

Edward Hasted  
The history and topographical survey of the  
county of Kent, second edition, volume 2  
Canterbury  
1797

<i>

THE  
HISTORY  
AND  
TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF KENT.

CONTAINING THE  
ANTIENT AND PRESENT STATE OF IT,  
CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL;  
COLLECTED FROM PUBLIC RECORDS,  
AND OTHER AUTHORITIES:  
ILLUSTRATED WITH MAPS, VIEWS, ANTIQUITIES, &c.

THE SECOND EDITION,  
IMPROVED, CORRECTED, AND CONTINUED TO  
THE PRESENT TIME.

By EDWARD HASTED, Esq. F. R. S. and S. A.  
LATE OF CANTERBURY.

*Ex his omnibus, longe sunt humanissimi qui Cantium incolunt.*

*Fortes creantur fortibus et bonis,  
Nec imbellem feroceis progenerant.*

VOLUME II.

— — — — —  
| |  
| |  
| |  
| |  
— — — — —

CANTERBURY:  
PRINTED BY W. BRISTOW, ON THE PARADE.  
M.DCC.XCVII.

<ii>

<blank>

<iii>

— — — — —  
| |  
| |  
| |  
| |  
— — — — —

TO THE  
RIGHT HONOURABLE  
Thomas Lord Viscount Sydney,  
OF ST. LEONARD'S IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE;  
BARON SYDNEY,  
OF CHESILHURST, IN THE COUNTY OF KENT;  
CHIEF JUSTICE IN EYRE  
SOUTH OF TRENT;

ONE OF THE LORDS OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE  
PRIVY COUNCIL &c. &c. &c.

My LORD,

Though I am fearful that this volume will not  
be thought by your Lordship worthy of your accep=  
tance, and that I am trespassing on that respect which  
is due to you, in thus offering it to your patronage,  
yet as I am certain, my Lord, that your heart re=

iv

joices in every opportunity of imparting happiness to  
others, which renders your life a blessing to mankind,  
I throw myself on your Lordship's benevolence, to  
pardon the liberty I take, in thus addressing this De=  
dication to you. To enumerate your Lordship's  
public, as well as private virtues, would not only give  
offence, but would exceed the limits of this volume.  
Permit me, my Lord, therefore only to mention, that  
you are deservedly loved and respected, as a singular  
example in the domestic and social intercourse of life,  
and that you have acted in your public capacity upon  
principles of strict loyalty, and firm attachment to the  
real good of your country, and a steady adherence  
to the liberties of the English constitution. Thus  
distinguished, my Lord, both in your public and pri=  
vate virtues, as well as by your noble birth, his Ma=  
jesty, who never suffers superior merit to pass unre=  
warded, has been graciously pleased to shew his ap=  
probation of them, by bestowing on your Lordship  
those marks of his royal favor, and those repeated  
titles of nobility, to which your Lordship by your  
bright example adds a lustre.

But whilst I am thus hurried forward by the im=  
pulse of truth, I am trespassing, not only on your  
Lordship's time, but on that respect which is due to

v

your rank, in thus enumerating, what is so universally  
acknowledged. I shall therefore conclude, with my  
hopes, that your Lordship will pardon this liberty,  
and that you will condescend to accept of this Dedi=  
cation, as an acknowledgment of the profound respect  
I bear towards you.

That your Lordship may enjoy whatever may con=  
duce to the happiness of yourself and family, is the  
sincere wish of

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's  
Most respectful and  
Much obliged humble servant,

EDWARD HASTED.

LONDON,  
APRIL 30, 1797.

<vi>

<blank>

<vii>

INDEX.

The letter A refers to the Appendix of additions and corrections to the first and second volumes, added at the end of this volume.

A.

