parish of Diddlebury 40s. To the poor of Ludlow 20s.

(Signed) JOHN DANETT.

I release the aforesaid Richard Atkyns, esquire, of all claims that might be made by me or my heirs to the Mauors of Boyfeside and Morecote in the County of Gloucester, that were sold unto him by my late brother Leonard Dannett.

Witnesses: Robert Horne, Minister, Thomas Ellis, Minister, Elizabeth Bellamy.

Proved P.C.C. 30 April, 1607, by Agnes Danett the Executrix named. (28 Huddlestone.)

Inquisition Post Mortem Sir John Danett, 5 James I (Chancery Inq. 5 Jac. I., 2 pars, volume 300, No. 174.)

Inquisition taken at Leominster before John Hooper, Eschator, 3 August, 5 James I. (1607), after the death of John Dannett. The jury find that John Danett was seized in his own demesne and as of fee, of and in the Manor of Westhope, with the appurtenances, in the Parish of Diddlebury, and of divers lands, messuages and hereditaments in Westhope, and of the capital messuage or site of the Manor of Milcourte alias Mulcourte, with the appurtenances in Bynsted and ffroyle, co. Southampton. By Indenture dated 7 January, 42 Elizabeth, made between him the said John Danett of Danett's Hall, co. Leicester, on the one part, and William Jephson of ffroyle, co. Southampton, and Edmund Mervin of Peterfield, senior, esquires, Thomas Hutley of Hauton, co. Salop, Gentleman, William Baldwin of Ludlow, Gentleman, and William Bellamy of Axminster, co. Devon, Gentleman, on the other part, John Danett gave to the above six gentlemen, the Manors of Milcourte and Westhope, to the use of the said John Danett for life, and then to the use of Agnes his wife for life, in satisfaction of her dower, and after her decease to the use of the heirs of the body of John and Agnes Danett; if they had no child then as to the Manor of Westhope, etc., to the use of Gerard Danett, brother and heir of John Danett, and to the heirs of his body; in default of such, to his brother, Thomas Danett, and to the heirs of his body; in default of such, to John Jephson, nephew of John Danett for life, then to William Jephson (John Jephson's elder brother) and his heirs, then to the heirs of John Danett for ever. As to Milcourt, after the decease of John Danett without issue, to his wife, and after her decease, to Thomas Danett, brother of John Danett for life, then to Gerard Danett the other brother, and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten; for lack of such heirs, to Thomas Danett, and for lack of such heirs then to William Jephson, by virtue of which Indenture, and by the force of an Act of Parliament dated 4 February, 27 Henry VIII. (1536), about uses, the said John Danett was seised of Westhope and Milcourte for his life, with remainder to Agnes Danett for her life. Also that John Danett on the 18 January, 2

James I. (1605) gave to William Baldwin, one of the feoffees, a piece of gold value 5/- before divers witnesses. And they further find that on the 29th January last, John Danett made his Will, and gave the reversion of Milcourte to William Bellamy his brother (in law) and Thomas Lenton, his kinsman, and their heirs, with the intention that within a year of John's death they should sell it, with the advice and assent of William Jephson, and Richard Atkins, Armiger, and use the money to pay his debts and legacies. He gave the reversion of the Manor of Westhope, to Gerard Danett his brother, and his heirs male, in default of such, to the heirs male of Thomas Danett late brother of the said John Danett, viz. John and Thomas successively, and if it happen Gerard and Thomas Danett die without heirs male of their bodies, then to William Jephson his nephew, and his heirs male of his body. If William Jephson die without issue, then to Sir John Jephson, Knight, John Danett's nephew, and to the right heirs of the Testator. And the jury also find that the said John Danett was seised on the day of his death in his own demesne and as of fee, of and in the Manor of Bromkingsthorpe and of 5 messuages with the appurtenances in the Parish of St. Mary de Castro in the town of Leicester. The Manor of Bromkingsthorpe by the name of Dannett Hall and Walshall and all his property in Leicestershire, both of which he had as heir to his brother Leonard Danett, and that which he bought he left to Gerard Danett his brother, and his heirs male lawfully begotten, in default to the heirs of Thomas Danett lately deceased his brother, namely John and Thomas Danett, failing these, to the right heirs of the said John Danett, but out of these an annuity to John Danett the elder son of Thomas Danett his late brother £10 till 21 years of age, and an annuity to Thomas Danett his brother's younger son, and an annual rent of £6 13s. 4d. to John and Latimer, sons of Nathaniel Sampson, Master of the New Hospital for their lives *i.e.* each five marks. Also Edward Cowley to have £4 per annum during the life of Edward and his wife Dorothy. The Manor of Aspley to Anne Danett for life, and after her decease to the said John Danett for life, with remainder, after the death of John Danett, to the right heirs of Sir John Danett, Knight, father

of the said John Danett and his heirs male. And remainder, in default of such, to Anne Danett, wife of the said Sir John Danett, Knight and her heirs. Further the Lady Anne Danett, mother of the said John Danett, died long before John Danett (her son). And said John Danett died at Westhope on 12 February last, and Gerard Danett is his brother and next heir, and is 60 years old and more. And the Manor of Westhope was held by John Danett of our Lord the King, as of his Manor of East Greenwich, in free and common socage, by fealty for all services, and not in capite, and is worth net £5 per annum. Agnes Danett his widow is still living at Westhope.

On the 3rd of June, 1605, a commission was issued to Mercy Danett, relict of Thomas Dannatt late of Diddlebury in the County of Salop deceased, to administer the goods of the said deceased. (P.C.C. Admon Act Book, 1605-1610, folio 8.) This Thomas is the brother of Leonard Dannett, and he is mentioned in the will of Sir John Dannett, Knt.

Sir John Dannett's estates were inherited, after the death of Agnes his widow, by his brother Gerard Dannett, who became Lord of Westhope. He married at Elmbridge, co. Worcester 19 October, 1595, Sara, daughter of Edward Caldwell, of Upton Warren, co. Worcester. He had issue John and Gerard, and two daughters.

Will of Edward Caldwell of Upton Warren, co. Worcester, gentleman. (This is evidently the father of Sara Caldwell, the wife of Gerard Dannett). To my wife Mary Caldwell, all my goods. My late deceased uncle Richard Caldwell, Doctor of Physic. My sons Robert and Samuel Caldwell. My brothers Robert, John, William and Joseph Caldwell. My wife Executrix. Witnesses: Robert and Joseph Caldwell. The second Codicil mentions his six daughters, one Sara.

Will proved in P.C.C., 14 February, 1586. (8 Spencer).

Inquisition Post Mortem Gerard Dannett, 8 James I., 1611, No. 147.

Inquisition taken 14 January, 8 James I. (1611), after the death of Gerard Dannett. The Jury find that Gerard Dannett, at the time of his death, was seised of the Manor of Bromkingthorpe, alias Dannetts Hall and Walshall, and

of 5 messuages with the appurtenances in Leicester, and of the Reversion of the Manor of Westhope, and of divers messuages in Elmbridge. Also that Gerard Dannett made his will 6 June, 8 James I. (1611). To be buried in the Parish Church of Doderhiil or elsewhere. The Manor of Elmbridge to his wife Sara for life in dower, after her decease to Gerard Dannett my younger son and his assigns for life. On condition that if John Dannett shall at any time pay to Gerard Dannett during his lifetime £500, the estate of Gerard Dannett in this property shall be void. I owe to my friend Walter Cowley, citizen and ironmonger of London, £500, to be paid the 22 October next. I will that my friends Edmund Purcell of Purcell Hall, Gentleman, Samuel Caldwell, Gentleman, my brother in law, and Edward Cowley of Brude, Staffordshire, shall sell the Manor of Aspeley. To my daughters Mary and Anne Dannett £300 each when 21, or married with my wife's consent. I require that my son John Dannett and his heirs do, within three years after the death of Agnes Dannett widow, late wife of my brother John Dannett Esquire deceased. pay to John Dannett and Thomas Dannett, sons of Thomas Dannett my brother deceased, £240, which is to them severally bequeathed or limited by way of annuity of £10 per annum till 21. My goods and chattels to my wife and four children equally. Gerard Dannett died the 6 June, 8 James I. (1611) at Elmbridge. John Dannett is his son and heir, and at the time of the taking of this Inquisition of the age of 12 years except 14 days. Mentions tenure of the Manor of Bromkingthorpe. The Manor of Westhope with all appurtenances is held of our Lord the King, as of his Manor of East Greenwich, in free and common soccage by fealty only, and is worth during the life of Agnes Dannett nothing, as she holds it for life, but after her decease is worth £5.

In the Subsidy Rolls for co. Salop of 21 James I. (1624), and of 1 Car. I. (1625), Anne Dannatt holds lands in Westhope worth £3 per annum, and pays 12/- to the Subsidy. (Subsidy Rolls, ¹⁶⁷/₁₆₆ and ¹⁶⁷/₁₆₄, Salop.)

The Inquisition seems to prove that Lady Agnes Dannatt, Widow, was Lady of Westhope, and it seems probable that she and Gerard Dannatt resided there, for in 1 Car. I. (1625),

Anne Dannatt, widow, was assessed for lands in Westhope, and in 1626 she was living there, but in 1637 her property went to Gerard Dannatt's heir.

The Will of Agnes Dannatt, of Westhope, co. Salop, Widow, is dated August 1626. I bequeath my body to be buried in the Chancel of the Parish Church of Diddlebury. I give to the poor of the said Parish, 20s. To the poor of the Parish of Axminster, co. Devon 40s. Item, to Samuel Bellamy, the son of my nephew John Bellamy, £10. To my cousin John Danett, the son of my brother in law Thomas Danett gentleman, deceased, £10, together with a silver bowl and two silver spoons. To my cousin Thomas Danett, brother of the said John Danett, £10, &c. Item, to Margaret, daughter of William Jenkes, £5 and two silver spoons. All the rest of my goods not bequeathed, I give to John Bellamy my nephew, the son of William Bellamy my brother deceased, and I appoint my said nephew to be my executor.

The Mark of Agnes Dannatt.

Witnesses: Fr Philips, Edward Purslowe's mark, Arthur Pie's mark.

Proved in P.C.C. 20th November 1626, by John Bellamy the executor named. (122 Hele).

John Dannett became the next Lord of Westhope. His Inquisition Post Mortem was taken 4 Car. I. (1629). (Chancery Inquisition, Volume 443. No. 63.)

Inquisition taken at Hinckley 6 June 4 Charles I., before Robert Chamberlain Esquire, eschætor, after the death of John Dannett, Esq. The Jury find that the said John Dannett was seised the day before his death of the Manor of Bromkingesthorpe, alias Dannett's Hail, alias Walsall, with the appurtenances, and of 5 messuages with the appurtenances in the Parish of St. Mary de Castro, Leicester. And that by Indenture dated 29 July 18 James I. (1621) he gave to the Revd. Father in God, Thomas, Bishop of Peterborough, and William Dove senior, the Manor and other premises in Bromkingesthorpe alias Dannett's Hall alias Walsall, To Hold to the use of the said John Dannett for life, then to the use of Thomas Dannett, son and heir apparent to the said John Dannett and his heirs male, by

virtue of which Indenture and by the force of an Act of Parliament of Henry VIII. dated 4 February, 27 year of his reign (1536), the said John Dannett held it for life, with remainder to his son Thomas Dannett. Farther that the said John Dannett was seised of the Reversion of the Manor of Westhope etc., and the Reversion of the Manor of Elmbridge, co. Worcester, and of Aspeley, co Stafford, immediately after the deceased of one Sara Dannett widow, late the wife of one John Dannett, Esq., deceased, and of Gerard Dannett, Esq., etc. And the Jury find that the said John Dannett died 4 May last, and Thomas Dannett is son and heir, and was at his father's death not 15, viz. on 15 August last he was 8 years old and no more.

And the Jury further find that the Manor of Bromkingesthorpe or Walshall was held of our Lord the King, as of his Manor of Leicester, parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, by military service by the 12th part of a Knights fee, and are worth £10. And that the Manor of Westhope in the Parish of Didlebury, with all and singular messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments, were held of our Lord the King, as of his Manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only, not by Knight's service, and are worth during the life of the said Sara and Gerard Dannett nothing, as Sara and Gerard Dannett hold them for their lives. And after the decease of Sara and Gerard Dannett they will be worth £5 per annum. And that the Manor of Elmbridge is held of Sir John Packington, Knight, as of his Manor of Wichbould, by an annual rent of 12d, but by what other services the jurors know not. They are worth nothing till the decease of Sara and Gerard Dannett. They will then be worth £3-6-8. And that the Manor of Aspeley was held of Sir Walter Leveson, Knight, as of his Manor of Coven, and is during the life of Sara and Gerard Dannett worth nothing, but afterwards will be worth 20/- And that Sara and Gerard Dannett are living.

In 1628, Gerard Dannett is stated to have been assessed 8s., in respect of lands worth 20s. in Culmington and Siston (Siefton), in the Hundred of Munslow (Lay subsidy, ¹⁶⁷/₂₀₀ Salop.) In a terrier much mutilated in the Bishop's Registry at Hereford of the lands and tithes belonging to Diddlebury in

1637, is this:—"Westhope—payd by all the inhabitants of Westhope in recompence of theyr teith hey, six pence yearly --Item further teith of a toonout in the tenure of Gerard Dannett 2s. yearly—" In the Chancery Proceedings (File 1126, No. 1), the heir of Gerard and Mary Dannett is John their son, and he is 17 years of age. This Gerard is the brother of John and Gerard Dannett.

The will of Thomas Dannett, the last Lord of Westhope of that family, is dated 20 January, 1654-5, and in it he is styled Thomas Dannett of Elmbridge in the County of Worcester, Esquire. "I do make Thomas Pochin of Barkbye Thorpe, Co. Leicester, Esquire, and George Caldwell, of Hope in the Parish of Clifton upon Teame, co. Worcester, Gent., executors of my Will. I give all my Manor of Westhope in the County of Salop, to be sold by my executors for the payment of my debts, which amount to £1000 and upwards, and for the raising of £300 apiece for every of my five younger children by my former wife, or so much thereof, to be equally divided among them, as may be raised by the said means. And in case £400 is raised, I will that my daughter Sarah shall have £100 of the overplus, and the residue if there be any shall remain to my son Gerard. If any of the said younger children die before their age of 21 or marriage, the portion of the deceased to be divided among the survivors. My executors shall receive the profits of my Manor of Elmbridge till my son Gerard be 21. I commend my other three children to my loving wife, their mother. In case of her death or marriage, my executors shall have power with the consent of Ferdinando Sacheverall of Old Hayes, Co. Leicester, esquire, to lease out my Manors of Bronkingsthorpe and Walshall Co. Leicester, to the intent of a proviso contained in an Indenture of 10 July, 1649, and the said Ferdinando shall in that case have the tuition of my said three children. Item, my executors shall deliver my sealing ring to my son Gerard. I give £20 for the binding apprentice of Leonard Dannett my uncle's son. To Thomas Royley and Mary his wife and every of my now servants which shall be with me at my death, I give 10s. apiece. To the poor of Elmbridge 5s. to be distributed by Thomas Withie. All the residue of my goods, I give to my wife and my son Gerard.

(Signed) THO. DANNETT.

Witnesses: Thos. Birrington, Fer. Sacheverell, Pl. Berwicke, John Marshall.

Proved in P.C.C. 12 March, 1654-5, by George Caldwell, the other executor having renounced, &c. (340 Aylett.)

In 1654-5, under the Will of Thomas Dannatt, the Westhope Estate was sold. I have not been able to find the deed of sale, but in the same year Henry Fleming is Lord of Westhope.

The following abstracts of Dannett Wills are preserved in the Leicester Registry.

Will of Thomas Dennett of Mych Bowdon.

Will dated the 17 Sept., 1522. My soul to Almighty God, our Lady Saint Mary and All Souls, and my body to be buried in the churchyard of Peter and Pawle of Bowden. My best goods for my mortuary after the custom of the town. To the church of Lincoln vijd. To the repellacon off the hye auter, and welfare of the Church of Myche Bowdon id., my executors to pay of my goods. To John Smith, son of Thomas, x marks at Michaelmas 1524. To Thomas Smith, son of Thomas, £5, at Michaelmas, 1527. The residue of my goods, etc., to Agnes Denet my wife, and John Denet (here obliterated) my executors.

Richard Dekyn, Wm. Bowgton, and Robert Johnson to be Overseers, and to have xijd each.

Witnesses: Sir William Gasken, prest, Wm. Sowther, Chartre prest, John Corte, John Dekyn, Thos. Smyth.

(No Probate Act).

(Register Book of Wills at Leicester, 1515-1526, folio 173.)

Will of Christian Dannett of the Borough of Leicester, widow.

Will dated 15 April, 1604. My body to be buried in the Parish Church of St. Margaret's, Leicester. Bequests of bedding, clothing, etc., to the following: To Margaret Dryver, daughter of Danett Dryver my late nephew. To my daughter Annie Wills, and Mary Bateman and Elizabeth Laurence of Wittington. The following are mentioned: - Richard Bateman son of said Mary, and his brother William Bateman, William Sympkyn, son of my said daughter Anne Wills and Jane his wife, Christian Wales goddaughter, Anne

Dryver my servant, Thomas Wilcox and his wife, my servant John Wales, and Katherine his wife. To John Wales the younger, a silver spoon My goddaughter Christian Rudinge. John Dryver and Jervis Dryver. To my nephew Walter Rudinge, a silver spoon. Richard Wills son of my said daughter Anne Wills. Rose Style. My late servants Jane Blisse and Dennys. Edward Cowley and Dorothy his wife, John Goddall & his wife. To the Lady Deverux a bracelett. To the Lady Hastings a looking glass. To the poor of Leicester £10. To the poor of the old Hospital near Leicester 20s. The rest of my goods to my servant Thomas Wilcox, my sole Executor. Overseers Wm. Norris and Edward Garley. Legacies To the said William Symkyn £10. To Margaret Dryver £12. To John Dryver, Anne Dryver and my said daughter Anne Wills £10 each. To Richard Wills £10 To Mrs. Gatley 10s. in gold. To Edith Wilcox 10s. To Wm. Symkyn £10 more and to Joan his wife a guinea.

Witnesses: Edward Gatley, W. Norice, William Newton, Margaret Dryver.

Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 25 July 1606. Original Probate filed at Leicester 1605 (No. 117.)

Monumental Inscriptions to the Danetts.

At Tilley Abbey, Essex. The Effigy of a man and wife, with six sons and six daughters, and Arms. "Hic jacet sepultus, cum conjuge Maria, Gerardus Danet, de Bronkynsthorpe, in com. Lecestric, arm. serenissimi regis Henrici octavi consiliarius. Ob. 4 Maij 1520, an. regni Hen. VIII. 20. Quorum animabus propitietur Deus. Amen."

At St. Mary's, Leicester, was a shield of Arms, with nine quarterings. "Leonardus Danet, de Danet's Hall, ob 1582." The St. Mary's Churchwardens' Accounts have this entry:—"1495. Rec. of M^r Gerard Danet, for wasting of torches for his lady 0 ,, 3 ,, 0."

At St. Augustine's, or Doderhill Church, Worcestershire. Effigies of Mr. Gerard Danet of Elmbridge, and his wife, and four children kneeling, and shield of Arms with eight quarterings. "Here lieth the body of Gerard Danet, esquire, who died the 11th day of June 1610. Also the picture of

Sara hys second wyfe, who erected thys tombe, and by whom onely hee had issewe John, Gerard, Mary, and Anne."

At Barkby Hall, co. Leicester, on a copper plate. "John Danet, only brother of Thomas Danet, of Danet's Hall, esq., died 1 May 1645, aged 24. Frances Danet, wife of Thomas Danet, of Danet's Hall, esq., died 3 June, 1645, aged 27."

V

LORDS OF THE MANOR—FLEMING OF WESTHOPE.

HENRY FLEMING of Sibdon Castle, Lord of Westhope, was born in 1624. I have not been able to trace his parents. He married Hellen His Will was proved in 1656 (P.C.C. Wootton 124 & 294.) In it, he is described as of S. Andrew's Holborn. He appoints his dear and loveing wife executrix, and bequeaths to her the lease of his house, and all things pertayning to the said house, and all my goods, household stuffe, plate, jewells, stores, &c., at Westhope, and implements whatsoever, and £600 in money. In case all his children die before 21, he devises all his lands in Shropshire from the death of the surviving son to his wife for the term of 40 years, in case she live so long. The residue of his lands to be sold, and the money to be divided amongst such of his sister's children as shall be then living, and in such case after his wife's death the lands at Westhope to be divided between his brother Fleming and brother Bassett, if both living, but if both be deceased then to his next heir. On 21 July 1677, the estate was committed to John Fleming eldest son of the said deceased.

In the Chancel of Diddlebury Church is a mural tablet to Henry Fleming of Westhope, Esquire, who died in 1656. Arms, gules 3 crescents in fesse ermine between 7 cross crosslets fitchee argent (Fleming), impaling, per bend Sinister ermine and ermine a lion rampant, or (Tudor Trevor). Beyond that his wife's name was Hellen, nothing is known of her, but she married secondly Samuel ffoote, and was dead on the 22 November 1662. He had one son, JOHN FLEMING, Lord of Westhope and Sibdon, who was born 1652. He married Elizabeth the daughter of Sir John Edwards, knight, who was born 1655, and he was buried at Diddlebury, 30 March,

PEDIGREE OF FLEMING, LORD OF WESTHOPE.

HENRY FLEMING, Lord of Westhope & Sibdon. Born 1624, died 1650, buried at Diddlebury. M.I. = Helen . . . Samuel John A dau. . . . =
 Dead 22 Hoote, 2nd Fleming Levey
 Nov., 1662. husband.

John Fleming, Lord of Westhope and Sibdon. Born 1652, bur. at Diddlebury, 30 March, 1716. M.I. = Elizabeth, eld. dau. of Sir Jehn Edwards, Kt., Born 1655, died 16 Feb., 1728, aged 73, bur. at Diddlebury. M.I.

Richard Fleming Lord of Westhope & Sibdon and Shadwell-on-Clun. Born 1680, died 20 June, 1748, bur. at Clun.	= Elizabeth, 4th dau. of Sir Edward Acton, Bart. Bapt. at Morville, 16 May, 1683, mar. there 12 June, 1708, bur. there 6 Feb., 1738.	Benjamin Fleming	John Fleming	Henry Fleming
		Joseph Fleming	Algernon Fleming	Stokesay
		Bur. at Diddlebury, 18 Jan., 1740.	Bur. at Diddlebury, 29 Aug., 1079.	Bapt. at
		Richard Fleming of Clun.		Fleming

John Fleming. Born 1720, died 1764.

Hector Fleming Born 1690, bur. at Diddlebury, 7 March 1728, 13th son.

Hon. Gilbert Fleming, Governor of the Leeward Islands. Bur. at Diddlebury, 14 Jan., 1762. M.I.

Fleming.

Gilbert Fane Fleming =
 Died 26 Dec., 1777.

Camilla Annabella Fleming = Edward Carey of Follaton, Devon.
 mar. 1776.

Hercules Fleming, 10th son. Born 1697, bur. at Diddlebury, 10 Nov., 1721

Elizabeth Fleming, d 1682, bur. at Diddlebury.

Bettridge Fleming.

Dorothy Fleming.

Helena Fleming, M.I. at Diddlebury.

. . . Fleming.

Theresa Susannah Acton = John Stackhouse of Pendarves.
 mar. 1773.

Beatrice Fleming = Rev. John Acton, youngest dau., mar. 25 July, 1723, died 25 May, 1724, M.I. Diddlebury.

Rev. John Acton, Vicar of Clun. B. 17 Nov., 1687, d. 14 June 1745, aged 47. M.I. Diddlebury.

Edward Acton = Anne, d. and h. of William Gregory of Woolhope.

Edward Fleming, Lord of Westhope, Sibdon and Shadwell. Bap. at Shadwell, 19 April, 1711, died 31 Mar., 1773, bur. at Clun.	= Ann, d. of John Cooper of Camberwell, Wilts. Mar. 1740, died 6 May, 1770.	Rev. John Fleming, D. C. L. = Mary Fleming Scott, Bap. 26 May, 1709, at Morville.
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Richard Fleming of Dinmore, Hereford. B. at Shadwell, 25 Sept., 1713, bur. at Clun. Died 14 Sept., 1772 (2nd son).	= Stukeley. Married 7 Dec., 1752.	Elizabeth Fleming. Bur. at Morville, 10 Nov., 1740.	Beatrice Fleming. B. at Shadwell, 11 Oct., 1721, d. 1740.
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Richard Stukeley Fleming. Born 1755, died 1806. Sheriff of Hereford 1804.	Rev. Richard Fleming = Curate of Eaton-under-Haywood. Bur. there 25 Dec., 1819.	Elizabeth Born 1812, Died 1856.
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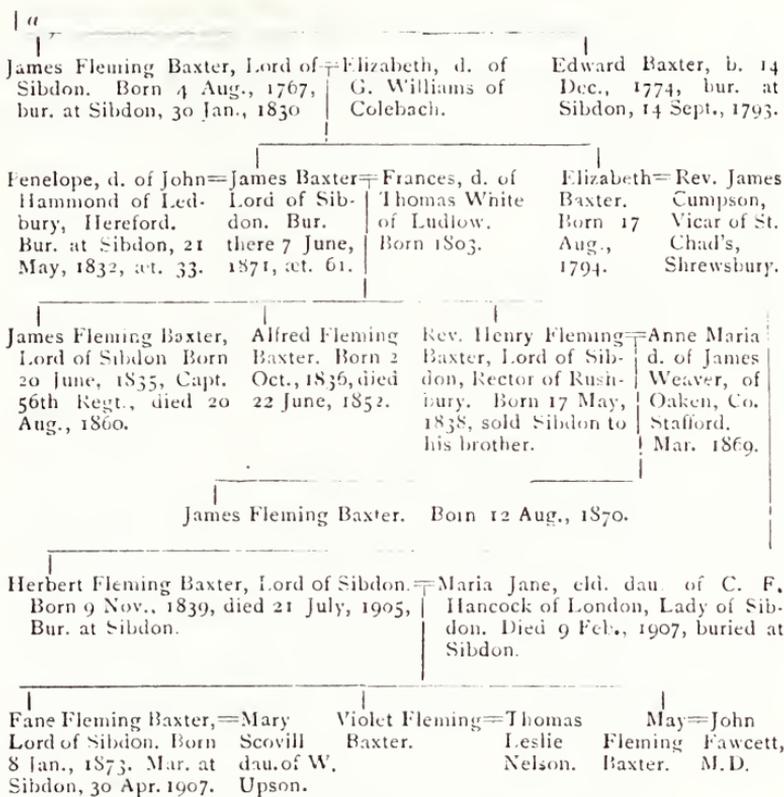
Richard Acton Fleming. Bap. at Eaton, 28 Oct., 1811.	Jane Fleming. Bap. at Eaton, 22 Sept., 1807, married at Ludlow, 19 May, 1831.	= Thomas Hooper of Hay. Bap. at Eaton, 19 Feb., 1805.	Alice Fleming. Bap. at Eaton, 19 Feb., 1805.
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Elvisa Fleming. Bap. at Eaton, 6 June, 1803.	Anne Fleming. Bap. at Clee St. Margaret, 25 May, 1797.	Mary Fleming. Bap. at Clee St. Margaret, 5 Aug., 1795.	Sarah Fleming. Bap. at Clee St. Margaret, 6 Dec. 1799.
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Gilbert Fleming, Lord of Westhope, Sibdon & Shadwell. Bap. at Sibdon, 29 Nov., 1745, bur. there 26 May, 1774.	Sarah Fleming, = John Baxter of The Rock, near Newton. Died 24 Aug, 1788, at. 64. Mar. 1773, bur. at Sibdon, 29 April. 1801	Ann Fleming = co-heir to her brother, Bap. at Sibdon, 10 May, 1748. Lady of Shadwell.	Richard = James of Ludlow. Bur. at Sibdon, 11 Feb., 1802
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Ann Frances Cooper Jones.

Frances Fleming, co-heir to her brother. Lady of Westhope. Bap. at Sibdon, 9th Jan., 1754, died 24 Nov., 1792, bur. at Paddington, d. s. p	= John Harries of Cruckton, Barrister-at-Law	Elizabeth Fleming. Bap. at Sibdon, 17 Aug., bur. there 29 Aug., 1751.
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it £100, but if the Lord of the Manor of Westhope should be remiss in having it supplied with 12 Sermons yearly, then the profits shall go to the Parish of Acton Scott."

(An enquiry at Acton Scott shows that no profits have been received there.)

The Testatrix bequeaths to her grandson Edward Acton, four pictures, viz.: his mother, his uncle Hercules, Dr. Edwardes, and his uncle Heath Edwards. She mentions her son Gilbert Fleming.

On a Mural tablet on the south wall of Diddlebury Church, is this inscription:—"Here lyeth the Body of Elizabeth Fleming, relict of John Fleming Esquire of Westhope by whom she had 19 children 13 sons and 6 daughters. She departed this life ye 16th of February 17th aged 73 and of

Hector Fleming of London, Merchant, her 13th son who died the 30th of the same month aged 38." Arms: On a lozenge gules 3 crescents 2 and 1 ermine between 7 crosses fitchee (Fleming), impaling, ermine a lion rampant. In the Chancel on the mural tablet to Henry Fleming, is also inscribed:— "Elizabeth and Helen, who died 1682, and Hercules Fleming 10th Son who died in 1750, aged 24."

John and Elizabeth Fleming had issue:

Richard Fleming, their eldest son and heir, Lord of Westhope: John Fleming: Benjamin Fleming: Richard Fleming of Clun; Algernon Fleming; Henry Fleming, baptized at Stokesay 29 August 1679: Joseph Fleming, who was buried at Diddlebury 18 January 1740, and 3 sons whose names are not recorded: Hector Fleming, born 1690, buried at Diddlebury 7 March 1728, the 10th son; The Honble Gilbert Fleming Governor of the Leeward Islands, buried at Diddlebury 14 January 1762; Hercules Fleming, the 13th son, born in 1697, buried at Diddlebury 1721; Elizabeth Fleming who died in 1682 and buried at Diddlebury; Bettridge Fleming; Dorothy Fleming, and another daughter who died young; Beatrice Fleming, who married in 1723 the Revd. John Acton Vicar of Clun, and she died the 28 May 1724, and was buried at Diddlebury.

RICHARD FLEMING, the son and heir, on the death of his father became Lord of Westhope, Sibdon, and Shadwell: he was born in 1680 and married at Morville, co. Salop, on the 12 June 1708, Elizabeth 4th daughter of Sir Edward Acton, Baronet, of Aldenham. She was baptized at Morville co. Salop 16 May 1683, and was buried there 6 February 1738.

The Westhope property became vested in the Trustees of his marriage settlement, and on the marriage of his eldest son Edward Fleming in 1740 with Miss Cooper a life interest in the property was reserved to him. He died on the 20th June 1748, and had issue:—

Edward Fleming, his son and heir, Lord of Westhope.

Richard Fleming, baptized at Shadwell 25 September 1713, of Dinmore, Hereford; he married on the 7th December 1752 Miss Stukeley. He died the 14 September 1772, and was buried at Clun.

The Revd. John Fleming, L.L.D., born at Shadwell 4 August, 1719, Vicar of Higley, and Rector of Acton Scott, Co. Salop. He married his cousin Mary Fleming, who was born in 1709. He died in 1782, without issue.

Elizabeth Fleming, buried at Morville 10 November 1709..

Beatrice Fleming, born at Shadwell 11 October 1721, and died in 1740.

EDWARD FLEMING his heir was Lord of Westhope, Sibdon, and Shadwell; he was baptized at Shadwell 19 April 1711, and married in 1740 Ann, daughter of John Cooper of Camberwell, co. Wilts. She died 6 May 1770.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* of March 31, 1773, gives the following story:—

“Edward Fleming of Sibdon Castle, and Westhope near Ludlow possessed of £1500 a year. After eating a hearty breakfast of spring pottage declared to his daughters that he believed poison had been mixed with his mess. The ladies tasted, as did an old housekeeper; and all of them were more or less affected in proportion to the quantity they eat.

Mr. Fleming died in great agony, before any relief could be administered, but the ladies and the housekeeper recovered. The perpetrator of this wicked act is not yet discovered.”

His wife Anne was buried at Sibdon Carwood 6 May 1770.

He died at Westhope 31 March 1773, and was buried at Clun. He left issue, a son

GILBERT FLEMING, Lord of Westhope, Sibdon, and Shadwell, who was baptised at Sibdon Carwood 29 November 1745. In *Notes and Queries* for 1869, 4th Series, volume III., page 56, it is mentioned that he was the subject of a local story:—

“Gilbert Fleming is said to have bribed the cook to put poison into the food of his father Edward, for which the cook was tried and executed. The real culprit drank himself to death in a little more than a year after this event and the Westhope estate and other property then went to his three sisters. Two of these were supposed to have been cognisant of the murder, and are said to have come to untimely and painful deaths, the third who was innocent prospered. The sister who had Westhope left all her property to Sir John Swinerton Dyer, Bart.” I am told

the papers of this trial are in a solicitor's office in London, and that the cook was executed for the murder.

Gilbert Fleming died 26 May 1774, and was buried at Sibdon. He was the last Lord of Westhope. He left no will, and by virtue of a partition deed the property was divided between his three sisters, Sarah, Ann, and Frances.

Sarah Fleming, the elder daughter, born 6 April 1742, became Lady of Sibdon. She married John Baxter of The Rock, Newtown, and died 10 December 1774, leaving issue two sons; and from the elder, the present Lord of Sibdon, Mr. Fane Fleming Baxter descends.

Ann Fleming, baptized at Sibdon 10 May 1748, became Lady of Shadwell. She married in 1773 Richard James of Ludlow. In the *Gentlemen's Magazine* of 31 May 1801 is this account of her death:—

“Mrs. James of Ludlow, daughter of Edward Fleming Esqre., late of Sibdon Castle co. Salop, coming in a chaise from Chapel House down the eminence below Chipping Norton, one of the horses proving unruly, the carriage was thrown down a bank, the fall of which was three feet perpendicular in 14 feet whereby she received so violent a blow on the back and upper part of the spine, as instantly to deprive her of all power of moving the upper or lower extremities, in which lamentable state she languished 6 weeks.” She was buried at Sibdon Carwood, 29 April 1801, as Anne James, daughter of Edward Fleming, late of Sibdon Castle.

The late Mrs. Fleming Baxter of Sibdon Castle possessed a letter written by Mr. James, referring to the death of Sir John Swinnerton Dyer and to Mrs. James's accident.

Most of the family portraits are at Sibdon.

Elizabeth Fleming, was baptized at Sibdon Carwood 17 August 1751, and buried there 29th August in the same year.

Frances Fleming, the youngest daughter was baptized at Sibdon 3 January 1754. She was Lady of the Manor of Westhope, and married John Harries, of Cruetton and London, Barrister-at-law. She died 24 November 1792, and was buried at Paddington. She left the Westhope Estate to Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, 6th Baronet, but the property was subject to a mortgage of £4000.

Her will is dated 4 October 1790, and proved 11 January

1793 (P.C.C. 26 Dodwell). She is styled as of the parish of St. James, Westminster, widow of John Harries of Cruckton and Lincolns Inn Fields. She devises all her estates of what nature or kind, to Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, Bart. and his heirs for ever. She leaves £50 to her sister Ann James, £500 to Ann Frances Cooper James her sister's daughter when 21, and £50 to Richard James her sister's husband for a ring. She appoints Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, Baronet, her sole executor.

She was the last of the Fleming Family who possessed Westhope.

VI.

LORDS OF THE MANOR SWINNERTON DYER OF WESTHOPE.

This family is descended from Ralph Dyer of Wincanton, Co. Somerset, living there in 1380. The history of this family has appeared in *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries*, 1906 7, so that I will touch only on those members who were connected with Westhope. Sir James Dyer, Knight, was one of the Judges appointed to try the case of the Earl of Arundel in 1501, and it is curious that his descendants should possess the estate in later years. He was born in 1512 at Roundhill, Wincanton, and was 11 years old when his father, Richard Dyer, died. He entered as a commoner of Broadgate Hall, now Pembroke College, Oxford, and was called to the bar in 1537. In 6 Edward VI. he was chosen Speaker. He was one of the witnesses to the King's will. He was appointed Sergeant-at-law 19 October, 1553, and though greatly opposed to the religion of Queen Mary he served her well and faithfully. The day following the accession of Queen Elizabeth, 1558, his Commission as Puisne Judge of the Common Pleas was renewed. He became Lord Chief Justice in 1559, which post he held for 20 years. He was cousin to Sir Edward Dyer, Knight, the poet, who was the author of "In Praise of Nothing" and of that well-known poem "My mind to me a Kingdom is." Sir James Dyer was a clever, capable man, a firm adherent of the reformed religion, and a friend to all with whom he came in contact. He left his reports on Law Cases to his nephews,

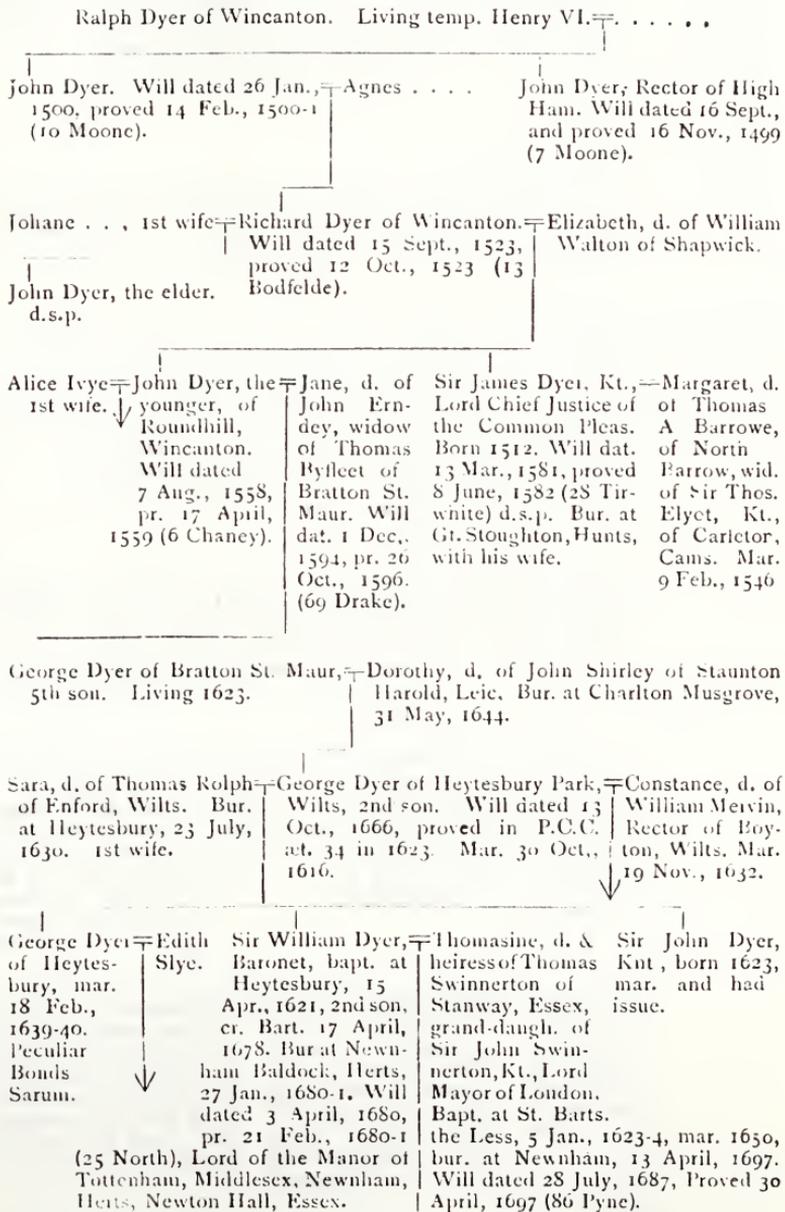
James Dyer, Richard Farwell, and William Hammer; and they were published between 1592 and 1688. He was a very rich man, owning considerable property in many Counties. He married the 9th of February, 1546, Margaret, daughter of John A'Barrowe, and grand-daughter of Sir Maurice A'Barrowe of North Barrow, Co. Somerset, and widow of Sir Thomas Elyot, Knight, of Carlton, Co. Cambridge, and their portraits by Holbein are at Windsor Castle. Sir James Dyer died without issue, and was buried in the Chancel of Great Staughton Church, Co. Hunts, 24 March, 1582, with his wife, who died 26 August, 1500. His heir was his great nephew, Sir Richard Dyer, Knight, who, with his wife, was buried at Great Staughton, where there is a large monument erected to them. In his will, he leaves his collar of S.S. and a ring to the Queen. Wheatstone refers to him in a poem:—

“ Alive, refuge, for those whom wrong did payne,
 “ A Dyer, such as dyed without a stayne.”

Sir Lodovic Dyer, grandson of Sir Richard, was created a Baronet, but his only son dying as a child the baronetcy became extinct, until Sir William Dyer (great grandson of John Dyer, who was the brother of Sir James) was created a Baronet in 1678.

Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, 6th Baronet, became first Lord of Westhope in 1702. He was the son of Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, 5th Baronet, and was baptized 30 November, 1738, at Finchamfield, Co. Essex, and married 9 December, 1761, at St. Vedast, Foster lane, London, Susannah, daughter of Henry Vicary, Esq., of Windsor. He was Colonel in the Guards, and one of the grooms of the bedchamber to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, afterwards George III. He was one of the Prince's great friends, and lent him £80,000, which was not repaid. He lived chiefly at his London house in St. John's Square, and there are no records of his having lived at Westhope. He was a man of very amiable manners, and kind affections. His character as a master, father, brother, husband, and friend, was truly excellent and exemplary. His wife died 7 April, 1773. He died suddenly 21 March, 1801, and was buried at St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury, in the Swinnerton Vault. A tablet is placed to his memory in the Church of Westhope. His will was dated

PEDIGREE OF DYER.



a

Swinnerton Dyer, born 1651, bur. at St. Mary, Aldermanbury, 29 Jan., 1676-7, d.s.p.

Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, born 1657, 2nd Bart., Lord of Tottenham, Newnham, & Newton Hall. Will dated 23 Oct., 1690, pr. 7 July, 1701 (94 Dyer). Bur. at Gt. Dunmow.

Elizabeth, d. of Sir Rowland Johnson, Kt., of Gray's Inn, mar. 5 Sept., 1683.

Thomas Dyer, named in *Vis. of Middx.* 1663.

William Dyer of Newnham, b. 1659, Sheriff of Herts. 1694. Will dated 2 Nov., 1734, pr. 17 Nov., 1739 (231 Henchman). Mar. twice, and had issue.

Swinnerton Dyer, bapt. at St. Andrew's, Holborn, 13 Jan., 1686-7. bur. at Gt. Dunmow, 17 May, 1701.

Sir Swinnerton Dyer, 3rd son, bapt. at St. Andrew's Holborn, 15 Feb. 1687-8. Will dated 21 Feb., 1735-6, pr. 8 March, 1735-6 (53 Derby), leaving issue by 1st mar. d Anne, mar. Paul Whitehead.

1st, 16 Sept., 1712, Anne, d. of Edward Belitha, bur. at Gt. Dunmow, 28 Aug., 1714.

2nd, 19 Dec., 1727, Mary, heiress of John Kempe of Spain's Hall, Essex. Will (274 Auber). Bur. at Finchingsfield.

Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, 4th Bt. Will (213 Hutton) 1758.

Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, 5th Bart., of Tottenham, Spain's Hall, Essex. Bapt. at Gt. Dunmow, 12 Mar., 1695. Will dated 13 Jan., 1777, proved 1780 (468 Collins).

Elizabeth, d. of Major Jones (2nd wife). Will 1777 (348 Collyer). Mar. 25 Sept., 1735.

William Dyer, b. 1693. Will 1741 (200 Spurway).

Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, 6th Bt., Lord of Westhope, Newton Hall, and Tottenham. Bapt. at Finchingsfield, 30 Nov. 1738. Will dated 22 Sept., 1790, proved 21 July, 1801 (425 Abercombie). M.I. Westhope. Bur. at Aldermanbury, 28 March, 1801.

Susannah, d. of Henry Vicary, d. 7 April, 1773, mar. 9 Dec., 1761.

Thomas Dyer of Park Street, London, bapt. 4 July, 1744. Will dated 25 May, 1795, pr. 9 Sept., 1800 (656 Adderley).

Mary, d. of Richard Smith, wid. of James Berney, d. 1775, mar. 29 Nov., 1708.

Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, 7th Bt., Lord of Westhope and Tottenham. Bapt. St. John Evangelist, 16 March, 1678, mar. 14 Apr., 1814, at South Stoneham, Hants, bur. at Ovington, 6 April, 1838. M.I. Westhope. Will dated 14 June, 1833, proved 10 May, 1838 (39 Nicholl). d.s.p.

Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of James Standewicke of Ovington, Hants, Lady of Westhope and Ovington. Will dated 18 May, 1863, proved 9 July, 1864. M.I. Westhope. Bur. at Me-nmelsdorf.

Frederick Baron von Zandt, mar. 30 May, 1839, bur. at Bamberg 1841.

Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer of Swinnerton Lodge 8th Bart. B. 1770, d. 1854. Will dated 9 Sept., 1853, pr. 12 Dec., 1854, d. s. p. 27 Nov., 1854.	Sir John Dyer, K.C.B., = Jane, sister and heiress of Simon Halliday (descended from Sir Leonard Halliday, Lord Mayor of London, 1603), mar. 14 Mar., 1795, d. 1851.
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Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, 9th Bart., of Brompton Hall, Middlesex, and Westeroft Park, Surrey, Capt. R.A. B. 1799, d. 1878. M.I. Westhope. Will dated 14 Nov., 1876, proved 1878.	= Mary Anne, d. of Col. John Albeck Clement, and grand-dau. of Francis Le Maistre. D. 1880. M.I. Westhope, mar. 7 Feb., 1832.
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Sir Swinnerton Halliday Dyer, 10th Bart. B. 1833, d. 1882. Will dated 2 Jan., 1880, pr. 15 May, 1882. M.I. Westhope.	= Helen Maria, sister & coh. of Ed. Croker of The Grange, Limerick, mar. 29 July, 1858.	Colonel Henry = Amelia Susan, heiress of John Ward of Otterington Hall, Yorks, and Gorstage Hall, Cheshire, by Henrietta, d. of Sir John Lister-Kaye, Bt. Born 1838, d. 1903. Lady of Westhope. M.I. Westhope. Bur. at Culmington.
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Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, 11th Bart., B. 1860, d. 1907.	= Dona Edith, d. of Sir Charles Roderick McGrigor, Bt. mar. 21 Jan., 1886. D. 1909.
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Sir John Swinnerton Dyer, 12th Bt. B. 1891.

Leonard Whitworth Swinnerton Dyer, Lord of Westhope and Gorstage Hall, Cheshire. Born 30 Oct., 1875.	= Lucy, e.l.d. d. of the late Francis Shriöder of New York, mar. 12 June, 1897.	Evelyn Henrietta Swinnerton Dyer, mar. Col. G. B. N. Martin, C.B., R.A.
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Leonard Schröder Swinnerton Dyer, son and heir. Born 30 March, 1898.

ARMS:—1 and 4, Or a chief indented Gules (DYER).

2 and 3, A cross pattée fleury within a bordure indented Gules (SWINNERTON).

Crests:—1. Out of a ducal coronet Or a Goat's head Argent horned Or.

2. Out of a ducal coronet Or a Falcon rising Argent. Grant dated 20 April, 1575. (Both for DYER).

22 September, 1790, with two codicils dated 12 July, 1792, and 19 March, 1801, and was proved in the P.C.C. 21 July, 1801. (125 Abercrombie.)

He was succeeded by his only son, Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, 7th, Baronet, who was baptized 27 January, 1769, and became Lord of Westhope. He also had property

in Clarges Street, Piccadilly. He was Colonel in the Foot Guards, Equerry to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, A.D.C. to Sir Ralph Abercromby in the expedition to Egypt, Equerry to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, A.D.C. to Sir John Moore, and was present at his death at Corunna. He was Lieut.-General in the English and Spanish Army, and for his generosity he was called "The Father of the Unfortunate Spaniards." He married 11 April, 1814, at North Stouchem, Co. Hants., Elizabeth, only daughter and heir of James Standerwicke, Esq., of Ovington Park, Co. Hants. John Sergeant, who lived at "Yew Tree Cottage," in The Batch, Westhope, was his groom, and died at the age of 90 in 1899. He well remembered Sir Thomas and Lady Swinnerton Dyer, at Westhope, and on one occasion had to take two horses (a bay and a grey) down from Westhope by road to Ovington. He used to relate how much beloved Sir Thomas and his wife were at Westhope, and, although they did not live here for long, they constantly paid visits, coming in their big yellow coach drawn by four horses and mounted by postilions. When here they resided at the "Ward House." Sir Thomas died without issue 12 April, 1838, leaving by his will, dated 14 June, 1833, and proved in P.C.C. 10 May, 1838, (309 Nicholl,) everything to his wife, who became Lady of Westhope. He was buried at Ovington, and a brass tablet is erected to him in Westhope Church.

Lady Swinnerton Dyer married secondly, 30 May, 1839, Frederic, Baron von Zandt, Chamberlain to the King of Bavaria, of Seehof Castle, Bamberg, Bavaria. Both the Baron and Baroness made several visits to Westhope, and they both gave gifts to the Church, and between 1839 and 1841 John Sergeant was sent to Seehof Castle with important letters on several occasions. The Baron died suddenly at Seehof in 1841, and is buried at Bamberg. His Will was dated 8 May, 1840, and proved 4 April, 1842, and by it he left everything to his wife.

The Baroness after his death lived chiefly at Ovington, paying visits to Westhope occasionally. She enlarged the "Ward House" by several rooms, and after it was completed occupied it for some time. She was charitable and much beloved by all who knew her. She died at Seehof Castle,

27 May, 1864, and is buried at Memmelsdorf, near Bamberg. Her will is dated 8 March, 1860, with a codicil dated 18 February, 1863, and was proved 9 July, 1864. She had no issue. A brass tablet is erected to her memory in the Church of Westhope.

The estate of Westhope was inherited by her husband's cousin, Colonel Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer, second son of Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, 9th Baronet, who became Lord of Westhope. He was born 30 December, 1834, and entered the Royal Artillery as Second-Lieutenant, 22 December, 1852, at the early age of 18. He became Lieutenant 17 February, 1854, 2nd Captain 14 November, 1859, Captain 22 August, 1868, Brevet-Major 15 April, 1864, Lieutenant-Colonel 1 April, 1874, and retired in 1876 with the rank of Colonel. He served during the Crimean War, and was present at the Battle of Icherneya, the siege and fall of Sebastopol, where his horse was killed under him. He was rewarded with a medal and clasp, and the Turkish medal. Then followed distinguished service in the Indian Mutiny, and at the capture of Dilkoosha and Martiniere. He was present at the relief of Lucknow, the passage of Kahlee Nuddee, the capture of Futyghur, the defeat of the Gwalior contingent, and at the Battle of Cawnpore, in which battle his horse was killed under him a second time. He was at the affair of Bangunga, the siege and capture of Lucknow, the actions of Bareilly and Shahjehanpore, and the capture of the forts at Bunai and Mohundee. He was twice mentioned in despatches, and received a medal with two clasps. His career in the Artillery last 23 years, and his retirement was received with universal regret. In 1862, he became Inspector of Artillery at Woolwich, in 1864 Assistant Director of Ordnance at the War Office and Superintendent of the Small Arms Factory at Enfield, which post he held until 1875, when he joined Sir Joseph Whitworth's Works at Manchester. He remained there until 1880, when he joined Sir William Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., at Newcastle-on-Tyne, as one of the Directors. Whilst there he built the great Steel Works, and when the two firms amalgamated, he was made chief Director of the Manchester branch.

Colonel Swinnerton Dyer was sent to Italy to start the Ordnance Factory at Pozzuoli, near Naples. He so successfully quelled the strikes there, that he was personally decorated by King Humbert with the Order of Knight Commander of the Crown of Italy. His name is so well-known in connection with the Employers' Federation as its central figure in the most important industrial struggle of the century, and he became its first President, 1897-8. Colonel Swinnerton Dyer and Sir Henry Bessemer have been called "The Two Giants of Industry." Sir Henry gave the world an industry, that Colonel Swinnerton Dyer showed us how to use. He was also created Knight Commander of Charles VII. of Spain, Knight Commander of the Rose of Brazil, and held the Military Order of Merit for Spain. He was a splendid linguist, speaking French, German, Spanish, Italian and Hindustani perfectly.

He was a handsome man, tall with commanding presence. His courtly, frank, genial manner, established him as a favourite with all who knew him. He had the happy knack of making everyone feel he was their friend. He married 6 April, 1869, Amelia Susan, only daughter and eventually heiress of John Ward, Esq., and Henrietta his wife, third daughter of Sir John Lister Kaye, Baronet, of Denby Grange, Co. Yorks., and a direct descendant both of Edward IV. and of Elizabeth Wydeville Queen of Edward IV., by her first husband Sir John Grey, Lord Ferrers of Groby. When Colonel Swinnerton Dyer inherited Westhope in 1804 he began to improve the estate. He was frequently at Westhope, living at the Ward House, until it was pulled down in 1891, when a small cottage was built on the Shoulder of Mutton site. There were great rejoicings at Westhope in 1869 on his marriage, where he and his wife spent their honeymoon; in 1875, for the birth of his only son, and in 1896 for his son's coming of age. Shortly before his death, the members of the Employers' Federation presented him with a large service of silver. They wished to present him with his portrait, but owing to his sudden death 20 March, 1898, the portrait was painted from photographs. It is a speaking likeness, and was presented to his son in 1899. His loss was felt by all, especially by the people of Westhope, to whom

he had endeared himself by his kindness and justice as a landlord. He is buried at Withington, Manchester. His will is dated 18 March, 1896, and was proved in 1899. He had issue, Leonard Whitworth Swinerton Dyer and a daughter, Evelyn Henrietta Swinerton Dyer (the writer of this history). On his death his widow, Mrs. Amelia Susan Swinerton Dyer, became Lady of Westhope. She enlarged the small cottage, and built the Manor House. She was beloved by all who knew her for her goodness, courtesy, and generosity. She died after a few weeks' illness on 3 January, 1903, when her son, Leonard Whitworth Swinerton Dyer, became Lord of Westhope. He was born 30 October, 1875, and married 12 June, 1897, Lucy, elder daughter of the late Francis Schroeder, of New York, and has a son and heir, Leonard Schroeder Swinerton Dyer, born 30 March, 1898.