ABEL's of Erith, page 136,  
247, 283.  
Abergavenny, Beauchamps earls  
of, 355, 485.  
Abergavenny, Nevills, lords,  
355, 486.  
Acon, hospital of, St. Thomas  
of, 215.  
Adam's, 315.  
Ærhede, 528.  
ALCHARDIN, alias Coombe's  
manor, in Swanscombe, 414;  
A. 576.  
Allen, J. Ward, present rector  
of Cowdham, 78; of Ridley,  
463.  
Alnutt, trustees of Mr. possess  
Shelley's manor, in Nock=  
holt, 81.  
Altham's, 216; A. 564.  
Anchorite or hermit, at Dart=  
ford, 318.  
Angerstein, John Julius, possesses  
Woodlands, a seat in Green=  
wich parish, A. 558; a seat  
in Lee, 563.  
APPERFIELD manor in Cowd=  
ham, 68.  
Appulderfield's, 69.  
Apulton's, alias Appleton's, ac=  
count of, 271, 389, 275, 279.  
Arnold's, 499.  
Arsick's, 484, 513.  
Artichokes, famous ones at Dart=  
ford, 287.  
Arundel, Fitzalan's, earls of,  
332, 355, 455, 485.  
ASH, parish of, 463; A. 577.  
Asheton, Mrs. possesses a seat in  
Bromley, A. 567.  
Ashway's, 70.  
Astley Jacob, lord, A. 564.  
Aston-lodge. See Orkeden.  
Althol, John, earl of, 233, 234.  
Auckland, lord, resides at Beck=  
enham, A. 566.  
Austen's of Bexley, account of,  
174, 167, 178, 179.  
Austen, F. Motley, patron of  
Crayford rectory, 284; pos=  
sesses Shere-hall, in Wilming=  
ton, 330; a seat in the same,  
331.  
Aynscombe's, 90.  
AXSTANE, hundred of, 343.

B.

Bacon, Sir Nicholas, 10.  
Badby's, 356.

Badlesmere's, 234, 476.  
Baieux, bishop of, 31, 41, 60,  
98, 101, 114, 126, 135, 142,  
150, 205, 230, 354, 386, 404,  
445, 452, 459, 463, 483, 495,  
504, 512, 540.  
BALDWIN'S manor, in Dartford,  
314.  
Baldwin, Thomas, 499.  
Baltimore, Charles Calvert, lord,  
account of, 248.  
Bamme's, 310, 318, 336, 360.

viii

Banker's Little, an estate in Lee,  
A. 563.  
Barbur's, 10.  
Barham's of Teston, 447.  
Barker's, baronets, 155, 156.  
Barkfields, in Southfleet, 423.  
BARKHART, a seat in Orpington,  
101.  
Barne, Miles, possesses Newbery,  
May-place, and Ellam, in  
Crayford, 275, 280; A. 573.  
Barne's of Woolwich, 215, 216.  
Barn-end, a hamlet in Wilming=ton, 330, 331.  
Barrows or tumuli, 292, 368.  
Bartholomew's, 71.  
Basing Robert, 302, 345, 354.  
BASTON MANOR and COURT,  
in Hayes, 22, 23; A. 568.  
Bateman's, 247, 262.  
Bathurst family, account of, 500,  
502, 505, 506, 507, 521, 358.  
Bathurst's of Wilmington, 330,  
338.  
Baud's, 152, 315.  
Bayles, Thomas, 155.  
Beale, Sir John, 503, 517, 523.  
Bean, hamlet of, in Stone, 384.  
Beaumont, lady Margaret, 304.  
BECKENHAM, parish of, A. 565,  
566.  
BEDENWELL hamlet, in Erith,  
246.  
Bedesham. See Betsham.  
Bedford's, 368.  
Beer's, 312, 318, 322, 329.  
Beer's. See also Bere and Byer.  
Belknap's, 42, 51, 102, 115.  
BELVIDERE HOUSE, in Erith,  
248.  
Bennet, John, 201; Thomas,  
330.  
Bennet, Rev. John Leigh, pos=ses=s East Wickham manor,  
201.  
Bennet, R. H. A. resides at Beck=ham, A. 566.  
Benson, Edw. possesses a moiety  
of Hering-hill, in Erith, 248.