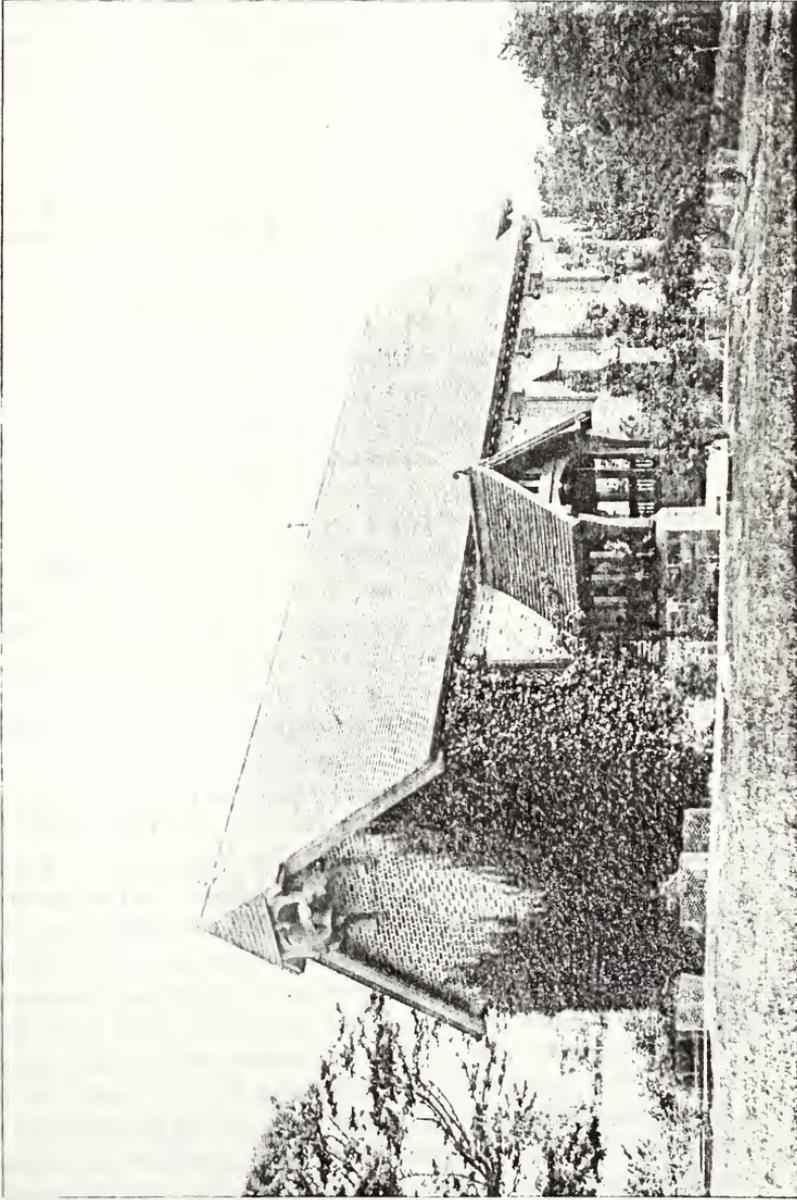
VII.

HOUSES ON THE ESTATE.

A Deed of 1707 mentions "All that site, Capital messuage or Mansion House of the said Lordshippe or Manor of Westhope, and all that Chappell in Westhope, and that Dovehouse, with all lands, etc. All that messuage or tenement, anciently called 'Passe House,' in the occupation of Edward Evans, and Elianor his wife. 'Franklin's Tenement' in the occupation of Thomas and Elizabeth Penny deceased. 'Ward Tenement' in the occupation of Richard Ward and Elizabeth his wife. 'The Tenement' occupied by Stephen Dowell. 'The Tenement' occupied by Edward Powell, Eleanor his wife and Richard their son. The Cottage known as 'Bowen's Tenement' in the tenure of Oliver Appewe. The Cottage called 'Bolas Tenement' occupied by Ralph Bolas. The Cottage called 'Bulkers Tenement' in the occupation of Francis Butcher."

The Title Map shows on Callow Hill a field called 'Old House Piece.' On enquiry from the oldest inhabitant, I am informed that in 1820 when she was a girl of 17, Widow Pritchard, the mother of Mrs. John Serjeant, then an old woman of 90 odd years, remembered in her younger days, that that piece of ground was occupied by a large black and

WESTHOPE HALL.—A pretty old red brick gabled house, built in the style of the old manor houses of the 16th century. On the chimney in front is the date 1617, and on the house the coat of arms of Salop, three leopards heads. The house commands a good view of the Batch Valley and Dinchope Hill, and is partly surrounded by trees. The house is approached by a short lane; on one side there still remains part of the old wall and a yew tree. As far as I know only three old yew trees are on the estate: the one just mentioned, one at the entrance of the Churchyard, and another in the Chapel Orchard. In the front of the house is a small garden, and beyond an orchard called Chapel Orchard, now divided by a road from the Church Orchard. As both these orchards are called Chapel Orchard, it seems probable that this was the principal house. I am told that some of the buildings at the back were pulled down about 60 years ago, and the foundations remain under the mound, now over-grown with trees. The orchard on the south side of the house in spring is a white carpet of snowdrops, and the double yellow daffodil grow wild in the fields surrounding it. The rooms consist of a parlour, stone-flagged, with a heavy black oak beam across the ceiling; this room had formerly a large open fire place. There is a small parlour adjoining the kitchen, with a low ceiling and black oak beams; it has evidently not been altered since it was erected in 1617; it has the large open fire place, with iron support to hold the cauldron and kettle, and in the corner is the old cheese press. Another room opens out of this, and there are other small rooms and large cupboards at the back. The back door has still its old wooden bolt. All the lower rooms, except the small parlour, are flagged with stone. The oak staircase leading to the upper is narrow and straight. The floors of the passage and bedrooms are most uneven, with some large attics above. There are some large out-buildings and a small shed, close to the house which used to be the forge, with a small stable beyond. Both these buildings might have been connected with the house in bye gone years. Although it is the largest of the farm houses, it could not have been the Manor House mentioned in the Chancery proceedings of Leonard Dannett, but it most



WESTHOPE CHAPEL.

R. L. Bartlett, Photo.

probably succeeded the old black and white house which was situated on Callow Hill; and Westhope Hall may be the capital mansion house mentioned in the deed of 1707.

MIDDLE WESTHOPE HOUSE.—Now a farm house, and probably so called as it is situated in the middle of the estate. From the appearance of the house, as it now stands, it was probably built about the same time as “Westhope Hall.” The rooms are a fair size, with low ceilings and oak beams. The parlour has recently been floored with red tiles, the kitchen and offices are stoned with flags. Some 15 years ago some alterations were required, and the workmen came upon a blocked up oven, and chimney, in which was found an old Bible, containing a lock of hair and a penny. Unfortunately these were taken away or destroyed, as they were not forthcoming when asked for. There are some good farm buildings at the back. The house is built on the road, with small garden and orchard adjoining in front, which leads to “Harton Road” on the north, and “The Batch,” now called “Siefton Batch,” on the south east, and the present road was cut through the garden and orchard; the old road, branching off to the right, and coming out above Westhope Hall, is still to be traced.

HILL END.—Now a farm house, built on the side of Hill End Hill. The date is probably about 1620; it commands a good view of the surrounding country, and is approached by a narrow steep lane, from the road. There is a gateway with wooden loft over it, but the road on that side is now not used. Apparently the old road went through this farm. The house is built higher than the road through the gateway, and is approached by a flight of steps to the front door. The top stone is curious and carved with a cross; another stone of the same description is on the top step of the old kitchen garden of “The Cross way Cottages.” I will not attempt to decide what these stones are, or how they came there, but I am told they are old grave stones. The house contains a nice parlour and kitchen and some fair sized bedrooms. It has good outbuildings. The remains of a wall surrounding the house on the side towards the road, is to be seen in dry weather. The orchard, at the back of the house in early spring, is a mass of snowdrops, and daffodils also grow there.

Below Hill End on the left hand side going down the road, towards the Batch, are foundations of a Cottage which, about 80 years ago, was occupied by Widow Patty Leighton, the remains of a wall are still standing, the cottage is shown on the Tithe Map No. 191, and at the back of it is the Plantation. The house was known as "House Field Cottage."

THE BATCH FARM.—Lying at the entrance of the estate from Sifton, is an old house built in a hollow below the road, opposite The Quarry. The house is of stone, gabled, and contains a large lofty kitchen flagged with stone and other rooms of some size. It is built close to the stream that runs through the estate.

WARD HOUSE.—In 1707 this Farm, situated near the Chapel, was occupied by Richard Ward and Elizabeth his wife, and consisted of house, garden, buildings and fold. The house contained pantry, kitchen, back kitchen and dairy, all flagged with stone, and two parlours, and the hall was tiled with red and black tiles. Under one of the front parlours was a square cellar, about 14 ft. by 20 ft., entered from above by a trap door, and it has been stated that this room led to an underground passage, leading to the Chapel. Sometime between 1840 and 1848, Baroness Von Zandt, widow of Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, 7th Bart., added a new parlour, sitting room, bedroom, and bathroom, all on the ground floor, and pulled down the wall dividing the two parlours. The first floor contained six bedrooms, and large attics above. The house was built in a square, the new buildings towards the church yard were of stone. The entrance was approached by four stone steps, from the courtyard which was paved with cobble stones, and had a battlement in front, with a lead roof. The house contained a good oak staircase, and the older rooms were pannelled oak, with heavy oak beams across the ceilings, and oak floors. It was latterly called "The Old Manor House," but it has been proved to be miscalled, as Westhope Hall would have been the Manor house. Ward House was pulled down by Colonel Swinnerton Dyer in 1891, the oak was used for building the present Ward Farm, and some of it was used in Westhope Manor. The supposed date of Ward Farm is about 1620, but it might have been built earlier. In 1905

all the old foundations were dug out, and beneath the floor of the cellar some bones of animals were found, but the secret passage was not discovered; more bones were found in the wall which supports the high ground above the field.

WARD FARM.—The present house was erected by the late Lord of the Manor in 1891.

BURWOOD FARM AND UPPER WESTHOPE FARM.—These two houses, the latter the largest, are built on the hill north of the estate, and have a fine view of the Longmynd, Church Stretton Hills, and Wenlock Edge. From the appearance of the buildings they may be about 250 years old.

TITTERHILL COTTAGES.—These three cottages in black and white are some of the oldest, I might say the oldest now on the estate. They are situated almost on the brow of the hill, and approached by a steep narrow lane which has been widened part of the way up, and is a short cut to Diddlebury. Hartshorne, in his *Salopia Antiqua*, states that the word "Titter" means to "totter" or "tremble," and derived its name from the Icelandic *Titra* signifying "to tremble." The name is of uncertain date, but has been put down to the time of the Druids.

THE WITCHES COTTAGE.—A small cottage, now in ruins, on the grass road from Upper Westhope Farm to Titterhill. I have not been able to find its history or ascertain the reason of its name. The last occupant was an old widow woman. It is opposite "Old Woman's Meadow" and "Old Hannah's Field." I am told Widow Pritchard lived there until she went to Batch Cottage.

THE CROSSWAY COTTAGES.—So called, as they are situated at the cross roads opposite "The Cottage," which lead to "Titterhill," "Ward Farm," "Middle Westhope," and "The Batch."

"THE BATCH COTTAGES."—Two old cottages opposite to the Batch Farm.

"TWO COTTAGES" in the corner of Crossway field. These were built by the late Mrs. Swinnerton Dyer. They are shaped like a wedge, and are rough cast, with long red tiled sloping roofs.

In 1845 there were 15 houses on this estate, but some of the cottages have now disappeared.

WESTHOPE SCHOOL.—This was built in 1906, at the cost of Mrs. Martin, who bought the site from the Westhope estate. The school is a black and white timbered building, and is erected partly over the foundations of the old Ward House, which was taken down about eighteen years ago. The old foundations of the cellar of the Ward House are to be seen in the heating chamber of the school. The school was opened by the Archdeacon of Ludlow, on Monday, April 8th, 1907, in the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Swinnerton Dyer, Mrs. Martin, and many others. The school accommodates 60 children, who formerly had to walk 3 or 4 miles to the nearest school.

THE WARD COTTAGE was built by Mrs. Martin at the same time for a teacher's residence. It is of estate stone from "The Batch Quarry," to the first story, with half timber work above; with carving above the door, "Ward Cottage, E.H.M., 1906." When the foundations for this were dug, a brick culvert, 3 ft. by 4 ft., was discovered, covered with large flags of stone, about 4 ft. below the ground, evidently leading from the old Ward House. The cottage contains parlour, kitchen, scullery and three bedrooms.

The old well opposite the school is of the depth of 29 ft.; it is very wide, and must have been made many hundred years ago. It has never been known to fail in its supply. Nothing was found in it when it was cleaned out; the depth of water in it was 20 feet.

VIII.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OR CHAPEL.

Unfortunately all the Court Rolls and Church Deeds belonging to the estate, that would throw light on the history of the chapel, are missing, and what little that has been found of its history comes from public records. It was probably built by some early lord of the manor of Westhope as a private chapel, on account of the great distance from the Parish Church of Diddlebury. The lords of the manor would maintain the upkeep of the chapel, and pay for the services of a chaplain, at their own sole cost.

The first mention of the chapel is in a MS. of the late Rev. Edward Williams, in the Shrewsbury Free Library, as follows:—"39 Henry III. (1255), Westhope, a chapelry not connected with Diddlebury in the Diocese of Hereford." But unfortunately he does not say where he obtained the information. In the *Registrum Thome de Cantilupo, Episcopi Herefordensis*, under the date 8 November, 1277, is this Licence to Hugh the rector to study for a year:—"Licencia Studendi. Item Memorandum quod Hugo, Rector ecclesie de Westhope, habet Licenciam studendi per unum annum a Festo Beati Michaelis."

In the reign of Edward III. (1327), the Chapel of Westhope, in the Deanery of Wenlock, was taxed VI marks.

In Edward III. (1330), the chapel is mentioned "As of the value of 13d, having goods worth 11s.

In the Certificates of Colleges 1 Edward IV. (1461), the chapel is mentioned as "within the parish of Duddlebury of the value of xid."

"A Certificate of Sir George Blount, knight, Reynolde Corbett, Richard fforsett, and Richard Cupper, Commissioners appointed for the survey of Colleges, chantries, free chappels, fraternities, brother-hoods, guylde, Manor Lands, etc., by Act of Parliament begonne at Westminster 4 November, 1st year of His Highness reign within the County of Salop, and Stafford, by vertue of the King's Majesty's moste Honourable Commission, to them and others, directed, made, and certified, the 20 day of November, 2 Edward VI., 1549," gives this account of the Church:—"The Chappell of Westhope within the sayd parische of Duddlebury, valued at xid, payments nil, Remaining xid, no Incumbent. To the pore nil, goods ijs."

Particulars of Grants, temp. Edward VI., No. 1552. John Cowper and Richard Trevor request to purchase the rent of the free chapel of Westhope, with lands pertaining to the same in Duddlebury, 28 February, 3 Edward VI. (1550).

Patent Roll, 3 Edward VI., 6 pars. m. 1. Grant from the King to John Cupper and Richard Trevor, in consideration of £2050 13s. 9d. of (much church property, including) the Chapel of Westhopp, with a parcel of land adjoining, called Chappell Yard, and lands and tenements

in several holdings. to hold them in socage. Dated at Lieghes, 10 April, 3 Edward VI. (1550).

Certificates of Colleges, temp. Elizabeth (1558.)

The parish of Duddlebury, "The Chappel or Westhope within the sayd parish. This was spoliated by the Act of Parliament of 1 Edward VI."

Particulars of Grants, 1552. "The rent of the Chapel of Westhope, with parcel adjacent called 'Chappell Yarde,' in the tenure of William Wall, value 6d. There is no other lands of the said Chappell to yt."

John Cowper and Richard Trevor purchased (amongst other things) "rents in Duddlebury given for the support of a light, and a lamp in the Parish," and the rent of the free Chappel of Westhopp, with lands pertaining to it in Duddlebury.

3 Edward VI. (1552), Duddlebury and Westhope, to John Cowper and Richard Trevor. The Chappel of Westhope within the parishe of Duddlebury, Rent of one baulk of arable land in tenure of Robert Busse 1d, Rent of one acre of pasture land in tenure of William Lewis iiijd, Rent of the aforesaid Chappell with parcel adjacent called Chappell Yarde in the tenure of William Wall vjd, at 23 years purchase 22/-. There is no other lands or tenement to the said Chappell belonging as yt is presented, there be no wodes growing upon any of the said premises, last day of February 3 Edward VI The Kings Majesty discharge the purchasers of all incumbrances except leases and the covenants of the same. The tenure is socage. The Purchaser to have the issues from Michaelmas last. The purchaser to be bounde for the wodes. The leade belles and advousons except."

The word "advousons" in the plural proves that the patronage of the Chapel and of Diddlebury were different.

The late Colonel Swinnerton Dyer, in a letter to the Vicar of Diddlebury 1895, stated—"The first mention of the Chapel I have found is in a deed of 1650, in which is mentioned the Chapel and the Chapel Meadow." He did not say where he had seen the deed, and I have not been able to find it.

The deed of 1707 mention "All that Chapell, or bnilding called a Chappell, in Westhope with the appurtenances;" "The Manor, Dovehouse, and Chappell."

In the Will of Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming of Westhope, 1728, is this bequest:—"If my son Richard Fleming rebuilds the Chappell at Westhope, and fits it up for the sevice of God within four years, then I give to endow it £100, but if the Lord of the Manor should be remiss in having it supplied with twelve sermons yearly, then the profits shall go to the Parish of Acton Scott." The Chapel was rebuilt in 1728.

A paper amongst the Diddlebury Deeds states:—"The Chapel of Westhope is private property, it stands in an orchard, without fence or protection of any kind. The Proprietor gives five pounds a year to the Vicar of Diddlebury, to give his or her tenants twelve evening services.

"In 1840 the Baron Von Zandt promised a new pulpit, the old one being decayed, he promised a new surplice, but died suddenly." There is no date, but this memorandum was probably written by the Vicar, Mr. Underwood, in 1844.

The Advowson. As the first mention we have of the Advowson is 1255, John Fitzalan Lord of Clun, would be the patron, and the gift would be in the hands of the successive Lords of the Manor. In 1745 Edward Fleming was patron of the living.

Ecton's *Thesaurus*, 1754, has this;—"Westhope Chappell. Patron, Edward Fleming, Esq."

In Archdeacon Plymley's *General View of the Agriculture of Shropshire*, 1803, page 35, is this notice of the church:—"Westhope Chapel, Deanery of Ludlow. A separate assessment, but in Diddlebury parish. It is not connected with the Vicarage of Diddlebury."

Leonard Swinnerton Dyer, Esq., is now (1909) patron of the living of Westhope. Westhope Church is really a private chapel, and belongs to the Lord of the Manor of Westhope, who is solely responsible for its upkeep, and for the maintenance of the services.

Dedication of Westhope Chapel. We can only presume that the consecration took place prior to 1255. But the mention of "plate" at an early date shows that the chapel was a consecrated building. The late Colonel Swinnerton Dyer told the writer that before the Reformation all the Church Plate had been buried. I am sorry I did not at the time ask how he came to that conclusion. In connection with

consecration a story is told of the old White Chapel of Cleck Heaton in Yorkshire. When the old chapel was in a bad state of repair, it was restored, and when ready for opening the Most Rev. Archbishop Sharp was asked to consecrate it. When he arrived at the Churchyard entrance, he at once noted the old yew tree. He turned to his coachman, and told him to drive home, saying, "'Tis holy Ground.'" This episode occurred in 1706.

At the entrance gate of the Westhope Church is a very old yew tree, and although I hardly think it could have been planted in 1200, it might have been.

The Rev. D. H. S. Cranage, in his *Architectural Account of the Churches of Shropshire*, Vol. I., p. 167, says that "the foundations and walls of the present building for some feet above the ground date from about 1740. With these exceptions the chapel was rebuilt in 1892 by Col. Swinnerton Dyer, R.A. The building is neat, and in good taste, though it makes no architectural pretension. The foundations and quoins are of stone; the rest is of brick, with the exception of the porch, which is of wood and stone." Mr. Cranage should have used the word "restored," instead of "rebuilt" in 1892.

Description of the Church. The exterior is of red brick from 3 feet above the ground, with red tiled roof, making a bright patch of colour that can be seen from most points on the estate; the west and north sides are covered with ivy, the south side covered with climbing roses. Over the east window is a small stone cross. There is no tower. The porch on the south side is of stone, with tiled roof, and is lined with oak. The vestry on the north is also covered with ivy; the only entrance is from the chancel. Two short buttresses support the outside walls on the north and south. The foundations, which only show to 3 feet above the ground, are 11 feet below the ground, and these deep foundations point to them being the foundations of the old chapel. The late Col. Swinnerton Dyer told the writer that there was an underground passage, leading from the Church to the Manor House, which he had bricked up as it was unsafe. Although search has been made between the Ward House and the Church, no passage has been found on that side, so in all probability the passage is between the Church and Westhope Hall, as both stand on high ground.

Interior.—The exterior is certainly unpretentious, but the inside makes up for its want, in beauty. A short time ago a gentleman was visiting some of the old Shropshire churches, and his guide took him to see the Old Heath Chapel, as being the most ancient, dating from Norman times. When he had seen it, his guide said, "You have seen our oldest chapel, now I will take you to see the most beautiful one." He brought him to the Chapel of Westhope. What it may have been like in years gone by, records relate nothing, and although since its restorations nothing remains of any old carvings, and the almery, the piscina, sedilia, &c., all have disappeared, as far as possible, it is beautiful, in its plainness. The nave and chancel are continuous, the chancel higher by two steps than the nave, and one step at the altar. The pulpit, reading desk, and pews are of pine. The walls coloured a grey blue. The altar table is of wood, made from the oak of the estate; the two sides have lately been filled in with some oak carvings, once part of the old pews. The front of the altar contains three paintings, "Ecce Homo" in the centre, and "The Angel of the Agony" and the "Angel of the Record" in two side panels. The altar rails are iron, painted in dull blue and gold with the top rail of oak. The re-table is made from the carved oak of the old pews. The brass lectern is very fine, and was "Presented by Mr. J. Swinnerton Dyer, in memory of his Father." The doors are pine, as also is the roof. There is no chancel screen, but two pine pillars between the chancel and nave support the roof, the one nearest the reading desk contains a small oak frame, in which is some old glass. The credence table, of carved oak black with age, dates from 1600. The gospel table is modern; so also is the alms box, although it is a copy of an old one, with the words "Remember the Poor, 1905." The vestry contains a 17th century carved old chest, chair, and cupboard.

The Font is placed at the west end, and as far as one can judge does not appear to be of very great age, owing to its being made from one piece of stone, and no outlet for the water. A brass lining has been inserted, which now contains the water, and can be easily lifted out. An old Saxon Font was found in August, 1908, in a cottage garden in the

outskirts of Westhope, which probably anciently belonged to the church, to which it has been again restored.

The Reredos, presented in 1898, is of different coloured Italian marbles. I am told it represents a piece of almost every marble known. It was given by the late Mrs. Swinnerton Dyer.

The Organ, presented in 1898, replaced a small old harmonium.

In 1903 the old stove was removed, and the church heated with water pipes.

Seats, North Side.—The old carved oak pew taken away in 1891 belonged to the Lord of the Manor. It was replaced by two pews of pine, now (1909) occupied by Mr. Leonard Swinnerton Dyer and Mrs. Martin.

All the pews have brass tablets denoting to whom they belong.

- I. Leonard Swinnerton Dyer.
- II. Mrs. Martin.
- III. Westhope Hall, John Corfield.
- IV. Middle Westhope, Thomas Manley.
- V. Batch Farm, G. Hince.
- VI. Ward Cottage and Hill End.
- VII. Upper Westhope.
- VIII.
- IX. Occupied by the Clerk.

South Side.—

- I. Moorwood.
- II. Ward Farm.
- III. and IV. The Cottage Household.
- V. and VI. Westhope Household.

The Clerk.—For many years Edward Meredith of Titterhill held the post, and on his death was succeeded by William Lott, whose name is recorded on the brass plate. He was succeeded in 1906 by his son George Lott who resigned, and Thomas Davies of Titterhill is now clerk.

Brasses.—There are three Brasses in the Chancel.

1. "To the memory of Colonel Sir John Swinnerton Dyer 6th Baronet, of Westhope, Groom of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales. Born 20 November 1738. married Susannah Vicary of Windsor, died 21 March

- 1801," with the Dyer Arms, Or a chief indented Gules, quartering Swinnerton, and Crest, a Goat's head.
2. "To the memory of Lieut. General Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer 7th Baronet, of Westhope, Equerry to the Duke of Kent and Duke of Cumberland, died 12 April 1838, Buried at Ovington, Hampshire," with the Dyer Arms and Crest.
 3. "In Memory of Elizabeth, Baroness Von Zandt of Ovington Park and Westhope, Widow of Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, died 27 May 1864 at Seehof Castle, aged 84, Buried at Memmelsdorf Bamberg." On the north side of the Nave below the window :
 1. "In memory of Colonel Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer, of Westhope, Craven Arms, Royal Artillery, Knight Commander of the Crown of Italy, Knight Commander of Charles VII. of Spain, Knight Commander of the Rose of Brazil, and Order of Merit of Spain, 2nd son of the 9th Baronet."
 2. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." On the wall below the window :
 3. "To our Beloved Mother, Amelia Susan, of Gorstage Hall, Cheshire, Widow of Colonel Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer of Westhope, granddaughter of Sir John Lister Kaye, Bart., and the Lady Amelia Grey his wife, and lineally descended from King Edward IV. and Elizabeth Wydeville, Queen Consort. Born 2nd August 1838, died 3 January 1903. Buried at Culmington, Salop. This Brass is placed to her memory by her two children."
 4. "Rest in Peace, William Lott died 13 March 1906, aged 78, Buried at Diddlebury." He was for many years clerk of the Chapel.

Brass Furniture.—Brass and jewelled Altar Cross, Eucharist Candles. Pair of vases. Altar Desk. Alms dish. Wall candle sticks.

The beautiful brass lectern, "To the memory of my Father, Colonel Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer, Born 30 December 1834, died 20 March 1898, from his son," replaces

the oak lectern given by Captain Stewart Dyer, which was too small for the large Bible, and is now placed in the vestry.

The Brass font lining. The font ewer, "Presented to Westhope Church June 1904, by the Tenants and Cottagers of the Westhope Estate."

Brass Pulpit Desk. Two seven light Brass vesper lights.

Windows.—The East window, designed by H. L. Moore, of London, is of three lights.

Our Lord as "The Light of the World" in the centre, supported by the figures of "Faith and Hope." The colouring is especially beautiful. This window was inserted by the late Colonel Swinnerton Dyer in memory of his parents. The inscription on the window is "In memory of Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, 9th Baronet, born 10 December, 1799, died 29th October, 1878, and Mary Anne, Lady Dyer, his wife, born 24th August, 1805, died 9th February, 1880."

Above this inscription are the Dyer Arms, Or, a chief indented gules, quartering Clement, with the two Dyer Crests, the Goat's Head and Falcon.

On the north side is a window, the subject taken from I. Samuel, xxvi. chapter, 12 verse, "To the memory of Agnes Griffith Dyer, born 20 October, 1838, died 20 August, 1855, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas and Lady Swinnerton Dyer."

On the south side the subject taken from II. Samuel, v. chapter, "To the memory of Sir Swinnerton Halliday Dyer, 10th Baronet, born 4th June, 1833, died 16th March, 1882, eldest son of the 9th Baronet."

There are four other coloured windows in the Chancel.

All these windows were inserted by Colonel Swinnerton Dyer.

On the north side of the nave is a window, the subject of which a Knight in armour kneeling at the feet of an Angel, who, with outstretched arms, is receiving him into her keeping. In his right hand he holds his sword with the point lowered, and by his left side on the ground lies his shield, on which are the Dyer Arms. Below is the inscription "To the memory of Colonel Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer, 2nd son of the 9th Baronet, erected by his daughter."

Of the old glass, only two small pieces remain, taken from

one of the windows on the restoration of the chapel; it has the inscription, F. Milner, 11 August 1764.

Another piece of glass has the inscription, J. Humphreys, 1870.

Both pieces of glass are now placed in the Chancel.

The piece with the date 1640, was in existence eight years ago, but has unfortunately been lost.

Church Furniture.—Nothing of the old vestments, fair linen, or altar cloths remain. But the Church possesses now four sets of vestments in cloth of gold, green, red, and purple, and four complete sets in white, red, green and purple, altar frontals, reading desk coverings, book markers and stoles, all embroidered, and set of fair linen, and cloths. The sanctuary curtains are in red, with fleur-de-lys pattern. The chancel carpet is of a thick red pile, and all the cushions covered with red velvet. The Credence Table is of 16th century work, and in the vestry is a 17th century chest.

Plate.—None of the old plate remains. All that the church possesses is modern, and has been presented within the last forty years. A silver flagon, glass and silver cruet, two silver patens, and silver chalice.

Endowments.—1728, Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming, £100. 1841, Elizabeth Baroness Von Zandt, £5 per annum.

Bell.—The Church Bell, which is hung in a wooden arched cot on the West gable, has on it the inscription, "W. Blews & Sons, 1872." Its diameter is 17 inches.

Restoration.—The Church was restored by Richard Fleming in 1728. The extent of the restoration is not known but in Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming's will, 1728, she leaves a bequest to her son "to rebuild" the chapel. In 1891 the late Colonel Swinnerton Dyer again restored the chapel. Some beautiful stained glass windows were put into the old windows, and plain glass in the others, the old oak pews and oak roof rotten with age, and falling to pieces from decay, were removed; this shows that, although by the will of Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming she wished the Church to be rebuilt, the old windows, floor, roof and oak pews were retained. The old broken stone flags of the Aisle and Chancel were removed and refloored with red tiles. The old wooden belfry, which the writer remembers looking very aged and dilapidated, was

pulled down, and the bell placed at the West End. The walls were re-plastered, the roof re-tiled, and the oak roof inside copied again in pine. It is hardly likely that the oak roof restored in 1728, if new at that time, would have been in such preservation as not to have been able to be used again in 1891, some 163 years later, so we may surmise that Richard Fleming used the roof of the old church in his restoration in 1728. The door was formerly at the west end, but was blocked up and the door removed to the south side, and the porch built. The round window over the old doorway was taken away, and the vestry built. When the old broken flags of stone were removed, the Chancel and Nave were cemented over beneath the tiles, and the floor filled up. Probably there was a Crypt under the Church, as the foundations are so deep before the restoration of 1728. An old inhabitant tells the writer that the Church, before the restoration in 1891, was in a very bad condition; this all points to the rebuilding being simply a restoration. It seems a pity that when restored in 1728 it was not kept the same as in the early ages. Many can echo this wish, for it is due to bad restoration that so many of our old churches have been spoilt.

CHURCHYARD.

The Church stands in an orchard, with hedge round it. Years ago the Chapel Orchard was joined to the Chapel Orchard, which is in front of Westhope Hall. Now these two are divided by a road.

William Andrews, in his book *Historical Byways and Highways of Old England*, says that it was the custom in olden days to plant fruit trees in burial grounds and lands surrounding the Church, for in a survey made in the 12th Century, "The burial ground of the good monks and Canons was planted with the following useful trees: Pear, apple, plum, laurel, chestnut, hazel nut, almond, walnut, medlar, quince, mulberry and fig. Some of these trees are in the orchard now, others in the plot adjoining and two old yew trees." Yews in bye-gone ages served for two purposes,—to supply wood for the bows, which in olden times were England's means of defence; and the yew is typical of immortality. And in the many "God's acres" that surround His

churches, there is seldom one, that does not at least possess one old yew tree raising its dark branches far above the ground, with its rugged grey stem marking silently its age. As far as is known the churchyard has not been consecrated. No graves have been found there, although they may have buried in the church itself. Only one thing has been found, —on digging a drain some years ago a large earthenware pot was discovered some feet below the ground, which was broken up by the workmen, as it was worth nothing! I am sorry to say I did not see it, or would have saved it from destruction. The short path from the road has been planted with rose trees. The gate approached by two stone steps is of paled oak, with old-fashioned bolt and latch. In the spring the churchyard is yellow with masses of wild double daffodils, which only grow there and in the Chapel Meadow, adjoining, and in Chapel Orchard by Westhope Hall, and the orchard behind Hill End.

IX.

PAROCHIAL RECORDS.

REGISTERS.

The Chapel does not possess any early Register Books. The following entries relating to Westhope are taken from the Diddlebury Registers.

1710, March 30, John Fleming, gent, buried.

1721, November 10, Mr. Hercules Fleming, buried.

1723, July 25, the Revd. Mr. John Acton, Vicar of Clunne, and Mrs. Beatrice Fleming, of Diddlebury, married.

1724, May 24, Edward, son of the Revd. Mr. John Acton and Beatrice, his wife, baptized.

1724, May 28, Mrs. Beatrice Acton, buried.

1728, February 20, Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming, buried.

1728, March 7, Mr. Hector Fleming, buried.

1740, January 18, Joseph Fleming, Esq., of the parish of St. James's, Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, buried.

1760, September 29, William Palmer of the parish of Eaton, gent, and Elizabeth Maria Amies, of the parish of Diddlebury, were legally married in the Chapple of Westhope by licence. Witnesses: Menry Haynes and Eliza Amies.

1702, January 14, Gilbert Fleming, Esq., buried.

1765, June 10, William Fleeming, of the parish of Tettenhall in the County of Stafford, bachelor, and Elizabeth Evans, of the parish of Diddlebury, were married by licence.

1726, August 22, Richard Fleming, Clerk, solemnized a marriage at Diddlebury between John Harrington and Laetitia Downes.

1797, May 31, William Dyer witnessed a marriage between Thomas Ball and Margaret Newell, both of Diddlebury.

1811, January 31, Richard Fleming, A.B., Curate of Eaton, solemnized the marriage of William Downes and Mary Canel.

1806, May 3, John Parry and Constance Lloyd married at the Chapel of Westhope.

1873, June 26, John Humphreys, widower, labourer, and Lucretia Painter, full age, spinster, married at the Chapel of Westhope. Witnesses: James and Emily Blomfield (of Upper Westhope Farm, Westhope). The former witness is living.

There are many baptisms recorded in the Diddlebury Registers as having taken place in the Chapel of Westhope. There is now a Register for baptisms.

The following extracts are from the transcripts of the Registers of Diddlebury, preserved at Hereford: -

1680, July 14. Elizabeth, daughter of John Fleming, gent, and Elizabeth, his wife, baptised.

1681, July 20. Richard, son of John Fleming, gent, and Elizabeth, his wife, baptised.

1682, August 2. Hellen and Dorothy, daughters of John Fleming, gent, and Elizabeth his wife, baptised.

1682-3, March 3. Elizabeth, daughter of John Fleming, gent, buried.

1683, August 20. Francis, son of John Fleming, gent, and Elizabeth, his wife, baptised.

December 20. Helena, daughter of John Fleming, gent, buried.

1712, December 13. Richard Danett, buried.

REGISTER OF BISHOP TRELICK. (MS. at Hereford.)

Richard le Acre de Westhope ordained priest in the Parish Church of Stretton, 28 March, 1349. Richard de Acre of Casteo ordained deacon same day. Walter Dyare was ordained deacon in Hereford Cathedral, 19 September, 1349,

the Bishop of Hereford ordaining candidates from Worcester-shire because the see of Worcester was vacant.

CHURCHWARDENS, OVERSEERS, &C.

These are taken from the Registers of Diddlebury, and were kindly supplied by Mr. G. William S. Sparrow, who has transcribed the registers of the parish, which it is hoped will presently be printed.

1685. Thomas Barker, Overseer for Westhope.
 1686. Edward Tyler, Overseer for Westhope.
 1686. John Hill, of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1686. Richard Ward, Supervisor of Highways for Westhope (probably the same who was tenant of Ward Farm in 1707).
 1687. Nathaniel Smith, Supervisor of Highways for Westhope.
 1688. Edward Thomas, Overseer for Westhope.
 1688. Edward Morris, Supervisor of the Highways for Westhope.
 1689. John Campian, Supervisor of the Highways for Westhope.
 1690. Nathaniel Smith, of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1690. John Hill, Overseer for Westhope.
 1690. William Hammonds, Supervisor of the Highways for Westhope.
 1691. John Farmer, Supervisor of the Highways for Westhope.
 1692. John Edwards, Overseer for Westhope.
 1692. Edward Tyler, Supervisor of the Highways for Westhope.
 1693. David Jones, Supervisor of the Highways for Westhope.
 1694. John Farmer of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1694. John Bridgwaters, Overseer for Westhope.
 1696. Edward Lloyd, of Westhope Mill, Overseer.
 1698. David Jones of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.

1698. John Hill, Overseer for Westhope.
 1700. John Edwards, Overseer for Westhope.
 1702. John Hill of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1702. John Campian, Overseer for Westhope.
 1704. Nathaniel Smith, Overseer for Westhope.
 1706. Richard Amies, Overseer for Westhope.
 1708. John Fleming, Esq., Overseer for Westhope.
 1710. John Hill of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1712. David Jones, Overseer for Westhope.
 1714. William Eltoft of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1714. John Taylor, Overseer for Westhope.
 1716. John Hill, Overseer for Westhope.
 1718. Thomas Amies, Overseer for Westhope.
 1719. John Smith of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1720. Edward Bowen, Overseer for Westhope.
 1722. Thomas Amies, Overseer for Westhope.
 1724. Thomas Amies, Overseer for Westhope.
 1732. Edward Amies, Overseer for Westhope.
 1733. William Higgins of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1734. William Higgins, Overseer for Westhope.
 1730-7. John Prichard, Overseer for Westhope.
 1738. Henry Haines, Overseer for Westhope.
 1740. Richard Fleming, Esq., Overseer for Westhope.
 1741. Henry Haines of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.
 1742. Edward Parker, Overseer for Westhope.
 1744. Thomas Smith, Overseer for Westhope.
 1749. Griffiths Davies of Westhope, Churchwarden of Diddlebury.

TITHES.

Phillipps' MS., 11226, folio 436 (in Shrewsbury Free Library). Memorandum that on Tuesday next before Palm Sunday, Osbert, farmer of Diddlebury, promised in the presence of the Bishop of Hereford that he will pay to the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, at the feast of St. Ethelbert next

to come, ten marks for arrears of his farm under the penalty of forty shillings, and the same Osbert granted to the Dean and Chapter, all the tithes of Westhop, and Middlehop, so long as he should live, for ten yearly marks which he owes them in the name of the farm. Nevertheless, so that if the said tithes in common years, are not worth ten marks, he will assign other tithes besides to them, with which the Dean and Chapter will and ought to be reasonably satisfied for the ten annual marks. Given in the Chapter House at Hereford in the fourth year of the Pontificate of Bishop R. (There is no date).

A terrier of Glebe Lands, Tenements, tithes, rights, duties, and customs belonging to the Vicar of Diddlebury dated 22 April, 1637.

Churchwardens, John Norcott, Gent., John Baldwin, Gent., Francis Pulley, William Fosbrooke, Richard Stedman, Adam Price, Clement Downes, Charles Wellings, Michael Duke, Thomas Lewis, Gent., Richard Like and Thomas Turner, and passed by Thomas Habberly.

In Westhope. Item, payed by all the inhabitants of Westhope aforesaid for and in recompence of their Tythe Hay the sum of twelve shillings and six pence yearly.

Item, for the tythe of a mill now in the tenure of Gerrard Darnett two shillings yearly.

Item, for every calf, that is calv'd within the parish, four pence, saveing and excepting those who pay the tenth calf in kind, and for every colt fallen one penny.

Item, for all the Gardens in the Parish one penny for every Garden.

Item, for Wood and Fuel burnt in each house within the said Parish one penny yearly.

Item for every Servant, Artificer, and Tradésman receiving the Communion at Easter, the tenth part of all his clean gain, all charges deducted, and for every other Communicant two pence a peece yearly.

Item, for the Tythe milk of every cow kept in the Parish one penny.

Item, there are due to the Vicar all other small Tythes as wooll, lambs, apples, pears and other fruits, geese, pigs, hemp,

and flax and all other small Tythes in kind saveing and excepting such and such places as any sum of money above be mentioned to be paid in lieu of tythes.

Item, Eggs, Videlicet for every Henn two eggs at Easter.

Item for Egistment of barrons and inprofitable cattle, the tenth part of the value of the pasture.

Item, there is and before the memory of Man to the contrary there was in the Channell of Diddlebury aforesaid a convenient seat for the said Vickar and his assistant Minister adjoining to the receiving place and free egress and regress into the said Channell for the administration of the sacrament Reading of Prayers to stand to bring in and distributing of his customary right to the parishioners and distributing the same at Easter, or other times receiving the custom money in recompence of his Tythes in kind putting on and off his Robes and place for a Chest to stand in, for safe keeping and setting up of the same.

Item, for every sheep that is sould a half penny a head.

Item, for every one that is married within the Parish twenty pence, and every one that is married in any other parish, he or she being of this Parish the like sum of twenty pence.

Item, for every one that is buried within the Parish six pence.

Item, for every woman that is Church'd within the parish sixpence.

Item, a Mortuary due to be paid to the Vickar from such persons, and in such shares as they have been accustomedly paid according to the statute.

William Churchman, Curate.

William Tyler, x his mark.

William Higley, Churchwarden—Thomas Lewis, John Bawdewine, Adam Price, Francis Pulley, Richard Like, x his mark, William Fosbrooke, Clement Downes, x his mark, Charles Wellings, Michael Duke, Thomas Turner, Richard Stedman.

RECEIPT OF DIDDLEBURY TITHES TO EASTER, 1839.

Thomas Banks, late Mr. John Banks, Westhope	11	0
For late part of Mr. Brooms, Westhope	...	8

John Banks, late Mr. Dawes, Westhope	6	18	0
William Bluck, Westhope	1	6	
Lady Dyer, Aston	5	0	0
Lady Dyer for late part of Broome, Aston ...	4	15	0
William Webster, late Edward Farmer, formerly Halls, late Brooms	2	15	0
Ditto for about 8 acres of pasture land of late Brooms... ..	6	0	
April 10. Paid Mrs. Dyer for Tenants' Dinner at her house on rent day £8 4s. 6d.			
May 6. Paid for a receipt stamp 1s. 0d.			

RECEIPT OF DIDDLEBURY TITHES TO EASTER, 1810.

Thomas Banks, late John Banks, Westhope ...	11	0
Ditto for late part of Mr. Brooms	8	6
Lady Dyer, Aston	5	0
Ditto for part of Brooms	4	15
William Webster, late Edward Tanner, formerly Hall's, late Brooms	2	15
Ditto for eight acres of pasture land late Brooms	6	0
April 27. Paid Mrs. Dyer's bill for the Tenants' Dinners £7 16s. 10d.		

The Mrs. Dyer referred to was Mary Bradley or Bradeley; she married James Dyer, and lived in Sieferton Batch, later they lived at Titterhill. She was given notice to leave this estate on account of her son, a small boy of about eight years old, having one Sunday morning set fire to a rick of oats in Titterhill Barn. She is living now at Ludlow, under the name of Morris (1900). Her husband, James Dyer, died at Ludlow Union some years ago.

The Lord of the Manor of Westhope is lay Rector of Hayton's Bent in the parish of Stanton Lacy, near Ludlow.

A few words as to the meaning of a lay rector will not be out of place. All churches were originally Rectories. Vicarages were only created as the Religious Houses seized and appropriated the Churches. Then the Monks became Rectors, and they put in a priest as Vicar to serve the Church, and his stipend was the small tithes, the Monks taking the great or more important tithes. So that those Churches which were never seized by the Monks are rectories still: whilst those

taken by the Monks became vicarages. When the monasteries came to end about 1537 King Henry VIII. seized all the tithes of these churches which had been appropriated by the Monks, and he became Lay Rector; but he sold them all to various laymen, and they became Lay-Rectors; and so, of course, were all the subsequent owners of the tithes Lay-Rectors to this day. All these Churches still had a clerical Vicar, who served the Church, and received the small tithes for his stipend. Where a Lay-Rector restores the lay-rectorial tithes to a church for the stipend of the Vicar, such Vicar would become a Rector again. This has been done in several cases. A lay-man is a Lay-Rector or Impropriatory because he is a successor of the Monastic Rectors. The Vicarial or small tithes never belonged to the monks, but only the Rectorial or great tithes.

There are no deeds to show how the Lord of Manor of Westhope became Lay-Rector of Hayton's Bent.

REGISTERS OF THE DYERS, OWNERS OF WESTHOPE.

Sir John Swinerton Dyer, 6th Baronet.

Finchingfield. 1738, November 20. John Swinerton, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Dyer, baptised.

St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, London. 1701, December 9. John Swinerton Dyer of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Westminster, Bachelor, and Susannah Vicary of this Parish, Spinster, married by licence. Witnesses, Elizabeth Dyer and Henry Vicary.

St. Margaret's, Westminster. 1773, April 17. Susannah Dyer buried.

St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury. 1801, March 28. Sir John Swinerton Dyer, Baronet, in the Chancel Vault buried; died 21st March, aged 63 years.

Sir Thomas Richard Swinerton Dyer, 7th Baronet.

St. Margaret's Westminster. 1708, March 10. Thomas Richard, son of John Swinerton Dyer and Susannah, his wife, baptised; born 5 February.

North Stoneham, Hants. 1814, April 12. Sir Thomas Richard Swinerton Dyer, Baronet, and Elizabeth, daughter of James Stauderwicke, Esq., of Ovington, married by licence dated 11 April.

Ovington, Alresford. 1838, April 12. Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, buried, aged 70.

1839, May 30. Frederick Baron von Zandt and Dame Elizabeth Dyer, Widow, married.

Mennelsdorf, near Bamberg, Bavaria. 1804, May 31. Baroness Elizabeth von Zandt, widow of His Bavarian Majesty's Chamberlain, Frederic Baron von Zandt, buried; died 27 May, aged 84 years.

Colonel Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer.

Chobham, Surrey. 1835, February 8. Henry Clement Swinnerton, son of Thomas Swinnerton Dyer and Mary Anne, his wife, baptised; born 30 December, 1834.

Appleby, Westmoreland. 1809, April 6. Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer and Amelia Susan Ward, married.

Watlas, Co. York. 1838, Amelia Susan, daughter of John Ward and Henrietta, his wife, baptised 2 September; born 2nd August.

Withington Cemetery, Manchester. 1808, March 23. Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer buried (cremated); died 20 March.

Culmington, Bromfield, Salop. 1903, January 7. Amelia Susan Swinnerton Dyer buried; died 3 January.

Leonard Whitworth Swinnerton Dyer.

Skipton in Craven, Co. York. 1875, November 14. Leonard Whitworth Swinnerton, son of Henry Clement Swinnerton Dyer and Amelia Susan, his wife, baptised; born 30 October.

Church of the Transfiguration, New York. 1897, June 12. Leonard Whitworth Swinnerton Dyer and Lucy Schroeder married.

WILL OF RICHARD LEWYS OF WESTHOPE, IN THE
PARISH OF DUDDYLBURY. 1536.

Dated 12 March, 1535.

To be buried in the churchyard of Duddylbury.

To the high altar for tithes forgotten, 3s. 4d.

To the Cathedral Church of Hereford, 8d.

To our lady service in the parish church of Duddylburye, for my buriall, 6s. 8d., and a suit of vestments.

To maintain our lady service in Wystanton 6s. 8d.

To the parish church of Acton of the Hill, for to have my father and mother praied for 6s. 8d.

I direct my executors to find a priest to sing for the souls of John Lewys and Annes his wife, and for my soul and my wife Annes', and all Christian souls, for three years; and a trentall of masses for my soul; where my executors shall think most convenient.

My sons Edward and William; and my daughters Elizabeth the wife of Rauf Marston, and another the wife of William Phillips of Ludlow.

To Maister Lytley, and my brother in law William Mason, 20s. apiece.

My lands at Dudley, Ludlow, Wulstene, and Sutton.

To my wife Annes, my tenement in Westhope occupied by Annes Roberts, for her dowry.

Executors: my sons in law and my wife.

Witnesses: Maister John Lytley, gent., Richard Rude of Agustun, William Mason of Duddylbury, Richard Jenks of Harton, Edward Lewys of Stanway, Sir Richard Mormecot, priest, Sir John Williamson.

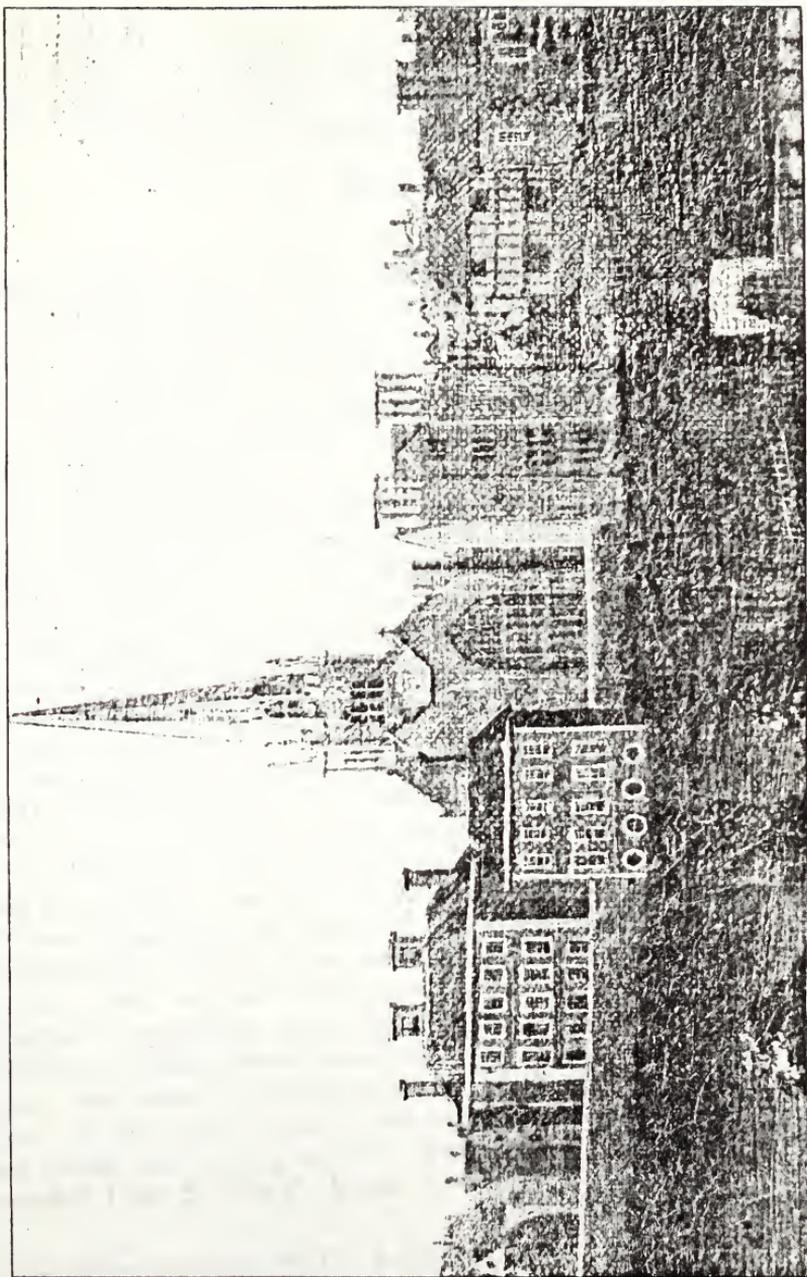
Will proved in P.C.C. 17 April, 1536.
(34 Hogen).

OTHER DANNATT WILLS.

Will of Thomas Danett, 1628. (Brother of Gerard Danett). Mentions his mother Sara Danett. (P.C.C. 57 Barrington).

Will of Awdley Dannel, of London, gent. Dated 16 April, 1591. Mentions his sister Jane Dannel. (P.C.C. 72 Sainberbe).

Will of Alexander Danett, of Poole, gent. Dated 1 Nov., 1653. Mentions his wife Frances; his children, Anthony, Alexander, Samuel, Elizabeth, Agnes, Frances, and Magdalen; Alexander and Sarah, children of Alexander; and Elizabeth, daughter of Anthony. Proved P.C.C. 20 July, 1655. (70 Aylett).



THE STONE HOUSE, SHREWSBURY.
FROM AN OLD PAINTING.

H. H. Hughes, Photo



11/16/22

THE STONE HOUSE, NEAR ST. MARY'S
CHURCH, SHREWSBURY.

By J. A. MORRIS.

WITHIN the last few months a building of considerable historical interest, known as the "Stone House," has been demolished: it stood just within the line of the Town Walls, opposite the East end of St. Mary's Church, and adjacent to the buildings of the Salop Infirmary. On its site is now being erected a new building to serve as the Nurses' Home for the latter institution.

The older portion of the structure was but a wing of ¹the "Great Stone House" of Sir Richard Lee, the son of Sir Humphrey Lee, who built it, and who was the first Shropshire Baronet; in the course of alterations and additions made in the 18th century, it had been cased with brickwork, and nothing remained visible to succeeding generations to account for its distinctive appellation,—The Stone House. During the three centuries of its existence, it had been associated with many important events in the history of the town, and, it had been the birth-place of some distinguished citizens: now, that it is a memory of the past, a humble attempt is being made in the following pages to place on record something of its history, and the lives of its inmates.

Before considering the origin of the Stone House, it will be interesting to look back to early Norman times, when the site lay waste, enclosed within the walls, and to trace its subsequent connection with the fortunes of the ²Friars Preachers, or Black Friars, who held it for nearly three centuries: they came to Shrewsbury in or shortly after the year 1230, and built their Church and conventual buildings on land outside the walls, granted to them by the King, which extended from St. Mary's Water Lode for a considerable

¹ *Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. VII., p. 312.

² *Transactions*, Vol. IX., p. 252.

Vol. IX., 3rd Series.

distance towards the Stone Bridge. ¹In 1245 the town wall was being rebuilt, and the Friars received a gift of the stone remaining over for the erection of their own buildings. They had also received a grant of land within the walls, so that their property was divided into two portions by the town wall. One of the earliest references² to the site of the Stone House is contained in the document *Inquisitio quo Warranto*, from which the following item is extracted:—"Inquisitio Ville et Libertatis, Salopie," etc.² 7 Edward I. (1278).
³"Feoda que tenentur de Ecclesia Beate Marie, Salopie."
 "Two burgages granted to the Friars Preachers, and by"
 "them underlet to Henry le Taylour and his wife for life,"
 "which were worth 20s. per annum."

The jury, who had to reply to the inquisition, stated that the Friars Preachers had obstructed the road leading from the Street of Dogpole towards Severn, at ⁴Yrkyslode, that having been done in consequence of ⁵the injury caused to their church by rain floods from the higher ground pouring into the building.

From this extract it will be gathered that the Friars Preachers were at one time in possession of a considerable area of land, extending southwards, within the town walls, from the gate leading to St. Mary's Water Lode.

⁶In 1270 the town wall was ordered to be raised to a height of 8 feet next to the Blackfriars. In the succeeding century the Friars pursued their useful, unpretentious lives, and finding the inconvenience of having no approach into the town for their own particular use, they petitioned the King in 1380 that they might be permitted to have a postern in the wall: the Royal license was granted on May 1st of the same year,

¹ *Transactions*, Vol. IX., pp. 253, 254, 256, 257.

² *Inquisitio quo Warranto*. Veridictum duodecim Juratorum Ville et Libertatis Salop. 7 Edw. I. (1278). feoda que tenentur de ecclesia Beate Marie, Salop. Henri le Taylour tenet duo burg' ad vitam ipsius et uxoris sue de Fratribus Predicatoribus, nescitur quo serviciis nec quo warranto, et valet modo per annum XXs. (Copy, Joseph Morris Transcript, p. 36, in Shrewsbury Free Library, M.S. 281.)

³ *Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. I., p. 166.

⁴ Yrkyslode was a narrow lane that led from the top of Dogpole down to the Severn, through what was called St. Mary's Friars. *Transactions*, Vol. I., p. 180.

⁵ *Transactions*, Vol. IX., p. 256.

⁶ *Transactions*, Vol. IX., p. 258. Pat. 3 Rich. III., p. 2, m. l.

and they were empowered to make a postern (portam introitus) over against the front of St. Mary's Church, for the carriage of necessaries by hand only; but when the King pleased, on a reasonable cause, the Friars, at their own cost, were to do away with the postern and close the wall again when any imminent danger threatened the town; and they were to find security before the Bailiffs that no damage or danger should happen to the town through the postern.

¹ In the 8th Edward IV. (1469) the land between a certain venell called "Saintmarywaterlode" and the gate of entrance to the Church of the Friars Preachers, was lying waste, for in a deed of that date Roger Eytton, Esquire, of Salop, gave seisin to "William Prowd, bruer," of a void place near the cemetery of St. Mary's Church, as above described.

² In 1538 the Friars Preachers, who had held high repute amongst their fellow townsmen, were suppressed, their buildings confiscated, and passing into the hands of Roger Lewys, draper, alias Pope, in 1544, afterwards came into other hands.

Nothing further is recorded until the beginning of the 17th century, when the Corporation noting the signs of the coming troubles, bethought them of the need of the repair of the town walls, and gave instructions that a careful watch should be placed at the entrance gates of the town, including St. Mary's Water Lode.

³ In the 7th James I. (1610) they made a further order as follows:—

"In the Agreement at the Common Hall this year a grant in fee farm is made to Mr. Lee, of the town wall in length 44 yards, from Mr. ⁴Barker's land to a lane or entry leading from St. Marie's Churchyard to a place called St. Marie's Friars as also their right of passage into the Fryers through the said lane or entry."

¹ *Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. VII., p. 312.

² *Transactions*, Vol. IX., p. 264.

³ *Transactions*, Vol. IX., p. 167.

⁴ In 1586-7 the Corporation had agreed to make a grant of the adjacent Council House and St. Nicholas Chapel to Rowland Barker of Haughmond Abbey. Rowland Barker was admitted a burgess Aug. 7, 1579, and served the office of Sheriff in 1585. He was the grandson of Sir Rowland Hill who purchased the Monastery. (William Phillips, MS., *Shropshire Men*, Vol. I., p. 180.)

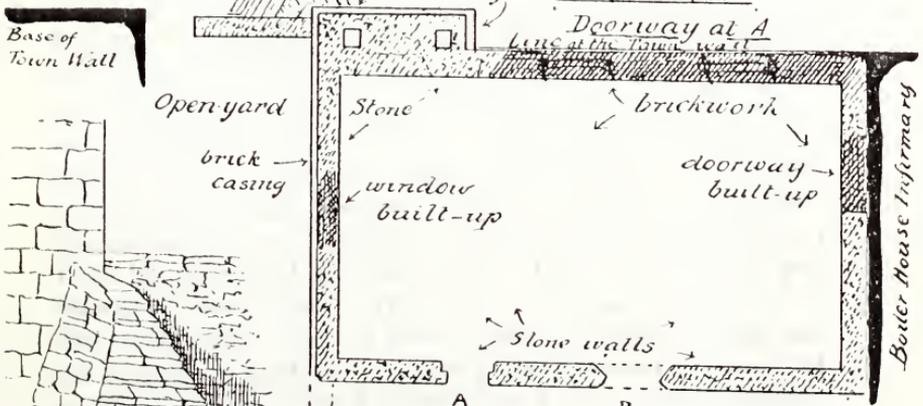
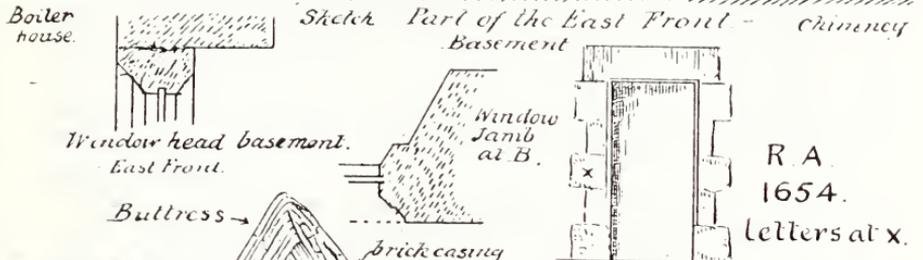
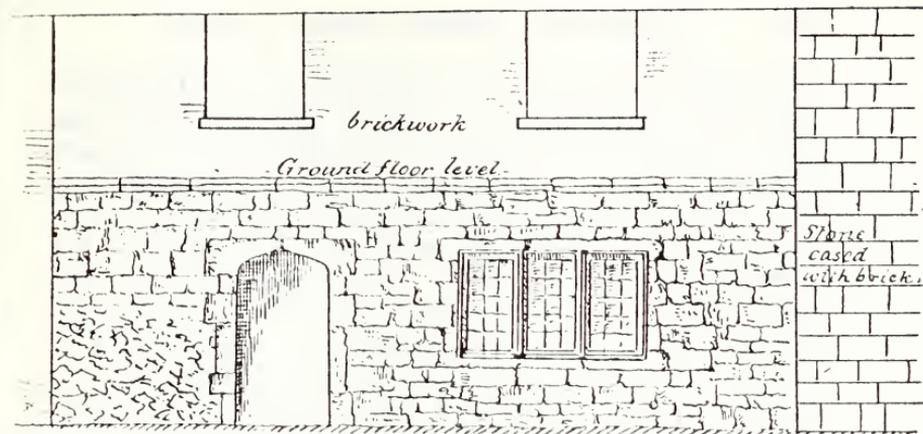
the wife of Watkin Williams Wynne of Voelas in the county of Denbigh, whose daughter, Joan, married the Honorable Charles Finch, brother of the Earl of Aylesford, and another daughter married Thomas Assheton Smith of Tedworth, Hants., and Vaynol in the county of Carnarvon; this lady succeeded to the Lea Hall estate, which she sold to Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt Jones. It is now the property of Frank Bibby, Esq., and is occupied by Mr. William Oakley.

Amongst the deeds in the possession of the Directors of the Salop Infirmary is a reference to a lease and re-lease of the Stone House in 1781, the parties to which were Sir Roger Mostyn and Richard Myddleton, Esq., of the first part, the Honble. Charles Finch and Joan, his wife, of the second part, and William Beckett Birtles, Esq., and Richard Morhall, Esq., of the third part, from which I conclude that the Honble. Joan Finch was the last owner of the Stone House who had descended from Humphrey Lea, the builder. In 1788 the names of the different persons who were parties to the deeds are as follows:—John Leake, Richard Morhall, Mary Bright and Mary Betton. The deeds in 1798 contain the names of Mary Bright, Mary Betton, Richard Morhall, John Corbet, Thomas Jones, Rowland Hunt and John Hill (conveyance to Rowland Hunt); and in 1808 the deeds contain the names of Rowland Hunt, John Hill, Thomas Lloyd and John Williams, conveyance to Thomas Lloyd. At this time (1808) the property passed into the hands of the Lloyd Family, who finally sold it to the Directors of the Infirmary.

Having now in a somewhat disconnected manner traced the story relating to the Stone House, it remains to describe the building as it existed when it was taken down in December, 1908. Commencing with the basement, which was divided into two rooms, the one on the north with a deeply recessed fire-place, had probably been used as a kitchen, with a window and doorway on the north front, having stone jambs, etc., as originally constructed; the doorway led into a small yard and here there was some old masonry, which suggested that there had been an outlet from this yard through the town wall. The other room on the south had a three-light stone mullioned window, and a doorway of comparatively recent construction, on the east front; besides these rooms there was cellaring under the modern western portion of the

building, which was four storeys high. The eastern portion of the building—the remnant of the old Stone House—had at least three floors, above the basement, each of which was originally one chamber only, divided in later times into two or more apartments: that on the ground floor (on a level with St. Mary's Place) had windows on the northern and western sides in the original stone walls, which had been blocked up or partially destroyed by modern alterations: the floor above presented the same features. There were some remains of the stone work with door openings in the southern wall leading into the destroyed central portion of the building. Excepting the massive stone chimney stack at the north-east corner which remained to the second floor, the masonry had been removed on the eastern front and replaced with brickwork. There were doorways in the central division wall (the western wall of the original building) leading into the more modern portion, on the stone work of one of which the date 1654 was cut. The building contained few features of interest other than are characteristic of the architecture of the early portion of the 17th century, the period at which it was built. The illustrations comprise the plan of the building at the ground level, sketches of the lower portion of the building on the east front, and of the doorway, windows, and other details. During the course of the excavations a paved footway was found against the building on the east side about 5 ft. below the present level, showing that the soil has been heaped up against it, and that there was a greater difference between the level of the ground inside and outside the town wall than there is at present. At the north east corner of the building was the remains of a rudely constructed weathered buttress; this may have marked the termination of an "outward curved semi-circular bit of wall" which is referred to in the Taylor MS. and shown upon Speed's map of the town. As previously stated the Stone House when built covered at least three times as much ground as the wing that had remained until a recent date; it consisted of two lofty wings and a central portion between: at what date the one wing and central portion were destroyed is a matter of conjecture. An oil painting in the possession of H. R. H.

¹ *Transactions*, Vol. IV., p. 107.



Sketch of Old Bulltress-

J A Morris del.

Plan of The Stone House at the Ground floor level

← dotted lines show brick built portion of the 18th century →

DETAILS AND PLAN OF THE STONE HOUSE.

(H. H. Hughes, Photo).



Architectural drawing showing a plan view of a building. The drawing is very faint and lacks detail. The text below the drawing is also very faint and difficult to read. It appears to be a title or description of the drawing, possibly including the name of the architect or the name of the building. The text is oriented vertically and is located at the bottom of the page.

Southam, Esq., is an eastern view of the town, probably dating from the middle of the 18th century; this shows the mansion as consisting of a central portion four storeys high, with mullioned windows, terminating in a gable, and two massive projecting chimneys, one at either angle, with tall stacks above the roof line, giving the elevation a somewhat turretted appearance. With his kind permission a photograph of this portion of the picture has been reproduced as a frontispiece to this paper. In all probability it was towards the end of the 18th century when the property passed from the descendants of the Lee family that the modern brick front half of the building was erected, and the remaining part of the old building cased with brickwork. A plan attached to the deeds represents the building early in the 19th century much as it was of late, the space occupied by the Boiler House and other outbuildings of the Infirmary being then a garden.

¹The family of Lee, sometimes spelt Lea, was descended from an ancient Shropshire family, one of whom, Richard Lee, was Sheriff of the county in 1479. ¹Richard Lee of Langley was third in descent from the above-named, his eldest son Walter, died during his lifetime, his second son ²Humphrey, born 1555, entered Shrewsbury School in 1566 and re-entered in 1570. Matriculated at Hart College, Oxford, in 1576, as "Arm. Fil. of Salop." Admitted student of the Inner Temple 1577-8, he obtained a considerable reputation as a barrister; on the death of his father in 1591 he succeeded to the family estates; in 1600 he was Sheriff of Shropshire. He married Margaret, daughter of Reginald Corbet, Esq., of Stoke, Salop, by whom he had one son and five daughters. He frequently resided at Lea Hall in the Parish of Preston Gobalds, and it was there that his son Richard was born September 6th, 1600. Somewhere between 1610 and 1612 he built the Stone House; and in 1620 he was created a Baronet. He died October 6th, 1632, and was buried at Acton Burnell five days later. His son, ³Sir Richard Lee, who succeeded him, was also educated at Shrews-

¹ Wm. Phillips, *MS. Shropshire Men*, Vol. III., p. 154 passim.

² In the transept of Acton Burnell Church are monuments erected in memory of Richard Lee and his son, Sir Humphrey Lee.

³ A portrait of Sir Richard Lee hangs in the Gallery at Acton Burnell Park.

bury School, admitted to Queen's College, Oxford, May 10th, 1616, and elected Member of Parliament for the County in 1640. He must have resided very frequently at the Stone House, as he took a prominent part in the affairs of the town. ¹Amongst his friends was Thomas Chaloner, the then headmaster of Shrewsbury School, who mentions him as one of "a knot of company keepers" who made up the "Club of good fellows," who met at the "Sextry," an ancient Inn—still existing—in the passage now called the Golden Cross, leading from High Street to Old St. Chad's Church. He was taken prisoner at the capture of Shrewsbury, as also a Richard Lee, possibly one of his sons, who died during his father's lifetime. Staunch loyalist as he was, and having zealously exerted himself in the Stuart cause, he suffered heavily in mind and fortune for his consistency. The document, as follows, preserved amongst the State papers, shows how deeply he was affected by his troubles and anxieties:—

April 14, 1648. Sir Richard Lee of Langley. ²A petition stating that he has remained a prisoner in Nantwich ³since the taking of Shrewsbury. He has been grievously visited with sickness, is old and infirm, and being desirous to compound for his delinquency, prays leave to attend the Committee to prosecute his composition, and that you will grant him liberty upon his parole to appear before your honors at a certain day for that purpose.

The petition was referred to the sub-committee, who reported:—We can certify that if it please you to grant him liberty upon his parole at a certain day to appear before you for that purpose, he will act accordingly, having hitherto so faithfully performed his engagements to us in that kind.

⁴He was reduced to compound for his estates in the sum of £3,719 and £169 per annum. For a time he left the country, and a copy of the pass permitting him to cross the seas is still preserved.

⁵March 6, 1655-6. Pass for Sir Richard Lee, Margaret his wife, Mary their daughter, and a maid to Holland.

¹ Fisher's *Annals of Shrewsbury School*, p. 149. Letters of Sir Thomas Bushell to Sir Francis Oatley, 1642-3.

² *State Papers, Domestic Series*, 7648-9. p. 46.

³ *Cal. Committee for Compounding, 1643-1660*, part II., p. 1005.

⁴ Blakeway's *Sheriffs*, p. 97.

⁵ *State Papers, Domestic Series, 1655-6*, p. 579.

¹Under date September 29, 1657-8, is the Petition of Lady Margaret Lee and Mary, her daughter-in-law. They went to Holland eight or nine weeks before for the health of (Lady) Margaret, who had been ill for some years, and that she might put a daughter to school to learn the language. On returning they were thrown into the Tower because they had crossed without a pass; (Lady) Margaret being very weak from imprisonment and in danger of death they beg to be released.

Shortly afterwards the family returned to Langley, where Sir Richard Lee died just about a month before the restoration of the monarchy, and was buried at Acton Burnell, April 3, 1660.

²He first married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Allen, of London, Alderman, who died in 1643, and is buried at Acton Burnell, by whom he had five sons, all of whom died during their father's life-time; one of them, Thomas, ³was so great a favourite with his tutor, the very eminent and loyal Mr. Chaloner, ejected Headmaster of Shrewsbury School, that he says of him:—"Mihi semper unice perplacuit." He had also three daughters, the eldest, Mary, baptised June 27, 1639, at Preston Gobalds, married to Edward Smythe, Esq., of Eske, the fourth son of a very ancient family in the bishoprick of Durham, who thus acquired the Langley and Acton Burnell estates; out of respect to the memory and services of his father-in-law he was created a Baronet a few months after the Restoration. ⁴The second daughter, Elizabeth, was baptised at Acton Burnell, July 19, 1631, of Shrewsbury, and buried at Preen, March 24, 1655. The third daughter, Rachel, baptised November 30, 1629 (?) at Acton Burnell, married Ralph Cleaton as before stated.

⁵There is no very clear evidence as to the occupants of the Stone House during the next century. Mr. William Phillips, in his genealogy of the Hunt Family, thinks that Rowland Hunt of Boreatton (the son of Colonel Thomas Hunt, a Governor of the town during Parliamentary times), who was Sheriff in 1672, resided at Shrewsbury in 1677 in a house near the Drapers' Hall, which he suggests was probably the

¹ *State Papers, Domestic Series, 1657-8*, p. 110.

² Wm. Phillips, *MS. Shropshire Men*, Vol. III., p. 154.

³ Blakeway's *Sheriffs*, p. 97.

⁴ Wm. Phillips, *MS. Shropshire Men*, Vol. III., p. 154.

⁵ Wm. Phillips, *MS. Shropshire Men*, Vol. III., p. 62.

Stone House; a ¹descendant of the same family Rowland Hunt, born January 13, 1784, Sheriff in 1830, married April 8, 1823, Mary, the eldest daughter of Thomas Lloyd of Shrewsbury, Attorney, and Glangwyna in the county of Carnarvon, and on the same authority it is suggested that he resided at the Stone House in 1803.

The family of Lloyd is descended from an ancient and opulent Shrewsbury family. John Lloyd of the Wyle Cop was sworn a burgess in 1704. It was his son, Thomas Lloyd, who purchased the Stone House. He is described as an Attorney, of the Stone House, also of Ford, and was Mayor in 1810. His son, John Thomas Lloyd, also of the Stone House was sworn a burgess, October 8, 1812; married October 5, 1819, Harriet, the daughter of the Rev. Samuel Butler, D.D., afterwards Bishop of Lichfield, and died May 12, 1826. He was the father of William Butler Lloyd, Esq., and the Venble. Archdeacon Thomas Bucknall Lloyd, who was born at the Stone House, May 23, 1824.

About the year 1832, the Lloyd family removed from the Stone House to the Whitehall, and it was occupied by William Wybergh How, Esq., who was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1839. It is an interesting coincidence that about this time there were four boys in the same form at Shrewsbury School, who distinguished themselves in after years, and were intimately connected with the Stone House. Two of these were born at the Stone House; Thomas Bucknall Lloyd, Archdeacon of Salop, Vicar of St. Mary's, and Chairman of the Governing Body of the School; and William Butler Lloyd, Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1853-4. The other two spent many years of their boyhood at the Stone House; William Walsham How, Bishop of Bedford, afterwards of Wakefield, and Thomas Maynard How, Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1857.

Eventually, Mr. W. W. How removed to his new residence in the Abbey Foregate, and for a time the Stone House was used as a high class ladies' school. After which it became the home of the Nursing Staff of the Infirmary.

In conclusion, I have to thank the Directors of the Infirmary for their kind permission to inspect the deeds in their possession, and many friends who have tendered information and advice.

¹ Wm. Phillips. *M.S., Shropshire Men*, Vol. IV., pp. 57-58.

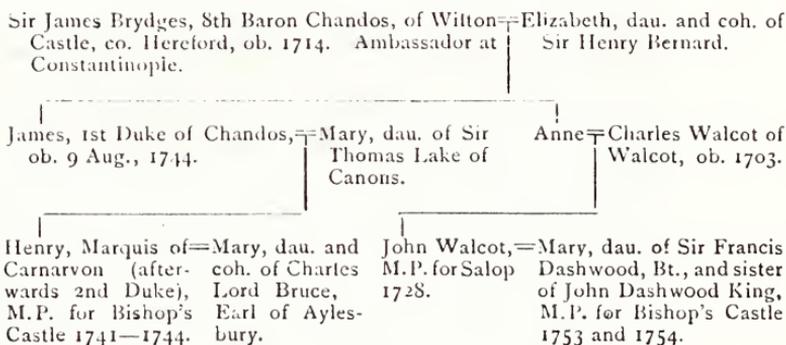
TWO ELECTIONS FOR BISHOP'S CASTLE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

BY THE REV. JOHN R. BURTON, B.A.

IN sorting and arranging various old Walcot MSS., I find some letters and accounts which throw light on the elections at Bishop's Castle in the "good old times;" and as they are probably a sample of the system then in vogue throughout the country they may be of interest. The *letters* relate to the election of 1741. No. 1 is from James Bridges, the "princely" Duke of Chandos, to his nephew, John Walcot of Walcot, thanking him for promised help in the candidature of his son, the Marquis of Carnarvon. The writer during his father's lifetime sat in several Parliaments for Hereford, and held the lucrative office of Paymaster-General of all the English forces abroad throughout the Marlborough campaigns. In 1714 he was created by George I. Viscount Wilton and Earl of Carnarvon; and in 1719 was raised to the Marquisate of Carnarvon and Dukedom of Chandos. He was also Chancellor of the University of St. Andrew's. The Duke was known as an ostentatious patron of arts and letters. Pope, in his poem on Taste, described in a satirical manner the pomp and magnificence of his life at Canons. All his surroundings were princely. Handel was organist of his private chapel. Thus he lavished a fortune estimated at £3,000,000, and left his son in an impoverished condition. The other letters are from the candidate himself, and show how his satisfaction with "honest Bishop's Castle" was sadly modified when the "satisfaction required by the burgesses" became duly appreciated later on.

At the election of 1753, John Dashwood King, the brother-in-law of John Walcot (bapt. at Bitterley 24 Jan. 1697, Burgess of Ludlow 1719, M.P. for Shropshire 1727), was a candidate. A small bundle of receipted bills shows how the burgesses of honest Bishop's Castle desired "to be

taken notice of" in the way of eating and drinking. In addition to 1,781 gallons of ale, they consumed to the value of £56 10s. od. for other "lickquors,"—apparently in about three days. Probably there were other kinds of "satisfaction" besides this, so that it is not to be wondered at that many leading families who indulged in the game of politics became impoverished. Lord Carnarvon had probably not known that the Shropshire men of his time were such mighty drinkers.



Lord Carnarvon was elected Member for Bishop's Castle on 6 May, 1741, at the head of the poll, having obtained 67 votes, and his colleague, Andrew Hill, 60. The defeated candidates were Joseph Wyndham Ash with 47 votes and Merrick Burrell with 43. On his succeeding as Duke of Chandos in 1744, his seat was vacated, and Granville Leveson Gower, afterwards Marquis of Stafford, was elected in his stead.¹

At the election of 1753, John Dashwood King, the younger son of Sir Francis Dashwood, Bart., and brother-in-law of John Walcot, was elected in the place of Samuel Child, deceased. He was again elected on 18 April, 1754, having obtained 110 votes, and Barnaby Backwell 94. Isaac Hawkins Browne with 39 votes and Sir Robert Cornwall with 25 were the defeated candidates. King continued member till 1761, but did not then seek re-election. He succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his half-brother, Sir Francis Dashwood, and died 6 November, 1793.²

¹ *Transactions*, 2nd Series, X. 59.

² *Ibid.*, 60.

It may here be noted that Charles Walcot was elected Member for Bishop's Castle in 1586 and 1588, and George Walcot in 1700.

(Letter from James, 1st Duke of Chandos, to John Walcot.)

Jul. 26, 1739.

Dear Sir,

Your first Letter having acquainted me I should soon hear from you again, I defer'd answering it till I had received your second, which accordingly came to hand by Monday's post. I am much obliged to you for your readiness to assist Lord Carnarvan, and have no doubt but with so powerful Help he will be able to succeed both at Bishop's Castle and Radnor, for which last place I am likewise fully determined to set him up and try and fling out the present worthless Member. As I am wholly a stranger at Bishop's Castle I must leave the management of that Election to your Devotion, and the person you tell me you have engaged for the Agent. I should be glad to know who He is, as there may be occasion to correspond with Him. Whatever the expence shall be I will readily bear, but I must trust to Him to steer clear of the Act of Parliament, so as that no Proof may be capable of being brought to the contrary. I should therefore be glad to know what sort of Satisfaction will be required, that the Burgesses shall be taken notice of: as soon as I receive your answer, I'll write to Mr. More to desire his Vote and Interest for Lord Carnarvan, who will very willingly I dare say joyn with Mr. Kynaston or any other Gentleman you shall desire. I must likewise desire your Interest for Lord Carnarvan at Radnor, and wish his success above may be as easy as I dare say it will be below. The Dutchess joyns me in desiring your acceptance and your Ladies of our very Humble Services. We hope your young Gentleman is well and thrives apace and that he will soon have another Brother for an additional Blessing to you.

I am, most sincerely, Dear Nephew,

Your most faithfull Humble Servant,

CHANDOS.

(Letters of Henry, Marquess of Carnarvan, afterwards
2nd Duke of Chandos.)

(No. 1.)

Aug. 18, 1740.

Dear Sir,

I am much oblig'd to you for your Letter of the 23^d of July, and am very well pleased with Mr. Morris's Management. As I am little us'd to these Affairs, this being the first of the kind I ever took upon myself, I don't rightly understand what Method the Order for Mr. Morris shou'd be drawn in, but if He will be so good to send me such a one as He thinks proper, I will sign it, and return it.

As to Radnor, tho' in all probability the Majority of the Votes wou'd be in Favour of Me, yet I shou'd, nevertheless, not be return'd: in which Case a Petition wou'd ensue. The Expence of that wou'd be as great, as that of the Election, and my succeeding in it, or not, wou'd depend upon the Complexion of the House. These things consider'd has made my Lord Duke determin'd not to set me up.

My best Respects attend your Fireside,

And I remain, Dear Sir,

Your most oblig'd Humble Servant,

CARNARVAN.

August the 16th, 1740.

(No. 2.)

May 12, 1741.

Sir,

I take the first Opportunity to return you my sincere Thanks for your great Friendship to Me, when at Walcot, and do assure You my Sense of it is infinitely greater than words can express.

I thank God, I found my Lord Duke much better than when I left Him, and my good Fortune at Honest Bishop's Castle did not a little contribute towards it.

I beg my best Respects to my Couzen Walcot, and remain,

Sir, Your affect. Kinsman,

and oblig'd Humble Servant,

London,

CARNARVAN.

May 12th, 1741.

(No. 3.)

Aug. 1, 1742.

Dear Sir,

Rec^d your Letter, tho' not so soon as I ought to have done, had I been at Home when it came to my House. As to the Affair at Bishop's Castle, I confess it gives me a good deal of Uneasiness that I have not been able to discharge the Bills of my good Friends, but to deal ingenuously with you; my being oblig'd to be at the whole Expense myself has put me so much behind hand that I fear I shall not be able to satisfye their Demands till towards Mich^s.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your affect. Kinsman

& oblig'd Hum. Servant,

CARNARVAN.

Abbots-Ann,

Aug. 1st, 1742.

(No. 4.)

Oct. 29, 1742.

Dear Sir,

Frequent Visits from an Ague and Fever has weaken'd Me so much and render'd Me so indolent, that I have not been able to set Pen to Paper since I rec^d your Letter. I am very sorry that Ben. Bright should have been put to any Straits for want of the Mony due to Him from Me; but I have one Comfort that the Interest those Bills carry with Them (I mean, Bills of that Sort) will make ample amends when they are paid, which His and the rest shall be very shortly.

I am, Dr. Sir,

Your affect. Kinsman

And oblig'd Humble Servant,

CARNARVAN.

Lond., Oct. 29th, 1742.

John Walcot, Esq.

(No. 5.)

London, Feb. 17th, 1746.

Dear Sir,

Rec^d your Letter, and as to the Legacy of my Lord

Duke's, I have now nothing at all to do with the Executorial Affairs, having put them into Chancery: but thus much I know, that till all the Debts are paid, which it will be some-time first, no Legacy can be paid; and they are at present making the proper Dispositions for the discharging every thing.

The Two Hundred Pounds you mention is morally impossible for Me to furnish at present, and at the same time that I acknowledge your Friendship to Me in the Election, I cannot but wish I had never seen Bishop's Castle, for to that, in a great Measure were owing the Difficulties I have since felt. The sudden Turn Lord Duke took in not bearing the Expence of the Election, tho' he was the means of my being a Candidate, oblig'd Me to borrow the Money at exorbitant Interest because I would not leave my Friends in the Lurch (as Mr. Powys did) so that every Shilling fell upon me, Lord Duke contributing nothing towards it but Seventy Pounds: what the Expence was you are sensible.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your oblig'd Humble Servant,

CHANDOS.

BISHOP'S CASTLE ELECTION, 1753.

Some bills paid by John Walcott, Esq.

“The Hon^{ble} John Walcot, Esq., ..

To Ann Minton, Dr.

1753.		£	s.	d.
	The first Treat	2	10	0
Jan. 17th.	For Drink	3	10	0
„ 20th.	For Eating... ..	7	15	0
Do.	For Lickquor, &c....	8	10	0
		<u>£22 5 0”</u>		

“John Walcote, Esq., his bill, January the 18, 1753, by orders Delivered to the Burgesses of Bishop's Castle from the 18 to the 21 for Drinking and Eating, eleven pound

ten Shillings and haighpence... .. £11 10s. 8d.
Per Edward Norton, jun^r.”

“John Walcote, Esq., his bill November ye 22, 1752, by orders Delivered to the Burgesses of Bishop's Castle.
... £1 3s. od.

Per Edward Norton, sen^r.
and for orders from the same hand to the Burgesses of Bishop's Castle from the 18 to the 21 of January, 1753, for Eating and Drinking £12 5s. 4d.”

“Richard Maddox's Bill.						£	s.	d.
Nov.	23.	Ale	...	...	...	0	18	2
Jan.	18.	Ditto	...	...	...	2	0	6
„	20.	Ditto	...	...	...	6	13	4
„	23.	Eating	...	...	...	4	13	0
						<u>£14 5 0”</u>		

“Gallons.						£	s.	d.
Edward Norton, Sen ^r	...	...	108	...	...	7	4	0
Edward Norton, Jun.	...	...	80	...	...	5	6	8
Francis Sayce	...	...	120	...	...	8	0	0
						<u>£20 10 8”</u>		

“G.” ¹						£	s.	d.
R. B.	...	...	101	...	...	6	14	8
			167	...	...	11	2	8
Wid. Wat.	...	...	171	...	...	11	8	0
			315	...	...	21	0	8
Wid. Bar.	...	...	092	...	...	06	2	8
for Liqueours	..	...	...	...	...	08	15	0
Rich. Mad.	...	...	162	...	...	10	16	0
			...	...	...	9	12	0
J. Rog.	...	...	063	...	...	4	4	0
			175	...	...	10	13	4
Ann Min.	...	...	137	...	...	9	2	8
			...	...	...	14	10	0
Rich. Mar.	...	...	90	...	...	6	0	0”

¹ Gallons.

Mr. H. T. Weyman in his account of the Members for Bishop's Castle mentions that the inhabitants had then no manufactory or trade *except* that of electioneering, which they found *very profitable*. In the election for 1722 it was proved that of the 52 voters for Mr. Bowater Vernon 51 had been bribed. Jeremiah Brown, jun., received £52 10s., John Bright £30, John Sayes £28, Robert Minton, jun., £25, &c., &c. Six free and independent electors were contented with the trifling satisfaction of £6 each! The total sum then given in money was over £700; and if to this must be added more than £200 for eating and drinking, as in the case of John Dashwood-King, a candidate might well "wish that he had never seen Bishop's Castle." Moreover, these figures refer only to *one* Member: the worthy Burgesses would also expect some satisfaction from Mr. Andrew Hill of Court of Hill, near Ludlow, whose cousin and supporter, Mr. Powys, had left him in the lurch. And what of the defeated candidates? *Sic tempora, sic mores.*

HOPTON WAFERS.

BY THE REV. J. PAYTON, M.A., RECTOR ; PREBENDARY OF
HEREFORD, AND RURAL DEAN.

IN the South of the County of Salop, near the border of Worcestershire, on the main road between Cleobury Mortimer and Ludlow, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the former, and $8\frac{1}{2}$ from the latter, is situated the little village of Hopton Wafers, with its Church and some 15 houses. There are over 90 houses in the parish, the greater number being on the side of the Clee Hill above the village. The Parish is in shape like a pear, with its head towards Cleobury Mortimer, which stretches out two long arms, completely embracing the Parish of Hopton Wafers, ending at a stone on the hill called the Stooing Stone, where come to a point the parishes of Hopton Wafers, Coreley, Farlow, and the two portions of Cleobury Mortimer. The two latter while still in the civil parish of Cleobury Mortimer, are now separated ecclesiastically, one portion forming part of the district attached to Cleeton S. Mary, the other forming, with a portion of Coreley, the district of Doddington, now united by Order in Council with the Parish of Hopton Wafers.

Travelling from Cleobury Mortimer along the main road, one gradually rises till a height of over 700 feet above sea level is attained, whence by a steady descent the village of Hopton Wafers, about 500 feet above the sea level, is reached. In front the road ascends quickly up the slope of the Clee Hill, till at a thousand feet it turns at right angles towards Ludlow. The parish still rises until 1,400 is reached at the Stooing Stone. To the right the road by the Church ascends in the direction of Woodhouse 670 feet; to the left is the road to Earl's Ditton, about 800 feet. When we remember that the Celtic word "Hope" is applied to places lying between hills, such as Hope Bowdler, Hope Bagot, and the several Hoptons, and is the native Scotch word for hollows in the hills, also that the word "ton" is the ancient word for

an enclosure, hence our word town, we see how aptly named is this Hopton, the village or enclosure in the hollow of the hills. But as there are several Hoptons, we should expect to find a second name for distinction. Such second names are often those of former Lords of the Manor. We have such in our neighbouring Neens (Neen—Sax. brook), on the Rea, Neen-ton, Neen Savage, Neen Sollars; often an S denotes possession, and in Hopton Wafers we should expect a family name “Wafer,” and we find it in Wafre, one Robert le Wafre holding the Manor in early times. The same Robert held the Manor of Tedstone Wafre, and, I believe, Hampton Wafre in Herefordshire.

The name Wafre is a puzzle; I have consulted several friends skilled in words without success, Dr. Bradley, the learned editor of the new English Dictionary, to whom I ventured to write, for whose kindness I am very grateful, writes:—“Our ordinary word wafer is in modern French *gauffre*, and its early meanings are honeycomb, bee-hive, and a sort of sweet cakes. It does not seem to me impossible that the word in one of these senses may have been given as a personal male-name. On the other hand, the use of *le* before a cognomen does not, according to the usage of our early documents, by any means prove that the word to which it is prefixed is French.” Dr. Bradley, however, deprecates guesses, as “When once made they may be quoted as demonstrative conclusions.” The Arms of le Wafre are Gules, a fesse wavy between 3 plates arg.; the 3 plates may be 3 wafers or cakes, so that Dr. Bradley’s suggestion receives some confirmation.

The “Book of Winchester,” Domesday Book, made in 1086, twenty years after the Norman Conquest, states that Roger de Lacy holds Hoptone, and Widard holds under him. Siward, a freeman, held it in Saxon times.

In the time of Edward the Confessor Hopton belonged to the Church at Worcester. Earl Sweyn, eldest son of Earl Godwin, having abducted an Abbess was compelled to put her away by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Bishop of Worcester. In revenge he procured that the Church of Worcester should be deprived of lands in Shropshire, including Hopton and Cleobury North.

Siward appears to have held Cleobury North, Stanton Lacy, Abdon and Hopton. Anderson suggests that he was a Viking rover. These Manors, according to Domesday Book, were held by Roger de Lacy, a typical instance of the Saxon displaced by the Norman. Roger de Lacy held the Manor from Roger Comes, the Earl of Hereford.

William Fitz-Osbern, son of Seneschal Osbern, an irregular kinsman of Duke William, who was murdered in William's childhood, was created by William Earl of Hereford and guard of the Welsh March. In 1071 he was killed in battle, and Roger his son succeeded him. He forfeited the Earldom in 1075 for rebellion, and it was not filled up till 1143, so that Roger de Lacy, I suppose, held under the Crown in 1086. Of Widard nothing is known except that he was of sufficient importance to appear upon the Bayeux tapestry with the words over his head *HIC EST WADARD*, and also that he was Lord of Farlow, about 3 miles from Hopton. Lloyd supposes *le Wafre* to be descended from Widard, but this is apparently a guess without any foundation.

The Manor passed from Roger de Lacy to Bernard de Newmarch, whose daughter and sole heiress Sybil married Milo FitzWalter, who had been created Earl of Hereford in 1143. Bernard de Newmarch was the founder of Brecknock Priory. Among the grants which his Vassals had made to the Priory, and which he confirms, is one by Walter de Cropus, whom Eyton supposes to be the ancestor of *le Wafre*. Perhaps Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Eyton may come under Dr. Bradley's warning about guesses.

In 1236 the tithes of Hopton Wafre were confirmed by Rafe,¹ Bishop of Hereford, to Brecknock Priory, but in 1278 the right of presentation was held by the Abbot of Wigmore. In 1291 the value of the Tithe is set down at £4 2s. 6d., of which the Prior of Brecknock and the Abbot of Wigmore each takes 6/8.

When Sir Hugh de Mortimer, one of whose castles was at Cleobury, founded the Abbey of Wigmore, and endowed it, with, amongst others, the neighbouring Manor of Caynham, he may possibly have been able to effect that a portion of

¹ Ralph, of Maidstone, Dean of Hereford, Bishop 1234-39.—*Dioc. Cal.*

the Tithe and the right of presentation to the benefice of Hopton should be assigned to the new foundation. The Manor of Hopton as given in Domesday contained 3 hides geldable, and arable land sufficient for 4 ox-teams. In King Edward's time the Manor was worth 10/- annually, afterwards 12/-, but now 9/2.

In the Charters of Brecknock, 1200-10, occur the signatures of Robert Wafre, and in 1216-22 of Robert le Wafre. This Robert probably held Hopton as the vassal of the Earl of Hereford. He appears to have married a lady of the name of Baskerville. In 1243 Robert holds in Thoddestone (Tedstone Wafre) one hide, and in 1255 he is described as Lord of Hopton holding in capite of the Earl of Hereford. He was living in 1265. Unless he lived to extreme age, we must suppose that the first-mentioned Robert Wafre was the father of this Robert le Wafre. In 1275 Roger de Mortimer of Chirk, 3rd son of Roger Lord Mortimer of Wigmore, married Lucy, daughter and heiress of Sir Robert le Wafre, Knight. In 1284 this Roger holds Hopton Wafre of the Earl of Hereford, and in 1286 obtains a grant of free warren in Hopton Wafre. He died in 1326 a prisoner in the Tower, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, "Cui tota hæreditas domini Roberti de Wafre avi sui descendebat." (To whom descended the entire heritage of his grandfather Robert de Wafre).

Although holding the Manor the le Wafres do not appear to have had any residence in Hopton Wafers. One authority states that they lived in Herefordshire. The first Lord of the Manor to reside appears to have been Richard Hyde, who built a house some hundred years later.

In the *Visitation of Shropshire* 1623 a pedigree is given tracing the descent of the Hyde or Hide family, both spellings of the name occur, from the le Wafres. It is signed by Richard Hyde, son and heir of Humphrey Hyde. Of the latter, we know that he presented to the benefice in 1560, so possibly the father's age was the cause of the son signing the pedigree. Humphrey was also an outlaw in 1616, for what reason I cannot discover, so there may have been another cause.

I shall give the first portion of the pedigree first, as it

requires some comment, the remainder, which seems correct, I will give after. The later Hydes seem to have held the manorial rights, also the advowson after the suppression of Wigmore Abbey, the King making only one appointment in 1540. How Humphrey Hyde obtained the right of presentation may some day be discovered, as the State Rolls are made to give up their secrets. But before the time of the Hydes the Manor seems to have been divided and property in Hopton held by others. Indeed I very much question whether the Hyde property was anything like co-extensive with the parish.

The following notes from Inquisitions Post Mortem and other documents seem to support my contention as to the division of the Manor.

In 1331, John de Hopton assigns to the Prior and Brethren of St. Augustine at Wodehouse 2 acres of land in Wodehouse, one carrucate of land in Hopton and 40/-.

Woodhouse adjoins Hopton, and is $\frac{2}{3}$ of a mile from Hopton Church. It was a cell of Augustinian monks from Wigmore, founded about 1250. It contains one house, and is extra-parochial. I am told that there still exists a grant by Queen Mary amongst the title deeds.

In 1335 William de Ercalewe levied a fine of the fourth part of the Manor to Witto for life, with remainder to William Careswell.

In 1337 Philip de Baggessovere held the Manor of Hopton Wafre.

In 1342 William de Hopton assigns to the Prior of Wodehouse 60/-.

This, I presume, is William de Ercalewe, whose name is also mentioned in the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1327 (Shrop. Arch. *Trans.*, 3rd Series, Vol. VI., p. 135).

In 1383, Sir Roger de Cherleton of Powis levied a fine of Hopton Wafre.

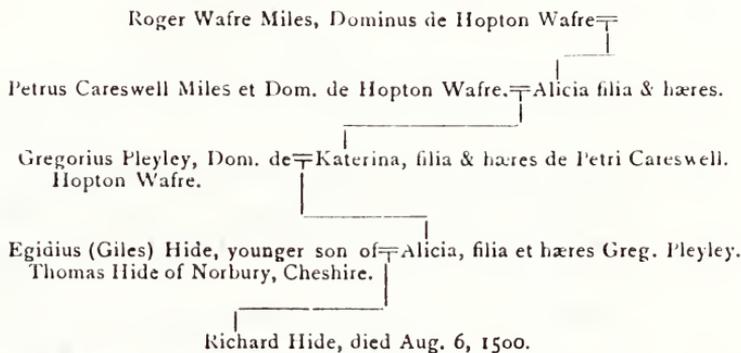
In the same year Petrus de Careswell and Mary his wife, who had granted to Roger de Cherleton and others a rent of 12 marks, out of the Manor of Ercalewe, agreed that the said rent should be void, the grantees holding peaceably the Manor of Hopton Wafre and rent in Cleobury North.

In 1391, Richard Earl of Arundel had half a knight's fee in Hopton Wafre held by Thomas Pleyleye.

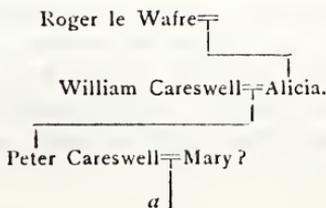
In 1417, Sir John Talbot (Earl of Shrewsbury) levied a fine in favour of Stiward, his wife, and heirs of their bodies.

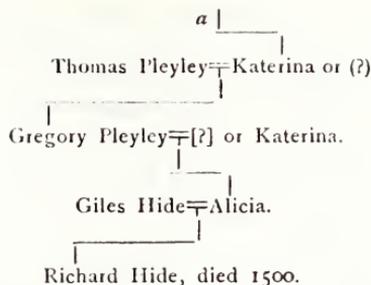
Blakeway says he can give no account of the connection between these several possessors.

Visitation of Shropshire, 1623.



The question arises are there sufficient names here to bridge over the interval between Roger le Wafre's succession in 1326 to Richard Hyde's death in 1500? There is a possibility that Richard Hyde who signs the pedigree in 1623, while knowing his own family correctly (see later), could only give the succession previously through the several heiresses. There is a suspicion about the three successive heiresses. Also Peter Careswell's wife's name is given as Mary in the notes I have previously given, and the fact of being joined with her husband in 1383 would seem to show that she had her own rights in the Manor. Has Richard Hyde given a wrong name? Ought we to find room for William Careswell mentioned in 1335, and for Thomas Pleyeye mentioned in 1391? It would almost seem that the pedigree might be amended thus:—

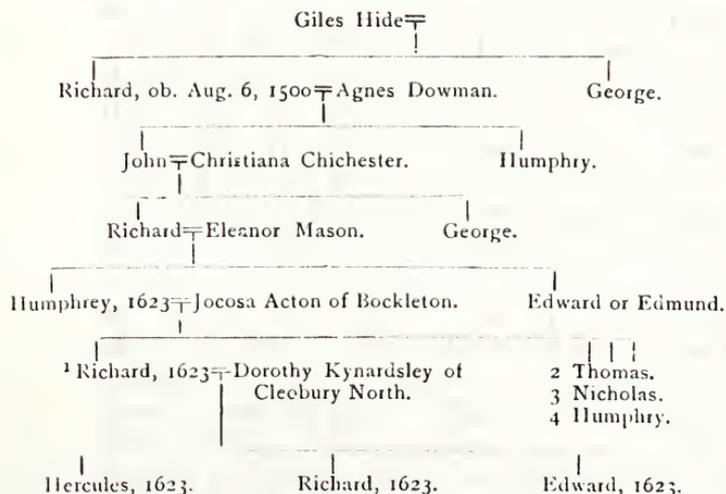




But, alas, this is only guess work; though better filling up the interval of time.

The name Careswell occurs locally about 1220, when William holds Coreley, a neighbouring parish, and Burwarton, some 8 miles distant. Of the Pleyley family I have no knowledge.

The descent from Giles Hide as given in the *Visitation* pedigree of 1623 is as follows:—



Richard Hyde died in 1660, and was succeeded by Hercules, died 1685. He was succeeded by Richard, son or grandson, who married in 1708 Sarah Charlett, daughter and co-heiress of Richard Charlett, gent. He died in 1719, leaving an only child, Mary, born in 1710, who died un-

¹ Signs the Pedigree,

married in 1778. Sarah Hyde is said to have been accidentally killed in a paper mill, the industry of paper-making having been carried on in Hopton Wafers, where in olden time were "blade mills." Coal and iron are found in the Clee Hill, and there are still remains of a blast furnace below Corn brook, in the parish of Coreley.

In 1756 Mary Hyde sold Hopton Court to Joseph Oldham, and let to him on lease the paper mills. He carried on the profitable business of paper-making in conjunction with Thomas Compson of Cleobury Mortimer, whose sister he had married. Mr. Compson built the Manor House at Cleobury Mortimer, where also were paper mills. There are still old people who talk of the wagons laden with paper for London, returning with loads of rags. Mr. Oldham pulled down the ancient house of the Hydes, built, I know not when,¹ building a new house on another site. Below the present Court is a spot where nettles grow, which is said to be the old site; and recently in making tennis courts an old deep well was found, which seems to confirm this.

In 1779, Mr. Oldham sold Hopton Court to John Hale of Bewdley, who died the same year, and whose son Curteis Hale sold the property to Thomas Botfield in 1798. Mary Hyde retained the Manor and advowson. In 1765 Robert Edwards, Rector of Hopton Wafers, was a trustee of Mary Hyde, his father, William Edwards, Vicar of Cleobury Mortimer, having been trustee of Sarah Charlett's Settlement in 1708. To Mary Edwards, sister of Robert, Mary Hyde left all her real estate. She, in turn, left the Manor, advowson, and all her interest in the estate to William Bedford and James Stanton. The wife of the latter, Ann Stanton, was her niece. There is also a legacy to Polly (or Mary) Stanton, their daughter, who on 17 May, 1790, was married at Hopton Wafers to William Henry Betty, whose son, William Henry West Betty, born 13 Sept., 1791, at Shrewsbury, and baptized 18 Sept. at St. Chad's, was known

¹ In *Stemmata Botvilliana* it is said Richard Hyde, the elder, is the first recorded owner of the Manor House. He died in 1604. This date is manifestly incorrect according to Blakeway's list of Rectors, where Richard's son Humphrey appoints in 1560; but this is not the only error in the brief notice in that book, p. ccxxxi.

as the Modern Roscius, "the wonder of the age," the child actor of 11 years of age.

James Stanton is described as of Oldbury; he was buried at Hopton Wafers, and on a mural tablet in the Church is called Lord of the Manor. In 1799 Ann Stanton sold the Manor and advowson to Joseph Cotton. In 1793 Joseph Cotton presented to the benefice, so apparently he had purchased the right of next presentation. His nominee was Nathaniel Cotton, I presume his son; who resigned in 1806 when Thomas Bowdler, who had married Joseph Cotton's daughter, was presented. Mr. Cotton was of Leyton, Essex, his son, Mr. William Cotton of Wallwood House, Leytonstone, was the father of Sir Henry Cotton, Lord Justice, who died in 1890.

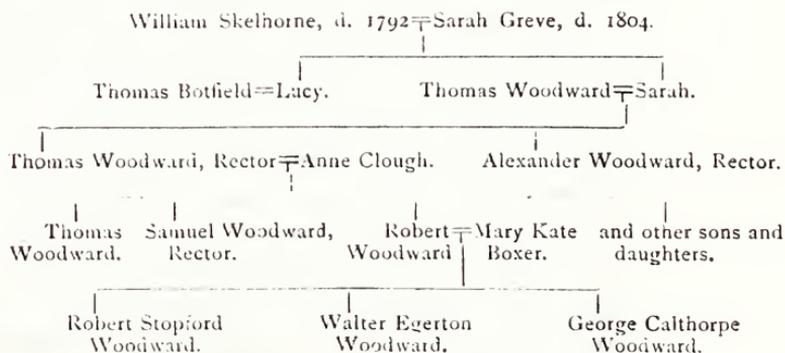
In 1812 Thomas Botfield purchased the Manor and advowson, thus re-uniting the old Hyde property. Mr. Thomas Botfield was a son of Thomas Botfield of Dawley. He and his brothers William and Beriah made fortunes in coal mining, they each purchased estates, to which Mr. Beriah Botfield, son of Beriah Botfield, succeeded, his uncles leaving no heirs. Mr. Beriah Botfield died without issue, when Hopton Court estate fell to the Woodward family, under Thomas Botfield's Will. Mr. Garnett-Botfield succeeded to Mr. William Botfield's estates, and Mr. Beriah Botfield's own property, after the life interest of his widow, a daughter of Sir Baldwin Leighton, was settled by him on the second son of the Marquis of Bath, with whom he had a common ancestor in Thomas Botville, temp. Henry V., being descended from his youngest son John Botfelde, whose eldest brother William was the grandfather of John of the Inne, who first assumed the name Thynne, from whom the Bath family trace their descent. Mr. Thomas Botfield was evidently a man of remarkable energy, a member of many learned societies, and a Deputy-Lieutenant. He re-built the Church, and also added a new part to Hopton Court, after designs by Nash, leaving only a portion of the house built by Mr. Oldham, containing the kitchen and offices. He died in 1843, and was succeeded by his nephew Beriah, as we have stated.

Mr. Beriah Botfield died in 1863, when the property came

to Thomas Woodward, son of the Rev. Thomas Woodward, Rector, who had died in 1854, and on whom Mr. Thomas Botfield had entailed the Hopton Court estate failing issue of Mr. Beriah Botfield. Mr. Woodward was a nephew of Mrs. Thomas Botfield.

The Woodward family is descended from Alexander, the 4th son of Alexander Woodward of Shevington or Shavington, Lanc. This Alexander settled in Liverpool as a merchant. Thomas Woodward died without issue in 1888, and was succeeded by his brother Samuel Woodward, Rector, who died in 1890, leaving issue three daughters. The property then came to his brother, Captain, afterwards Vice-Admiral, Robert Woodward, C.B., R.N., who died in 1907, leaving three sons, the eldest, Robert Stopford Woodward, succeeding him.

The connection between Botfield and Woodward :



Long as the ancient family of the Hydes held Hopton Wafers there is little record of them. The earlier registers are lost, and there are no monuments in Church or Churchyard, save flat stones near the chancel steps bearing the names of Richard and Sarah his wife, and a mural tablet to their daughter Mary Hyde. There is a tradition of vaults under the Church; but as the Church has been re-built on the old site, no doubt these, if existing, were finally closed.

There are memorials in the Churchyard to other Hydes in a humble position of life, no doubt offshoots of the family, but as in our earliest registers from 1660 there is a distinction made in entering names, Mr. or Gentleman being used for

the main branch, the descent must be much further back than that.

Of one of these is the following record in the *Gentleman's Magazine*:—"A fine old man died at Hopton Wafers in Shropshire on Nov. 3, 1798. His name was William Hyde, and he was in the 106th year of his age." I have seen somewhere in print, but cannot recall where, that he had sons over 80 years of age at the time of his death. The copy of our missing Registers from 1660 has enabled me to test this. William, son of George and Margaret Hyde, was born in 1702, he died in 1798. His age is entered in the register as 105 years. I am afraid we must allow an error of nine or ten years. In 1705 his wife Elizabeth Nicholds was baptized. She died in 1792, aged 88 years by register, but 86 by dates. They were married in 1728, and their eldest son was baptized in 1731, so would be 64 years of age at his father's death. A hundred years ago age was often a matter of guess work. Even in this present year, 1908, I have had to correct the age of one given as 83, but really 78; and in other instances I have found the ages of old people magnified. I am afraid the name of William Hyde must no longer be given amongst Shropshire centenarians. There are many descendants of this old couple, but scattered, abroad. According to the *Worcester Herald* of 1795, the old man had sons settled in Wiltshire. A descendant of his second son is Mr. Joseph Hyde of Eastbourne, whose name I gladly mention as interested in his family history and deservedly proud of his ancient descent. Having so far traced the history of the Manor of Hopton Wafers, I turn to the Church and its Rectors.

There was a Church at Hopton Wafers as early as 1236, a drawing of which, made in 1825, is preserved at Hopton Court. It was a plain oblong structure with a low tower and a timber south porch. The barnlike roof was broken on the side shown in the drawing by three dormer windows. The windows in the south wall shown appear to be Early English in style. There was an old font, Norman or Early English, under a yew tree in the Churchyard, which has recently been pieced together and placed in the Church for preservation. In the west window of the present tower is a

fragment of 14th century glass, the head and a portion of the wings of S. Michael, to whom the church is dedicated. Some carved oak panels, probably 17th century work, are still to be seen in the Church. There is nothing known of the history of the old Church. In 1820 a faculty was issued to take down old pews and erect new, to raise the floor, to add to the present Church in length and width. Apparently the whole Church was taken down and the present Church built over the site. This was done in 1825 at the sole expense of Thomas Botfield. The new Church is like the old, a plain oblong structure, the windows being of a perpendicular type, those in the tower, however, being modern Norman. Some of the old woodwork was preserved, the solid stonework and the sound oak of all the new work, show that no expense was spared, all was well done according to the light of that day, and we may respect the liberality and piety of the new founder, while deeply regretting that the old Church was not preserved. The interior has the corners shaped so that both east and west ends are oval in shape. The pews were fairly high, and there were open sittings in the centre. A step higher than these were, on the north side, a large square pew for the Squire, on the south side a three-decker with sound-board over it, and a large pew for the Rector. On a step above a high cast iron railing separated what has been aptly termed "a little space to read the Commandments in." In the centre of the Communion Table was a large stone book, on which were painted the ten Commandments. This book is now preserved in the north wall of the nave, near the lectern, and attracts great attention from visitors.