Bere's, 400, 416, 417.  
Berens, Joseph, possesses St. Mary  
Lyng, Ockmere manor, 117;  
Kevington in St. Mary Cray,  
119; Howbery, and the iron  
mills, in Caryford, 278; A.  
570.  
Berkeley, Sir Maurice, 304,  
481.  
Bermondsey, priory of, 359.  
Bertie's, 16, 18.  
Bertrey, manor of 72.  
Besborough, William, earl of,  
417.  
Betenson, baronets, 8, 18, 130,  
133.  
BETSHAM HAMLET, in South=  
fleet, 422, 164.  
Bexley, parish of, 162; A. 572.  
Begham, abbey of, 75.  
BIGNORS manor, in Dartford,  
308.  
Biller's, Sir William, 156.  
Billingham manor, in Lewisham,  
A. 564.  
Binsted, George, 93.  
Birtrick of Meopham, 369, 425,  
445.  
Blackhall, in Erith, 247.  
Blackheath, chapel on, A. 565.  
Blackwood, Shovel, possesses  
Wantsum, in Bexley, 164;  
the scite of Oldplace, in Cray=  
ford, 265; A. 572, 573.  
Blackwood's, 273, 274, 276,  
277, 278.  
Blacfsen manor, in Bexley, 163.  
Bladindon-court. See Blendon.  
Blague's, 312, 375.  
Blechynden's, 412, 419.  
BLENDON-HALL, in Bexley, 170.  
Blomfield, Thomas, 457.  
Bolton, Charles, duke of, A. 558.  
Bond, Sir James, bart. 26, 50.  
Bontfant's, 390, 397.  
Boreman, Sir William, A. 557.  
Borough, lords, 532, 547; Sir  
Edward, 532.  
Borrett's, 117.

ix

Borstable manor, 413.  
BORSTALL MANOR and hamlet  
in Plumsted, 214.  
Bosvile's, account of, 534, 434,  
434.  
Bostell. See Borstall.  
BOTANY, 22, 164, 204, 230,  
292, 331, 344, 403, 424, 441,  
511; A. 554, 559, 576, 577.  
Boteler's, baronets, 358, 443,  
447, 453.  
Boughton's of Plumsted, 203,

209, 213, 225, A. 560, 561.  
Boulter, Edmund, A. 555.  
Bourchier's, 87, 106, 465.  
BOURNE-PLACE in Bexley, 176.  
Bournside, Alexander, resides  
at Bourne-place in Bexley, 177.  
Bouverie, Elizabeth, 358, 447.  
Bowater's of Woolwich, A. 561.  
Bowdler, John, resides at Pick=urst, in Hayes, A. 568.  
Bowes's, account of, 149, 153,  
157, 159, 215, 216, 352, 467,  
478.  
Bowles, Oldfield, possesses Wood=land manor, in Kingsdown,  
489.  
Bowmen, royal Kentish, corps of,  
291.  
Bowser, Richard, possesses Plum=sted-park farm, 217.  
Bowton's docks, in Woolwich,  
A. 560.  
Bowton's. See Boughton's.  
Boyd, Sir John, possesses Dan=son, in Bexley, 173.  
Bradley, Tho. patron of Hart=ley, rectory, 457; present rec=tor of the same, 458.  
Bramblebury, in Plumsted, 216.  
BRAMPTON MANOR, in Nock=holt, 79; HALL, in Bexley,  
173.  
Brasier's of Cowdham, 52, 60,  
75.  
Brasil mill, for slitting iron, at Dartford, 289.  
Brasied-green, in Farnborough, 46.  
Braybrooke, Reginald, 433.  
Brembre, Nicholas, 309, 335,  
416, 485.  
Brereton, William, 253.  
Brett's of Bexley, account of, 170,  
178, 179, 336.  
Brett, Sir Piercy, A. 566.  
Brian, Phillipa, 465.  
BRIDGEN-PLACE, in Bexley,  
172.  
Bristol, G. Harvey, earl of, 372.  
Britons and Saxons, battles of,  
265, 369.  
Brocas, Sir Oliver, 481.  
Brockhall, in Horton, 508.  
Brockley Upper, in Deptford, A.  
554.  
Brome's, 51, 52.  
Bromley parish, A. 566.  
BROOK, alias Sutton-place, 352.  
Brooke's of Suffolk, 156; of Rochester, 435.  
Brooke, Joseph, A. 577; Lau=rence, 389.  
Brooke's, lords Cobham, 433;  
Sir Henry, alias Cobham, 352.