In 1852, Mrs. Lucy Botfield made an Easter gift of the stained glass in the east window. In 1892 there was made a complete re-arrangement of the interior of the Church. The east window was raised, a chancel screen erected, a new altar with re-table and triptych placed, and choir stalls and lectern added. The walls, formerly coloured in imitation stonework, were re-coloured, the plaster ceiling removed and the present hammer beam roof substituted. Later additions have been an organ, Litany desk and carved oak pulpit. Later all the windows were re-leaded and filled with Cathedral

glass. In 1907 a memorial window was placed in the north wall in memory of Vice-Admiral Woodward, C.B., to whose untiring energy and personal liberality the above improvements were chiefly due. The Communion plate is modern and good, presented by Thomas Botfield. The old Elizabethan cup and cover is preserved. The Registers are complete from 1729, and there is a copy of the Bishop's Transcripts for the years 1638, and 1660—1728. There are three bells; on the smallest is no inscription, the others are inscribed

1. A. R. 1708.

2. Richard Bycher 1671

All praise and glory be to God for ever.

At the east end of the Church, on the north side, is a monument by E. Bailey, R.A. Of it Mr. Cranage remarks, "it is very unlike the taste of to-day, but it has considerable merit." Mr. Thomas Botfield is represented as reclining on a couch, his wife kneeling at his side with bowed head. It has the following inscription:—

In Memory of Thomas Botfield, Esqre., of Hopton Court,
in this Parish,

F.R.S., F.R.I., F.G.S., F.H.S., F.G.S., M.S.A.

For many years a Deputy-Lieutenant and Magistrate

For the County of Salop.

Born February 14th, 1762, died January 17th, 1843.

(Underneath)

Also of

Lucy his wife,

Born June 17th, 1774. Died August 15th, 1856.

On the south side are two mural tablets and four brasses.

Tablets. 1. Coat of Arms. Gules, 3 arrows in pale, Or.

Near this Place lies

The Body of John Hale, Esqre.

late of Hopton Court in this Parish
who died the 14th day of December,
1779, aged 57 years.

2. Near this Place lie the Remains of
James Stanton, Esq^{re}, of this Parish,
Lord of the Manor.
And of Ann his Wife,
Who died March 24th, 1793,
Aged 59 years.

She died July 31st, 1817, Aged 83 years.
For the milder Virtues he was
Eminently conspicuous
She for Superior intelligence
And a truly Christian Character.

Brasses.

1.
In Memory of
Thomas Woodward, M.A.
For xx years Rector of
this Parish. Born Oct.
xxx,mdcccviii. Died Sep^r
1, mdcccliv. His Widow
and nine children have
placed this tablet.

2.
In Memory of
Ann Widow of
Thomas Woodward, M.A.
Rector of this Parish
Her brave heart, her
Bright Example, A
Peacemaker.
Her children loved and loving
Placed this.

3.
Near this Church is laid in sure and certain hope of the
Resurrection of the body and of Life Everlasting all
that could die of
Thomas Woodward
For 25 years the Resident Squire of Hopton Wafers and
Farlow
This brass and the cross over his grave are erected
In Loving Memory of him by his Widow, August 1888.
I believe in the Communion of Saints.

4.
In the same grave and in the same hope rests
Mary Woodward
For 24 years the wife and for 17 years the widow of
the above named Thomas Woodward.
Released from Suffering the 15th September, 1905.
I look for the Resurrection of the dead
and the Life of the World to Come.

Tablet on the south wall of the chancel.

Hyde Arms: Az. a chevron counterchanged or. and gules between 3 lozenges or.

In Memory of M^{rs} Mary Hyde,
 Only child of the late Rich^d Hyde, Esq^{re},
 Of Hopton Court,
 And Lady of the Manor.
 She departed this life October the 19th, 1778,
 Aged 68 years.
 Her Character was chiefly marked by the
 Integrity of her Heart,
 the Steadiness of her Friendship,
 the Placidness of her Disposition
 and her just union of Piety and Morality.

The succession of Rectors appears to be complete for 1279, though perhaps it may require some correction as the publications of the Cantilupe Society become available.

There is a mention of a Rector apparently in 1278 (*Cantil.*, p. 302), but the first recorded name is William de Bray presented by the Abbot and Convent of Wigmore in 1279; all presentations unless otherwise noted are by the same. The next Rector appears to have been William de Moiton, who resigned in 1322.

He was succeeded by William de Sheynestone. There was a dispute between these two referred to the Rector of Westbury (*Cantilupe* 233), and later the Bishop consents to act as arbitrator; they are called portionists in Castle Holdgate (*Cant.* 238), but no further reference occurs as to cause or result.

In 1329, William de la More was appointed by the Bishop, by lapse; in 1331, Sir Hugh de Neenton was appointed; in 1349 John de Orleton, and in 1350, Sir Elyas Musard was removed. I hope that when Bishop Trilleck's Register is published some light may be thrown on this. Sir Richard de Birches is the next name, he resigned in 1362, and was succeeded by Gilbert Aunger, who removed to Wheathill in 1374, John de la Owene, Rector of Wheathill, succeeding him; in the same year he removed to Momele (Mamble), and John Body, Vicar of Momele, removed to Hopton. In 1390, Richard

Bakere became Rector, and in the same year John le Prowde, who resigned in 1398, when Sir William Cheyney became Rector, resigning in 1399. His successor was Richard Doddington, and in 1404 John Adams was Rector, resigning in 1413 on a pension of 2 marks.

The next names are Sir John Berkeley 1413, Sir John Beulegarde 1420, Sir John Yonge 1421, Sir Walter Phelipes 1434, and Sir William Sprot, who died in 1509. In that year the Abbot and Convent made their last appointment, Sir John Pownteney; as in 1540 the King appoints Sir John Hay. In *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, which shows the value of benefices of suppressed Monasteries, it is stated that John Pontney, Rector, returns the value as 114s. 8d., less procurations 6d., Abbot of Wigmore 6s. 8d., Prior of Brecknock, 6s.

The prefix "Sir," which now ceases, was a courtesy title commonly given to the clergy at the period. In 1560 Edward Churchman was appointed by Humphry Hyde, gentleman. Possibly amongst the title deeds of Hopton Court the grant of the right of presentation may be found, but these deeds were, no doubt, examined by Mr. Berial Botfield, who was well known as an archæologist, and in his book *Stemmata Botevilliana* I find no mention of such a grant. Of Edward Churchman, who was Rector for 56 years, there is an interesting note in the Parker Collection of MSS. in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, amongst the certified answers to the Archbishop's inquiries, for which I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. C. W. Moule. It is dated 1561. "Edwardus Churchman rector ibidem presbiter etatis xxx annorum residet et est hospitalis." He must therefore have lived to the age of 85, and it is not a bad record to be inscribed as sticking to his parish and exercising hospitality.

In 1616 Luke Whelar was appointed by Humphrey Hyde, and Robert Gregorie by the King, in consequence of Humphrey Hyde being an outlaw. I can find nothing more, but apparently the first nomination held, as in 1623 Luke Whelar was Rector, being cited by the Bishop to answer charges. Canon Capes has been kind enough to examine for me two entries in the Bishop's registers. They contain reports of proceedings against him in the Consistory Court

for non-observance of Canonical duties. He had preached no sermons for several years, nor procured others to do so, he had not read the proper lessons, and generally disregarded the rules lately enacted, had spoken contemptuously of ecclesiastical discipline, and neglected the citations. The issue is not reported, but he appears to have weathered the storm, as in 1638 he signs the transcript of the registers as Luke Wheeler. He was succeeded by John Wheeler, who died in 1683, who was succeeded by John Taylor, the patron being Ch. Boughton. In 1690, Edward Boughton became Curate, and in 1691 Rector, John Taylor resigning, patron, Richard Hyde. This looks like an arrangement for next presentation, now, happily, illegal.

Edward Boughton was succeeded in 1739 by John Hughes, patron, Mary Hyde. In 1744, Robert Edwards became Rector, a kinsman of the patron, Mary Hyde (*v. ante*). In 1783 he was succeeded by Edward Whitehurst, patron T. Whitehurst, Chirk, evidently another sale of next presentation, followed by another in 1793, when Nathaniel Cotton was presented by Joseph Cotton, who, as we have seen, purchased the advowson in 1799. On the resignation of Nathaniel Cotton, Thomas Bowdler was appointed by Joseph Cotton, his father-in-law. Of Thomas Bowdler we have a biography published. His grandfather married the daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Cotton, 6th and last Bart., descended from Sir R. Cotton, founder of the Cottonian Library. This Mr. Bowdler had two sons, one the father of the Rector, who published a memorial of him, the other the editor of the "Family Shakespeare;" also a daughter, Harriet Bowdler, a gifted authoress. Thomas Bowdler was ordained Curate to Leyton, Essex. He married Phœbe, daughter of Joseph Cotton. Her brother William was the father of Lord Justice Cotton. Mr. Bowdler was for some time non-resident, holding the benefices of Ash and Ridley, in Kent, 1811-20. In 1820 he resigned these, which he held for a minor, also resigning Hopton Wafers, becoming Rector of Addington, in Kent. He was, like other members of his family, an author, one of his books, "Prayers for a Christian Household," was used by Bishop Selwyn of Lichfield in his Chapel, where I first saw it; prefixed to it is the Memoir referred to.

Thomas Bowdler was succeeded in 1820 by Charles Walcot, the patron being now Thomas Botfield, who also, on Mr. Walcot's resignation in 1834 appointed his nephew by marriage, Thomas Woodward, who had been licensed to the Curacy in 1832. On his death in 1854 his brother Alexander Woodward became Rector, patron, Beriah Botfield. He was succeeded by his nephew Samuel Woodward, on his resignation in 1861, also appointed by Beriah Botfield. Mr. Woodward was the second son of Mr. Thomas Woodward, Rector, and in 1888 succeeded his elder brother in the Hopton Court estate. He died in 1890, when his successor in the estate, Capt. Woodward, C.B., R.N., appointed the present Rector, then a Chaplain and Naval Instructor in the Royal Navy. The present Rector was appointed Rural Dean of Stottesdon in 1898, and in 1908 was collated to the Prebendal Stall of Putson Major in Hereford Cathedral.

After writing what I have been able to find about Manor, Church, and Rectors, there is little more to be said. The Parish has an acreage of 1,610, and the population at the last Census was 461. The Church accommodates 200.

The upper portion of the Parish is open common, which, however, is enclosed on paper under the Enclosure Act. There are about 10 farms, but the larger portion of the population is employed in the Clee Hill Stone Quarries, of which there are three worked by different Companies. The cottages in the upper part of the parish are isolated, each with enclosed land and the right of common.

In the village is a cottage, opposite the Church, which is said to be the old Rectory, but does not belong to the benefice. I mention it solely because there is an old kitchen chimney, outside of which is the remains of a spit wheel, which is curious.

In 1822 a house in the occupation of John Breakwell, now the Miners' Arms Inn, was licensed as a place of worship for Protestant Dissenters by the Bishop of Hereford. There is now a Primitive Methodist Chapel in the Ludlow Circuit. I cannot find when a School was first opened in Hopton, but that there was a Church School from the beginning of

the last century is clear. Mr. Thomas Botfield by Will dated 1836 left £1,000 to be invested, three-fifths of the income for the education of poor boys between the ages of 8 and 12, inhabitants of the Parishes of Hopton Wafers, Farlow, and Coreley, and two-fifths for the education of poor girls between 8 and 12 of the same parishes. By order of the Charity Commissioners the income is equally divided between the three schools. By Will dated 1852 Mrs. Lucy Botfield left £400 in trust for the master and mistress of the School at Hopton Wafers in connection with the Church of England in equal halves.

Mr. Botfield also left a house, used as a school, to be let at a rent of 6^d a year for the purpose, but in 1872 Mr. T. Woodward gave land on which the present School was erected, without outside aid. In 1890 an Infants' room was added, and in 1906, in consequence of the increase in numbers, a classroom was built.

There are some old books preserved in the Vestry containing Churchwardens' Accounts 1799—1817 and 1846—1853; also Overseers' Accounts 1792—1816, and Vestry Minutes 1793—1816. In another volume still in use, are Overseers' Accounts from 1816—1838, and Vestry Minutes from 1817 to the present day.

By the same will quoted above, Mrs. Botfield left £300 in trust, the income to be paid to the wife of the Rector of Hopton Wafers to be distributed at her sole discretion for the benefit of the poor of the parish in such proportions and manner and for such purposes as she in her sole discretion shall think fit. In case of the Rector being unmarried, then to be paid to him with the same discretion.

There is land in Hopton Wafers belonging to the poor of Claverley. It was purchased out of a bequest, 1734, of Thomas Acton of Gatacre. It is a far cry to Claverley, but I find that paper mills existed there, and there was an interchange of paper makers between the two places, hence, I suppose, the connection by which land here, 5½ acres, was purchased by Claverley trustees.

Miss Auden has kindly copied for me two references in the *Transactions*, one dating 1553, of Church goods delivered into the keeping of the Rector and Churchwardens,

a fragment, only one item surviving, a patent of silver (2nd Series, XII., 329). The other, dated 1327, is a list of names given in the Lay Subsidy Roll. William de Ercalewe, *v. ante*, heads the list. Other names I do not recognise, there is Richard de la Sheote, which possibly refers to one of the Shote farms; also John and Walter de Dodyton, which may be Doddington, there is a le Gode. The name Goode is still with us, also William de Syneton, which sounds somewhat like Shineton. (3rd Series, VI. 135).

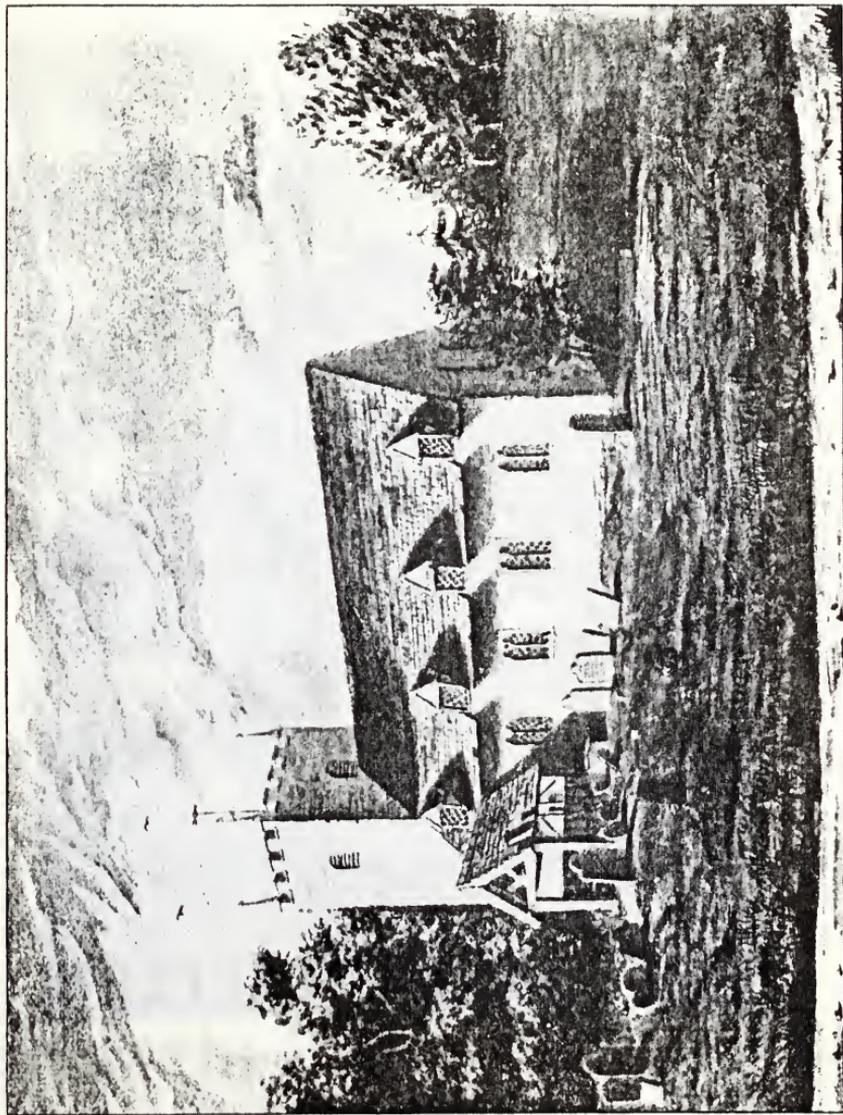
I find a note in reference to the value of the Benefice. We have seen that John Pountney, Rector, made a return of the value, which is given in *Valor Ecclesiasticus* :

			s.	d.
Glebe, &c.	...	...	114	8
Procurations—Arch. of Salop	...	...		6
Abbot of Wigmore	...	...	6	8
Prior of Brecknock	...	...	6	0

101s. 6d.

Tenths of this would be 10s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Mr. le Fanu informs me that records dating beginning of the 18th century show amount chargeable 11s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. In Bacon's *Liber Regis* value is £5 16s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., tenths would be on this 11s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.; tenths are now 12s. 2d. Mr. le Fanu says that he is unable to account for these differences, and similar ones in Cleobury Mortimer, Burford, Neen Sollars, and others.

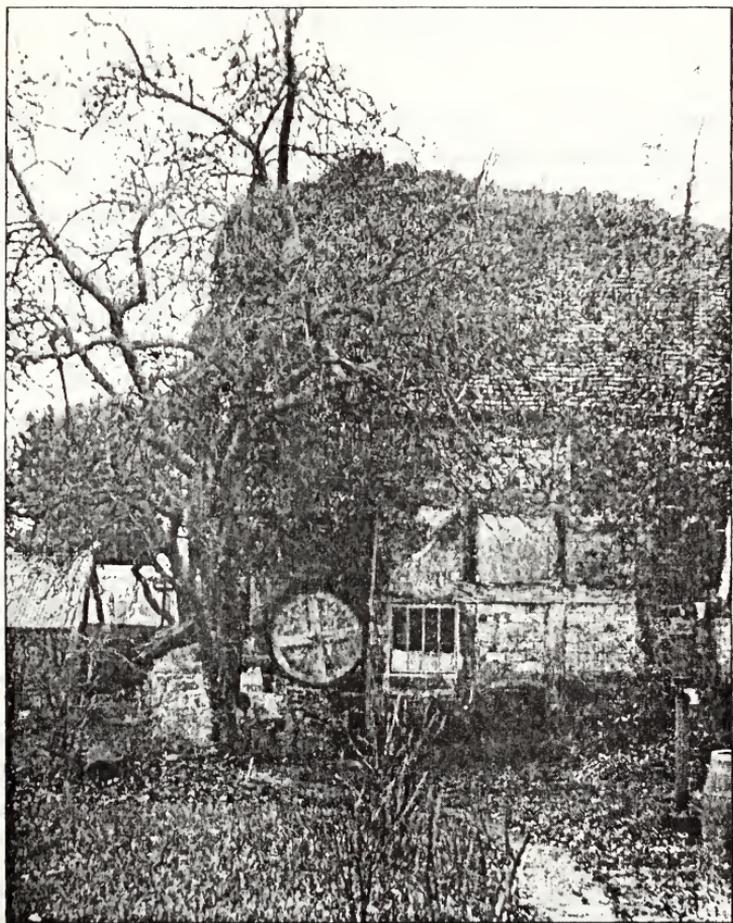


M. Stodd, *draw.*

SOUTH VIEW OF HOPTON OLD CHURCH.

April 14th, 1855.





HOPTON WAFERS OLD SPIT WHEEL.

THREE MYTTON LETTERS.

WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES BY THE
REV. J. E. AUDEN, M.A.

THE following letters are in the possession of J. Parry-Jones, Esq., of Oswestry, who has kindly lent them for publication in the *Transactions*. They form a sequel to the 36 LETTERS AND PAPERS OF THOMAS MYTTON OF HALSTON, edited for the Powysland Club by the late Stanley Leighton, M.P., F.S.A., and published in 1875 in Vols. VII. and VIII. of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*.

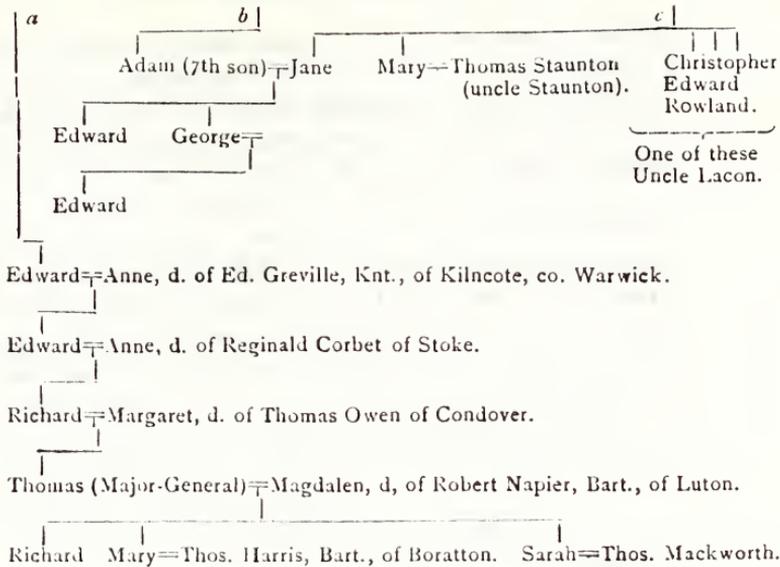
The earliest is from the pen of George Mytton, but unfortunately it is undated, for the reference to Friday, June 27, is no guide, since Friday fell on that day of the month in many years, for example in 1617, 1623, 1628 and 1634. There is also no internal evidence to help us, no allusion to events of importance by which we might infer the year in which it was written. It seems to relate to family affairs only, either a hoped for appointment in a business house, or in some legal or administrative post.

There is also very little known concerning the writer beyond the fact that he was admitted to Shrewsbury School in 1581, as his brother, Edward, had been in the previous year, and his father in 1562.

The following pedigree will show the relationship of George Mytton to the "Uncle Staunton" and the "Uncle Lacon" of the first letter.

Agnes, d. Ed. Grey, Knt., of Enville.	of = Richard Mytton ¹	= Eleanor, d. of G. Harebrowne of Shrewsbury,	Lancelot Lacon (5th son of Thos. Lacon of Willey, Knt.).	= Elizabeth Gery.
| a		| b		| c

¹ Richard Mytton was six times Bailiff of Shrewsbury; in 1548 commanded the "armed men" of that town when on distant service with Henry, Earl of Arundel; and in 1553 "the lord Thomas, brother to the Duke of Suffolk, was taken at Oswestrie in Wales by Master Rycharde Myttoon of Shrosbery being



I. G. MYTTON TO HIS BROTHER EDWARD.

Brother, my verie hartie comendacons unto you remembered and all other my ffrends, &c. I would have binne verie glad to have harde from you this tearme. But sithence I did not I impute yt unto some weyghtie busines w^{ch} beinge finished I trust you will not spare your wonted labour but write. I hard from my father by my unkle Staunton (I thancke him) which I answered by my l're bearinge date on Friday last [27 Junij *in margin.*] My unkle Lacon was in towne this day but staid not. I moved him in my father's behalfe but his answeare was then that he would be verie willing to pleasure him. But p'suminge that Mr. Chetwyn had alreadie

then baylyffe," for his share in Wyatt's rebellion. R. Mytton also sat as M.P. for his native town in the Parliament of 1542.

The father of his second wife was George Harebrowne, a Barrister, and for some time Recorder of Shrewsbury, whose only daughter, Eleanor, was the widow of Richard Beeston of Shrewsbury, when she married Mytton. In Dugdale's time there was a monument in Old St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, bearing the inscription:—Heere lyeth the Body of Richard Mitton Esq. who first married Anne, the daughter of S^r Edward Grey, Knight, and afterwards married Elianora, the daughter of George Harebroone Esq. Learned in the Lawes, and lived 99 years, and dyed 26 die Novembr. Anno 1591.

[It will be noticed that the name of his first wife differs from that given in the *Visitation*, but anciently Agnes and Anne were often interchanged.]

satisfied his request he had disposed his whole sumes alreadie to his owne use, whereby I spake to late. Neu'thelesse I purposed once more before his departure to have urged him thereunto, but I neu' saw him after. I thincke my unkle Staunton moved him thereabout, but howe he spedd I knowe not yet. We have but bad successe in your placinge yet, for all be full, my master will take noe more, Mr. Scott was p'vided before hand, Mr. Browker is not behinde, And what other we maye hope in good fayth I knowe not. I am verie sorye at your losse of time. But as I writte once before my father maye doe some good wth the Justices of Assise, or some good s'vaunt there. Yf you may be neare them there is some hope of there p'ferm^t daylie and thereby of yours: yf otherwise you maye have meanes to p'vide better for your selfe hereafter. In haste, Adewe.

Your loving brother,

G. Mytton.

To my verie loving brother
Mr. Edwarde Mytton in
Shrewsburie give thes.

The second letter is much more interesting in every way. The writer, Roger Fenwicke, in the words of Richard Gough¹ "was a Collonell in the Parliament Army, a comely proper gentleman. Hee was somewhile Governor of a small Garrison in the Castle att Moreton Corbett, which hee fortyfyed with a muddle wall and there manfully withstood a sharpe assault of his enemyes." Two of his sisters married Shropshire men; Elizabeth, whose husband was Thomas Baker of Sweeney, and another, who was the wife of Humphrey Mackworth, of Betton.

When Moreton Corbet Castle was first turned into a fortress does not seem to be on record. Possibly it was about the time when Wem was first seized by the Parliament as a *point d'appui*, i.e. in August, 1643.

From the Sequestration Papers we learn that the delinquents, "Francis Drackford of Edgbolton, Richard Beale, and others held Moreton Corbet Castle for the King under

¹ *History of Mytton*, p. 98.

Sir Vincent Corbet against the Parliament. They fired some of the outhouses, sending to Major Bingham [? Bridgeman] for help, and calling in Sir Vincent's tenants."

John Vicars, in his *Burning Bush Not Consumed*, gives a very interesting, full and circumstantial account of its capture by the Parliamentarians, as their first step towards reducing Shrewsbury.

"The Shropshire Committee on 10th September [1644] sent out [from Wein] under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Rinkling (a very good soldier) a party of horse and foot to surprise Moreton Corbet Castle, and sent unto the Lord Calvin to meet them with a party from Stoke [on Tern]. And upon a Saturday night about one or two of the clock they came before the Castle, every man being assigned the place where he should fall on. When they got there the password was given, which was Will and Tom, with the order that if anyone asked who they were, to answer Will, and if the other answered not Tom, they should give fire. This done they sent drums at a field's distance from the house with orders to beat a march as soon as ever the assault began. This they did accordingly, and thereby the enemy thought there was great strength, whereas indeed it was no such matter. Then presently the Lieut.-Colonel, calling aloud to bring such a regiment to such a place, and such a regiment to another place, much daunted the hearts of the enemy. Then he sent to discover the sentry with an order to tell the sentry we were friends and to hold him in discourse untill they had notice. Which service was so well performed on all parts that before the sentinel knew who we were, our ladders were mounted and we in possession of one of their works. Then the enemy took the alarm, and our men plyed the work most bravely. The Lieut.-Colonel with but ten men endeavoured to force a little door. Not prevailing he marched along over the tops of the works with but four more, and with these fell upon them that were in another work, and forced them with one volley to betake themselves to the house, where out of the windows and holes they shot fiercely at us, till we by throwing in among them some hand-grenades they quitted these places. This gave a way to our men to break a stone pillar of a window, where the Lieut.-Colonel and his men entered,

and after them many more. But before these were come the enemy, being at least 80 foot and 30 horse, and fearfully supposing therefore that a greater force than ours followed these five that entered the Castle, they all instantly called for Quarter, which these five granted, and by that time the rest of our forces were come up and had entered the Castle, and so possessed themselves firmly of it. And in it Major Bridgeman, Captain Maurice, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, one Quarter-Master, one Ensign, two horse-colours, at least 80 soldiers, 30 good horses, 6 barrels of powder, with much other provisions.¹ The house was so strongly fortified that my Lord Calvin, and the Lieutenant Colonel, who behaved themselves most bravely in this action, said it might have been maintained against a great strength. For had it been day work they should not have attempted it. In all this so resolute and even dangerous service we lost but one man, and very few wounded."

After the capture, Roger Fenwicke was placed in charge of this new Parliamentary garrison, and from its position his fortresses must have been a standing menace to the Royalists in the county town. So (though I have not come across any description of their "sharpe assault"), we may be sure that Fenwicke was not left unmolested, even though he had added to the original fortifications his "mudde wall."

From Moreton Corbet soldiers were drawn to the successful attack on Shrewsbury on February 22, 1644-5. But when that town was wrested from the King, this castle was rather a danger than an advantage to the Shrewsbury Parliamentarians, and, therefore, in the words of Malbon's *Memorials of the Civil Wars in Cheshire*, "Morton Corbett was deserted and burned by the p'liam^t p'tie."

Fenwicke thus lost his governorship, but, no doubt, further employment suitable to his powers was found at once, though his name does not seem to be mentioned in military records till the fight at Stokesay, on June 8, 1645, when "Major Fen-

¹ As an instance of the need of carefulness in sifting reports of occurrences in the Civil War published in the news sheets, and sent by "scouts" in the pay of the Parliament, a Roundhead paper gives the taking of Moreton Corbet as done by Bridgeman and Maurice, who appear in the account as commanders of the Parliament Army, and not as Royalist officers taken prisoners.

wicke, who behaved himself gallantly, was wounded, but we hope not mortally." He soon recovered from his injuries, for in the following August, still holding the rank of Major, he was in command of the Parliament's garrison of 80 horse and 80 foot at Bishop's Castle, and with them defeated a detachment of Royalist cavalry.

Later on as a Colonel he saw much active service in Ireland.

Latham House is, of course, best known for the famous defence made by the Countess of Derby, when she held it for the King from February 27 to May 29, 1644, despite repeated assaults and a most vigorous investment on the part of the Lancashire Parliamentarians. After this siege was raised by her husband and Prince Rupert, the Countess herself retired to the Isle of Man, and Latham House was put under the care of Colonel Rawstorne, who was left practically untroubled by attacks till July 1645. In this month a second siege was commenced, but a vigorous sally of the Royalists dispersed the beleaguering forces. However, in December, 1645, the treachery of an Irish soldier brought about its surrender, and the House was pillaged and dismantled by order of the Parliament.

It was while Colonel Rawstorne was in command that the following letter was written. The chief topics in it seem to be some business of Colonel Mytton's wife [?], and a proposed exchange of one of Mytton's prisoners, Mr. Andrew Browne, a Shropshire Royalist, for Mr. Richard Bradshaw, a Lancashire Parliamentarian, in confinement at Latham.

As Major Roger Fenwicke was a north country man himself¹, he was probably a personal friend of Bradshaw.

Possibly Andrew Browne was a relative of John Browne of Little Ness, "the self-conceited, confident person," who, with Thomas Baker of Sweeney, represented Shropshire in Barebone's Parliament of July, 1653. If so, they had taken different sides.

I do not know if we can understand in the cryptic reference to General Mytton's "goddess" an allusion to his wife Magdalen neé Napier, whom he had married in 1620.

¹ "What countryman hee was I know not, but I have heard that the name of Fenwicke is very usual in the North of England." (Gough).

The career of Major-General Thomas Mytton, the recipient of two of these letters, is too well known to need a long account. He was born in 1608, the eldest son of Richard Mytton, Esq., of Halston, and at the outbreak of the First Civil War in August, 1642, at once joined the Parliament party. On April 10, 1643, he was appointed one of the Parliamentary Committee for Shropshire, and Commander of the Forces raised in that county. When Wem was fortified in the August of that year, Colonel Mytton was made Governor, being transferred to the same post at Oswestry when that town was lost to the Royalists in June, 1644. He also acted as High Sheriff of Shropshire 1644-46, and as M.P. in the Parliament of 1654. On May 12, 1645, he was gazetted Major-General of North Wales; on June 25, 1646, Governor of Beaumaris, and, finally, on January 25, 1647-8, Vice-Admiral of North Wales. In this last capacity he was instrumental in putting down the abortive rising in Anglesey in September, 1648. Shortly after, as Pennant¹ remarks, "finding that Cromwell and his party had further designs than the mere defence of liberty (the cause in which he was engaged), Major-General Mytton resigned his command and retired." For the few remaining years of his life he lived as a private country gentleman, occupying himself with his horses and his hawks.² He died in London, and his burial is thus entered in the Register of St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury.

1656, November 29. Thomas Mitton, Esq., who died in London, was buried in St. Chad's Church. Major-General Mitton buried.

II. ROGER FENWICKE TO THOMAS MYTTON.

I blush for my not rendring you an acquompt of y^t busines w^{ch} I acquainted you wth at my last attending you but in truth I have not heard a possitive answer yet but dayly verball messeng^{rs} and somtymes L^res fr^m y^r Goddesse. all w^{ch} dothe confirme my oppinion of her royaltie, but such perilous acts by such weake and timorous acto^{rs} must require tyme.

¹ *Wales*, i., p. 247.

² Cf. *Mytton Papers* Letter of April 24, 1649.

I have this day received a L're wherein there is large expressions of her endeavours & soe soone as its come to a ripenes of w^{ch} I doubt spedily you shall heare. I am by a kinsman of myne desired to move yo^u Sr on y^e be halfe of (a) man a frend w^{ho}e is now in distresse and a prisoner at Latham, one Richard Bradshaw, a Sequestrator in Lancashire, and its conceived you have some contry men in yo^r custody y^t might release him & especially one Andrew Browne of Great or Little Nesse, of w^{ch} I know not; if you have its desired y^t you wold be pleased to admitt of y^e exchange: y^e one gaining a great influens & power in y^e Gov'nor of Latham y^e other much esteemed in y^t contry: pardon, I desire you, my bouldness, yo^r candid dispassions and former favours cuntenuing in y^{is}

Y^r humble & affectio'ed

S^rvant

Morton Castle

Rog^r ffenwicke

1644.

To y^e ho^{ble} Collonell Mitton,
my very good^e ffrend these
at Oswestree.

The third letter belongs to the period of the Second Civil War.

The First Civil War between the King and the Parliament was practically concluded by the fatal fight on Naseby field, June 12, 1645, and the fag end was left to wear itself out in the West and in Wales, where the Castle of Harlech, under Colonel William Owen, did not surrender till March 13, 1646-7. The early spring of 1648 witnessed the renewed brief struggle known as the second Civil War. Though short, it was determined and formidable. Charles I. was a prisoner in Carisbrooke Castle, and the hopes of the Royalists were centred in the person of the Royal inmate of Carisbrooke's "narrow case." The men of South Wales rose under Laughorne, Powell, and Poyer, three officers who, in the first war, had rendered conspicuous service to the cause of Parliament; Kent under Lord Goring, Earl of Norwich; Essex under Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle; North Wales under Sir John Owen; Berwick and Carlisle under Sir Marmaduke Langdale; and the Island of Anglesey under

Lords Byron and Bulkeley, with other less important *emeutes* in Shropshire and elsewhere. The Scots under the Duke of Hamilton crossed the border in August. At the date of the letter, however, Major-General Mytton had not seen much, if any, active service in the new war. A short time afterwards he was called upon to put down the Anglesey rising. This came to a speedy end through mismanagement and treachery. Archbishop Williams disclosed the design, and the Royalist forces in the Island, led by Colonel Richard Bulkeley, a young and inexperienced officer, were easily defeated by Mytton and his 1500 "horse and foote of Cheshire, Shropshire, and North Wales," who took Beaumaris by storm on September 30, 1648.

III. JOHN JACKSON TO THOMAS MYTTON.

Please you S^r

I received both y^r l^rs of y^e 1 of June and that of y^e 9th of June instant. Wee are all heartily glad and geive god thankes & soe ought all honest men to be, for yo^r great deliv^rance and y^e great ov^rthrow geiven to that barbarowse villane Sir John Owen,¹ and his wicked crew. I trust god will stirr up the parliam^t to lett them tast of there justice, synce they made noe better use of there m^cie when they were under it. I sent yo^r letters to the lord gen^rall² yesterday to Chelmsford in Essex³ where hee then was, by A messenger that went from the Com^{ee} at Derby howse⁴ to him; yo^r l^rs to M^r. ffoxwist⁵ and to M^r. Edwards⁶ I deliv^d likewise. You wishe me to write noe more to Anglesie⁷ to you, noe more I will not. I am sorrie to heare the reason of it. I trust god in his due tyme will discou^r there falshood that oppose you, and vindicate you as (thankes be to him hee hath hitherto done for you all alonge). I pray write by the next, how I may direct my l^rs to you, & to what place. Wee are heartily glad to heare o^r Cosen your wife⁸ is preettie well Recov^d as you write; yo^r mayd is well, & all yo^r howsold stuffe & things are safe & well. My wife shall see to them. I see yo^r mayd ev^r and anon, & shee is very carefull of yo^r goodes & hath gott An other mayd A freind of hirs to be in the howse wth hir to keepe hir companie. I told Mr. ffrost⁹ y^t you had had noe l^rs from

there Com^{ee} synce the 9th of May & that you wondred what was the Reason, & hee told me it was by reason of these late troubles in Kent & Essex, w^{ch} hath forced them so much to doe, that all there endeavours were too little to quench that buissnes, w^{ch} thanks be to god is all quieted in Kent, & the lord gen'all is come from thence wth his forces into Essex & is in pursuite of the lord Goreings¹⁰ forces there who flie before him, & keepe aloofe off but still putt the Contries where hee comes into A combustion & doe mischeiffe & then when the armie approaches it Goes and leaves the Contrie in the lurch. Neither Mr. Pierpoint¹¹ nor Sir Michaell Lucie¹² are in towne. I doe what I can to gett names for yo^r ordinances for yo^r 5000^l,¹³ but cannott as yett get such as will be for your turne. These late troubles here¹⁴ have so distracted us, that little or nothinge hath beine done about delinq^{ts} or compoundinge synce they begun, but now, thanks be to god, wee begin to be in A good condicon, & now we shall goe pecefullie on; but for any names out of Kent as you write that contrie will now afford enough, it is not soe, for the p'liamt have granted them an ordnance of Indempnitie¹⁵ for what they did act in this late insurrecion there, & soe there are noe more delinq^{ts} there then there were before, and some names I gave out of that Cowntie allreadie, & out of other cownties allso, but since these troublesome tymes have beine, I could not come to see w^{ch} of them were granted awaie, nor w^{ch} of them were fitt to pitch upon, but now I will make it my worke ev'ie day to do somethinge in it till I have fynished. You write to me to speak to one Mr. Ellioytt¹⁶ to furnishe me wth names by A token specified in yo^r letter, but you doe not send me word where hee lives, nor how I may fynd him, w^{ch} I pray send me word of, & I will goe to him. I believe this buissnes in yo^r contrie of North Wales will aford some delinq^{ts}, I pray send me some names from thence. M^r. Salisuries sonne Charles Salisburie¹⁷ is in towne, but payes not a pennie; neither do any other of yo^r parties formerly granted to you doe anythinge synce they preferred there peticons, I pray therefore use some meanes to spurr them on. Mr. Revull¹⁸ is now in the house againe, & Restored to all his offices, & like to be as great as ev', I con-

ceive you may doe well to write to him, for hee wil be able & will urge to do you service as ev'. I writt to you, that I w^d p'sent some delinq^{ts} names yf you w^d allowe x^{li} per Cent, but it seemes you will have all or none. I will doe as much as yf it were for my life to hasten yo^r buisnes, but no quicker. Yf you gave soe for 1000^{li} or 2000^{li} for your private occasions, it was not much amisse, but you may doe y^r pleasure, & assure y^rselfe I wil be as good A husband for you as for myselfe in the buisnes. And so my humble service to you presented, I Rest,

Yo^r faithfull & ev' obliged Cosen to serve and honor you,
John Jackson.¹⁹

Junij 13: 1648.

ffor the ho^{blic} maïor gen'all

Thomas Mytton at his
quarters at Carnarvan

these humbly p^rsent.

1. *Sir John Owen* of Cleneny, co. Carnarvon, and Porkington (now Brogyntyn), co. Salop, had served all through the first Civil War, being appointed a Colonel by Charles I. in September, 1642. He was wounded at the storming of Bristol, July 26, 1643, and knighted at Oxford, Dec. 17, 1644. When the second Civil War broke out in April, 1648, Sir John was too impatient to wait till the plot had matured in North Wales, and not wishing his own country to be behind South Wales and the North and South-East of England, which had already risen, took up arms prematurely. On May 17, 1648, at the head of about 100 men, almost all of whom had been Royalist officers in the late war, the knight of Cleneny marched to Dolgelley. Among "his wicked Crew" were Sir Arthur Blaney of Gregynog, co. Montgomery, Colonel Lloyd of Llwyn-y-maen, Colonel Lee, Lieut.-Colonel Richard Scriven of Frodesley, Lieut.-Colonel Hughes, Mr. Morgan Herbert of Havod Uchtryd, Captains Edward Herbert (his son), Kynaston, Brynkir, Blodwst, Morgan, Phillips, Sanderson, &c. At Dolgelley the Royalists quartered two nights, and, on leaving "paid for their quarters and did no man harm." From here they proceeded to Dyffryn Ardydwy, where they fixed their head quarters.

On June 3 a party of Sir John's men sent on scouting duty to the neighbourhood of Carnarvon, where Major-General Mytton was Governor, were attacked by a force of carabineers under William Lloyd, Sheriff of Carnarvonshire. In the skirmish which ensued the Sheriff was wounded and taken prisoner. Two days later Owen and his force started for Bangor with the idea of attacking Mytton at Carnarvon, carrying their captive with them in a litter. Learning from a despatch rider of the Parliament, whom they captured *en route*, that a large body of men were marching towards them, Sir John made what preparations he could for a fight, and fell in with his opponents at Llandegai, near Bangor. They proved to be troops from Denbigh under Col. Twistleton, and from Conway under Col. Carter, assisted by a strong detachment from Chester, some cavalry of Col. John Jones of Nanteos, and some volunteers.

The forlorn hope¹ of the Royalists, led by Lieut.-Col. Scriven,² totally routed that of the Parliament; later on, however, the tables were reversed. The infantry of the Cavaliers at the first outset held their own, but the Parliamentary cavalry kept in close order, and at the end of half an hour's fighting broke through their ranks and routed them. Sir John Owen and his son, with Colonel Lloyd and about fourteen other gentlemen, were among those captured, Captain Sanderson being among those killed. Sir Arthur Blaney, Lieut.-Col. Scriven, Herbert Vaughan, and many others escaped. The Sheriff of Carnarvonshire, left in his litter while the fight was going on, died the day after. Sir John Owen's army, all told, was not 300 horse and foot, and was far outnumbered by the opposing force. Whitelock in his *Memorials* gives this account of the fight, "ye great ou'throw," probably in the words in which the news had reached the ears of John Jackson:—"June 10, 1648. Letters from North Wales that Colonel Carter and Lieutenant-

¹ A *forlorn hope* was a small body of cavalry or infantry sent in front of the main body with the intention of delaying the advance of the enemy.

² On his monument in Condober Church he is described as Richardus Screven de Frodesley, Armig'r: obiit 26 Jan. 1682, aetat. 57: Fidelis fuit principi, experts et fortis miles. He owned property in Merionethshire, and resided at Dyllryn Gwyn (where he died), which, no doubt, caused him to join his Welsh friends in the rising.

Colonel Twisselden, with the assistance of thirty horse and seventy foot from Chester, intending to join with Colonel Mason, and Colonel Mitton, who were in Caernarvon Castle, marched towards them. But Sir John Owen to prevent their joining, drew off from his [intended] siege of Carnarvon with 150 horse and 120 foot, and met Colonel Carter upon his march. The Forlorns of both parties encountered, and the Parliaments were forced to a disorderly retreat, the enemy pursued with their whole body upon the reserve of the Parliaments, who received their charge, and after a hot dispute routed them. Captain Taylor singly incountring Sir John Owen, after he had broken his sword upon his head, closed with him, dismounted him and took him prisoner, and his party immediately fled. There were killed of them thirty, and Sir John Owen with divers others of Quality, and 60 private Souldiers taken Prisoners: four of the Parliaments Souldiers were slain, and divers Wounded, and many Horses killed on each side.

Order for £200 for Captain Taylor, and gratuities for divers others; and for disposing of the Prisoners."

Sir John Owen was sent to Windsor Castle, and was put on his trial with the Duke of Hamilton, and Lords Capel, Goring, and Holland. The charge against him was "having been heretofore a Colonel in the King's Army, he had in a late insurrection in Wales killed the High Sheriff." He made no excuse for his conduct, but told his judges that "he was a plain gentleman of Wales who had always been taught to obey the king: that he had served him honestly during the war, and finding many honest men endeavoured to raise forces whereby they might get him out of prison, he did the like, and the High Sheriff endeavoured to oppose him; and so chanced to be killed: which he might have avoided if he had staid at home." On receiving the sentence of decapitation, he made a low bow and thanked his judges. Asked what he meant, his reply was that "It was a great honour to a poor gentleman of Wales to lose his head with such noble lords, for he was afraid they would have hanged him." Strong appeals had been made on behalf of all the others, but no one seemed to speak in favour of Sir John, whereupon Colonel Hutchinson and his relative Colonel

Ireton moved and seconded that "he be preserved by the mere motive and goodness of the House itself." He was, therefore, pardoned, and retired to his native Wales, where he died in 1666, a monument being erected to his memory in Penmorfa Church, co. Caernarvon.

2. Thomas, son of Ferdinando, 3rd Baron Fairfax, was in April, 1645, when only 34, appointed Commander in Chief of the New Model Army of the Parliament, an office which he resigned in 1650. He zealously assisted in the Restoration of 1660, and died in 1671.

3. *Chelmsford*. Lord General Fairfax had routed the Royalists of Kent at Maidstone, on June 1, and was now on his way to put down the Essex insurgents under Lord Goring. In fact on the date of this letter, June 13, he began the siege of Colchester.

4. The Committee at *Derby House* was a Council of War—the Old "Committee of Both Kingdoms"—which sat at Derby House, the town mansion of the Royalist Earl of Derby, now the Heralds College. This Committee of Safety was revived on June 11, 1647, after Cornet Joyce had seized the King, viz.: the Earls of Kent, Manchester, Northumberland, and Warwick; Lords Roberts, Saye and Sele, and Wharton; the Honourables William Pierpoint (of Tong Castle), and Nathaniel Fiennes; Henry Vane, sen., Henry Vane, jun., William Armine, Arthur Haselrigg, Gilbert Gerrard, and John Evelyn, knights; Lieut.-General Oliver Cromwell, and Messrs. John Crewe (of Stene, co. Northampton), Henry St. John, Robert Wallop (of Hopton, co. Salop), and Samuel Browne. But on May 25, 1648, the "Lords voted an addition to the Committee at Derby-House," and on May 27th, six Lords and twelve Commoners were added.

5. *William Foxwist* a Barrister, of Lincoln's Inn, was returned as M.P. for Caernarvon Borough on January 13, 1646-7; and was on March 14, 1659-60, appointed by the Parliament to act as Second or Assistant Judge of the Chester Circuit. He, however, only held this office for about a year when Charles II. turned him out for a Robert Milward, making also Timothy Turner, late Recorder of Shrewsbury, Chief Justice. With the next named, Humphrey

Edwardes, Foxwist was placed on the Committee "to consider of a way to proceed against Sir John Owen for his Tryal." There are letters from, and allusions to him in the *Mytton Papers*.

6. *Humphrey Edwardes*, a son of Thomas Edwardes of the College, Shrewsbury, took a different side from his brother. Disappointed at not obtaining a reward for attending the king to the House of Commons when he went to demand the five members, Humphrey Edwardes espoused the cause of the Parliament, though he is represented as "always having been a half-faced cavalier, changing his party for profit." He was elected M.P. for Shropshire in August, 1646, through the influence of Colonel Mytton, the High Sheriff, who suddenly and without due notice transferred the polling place from Oswestry to Alberbury, a manœuvre which caused the defeat of Andrew Lloyd of Aston, and the election of Humphrey Edwardes, "A nere kinsman to the Sheriffe, Thomas Mytton," as declared the defeated Candidate in his petition. Being nominated one of the Commissioners of the High Court of Justice for the trial of the king, Humphrey Edwardes attended each day and signed the Death Warrant. He was buried August 2, 1658, at Richmond, and when his sister, Lady Lucy Ottley, took out letters of administration of his estate on October 26, he was described as "late of Richmond, Surrey, a batchelor" (*i.e.*, a widower). He had been admitted to Shrewsbury School in 1613, being placed in the highest form.¹

The following pedigree shows his relationship to his more loyal brother and brother-in-law, though not to Major General Mytton.

Thomas Edwardes, of the College, Shrewbury, b. 1555, d. 16 March, 1634, married Annie, d. and h. of Humphrey Baskerville, of London, and widow of Stephen Ducket, and had issue.

1. Thomas, of Greet, Royalist High Sheriff of Shropshire, 1643-4, created a Baronet by Charles I. March 21, 1644-5. Married (1) Anne, d. of Bonham Norton,

¹ Gen. f. Humphrey Edwards. I. ijs. vjd. Oct. 14, 1613. (Shrewsbury School Register).

- Esq., of Church Stretton, who died 1641; and (2) Cicely, d. of Edward Brooks, Esq., of Church Stretton, who died December 1677. He died in April, 1660.¹
2. Humphrey, M.P. for Shropshire in the interests of the Parliament. Married Hester, d. of Roger Pope, Esq., of Shrewsbury, and died, s.p., in 1658.
 3. Jonathan.
 - i. Lucy, b. 1593, married (1) Thomas Pope; (2) in 1624 Sir Francis Ottley, Knt., Governor of Shrewsbury for the King; Royalist High Sheriff of Shropshire 1644-5.
 - ii. Alice married Michael Lewis of Shrewsbury.

7. The reason for Mytton not having letters sent to Anglesey was probably because he was by this time growing out of favour with the ruling power,—the Army. He was strictly a Parliamentarian, and had no sympathy with the proscription of the Eleven Members, nor with the arrest of the King by Cornet Joyce, and the imprisonment in Carisbrooke Castle. In the words of Gough: "he disliked the proceedings against the King."² When Sir John Owen's revolt was safely crushed, no doubt some in authority thought that there was no further necessity to employ in an important position an officer who was not a whole-hearted supporter. Directly, however, the rising broke out in Anglesey in the following August (1648) there was no hesitation in sending him there, for "needs must when the devil drives."

8. *Our cousin your wife*.—As has been stated above, Thomas Mytton married in 1629 Magdalen, daughter of Sir Robert Napier, Bart., of Luton Hoo, co. Beds., and sister of the second wife of Sir Thomas Middleton of Chirk. John Jackson was her relative, though in what degree I have not been able to discover.

On March 3, 1643-4, Mrs. Mytton was staying "at Carey House in the Strand." On June 13, and July 16, 1644, her address was "Over against the Upper End of the New Exchange in London," but it may have been changed in the four years between then and the date of this letter.

¹ 1660, Apr. 27. Sir Thomas Edwards of the College buried. (Register of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury).

² *History of Myddle*, p. 177.

Your mayd.—On March 27, 1647, Mary Shilton of Muxton, co. Salop, when compounding, as sole executrix, for the estate of her uncle Richard Daniel, of Myre Lake, said that she had “ever since the troubles lived in service with the wife of Colonel Mitton in the Parliament’s quarters.”

9. *Mr. Frost* had been Secretary to the Committee of both Kingdoms, and now filled the same office to the Committee of Derby House.

10. *Lord Goring.* George, son of George Goring, Esq., of Ovingdeane, co. Sussex, by Anne, d. of Edward Denny, Earl of Norwich, was created Baron Goring in 1620, and Earl of Norwich, 1644, but the Parliament did not recognise the latter title. He had played a conspicuous part all through the first Civil War, and was instigator of the second in Essex and Kent. Taken prisoner when Colchester surrendered to Fairfax on August 28, 1648 (after a siege lasting from June 13), he was put on his trial with Sir John Owen and the three others, but was acquitted by the casting vote of the Speaker, who told the House “that he had received many obligations from the Lord; and that once he had been like to have incurred the King’s displeasure by some misinformation which would have been very penal to him the Lord Goring had by his credit preserved him and removed the prejudice that was against him, and therefore he was obliged in gratitude to give his vote for the saving him.”

11. *The Hon. William Pierrepoint* was of Tong Castle, which he had obtained by his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter and eventual heiress of Sir Thomas Harris, Bart.¹ His father had been created Earl of Kingston-upon-Hull in 1628, and, when the Civil War broke out, “divided his sons between both parties.”² He himself met his death while fighting for the King, on July 25, 1643, and his eldest son Henry, afterwards Marquis of Dorchester, was a Royalist. His second son William, and his third Francis, took the opposite side, and the latter commanded a regiment in the army of the Parliament, and was M.P. for Nottingham 1640-53.

¹ Elizabeth the wife of the Hon. William Pierrepoint was buried at Tong, July 1, 1657.

² *Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson*, p. 117.

William Pierrepoint was born in 1607; was High Sheriff of Shropshire in 1638, when he found great difficulty in collecting the Ship-money; and sat as M.P. for Much Wenlock in the Long Parliament from 1640 to 1653. On July 4, 1642, he was appointed a member of the Committee of Safety; was one of the Commissioners to treat with the King in Nov., 1642, and Jan., 1642-3; on April 10, 1643, was elected Member of the Parliamentary Association for cos. Salop, Stafford, and Warwick; in Feb., 1644-5, was one of the Committee of Both Kingdoms, being a "leader of the independent faction;"¹ in 1647 was a Commissioner to treat with the King at Newport, Isle of Wight, and on Dec. 1, 1648, received the thanks of the House for his services during that Treaty. He was elected for co. Nottingham in Cromwell's Second Parliament in 1656, but did not take his seat, and he also refused to be one of his House of Lords. He, however, sat for co. Nottingham in the Convention Parliament 1659-61, but was defeated at the Election in 1661. He died in the summer of 1678, in his 72nd year. He had five sons and five daughters. Of these Robert the eldest (born at Tong, Sept. 20, 1634), married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Evelyn, and died in 1666; George, the second, also died before his father. Gervase, the third (born at Thoresby, co. Nottingham, 1649), was created Baron Pierrepoint, of Hanslope, co. Bucks, and Arglas, in Ireland, inherited Tong, died May 22, 1715, aged 65, and was buried at Tong. Of his daughters (1), Frances (born at Tong Sept. 1, 1630), married Henry Cavendish, Earl of Ogle, afterwards Duke of Newcastle; (2) Grace married Gilbert, Earl of Clare; (3) Gertrude married George Saville, Marquis of Halifax.²

On March 22, 1647, William Pierrepoint was granted £7,467, the fine of his eldest brother Henry, and appears to have removed to the family estate at Thoresby on the sequestration of the head of his house, for he was residing here in 1651, when he entertained Cromwell on his march

¹ *Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson*, p. 270.

² Other children mentioned in the Tong Register are Margaret, born Oct., 1632; Henry, born August, 1637; and William, buried November, 1613.

from Scotland to Worcester. His own home, Tong Castle, had suffered severely when a garrison. "First the King had it, then the Rebels got it, then Prince Rupert took it."¹ Possibly he was away from London at the time of this letter looking after its restoration. On March 16, 1649-50, he wrote to Sir Robert Harley that his house "requires my absence that it may be put in repair." The *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1763, says "The east wing [of Tong Castle] being demolished in the Civil Wars, was re-built with brick in the same style of building with the rest."

In 1646 Francis, Lord Newport, and his son Robert were fined £10,000, and in discharge of this were compelled to convey their titles and rectories in the county of Salop to William Pierrepoint and Humphrey Edwardes, and their heirs, in trust for the augmentation of the maintenance of the several parishes.²

12. *Sir Michael Lucie*, probably Sir Michael Livesey, the Regicide, M.P. for Kent, one of the Colonels of Horse of the New Model in March, 1644-5; now (June, 1648), engaged against the Kentish insurgents. At the Restoration he fled to the Continent.

13. *Your 5000li.*—The Journal of the House of Commons informs us that "on April 19, 1648, on the petition of Colonel Thomas Mitton £5000 was ordered to be paid to him on account, and that he be referred to the Committee of Accounts to state and certify his accounts. Referred to Mr. John Corbett, Mr. Foxwist, Mr. Humphrey Edwards, and Sir Gregory Norton to consider of some Delinquent not yet discovered or compounded with out of whose Fines or Estates the said £5000 may be raised."³

¹ Symonds' Diary.

² The Hon. William Pierrepoint was, by marriage, a cousin of Sir Francis Otley, of Pitchford. Roger Giffard, M.D., President of the Royal College of Physicians, of Steeple Claydon, co. Bucks, left at his death in 1597, two daughters Elizabeth and Mary, the former the wife of Sir Thomas Harris, Bart., of Tong Castle, and mother of Elizabeth, wife of William Pierrepoint the latter the wife of Thomas Otley, of Pitelford, and mother of Sir Francis Otley.

³ Their attempts seem to have been ineffectual, for on September 13, 1649, a "Petition of Major General Mitton for his Arrears and Losses" was presented to the Parliament, though previously, on August 14, 1648, "Mr. Foxwist carried to the Lords for their concurrence an Ordinance for payment of £5000 to M. G. Mytton, and brings answer they do agree."

14. *Late troubles here, i.e., in London.* No doubt the recent riot of the London apprentices. It began on April 9, soon spread over the whole of the City, and much blood was shed before it was put down. The Parliament took a very serious view of it, and Whitelock writes:—"This insurrection in these times of discontent and distraction (if it had not been so soon appeased and nipped in the bud), might have proved of most dangerous consequence to all the Parliament Party, and have occasioned a new War. We may take notice of the incertainty of Worldly affairs, when the Parliament and their Army had subdued their common Enemy, then they quarrelled among themselves, the Army against the Parliament; when they were pretty well pieced together again, then the Apprentices and others make an insurrection against the Parliament and Army."

15. *Ordinance of Indemnity.*—May 24, 1648. Instructions passed for the Earl of Thanet to go down into Kent to quiet the rioters, by assuring them that upon laying down their Arms and repairing home they shall have an Ordinance of Indemnity. May 27. Upon a Petition from the Rioters in Kent ordered that they shall have Indemnity and Pardon if they forthwith lay down Arms, restore what they have taken, retire to their own dwellings, and engage to be quiet for the future. June 4. The Houses passed an Act of Indemnity for all in Kent and Essex (except Goring and a few others) if they forthwith lay down Armes, and the Act was sent down to them. (Whitelock.)

16. *Mr. Ellioytt.*—Apparently a secret service agent, or private detective of General Mytton's. For giving secret information which might lead to the sequestration of the estates of Royalists was a paying profession just now, the informer getting a percentage of the fine for himself.

17. *Mr. Salisburie.*—This was Colonel William Salusbury of Bachymbydd, co. Denbigh, the celebrated Hosannau gleision, so called from his custom of wearing blue stockings. He was born in 1586, and was Colonel of the Welsh Regiment of Foot, which, though practically unarmed, fought so bravely at Edge Hill. In November, 1643, he fortified Denbigh Castle at his own cost, and defended it till

October 27, 1646, against Sir Thomas Myddleton and Colonel Mytton. Here Charles I. stayed, September 25-28, 1645, after the defeat at Rowton Heath. Colonel W. Salusbury died in 1659.

*Charles Salisbury*¹ was his second son, but eventual heir. He was knighted after the Restoration, and was one of the proposed members of the Order of the Royal Oak in 1661, when his income was put down as £1300. His only child, Jane, married Sir Walter Bagot, of Blithfield, co. Stafford.

In the Common's Journal is the entry:—"1648, Aug. 28. That the house doth accept of Seven hundred fourscore and one pounds for a Fine for the Delinquency of Wm. Salisbury of Bachumbid in the County of Denbigh, Esq., and Charles Salesbury his Son. Their Delinquency that they were in arms against the Parliament."

18. *Mr Revull*.—This name does not seem to occur in the Parliamentary Lists (Blue Book, 1878). Possibly he was only an official of the House, and not an M.P.

19. *John Jackson*, cousin by marriage to Major General Thomas Mytton. In May, 1643, John Jackson, gentleman, was acting as a "collector appointed by virtue of a late ordinance for seizing and sequestering the estates of delinquents and papists within the city of Westminster." Of him I know nothing more unless he is the officer named in the following entry in the Commons Journal:—"1648, May 16. That this House doth approve of Lieutenant Colonel Jackson to be one of the Committee named in the Ordinance for the Militia in London." This Committee appears to have been appointed, on the nomination of the Common Council, owing to the riot of the Apprentices in the previous April.

On Jan. 30, 1648-9, a letter was addressed to Major General Mytton "at Mr. Jackson's house in the round court over against the New Exchange," and on Feb. 8, 1648-9, to him "at Mr. John Jackson's house over against the round Court nigh the New Exchange." There are allusions to Jackson in letters of June 13, 1643, and March 3, 1643-4,

¹ Charles Salesbury entered Shrewsbury School, Oct. 9, 1637, with his brother Robert.

among the *Mytton Papers*, and also a letter of his, dated June 6, 1648, and directed to "the Honble. General Mytton at his quarters in N. Wales."

Two of General Mytton's children were strong Royalists. His only son took part in Sir George Booth's abortive Cheshire rising for the King in August, 1659, and on October 29 of that year the County Commissioners of Shropshire, in their report to the Commissioners for Sequestrations in London, included among "the delinquents of large estates" the name of "Richard, son and heir of Major General Mytton." Richard Mytton was afterwards High Sheriff of Shropshire.

His daughter, Mary, married Sir Thomas Harris, Bart., of Boratton, who was the chief agent in the wild attempt to seize Shrewsbury Castle for Charles II. in March, 1654-5, and who, accordingly, suffered arrest and imprisonment, probably getting off more lightly than he otherwise would have done because of the influence of his father-in-law. This, however, did not prevent him from joining with his brother-in-law in 1659.¹

The *Dictionary of National Biography* states that letters of Major-General Mytton are given in Rep. 4 and 5, Old Parliamentary History, and in the Calendar of State Papers (Domestic); and that there are 22 letters of his in the Tanner MSS. in the Bodleian.

¹ In 1650 Sir Thomas Harris, Boratton, co. Salop, had compounded for adherence to the King in both wars.

THE RURAL DEANERY OF CLUN IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

BY THE REV. W. G. CLARK-MAXWELL, M.A., F.S.A.,
VICAR OF CLUNBURY, AND RURAL DEAN OF CLUN.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

IN order to avoid continued repetition, I should like to say—what every one who compares the two papers will see for himself—how much this owes to the paper by the Rev. J. E. Auden, of Tong, on the “Ecclesiastical History of Shropshire during the Civil War.”¹ I may also express my obligations to the “Sequestration Papers of Humphrey Walcot,” by the Rev. J. R. Burton, Rector of Bitterley,² and to his loan of many of the Papers quoted, as well as to the published list of Shropshire Institutions in the *Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. I., 257f., Vol. V., 349f., and Vol. VIII., 39f. To the Clergy of the various parishes, I must also add a word of acknowledgment for the courteous way in which they have afforded me access to the documents in their custody, and spared no pains to help in the recovery of the true aspect of this confused period of our Ecclesiastical history.

In the early part of the 17th century before the outbreak of the struggle between the King and Parliament, the Ecclesiastical Organisation in the Rural Deanery of Clun, comprising as it did the South-western portion of the county of Shropshire, together with the parishes of Brampton Bryan, Leintwardine, Burrington, Downton and Aston in Herefordshire, and that of Knighton, in Radnorshire, though following the same main outlines as at present define the Rural Deaneries of Clun and Bishop’s Castle, differed in certain details from that which now obtains. The parish of

¹ *Transactions*, 3rd Series, VII., 241—310.

² *Ibid.*, V., 303—348.

Clun, originally of such vast extent as well nigh to pass belief, had "shed" the outlying portions which now make up the Rectories of Hopesay, Hopton Castle, and Bedstone, but still reckoned among its members the chapelries of Sibdon and Edgton, Llanvairwaterdine, Bettws-y-Crwyn, and Clunbury, though these were accounted separate benefices and served by Perpetual Curates. Clun itself was a Vicarage, owing to the donation of the Rectory to the Priory of Wenlock by Isabel de Say, Lady of Clun at the end of the 12th century, and the Lay Rectory and right of presentation to the Vicarage and the dependent chapels had passed at the Dissolution from monastic hands to the Crown, then to the Howard family, and from them to the Walcots of Walcot. The representative of this family at this time was Humphrey Walcot, whose fortunes are described in Mr. Burton's paper already alluded to, and who had presented to Clun in 1637 Thomas Froysell of Clare Hall, Cambridge, B.A. 1627, M.A. 1631, cousin of Sir Robert Harley of Brampton Bryan, a man of great learning and exemplary piety, and a strong Puritan in opinions. Of him Calamy records that he was "the bosom friend of Mr. Richard Baxter, fixed at Clun by that pious gentleman Mr. Walcot, who preferred none to his livings but the worthiest men." Froysell's predecessor was also a strong Puritan, Erasmus Powell, appointed Rural Dean of Clun by Bishop Godwin, April 21, 1620, whose curate was for a short time his nephew, Vavasor Powell, "afterwards the famous Anabaptist and opponent of Cromwell."¹ The date of his presentation was June 19, 1596.² It may be convenient here to enumerate, as far as they are known, the curates of the Chapelries of Clun, then to proceed to those portions of the ancient parish which had been erected into separate Rectories, and to round off the southern portion of the Deanery, before passing to Lydbury and the northern part (now forming the Deanery of Bishop's Castle).

¹ Born at Knucklas, in Radnorshire, in the year 1617(?), after serving in Clun, where it is alleged he forged letters of Orders for himself, he went in 1642 to London, whence he returned to Radnorshire to carry out the "Act for the Propagation of the Gospel in Wales."

² *Transactions*, 3rd Series, 41.

Sibdon and *Edgton* were separate chapels, but served as a rule by one minister; being only a Perpetual Curacy, presentations to this benefice were not recorded in the Bishop's Register at Hereford, and we are therefore dependent on that of *Sibdon*, which begins in 1582. Here we find the names of William Blucke in 1621, of John Rusbach 1639-44, Thomas Weaver in 1646, and John Griffen in 1647-48. *Edgton* Register is not extant for this period. At *Llanfairwaterdine* Richard Vaughan signs the Register as Curate in 1610, and later on "Mr. Cradock" is mentioned in 1639 by Lady Brilliana Harley as "setled at Clanver." From her letters we gather that he was a friend of Humphrey Walcot, a Puritan, and injudiciously outspoken, which got him into trouble with the Bishop. She says, Feb. 1, 1638-9, "Mr. Cradock is setled at Clanver, wheare they say Mr. Wallcott means to live. I thinke it strange that Mr. Cradocke should incorage on to preche, by which he puts his frinde upon such a disadvantage. Mr. Cradock is a worthy man, but sometimes he does not judg cleerely of things, and when we meet with such men, we must looke through the clowde of theare infirmetyes upon the sunshine of theare vertues" (p. 26). "Nov. 25, 1639, Mr. Cradock is goon from Clanver, he was sited and would not apere" (p. 74). Dec. 6, 1639, "I heare that Mr. Cradock is returned to Clanver, but not to preach" (p. 78).

In 1641, Lady Harley sent her two younger sons as pupils to Mr. Cradock at Clanver, as did Mrs. Walcot of Walcot, but they were soon brought home again. "The diet was so bade. . . . I fear it has done your brother Tome some hurt. He dous not look well and his stomake is goon. They did eate nothing but salt meate" (p. 144).

To judge from the changes in the handwriting of the Register, Mr. Cradock seems to have been at *Llanfair* only from 1639-42, as in May of that year a fresh handwriting begins, which lasts till August, 1662, indicating possibly the incumbency of Thomas Hall, mentioned below.

As Vavasor Powell was a native of *Knucklas*, barely 1½ miles from *Llanfairwaterdine*, and as it is recorded of him that "the formation of deeper religious convictions is assigned to 1638-9, when he was influenced by the preaching

of W. Cradock"¹ we may not unreasonably suppose that this latter, and the curate of Llanfair, were one and the same person.

No register survives for *Bettws* earlier than 1662, but *Clunbury* has been more fortunate in this respect; Edward Lloyd signing from 1604—1614 (he was here already in 1587); William Hayle, 1624—1634; George Barkley (a younger member of the family of that name settled at Clungunford) from 1634—1641. In this latter year Richard Heath appears as Curate, and continues till 1646.

Hopesay was served by Richard Awunsham,² presented by Sir Robert Howard, Kt., in 1623, but no help is afforded by the Register, which is missing until 1678; some notes of earlier Incumbents will be found in Appendix A.

Hopton Castle, whose Register begins among the earliest, in 1538, records in 1611 the burial of Thurston Tilston, Rector, who had been instituted on Jan. 12, 1578-9 on the presentation of Robert Corbett; and on July 22nd, 1618, that of Henry Gosden, his successor. Edward Smith, B.D., was appointed Rector on July 31st, 1618, and was buried July 1st, 1629; Lucas Sutton, M.A., being instituted on Dec. 23rd of that year, on the presentation of Sir Henry Wallop, Kt.

Bedstone gives us no help from the Register, which only begins in 1719, but we learn that George Lloyd was inducted Rector on Sept. 22nd, 1622, Thomas Ireland being the patron. Harl. MS. 7517 mentions among those who had been influenced by Gwalter Stephens of Bishop's Castle, "that laborious and pious minister, Mr. Thomas Ellis, of Bedstone, now (1699) with the Lord," presumably the Thomas Ellis appointed in 1590. (See Appendix A).

Turning now to the other parishes in the South-west of the Deanery, we find at *Bucknell* (appropriated to Wigmore *temp.* Henry II., and therefore now a Vicarage), that Richard Bebb signs as "curatus" in 1638-9, and the names of John Freemantle, Vicar, and of John Powell, Curate, are written in an early 17th century hand on the fly-leaf of the Register, which dates from 1598. On the

¹ Article on "Vavasor Powell" in *Dict. Nat. Biography*.

² Or Aunsham.

death of Mr. Griffiths in Oct., 1639, Sir R. Harley and his cousin Davis of Coxall, were anxious to have a Mr. Bartley appointed, but Mr. Morgan "put in a cauite¹ for the King." As they failed to get this removed, Richard Edwards was instituted 6th April, 1640, the patronage being claimed by the Crown.

Stow was one of the ancient Saxon Parishes of this district, but has this claim at least to happiness, that very little history is recorded of it during the whole of the seventeenth century. On 11 Sept., 1562, one Hugh Ap Price was appointed by the Crown, the former incumbent having been deprived, and on 26 Aug., 1563, Thomas Harley, possibly the same as had been appointed to Brampton Bryan in 1555. Thomas Peate was appointed 1594, and in the accounts of Clun Hospital, "Mr. Minton, minister of the Stow," is mentioned in 1646, but I have not been able to find anything further until 1661.

Knighton was at this time a chapelry of Stow, as indeed it continued to be till at least 1750, having, however, a separate Register beginning in 1599. Therein we find recorded that John Blayne entered on the cure of Knighton Aug. 4, 1605. Robert Middleton "Curatus" signs in 1613 and 1614, and Roger Powell from 1615 onwards till end of 1652 at least. In Williams' *History of Radnorshire*, p. 184, the date of Roger Powell is given as 1600, and that of a Robert Milward as 1603, but no authorities are quoted, and both statements are probably mistaken, as the latter name occurs 60 years later, 1662—1682. On the 3rd Aug., 1655, "Mr. Ralph Fenton was approved and admitted to the Vicarage of Knighton, co. Radnor, by the Commissioners for approbation of publique preachers, upon presentation of Arthur Powell y^e Patron."² Considering the size of the place, there is singularly little recorded concerning Knighton during the whole period covered by this paper; but when we turn to *Brampton Bryan*, however, we find the case far different. The Rectory here was in the patronage of the Harley family, and the famous Parliamentarian Sir Robert

¹ *i.e.*, *caveat*.

² Lambeth Palace, Augmentation MSS., Vol. 968, No. 153.

Harley. On the death of Humphrey Owen, Rector, in 1611, Sir Robert's recommendation fell first on Thomas Peacock, of Brasenose College, Oxford, but he dying before he could take up his residence, Thomas Pierson¹ was appointed to the vacancy. "The Godly Mr. Pierson," as he was called, Rector from 1613—1633, was the principal Puritan in the whole of Herefordshire and South Shropshire, and his house a resort of ministers from all parts, especially at the Ember Seasons, "like doves flocking to their windows." Pierson's first successor was William Brice, instituted the 6th March, 1633-4, but his old parishioners of Henley-on-Thames begged that he might withdraw his acceptance, which he accordingly was allowed to do, and Stanley Gower, formerly chaplain to Archbishop Ussher, was appointed on Sept. 6th, 1634. As Sir Robert Harley was the patron, it will be readily understood that both of these were of the same opinions as he was.

Clungunford Rectory was held at this time, as practically for the whole of the seventeenth century, by members of the Barkley family; William Barkley, Rector, being buried 16th May, 1629, and Samuel Barkley instituted 19th June, 1630. We shall see later reason for supposing that they also were of the Puritan way of thinking.

Leintwardine, with Burrington, Downton, and Aston, though now severed from the Deanery of Clun, were included in it, and earlier in the County of Salop. The first-named three were all anciently appropriated to Wigmore Abbey, Burrington and Downton being reckoned as chapelries of Leintwardine. At the time our survey opens the patronage of Leintwardine had passed from the Crown to the Harleys, and on May 28, 1622, Sir Robert Harley presented Thomas Doughty to the Vicarage, in succession (apparently) to John Ball, appointed in 1578 by Ric. Meynell. Doughty's successor was John Yates, instituted Oct. 3, 1638, and to judge from the frequent mention of him and his wife in Lady Brilliana's letters, an intimate friend of the Harley family.

¹ Of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

To *Downton*, vacant by the death of Edward Froysell, Richard Wright was appointed by the Crown Dec. 23, 1622, but on May 1, 1638, he removed to *Burrington*, being succeeded at *Downton* by Henry Barker, who in his turn gave way to Gilbert Beale, appointed 14 July, 1641. This may be the "Mr. Beale" mentioned by Lady Brilliana in March, 1642-3, as threatened with proceedings for disloyalty, together with Mr. Yates of Leintwardine, Mr. Gower of Brampton Bryan, Sir Robert Harley himself, and his son Edward, but we cannot be certain of this: the Harleys and Beales reckoned themselves cousins.

For *Aston* Rectory I have only been able to gather very little information, none, in fact, save that William Lowe was appointed 24 July, 1637, and that "Mr. Low" is stated to be parson in or about 1640 in "the Survey of the Ministry of Herefordshire" presented to Sir R. Harley at this time, which speaks thus of the parishes last under review.

[MS. C. C. C. Oxon, 206.]

"A Survey of the Ministry of Herefordshire.
Humbly represented as it lyeth in the seuerall Hundreds, to
S^r Robert Harley K^t of the noble Order of the Bathe,
and one of the K^{ts} of that Shire in the memorable
Parliam^t Anno Domini 1640.

WIGMORE HUNDRED.

Aston. 12.

A Rectory within a quarter of a myle to Elton, worth per annum 20^{li} Mr. Low afores^d Parson, & preacheth one part of the day there, & tother at Elton, to his great trouble, either congregation coming where hee preacheth, and therefore it may seeme good to reduce them both to one church.

Burrington. 13.

A vicaridge worth per annum 50^{li}, M^r Wright vicar, a constant preacher, patron the King.

Dounton. 14.

A vicaridge worth per annum 30^{li} M^r Barker vicar & non Resident, the Cure discharged by a poore simple Curate, hath neither honesty nor Learning & soe farre from preaching that hee can scarce read.

Lentwerdine. 15.

A Rectory & a vicaridge, the parsonage is improp[r]iated to many persons, worth in the whole per annum 200^{li} the vicaridge worth per annum 20^{li} M^r Yates vicar, a Constant and Conscionable preacher S^r Rob: Harly Patron.

Brompton Bryan. 16.

A Rectory worth per annum 50^{li} the tithes of a third parte of the parish were given away in times of popery to the maintenance of an Hospitall in Clun, & soe it remaineth & yet the parson is as much charged with them, as with any other parte of the parish; they are farmed by on m^{res} Mathewes & if they were reduced to the Church whereof the people are members, they would make the Rectory a good competencie for a painefull minister; & it is thought it would bee both a Charitable and equall deed & very feisable, there beeing noe great Charity in mayntaining that hospitall, as now it standes, at Least Charitie should begin at home, & not rob the Church to maintaine the Hospitall, or if it must devoure the hospitallitie of the Church, there are means enough. for 2 other parishes goes the same way besides other meanes M^r Gower Rector whom you know, his most honoured Patron.

In this hundred there are but 5 Constant & conscionable preachers; & yet there are more in it then in any other hundred in the Shire."

It is not, I hope, uncharitable to conjecture from the intimate and feeling way in which the tithes of the third part of Brampton parish (the township of Stanage) are spoken of, that Mr. Stanley Gower himself was one of the authors of this document. It is, however, a curious misstatement to say that Clun Hospital has been founded in times of Popery seeing that it was barely 25 years since it had been established by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton (in 1614).

Four out of the five "constant & conscionable preachers" of the hundred of Wigmore appear to have been beneficed within the then Deanery of Clun; and if Gilbert Beale was a Puritan, as seems most likely, the reproach was removed in 1641 from Downton also.

In the northern part of the Deanery, now reckoned (since 1899) as the Deanery of Bishop's Castle, we find the following state of affairs; *Lydbury North* (a Vicarage, the Rectory having been appropriated to Wigmore Abbey) begins its Register in 1563. Ruben Stenton's name occurs in 1569, and that of John Ambler in 1573. Edward Home was instituted 7 Jan., 1576-7. the patronage being in the hands of the Crown. In 1579, he was appointed Rural Dean of Clun, and the same year made Rector of More. We may conclude that he was succeeded at Lydbury by the John Ambler, who, perhaps, had already served the cure 1573-6, and who had been ordained Deacon 3 March, 1571-2 and Priest in June of the same year. The Amblers were, later at least, local landowners, leaving property at Hardwick in Lydham parish, and John Ambler was ordained on the title of £4 annual rent from the lands of Andrew Blunden of Bishop's Castle. The Blundens were the principal family of Bishop's Castle in the first half of the 17th century. There appear to have been two vicars successively of the same name (father and son), as the institution of John Ambler, jun., is recorded 22nd Oct., 1624, Charles Moore being given as the patron.

Concerning this younger John Ambler, we learn from *Alumni Oxonienses* that he matriculated at Magdalen College in 1617, being then 17 years old, and described as "cler. fil." that he proceeded B.A. from S. Mary Hall in 1620 and M.A. in 1624. That he was appointed Vicar of Lydbury North in 1624; Rector of Lydham 1636, and Prebendary of Llandegle in the Collegiate Church of Abergwilly (diocese St. David's) in 1639.

The evidence of the Lydbury Registers, however, must be used with caution, as John Ambler II. and III. have both inserted the name of John Ambler I. after the years when they calculated that he began his vicarate.¹ The Bishop's

¹ Another, even more obvious, instance of interpolation is mentioned below under the year 1658.

Register, however, is sure evidence of the institution of Edward Home in 1576. It follows also that the statement of the mural tablet to John Ambler 1., in Lydbury Chancel, that he was Vicar for 50 years, dying in Sept., 1627, must be only an approximation to the exact length of his incumbency. (See pedigree in Appendix B.)

The patron of *Lydham* at this time was Richard Oakely, Esq., and his presentation of John Ambler in 1636 is the only one which I had before 1661. The Register, though beginning in 1597, gives us no help in this matter, as there are no signatures.

Norbury was reckoned an outlying portion of Lydbury, and there are no separate institutions recorded; but a study of the Register, which begins in 1560, enables us to establish the fact that John Ambler, the same who was appointed to Lydbury in 1624, served this cure from (apparently) 1621—1626. In 1627 begin the signatures of Bryan Hopkins, curate, which continue till Sept., 1643.

Bishop's Castle was originally also a portion of Lydbury Parish, having been known in mediæval times as much by the name of Lydbury Castle as by that which it now bears. It had early been a centre of Puritanism owing largely to the influence of Gwalter Stephens, Vicar from 1576 to his death in 1629.¹ He is recorded (Harleian M.S., 7517) to have been among the first founders of lectures in these parts, and to have been strenuous in his efforts to put down the holding of fairs on Sunday. An illustration of this, perhaps one reason for his anxiety, may be found in the following entry in the Bishop's Castle Register, amongst the burials for 1593, after May 31st:—

“Hoc tempore coepit Deus nos castigare acri sua castigatione ita ut 174 homines et pueri, gravissimo et violentissimo morbo et contagio pestilentiae correpti mortem obierunt. Sic visum est Deo, nos affligere quia in tanta messe et prædicatione verbi sui justos et sanctos fructus

¹ His predecessors, as gathered from Bishop Scory's register, were Hugo ap Richard, instit. 23 Feb. 1566-7, patron, the Queen; John Iston, 5 April, 1569; William Cragge (per deprivationem Johannis Iston) 17 Nov. 1572. It was Gwalter Stephens who was silenced by Bishop Scory for not using the cross in Baptism, but the inhibition was removed by the persuasion of £100 imposed on the Bishop as a fine by Chief Baron Perriam.

spiritus non protulerimus: sed verbo Dei spreto, sanctum sabbatum violavimus: xxiii^o enim die Junii, qui fuit dies dominica majores ploverique et inhabitantes huius Burgi consentierunt ut nundinæ eo die servarentur, quocirca in ipso scelere ut fures deprehensi sunt." Then follow, 7 burials in June, 53 in July, 81 in August, 28 in September, and 4 in October, after the 21st of which month occurs this entry, "Hoc tempore (Deo miserante) cessabat contagium." (In the year before there were 20 burials; in the year after, 23).¹

We may gather from this that in 1593, despite the protest of the Vicar, the inhabitants of Bishop's Castle insisted on holding their fair on June 24th, as usual, although that day fell on a Sunday, that thereupon the plague broke out, the contagion being very possibly brought by some of those who attended the fair, and carried off 174 persons before it ceased in October. The following passage in the Harleian M.S., 7517, probably refers to this visitation:—"When there was a fearfull plague at Bishop's Castle, he preached in the field, and caused the sound to take the benefit of the wind apart from the infected, and went about the Towne exhorting the sicke at their windows, and causing plentiful relief to be brought them out of the country, and the Lord preserved him and his Family safe."

Stephenson's successor was Gervase Needham, appointed 29th Dec., 1629, on the presentation of Walter Waring, Esq., and he was, as we shall see, a pronounced Royalist.

At *Mainstone* we find a somewhat complicated, but very interesting, parochial history at this time. The Church had been appropriated to Wigmore, and the cure served by a *stipendiarius*, but whether it was reckoned as a parcel of Lydbury or of Bishop's Castle we do not know. Edward Froyssell signs as minister in 1607,² to certify that there are no glebe lands attached to the living. In a memorandum, dated Jan. 5, 1614, on the outer cover of Vol. I. of the Mainstone Register, Richard Powell is stated to be "patronus," but subsequent events make it doubtful if this can mean

¹ I owe the above information to the courtesy of the Rev. C. E. Warner, Vicar of Bishop's Castle.

² Perhaps the same who was Vicar of Downton, and died in 1622.

“patron” in our modern sense. To the Registers of 1621 and 1622 is appended a signature, which looks like “Thoma Jhonnis ministro,” after those of 1625 “John Rusbech, minister.” (He was from 1639, or earlier, as the Register is here imperfect, to 1644 curate of Sibdon, and afterwards at Wistanstow, a member of the “5th Classis” of 1647, and turned out in 1660.) In April, 1637, “Geo. Lawson minister” signs a memorandum, but in August of the same year he was appointed to More (see below). In 1647 the tithes were restored to the parish by King Charles I., and the living thus became a Rectory, as it still continues. In the Letters Patent, dated Dec. 4, 16 Caroli, of which a paper copy is kept with the Mainstone Registers, and a transcript was entered in Bishop Coke’s Register, George Barkley is designated as the first Rector. It is not stated whether he was already in charge of the parish; but as a George Barkley left Clunbury in 1641, it seems natural to suppose that he moved to Mainstone in this year.

The first Rector of Mainstone moved afterwards to Westbury, and at last to Chetton; and a comparison of the signatures renders it certain that the same man who signed at Clunbury 1634-41, signed at Chetton 1662-76.

At *More*, the influence of the More family was strong, and cast on the side of the Parliament. William Biggs, appointed Rector 4th April, 1615, buried March 16th, 1636-7, and George Lawson, previously at Mainstone, appointed his successor 23rd August, 1637, may be reckoned as on the Puritan side; the former probably, the latter certainly. The patron in each case was Richard More, the famous Parliamentarian, who died December 6th, 1643.

At *Wentnor* we have no help from the Registers, which do not begin until 1662, but there is record of the institution on August 8, 1637, of John Roberts to the Rectory, on the presentation of Sir Thomas Thinne, Kt.¹

At *Ratlinghope* the same paucity of information was to be deplored; but as the parish did not anciently form part of the Deanery of Clun, the loss is the less important for our present purpose.

¹ *Liber Institutionum*, Series A. (P.R.O.)

Myndtown is in slightly better case, for we know that Richard Myllward was appointed in 1578, Nicholas Keisell in 1606; and that on the resignation of the latter, that Richard Dicklegge was instituted Rector July 1, 1624,¹ the patron, George Mynn, Esq., having granted this presentation to Edward Weston. The King presented Jeremiah Okeley on October 18th, 1634 (by lapse); and Edward Bosden, Esqr., presented Robert Gawen on 18th February, 1641.

Having thus briefly gone through what is known of the incumbents of the various parishes, we may reckon that at the time when Charles I. raised the Royal Standard at Nottingham in August, 1642, those incumbents whose views were most decided and of most influence, were, for the most part, of the Puritan way of thinking. There were two strong Royalists, Richard Awnsham, Rector of Hopesay, and Gervase Needham, Vicar of Bishop's Castle, as is shown by their signing the Loyal Declaration of August 24th, 1642, and to these should be added the names of John Ambler, Rector of Lydham, and Richard Edwards, Vicar of Bucknell, as they were, in all probability, ejected from their livings when the Parliamentary forces got the upper hand. But at first the contrary was the case; the county of Salop was pretty continuously under the King's power, until the capture of Shrewsbury by the Parliamentary forces in February, 1645, and as neither party would willingly allow disaffected persons to remain undisturbed, we find that Samuel Berkeley of Clungunford was imprisoned by Lord Capel, the Royalist Governor of Shropshire, for disloyalty, and that Thomas Froyssell of Clun retired to London, where he received various appointments as preacher and lecturer.² But by the time of the battle of Naseby, 14th June, 1645, he would be free to return without molestation—and it seems probable that he did so at the close of 1646, as on September 1 he mentions the prospect of his leaving London for Hereford, where he had been appointed preacher April

¹ The printed "Institutions" give the date as 1629; but the Episcopal Register, and the Blakeway MS. agree in the earlier date.

² He was not a member of the Westminster Assembly, but his signature is found among those appended to a certificate granted by that body to Vavasor Powell. (*Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. xv.).

15, 1646.¹ He preached the Funeral Sermon of Humphrey Walcot on June 8th, 1650, and remained at Clun till 1662.

It was now the turn of the loyalist clergy to suffer, and they did so in greater measure than had the others. Of Needham of Bishop's Castle, Walker (*Sufferings of the Clergy*) says that "his house and his goods were burnt, nor was he permitted to keep a private school for the subsistence of his Family, in so much that had they not been relieved by the charity of some relations they must have wanted bread." He remained, however, at Bishop's Castle, as it seems, or at least was buried there; as there is a brass to his memory in the church there, which states that he died January 27th, 1648. Awnsham, on the other hand, was imprisoned at Shrewsbury and most severely used, and his living sequestered. John Ambler, Rector of Lydham, was expelled from his living, and the same fate probably attended Richard Edwards of Bucknell, who, as early as 1641, had been dealt with by the Long Parliament among "superstitious, innovating, scandalous, or malignant clergymen."² This latter seems to have been a man of strong opinions and violent ways of expressing them. It was probably the proximity of Sir R. Harley at Brampton Bryan that earned him thus early the notice of Parliament, and in her letters Lady Brilliana mentions him several times: On Feb. 24, 1639-40, that "Mr. Edwards is inducted into Bucknill and there abides." He seems to have disregarded the orders of the Parliament, for on March 12, 1640-1, we learn that "Mr. Edwards will not out." . . . "I never hard of a man that was not out of his Sences, that was so careles to doo like a resnabell man, as Mr. Edwards is: He seames to let himself loose to be led by his pastions." On June 19, 1641, "Mr. Edwards—has by fors kept Bucknell, and cars not for the parliament." A year later he was still there, but by the close of 1642 he was probably "out," as there is a gap in Bucknell Register 1643—1648, when it is resumed over the signature of John Gough, who was appointed by the Parlia-

¹ Historical Manuscript Commission, Report on Portland MSS., vol. iii., pp. 142—145.

² *Lords Journals*, iv., 163.

ment on Sept. 30, 1647, Jeremy Powell, Esq., being given as the patron.

The Sequestration papers of Humphrey Walcot, however, throw a curious glimpse of light on one at least of these proceedings. By his Composition, dated December 23rd, 1645, his fine of £947 was reduced to £500 in consideration of his undertaking to settle £160 per annum viz., £40 per annum each for the maintenance of four ministers in the several Chapels in the parish of Clun. This was not quite so oppressive a bargain as it seems, since there was already a charge of £120 on his revenues for this purpose, out of the Improprate Parsonage of Clun, which is returned as worth £310 a year.¹ The receipts for these payments were preserved by Humphrey Walcot and his son John, and a good many of them are still in existence; and from them we find that Richard Aunsham, dispossessed from Hopesay, is established from 1646 as Curate of Clunbury. Further, as his earliest successor at Hopesay was, according to Walker, one Heath (Richard Heath, afterwards at St. Alkmund's, Salop), and as Richard Heath was his immediate predecessor at Clunbury, it seems not unreasonable to suppose that they exchanged, in an irregular way, Heath, the Puritan, going to the larger income and more prominent position at Hopesay, and Aunsham, the Loyalist, receiving in the greater obscurity of the Curacy of Clunbury, what would help to tide over the evil time of destitution. What the £40 at Clunbury must have meant to him, we may guess from the following letter which has been preserved among his receipts to Walcot:—

“Honest Frank,

I would intreat thee to doe me that favoure as to speake to thy Mtr. for my quarterige, for I have at this instant some occasion to use it, pray present my service unto him, in hast I take leave and rest

Thy assured ffriende to his powre

ffeb: 20 1647

Ri: Aunsham.

¹ See No. IV. in the Appendix of Documents to Mr. Burton's Paper. At the Restoration, of course, this payment would revert from £40 to £30 once more, and it is interesting to note that in the case of Hanwairwaterdiue, Clunbury and Sibdon, this payment is still made by the Patron. At Bettws-y-Crwyn this payment was exchanged in 1871 for £184 17s. 1d. Commuted Tithe,

Endorsed: ffor my loving ffriende
 ffrancis Rickas¹
 these.

The "quarterage" due at Christmas was probably in arrear, and compelled this indirect appeal on Aunsham's part. It is satisfactory to know that it was not unsuccessful, as there is a note entered at the close of the letter, that £10 quarterage was sent Mr. Aunsham the same day. Payments at the same rate are recorded from 1646—July 1655, when Aunsham was obliged to leave Clunbury in its turn, and retire to Shrewsbury, whence he pens the following letter to John Walcot, now of Walcot, and patron of the living.

" Noble Sr,

I perceive by a Letter that I received from my sonn that you make some scrupell of paying mee this tenn Pounds for my Quarterige for fear Least you should be questioned for the same which I hope will not be, but in case the mallice of my enemyes should be such as to doe it, I shall save you harmles; I would therefore entreat you to pay it unto my sonn Samuell, for I protest, Sr, I am in want and have noe other meanes at present to supply the same but by your favour herein which I doubt not of; thus with my hearty prayers to the Lord for his blessing oppon you and yours, I take leave and rest

Sr

Yor. most humble servant

Ri: Aunsham.

Salopp: Julii: 25

1655."

Indorsed: To my much honored Freinde

John Walcott of Walcott Esq: these present.

Bearing in mind the appointment of the "Commissioners for the approbation of Public Preachers" in March, 1654, and of the County Committees, significantly called "Ejectors," for the reason given that "many weak,

¹ Francis Rickas seems to have been Walcot's steward. He is entered on the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1641, as of Clungunford.

scandalous, Popish, and ill affected persons had intruded themselves" into vacant livings, it is easy to conjecture that the "mallice" of his "enemyes" had prevailed so far as to eject Aunsham once more, the probable reason being his "scandalous" behaviour in using the Book of Common Prayer. In 1660 this harassed man returned to his living of Hopesay, which he held for about ten years.

But Mr. Richard Aunsham's story has caused us to anticipate the course of events. In 1643 the Westminster Assembly began to sit, and the signing of the Covenant was made obligatory on every person above eighteen years of age. In August, 1645, the use of the Directory was ordered, and that of the Prayer Book forbidden under heavy penalties; and in June, 1646, Presbyteries or Classes were established throughout the country. Most of the Deanery of Clun fell within the Sixth Classis of Shropshire, Clungunford and Wistanstow being in the Fifth or Ludlow Classis and Brampton Bryan etc., of course being reckoned in Herefordshire. Amongst those nominated as "fit" for the government of these "classes" appear the names of Mr. Samuel Barkley, of Clungunford, in the Fifth Classis, and in the Sixth those of Froyssell, of Clun, George Barkley, of Mainstone, George Lawson, of More, Richard Heath, of Hopesay; and of the laymen, Samuel More, of Linley, Will. Billingsley, of Bishop's Castle, Walter Holland, of Purslow, Thomas More, of More, Esay Thomas, of Bishop's Castle.

This arrangement of presbyteries was approved in April, 1647, but lasted only for a very short time, being discredited, as we may well believe, by "Pride's Purge" of Parliament, and finally abolished in March, 1653—4 by the order which established the Commissioners for approbation of Public Preachers. The Presbyterian Clergy of Shropshire viewed the events of 1648 with alarm, and signed a "testimony to the Truth," to which the names of Barclay, of Mainstone, and Froyssell, of Clun, amongst fifty-five others, are appended.

In 1646 an ordinance was issued by Parliament for the repair of such churches as had been damaged in the Civil Wars. No names are given, but the following damage is known to have been done in our district.

Bishop's Castle Church was damaged and the interior burnt in August, 1645, Mr. Auden says, "while serving as a place for the Parliamentarians." Mr. E. Griffiths, in his *History of Bishop's Castle*, says, "over the heads of a number of inhabitants who took refuge there from the Parliamentary troops," but no authority is given, and the former statement is the more intrinsically probable. Mr. Griffiths quotes a letter of Sir Middleton, saying, 1645, Sept. 13th, "This day we rec^d. intellig^{ce} y^t a party of y^e Kings came to Bishopp's Castle where they greivously plundered y^e toune, saying they w^d. be revenged of y^m. for complying with y^e garrison of Shrewsb: when they came to see y^e fair and afterwards having some intelligence y^t. some of our forces were against y^m. they fired y^e toun in several places and so fled away." In any case the town had so suffered from each side that we read in "Mercurius Britannicus." Jan. 6—10th, 1644, that there were "above a thousand in armes about Clun and Bishop's Castle standing out against both sides: neither for King nor Parliament, but stand onely upon their own guard for the preservation of their lives and fortunes. The occasion of it was the *friendly* usage which they received from his Majesty's Officers in these parts, especially from one, Col. Van Gore, a Dutchman." In 1648 the church was rebuilt, and the tower still remains, the rest of the present church dating only from 1861.

Clun Church was also burnt. A petition of the parishioners to Parliament, dated March 30th, 1647, says "Whereas a great part of our Church and Steeple, which was covered with lead and furnished with four bells, were during these late troubles, burnt by an Officer of the King's party (lest it should be made a garrison for the Parliament or a future defence and shelter for the soldiers as it formerly had been), the loss thereof amounting to £800 at the least, and your petitioners are now destitute both of Church and Chapel wherein to hear the Word of God and receive the Sacraments, to the spiritual prejudice of your petitioners and their families." (Can the mention of the "Chapel" be a reference to the lost Chapel of St. Thomas, in the vill of Clun?).

The present Church of Clun shows that it cannot have been *destroyed* at this time, but was probably rendered unfit

for service. A Brief was issued for the repair of the Church in the reign of Charles II. (1665-6), which states that it is necessary for the "whole fabric" to be "taken down and rebuilt," the cost being estimated at £5,000 and upwards.¹

Brampton Bryan Church was burnt during the first siege of the Castle by Sir Michael Wodehouse, in July or August, 1643. The last entry in vol. 1 of the *Brampton Bryan Registers* runs thus:—

"Edward the son of John & Margaret Taylor was baptised the 11th of June 1643 w^{ch} was the last that was baptised before the church & towne was burnt & the same yere that the towne was burnt. The sieg began at Brompton the 26 of July & lasted 7 weekes in w^{ch} time most of the towne was burnt."

It seems to have been wholly destroyed, and rebuilt from the foundations, tradition says, with the oaken pillars of the Castle banqueting hall. The detail of the ornamentation, however, seems to agree with the date of 1656, on the 10th December in which year it was re-opened for worship, the same day being that on which the founder, Sir Robert Harley, was buried. Froyssell, of Clun, preached the funeral sermon under the title of the "Beloved Disciple," afterwards published with his funeral sermon on Humphrey Walcot, in 1658. It is an interesting example of a church built specially for the Presbyterian form of worship, there being no distinction of nave and chancel.

Though not strictly part of the ecclesiastical history of the district, reference should be made here to the well-known story of the siege and capture, in 1643-4, of Hopton Castle by Sir Michael Wodehouse, and the subsequent butchery of the garrison. In the *Hopton Registers*, date March 13th, 1643, occurs the following pathetic little note:—"Occisi

¹ Cranage; *Churches of Shropshire*, i., p. 432. Reference to this passage, where the language of the Brief is quoted, shows that the inhabitants had raised a yearly Assessment among themselves of £60 to preserve the Church from absolute ruin; and it is possible that the present pulpit, and some of the carved wood-work, may be of the date 1647 or 1650; but it hardly looks as late as 1666, and we do not know how much money was raised under this Brief and how much spent, but in 1877 the late Vicar of Clun discovered that the sum of £2,221 12s. 1d. in consols was due to the parish under it! It looks very much as if the parish authorities had neglected to use the money, and then forgotten all about it.

fuere 29 in castro Hoptoniensi, inter quos Henricus Gregorye, Senex, et conteraneus meus.”

From Hopton, Wodehouse advanced to the second siege of Brampton, which surrendered on April 17th, 1644, Lady Brilliana Harley being by this time dead.

The abolition of the Presbyterian classes produced, as might be expected, ecclesiastical anarchy throughout the country; but we do not find that the people of the Deanery of Clun were much affected by it, for I have not come across the record of any changes of incumbents during the period 1649-54, except at Hopton Castle, where John Rivet, M.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, is appointed in 1652-3, after a vacancy of seven years from the death of Lucas Sutton, in 1644. Rivet was, in turn, succeeded by Richard Peake, in 1653.

In this same year of 1653 official registrars were appointed by the Act which ordered marriages before justices. The parishioners of Clungunford appointed their Rector, Samuel Berkley, to be their “Register,” and, doubtless, most other parishes did the same, though the fact has not been recorded. At Knighton they began a new register in this year, which records births (hardly ever baptisms), weddings, and burials, but it is not nearly so well kept as its predecessor, with which it is bound up.

In August, 1654, the Committees of “Ejectors” were appointed, as noticed above, and the twenty “ministers assistant” for Shropshire included the same five names as had served from this district on the Presbyterian Classes, though Richard Heath had by this time moved to S. Alkmund’s, Salop, and George Barkley to Westbury.¹ Amongst the lay Commissioners, Samuel More, of Linley, had served on the Classes, and it is possible that “John Downes, Esq.,” may be the “Capt. John Downes, Esq.,” of Purslow, of whom mention is made in the Clunbury Register for 1652 and later.

¹ I venture here to correct Mr. Auden, who describes him as still of Mainstone, for two reasons—(1) From 1648 Mr. John Wilcox, clerk, is mentioned in the Mainstone Registers; (2) The Rev. F. Cooke, Rector of Westbury, tells me that though no signatures occur in his register before 1650, there is a change in the hand-writers for 1649 onward.

We have seen that their proceedings were probably responsible for the removal of Richard Aunsham from Clunbury, and possibly they may have disturbed some of the Ambler family at Lydbury North.

We have an example of their approbation of Aunsham's successor, one Samuel Mathews, and of the curates of Llanvairwaterdine and Bettws, in the following copies and orders preserved among the Walcott MSS. :—

“ By the Trustees for maintenance of Ministers, February 19^o. 1655.

“ Upon the consideracion had of the case of John Walcott, Esq., tenant of the severall titles of Edgton and Sipton, Llanvairwaterdine, Clunbury and Bettws in the county of Salop, by virtue of a Redemise made of the premisses upon the conveyance of Humfrey Walcott, Esq. his father, of the premisses upon his composition with the commissioners for compounding with Delinquents It is ordered that (upon the said Mr. Walcott producing Certificates of the approbacion of the severall Ministers of the said places respectively) the maintenance graunted to the ministers of the said places out of the same and by the said Mr. Walcott paid unto them be allowed and for that purpose that Capt. John Silverwood Receivor, doe respit the further demands of the said arrears untill further order of these Trustees. Provided that the said Mr. Walcott forbear the payment of any further moneyes out of the premisses without the further order of the Trustees.

	John Thorowgood
Edgton & Sipton	Edw: Hopkins
Llanvairwaterdine	Ra: Hall
Clunbury &	Ri: Sydenham
Bettws	J. Pocock.”

“ By the Trustees for Maintenance of Ministers July 10 1656.

“ Whereas Humfrey Walcot Esq. by Indenture & dated the 13th. of May 1649 hath conveyed the tithes of Clunbury in the County of Salop in trust for the raisinge of forty poundes a year for the Minister of Clunbury aforesaid. In pursuance of the said Conveyance & of the Trust in us

reposed It is ordered that Capt. John Silverwood Receiver doe from tyme to tyme pay unto Mr. Samuel Mathewes Minister of Clunbury aforesaid (approved according to the ordinance for approbacion of publique preachers) the said yerelic somme of forty pounds out of the profitts of the Tithes aforesaid, the same to be continued and from tyme to tyme payd unto him for such time as he shall discharge the duty of the Minister of the said place & untill further order of the Trustees, together with all arrears thereof since his last receipt Provided that this order be first entered with the Auditor

e p.155

John Thorowgood

Ed: Crenille

J. Pockocke

Ri: Sydenham

John Humfrey."

Clunbury

Similar orders are made out for Mr. Thomas Hall for Llanfairwaterdine, and Mr. Edward Edwards for the Bettws.

One would naturally imagine that Samuel Mathewes was a Puritan, and very possibly not Episcopally ordained; but there remains in Bishop Monk's register a copy of his Letters of Orders, by which it appears that he was ordained deacon and priest on the same day, 12th February, 1656-7, by the Bishop of Ardfert and Aghadoe, conferring orders "in loco congruo," *i.e.*, in secret. He is described as B.A. of Trinity College, Cambridge. This ordination being secret and subsequent to his appointment to Clunbury, was probably due to an uneasy feeling of conscience, and may have been the cause of his leaving his charge. That he had the Letters of Orders copied into the Bishop's register looks as though he had been appointed to some other benefice.¹ He received the pay until November, 1656, but he either resigned after that time or someone else was found more acceptable to the Ejectors, for another order, dated November 10th, 1657, appointed John Reynolds to be minister, and we still have his receipt,

¹ Or was in treaty for one. A Samuel Mathews appointed to Bucknell in 1639 may be the same person.

dated November 6th, 1658, for one year's pay, but the next year saw another change, Thomas Bright having an order granted to him by the Approvers of Ministers on February 11th, 1658-9, and gives receipts for a half-year's pay on May 4th, and for a further quarter on September 4th, 1659.

John Reynolds probably removed to Lydbury, as we find one of that name signing the registers 1659—1667,¹ and we may conclude that Clunbury saw no further change till the Restoration.

At Llanvairwaterdine and Bettws the Ejectors seem to have approved the ministers whom they found in possession (of whose original appointment we have no record remaining), as Thomas Hall gives receipts, at intervals, from March 25th, 1650-1, to the end of 1656; and Edward Edwards the like at Bettws, from May, 1654—November, 1655. There is, indeed, a receipt, dated November 3rd, 1657, for half-a-year's pay at Bettws, signed by initials that might be read as J.S. or LL.S., but it is more probable that it is a mere blank form (L.S. = *locus signaturæ*) which has never been executed.

For Edgton and Sibdon the evidence is not so clear. The two chapels were usually reckoned as one charge, but we have receipts from one Esay Davies for £40 for serving the Cure of Sibdon for the years 1652—1653. Benjamin Master acknowledges receipt of £10 "for supply of the Cure at Edgton," from May 12th to September 29th, 1653, and on October 26th of that year he writes as follows to John Walcot:—

"Worthy Sr.

Your readiness to satisfy the desires of my last letter, emboldens me to request you to send by this bearer the remayninge forty-two shillings. And if it may stand with your occasions to forbear those two notes discharginge, till Ladyday, and to let me have within this fortnight what is due to you upon those notes it would be a very great

¹ The signature on the Clunbury receipts strongly resembles that in the Lydbury Register, and the entries in this handwriting begin in October, 1658, though the first signature has had inserted before it Brian Ambler's name. This is evidently a later addition, as Brian Ambler was not *instituted* till 1667. And the entries continue to be in Reynolds' writing till July, 1667.

courtesy to me. If both may not be forborne, I hope the greater may, or at least the lesse. I desire to know also by this bearer, whether Sipton is provided for against next Sunday; if not I shall be ready to serve you in that as in any other thinge else which lyes in the power of

Yr. most humble servant

Benjamin Masters."

Bps—Castle, Octob. 26

1653.

Endorsed For his much honour'd friend John Walcott, Esq.
at Walcott.

The financial suggestion is rather obscure, but Mr. Walcott seems to have accepted the offer contained in the last part of the above letter, and from November 1st, 1653 to November 1st, 1654, Benjamin Masters received the income for serving both chapels. He is paid, however, only for Edgton from September 19th, 1654 to August 12th, 1655, beyond which date his receipts do not carry us, and John Madockes acknowledges, on November 12th of that year, receipt of £10 for serving both "Edgeson and Sybdon" one quarter of a year. This looks as if Mr. Master, whose delicate handwriting indicates the college-bred minister, had failed to satisfy the Ejectors, and they had appointed John Madockes in his room. How long this latter held the charge we cannot say, as the next receipt is dated April 23rd, 1660, and shews that Henry Prosser has received £20 for officiating at Edgton and Sibton, presumably for the half-year ended March 25th previous.

The circumstance that the Walcotts had to pay the stipends of the ministers in the Chapelries of Clun, and that as a measure of prudence they kept their receipts, has preserved for us more light than usual on the ecclesiastical arrangements in this particular locality during this period of confusion. In other places in which no records remain, but in which there is a significant gap in the registers, we shall not be far wrong in assuming that spiritual ministrations were either lacking or supplied in more or less hap-hazard fashion by preachers employed for short periods only.

But we may feel pretty certain that Froysell, of Clun, Barkley, of Clungunford, Gough, of Bucknell, and Lawson, of More, continued in charge of their respective parishes, conducting the service in accordance with the provisions of the Directory or their own particular predilections, since it was of the essence of Independency, which was the dominant force at this time, that each congregation should decide on its own form of worship, so long, at least, as it was not Popish or according to the use of the Church of England.

The last recorded ministration of Stanley Gower, of Brampton Bryan, was on May 1st, 1642. In that year he was appointed one of the Divines of the Westminster Assembly,¹ and went up to London then or shortly afterwards. He was, however, at Brampton as late as September, 1642, and March, 1643. (See Portland MSS. as above). On December 26th, 1648, he was appointed rector of Holy Trinity, Dorchester,² and seems not to have returned to Brampton. There is a gap in the register of that parish, 1643—1663, but Harl. MS., 7517, states that Mr. Thomas Cole, of S. Mary Hall, Oxford, was the first settled minister (after 1650) of Brampton Bryan. He remained till ejected, on St. Bartholomew's Day, 1662. Stanley Gower's son, Humphrey, baptized at Brampton Bryan 1638, was afterwards in succession Master of Jesus and St. John's Colleges, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. (See the article in Dict. Nat. Biog.)

At Bishop's Castle the place of the expelled Needham was filled (at any rate, by the year 1651), by Nathaniel Eaton, who, at a common hall of the Burgesses, held in that year, was admitted to the freedom of the borough. He is described as "Minister of the Gospel for the Towne and Borough of Bishop's Castle, and the honour is conferred on him and others 'for the good affection we bear them.'" His signature, Nath: Eaton, appears once only as burgess, viz., at the election of two members of Parliament for the (now disfranchised) borough, on the 7th day of January, 1658, when he

¹ *Commons Journals* for 23 April.

² *Lords' Journals*, x., 638, quoted in Shaw, ii., 363. He appears also to have been at St. Martin's, New Saum, where he was succeeded by William Fyre, Michaelmas, 1649. *Ibid.*, ii., 540.

held the appointment of vicar of the town. (*See* Preface to Tasker's reprint of the *Holy Calendar* referred to below.)

In 1660, however, the Church came back to her own with the Restoration of Charles II., and the Convention Parliament ordered that every ejected minister might return to his cure. One immediate effect of this as regards our own neighbourhood was that Richard Aunsham was once more put in possession of Hopesay, Walker recording that one Stone, a trooper, surrendered this living to Richard Aunsham on His Majesty's return, but had by that time got enough money out of it to purchase himself another, in possession of which he died. It would be interesting to know where this was! George Barkley had to make way at Westbury for Ambrose Phillips, the ejected rector, but was appointed Rector of Chetton in 1662. Gervase Needham, of Bishop's Castle, was dead, and John Ambler, of Lydbury and Lydham; no record exists as to what had happened to Richard Edwards, of Bucknell.

A remarkable effect of the Restoration was seen at Bishop's Castle, where the then vicar, Nathaniel Eaton, presumably appointed under Presbyterian or independent influences, lost no time in publishing the *Holy Calendar*, a precursor, in some sort, of the Christian year, containing, amidst much that shews devotion and poetic feeling, passages which we can only characterize as extravagant in their adulation of the newly-restored king. Whether these were his real sentiments, successfully concealed for at least ten years, or whether it was a desperate effort to ingratiate himself with the new *régime*, it is not for us to judge; but the publication of the book either secured the reward of his loyalty or failed to avert disaster, for by the next year he had left Bishop's Castle—whether he had died, been expelled, or promoted, cannot be decided, as I have not been able to trace his subsequent history.

The Presbyterian ministers generally seem to have welcomed the king's restoration, and many of them who had been Episcopally ordained before "the late troubles" reverted without difficulty to the use of the Prayer Book; but, in 1662, the Act of Uniformity ordered that every minister should not only assent to the Book of Common Prayer, but

also publicly abjure the Solemn League and Covenant. This compelled sixteen in Shropshire to resign their livings; those amongst them whose careers we have been following being Thomas Froyssell, of Clun, and Richard Heath, at this time minister of St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury, as well as Thomas Cole, of Brampton Bryan, as noted above.

Froyssell, who is styled by Calamy "a divine of extraordinary worth for judgment, moderation, godliness, blameless living, and excellent preaching," retired from the living of Clun, and, according to the same authority, "rested from his labours about the year 1672, ætat. 52." There must be some mistake in the figures here, as he had been instituted to Clun in the year 1637, when he would be only seventeen by this reckoning, and seven years old when he took his degree, but we cannot tell at present how these should be corrected.

Of Richard Heath, we have seen that he was at Clunbury from 1641—1646, when he moved to Hopesay, in exchange with Aunsham. From there he went to St. Alkmund's, in 1650, when Thomas Blake refused the Engagement. He was of Christ's College, Cambridge, and a good Oriental scholar, revising the Syriac and Arabic portions of Bishop Walton's Polyglot Bible.¹ At the persuasion of the Bishop he continued a few days after August 24th, 1662, reading the Liturgy,² but was soon silenced because he did not come up to the imposed terms of Conformity. Calamy describes him as "an ancient, grave minister; moderate, sedate, quiet, and religious;" and Francis Tallents, ejected minister of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, calls him "learned, holy, humble Heath."

Amongst those whom Calamy mentions as conforming in 1662, we recognise the name of George Berkely, of Westbury, as that of the former rector of Mainstone and curate of Clunbury. But what happened to those stout Puritans, the rectors of Clungunford and More, and Gough, the vicar of Bucknell?

The first named, Samuel Barkley, appointed 19th June, 1630, remains rector throughout till his death in 1672.

¹ So Calamy, but I do not find his name among those whose assistance Walton acknowledges in the Preface to the Edition published in 1657.

² He subscribed, in March, 1662, for a money present to the king.

Jackson succeeds the silenced Froyssell, 6th July, 1663. The appearance of Richard Morris in the Llanvairwaterdine Register in September, 1662, suggests that Thomas Hall, his predecessor, had refused to subscribe the Act, and been ejected. Ezerell Tong was appointed to Leintwardine, 7th February, 1662, and John Martin to Brampton Bryan, 2nd July, 1663, both by Sir Ed. Harley; Robert Millward to Downton, 22 August, 1663, and Hugh Owens to Stow, 8th December, 1664, by the Crown. But this is as far as the evidence at our command will allow us to go; and it must be confessed that the records of suffering for conscience's sake, on one side or the other, are not very numerous; and we may suspect, without want of due charity, either that the Vicar of Bray had many prototypes in this remote part of the country, or else that Shropshire men in those times of trouble took but slight heed of what happened elsewhere, or what was commanded by this authority or that, but went on doing as they had done before, undisturbed and unconcerned amidst the clash of Episcopalian, Presbyterian, and Independent.

APPENDIX A.

INCUMBENTS OF THE VARIOUS PARISHES IN THE DEANERY OF CLUN, FROM 1535—1700.

The following list is compiled chiefly from the sources mentioned in the foregoing paper, with additions from Blakeway's MSS. in the Bodleian Library, and the "Lists of Shropshire Church Goods," published in Vol. XII. of the *Transactions*, 2nd Series. Where an exact date follows a name his institution is meant; when a year only is mentioned, the incumbent is recorded as being in the parish at the time, the exact date of his institution is not known.

1535 is the date of the great survey of Church property, known as the "Valor Ecclesiasticus;" 1552, of the "Lists of Church Goods;" and 1587 of the Visitation of Bishop Westfaling, of Hereford.

ASTON R.

Rowland Harley	5 Apr. 1557	Ezerell Tong S.T.P.	12 Sept. 1672
William Lowe	24 July 1637	Rich. Lucas	3 July 1674
John Mitchell	15 Feb. 1654	William Watkins	19 July 1677

BEDSTONE R.

Thomas Chelmick (inst. 1512)	in 1535	Geo. Lloyd	22 Sep. 1622
		Maurice Collins	
Wm. ap Tudor			24 Aug. 1668
	18 Mar. 1549	John Farmer	29 Apr. 1690
Thomas Ellis	11 Jan. 1590		

BETTWS-Y-CRWYN C.

Mores ap Jhon	in 1552	Edward Edwards	in 1654
Edward Jones	in 1587		

BISHOP'S CASTLE V.

John Gryffis (inst. 1525)	in 1535	Gwalter Stephens	1576 (?)
		Gervase Needham	
Hugh ap Thomas			29 Dec. 1629
	11 Aug. 1547	Nathaniel Eaton	
Hugh Aldwell	in 1552		in 1651—1661
Hugo ap Richard		Theophilus Jackson	
	23 Feb. 1567		18 Sept. 1661
John Iston	5 Apr. 1569	Giles Waring	18 Feb. 1668
William Cragge		Sam : Billingsley	
	17 Nov. 1572		12 Oct. 1699

BRAMPTON BRYAN R.

John Daves	in 1535	Stanley Gower	6 Sept. 1634
Brian Harris	in 1552	(Vacancy 1643—1655)	
Thomas Harley		Thomas Cole	13 May 1655
	19 Sept. 1555	John Martin	2 July 1663
Humphrey Owen		Sam : Barton	10 Apr. 1678
	20 Nov. 1594	Richard Roberts ¹	
Thomas Pierson	1613		3 Sept. 1681
William Brice	6 Mar. 1634	Thos. Oulton	2 Sept. 1685
		Maurice Lloyd	7 Dec. 1688

¹ In the *Liber Institutionum* (P.R.O.), Series B, vol. 4, the name is given as Geo. Linacre.

BUCKNELL V.

John Harrez	in 1535	Herbert Griffiths	
Ric. Trailer	5 May 1556		(d. Oct. 1639)
Christopher Mason		Richard Edwards	
	15 July 1564		6 Apr. 1640
Ambrose Cooke	2 Oct. 1601	John Gough	30 Sept. 1647
John Freemantle		Maurice Lloyd	28 May 1674
	22 July 1613	Sam : Matthews	
			29 May 1689

BURRINGTON V.

Henry Croft	in 1535	Richard Wright	1 May 1638
Brian Harris	in 1552	John Wright	5 Mar. 1678
Thomas Donne	30 Apr. 1556		

CLUN V.

Sir John p'son clerk	in 1552	Thomas FroySELL	
David Mathew	in 1553		27 Sept. 1637
Robert Jones	20 Apr. 1556	Joseph Jackson	6 July 1663
	here in 1587	Thomas Rogers	4 Apr. 1671
Erasmus Powell, B.A.			
	19 June 1596		

CLUNBURY C.

John ap David	in 1535	Richard Aunsham	1646-55
David Jones	in 1553	Samuel Mathewes	1656-7
Edward Lloyd	in 1587	John Reynolds	1657-8
William Hayle	1624	Thomas Bright	1658-9
George Barkley	1634	Thomas Waties	1660
Richard Heath	1641	John Hay	1676

CLUNGUNFORD R.

Thomas Heywood	in 1535	Thomas Swift, M.A.	
	& 1552		3 June 1629
Roger Wigmore (?)		Samuel Barkley	
Francis Baldwin			19 June 1630
	2 May 1557	John Wilcox	29 July 1673
John Bragger	1582	James Barkley	29 Sept. 1675
	& in 1587	Benjamin Barkley	1690
William Barkley	1588 (?)	John Edwards	1693

Note. —There is a good deal of confusion in the list of Rectors of Clungunford, owing to the claim of the Lords of Hopton (Corbet, subsequently Wallup), to the alternate presentation,

DOWNTON V.

Thomas Garner	in 1535	Henry Barker	12 July 1638
Ric. Pumphrey	5 July 1569	Gilbert Beale	14 July 1641
Roger Greene, M.A.		Robert Milward	2 Aug. 1653
	8 Dec. 1590	Humphrey Barrett	
Edward Froisell	3 July 1608		30 May 1672
Richard Wright		Richard Sancky	
	23 Dec. 1622		29 Dec. 1681

EDGTON C. AND SIBDON C.

John Badely	in 1552	John Griffen	1647-8
Richard Tayler (E.)	in 1587	Esay Davies (S.)	1652-3
Will: Maunde (S.)	in 1587	Benjamin Master	
William Blucke	in 1621		1653—1655
John Rusbach	in 1639-44	John Madockes	Aug. 1655-6
Thomas Weaver	in 1646	Henry Prosser	in 1660

HOPESAY R.

John Park	in 1535—1552	Richard Aunsham	
Thomas Price	in 1587		9 Dec. 1623
Roger Green, M.A.		Richard Heath	1646—1650
	14 Sept. 1588	“ One Stone, a trooper ”	
Thomas Griffiths		Richard Aunsham (rest.)	1660
	14 June 1609	Ambrose Locke	16 Jan. 1676

HOPTON CASTLE R.

Richard Newport (pres. 1534)		Lucas Sutton, M.A.	
	in 1535		23 Dec. 1629
Thomas Sherye	25 May 1542	Vacancy	1 Mar. 1644—July 1652
Richard Heath?	1579		
Thurston Tilston		John Rivet, M.A.	17 July 1652
	12 Jan. 1579	Richard Peake	26 Aug. 1653
Henry Gosden		Theophilus Dorrington	
	17 Mar. 1609		24 Jan. 1687
Edward Smith, B.D.		Richard Hudson	
	31 July 1618		16 Mar. 1699

KNIGHTON C.

John Blayney	4 Aug. 1605	Ralph Fenton approved	
Robert Middleton	in 1613		30 May 1655
Roger Powell	1615—52	John Harris (?)	in 1661
		Robert Milward	1662—82

LEINTWARDINE V.

John Sticke	in 1535	John Bowyer approved
John Langford	13 Apr. 1554	12 June 1654
John Ball	16 Apr. 1578	(dec. 23 May 1659)
Thomas Doughty		Ezerell Tong 7 Feb. 1662
	28 May 1622	Richard Roberts
John Yates	30 Oct. 1638	28 June 1669
		John Mainwaring
		15 Mar. 1682

LLANFAIRWATERDINE C.

Griffith ap Morgan	in 1553	Thomas Hall	1642—1662
Richard Vaughan	in 1610	Richard Morris	1662
[Walter] Cradock	1639—42		

LYDHAM R.

Roger Walcott	(pres. 1524)	John Ambler	1 Dec. 1636
	in 1535		(exp. 1643)
Thomas Edwards		Brian Ambler	10 Apr. 1661
	3 July 1537	[John Rogers curate	
	(here in 1552)		in 1681-4
Griffin Brooke	28 July 1562	Simon Edwards	29 Sept. 1686
John Howell	in 1587	Peter Newton	3 Jan. 1689

LYDBURY NORTH V.

Richard Davys	in 1535	John Reynolds	1659—1667
¹ Ruben Stenton	4 Nov. 1551	Brian Ambler	17 July 1667
Edward Home	7 Jan. 1576-7	John Daune	28 Sept. 1686
John Ambler, sen.	1579 (?)	John Ambler (iii)	
John Ambler, jun.			22 Dec. 1698
	22 Oct. 1624		

MAINSTONE C. (AFTERWARDS R.).

Morrice ap Hew	in 1552	George Lawson	in 1637
Thomas Phillips	in 1587	George Barkley, 1st	
Edward Froyssell	in 1607	Rector	4 Dec. 1641
Thomas Jhonnis	in 1621-2	John Wilcox	1648—1688
John Rusbech	in 1625	William Meredith	
			13 June 1688

¹ So Blakeway; but the Inventory of Church Goods in 1552 gives three names to the certificate, of which the first (usually that of the Incumbent) is read as "Leonard Mesye." (?) Stenton signs the Register in 1569.

MORE R.

John ap David	(pres. 1508)	Edward Home	24 Nov. 1579
	in 1535		here in 1587
George Baker	2 Oct. 1538	William Biggs	4 Apr. 1615
	(res. 1544)	George Lawson	
Peter Clerke	17 Sept. 1544		23 Aug. 1637
	here in 1552	David Wall	18 July 1678
George Baker (again)		Samuel Milward	
	20 June 1564		15 Sept. 1687

MYNDTOWN R.

John Home (pres.	1530)	Richard Dicklegge	
	1535 1552		1 July 1624
Richard Myllward		Jeremiah Okeley	
	31 Oct. 1578		18 Oct. 1634
Nicholas Keisell		Robert Gawen	13 Feb. 1641
	16 July 1606	John Turner	13 Mar. 1683
	(res. 1624)		

NORBURY C.

Thomas Ball	in 1552	(Gap 1643—48)	
Thomas Hughes		Esay Davies	in 1648-9
	in 1587, 1602—15	Robert Gawen	1650
Thomas Onions	in 1616—19	David Price	1661-3
William Piercewall	in 1620	¹ Robert Gawen (again)	
John Ambler	1621-6		till 1680
Bryan Hopkins	1627—43	Sam : Billingsley	in 1667-8

STOW V.

John Willam (pres.	1524)	Thomas Peate	26 June 1594
	in 1535	² "Mr. Minton, minister of	
Griffith ap David		the Stow," ment.	in 1646
	29 Jan. 1552	³ Andrew Davies	in 1661
Hugh ap Price	11 Sept. 1562	Hugh Owen	8 Dec. 1664
Thomas Harley		Robert Milward	8 Mar. 1675
	26 Aug. 1563	Richard Harris	13 Dec. 1700
	(here in 1587)		

¹ Note in Register of 1680, "the 21st day November, Robert Gawen, clerke, ended his tyrm of serving this cure of Norbury."

² In Clun Hospital account.

³ Signs an entry in Knighton Register.

WENTNOR R.

George Baker (pres. 1528)	Edward Hoome	
in 1535 & 1552		21 Mar. 1570
John Pryce	14 July 1562	John Roberts 8 Aug. 1637
		John Price 1 Mar. 1680

APPENDIX B.

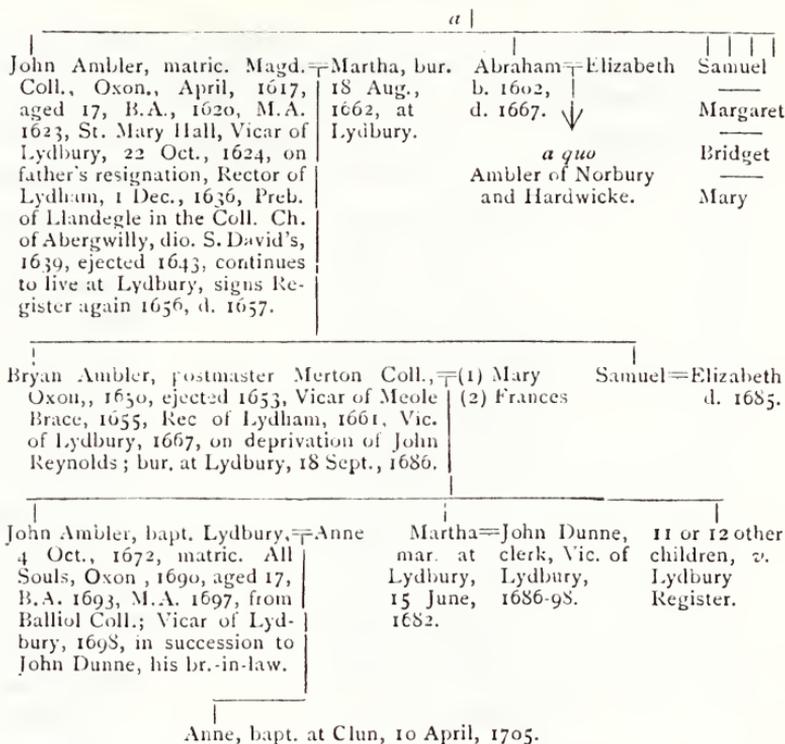
BERKELEY OR BARKLEY OF CLUNGUNFORD (RECTORIAL BRANCH).

William Barkley, Lord of Manor of Clungunford.		Elizabeth, d. of Richard Daye of Hawne (2nd wife).	
William Barkley, 3rd son, born at Salop, 1563, M.A. of Brasenose Coll., Oxon., Rector of Clungunford, 1587, and R.D. of Clun, bur. Clungunford, 26 May, 1629.		Frances, d. of George Detton of Detton, bur. 31 Mar., 1650, at Clungunford.	
Samuel (eldest son), bapt. Clungunford, 7 Sept., 1600, B.A. from Brasenose Coll., M.A. from New Coll., Canon of Hereford, Rector of Clungunford 1630, bur. there 7 Mar., 1672.	(1) Joane . . .	George (2nd son), bapt. Clungunford, 19 June, 1603 (or 1607), see Foster, matric. Brasenose Coll., Oxford, 1624, æt. 17, B.A. 1626, M.A. 1629, curate of Clunbury 1634, Rec. of Mainstone 1641, Westbury 1647 (?), exp. 1662, Vic of Chetton 1662, bur. at Chetton, 22 June, 1676.	(2) Martha . . .
James, bap. Clungunford, 5 Feb., 1650-1, B.A. St. Alban Hall, Oxford, Rector of Clungunford 1675, d. unmar., bur. at Clungunford, 5 Mar., 1684-5.	Mary, bapt. Clungunford, 9 Oct., 1692.		Benjamin, bap. 23 April, 1653, B.A. All Souls, Oxford, Rector of Clungunford 1691.

Authorities—Notes from Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher.
Visitation 1623.

AMBLER OF LYDBURY.

John Ambler, b. c. 1545; ord. deacon 3 Mar. 1571-2, priest 1 June, 1572. Heref. "Ad titulum quatuor libr. annui redditus de terris Andreae Blunden de Castro Ep'i," Vicar of Lydbury North, Nov. 1579; died 20 Sept., bur. at Lydbury, 21 Sept., 1627.	Margery, d. of John Ambler of Brimsfield Court, co. Hereford, d. 9 Jan., 1633-4.	Henry Ambler = <i>a quo</i> Ambler of Ford.
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Authorities—Mr. Geo. Morris's MSS. vi., 288—294; *Alumni Oxonienses*.
 Lydbury Registers. Bishops' Registers at Hereford.

APPENDIX C.

The Evidence of the Churchwardens' Accounts.

The Churchwardens' Accounts of this district throw less light than we might have hoped for, on the changes in religion during the Commonwealth and Restoration periods. The earliest accounts are those of Lydbury North and Clunbury, which begin in 1617 and 1620 respectively, but in neither of these is there any record of the purchase of a "Directory" or any of the changes consequent on the legislation of 1642 and the years following.

The following list of names written on the last leaf of one of the volumes of the Norbury Register, is the only trace I have been able to discover of the taking of the Covenant in this district, though it must have been pretty general

here, as elsewhere. The names appear to be all in the same handwriting, and in the cases distinguished by an asterisk * there is a cross or mark, which may be the actual signature.

“These p’sons subscribed haue taken the Nationall Covenant in the p’ish church of Norbury

William Jones	* John Wildinge
John Hicks	* Sam: Yop
William Langslow	* Tho: Morris
Rowland Acton	* Thomas Clerke
humfrey Bright	Thomas Onions ⁺
Rich. Hamond	James Sherwood*
Thomas Bagly*	William Morris
* William Bright	Thomas Pullen
* Richard Thaner	William Wilkes
* Edmon Breis	* John Pulley
* Richard Gwin	William* Yoope
* John Collinges	Rich:* Wilkes
* Thomas Collings	* Rich: Phippe
* John Bright	John Wilkes
* Thomas Weale	William Wilding
* Tho: Maddox	(two names illegible).”
* Rich: Yopp	

No date is attached to this list, but it must fall at the close of 1643 or early in 1644.

The Mainstone accounts begin in 1648, but seem to have no entries of special interest beyond the usual items of small repairs, etc.

As to alterations of the fabric and fittings of the churches we may note that the beautifully carved pews at Lydbury are probably slightly earlier than 1617, since they are not mentioned in the accounts, which are complete from that year till 1812, with the single exception of 1629; it is, of course, just possible that they were erected in that very year. The pulpit was put up in 1624. At Clunbury the pulpit (removed at the restoration of 1880; the back of it has recently been replaced in the church) was paid for in 1637, and in the following year a chest, still in use, “to keep the ornaments of the Church.” The very similar work at Hopesay and at Clun may date from about this time, or in

the latter case from the repairs after the burning of the Church in 1645. But it is to be feared that a great deal of woodwork of this interesting period has perished unrecorded during church "restoration" of the past sixty years.

The seventeenth century was a period of great activity in the provision and recasting of Church Bells, and to this the Wardens' Accounts in some cases, and in others the bells themselves bear abundant witness. Only one bell, however, the tenor at Hopesay, was actually cast during the Commonwealth; it bears the date 1652. Fourteen are dated between 1617 (the tenor at More) and 1639 (the old second at Clunbury). The old second and third bells at Lydbury were cast in the Restoration year, and nine more, including the six at Clun, between then and the close of the century. The extensive recasting of bells, however, by the Rudhalls in the eighteenth century, has probably destroyed the evidence of many more besides these. For further details the reader is referred to the minute and accurate account of the bells in the Deaneries of Clun and Bishop's Castle, by Mr. H. B. Walters, F.S.A., published in Vol. V. of these *Transactions*, 3rd Series, pp. 1-25.



ADMIRAL GEARY. *From a painting by Romney.*

ADMIRAL SIR FRANCIS GEARY, 1709—1796.

BY SIR WILLIAM NEVILL M. GEARY, BART.

ADMIRAL SIR FRANCIS GEARY, who was created a Baronet 1782, was baptised at High Ercall on the 14th day of October, 1700, as "Francis, son of Francis Geary of Sleep, and Judith, his wife." His ancestry can be traced back at Sleep till the middle of the 16th century, when Parish Registers and the Wills recorded at the Lichfield Diocesan Registry begin, to Margery Geerie of Sleepe, widow, whose will was proved 30 September, 1577.

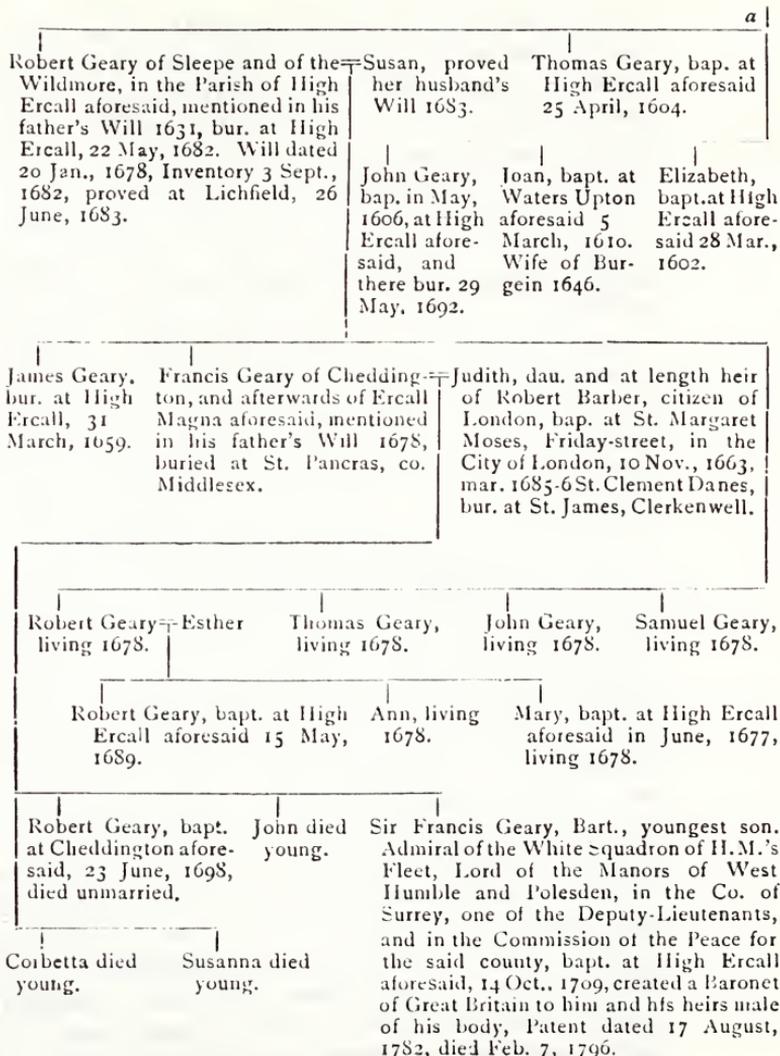
The Pedigree has been recorded in the Heralds' College as follows:—

Geary, of Sleepe in the Parish of High Ercall, = Margery. Will dated 22 Sept.,
in the County of Salop, died before 1577. 1577, proved 30 Sept., 1577,
at Lichfield.

Mary Low, mar. 30 Aug., 1577, at Waters Upton, co. Salop, bur. at High Ercall aforesaid 3 Aug., 1597.	John Geary, executor to his mother's Will 1577, Churchwarden of High Ercall 1615. Will (in which he directs himself to be buried at High Ercall) dated 5 April, 1631, proved at Lichfield, 29 same month, bur. at High Ercall, 25 April, 1631.	Joan. Will dated Feb., 1646, proved 6 June following at Lichfield.
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Alice, wife of Bradshaw. Living 1577.	Joan, wife of Bradshaw. Living 1577.	Maud, wife of Butchard. Living 1577.	Rose, wife of Canes. Living 1577.	Eleanor, wife of Chandler. Living 1577.
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John Geary, bapt. at Waters Upton aforesaid, 15 May, 1581, died before April, 1641.	Richard Geary, bapt. 2 Nov., 1584, at Waters Upton aforesaid. Living 1646.	Elizabeth, wife of Churne. Living 1631.	Mary, mar. 19 Jan., 1601-2, at High Ercall aforesaid, to William Jackson. Living a widow 1631
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They were a yeoman family, whose baptisms, marriages and deaths are simply recorded in the Registers of their Parish Church, or the nearer Church of Waters Upton, without monuments in church or churchyard; their wills deal with a few acres of land, a few sheep, £100 or so. But the family of Geary or Gery is widespread in Shropshire, and ancient.

In the 10th century there are several distinct families of Gery: e.g., Gery of Morville, of Barton-under-Needwood, Coventry, Packington, Berrington, and elsewhere, apparently not connected. Thomas Gery of Coventry, Alderman and Bellmonger, was Sheriff in 1661, when turned out for refusing oaths of abjuration of the Covenant Mayor, 1666. His son was Sir Thomas Gery, M.P. for Coventry in the Parliaments of 1695, 1702, and 1710. Sir Thomas Gery left two daughters: Elizabeth married Michael le Heup, and Susanna married Sir John Cullum, whose descendant is Gery Milner-Gibson-Cullum. The arms of Gery of Coventry were,—Gules two bars or, on each three mascles of the field, on a canton of the second a leopard's face azure. The same arms were borne by Geare of Kenn, near Exeter,—see Visitation of Devonshire,—and similar arms by Gery of Bushmead, Bedfordshire, also recorded in Bedfordshire and Leicestershire Visitations. To return to Shropshire; there was a family of Gery of The Clive, which ended in three daughters, one of whom, Alice, married, 1556, William Wycherley, ancestor of the Dramatic Poet; and the same arms of Gery, bars and mascles with a leopard's head in the canton, are recorded in the Visitations of Shropshire as a quartering of the Wycherley. This Richard Gery of the Clyve in his Will (proved in the Prerogative Court, 1576) leaves land and money to his other daughters, Jane, wife of Humphrey Onslow, and Anne, wife of Thomas Gerye, and he appointed as one of his executors Williams Geary of Holywell (Holwell), Bedfordshire, who, perhaps, may be identified with William Geary of Bushmead, Royston and Barkway, who died December, 1592.

In Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, the name of Gery occurs frequently during the middle ages as settled within ten miles of Shrewsbury, e.g., Sir T. Gery was Priest of Acton Reynell. In the old Domesday Book of Shropshire, Gheri occurs twice as holding land in Etbritone (Albrighton) and Octune (Acton Pigot), T.R.E., and he is described as a free man, who also could buy and sell (see Eyton x. 80, 107, and Blakeway's *Liberties*, 96, 149). An origin reaching still farther back might perhaps be traced in Camden, where he describes in the chapter on Shropshire, the hill and Camp Caer Caradoc in South West Shropshire, where Caractacus

battled not ingloriously with the Roman General, A.D. 5, and C being pronounced gutterally, Gery might be derived from The Gair, the people coming from Caer Caradoc. It is significant that Sleap, Acton Reynald, Clyve and Albrighton are within 10 miles of each other.

Francis Geary in 1727, then aged 18, turned his back on his home in Shropshire, and entered the Navy as a volunteer on the "Revenge," and following the brave example of Benbow, by sheer merit and hard fighting, won his way to Admiralty and fortune and rank. From the date of Francis Geary going to sea, all connection of his or his father's with Sleap seemed to have ceased; no record of the burial of Francis Geary, the father, or Judith, his wife, appears on the registers of High Ercall or Waters Upton; nor could their wills be found; perhaps the future admiral "sold his farm to go to sea."

By the sea he throve, became captain in 1742; in 1747 he was able to buy a property, Polesden in Great Bookham, on the Portsmouth Road, for £5,500. In 1742, when in command of the "Squirrel" of 20 guns, he took a Spanish Manilla vessel whose cargo was estimated at £1,800,000. One sees how the Shropshire yeoman's son could become a landowner. His first twelve years of service were in the piping times of Peace, but in 1739, war broke out with Spain, wherein France joined subsequently, and lasted till 1748, and prize-money was plentiful. Geary was celebrated as one of the cruising captains, and when, after being made a Baronet, he was granted alterations in his armorial bearings, he took as his motto "Chase," in memory of his chasing the enemy.

The following ballad was written in 1780 when he took command of the Grand Fleet.

"The Cruisers." A new song adapted to the Times:—
 Behold upon the swelling wave,
 With streaming pennants gay,
 Our gallant ships invite the waves, Our, &c.,
 While glory leads the way.
 And a cruising we will go, oho, oho, oho,
 And a cruising we will go, oho, oho, oho,
 A cruising we will go, oho.

Ye beauteous maids your smiles bestow,
For if you prove unkind
How can we hope to beat the foe, How, &c.,
We leave our hearts behind.
When a cruising, &c.

See Geary's flag once more displayed,
Upon the deck he stands,
Old England's glory n'eer can fade, Old, &c.,
Or tarnish in his hands.
When a cruising, &c.

Be England to herself but true,
To France defiance hurled,
Give peace America with you, Give, &c.,
And war with all the world.
And a cruising, &c.

There is a story of his cruising, that he and another captain made a sporting agreement to share all the prizes they should take during a specified period. Captain Geary took a rich prize, the "Pierre Joseph," after the expiration of the partnership, which he considered so unfortunate for his friend that he had the generosity to divide his share equally with him, declaring he believed his friend would have acted in the same way if he had been equally successful.

The general history of Geary's service may be traced in the Naval Records and Dictionary of National Biography, but the following incident will illustrate his character for bravery. "In 1750, having been ordered to convey money from Portsmouth to Plymouth for payment of the fleet, &c., during the passage he fell in with a French ship of war, carrying 50 guns and superior metal, the Southampton frigate which he commanded carrying but 36 guns, the most desperate engagement that has occurred for a century took place, which continued from noon till dark in July, and the Frenchman was at length obliged to sheer off and foundered before she reached Brest. The Southampton was like a riddle; had received several shots between wind and water, and had hardly a mast standing or a yard of canvas not torn to rags. She made Plymouth with great difficulty, and one half

her crew were killed or wounded." (See General Advertiser, May 25, 1780). In January, 1757, Captain Geary was one of the Court Martial on Admiral Byng, and he is said to have been one of the minority of four for acquittal, considering that the Admiral had been guilty of an error of judgment, but not of misconduct, still less cowardice.

Geary must have been liked by his equals and kindly and considerate to the fore-castle. The following verses are "A Friendly Eulogium on Admiral Geary," when only a lieutenant in 1738, by the Honourable Captain John Hamilton, next brother to the Earl of Abercorn: -

"Delangle there and Geary freely range,
Here in this heart which ne'er shall know a change,
Delangle who pursues the beaten road,
By men of sense and honour ever trod,
Geary, the sweetest youth, the gentlest mind,
That e'er was formed by the rough sea and wind,
Geary in more than female softness tried,
With all the spirit of a man beside."

(*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1780.)

When he was captain of the "Culloden," in a heavy gale, February, 1748, she was dismasted and rolled helpless for several days, he allowed the crew a quarten of brandy each twice a day, owing to the badness of the weather and cooking being impossible. And in his last command, when he was Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, he several times had condemned bad provisions as unfit for sailors to eat, and when the Grand Fleet was returning to Spithead, he gave orders beforehand to have proper decked vessels ready to discharge sick into hospital and fresh beef ready for victualling those on board ship.

After the Peace of Aix-le-Chapelle, April, 1748, ending the nine years' war, Captain Geary married on 3rd September, 1748, at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, Mary Bartholomew, half-sister of Leonard Bartholomew of Oxon Hoath, and resided with her at his place, Polesden, where his children were born.

But in 1756 the Seven years' war broke out, and Geary was again employed aloft, first as a Captain, till in 1759 he was promoted Rear Admiral of the White.

He was employed as a Flag Officer not only in this war, but also in the war of 1778. His last command was that on 22nd May, 1780, when at the age of 71 he was appointed Admiral Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet and hoisted his flag on the "Victory." He sailed on the 8th of June to cruise in the mouth of the Channel in search of the French and Spanish Fleet, and kept the sea till 19 August, 70 days. In July he sighted an equal number of French ships and made chase, but they were only French merchantmen, and owing to night and fog coming on, 12 only were captured. The French and Spanish Fleet, though combined, never dared to enter the Channel during his command, preferring to patrol the Atlantic, covering an immense extent of sea, so as to catch the outward bound trade of Britain to East and West Indies. So Admiral Geary was denied the supreme glory of a British sailor to be Admiral Commander-in-Chief in a Naval action. He had returned to Portsmouth, owing to 2,000 sailors being sick, and was making all expedition to refit and put to sea. But a week later his health broke down, as his surgeon said, "owing to unremitting attention to business." He had a five days' leave at his home at Polesden, but could not regain his health, and being warned that his symptoms would recur till he was worn out, he retired from the service at the age of 71. His wife had died in 1778, and his eldest son, Cornet Francis Geary, in the 16th Queen's Light Dragoons, was killed in action in America in 1776; but he had three daughters, one already married, Mrs. Leigh, and a son William. His brother-in-law, Leonard Bartholomew, nine years younger, had died in 1759, leaving his fine landed property of Oxon Hoath to his sister's son, William Geary.

On 17 August, 1782, he was created a Baronet, and thereupon applied for "some alterations in his armorial ensigns as a memorial of his naval duties," whereupon in lieu of the former arms he had used,—Gules, two bars or, on each three mascles of the first, a canton erminois,—he was granted by the Heralds' College, "Gules on two bars or three mascles, two and one azure, on a canton argent an anchor erect with cable sable, and for a crest Out of a naval crown or a dexter arm embowed habited in the uniform of an

admiral of the Royal Navy supporting the flag of the White Squadron proper."

In the autumn of 1782, his picture was painted by Romney, who gave him 10 sittings, and the result is a magnificent portrait of an Admiral in uniform on the landing steps, with his flagship, the *Victory*, in the background.

Relieved from the fatigues of the sea service, Admiral Sir F. Geary lived for 16 years to enjoy his retirement, living partly at Polesden, partly at his son's house, Oxon Hoath, where he died in February, 1796, aged 85; and was buried at Great Bookham, the Parish Church of Polesden.

The Grant of Arms, which recites Sir Francis Geary's services, is as follows:—

To All And Singular to whom these Presents shall come, Ralph Bigland Esquire Garter Principal King of Arms and Isaac Heard Esquire Clarenceux King of Arms of the South East and West Parts of England from the River Trent Southwards send greeting. Whereas Sir Francis Geary of Polesden in the Parish of Great Bookham in the County of Surrey Baronet and Admiral of the White Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet hath represented unto the most Honorable Charles Howard Esquire commonly called Earl of Surrey Deputy with the Royal Approbation to his Father the Most Noble Charles Duke of Norfolk Earl Marshal and hereditary Marshal of England that he hath served his King and Country in the Royal Navy from the year 1726 to 1780 and for the greatest part of that time in unremitting Service and Duty having been employed in every Equipment during that Period under the Commands of the Admirals Sir John Norris and Sir Charles Wager at the Siege of Gibraltar Sir Peter Warren at the Siege of Cape Breton Lord Anson, Sir Edward Hawke, Osborne, Boscawen and Medley in the various Stations incident to the Navy and in the last War was appointed on the 19th of May 1759 a Rear-Admiral when on actual Service with a broad Pendant and commanding a Division under Sir Edward Hawke off Brest consisting of seven Sail of the Line was despatched by him with a

Squadron of Ships to intercept Monsieur Bompert who was expected from the West Indies with a Squadron of French Men of War; as likewise by Admiral Boscawen to block up another French Squadron bound to the East Indies that was laying at Rochfort for that purpose; and by Orders from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty he commanded in Chief at Portsmouth his Majesty's Ships that were fitted out for the Expedition against the Havannah and Belle-Isle and had the directions of embarking all the Land Forces on that Occasion for which his late Majesty was pleased to send him his Royal Approbation and Thanks by the Earl of Albemarle: That during the present War in May 1780 he was Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Fleet employed in the Channel Service and had under his Command four Flag-Officers, twenty four Sail of the Line and about twelve Sail of Frigates and Fire Ships on which Service he continued till the ill state of his Health obliged him to resign the Command and having in the course of about fifty four years naval Service happily discharged his Duty in the several Stations to which he hath succeeded to the Approbation of his Commanding Officers respectively and been distinguished also by that of his Sovereign; and his Conduct in his late principal Command in particular approved by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty he humbly trusts he hath evinced that no Consideration whatever has stood in competition with his Duty when called forth in the Service of his King and Country: That he hath given this short Sketch in the hope it may prove a Stimulus to those who engage in the public Service to persevere in their Duty; and being desirous of some Alterations in his Armorial Ensigns as a Memorial of his Naval Duties which he trusts he hath faithfully discharged he requested the Favor of his Lordship's Warrant for our devising and confirming such Alterations to be borne by him and his Descendants according to the Laws of Arms. And forasmuch as his Lordship did by Warrant under his Hand and Seal bearing date the second day of November instant authorize and direct Us to devise and confirm such Armorial Alterations or Distinctions to the said Sir Francis Geary as we shall on due Consideration of of the Premises judge most proper Know ye therefore that We the said

Garter and Clarenceux in pursuance of the Consent of the said Deputy Earl Marshal and by Virtue of the Letters Patent of our several Offices to each of Us respectively granted under the Great Seal of Great Britain have devised and do by these Presents grant and confirm to the said Sir Francis Geary the Arms following that is to say Gules on two Bars Or three Mascles two and one Azure on a Canton Argent an Anchor erect with Cable Sable And for the Crest Out of a Naval Crown Or a dexter Arm embowed habited in the Uniform of an Admiral of the Royal Navy supporting the Flag of the White Squadron proper as the same are in the Margin hereof more plainly depicted to be borne and used for ever hereafter by him the said Admiral Sir Francis Geary Baronet and his Descendants with due and proper Differences according to the Laws of Arms without the Let or Interruption of any Person or Persons whatsoever In Witness whereof We the said Garter and Clarenceux Kings of Arms have to these Presents subscribed our Names and affixed the Seals of our several Offices this eighteenth Day of November in the twenty third year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the third by the Grace of God King of Great Britain France and Ireland Defender of the Faith etc : and in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty two.

Ralph Bigland Garter (Seal) Principal King of Arms

Isaac Heard (Seal) Clarenceux King of Arms

The following is an abstract of his Will :—

Prerogative Court of Canterbury. Register Harris, 122.

Abstract of the will of *Sir Francis Geary* of Polesdon in the parish of Great Bookham, co. Surrey, baronet, admiral of the white squadron of His Majesty's fleet, dated 14 April 1792.

I direct that my body be buried in my vault in the chancel of Great Bookham church, by my late dear and faithful wife.

I give to my gardener Alexander Wilson an annuity of £20, to be paid to him and his present wife for their lives. To

Martha, late the widow of my late coachman John Marsh, but now wife of James Smith of West Clandon, an annuity of £20. To Jane Whitbread, whose husband lived as a servant with me, an annuity of £20.

(Legacies to other servants).

I give to Leonard Bartholomew of Addington, co Kent, esquire, Captain Samuel Marshall of His Majesty's navy, Mr. John Williams of Llandaff, my late secretary, Captain Charles Sandys of the navy, Mr. Borwick of Gray's Inn, Holborn, Captain Cornwall of Chart Park, William Broomfield of Conduit Street, Hanover Square, esquire, and the Rev. Mr. Knowles of Effingham, 10 guineas apiece.

To my goddaughter Miss Marriott, late of Woking, 10 guineas.

To George Ballard Vine, 5 guineas, out of the great regard I had for his grandfather Dr. Ballard, to be paid to his mother, Mrs. Vine of Leatherhead.

I leave £10 to be laid out in beef and broth to be distributed to the poor of Great Bookham in the winter after my decease.

To my daughter Judith Geary I give £1,000, in satisfaction of the £1,000 I received for her use on a mortgage made to her grandmother, Mrs. Bartholomew deceased.

To my daughter Mrs. Hare, my picture in my study done by Folstone.

To my daughter Twisden, one of my son William's pictures in the study.

To my grandson Mr. John Twisden, £100 at his age of 21. All the rest of my estate and goods I give to my son William Geary, and make him my executor.

(signed) Fran^s Geary.

Witnesses: Joseph Pickstone, Joseph Hockley, Francis Worsley.

A codicil (undated) revokes a legacy to Mrs. Kennett, testator's housekeeper.

Witnesses: Joseph Pickstone, Joseph Hockley, James Tomlin. Deposition (16 March 1796) by Alexander Wilson of Oxon Horth [sic], co. Kent, yeoman, late gardener to Sir Francis Geary, baronet, deceased, as to an annuity of £20 directed

by the deceased to be paid to John Raspin, his farm servant, in August 1794.

Proved in P.C.C. 21 March 1796 by Sir William Geary, baronet, son of the deceased and executor abovenamed.

Mr. J. A. Morris has contributed the following notes on Sleap, the birth-place of Admiral Geary.

NOTES ON SLEAP.

The scattered hamlet of Sleap lies on either side of the main road leading from Wellington to Market Drayton, and very near to Crudington Station. It is not the only place of that name in Shropshire, as there is at least one other township bearing the same name—Sleap¹ in the parish of Wem.

The derivation of the word Sleap is of great antiquity. Irish—Sleav, Sleibh; Gaelic—Sliabh. Sliabh-teach in Ireland is explained in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary* as the "house near the mountain." It is not the *Eslepe* of Doomsday, which was in Baschurch Hundred, but it was one of the unnamed berewicks of High Ercall, and it has since been variously spelt Slepe, Sleape, and Sleepe, and it is sometimes described as Sleepe of the Wildmore. It is a township forming an outlying portion of the great parish of High Ercall. At one time it possessed a chapel of its own, attached to the mother Church, but of this there is now no trace; and Sleap being nearer to Waters Upton Church than High Ercall, the inhabitants very frequently used the former church for purposes of registering baptisms, burials, and marriages. These entries appear most frequently after the commencement of the 18th century, which suggests that before that time the chapel at Sleap had ceased to exist for religious purposes.

When making a tour in the neighbourhood with Sir William Geary, with a view to finding some evidence as to the birth-place of his ancestor, we examined the various houses in the village, and found but two of any size—Sleap

¹ There is a Sleap in Dorset and another in Hertfordshire.

Farm House, a new building, partly on an old site, with some remains of the ancient foundations, and Bridge Farm House, to which I shall refer later on. There are also several old timber-framed cottages, all of about the same date as the Bridge Farm House—the latter part of the 16th century. From enquiries we made it seemed unlikely that there had been other houses destroyed in the village, except a few cottages which had fallen into decay.

Having made a general tour of the district, we turned our attention to the Bridge Farm, and our enquiries were made increasingly interesting by the information we received from a venerable inhabitant of the village—himself upwards of ninety years of age—who, with his father and grandfather before him, had occupied the same cottage for nearly two hundred years. He came with us to the Bridge Farm, and pointed out an out-building about fifteen yards from the house which, his father had told him, was the site of Sleep Chapel. I examined the building and the surrounding ground carefully, but could find nothing to support his statement. It may be that at some future time excavation on this site may expose the ancient foundations of the chapel.

The field adjoining the farm-house is known as the "Moat," and, viewing the surroundings, it was not difficult to trace the line of a moat. The house stands on a tongue of land at the junction of the river Strine with the Tern, and the moat probably cut off the house by connecting the two rivers. Before the railway was constructed, some thirty-seven years ago, we were told that the moat was much more apparent; but, running so close to the house as the railway embankment does, it not only destroyed a portion of the moat but reduced the extent of the buildings on that side.

We examined the house very carefully, but could find neither date nor initials; but, considering that it must have been the most important house we could hear of, and that the Geary family were resident in the village for some two hundred years, I thought it quite possible that it may have been the birth-place of the Admiral and his forefathers. The Duke of Sutherland's agent, W. E. Stamer, Esq., has since been good enough to look through the papers referring

to the property in his possession, but has been unable to give us any information.

The road through the village connects a little further on with the high road from Newport to High Ercall. In a field adjoining the position of a mound, which was removed when the railway was constructed, was pointed out to us, where (tradition says) cannon were once placed—possibly to be used for the reduction of the Bridge Farm. The village of Sleaf may have been the scene of some of those skirmishes between the rival forces during the Civil War, such as are referred to in a letter published by Mrs. Stackhouse-Acton in the *Garrisons of Shropshire*, from which the following is an extract :—

“ All the churches round about have been uncovered by them (the garrison of Ercall), and none of the well-affected inhabitants dare lye in their houses within ten miles of ye garrison, some of them having been killed in their bedds; and many of them have great sums of money assessed on them by the said garrison.”

Lieut.-General Sir Henry Le Guay Geary, K.C.B., has contributed the following notes on the descendants of John Geary, living in 1678, one of whom was Captain Thomas Geary, who was associated with his cousin the Admiral in various naval events.

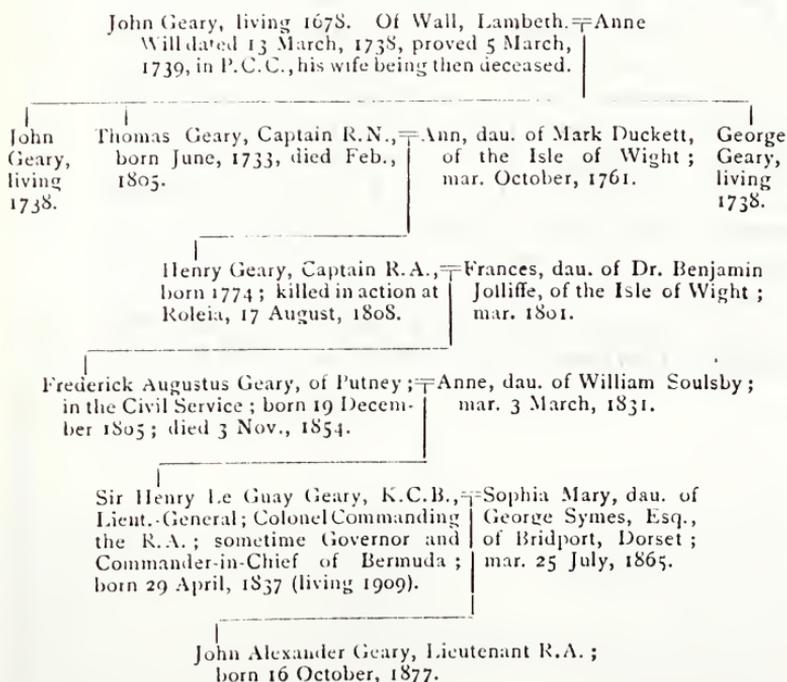
DESCENDANTS OF JOHN GEARY, LIVING 1678.

The spelling of the name was not fixed before the time of the 1st Baronet, for in the earlier Admiralty papers his name is spelt Garey, and in some papers the name is spelt both ways in the same document. In fact the spelling of names was as they happened to be pronounced. Thus John Geary in his Will is spelt Garey, and his brother Samuel the same. Then comes the change. John's son Thomas is spelt Garey in his Baptismal certificate and Geary in his Marriage certificate, showing that as officers in the Navy he and the Admiral had to agree to a common spelling.

This is of importance with reference to Camden's passage on *Caer Caradoc* and the *Gair*. *Caer* means camp; *y Gaer* is the camp, pronounced in Welsh *Gair* or *Gare*, not *Gear*, and if plural *Caeran* or *Gaeran*. Local pronunciation very likely made it *Gearan*, and in process of time *Geary*. The fact that the name was originally *Garey* would seem to show that it was originally the Welsh *Gaeran*.

The *Cumri* on their way to the West left their traces in Eastern Europe; the name "*Geray*" in the Crimea, in Gaul, etc.; until they came to the marches of England and Wales, from which *Ostorius* scattered them through Wales to Ireland, leaving a remnant, the subject of this paper.

The Pedigree of John Garey, or Geary, living 1678, the uncle of the Admiral, is as follows:—



Other sons and daughters are omitted in the above pedigree.

The arms are the same as described in Sir William Geary's paper, as used by the family prior to the grant made in 1782

to the first Baronet. Of the above we have the mere record of the domestic events in the life of John, and the mention of the members of the family living at the date of his will, 1738.

His second son, Thomas Geary, was transferred from the East India Company's Naval Service to the Royal Navy as a Midshipman in 1856, and accompanied Captain F. Geary to Halifax in the same year. After the capture of Louisbury and Quebec he received his Commission in 1760. He served on board the "Sandwich" in Keppel's action off Brest, and was subsequently 1st Lieutenant of the "Victory" in 1780, under Admiral Sir F. Geary, and by him promoted Captain of the "Pluto." Being separated from the Fleet in a fog, he was ordered to proceed to Spithead to rejoin the Fleet, and falling in with a French Privateer of twice his size was reduced to a wreck and captured. He was honourably acquitted of any fault, and retired from active service with his cousin soon afterwards. His son, Henry Geary, served with distinction in the Royal Artillery in Flanders, 1793-1795; in various expeditions on the Continent; in the Irish Rebellion; and was killed while in command of the guns of the Light Brigade at Roleia. His death is described in Landmann's *Recollections*, *Gentleman's Magazine*, Despatches, and other contemporary records. Of his descendants, two have died on service in the Royal Artillery, and one was killed in action in South Africa in the Hants Regiment.



SOME NOTES ON A MS. OF THE VULGATE
FORMERLY BELONGING TO HAUGHMOND
ABBEY.

EDITED BY THE REV. C. H. DRINKWATER M.A.

THERE is preserved in the Library of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding¹ a most interesting manuscript copy of the Vulgate, which formerly belonged to Haughmond Abbey. It was given to the Society on 7 September, 1727, by Mr. Richard Collins, a painter, who was admitted to the Society on 10 August, 1727, and died in 1732. One of the rules was, that members on their admission were to present some valuable book to the Society, and in this way a choice library was formed.² Mr. Collins's gift is thus referred to in the Minutes of the Society, Vol. I., fol. 118a:—

“Sept. 7th [1727]. Mr. Collins presented the Soc. wth a MS. Latin Vulgate copy of the Old and New Testament, accordg. to the Roman Canon, the Initial letters of Each Book neatly Illuminated at the End of the Prologue, *liber mon.* etc. wch. seems to be the hand of Edward the Fourth's time or thereabouts 1462.”

At a subsequent Meeting of the Society, held 10 October, 1728, Mr. Maurice Johnson, the secretary and founder, gave a fuller description of the volume, which is thus entered on the Minutes, Vol. I., p. 140b:—

“Oct. 10th, 1728. The Secr. acquainted the Soc. That he having looked something farther into ye MS. Bible presented by Mr. Collins, a member of this Soc., 7 Septr. 1727, whereof some acct. is there entred. That he finds the same containing the Old Testam^t, the Apocrypha and New Testament, the Apocryphal Book inserted wth rubricks to y^t in places

¹ The Gentlemen's Society at Spalding was one of several literary Societies established in the early part of the 18th century to elucidate the history and antiquities of the kingdom. It was founded in the year 1710 by Maurice Johnson, Esq., steward of the manor of Spalding. Sir Isaac Newton, Sir Hans Sloane, and many eminent scholars were members of the Society, which still flourishes.

² See an Account of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding, printed in Nichols's *Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica*, No. II., Part I., page viii., App. xviii., &c.

different from our Edition, and the Acts of the Apostles after S^t Paul's Epistles. In the Initial L^r of the Prologue sits a Monk writing curiously limned—and before the first Chap. of Genesis in small compartm^{ts} with Golden Ground God the Father in the 6 several days acts of Creation and the 7th days rest, in each side in the posture of benediction. Under the 7th The Fall and under y^e Fall ye X^fixion; in that page is the Entry liber mon' Sci Job's Ev. de Haghmond, of w^{ch} house this entry occurs in Mr. Leland Collect. Iv. 32p.

Haghemon (vulgo Hagmond) canon: nigri. Ex charta Donat: Edmundi Comitis de Arundel at non primi fundator: [In the margin: s. qu. Dns Fitzallan si non fundator tamen benefactor precip.] Aqua de Pevereyr:¹ Leyland, supra Salopiam. . . . cadit in Sabrinam. Abba': de Haghmon fundata fuit a^o 1100 per Wm. Fitz Alani. Dugd. 2v. 46 & 933. Cam. S.A. Salop. Hagmond Abby val: 259^h 13s. 7d. 26 H. VIII. 1535.

The other most curious linnings in this Bible are in these Initials at ye beginnings of the Books of Exodus—of Mos. & 3 of Kings of Kg. David, Tobias—Wisdom teaching her children before Proverbs—The prophets Isaias & Jeremiah—Cantycles before the Lamentations Daniel and Micha and the prophet Habbakuk.

The Illuminator from the Rubricks seems to me not to have been the Scribe, and has Omitted Several of ye Lemmata, by the Vacancies terminating like an Inverted cone between y^e Columns left for his Inserting Rubricks by y^e Scribe w^h y^e MS. was written.

The New Testament Initials are all flourish work of a penn and differ much from the Linnings of the other part of the Book being all Human Figures or Beasts, Birds & Flowers comparted wth variety of foliage worke.

I have gone carefully through the illuminations, and therefore interpret this sentence thus.

The other most curious linnings in this Bible are in the initial letters of the Books of Exodus (Moses), 3rd of Kings (David), Tobias (wisdom teaching), Proverbs, Isaias, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Daniel, Micah, Habbakuk."

¹ Probably the river Perry is intended.

Such are the extracts from the Minutes, now written nearly 200 years ago, relating to this interesting manuscript. The book itself is not in the original covers, but is in old thick calf. In the centre and at each corner are gilt devices, and there is a gilt line round the edge. The volume formerly had clasps, which are now missing. Its size externally is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide.

The book is believed to be a complete copy of the Vulgate with "Jerome's Prologus in Pentateuchum Moysi" at the beginning. This prologue fills five pages and a half. And it is worth noting that it differs verbally in many places from the folio edition of 1616 printed at Cologne.

At the beginning of the book is this inscription:—

"MVSEO Societatis Generose Spaldingensis Linc. D.D.
Richard Collins pictor istius Societatis Soc's N^o die Augusti
MDCCXXVII."

The manuscript is written in double columns throughout, at first forty lines in each column, and afterwards forty-one, and forty-two towards the end. The text in each column measures about $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches, with a space of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch between the columns, and the width of each column is one inch. The size of each folio is $5\frac{1}{8}$ inches long and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. There are about 600 folios in the volume, and its thickness excluding the covers is two inches. Every page is ruled with blue lines, some of which are now very faint. The parchment on which it is written is of extreme tenuity and flexibility, and is a very beautiful material; Lord Peckover of Wisbech says it was made from the skin of the unborn calf!

The great interest to us to-day is that it formerly belonged to Haughmond Abbey. Immediately after the conclusion of Jerome's Prologue, and before the beginning of Genesis chapter I., in the left hand column is a small blank space, in which is inscribed in five lines—

liber mon' Sci Joh-
hannis Evang'
de Maghmond
que adquisivit
Joh's Ludlowe

Canonus

The first part of the book is devoted to a general survey of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

The second part of the book is devoted to a detailed account of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

The third part of the book is devoted to a detailed account of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

The fourth part of the book is devoted to a detailed account of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

The fifth part of the book is devoted to a detailed account of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

The sixth part of the book is devoted to a detailed account of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

The seventh part of the book is devoted to a detailed account of the history of the United States from the discovery of the continent to the present time. It is written in a clear and concise style, and is well adapted for use in schools and colleges.

the last word being in the extreme margin of the right hand column, with the figure of a peacock.

John Ludlowe who acquired this book is described as being D.D. and canon professed and priest of Haghmon. On the resignation of Abbot Burnell, in 1463, the Canons petitioned William, Earl of Arundel, their founder and patron, on November 28th of that year, for license to elect a new Abbot, and the same day they chose John Ludlowe. On December 7th, the Earl consented to their election, and appointed the Abbot of Shrewsbury to receive the fealty and obeisance of the Abbot-Elect. On December 1st, 1476, Abbot Ludlowe grants to John le Strange, Lord of Knokyn, a perpetual Chantry in the monastery of Haghmon, with a daily mass to be said at the altar of St. Anne for the souls of the said John and his wife and parents. The ancestors of John le Strange, in 1242, had given the Church of Hanmer to the Canons for the support of the Chantry, and John le Strange now charges his estate at Wilcote in Ness-Strange with its endowment, should Hanmer Church realize less than ten marks per annum. John Ludlowe was still Abbot in 1478-9.¹ We have no record of his death, but Richard Pontesbury occurs as Abbot in 1495. Haughmond Abbey surrendered to the royal visitors in September, 1539, and this book must then have escaped the general wreck, but in whose possession it remained for the next 200 years, until in 1737 Mr. Richard Collins gave it to the Spalding Gentlemen's Society, is not known.

For the extracts from the original Minutes, and the particulars about the book, we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Garten Perry, the Secretary of the Society; and for the negative of the photograph to Mr. Southwell. Mr. H. H. Hughes has kindly printed from this a good photograph of the page containing the inscription which is here reproduced. And the Editor has deciphered the whole page, which contains the conclusion of Jerome's Prologue and the first eleven verses of the Book of Genesis.

¹ See Eyton's *Antiquities*, VII., 303; *Four Ministers round the Wrekin*, page 40; and the *S. A. Transactions*, 2nd Series, II., 195, &c., and III., 206.



A. W. Booth, Photo, Leominster, Co.

WIGMORE CASTLE FROM THE NORTH WEST.

WIGMORE CASTLE.

BY REV. PREBENDARY T. AUDEN, M.A., F.S.A.

WIGMORE CASTLE does not differ in any essential feature from most other feudal fortresses. It began no doubt with an artificial mound on that point of the ridge which was naturally the strongest, and on this would be in the first instance an erection of wood surrounded with palisades. In due course this gave way to a keep of masonry, to which was added a larger area encircled by a curtain wall, with towers at intervals, and surrounded by a deep ditch. These are features clearly seen, but the buildings in themselves are too ruinous to assign them with much certainty to their different uses, with the exception of the Gateway. The masonry appears to be mainly of two dates, in accordance with what is known of the history of the fortress. Much of it is Norman work of the 11th century, or possibly rather later, but in parts—notably in the Building to the left of the Gateway—the work belongs to the Decorated architecture of the 14th century.

The interest of Wigmore Castle, however, lies not in its buildings, but in its historical associations and the stirring events which have taken place within its walls. This paper does not profess to deal with its history in its entirety, but only to recall three or four episodes which may illustrate different periods.

To begin with Saxon times. It was the year 921. King Alfred the Great had passed away twenty years before, and been succeeded by his son Edward the Elder. Alfred's daughter Ethelfleda the 'lady of Mercia' had finished her work of opposing the Danes in the Midlands, and had reached or was nearing the end of her life.¹ There was again trouble from the Danes. Gathering a large force, they worked their way from East Anglia to the West. The rest of the story may be told in the quaint words of the

¹ It is doubtful from the Saxon Chronicle whether her death occurred in 918 or 922.

Saxon Chronicle. After saying that in this year in the Rogation Days the King "commanded the burgh at Wigmore to be built," it goes on: "Then after that a great army was gathered from the East Angles and from the Mercians' land, and went to the burgh at Wigingamere, and beset it round about, and fought against it far in the day, and took the cattle about it; and nevertheless, the men defended the burgh who were therein; and then they abandoned the burgh and went away."² This is the earliest mention of Wigmore, and gives the clue to its name. 'Wigingamere' is almost certainly the 'Moor of the Vikings or pirates,' and it is interesting to note that the fortress here was one of those which kept the Danish invaders at bay, and prevented them from making a permanent lodgement in this part of England.

We pass over a period of a century and a half. William of Normandy had invaded the country. The battle of Hastings had been fought, and William had parcelled out much of the land among his followers. Among these was William Fitzosborne, whom he made Earl of Hereford. But the Saxon Thegn, to whom belonged much of South Shropshire and Herefordshire, was not a man to yield without a struggle. This was Eðric Sylvaticus—Eðric the Forester—or Wild Eðric, who in Shropshire folk-lore still rides across the Stiperstones when some calamity is impending.³ Eðric with the Welsh as his allies resisted the Norman arms under the leadership with others of Ralph de Mortimer—Raduphus de Mortuo Mari—and even laid siege to Shrewsbury.⁴ But there was not sufficient cohesion between Eðric and his allies to make an effectual resistance, and he was compelled to submit. The Domesday Survey, made 20 years later, records the issue. It is to the effect that Ralph de Mortimer held Wighmore. Edward had held it. There was half a hide there within which was the castle. Ralph held the castle. William the Earl (i.e., of Hereford) made it on the waste land called Merestun, which Gunneret held in the time of King Edward the Confessor.⁵

² Saxon Chronicle under year 921.

³ Miss Burne's *Shropshire Folk Lore*, p. 28.

⁴ Author's *Shrewsbury*, p. 19.

⁵ Clark's *Medieval Military Architecture*. Vol. II., p. 527.

From this it appears that the earlier Saxon building had partly or entirely disappeared, and William Fitzosborne had restored or rebuilt it. Possibly some of his work is what we still look upon, and it is interesting to know that Wigmore had its share in that historical crisis which we speak of as the Norman Conquest.

Again we pass over a century. Part of that time had been a period of anarchy during the struggle between Stephen and Matilda, but it had been marked by a religious awakening which had not lost its force under the more settled rule of Henry II. It showed itself in the foundation of Religious Houses. The Abbeys of Buildwas, Haughmond and Lilleshall all took their rise in the century in question, and in 1179—or possibly a little earlier—Hugh de Mortimer, lord of Wigmore, founded the Abbey, whose scanty ruins still remain. This was not indeed the first religious foundation at Wigmore. Ralph de Mortimer had endowed a college of three prebends in connexion with the Church as early as 1100, which was apparently absorbed in the Abbey. Nor did that institution remain long undisturbed, for it was burnt by the Welsh in 1221, but its foundation shows how in a great religious movement, as well as secular, the Castle of Wigmore had its share.⁶

Again, nearly a century had passed. The nation was in the throes of the Barons' War. Simon de Montfort had succeeded in getting possession of the weak old King Henry III. and his more able son Edward. It was the month of June, 1265, and the Prince was confined in the Castle of Hereford. Among the Barons who were opposed to Simon was Roger de Mortimer, second of that name and sixth Baron of Wigmore, and he with other of the Marcher lords devised a plan for the escape of Prince Edward. Sending him a horse of special fleetness, he suggested that he should ask permission of his guards to exercise it on a certain day on the Widemarsh, and that when he saw a signal made from a neighbouring hill by a horseman on a white steed he should ride away as fast as possible. The chronicler, Matthew Paris, goes on to describe how he

⁶ Wright's *Ludlow*, p. 95.

obtained the requisite permission, and having tried several horses and tired them he mounted the one chosen for the purpose, and bidding farewell to his guards directed his course to Wigmore, accompanied by two knights and four squires, who were privy to his design.⁷ His ride of 20 miles was not interrupted, and he was welcomed to Wigmore Castle by its lord. And so it had its part in another crisis of English history.

Yet one more episode—an episode of pomp and glory but mingled with moral disgrace. It was the year 1327. Roger de Mortimer, the fourth of that name and eighth Baron of Wigmore, had been prominent in his opposition to the weak and dissolute Edward II. and his favourites the Despensers. He had met with only varied success, and had spent two years in the Tower of London, from which however he had escaped to Paris. Here he was joined by the Queen Isabella, who had become his paramour, and in company with Prince Edward they landed in England. The King was deposed and shortly afterwards barbarously murdered, and for a while Mortimer, who had become Earl of March, virtually ruled. It was at Wigmore Castle that he might be said to hold his court. Here he welcomed the Queen and the Prince, and entertained them with tournaments and princely festivities.⁸

But the day of reckoning soon came. His enemies were numerous, and his haughtiness increased their hatred, until, arrested with the Queen at Nottingham in October, 1330, he was condemned as a traitor and hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn in the month following.⁹

This may be said to be the last of the Mortimers who left an enduring mark on English history by his own personal deeds, but some of his descendants were by no means without distinction. His grandson, the fifth Roger, was largely engaged in the French wars of Edward III., and died in command of the English forces in 1360. He obtained the reversal of the attainder, and succeeded to the Mortimer estates. Edmund—son of this Roger—held the

⁷ Matthew Paris, *Historia Maior*, under year 1265. So also Rishanger.

⁸ Wright's *Ludlow*, p. 224.

⁹ Froissart's *Chronicle*. Vol. 1, p. 30.

office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland under Richard II., and was connected with the broader stream of English history in another way. He married Philippa, daughter of Lionel Duke of Clarence, and granddaughter of Edward III., and through this alliance his descendants became claimants to the throne—a claim ultimately recognised in the person of Edward IV. He was also connected with the stream of our local history. One of his sons married the daughter of Owen Glyndwr, and was the Mortimer depicted in Shakespeare¹⁰ as arranging with the Welsh Prince and Hotspur for the division of the kingdom among them. His sister was Hotspur's wife.

The last two members of the Mortimer family who need be alluded to were Roger, son of the Edmund mentioned above, who succeeded his father as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and his son, another Edmund, who was distinguished in the French wars of Henry V., and was also Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. With him the direct line came to a close.¹¹

Meanwhile the glories of the Castle itself were on the wane. Ludlow gradually superseded it as the centre of authority in the Marches, and the employment of its lords abroad added to the neglect. It received, however, considerable attention from Bishop Lee, who held sway as President of the Council of the Marches from 1534 to 1543. He had found it "utterly decayed in lodging for the want of timely repair," but speedily made it habitable, and he was there himself in 1539, when he wrote to report on the improved condition of the country. It is, however, a matter of regret that his zeal for upholding order in his district sometimes made him forget other claims, and he did not hesitate to accept a commission to suppress Wigmore Abbey and use the building materials for the repair of the Castle.¹²

Wigmore is also mentioned in connection with another well-known and distinguished President of the Council—

¹⁰ Shakespeare. *Henry IV., Part 1.* Act III., Scene 1. Author's *Shrewsbury*, p. 107.

¹¹ *Dictionary of National Biography*, under the several names.

¹² Miss Skeel's *Council of the Marches*, pp. 68—70.

namely, Sir Henry Sydney—who held the office from 1559 to 1586. He, like Bishop Lee, was a great builder, and Wigmore was one of the castles on which he executed extensive repairs.¹³ It appears at this time to have been chiefly used as a prison for obstinate offenders against discipline. In the Instructions issued in 1574 to the Lord President and Council it is enjoined that “if so be any person committed to the porter’s charge [at Ludlow] shall absolutely refuse to conform himself in time convenient, then such person to be sent to Wigmore, or such like place.”¹⁴

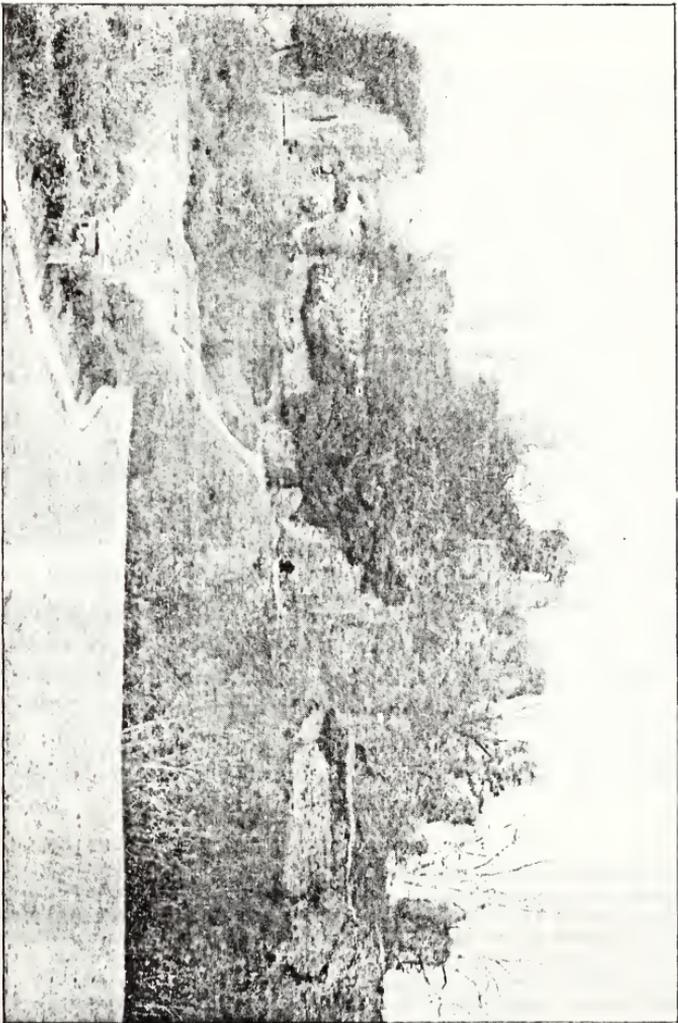
We next hear of the Castle in the Civil War between Charles I. and his Parliament. By this time it had passed, along with Brampton Brian, into the possession of Sir Robert Harley. He was a strong Parliamentarian, and when the war broke out his intention was to garrison it on that side. He was of opinion, however, on closer investigation, that it was too dilapidated to offer any effectual resistance, and he garrisoned his house at Brampton Brian instead, where his wife Lady Brilliana sustained a siege of several weeks’ duration. In order that the Royalists might make no use of Wigmore, Sir Robert “slighted” or still further demolished its fortifications.¹⁵ This was in 1643, and from that time till now it has remained a ruin. No very great change seems to have taken place in its appearance since Buck published his view in 1732, except that, as might be expected, its walls are less high and its ruins as a whole are less stately. Perhaps this is as it should be, for as we recall the stirring events connected with it, associated almost exclusively with a single family, and remember how absolutely that family has passed out of sight, we can hardly help feeling that at Wigmore, more perhaps than any other ruin in the kingdom, there is written broad across its story, “*Sic transit gloria mundi.*”

The accompanying illustrations of Wigmore Castle are reproduced from photographs taken by Mr. Alfred W. de Ath, of Leominster, with his kind permission.

¹³ Miss Skeel’s *Council of the Marches*, p. 88.

¹⁴ Clive’s *Documents connected with Ludlow*, p. 330.

¹⁵ Webb’s *Civil War in Herefordshire*. Vol. I., p. 321.



A. H. South, Esq., Photographer.

WIGMORE CASTLE FROM THE SOUTH EAST.

SHROPSHIRE GRANTS OF ARMS.

BY THE REV. W. G. D. FLETCHER, M.A., F.S.A.

I APPEND to this Paper a list of Shropshire Grants of Arms, extracted from some MSS. of the late Mr. Joseph Foster preserved in the British Museum.¹ The first portion is a list of Grants, some sixty in number, prior to 1687, and it is evidently incomplete, for many more than sixty persons must have taken out a Grant of Arms prior to 1687. The second portion is a list of about one hundred and ninety Grants, made between 1687 and 1896,² and it is probably a fairly complete list of those Shropshire gentlemen who took out a Grant of Arms prior to the latter date. Some no doubt will be found entered under other counties, where their ancestors were living when the Grants were made, and it would be well for any enquirer to search the two MSS. which contain strictly alphabetical lists without reference to counties.³ It will be noticed that a very large proportion of these Grants were taken out on a change of name, often in consequence of the "name and arms clause" in some Will, and that comparatively few of the Grants were made to individuals who desired an authorized coat for themselves and their children. Some of the latter were made to Sheriffs and Mayors in their year of office, to Baronets on receiving this honour,⁴ and to newly-made Peers who desired supporters.

¹ Additional MSS. 37,147 to 37,150. Two of these volumes contain lists of Grants of Arms arranged in alphabetical order. In the other two volumes they are arranged alphabetically under Counties. Only the names of the grantees are given, not the blazon of the Arms. Mr. Foster was permitted by the Heralds' College to copy these lists from the volumes of Grants preserved in the Heralds' College. Any one interested can inspect and make notes of any Grant, by a personal application at the College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, and paying to the Herald in attendance a fee of five shillings.

² There are two Shropshire Grants in the list later than 1896, viz., 1897 and 1898 respectively.

³ These are Additional MSS. 37,147 and 37,149.

⁴ Before a Baronet's patent can be signed, he has to prove that he is entitled to bear Arms, and he is required to record his pedigree at the College of Arms. A Peer need not bear Arms, and as a matter of fact some Peers have no Arms.

Sometimes it will be found that a family has for many generations used arms which are not on record at the College of Arms. Still these arms may have been originally granted by some Herald. Mr. Foster notes that Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, in 1590 granted arms to the five Regius Professorships of Cambridge, which are not recorded at the College. He asserts that many of the older Heralds sold their manuscript books of arms and pedigrees, and hence many of the earlier grants of arms are not to be found recorded at the Heralds' College. And he cites a grant of arms by Garter and Clarenceux Kings of Arms in 1777 to one Oliver Beckett, of which he affirms that no trace is to be found in the Books of Grants preserved at the College.⁵ So that the fact of any particular coat of arms not being now on record at the College of Arms is not proof positive that such coat was never granted by the Heralds.

Coats-of-Arms were in their origin of a military character. When armour was worn, it was necessary for each warrior to bear some personal cognizance by which he might be known; and so he wore upon his helmet a *crest* made of wood or some light material, and his *arms* were painted upon his shield. He wore also over his armour a surcoat of silk, on which his arms were embroidered. And these devices became associated with his family, and descended to his children, and were used on his banners, seals, rings, and monuments. There is no doubt but that in early days gentlemen chose and assumed their own arms, such arms not already belonging to any other person. In the *Book of St. Alban's*, printed in 1486, it is stated that "Armys bi a manny's auctoritie taken (if another man have not borne theym afore), be of strength enoch." But arms soon grew to be an honour in the prerogative of the King as the Fountain of Honour to confer. Many years ago I found in a MS. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford⁶ a copy of a grant by Richard II. to Thomas de Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham

⁵ See preface to *Some Feudal Coats of Arms*, by Joseph Foster, pages v., x., xxii., and 217.

⁶ Ashmole MS. 804, II. 16b. It is a copy of Patent Roll, 17 Richard II., pars 1., mem. 2; and it is dated 12 January 1393-4.

and Earl Marshal, afterwards Duke of Norfolk,⁷ of a golden leopard with a silver crown for his crest, instead of a golden leopard with a white label which he had "just hereditary title to bear," but which was also rightfully the crest of the King's eldest son. In 1385 there was a great contest between Sir Richard Scrope and Sir Robert Grosvenor as to the right to use the arms "Azure a bend or," which was heard before Richard II. in person, and was decided in favour of Scrope, and from that time the Grosvenors have borne instead "Azure a garb or." In 1418 Henry V. issued a Writ⁸ to certain Sheriffs, in which he directs them to make proclamation that no man, of whatever rank or degree he be, shall assume arms or coats of arms, unless he possess the same in right of his ancestors, or by the gift of some person having adequate power for that purpose; and that he shall show of whose gift he obtained such arms; except those who bore arms with the King at the battle of Agincourt. This exception probably means that gentlemen who had borne emblazoned shields or banners at that battle were, in consideration of their services, exempted from *proving* their right to bear them.

The Sovereign then at an early period assumed the authority over arms, but this power he has delegated to certain officers called Kings of Arms, who are appointed by letters patent. And these letters patent give the King of Arms "authority power and licence, with the consent of the Earl Marshal of England under his hand and seal first given or signified, of granting and appointing to eminent men Patents of Arms and Crests, &c., at the will of the Earl Marshal for the time being." The College of Arms was not incorporated until 1483, but long before this the Kings of Arms were authorized to grant arms. There is extant a grant of arms by Norroy King of Arms to Robert Burton, ancestor of the Burtons of Longner, dated in May 1478.

It seems to me perfectly clear that the Kings of Arms have been deputed by the Sovereign to grant armorial bearings to rightful persons, with the consent of the Earl

⁷ This was the duke who was banished, together with Henry of Bolingbroke in September 1398. He died at Venice in 1400.

⁸ Close Roll, 5 Henry V., mem. 15.

Marshal; and that no man has now any right to assume armorial bearings without such authority. A man is only entitled to bear arms when he has had a grant of arms from the Kings of Arms, or can prove that he is a lineal descendant of some one who has had such a grant, or who was allowed at some Heralds' Visitation to be entitled to bear arms.

And yet many people bear arms to-day which they or their fathers have assumed, and to which they are not entitled. They depict them on their carriages and horses' harness, or use them on their silver or their note-paper, or on book plates, or engrave them on their monuments in churches, or paint them on windows. The common plan is to send 3s. 6d. to some London stationer, and enquire what the applicant's armorial bearings are. The stationer looks in Burke's *General Armory* or some similar work, and sends a sketch of arms attributed to some one bearing the same surname. These the applicant forthwith assumes as his own arms, when probably they really belong all the time to some one else who has the same name but is in no wise related. Any Talbot might with equal propriety style himself Earl of Shrewsbury, or any Forester might call himself Baron Forester; but such assumption would give him no right to the title, nor could he pass it on to his children, or gain admission to the House of Lords. The voluntary assumption of somebody else's coat of arms stands on the same footing. No man can create for himself an estate of inheritance in the bogus arms he or his ancestors have assumed.⁹ The use of a coat of arms is an implied intimation to the world at large that it is borne lawfully, and that it is from the College of Arms; and surely it is better not to use armorial bearings at all, than to use assumed arms to which the bearer has no moral or legal right, but which are the property of some other person.

The question now arises, what persons or families in Shropshire are lawfully entitled to use armorial bearings?

The earliest list of Shropshire arms is that given in what

⁹ See Phillimore's "Heralds' College and Coats-of-Arms, regarded from a legal aspect," page 8.

is known as the "Parliamentary" Roll of Arms,¹⁰ and which was compiled at the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century, temp. Edward I. or Edward II. It is a list of the principal persons throughout England, 1,110 in number, arranged under their respective counties, with their arms; and it is probably a list of those considered eligible for summons to Parliament as Knights of the Shire, when required. Under Shropshire, only seventeen names are given, as follows:—

SCHROPSCHIRE.

- Sire WILLM. LE BOTYLER—de goules Crusule de or a une fesse Chekere de argent e de sable.
- Sire RAUF LE BOTYLER—de goul' a une fesse Cheker' de or e de sable en le chef ij moles de or.
- Sire WILLM LE BOTILER de Wemme—de azure a une bende e vj Coupes de or.
- Sire MILES PICHARD—de goul' a iij Escalops de argent e une fesse de or.
- Sire JOHN PICHARD—Meisme les armes a un label de azure.
- Sire RICHARD DE DOCKESSEYE—de argent a un lion de azure e un baston goboune de or e de goules.
- Sire HUGH DE KYNARDESLE—de azure Crusule de argent e un lion de argent.
- Sire JOHN DE ARDERNE—de goul' Crusule de or od le chef de or.
- Sire HUGH DE CROFT—q'rtile de argent et de azure endente en lun q'rt' de azure un lion passaunt de or.
- Sire WALT' HAKELUT—de goul' a iij haches daneys de or e une daunce de argent.
- Sire EDMON HAKELUT—de argent a une bende de goul' e iij moles de or e ij Coties daunces de goules.
- Sire RICHARD HAKELUT—de argent a une bende e ij coties de de goul' en la bende iij flurs de or.
- Sire THOMAS DE LODELOWE—de azure a iij lup's passanz de argent.
- Sire RICHARD DE HARLEE—de or a une bende e ij Cotyes de sable.
- Sire WALT' DE KYNGESHMEDE—barre de or e de azure a une bende de argent e iij escalops de goules.
- * Sire JOHN DE CHEDEWYNDE—de azure a un cheu'oun e iij rouwelus de or.

¹⁰ The Cottonian MS., Caligula A. xviii., contains what is probably the most reliable version of this Roll. There are many other MSS. of it, in the British Museum and elsewhere. The Roll is printed in Palgrave's *Parliamentary Writs*, 1828, vol. 1., 419, Nicolas's *Roll of Arms, &c.*, 1828, and in *The Genealogist*, N.S., XII., 275. A full description of the different versions of the Roll is given in *The Genealogist*, V. 14-18.

*Sire WILLM. DE CAUNTELO—de goules a iij floures de or a une bende de argent.

The last two names are in a later handwriting.¹¹ I much doubt whether any one living to-day could prove his descent in the direct male line from any of these seventeen Shropshire persons who bore arms 600 years ago. There are a few names located in other counties in this Roll, which we might expect to find under Shropshire. Thus, under HEREFORDESHIRE occur these names:—

Sire PERES CORBET—de or a un corbyn de sable.

Sire THOMAS CORBET—de or a iij Corbyns de sable.

And under ESTAFFORDESCHIRE is the name of—

Sire ROB'T DE STEPILTONE—de azure a un lion de or od la couwe forchie.

The Seals appended to early Charters and documents often bear impressions of authoritative coats of arms. After the Rolls of Arms, which go back to the days of chivalry, and the early Seals, the next authoritative lists of persons entitled to arms are the names comprised in the Heralds' Visitations of Shropshire, which were taken in the years 1569, 1584, 1623, and 1663-4. The first three have been edited by Mr. George Grazebrook,¹² and printed by the Harleian Society in 1889. They contain 362 pedigrees, with descriptions of the arms borne by these families, and sometimes the quarterings and crests. It may be assumed that these are an accurate list of Shropshire persons entitled to arms in 1623, subject of course to their agreeing with the more authoritative College of Arms MSS., G 9 (1569), G 15 and D 10 (1584), and C 20 (1623). The last mentioned MS., C 20, contains 160 pedigrees of Shropshire families, with their arms.

The last Visitation of Shropshire was taken in 1663-4, and the only MS. is C 35 in the College of Arms. It has

¹¹ They are marked thus *. Mr. Oswald Baron says they were added "evidently no earlier than the end of the fifteenth century." (*The Genealogist*, N.S., XII, 282.)

¹² Mr. Grazebrook's Introduction to the Shropshire Visitation, Harleian Society, XXVIII, pp. v-xl, is full of the most valuable matter, and deserves careful study.

never been printed, but a MS. in the British Museum (Additional MS. 21,025)¹³ professes to give a list of "The names of the Gentry of Shropshire as they are entered in the Visitation of that County made in Anno 1663 by Willm. Dugdale, Esq., Norroy King of Armes." It contains 206 names. A reference to the list will show that "*n.p.*" is prefixed to 23 families; this means "nulla probatio;" the parties had not proved their right to bear arms, to Dugdale's satisfaction. Amongst these families occur the names of Baker of Swyny, Oakeley of Oakley, Prowde of Shrewsbury, Scarlet of Hogestow, and Watkins of Shotton. To no less than 45 names "*n.i.*" is prefixed, meaning "nulla insignia," Dugdale boldly proclaiming that they were not entitled to bear arms at all. And amongst those families pronounced to be non-armigerous occur the names of Baldwin of Munslow, Clyve of Styche, Forester of Watling Street, Fowler of Harnage Grange, Hunt of Moreton, Jevon of Shrewsbury, Lutwich of Lutwich, Middleton of Middleton, Newton of Highley, Owen of Condovery, Prince of Shrewsbury, Scot of Shrewsbury, Smalman of Wildertop, Ward of Hinton, and Wood of Shinewood.

Many of these names marked with "*n.p.*" or "*n.i.*" present a difficulty, for in some cases arms disallowed in 1663-4 seem to have been allowed by the Heralds at the earlier Visitations, and it is not easy to see why they were disallowed at the last Visitation. Such was the case with Baldwin, Clyve, Forester, Fowler, Lutwich, Middleton, Newton, Oakley, Smalman, Ward, and Wood. I can only conjecture that they did not attend Dugdale's summons, or they refused to pay him his fees, and so he affixed "nulla insignia" to their names. Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, granted arms to Thomas Owen in 1574, and the addition of a canton and a crest to Edward Owen in 1582; and in 1584 he granted arms to Richard Prince. It is astonishing therefore to find "nulla insignia" prefixed to these two families in 1663-4.

William Ryley, who was Norroy King of Arms during the Commonwealth, granted arms in 1649 to Thomas Baker of

¹³ This list is printed in the *Transactions*, 2nd Series, IV. 59-63.

Swaney, and to Daniel Jevon and Thomas Jevon in 1651;¹⁴ but these arms were disallowed in 1664, because the Herald's College after the Restoration refused to recognize the validity of Ryley's grants, and required the grantees of arms to take out a new grant. This seems unreasonable, as the Commonwealth, then the supreme authority, had duly appointed Ryley, but all acts of the Commonwealth were discredited when the Royalists came into power again.

At each of the Visitations a number of persons were "disclaimed," their names were published at the Assizes, or at the Market Cross as being "no gentleman," and they were forbidden to call themselves Esquire or Gentleman, and all persons were forbidden to address them as such, unless they be able to prove their right to coat-armour. In 1585 ninety-six Shropshire persons were "disclaimed," and in 1623 ninety-two.¹⁵ In 1663-4, no less than two hundred and twenty-seven Shropshire persons were "disclaimed," many of them members of well-known families. There is a list extant of forty persons who were summoned by the Herald to attend his Visitation, but who signed a form of disclaimer 11 August, 1663, denying that they were entitled to bear arms or to be styled Esquire or Gentleman.¹⁶

It is perfectly clear that any living person, who can prove his lineal descent in the male line from any family whose pedigree was entered and arms were allowed at any Visitation of Shropshire, is lawfully entitled to bear arms. Or if he is lineally descended from any person who, since the Visitations, has been granted arms by the Kings of Arms, he is equally entitled to bear arms. The list of grants of arms at the end of this Paper should be searched, and also Fox-Davies' *Armorial Families*. Many pedigrees of genuinely armigerous families are also given in Howard and Crisp's *Visitation of England and Wales*. If a man cannot find that he is descended from any grantee of arms, or from a Visitation

¹⁴ For these two grants see the *Transactions*, 3rd Series, VI, Miscellanea, p. xvi, and *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, VIII, 36.

¹⁵ See a list of these names in Harleian Society, vol. XXVIII, pp. 1-5. Mr. J. P. Rylands published in 1888 "A List of Persons who were disclaimed as Gentlemen of Coat-armour, &c."

¹⁶ The word "gentleman" here simply means "gentleman of coat-armour," lawfully entitled to bear arms. It has nothing to do with birth or conduct.

family, the probability is that he is not an armigerous person and is not lawfully entitled to arms.

If he is desirous of having authorised arms, the proper course to pursue is to write to one of the Heralds, or else apply in person to the Herald or Pursuivant in attendance at the College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London, and state his desire to have a grant of arms. The cost of such a grant is £76 10s. It is best to give the Herald a sketch or description of the arms and crest the applicant wishes to have, and if they belong to no other family he will probably be able to get these or something very similar granted to him. The precise nature of the arms is a matter of arrangement between the applicant, his Herald, and Garter King of Arms. Such a grant can be taken out to the descendants of the applicant's father, if desired, so as to include his brothers and sisters.¹⁷ It must not be thought that armorial bearings will be granted to every applicant; this is not the case; professional men, members of the learned professions, officers in both services, county magistrates, &c., can generally obtain a grant; but it would be refused to retail tradesmen, however wealthy they may be; and the Earl Marshal's Warrant for the grant must in every case be first obtained. Sometimes it happens that a man will obtain from the Heralds a *Confirmation* of Arms which already probably belong to him. He will prove his descent from a pedigree which some ancestor entered up at one of the 17th century Visitations, and will enter up such descent at the College of Arms, and will at the same time obtain a Confirmation of the Arms which were recorded to his lineal ancestor.

There are several helpful books and papers bearing on Shropshire Heraldry which it would be well to mention here. First and foremost there is

The Visitation of Shropshire, Harleian Society, vols. XXVIII. and XXIX., 1889.

¹⁷ One word of caution. If a man desires a grant of the armorial bearings which he or his father have been in the habit of using, he should not mention this to the Herald, or something very different, and possibly a very ugly coat, will assuredly be granted!

Shropshire Arms and Lineages: by the Rev. F. W. Kittermaster, 1869. The first part, pp. 1-74, containing arms from the Visitations, is reliable. The Appendix, pp. i.-xxxv., contains many blazons of arms inserted "solely on the authority of the person furnishing it," and must be received with caution.

Armorial Bearings of Shropshire Families: from a MS of the late Mr. George Morris, of Shrewsbury. Printed in Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*, VI. 205-256, 393-500, and VII. 137-238. This list, the result of great labour and research, contains Shropshire armorial bearings gathered from every possible source,—Visitations, monuments, seals, plate, carriages, &c., &c.; but many of the arms in Mr. Morris's list are merely assumed.

The Sheriffs of Shropshire: by Rev. J. B. Blakeway. In his work Arms are assigned to every Sheriff; as they are in the *History of Shrewsbury* and in *The Provosts and Bailiffs of Shrewsbury* printed in the *Transactions*, to a large number of bailiffs and mayors. Many of these officials, however, never bore arms.

The Armorial Bearings of Shropshire Corporations: by A. C. Fox-Davies. Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*, 2nd Series, VIII, 15.

Salopian Book-Plates: by the Rev. F. R. Ellis. Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*, 3rd Series, V. 291. Many of the coats-of-arms engraved on book-plates are doubtless assumed arms.

Armorial Families: by A. C. Fox-Davies.

The Genealogist, N.S., vols. XIII. et seq.: Grants and Certificates of Arms, by A. J. Jewers. The list is compiled from Stowe MSS., and is in alphabetical order. It contains notes of many Shropshire arms.

There are many grants of arms copied into various MSS. at the British Museum and Bodleian Libraries. A few Shropshire grants have been printed, and amongst these are the following:—

Shropshire County Council, 18 June, 1896. (Genealogical Magazine, II, 2; Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*, 2nd Series, XII, 45.)

Robert Burton, 22 May, 1478. (Burke's Commoners, IV. 205.)

Edward Owen, of Shrewsbury, 8 Dec. 1582. (Sheriffs of Montgomeryshire, 317; *Montgs. Collections*, VI. 39).

Edward Herbert, Baron of Castle Island, 10 January, 1624. Supporters. (*Montgs. Collections*, V. 165, and XX., frontispiece.)

Thomas Baker, of Swaney, 11 Oct. 1649. (Shr. Arch. *Trans.*, 3rd Series, VI. Misc. xvi.; *Genealogist*, N.S., XXII. 112.)

Daniel Jevon, of Shrewsbury, and another, 10 Jan. 1651. (Salopian Shreds and Patches, VIII. 36; Misc. Gen. et Her., N.S., IV. 384.)

Silvanus Boycott, of Hinton, and Francis Boycott, of Buildwas, 21 March. 1663. (Misc. Gen. et Her., N.S., II. 162.)

Isaac Hawkins Browne, of Badger, 14 May, 1779. (Misc. Gen. et Her., N.S., III. 41.)

Edward Clive, Viscount Clive, 20 March, 1807. Arms of Herbert. (*Montgs. Collections*, V. 167.)

Rev. Walter Charles Edward Owen, of Hardwick Hall, 2 June, 1868. Arms of Kynaston. (*Montgs. Collections*, X. 422.)

The following Docquets of Grants of Arms—*i.e.*, the details of the grants but not the grants in full—are printed in *The Genealogist*, N.S., XXII. 154-156:—

Richard Baldwin, of Diddlebury, 10 June, 1580.

Edward Owen, of Shrewsbury, 8 December, 1582.

Richard Prince, of Abbay Foryatt, 2 November, 1584.

Richard Rocke, of Shrewsbury, 6 March, 1603.

Rowland, Baron Hill, 28 May, 1842. (Supporters.)

Anne, wife of Rowland, Viscount Hill, 16 Dec., 1844. (For Clegg.)

Rowland Clegg, Viscount Hill, 17 April, 1875. (Crest for Clegg.)

In the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2nd Series, XVI. 350 and 352, are these Docquets of Grants:—

Sir Rowland Hill, deceased, grant of his arms to Alice, wife of Reginald Corbett, William Gratewood, James Barker, and Rowland Barker, 3 Nov., 1562

Rowland Barker, of Wollerton, 17 Dec., 1582.

The following is from a copy of the Grant of Arms and Crest made by Norroy King of Arms to Robert Burton, the ancestor of the Burtons of Longner. It is dated 22 May, 1478, five years before the incorporation of the College of Arms, and is one of the earliest Grants still extant. The original Grant is unfortunately lost, and in one or two places the words in the copy are unintelligible, especially the expression "comas of Guij" as applied to the King. In one or two places I have amended the words, where there was clearly an error, by comparing it with other grants of the same King of Arms.

To alle true and Xtian people these p'sentes lres hering seeyng or redyng I Johan Wrythe oderwyse called Norrey King of Armes of the Northe partyes of England send due and humble recomendacon in our Lord everlasting. fforesoomoche as ther bee many personnes sette and disposed of their said noble and gentyll courage to exercise and use vertuous manes and nobles condicions by the which wt godd grace they shall more atteigne unto the perfeccons of grete honour of noblesse, of which psones one there is in special named Robert Burton of the counte of Yorke which hath instantly desired and he craued to have to him and to his heires for evermore the tokings and markys of noblesse, wherfor I the said King of Armes not only by comun renoine and report of dyvers nobles personnes that the said Robert Burton hath long contynued wt the King our Souveraign Lord and [comas of Guij] in alle his warres and in the disciplyne of the actes of noblesse worthy to be reputed and amytted among oder noble men for the causes above said by power to myn office annexed and attributed have deuysed orderyd and assigned unto the fforesaid Robert Burton and unto the posterity of him with the dew difference as hit shall [. . .] and apperteyn. That is to saie a shild of azure and pourpll parted in pale, a cross engrayled gold or bythwen foure rosses silver, and to his tymbre a gauntellet sillver sette in a wrethe gold and azure de lapkyns of goules doublett silver as hit apperit in the margyn herof which armes he and his heires shall now use and enjoye for evermore wythouty: any preiudice or empeachment In wyttnesse wherof I the said King of Armes to these pntes have sette my seall of armes and signed wt my hand Given at the cite of Yeorke the xxij day of May the xvij yeere of the reigne of our Souveraign Lord King Edward the Fourth 1478

Norroy, Roy de Armes.

APPENDIX.

SHROPSHIRE GRANTS OF ARMS PRIOR TO 1687.

From *Additional MS.* 37,148. SALOP.

	Baker, John	1685.	Jeffreys, Sir George, Baron of Wem.
1649.	Baker, Thomas		
1580.	Baldwin, Richard		(Supporters.) 3. 277
1604.	Barnfield, Robert	1582.	Jenkes, George
1562.	Barker, James, of Hamond 2. 558-9		Knight
		1623.	Knot, Anthony
1582.	Barker, Rowland	1569.	Kynaston, John
	Barnaby, Thomas	1586.	Lowe, William
1588.	Bennett, Ann	1604.	Mackworth, John and Thomas
1586.	Biest, John		Maddox
1664.	Boycott, Silvanus and Francis	1561.	Moore, Thomas
1683.	Briggs, Sir Humphrey, Bt. 3. 192	1582.	Owen, Edward
		1574.	Paramore
1556.	Broke, Sir Robert		Phillips, Thomas
1587.	Broke, Robert	1574.	Phillips, William, of Bridgnorth. 1. 199
1552.	Brydge, John		
1582.	Chelmick, William	1573.	Pope, Robert
1680.	Corbett, Sarah, Vis- countess. (Sup- porters.) 3. 132	1574.	Powell, Thomas
			Powys, Thomas
1563.	Crowther, John, and others.	1584.	Prince, Richard
		1606.	Proud
1623.	Davies, John	1597.	Purcell, Thomas
1664.	Doe, Charles	1604.	Rocke, Richard
1560.	Edward, William	1578.	Rogers, Richard
	Fowler	1513.	Salter, Thomas
1664.	Fowler, Francis Leve- son	1524.	Sommer, Thomas, of Glasley 1. 1
	Hall, John	1628.	Southerne, George
1562.	Hammond, James	1556.	Sparchford, John
1588.	Hayward, Rowland	1628.	Tenck, Nicholas
1694.	Herbert of Chirbury, Henry, Baron Hill, Humphrey		Townesend, J. Wheeler, Humphrey
		1560.	Whitebrooke, Hum- phrey
1563.	Jacob, Catherine		Withering, Edward
		1661.	Wolfe, Francis. (aug- mentation.)

SHROPSHIRE GRANTS OF ARMS, 1687—1896.

From *Additional MSS.* 37,149 and 37,150. SALOP.

[The black letter figures refer to the Volumes of Grants at the College of Arms, and the other figures to the folio or page; and "m" signifies married.]

ASTLEY-CORBETT, Sir F. E. G., Bart. And Norfolk. (1890.)	65.	236
ACTON, Edward William, of Acton Scott. m. with STACKHOUSE and GREGORY. (1813.) ...	28.	24
ACTON, after d'ALBERG, Bart. of Aldenham Hall. quarterly, supporters. (1833.) (O.G.)	40.	216
ACTON, after WOOD, Augustus, of Acton Scott. (1874.)	59.	26
ADAMS, Robert, Governor Coast of Malabar. Salop, and Cavendish Square, London. (1732.) ...	8.	148
ADAMS, Joseph Hain, of Chadwell Court, Sheriff Hales, J.P. Staffs., and his brother Thomas William, of Newport and Ancellor House, Edgmond. See Staff. (1856.)	52.	170
ALLCROFT, John Derby, of Stokesay Castle, and Lancaster Gate, London. (1870.)	57.	212
And quartering. (1878.)	60.	175
ASHBY, late MADDOCKS, Geo. A., of Greenfields, Cross Hill, and Westbury. Quarterly. And Northants. (1857.)	52.	252
ASTON, see PUDSEY.		
ATCHERLEY, late JONES, David Francis, of Marton. And Flints. (1834.)	40.	105
ATKINSON, to LACON, of Newport and Linley ...	37.	344
BAKER, Richard, of Bridgnorth, m. with GUEST and BOULTON	27.	235
BALDWIN, to CHILDE, of Kinlet. And Staff. ...	49.	175
BALLARD, of Ludlow	32.	53
BANKS, Rev. Fredk., M.A. Magd. Hall, of Hadley. And co. Warw. (1850.)	50.	232
BERKELEY, before CALCOTT, George, Captain, of Caynham Court. And Essex. (1826.) ...	36.	153
BERWICK, Baron. (HILL.) Supporters	15.	309

BIRD, Edward (son of Thomas, late of Brimslowe.) And Westminster. (1723.)	7.	213
BLACKMAN, to HARNAGE, George, Bart. (son of John L. Blackman, of London. (1821.) ...	33.	88
BOROUGH, to ROBERTS-GAWEN, Charles Gawen, of Chetwynd Park	59.	108
BORROW, John, Sheriff of co. Derby [of Chetwynd Park.] And Notts. (1702.)	5.	81
BOTFIELD, after GARNETT, Rev. William B., M.A., of Decker Hill, Shifnal. See Cheshire. (1863.)	55.	130
BOUGHTON, before ROUSE, of Downton Hall. And Warw. and Worc.	17.	352
BOUGHTON-ROUSE, before KNIGHT, of Downton Hall. See Hereford.	52.	172
BOULTON, of Bridgnorth, m. with BAKER. ...	27.	235
BOWLES, after RUSHOUT, f. Baron NORTHWICK. Quarterly. And Essex.	30.	236
BRADLEY, Charles, of Halesowen. And Sussex. ...	23.	396
And to COURTAIL	23	400
BRETTELL-VAUGHAN, after EDWARDS, of Berway Park, Bromfield, and Ludlow.	49.	343
BRIDGEN, Edward (son of William Bridgen, of Bridgnorth.) And London. (1725.)	7.	280
BRIGGS, Sir Humphrey, Bart., of Haughton. 3. 192 and	16.	41
BRODHURST, late NICHOLLS, Major-General E.I.C.S, of Drayton Lodge. And Chester and Bucks.	25.	244
BROOKE, Rev. John, of Haughton and Shifnal. And Staffs. (1785.)	16.	41 & 344
BROOKE, late TOWNSEND, George B. B., of Haugh- ton. And Chester. (1797.)	19.	377
BROWNE, Isaac Hawkins, of Badger. Lincoln's Inn, Prebendary of Lichfield (and to descendants of grandfather William Browne, M.P.) (1779.)	14.	129
BROWNE, before WYLDE, Ralph, of Barrow, m. (1788.)	16.	319
BULKELEY, before OWEN (formerly HATCHETT), of Tedsmere and Ellesmere. And Montgomery.	49.	47
BULKELEY, before OWEN, &c., &c. And Anglesey.	49.	84

BURTON, Mrs. Catherine Sophia, uxor Rev. Alg. Godf. KINGSFORD-BURTON, of Longner Hall, Atcham. Burton and Cleaveland quarterly. (1898.)	70.	192
CALCOTT, after BERKELEY, George, of Caynham Court. And Essex. (1826.)	36.	153
CAREW, late WARRINGTON, George Henry, of Pentrepant. And to his wife and issue. (1810.)	26.	311
CARR, Rev. Edmund Donald, of Woolstaston, Leebotwood, Shrewsbury. (1896.)	69.	152
CHARLTON, St. John, of Apley Castle. And Tampsall quarterly. (1779.)	14.	185
CHARLTON, to MEYRICK, Bart., of Apley Castle. And co. Pembroke.	53.	50
CHILDE, late BALDWIN, William, of Kinlet. And Stafford.	49.	175
CHILDE, before PEMBERTON (late of Millichope and Church Stretton.)	49.	182
CHOLMONDELEY, to OWEN, of Condoover Park, Hodnet, and Moreton Say. And Cheshire. ...	55.	66
CLEGG-HILL, Richard Clegg, Viscount HILL. Arms of Clegg. (1875.) ... 47.	279, and	59. 94
CLIVE, to HERBERT, Edward (Viscount, fil. Earl Powis.) (1806.)	24.	144
CLIVE, after WINDSOR, Baroness. (1851.) ...	51.	408
COCK, Alfred, K.C., of 8 Kensington Road Gardens, London. (1894.)	68.	45
COCKBURN, after KER, M.A., of Norton in Hales, and Bellaport.	39.	298
COLEMAN, to PROCTOR of Church Stretton. And Montgomery.	60.	271
CORBET, late DAVENANT, Sir Corbet, of Adderley Hall, Bart. (1786.)	15.	146
CORBET, late MAURICE, Edward, of Petton, and of Moreton Corbet and Ynysmaengwyn	15.	146
CORBET, late MAURICE, Athelstan, Wales ...	32.	217
CORBET, late PIGOTT, Rev. John Dryden, of Sundorne Castle and Edgmond. (1865.) ...	55.	328
CORBET, formerly PIGOTT, George William, of Upton Magna Rectory, Shrewsbury. (1890.)	65.	309

CORBETT, late FLINT, Robert of Longnor and Micklewood. (1774.)	13.	44
CORBETT, late PLYMLEY, Ven. Joseph, M.A., Archdeacon of Salop. (1804.)	23.	75
CORBETT-WINDER, of Cotsbrook, Stockton, and Aston Hall, Shifnal. And Wales. repton. by CORBETT-WINDER et alios.	57.	147
CORNEWALL, after WALKER, Frederick, of Diddlebury... ..	14.	342
COTTON, late GREEN, Elizabeth, widow of Joseph, of Bellaport. And Derby	32.	14
COURTAIL, late BRADLEY, Charles (ALBERT wife of, impaled.) And Sussex	23.	400
CROSS, John, of Staple Inn (and to descendants of father William Cross, of Holly Bank, Pontesbury.) (1865.)	55.	322
CROXON, Henry F. (after Henry Ferrers-FERRERS), of Pentreheylin Hall. (1885.) And see FERRERS, post.	63.	57
DARBY, of Sunnyside, Coalbrookdale. (1835.)	41.	375
DAVENANT, to CORBET (f. Bart.) Sir Corbet. (1786.)	15.	144
DAVIES, after PRICE, S. D., of Marrington Hall, Chirbury, and Brompton Hall, Churchstoke. And Middx.	60.	350
DAVIS, of Bishop's Castle. Also Essex and Glouc., and co. Montgomery	40.	17
DAVISON (SRYCH), Samuel, of Brandhall, Norton. (1737.)	8.	217
DONALDSON-HUDSON, Charles, of Cheswardine Hall. And Scotland	50.	238
DUPPA, late LLOYD, of Cheney Longville, and Grove, Wistanstow	42.	251
DURAND, Sir Edward L., Bart., of Ruckley Grange. (1892.)	66.	285
EDWARDES (HOPE-), St. Leger Frederick, of Netley, Stapleton, Vicar of Grete.	57.	338
EDWARDS, Richard, of Hampton Hall, Worthen, and Trimpley, Ellesmere. And Lancs.	48.	234
EDWARDS-MOSS, Bart. Sir Thomas. And Lancs.	49.	466

EDWARDS, to BRETTELL-VAUGHAN, of Burway, Bromfield, and Ludlow	41. 341-3
EVANS, Edward, fil. Thomas, of Oswestry. J.P. Worcester. (1864.) And see Wales	56. 138
FEILDING, to POWYS, A. W., of Berwick House. (Earl of DENBIGH)	39. 166
FERRERS, Henry F. (formerly CROXON), of Pentre- heylin Hall, Oswestry. (1885.)	63. 57 & 87
FEWTRELL-WYLDE, of Uplands, and Manor House, Chelmarsh. And Warw.... ..	59. 193
FLETCHER, to POWELL, of Sutton	23. 382
FLINT, to CORBETT, of Longnor and Micklewood. (1774.)	13. 44
FORESTER, after WELD, Cecil, M.P., of Ross Hall, Dothill, and Willey	26. 375
GARDNER, late PANTING, Laurence, M.A., of West- bury, Wrockwardine, and Sansaw	21. 164
GARDNER, late PANTING, Robert, of Leighton, Wellington, &c.	47. 208
GARNETT-BOTFIELD, Rev. W. B., M.A., of Decker Hill, Shifnal. And Cheshire (1863.)	55. 130
GAVEN (ROBERTS-), late BOROUGH, Charles G., of Chetwynd Park... ..	59. 108
GITTON, Thomas, of Bridgnorth, Clee St. Margaret, and Norton. (1740-1.)	9. 13
GORE, after ORMSBY, William, of Porkington. And Ireland. (Lord HARLECH.)	28. 393
GREEN, to COTTON, Elizabeth, widow of Joseph, of Bellaport	32. 14
GRIFFITH, Thomas, of Whitchurch	27. 318
GRIFFITH, after MURHALL, Thomas. And co. Denbigh	27. 331-333
GRIFFITH, late WATKINS, John and William, of Shrewsbury. And co. Carn.	45. 343
GRIFFITHS, of Broomhall	27. 403
GUEST, of Bridgnorth. m. See BAKER	27. 235
HALL, late SHEPPARD, William, of Chatwall, Middleton, and Hopton Wafers. And Kent and Rutland	7. 448
HALLIDAY, to TOLLEMACHE, Rear-Admiral, of The Leasows. And Scotland. (Lord TOLLEMACHE)	32. 351

HARNAGE, late BLACKMAN, George, Bart., of Belswardine	38.	88
HARWOOD, Edward of Shrewsbury. And Bath ...	49.	348
HASLEDINE, William, Mayor of Shrewsbury. (1836)	43.	177
HAYLEY, William, of Cleobury Mortimer and Bridgnorth. (1701.)	5.	51
HEBER-PERCY, Algernon Charles, of Hodnet ...	48.	258
HENSHAW-ASHTON, T. W. (2s. John Henshaw NICKSON-WALFORD, of Ruyton Towers, Shrewsbury). (1887.)	63.	348
HEWITT, to SMALLWOOD, of Drayton in Hales ...	18.	355
HIBBINS, of Rowton. m.	7.	55
HILL, Baron BERWICK. (supporters)	15.	309
HILL, of Shrewsbury. And Bristol	16.	67
HILL, Sir Rowland, K.B., Lieut. Genl., 1st Lord HILL. (supporters.) (1842.)	27.	18
HILL, after NOEL (see Lord BERWICK). And Cheshire	34.	300-302
HILL, late LOWE, Colonel Arthur C., of Court of Hill. And Wore	56.	75
HILL, after CLEGG, Viscount HILL. (1875.) ...	59.	94
HOPE, Thomas Henry, of Netley Park, Stapleton	51.	180
HOPE-EDWARDES, St. Leger Frederick, Vicar of Greete	57.	338
HOPTON, of Stanton Lacy. See Worc.	17.	368
HUDSON, after DONALDSON, Charles, Salop. And Scotland. (1862.)... ..	54.	238
HUNT, of Boreatton. m. (1772.)... ..	12.	152
JENKINS, Sir Richard, G. C. B., of Bicton House and Abbey House... ..	43.	212
Ditto (Supporters)	43.	217
JENKINS, Major-General, Charles Vanbrugh, of Cruckton Hall, Pontesbury. (1880.)	60.	344
JESSE, of Dowles. And Bucks., Staffs., Worc., and Wilts. (1810.)	27.	64
JONES, late TYRWHITT, Thomas, of Stanley Hall	17.	213
JONES, to ATCHERLEY, David F., of Marton. And Flints. (1834.)	40.	105
JONES, to TYRWHITT, Eliza Walwyn, widow of Sir T. J. JONES, Bart., of Stanley Hall. (1841.)	45.	214

188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500
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JONES, Henry, of Shrewsbury. And South Australia	55.	24
JONES, O. G., of Llanforda Isaf, Oswestry. (1891.)	66.	45
KENYON, Lord. Flint. Supporters. ..	17.	27
KENYON-SLANEY, of Hatton Grange and Walford Manor	54.	300
KEY, John, Bt., of Newport. And London ...	26.	96
KNIGHT, after ROUSE-BOUGHTON, Andrew, of Downton Hall. And Hereford. (1857.) ...	52.	172
KYNASTON, to POWELL, of Shrewsbury and Worthen. m.	19.	351
KYNASTON, late OWEN, Rev. William Charles Edward, M.A., of Hardwick Hall, Ellesmere. (1868.)	57.	13
KYNNERSLEY, Thomas Kynnersley, of Leighton Hall. (1887.)	64.	104
LACON, late ATKINSON, Walter, of Newport and Linley.	37.	344
LAING, to OLDHAM, of Caynham Court. Also Devon and Somerset.	38.	118
LAING, to WOLRYCHE-WHITMORE, of Dudmaston Quatt. And Glouc.	55.	270
LANE, to LUTWYCHE, William, of Salop. 1st troop of Horse Guards. (1776.)	13.	229
LANGSLOW, Captain Bengal Army, of Ludlow. Also Glouc., Suff., and Middx.	36.	95
LAWLEY, to THOMPSON (fil. bart.)	32.	170
LAWLEY, Lord WENLOCK (supporters.)	44.	25
LEA, William, physician, of The Grange (Sheriff of Worc.)	8.	279
LEA, Ferdinando, Lord DUDLEY (supporters.) ...	8.	283
LEIGHTON, of WATTLESBOROUGH. See OWEN, formerly SMYTH	17.	205
LEIGHTON, Sir Frederic, Bart. (afterwards Lord LEIGHTON), London. (1886.)	63.	167
LLOYD, to TOPP, Richard, of Shrewsbury. (1778.)	14.	44
LLOYD, to DUPPA, of Cheney Longueville and Grove, Wistanstow.	42.	251
LLOYD-ROBERTS, of Langley Farm, Stanton Lacy. (Roberts arms illeg.)	51.	45

LLOYD, John, of Bank House, Church Stretton and Wistanstow, late captain mil.	51.	345
LONGUEVILLE, Thomas, of Penyllan, Oswestry. (1889.)	65.	13
LOWE, of Worley. And Somerset.	22.	330
LOWE, to HILL, Colonel, of Court of Hill. And Worc.	56.	75
LUTWYCHE, late LANE, William, of Salop. (1776.)	13.	229
MACLEOD, to ANNESLEY (fil. Major-Genl. Sir Donald.)	47.	281
MADDOCKS, to ASHBY, George Ashby, of Greenfields, Cross Hill, and Westbury. Qtly. And Northants.	52.	252
MARTIN, of Great Ness and Ness Strange. Also Manchester and Bombay. (1838.) (Matly. descd. from Duke of ATHOLL.)	43.	18
MASTERS, Rev. John Smalman, M.A., Jesus College, Oxford, of Eudon, Chetton. And Kent. (1834.)	40.	103
And alteration	40.	259
MAURICE, to CORBET, Edward, of Petton.	15.	146
MEAKIN, Rev. James, M.A., of Hinstock and Drayton.	20.	273
MEYRICK, late CHARLTON, Sir Thomas, Bart., of Apley Castle.	53.	50
MITTON, Will., of Halston. See OWEN, late SMYTHE.	17.	205
MOISES, alias MOYSES, Rev. Hugh, of Oswestry. Also Northumberland and Notts.	11.	138
MORRIS, of Bishop's Castle. And Wales.	23.	324
MURHALL, before GRIFFITH, Thomas, of Whitchurch. And Wales.	27.	331
MYTTON, late WENLOCK, of Cleobury North. Spr. (fil. nat.)	56.	44
NICHOLAS, of Broseley.	54.	262
NICHOLLS, to BRODHURST, Thomas, Major-Genl. E.I.C.S., of Drayton Lodge	25.	244
NOEL-HILL, 2 and 3 sons. Lord BERWICK.	34.	300
NORCOP, after RADFORD, Mrs. Rosamond, of Betton Hall, Drayton in Hales.	54.	278

OAKELEY, of Shrewsbury. (1790.)	17.	221
OLDHAM, late LAING, of Caynham Court. Also Devon and Somerset.	38.	118
ORMESBY, before GORE, Major, of Porkington. And Ireland. Q.tly.	28.	393
ORMESBY-GORE, Lord HARLECH. And Wales.		59.	196
OWEN, late SMYTHE, Nicholas Owen O., of Condover. (1790.)	17.	205
OWEN, late PEMBERTON, of Condover and Longnor. (1814.)	28.	229
OWEN, after BULKELEY, Thomas B. (formerly HATCHETT), of Tedsmere and Ellesmere. Also Montgomery and Anglesey.	49.	47 & 84
OWEN, late CHOLMONDELEY, Thomas, of Con- dover, Hodnet, and Moreton Say. And Cheshire.	55.	66
OWEN, to KYNASTON, Rev. Walter Charles Edward, of Hardwick Hall. And Yorks. (1868.)	57.	13
PATCHETT, Major William, of Greenfields, Shrews- bury. (1898.)	70.	141
PANTING, to GARDNER, Laurence, M.A.	21.	164a
PANTING, Robert, Salop	47.	208
PELHAM, after THURSBY, Rev., rector and patron of Cound. Also Northants.	50.	184
PEMBERTON, to OWEN, of Longnor and Condover. m. (1814.)	28.	229
PEMBERTON, after CHILDE, of Millichope and Church Stretton.	49.	182
PERCY, after HEBER, of Hodnet	48.	258
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MISCELLANEA.

[Under this heading the Editors will be pleased to insert notes, and short articles relative to recent discoveries in the County, or other matters of archæological or historical interest. Communications are invited, and should be addressed to the Editors, c/o Mr. H. W. Adnitt, (Hon. Sec.), The Square, Shrewsbury.]

I.

A FIND OF COINS AT BRIDGNORTH.

On the 24th January, 1908, a labourer named Henry Beddoes was digging out some soil at the back of No. 73, High Street Bridgnorth, for Mr. T. Lay, builder and contractor, who was converting the place into a motor garage. It was previously known as the Borough Stores. At from 7 to 8 feet below the surface he came upon a quantity of coins, which at the inquest he said were "all in a heap in the loose earth. They were not wrapped in anything. The coins produced were those I found. Mr. Lay came on the scene as I was digging them up. I showed him where I found them. He picked some up too. The ground where I found the coins had not been disturbed for a great number of years. I handed over the coins to the Coroner at his request, and others who had coins handed them over. As far as I know all the coins found have been handed over." 144 coins, all silver, were in this way handed over to the police, and the report in the *Bridgnorth Journal* says "they were covered with dirt, and many of them sticking together, but when they had been separated and roughly cleaned, the peculiar substance with which they were encrusted, not of an altogether pleasant odour, possessed a tenacity that stoutly resisted strenuous efforts made to remove it." These strenuous efforts have left considerable scratches on several of the coins, all of which are in a very bad state of preservation. Such of them as can be identified are as follows:—

Mary, 1 Groat, "Veritas Temporis Filia" (1553).

Philip and Mary, 1 Shilling, 1554-8.

Elizabeth, 9 Shillings, 5 of 1558—1561, 1 with Mint mark

Martlet, 3 cross crosslet, 1 invisible.

1 of 1594—1596, Mint mark wool pack.

1 of 1602, Mint mark 2.

- 1 Mint mark invisible, but reading Elizab., and therefore later than 1561.
1 illegible.
- 24 Sixpences, dates 1561; 1561-5; 1567; 1571; 1575; 1577-1581; 1578 (?); 1581 (?); 1582; 1596; 1601; 1602, and 2 illegible.
- James VI. of Scotland, 3 Thistle Marks, 1601-3.
1 Thistle Half Mark, 1602.
- James I. of England, 9 Shillings. Three reading "Exurgat Deus Dissipentur Inimici," 1603-4. The Mint mark on one is invisible; on two is Lis (1604).
Five reading "Quæ Deus Conjunxit Nemo Separet," 1604-1624. The Mint mark on one is Lis (1604); on another rose (1605); on the others it is invisible.
One is illegible.
- One silver or base metal piece of the size of a gold Double Crown (ten shilling piece), with its legend "Henricus rosas regna Jacob" (Henry united the roses, James the kingdoms).
- 6 Sixpences, two reading Exurgat, &c. (1603-4); two reading "Quæ Deus," &c., one dated 1604, one with Mint mark rose (1605), one illegible, one Irish.
- Charles I. 6 Half-crowns struck in London, all having the oval garnished shield, without C.R. (1634-1646). On four the Mint mark is invisible; on one it is (P), and on another (R) 1643 and 1644.
- 1 Half crown struck at Worcester, and having the Arms of Worcester, 3 pears, for Mint mark (1643-1646).
- 21 shillings. Three have oval shield with C.R. at sides (1632-3). The Mint mark on one of these is Portcullis 1633
18 have square shield, 1636-1646. The mint mark on 2 is ton (1636), on 3 anchor (1638), on 3 triangle (1639), on 1 star (1640), on 4 triangle within circle (1641), on 1 P (1643), on 4 invisible.
- 5 Sixpences. Four have oval shield, 1634-6. On two the Mint mark is ton, 1636; on two it is invisible. One has a square shield, Mint mark triangle, 1639.
- 1 Half groat, legend "Justitia thronum firmat," 1630-1646.
- 55 quite illegible coins. Total, 144.

Not only are all these coins in very bad preservation through having lain so long in the earth without the protection of any receptacle, but also many of them, including all the half crowns, have been very much clipped, i.e., a good deal of silver has been cut off their edges, which was a very common method of fraud before the introduction of the milled edges in the reign of Charles II. Of the London coins, the latest were struck in 1643 and 1644, or possibly 1645. The Worcester half-crown was struck

after the beginning of the Civil War in 1642, and before Worcester was surrendered to the Parliament in July, 1646; probably a year or two at least before this. The horse on this coin stands out in very good relief, showing that the coin has hardly been in circulation at all; but the edges are badly clipped, which shows that the clipping was done in the time of the Civil War. It is a rare coin, and this and the piece with the Henricus, &c., legend are the two interesting coins in the hoard. This last is in such an extremely bad state of preservation that only a few letters of the inscription, and nothing at all of the type of either obverse or reverse, can be made out, and it is therefore not certain whether it was a counter or an imitation of a gold coin meant to be gilt and passed as a ten shillings piece. But taken in connection with the clipped condition of so many of the other coins, it certainly casts doubts on the honesty of the intentions of the person who deposited the hoard.

Worcester and Bridgnorth are only about 30 miles apart, and as both were held for the King from 1642 to 1645, there would be a good deal of intercourse between them, and a Worcester coin would be very likely to be brought to Bridgnorth soon after it was struck. In March, 1646, the Parliamentary forces took the town of Bridgnorth by storm, but the Royalists held out in the Castle for three weeks longer, and succeeded on Easter Tuesday in setting the town on fire and burning down nearly the whole of it. The damage done was sworn at Quarter Sessions Jan., 1660-1, to amount to £60000. People would be very likely to bury money for security during those three weeks, and the circumstances of this find, and the dates of the latest coins in it, point to the probability that this hoard was actually deposited at that time, and is therefore a relic of one of the most exciting and interesting periods of Bridgnorth history.

The composition of the find is very like that of the larger Oswestry find of 1904 described in the *Transactions* for 1905, p. 218, and corroborates the conclusion drawn from that and other hoards of the same date, that at the end of the reign of Charles I. half the silver currency of the country was composed of coins as old as the reign of Elizabeth.

The inquest was held on Monday, February 24th, 1908, when the coins were found to be treasure trove. They were accordingly sent to the Treasury, but as none of them were required for the British Museum collection, and as the Bridgnorth Corporation, to whom they were offered, refused to purchase them, they have all now been sold by the Treasury, for little more than their metal value, to Mr. H. P. Wright of the Bridgnorth Garage, the occupier of the premises on which they were found.

R. LLOYD KENYON, M.A.

II.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF SHROPSHIRE,
1640—60:¹ ADDITIONAL NOTES.

The following Extracts from the *State Papers, Domestic Series*, and *Calendars for Compounding*, give further information. We learn from them that the Vicars of Market Drayton and Whitechurch refused to take the Engagement; the identity of the Minister of Tong with the ejected Vicar of Lapley; the official report of the proceedings against Andrew Parsons, Vicar of Wem, &c.

- 1640, Oct. 16. Warrant issued by the Council of State to Edward Dendy to apprehend Mr. Cook, minister of Drayton, co. Salop, for speaking treason and for other crimes and misdemeanours, and to bring him before a Committee of the Council.
- 1650, Dec. 20. Warrant to Sergeant Dendy to apprehend Cooke, Minister of Drayton, co. Salop, and to bring him before the Council to answer for misdemeanours.
- 1650-1, Jan. 13. The business of Mr. Cooke, of Drayton, referred to the Committees for Examinations.
- 1650-1, Jan. 25. Thomas Cooke to find £1,000 in two sureties of £500 each for his appearance when required, and good behaviour.
- 1652, Nov. 8. Mr. Cooke to be discharged on his own security and the Committee of Examinations to take it.
- 1649-50, Feb. 2. Colonel Mackworth and Mr. Nichols to examine the business concerning Mr. Porter of Whitechurch, co. Salop, and whether the Engagement ought to be entered into, and to send up the Examinations.
- 1650, Aug. 15. To write to the Governor of Salop to turn out of his garrison all such persons as either in the pulpit or elsewhere by seditious words endeavour to stir up sedition, and uproar among the people.
- 1653, July 1. The Council of State order on the petition of the inhabitants of Whitechurch, co. Salop, that Thomas Porter, now minister there, be continued till further notice by the supreme power of this Council. The Justices of the Peace to see that he is not molested.
- 1653, Nov. 25. The Order of Council of 1st of July for the continuation of Thomas Porter, Minister of Whitechurch, co. Salop, till further order to be now taken off and the Justices of the Peace and all others concerned to take notice thereof.
- 1653, Sept. 22. Nathaniel Worthington, of Atcham, co. Salop, to be continued Minister there, and receive the profit and

¹ See the *Transactions*, 3rd Series, VII., 241—310.

augmentation granted him according to the order of the Committee of Plundered Ministers, and Colonel Mackworth, Governor of Shrewsbury, with any other Justices of the Peace to take care for his peaceable continuing.¹

- 1662, May 14. Warrant to the Attorney General and Counsellors at Law to prosecute Andrew Parsons, parson of Wem, co. Salop, for seditious preaching and speaking, on the late Act for the Safety of the King's person and government.
- 1662, Sept. 11. Warrant to the Commissioners for the trial of Andrew Parsons for seditious words, to remit the fine of £200 by them imposed, and to discharge him from prison to which he was committed till it was paid.
- 1651, Oct. 8. Charles Vaughan, [a parson, late deputy governor of Shrawardine Castle, now] of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, administrator of the estate of Sir William Vaughan, petitions that Sir William was in arms but had no real estate, and has not been sequestered before or since his death [on Aug. 2, 1649]. Was in arms himself though never sequestered. Begs to compound for such part of Sir William's estates as he has discovered, with a saving for the rest when discovered, and for his own small estate.
- 1651, Dec. 2. Fine at $\frac{1}{6}$, £183 6s. 8d.
- 1654-5, March 2. John Jackson, of Lapley, co. Stafford, complains of his difficulty in obtaining an augmentation of £50 a

¹ According to the *Alumni Oxonienses* a Nathaniel Worthington was Vicar of Onibury in 1661, possibly the same man, for he was not at Atcham in 1662. John Worthington, Minister of Shawbury, who, as Calamy records, was ejected, but afterwards conformed, and held a living in Cheshire, might have been a connection. In the Shawbury Churchwardens' Account (signed May 5, 1661, by Robt. Elie, Vicar), are these entries relating to the latter:—

- 1647-8. Paid to a distressed minister for preaching here when Mr. Worthington was in London.
- 1658-9. Paid to Mr. Worthington for the ministers' charges y^t preached at the lectures in ye yeare 1658. £1 10 0
- 1659-60. Paid to Mr. Worthington towards ye mayntayninge of the lectu' Ano. 1659. £1 10 0
1660. Pd. for ye preferringe of a bill of Indightm^t agaynst Mr. Worthington at ye quarter Sessions fer refusinge to reade ye Booke of Com^mon Prayer.

Robert Elie, his successor, had been probably at Upton Magna before. His name is misprinted *Elle*, in the Royal gift of 1662. "Mr. Robert Eley, Vicar," was buried at Shawbury 25th Feb., 1689-90, where Mr. Richard Wood, "Vicker of Shawbury and Parson of Cunde," had been interred 3rd April, 1648. Shawbury was one of the Shropshire Churches garrisoned in the War time.

- 1647-8. Repaying the Clocke becinge spoyled by y^e garison & makinge it to goe agayne. £1 0 0
- Fillinge uppe the Trenche that the garison had caste uppe aboute the Church. £0 10 0
- "Repairs to the Church Walle y^t beelongs to the p^{sh} w^{ch} was pul'd down by the garison," are also entered.

year from Thomas Petre's Estate granted him by the Committee of Plundered Ministers with arrears from 1647 to 1649; also of the refusal of Petre and Robert Moulton to pay him their tithes for the year 1650, during which he was lessee of the tithes that he might pay himself; also of an order to pay $\frac{1}{5}$ to Martha, wife of Robert Hilton, late Minister, though her husband is Minister of Tonge in Shropshire, where he keeps a school, and has Sutton Chapeley co. Stafford. Begg help.

This notice concerning Robert Hilton, ex-Vicar of Lapley, is unusually interesting. For it gives an instance of a minister who suffered for loyalty, though his opinions were not exactly Episcopalian. No doubt he was ejected for the malignancy of remaining at his post when Lapley Manor House and the adjoining Church were garrisoned for the King. But on his sequestration he found a friend in high places. The Hon. William Pierrepont, M.P., and Sir Henry Vane were (in the words of their friend and admirer, Mrs. Hutchinson), the "leaders of the Independent faction."¹ The former was patron of Tong, and appointed the ejected minister to this living. It was, doubtless, also owing to Pierrepont's influence that Hilton's wife was allowed her fifths, though her husband was in possession of other Ecclesiastical preferments. Probably a change had taken place in the views of the new Minister of Tong, for otherwise we cannot account for an Independent patron promoting an Episcopalian.

To the names of those who kept their livings throughout all the changes may be added that of Richard Good, Vicar of Neen Savage 1644—1708.

The Rev. Robert Pen was ordained to Churchill, near Kidderminster, co. Worcester, by the Presbyters of the Classis of Bradford North, co. Salop, on Feb. 23, 1652-3, his certificate being signed by Thomas Porter, Andrew Parsons, Thomas Wright, Aylmer Haughton, William Gower, Robert Binney, and John Malden.

J. E. AUDEN, M.A.

III.

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO TONG COLLEGE:² ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Unfortunately a misprint was allowed to pass uncorrected. William Vernon married Margaret, daughter of William Pype, and heiress of her grandfather, Robert Spernore (not *William* Spernore as printed). (Page 173).

¹ *Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson*, p. 270.

² See *Transactions*, 3rd Series, VIII., pp. 169—244.

A full account of John Prophete, Dean of York, Canon of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and Rector of Worthen, co. Salop, will be found in Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, II., p. 198. (Page 218).

I am inclined to think that Mr. W. K. Boyd made a slip when he wrote "Chantry of the Salvation of the Blessed Mary." Ought it not to be "Chantry of the Salutation of the Blessed Mary?" (Pages 231, 233).

In the Vestry door of Tong Church are "three peculiar holes, the use of which it is difficult to explain."¹ In my former paper (*Transactions*, 3rd Series, Vol. VI., p. 200) I suggested they might be to enable the Sacristan to watch the lamp burning before the High Altar. But now I am inclined to think they were made for the convenience of those in attendance on the officiating priest. For at Lauds, if the feast were of sufficient rank, the priest for the week would have to incense the Altar during the singing of the Benediction. For this purpose two thurifers with acolytes bearing candles came from the Sacristy, or Vestry, before the Antiphon was begun, and returned whence they came after the High Altar had been incensed. These holes would enable them to hear and see how the service was proceeding, and to know when they should come forth.

J. E. AUDEN, M.A.

IV.

CLUN AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD IN THE FIRST CIVIL WAR: ADDITIONAL NOTES.

Since my paper was printed in the *Transactions* (3rd Series, VIII. 287, &c.), my attention has been drawn to the following passages in early volumes of the *Transactions*, of which I was entirely ignorant when I wrote. They illustrate my statements however:—

At Cheney Longville some cannon balls have been found, and an earthwork in an adjoining field is said to have been thrown up to protect a party of soldiers in an attack on the Castle, and that a gun there used was afterwards carried to Tong Castle (*Transactions*, Vol. I., p. 125.)

Near Norton farm an ancient, but now unused road, deeply worn into the side of the hill, may still be traced from the farm house to the bank of the river, which must have been crossed by a ford. This road is in a direct line between Corvedale and Stokesay, and is that by which a troop of horse, advancing from Broncroft to the latter place, would naturally come. There can be little doubt that it was here the party, which had been recon-

¹ Rev. D. H. S. Cranage, *Churches of Shropshire*, I., p. 44.

noitring up the Stretton Valley, encountered and defeated their enemies, and that in this now peaceful spot "most of the gallantry of Hereford," with Sir William Croft at their head, met their doom. (*Transactions*, Vol. I., pp. 330, 331.)

My suggestion that Sir Robert Howard's house was at Hopesay is corroborated by this extract from a letter of Priam Davis, a member of the garrison of Brampton Bryan, to his cousin Captain Edward Harley, dated July 3, 1643:—"Colonel Howard hath about 50 Walons and Duchmen unarmed at Aston, with about 50 buff saddies, and intends to steale horses for them." For Aston-on-Clun is in the parish of Hopesay. These "Walons and Duchmen" were possibly the soldiers of Van Gore, about whom such complaints were afterwards made when holding Hopesay and Lea as garrisons.

Robert Howard, son of Sir Robert Howard, K.B., and grandson of Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk, married Winifred Cassey, who brought Hoarcross, co. Staff., to her husband. Winifred, their only daughter and heiress, married Peter Giffard, of Chillington, but died without issue.

The books of the Corporation of Bishop's Castle contain several orders for the entertainment of the Lords of the Manor, e.g.: 1615, April 17. For the honourable reception of Henry Howard, Esq., third son of the Lord Treasurer of England, lord of the Manor of Bishop's Castle, at his first entrance into the town. [He had become lord in 1609.]

1623, April 8. For the reception and entertainment of Sir Robert Howard, Lord of the Manor.

1649, Oct. 4. For the entertainment of Sir Robert Howard, Knight, lord of the Manor, and his lady.

I must plead guilty to allowing a mistake to remain in the account of Hopton. A line has slipped out (page 293) which said that Hopton came to the Corbetts through the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Hopton with Roger Corbett, Knight, ancestor of Robert Corbett, whose daughter married Sir Henry Wallop.

ALFRED M. AUDEN, M.A.

V.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WILLIAM EYTON, 1635-1688.

William Eyton (see *Transactions*, 3rd Series, VIII., 346), the fourth son of Sir Thomas Eyton, the royalist officer, was a distinguished soldier. He was baptized at Wellington, 1 January, 1635-6, and so was only nine years old when his father surrendered at Conway. In 1652 he entered Gray's Inn, but after the Restoration he commenced his career as a soldier, accepting his first Commission in the service in the First Regiment of Foot Guards (now

the Grenadier Guards), on 25 September, 1667, in the room of Colonel Mathew Wise, who had been deprived of the command of his Company in the Regiment, by reason of professing the Roman Catholic Faith. Eyton became Major of the Regiment on 1 January, 1682; he commanded the 2nd Battalion at the Battle of Sedgemoor in 1685; and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel on 9 April, 1686. He was appointed Governor of Landguard Fort on 19 March, 1687, in succession to Sir Roger Manley, and died on 14 January, 1688. (See Major John Leslie's *History of Landguard Fort*, p. 22.) For these particulars of William Eyton, I am indebted to the kindness of Miss Rose M. Eyton, of Camberley.

W. G. D. FLETCHER, F.S.A.

VI.

A FEW NOTES RESPECTING THE ENTRENCHMENTS AT STOCKETT.

As the remains of entrenchments at Stockett, near Ellesmere, had from time to time attracted the attention of Archæologists, the members of the Ellesmere Field Club decided some years ago to investigate these works, hoping to find some relics of the early inhabitants of the *neolithic* age, who had made and used the dug-out canoe, which had been unearthed some thirty years before from the neighbouring peat moss, and which was then, and is now, as far as I know, to be seen in the Ellesmere Museum.

The Rev. H. J. Wilcox, Mr. A. J. P. Child, and myself, were entrusted with the work in question, and caused a deep trench to be dug across the existing depression. The result of this work showed us that at some former time a ditch had been dug connecting Crosemere with the sheet of water which formerly occupied the site of Whittall Moss, and that this ditch had contained water was further demonstrated by a layer of sand at its bottom, similar to that in the bed of the mere, and further, because in this sand were embedded the roots and the lower portions of the stems of some large reeds. There were also evidences that the banks of the ditch had formerly been steeper than at present, and that the mound thrown up on the western side must have been higher, while we were enabled at the same time to gain some idea of the original level of the ground before the earth-works had been commenced.

Close above the original water level a number of fragments of bones were discovered, the best specimens of which were sent to the Veterinary College at Edinburgh, where they were carefully examined, and proved to be the remains of ruminants, probably oxen and sheep. A small tooth among them appeared to be that

Of the £4,500 imposed on co. Salop the Lords had assessed upon Shrewsbury £500, and upon other towns sums which amounted with Shrewsbury to £780

Upon a general meeting Shrewsbury was reduced to £450, Wenlock raised from £30 to £295, Oswestry abated £30, and Bishop's Castle £5, making the total for the Corporate towns £960. The remainder was assessed upon the County, and £3,545 is already collected.

If Shrewsbury should procure a further abatement of £50, the sheriff must by the second assessment upon the whole county, which will beget great trouble, for the money imposed on the county is very hardly collected.

1639.—The Council to the Mayor ——— of Shrewsbury for 1636.

It appears there is yet £55 17s. 6d. ship money in arrears of £456 6s. od. which that town by writ issued in 1636, was charged to pay, and which ought to have been paid long since either to the Sheriff or Sir Wm. Russell

We require you to pay in the same between this and the 9th of June next at the furthest, or else to repair hither to answer your neglect before the first day of next term.

1640, March 26.—Thos. Phillips, Sheriff of Merioneth, to the Council.

According to the King's Writ and your instructions I have with all diligence and care promoted to the service of ship money within the time limited, and have fully effected the same, but could not according to your appointment pay it in to the Treasuries of the Navy upon the first of April next, by reason of my infirmity of age, and the danger of carriage of so much money viz. £416, but which will be paid in on the 20th April by bill of exchange from John Prowde and Adam Webb, two Drapers of Shrewsbury.

PRINCE RUPERT'S COMMISSION.

1644, May 24.—Proceedings at a sitting of the Commissioners of his Highness Prince Rupert at Shrewsbury.

Present—The Sheriff, Governor of Shrewsbury, Lord Newport, Sir Richard Lee, Sir Richard Leveson, Sir Francis Ottley, and Messrs. Herbert, Rentale, Sandford, Thorne, Treves and Smith.

Ordered—That the officers and soldiers of Montford Bridge and Atcham are to have the same allowances as those of Shrewsbury. At Montford Bridge, a captain with two sergeants and 40 men, and at Atcham a captain with one sergeant and 30 men

That John Griffiths of Oswestry be empowered to press such teams and persons to work in the fortifications of the town and Castle of Oswestry as the Governor shall direct, and to take what timber and other materials are needful, giving a ticket to the owners for the same, and accounting weekly for it to the Commissioners, that satisfaction may be given.

That upon &c. cognizance given, Mr. J. Higgins be discharged from the custody of the Provost Marshall.

That Mr. Weston shall pay to Anne, wife of Robert Harris and Jane, wife of Matthew Harris, £3 in part payment of their petition.

That no officer or soldier in pay of the town shall be arrested or imprisoned by the Mayor's officers.

ST. MARY'S, SHREWSBURY.

1640.—Petition of Timothy Tourneur, recorder of Shrewsbury, James Proud and others, Churchwardens of S. Mary's, Shrewsbury, on behalf of the parishioners to Archbishop Laud, Lord Keeper, Coventry, and Sir Francis Windebank.

The advowson of the rectory of the Parish Church of S. Mary's was appropriate to the Dean and Canons of the College founded in the said church, being the King's Free Chapel, and in 1 Edward VI. the same college was dissolved by the Statute of Chantries, and the rectory given to the Crown, and afterwards the glebe Tithes and offerings thereof were conveyed to laymen, being now worth £300 per annum, and a curate was appointed to officiate in the said church with a stipend of £20 per annum in those times considerable, but never since augmented.

But during the reign of his Majesty that now is a portion of the tithes of the value of £80 per annum was by value of a decree in some of his Majesty's courts revested in the Crown, and was since granted for a term of years to Thomas Lloyd, Clerk, Vicar of another parish in Shrewsbury.

And of late your lordship's (by some direction from his Majesty to take order for the augmentation of the maintenance of vicars and curates where need acquired), directed the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield and others to treat with the proprietors of tithes within the parishes of Shrewsbury for that purpose, and Mr. Lloyd submitted himself to your Grace's determination therein.

Thereupon you held it fit that Mr. Lloyd should pay a fourth part of the clear yearly value of the said portion, for the augmentation of the curate's maintenance, but he refused to obey affirming that he will make trial to avoid your Grace's determination.

We therefore, beseech your lordship's to compel Mr. Lloyd during his lease to pay the said fourth part to the now Curate of St. Mary's Dr. Betton and to further us to obtain his Majesty's Grace to settle in reversion after Mr. Lloyd's estate ended, all or some convenient part of Mr. Lloyd's portion upon the curate of St. Mary's for the time being, the tenths arising within that parish.

THE SHREWSBURY DRAPERS.

1620.—Petition of the Drapers of Shrewsbury to the Council complaining that the Company of French Merchants do not buy the Welsh cottons which they are ordered to sell at Blackwell Hall and are not allowed to transport themselves; request that they be

called on to show cause why they cease to purchase ; or else buy them in future to prevent the ruin of the trade.

1621 May 29.—Clothiers of North Wales to the Council.

Request that the staple for the sale of Welsh Cottons may be re-established at Oswestry, the drapers of Shrewsbury trying to draw all trade to that town, which will be their ruin.

1622.—Petition of the Drapers of Shrewsbury to the Council that as by the late Proclamation for free trade in Welsh Cloths, the French Company are able to buy Welsh cloths themselves instead of purchasing through them, they may be allowed to export them to France, having a large stock on hand and fearing ruin from its non-disposal.

1622, June 15th.—The revocation by Proclamation of the orders restraining the market for Welsh cloths and cottons to Oswestry was occasioned by complaints made thereon in Parliament. The inhabitants of Wales desire a continuance of the market there, but wish liberty to exchange their wools elsewhere if they please. Thinks the market should be restored to Oswestry provisionally, until any valid objection against it can be shewn by the drapers of Shrewsbury or others.

1622.—The Council to the Lord President of Wales.

On complaint made before Parliament and sundry letters and certificates received since, it was ordered that the market for Welsh cottons should be restored to Oswestry to prevent the decay of trade and disturbances there. The drapers of Shrewsbury petition for leave to retain a weekly market at Shrewsbury for the general good of trade.

See no reason to alter the former order, but the case being important and best judged by those near at hand, request his Lordship and the Chief Justice of Chester to hear all the parties concerned and to confirm the order of Council, unless sufficient cause be shewn to the contrary.

WM. MARTIN M. SELLWOOD, M.A.

VIII.

HUMPHREY WALCOT'S FINE FOR KNIGHTHOOD,

1631.

The following receipt for twenty pounds, the amount of Humphrey Walcot's fine for refusing Knighthood, illustrates one of King Charles I.'s devices for raising money without the Parliament.

“Composition for Knighthood XX^{li}.

Quinto die Maii Anno R. Re. Caroli Anglie, &c., Septimo.

Received the said day and yeare by me S^r. Wm. Whitmore Kt. of Humfrey Walcott of Walcott in the County of Salop Esq^r the some of Twentie pownds according to his Composition with the

Commissioners for discharge of the order of Knighthood for his fine enlarged by them with respect had to his issues, which I am by his Ma^{ties} Letters appointed to Receive to his Ma^{ties} use.

I say received XX^{li}.

Wm. Whitmore."

JOHN R. BURTON.

IX.

THE WILL OF ANNE WALCOT 1675.

In the 3rd Series of the *Transactions*, Vol. V., facing p. 324, is a portrait of this lady, who was the correspondent of Lady Brilliana Harley, and to whom Thomas Froyssell dedicated his sermon preached at the funeral of her husband Humphrey Walcot, June 8th 1650 [pp. 319 - 324]. The pedigree of the Docwra family is also given on p. 324. The phraseology of the Will shows the lasting influence of the Puritan preacher; and helps to explain the difficulty of a truly religious Royalist family in giving unreserved support to a cause upheld by so many reckless Cavaliers. The *via media* must have been very difficult. The Will is also interesting in its incidental mention of William Walcot, by whose means the cloak, stained with the blood of the Royal martyr (now lent to the Shrewsbury Museum), was brought to Shropshire. In her later days Mrs. Walcot seems to have left Walcot to her eldest son and his numerous family, and to have resided with her second son Sir Thomas Walcot at Bitterley Court. She was however buried in the "Bow" or Walcot Chapel at Lydbury North.

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Anne Walcott of Bitterley, in the County of Salop, widdow and relict of Humphrey Walcott, Esqr. deceased, being in perfect memory make this my last Will and Testament that when it shall please the great God of Heaven and Earth to call mee out of this world to himselfe by death I doe bequeath this my vile body to the Earth there to rest for a time in hope of a glorious Resurrection; and to bee buried by my deare Husband Humphrey Walcott in the Bow in Lidbury Church if it may conveniently bee done, otherwise in the Parish Church where I shall happen to dye, and my soule to returne to God that gave it to raigne with my deare Saviour for evermore.

And as for the disposing of such Goods as I have I will that my sonn Thomas Walcott and his wife have Twenty pounds given them for their mourning. And of all the furniture belonging to my Chamber at Bitterley with my bookes my said daughter Walcott to take what she pleaseth for her owne use, and to dispose of the rest to what friends she pleaseth. I give to my sonn William the Twenty pounds he hath of mine in his hands and of it to provide himselfe of mourning. And I give him the old Trunck in my Chamber at Bitterley with all that is in it. I give to my daughter Elizabeth Walcott my wedding Ring. I give to my Grandchildren Twenty pounds to bee equally divided amongst

them and to bee paid in for their use within a yeare after my decease. I give to my daughter Mary Walcott my mother's wedding Ringe and Tenn pounds in mony besides her mourninge, and I leave my Cloaths to my said daughter Mary Walcott to bee disposed of as she sees good. I give and bequeath to Hester Owen who now lives with mee the sum of Five pounds, and also to her sister Bridget Owen the like sum of Five pounds. I give and bequeath to the men servants and maide servants which shall be liveinge at my sonn Walcotts at Bitterley at the time of my decease the sum of Six pounds to be divided and distributed amongst them as my sonn Thomas Walcott in his discretion shall thinke fit. And I give to the poore of Bitterley where I now am the sume of five pounds, and I make and nominate my Sonn John Walcott sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto putt my hand and seal this fifth day of Aprill in the year of our Lord God 1675, ANNE WALCOTT. Signed, sealed and published in the presence of us, Bridgett Owen, Hester Owen, John Beeston."

The Will was proved at Hereford, on the 29th day of November, 1675, by John Walcot, Esqr., son and executor. The Official Seal of Sir Timothy Baldwin, LL.D., Vicar-General is appended.

JOHN R. BURTON.

X.

A CAROLINE RELIC.

I possess an interesting copy of the "Eikon Basilike: The Pourtraicture of His Sacred Majestie [Charles I.] in his Solitudes and Sufferings."

First Edition, sm. 8vo. original calf, tall copy. 1648. One of the old clasps remaining.

On the reverse side of blank leaf at end is written in a fine contemporary hand,—"*This booke was given to Ffrancis Taylor, by his g[raund]father John Taylor ye tenth day of May, 1649.*"

John and Francis Taylor were of Longdon-upon Tern, *vide The Visitation of Shropshire*. 1623, Vol. II., p. 457 (Harleian Society).

EDWARD J. TAYLOR, F.S.A

West Pelton Vicarage, co. Durham.

The pedigree of Taylor, as given in the Shrewsbury Schools' Library MS., goes back to William Taylor who held Longdon-upon-Tern under the abbot of Lilleshall, the father of John Taylor the donor of the book. John had four sons; Richard, the eldest, married Eleanor, daughter of William Langley of Shrewsbury, and sister of Richard Langley of the Abbey. He lived at Cherington, and was the father of two sons, Richard, and Francis, the owner of the book. Thomas called in the Visitation, fourth, and Andrew,

called fifth son, both married and left sons, and John, called the second son, was the ancestor of the present Shropshire Tayleurs. He married Margaret Creswell, a Staffordshire heiress, and their son was Creswell Taylor (as the Visitation spells it) of Longdon.

The family is apparently, like several of the oldest Shropshire families, now widely spread. I was interested some years ago, when picking up an old prayer book in a Shrewsbury Church, to find that it contained the book-plate of the Taylor family (ermine, on a chief sable, 3 escallops, argent), though the Mr. Taylor who owned and used the book, was in a very humble position in life.

H. M. AUDEN, F.R.Hist. S.

XI.

LICENSE TO SIR JOHN WELD, THE ELDER, OF WILLEY, TO TRAVEL IN COS. STAFFORD AND SALOP, 26 OCT., 1650.

The Sequestration Papers of Sir John Weld and of his son were edited by the late Mr. William Phillips, and printed in the *Transactions* for 1901 (See 3rd Series, I., 185—212). The restrictions on "Papists and delinquents," even after they had paid their composition, and taken the Negative Oath and the Covenant, were very galling; they were not allowed to travel five miles from their usual place of residence without obtaining a license to travel. The following License, under the signatures and seals of four Shropshire Parliamentary Justices of the Peace, permitting Sir John Weld the elder to travel on matters of business from Willey to Eccleshall, and elsewhere in the counties of Salop and Stafford, for the space of three months is preserved amongst the family muniments at Willey, and is here printed by the kind permission of Lord Forester.

Mr. W. A. Shaw in his *Knights of England*, II., 214, states that John Weld, senior, was knighted at Wellington on the 19th (or 21st) of September, 1642, and John Weld, junior, at Shrewsbury on 22nd September 1642. These dates differ from those given by Mr. Phillips and from those in the Pedigree at Willey. Shaw also states that another John Weld of Willey was knighted on 17 March, 1682-3.

Salop. To all whom these presentes may in any wise concerne. Whereas Sr. John Weld the elder of Willey in the said county of Salop, knt. (a delinquent), hath this day made oath before us whose names are subscribed Justices of the Peace for the said county that he hath occasion of busines to travaile from his dwelling house in Willey afforesaid unto Eccleshall in the county of Stafford and into some other places in the said county and alsoe unto divers places in the county of Salop to receaue moneys unto

him due and for other busines of great concernement and fforasmuch as the said Sr. John Weld the elder hath likewise subscribed the Engagement appointed by the Parliament according to the Act for limitation of Papistes and delinquents wthin five miles of their habitations, These are therefore to will and require you to permitt and suffer the said Sr. John Weld the elder wth his attendants freely and quietly to passe wth their horses from his dwelling house in Willey afforesaid unto Eccleshall afforesaid and into other places in the said countyes of Stafford and Salop where his occasions shall require for the space of three monethes next ensueing the day of the date hereof and to retorne to his dwelling house in Willey afforesaid wthout any lett or mollestation They acting nothing p^rjudiciall to the p^rsent Governement nor the proceedinge thereof Given under o^r handes and seales the xxvijth day of October 1650.

W. Child [*Seal heraldic.*]
 Th. Niccolls [*Seal heraldic.*]
 Ri. Cressett [*Seal heraldic.*]
 Lanc^{tt}. Lee [*Seal heraldic.*]

[*Endorsed:*] St. John Weld the elder his passe to trauaile.

W. G. D. FLETCHER, F.S.A

XII.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS TO MUSTER ROLLS OF THE HUNDREDS OF BRADFORD, MUNSLOW, &c.

A.D. 1532—40.

The following communication came into my hands in the month of June, 1908. It seems to convey a certain amount of censure upon my work in preparing the paper¹ for the printer. I can only say that I took the greatest possible care in copying the sheets, and the errors are due to the transcriber's peculiar *caligraphy*, and the omissions must not be laid to my charge, as I collated the proofs with the transcriber's copy more than once. It might perhaps have obviated all mistakes and omissions if I had been able to submit the printers' proofs to Mr. Beacall for his final revision, but I was uncertain of their reaching him in time for publication.

Mr. John Beacall writes from Sorrento, on June 10th, 1908, as follows:—

"In looking more closely through the printed Muster Rolls, and comparing them with my manuscript copy, I find many small differences between them. There are some errors and omissions

¹ See *Transactions*, 3rd Series, VIII., pp. 245—286.

it would be advisable to correct. In the first place, the note from the Calendar at page 255 should have been put at the commencement. This, I own, was an oversight of my own. At page 262 the six last names under "Stoke w^t (not in) the Hamblents" belong to Cheswardine, and the six last under "Cheswardine" belong to Blecheley. In six cases names are omitted altogether; perhaps I may have missed them myself in my copy. These are, at Whitchurch, "Andrew lee w^t a Salet and Thomas hopkyn"; at Tylstoke "John Hopkyn"; at Drayton in Hales, "Robert Eyton"; at Hodnet, "John a lee"; at Peplow, "Robert Watkys." These errors are all set forth in the accompanying pages, and I do not think one can be accused of a meticulous particularity in pointing them out, considering how important those small things are to the genealogist; a syllable or even a letter may make all the difference to him, and the name that happens to be omitted may be the very one most interesting to him. I hope, therefore, you will excuse me."

ERRATA, ADDENDA, ET CORRIGENDA.

No. 13, page 249. Under Ellerton, the name *Buckeley* should be *Bulkeley*.

No. 25, p. 250. Under Sabury, the name *Martin Corbett* should be *Murton Corbett*, a place name and not as a personal name.

No. 30, p. 250. Under Downton, *Icke* should be *Ickes*.

No. 30, p. 251. In the heading of the roll *plant* should be *peaux*, a reminiscence of the French word *paix*.

No. 49, p. 252. *Grethner* should be *Grethn'*; and *Bowdular*, *Bowdullar*; and *Phelips*, *Phelipes*. In heading of the roll, on the same page, *octavo* should be *octavi*.

No. 63, p. 253. Under Stretton, *Genyng* should be *Genines*.

No. 66, p. 253. *Inhabitants* should be *Inhabitantes*, and *Armes* should be *Armor*.

No. 66, p. 254. *Ireland* and *Irelond* should both be *Irlond*.

No. 67, p. 254. *Budge* should be *bridge*, and *giene* should be *gene*.

No. 67, p. 255. The note from Calendar should have been put at the commencement.

Shropshire should be *Shropshyre*.

No. 68, p. 255. *Burghatt* should be *burgall* (I presume the the name now spelt *broughali*).

Rectell should be *Kectell*, with "horse and harness" added.

Heynton should be *Peynton*; *Jewnerison* should be *Jewnason*.

No. 68, p. 256. The name '*Andrew lee*' is omitted, and '*w^t a salet*' after it. *Jacke* after Thomas Wittynga is not erased, but spelt *Ja^oke*. *Brunfulter* should be *Brunfaller*.

No. 68, p. 257. *Wyth* should be *wyth* with a caret, in *able men without harness* *Thomas hopkyn* should be inserted between *Wylliam Newett* and *Thomas rosell*, whose Christian name should be altered to *John* in the same list.

No. 69, p. 257. *Stockman* should be *Stokmun*.

No. 72, p. 258. *Halmet* is *Hatmet*, and *dody* is *dod*.

No. 73. *Bowele* is *bowele*.

No. 76. *Milleston* is *nyllenton*.

No. 78. *Gamul* is *gamull*

No. 79. Under *Tylstoke* *John Hopkin* should be inserted between *Wylliam Hopkyn* and *john hagerthorn*.

No. 79, p. 260. *Caderway* should precede *Sanfort*.

No. 83. *Woodley* should be *Wordley*.

No. 86. *Gosth* should be *Gozh*, and *hor* after his name *har*.

No. 87. *Tagg* should be *tagge*.

No. 88. *Troewyll* should be *troewyll*.

No. 91. Under *Adderley* *bycarlver* should be *bycaril*. *Hanson* should be *Hunson*.

No. 95, p. 262. Under *Blecheley*, *Cloverley* should be *Clouerley*. *Pere* should be *here*

The six last names in No. 96 put under *Cheswardine* belong to *Blecheley*.

No. 97, page 262. *Stoke w^t hamblets*. The last six names belong to *Cheswardine*.

No. 98. *Adderley*. *Paxton* should be *huxson*.

No. 102, page 263. *Bessley* should be *bersley*.

No. 163, p. 264. *Rive* is *live*.

No. 105. *Robert* is *Robert*. *Poysur* is *poysin*.

No. 106. *Sutton* is *Sitton*. *Nonley* is *honley*.

No. 108. *Morgan* is spelt *Morgen*. *Aspsyate* is *aspsyall*.

No. 109. Under *Drayton* in *Hales*, should be included the name *Robert eyton* between *Wylliam powle* and *Wylliam waynewryth*. *Ric butts* is *Ric butter*, and *John buttes* is *John butter* (I suppose the same name as *buttore*).

No. 112, p. 266. *Ascher* should be *asch(n)*.

No. 113. *Harnesse* should be *hernis*.

No. 114. *Longelov* should be *Longslow*.

No. 115, p. 267. *Probyn* should be *parbin* or *perbin*.

No. 116. *Humson* should be *hinson* (I suppose properly *humson* or *humpson*).

No. 117. *Eastley* should be *lastley*.

No. 120, p. 269. *Hught sen't* is *hught sen^{ct}*. *Moris* is *morys*.
p. 270. *Hacoton* (?) should be *haeston*.

No. 128, p. 271. *John a lee* should be inserted between *Wylliam dekyn* and *Rondyll nawul*, which latter should be spelt *nawoutt* (for *nevett*, I presume). *Bowles* should be *bowlis*, *Clogtery* should be *clogty*.

No. 129. Under *Olleriton* *dakyn* should be *dekyn*.

No. 130. Under Pelow, Robert Watkys should be inserted between Thomas Watkys and Ric. bayle, and with har for a man.

No. 134. Wyxsale. *Pry* should be *poy*.

No. 135, p. 272. Prese. *Maari* is *madu*; *chosse* is spelt with final e; *gewell* is *gewett*.

No. 136. *Prike* is *puke*; *Jukyn* is *Jukyn*; *gamul* is *gamull*; *grull* is *grall*; *honiton* is *Kompton*; *bozেকে* is *bozেকে*.

No. 143, p. 274. *Charomer* is *chawner*.

No. 145. Goldstone. *Boide* is *boyde*.

No. 146. Blecheley. *Burve* is *barre* (or *vice versâ*, for it is printed *burre*).

No. 147, p. 275. *Brodhust* is *brodhirst*; *boydin* is *baydin*; *harpar* is *parker*; *crabton* is *chabton*.

N.B.—Mr. Beacall's peculiar handwriting, with a few printer's mistakes, must be held responsible for the large majority of the above necessary corrections.

C. H. DRINKWATER.

XIII.

SHROPSHIRE HERMITS AND ANCHORITES.

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

The inscription (given on page 112 *ante*) on Dame Joan Clopton's tomb is not quite correctly stated in *Anchoresses of the West*. It should run thus:—

Christe nepos Annæ Clopton miserere Joh'e
 Quæ tibi sacrata clauditur hic vidua
 Milite defuncto sponso pro te Jhu fuit ista
 Larga libens miseris prodiga et hospitibus
 Sic ven'abilibus templis sic fudit egenis
 Mitteret ut coelis quas sequeretur opes
 Pro tantis meritis sibi dones regna beata
 Nec premat urna rogi sed beat' aula dei.

In addition to those ladies mentioned in the paper, the *Heralds' Visitation of Shropshire* gives the name of Margaret Bromley as "monialis apud Sion," and her brother John as "monachus Carthausiu' apud Shene." They were children of Thomas Bromley, illegitimate son of Sir John Bromley, of Barthomley, who was living in 1477. Margaret, daughter of Nicholas Waring, of Salop, is also described as "monialis." She was sister of Anne, the first wife of Sir Robert Brooke, who, in 1544, bought Madeley Court.

St. Francis' Day is incorrectly given by the Rev. Mackenzie Walcot as July 16. It should be October 4; or perhaps September 17 (the Stigmata).

H. M. AUDEN, F.R.Hist.S.

XIV.

TWO PAPAL DOCUMENTS RELATING TO
BATTLEFIELD, 1430 AND 1443.

The two following documents are taken from the *Papal Letters*, vol. viii., pp. 186 and 248. The first is a grant of plenary indulgence to Roger Yve, the first master of the college, dated 5th April, 1430. The second is a relaxation of penance to all penitents who will on certain days visit and give alms for the completion of the Collegiate Church, and it is dated 7th June, 1443. For a previous relaxation, dated 11th March, 1423, see *Transactions*, 3rd series, vii., Miscellanea, p. vii.

(*Lateran Regesta*, vol. ccxcvii, fo. 292d 13 Martin V.)

1430, Non. April. SS. Apostoli, Rome. [5 April 1430.]

Indult to Roger Yve, priest, master of the new college of St. Mary Magdalen *de Campo* called Batelffeld, in the Diocese of Lichfield, that the confessor of his choice may grant him, being penitent, plenary indulgence at the hour of his death.

(*Vatican Regesta*, vol. ccclxi., fo. 208d. 13 Eugenius IV.)

1443, 7 Id. June. Siena. [7 June 1443.]

Relaxation, at the petition of Henry, King of England, of seven years and seven quarentines of enjoined penance to penitents who on the principal feasts of the year and that of St. Mary Magdalen and the dedication, the usual octaves and six days of Whitsun week, and of a hundred days to those who during the said octaves and days visit and give alms for the completion of the collegiate church or chapel of St. Mary Magdalen in the field called Hatheleyfeld, more correctly in the field called Batheleyfeld, in the diocese of Lichfield, whose foundation was begun by King Henry IV.; with indult for the Warden to choose fit priests, secular or religious, to hear the confessions and grant absolution, except in cases reserved to the apostolic see. (Without limitation of the period of validity.) *Ad perp. rei mem. Injunctum nobis.* (B. Kouerella) Gratis de m. d. n. p. G. de Callio.

W. G. D. FLETCHER, F.S.A.

XV.

THE CHURCH LIBRARY OF MORE.

Since the article on this library was published in the *Transactions*, 3rd series, vii., 115, there has been discovered among the More family papers a catalogue, which seems to be contemporaneous with the formation of the library. By the courtesy of T. J. Mytton More, Esq., we are enabled to give the following particulars. It

is written on parchment, and gives the books in the order they occupied on the shelves. A comparison of the titles with the books now preserved in the tower of More Church shews that 99 volumes have been lost since the catalogue was compiled. As the donor, Richard More, was to have special facilities for borrowing books this catalogue may have been one made for his own convenience, or a duplicate of that presented with the books. It shews very little sign of wear, such as one would expect if it had been that used with the library.

The Rev. R. Relton, Rector of More, who has had the document for a while in his keeping, has photographed the whole, and proposes to deposit a copy with the books now extant.

W. G. CLARK-MAXWELL, F.S.A.

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COMPILED BY F. A. MACLEOD.

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Shropshire Archaeological

AND

Natural History Society

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PART II.,

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