Brooke, Rev. John Kenward,  
possesses Hook place, in Southfleet, 435.  
Browne's, 120; of Beechworth,  
410; of Horton, 502.  
Browne, Capability, 173; Mary, 335, 351, 352; Thomas,  
312; Mr. A. 559.  
Buck's of Norfolk, 316; of Dartford, A. 574.  
Bucklers, in Orpington, 107.  
Budgen, John, lessee of Plumsted manor, 212.  
Buggin's, 149, 466.  
Bulbeck-street, in Crayford, 279.  
Bunce's, 338, 522.  
Burdett, Mr. resides at Vale Mascal, in North Cray, 156.  
Burford's, 246.  
Burghersh's, 212.  
Burgh, Hubert de, 464.

x

Burley, Sir Simon de, 461.  
Burleigh, William Cecil, lord, 393.  
Burnell's, account of, 186.  
Burrell's, 30, 44; A. 566.  
Burrish-court. See Burwash-court.  
Burrow's, account of, 44, 441, 443, 457.  
Burwash court, in Plumsted, 212.  
Butler, George, possesses Leaves-green farm, 60, 54.  
Butler, Mr. possesses Nockholt, in Swanscombe, 401.  
Bryan Philippa, 86, 446.  
Byers. See Bere's and Beer's.

C.

Cabbinell, Mr. 519.  
Caesar, Robert, 394.  
Calcraft's, 137, 358, 417, 521; A. 576.  
Calico manufactory, 265, 368.  
Call, Sir John, bart. resides at Lee, A. 563.  
Callow, Adam, resides at Hawley, 357.  
Calvert, Sir William, 156.  
Cambridge, Sydney-college in, patrons of Swanscombe tory, 421.  
CAMDEN-PLACE, a seat in Chelmsford, 13.  
Camden, Wm. account of, 13, 165.  
Camden, Pratt's earls of, account of, 14.  
Camden, John Pratt, earl, possesses Camden-place, 15.  
Campbell, Duncan, resides at

Mount Pleasant in Wilming=ton, 330; possesses Kings=down manor, 480; Hever, 482; Chepsted, 483, 487.

Campbell, lion king at arms, A. 557.

Campagne de, family of, 127.

Canterbury, archbishops of, 165, 284, 370, 378, 462, 529.

Canterbury, archbishop of, pa=tron of Orpington rectory, 110; Farningham vicarage, 525; Eynsford rectory, 537.

Canterbury, dean and chapter of, possess Farningham parson=age, 525.

Canterbury, priory of Christ church in, 99, 113, 268, 369, 524, 527, 537.

Canterbury, St. Augustine's mo=nastery in, 202, 205, 224, 489.

Cardinal's college, in Oxford, 253. See also Oxford.

Carew, Richard Gee, possesses Petley's-place, 54; a seat in Orpington, 107; a part of Chepsted, in Kingsdown, 483; Sir Francis, 56.

Carew's of Stone, 391, 396, 397.

Carmichael, John, lord, account of, 273, 274, 280.

Carter, 415.

Cartwright, Hugh, 316.

Cason, Edward, 393.

Cator John, A. 559; Joseph re=sides at Beckenham, A. 566.

Cavell, Bernard, 139.

Caves or holes, near Crayford and Dartford, 266, 291.

Chalkpits, at Greenhithe, 401.

Chalkside, in Erith, 228.

Chambley's, 391.

Chamberlain, Mrs. of Charl=ton, A. 559.

Chamier, Anthony, 169.

Champney's, account of, 174, 81, 180, 482.

Chapman, James, possesses a house in St. Mary Cray, 113; Hock=enden in ditto, 120, 121; a seat in Paul's Cray, 132.

Champman, Christopher, lessee of the great tithes of Wick=ham, 203; of Darent manor, and parsonage, 372; possesses St. Margaret Helles manor, 375.

Chapman's of Stone, 391, 397.

CHARLES MANOR, in Dartford,

309.  
Charlton parish, A. 558.  
CHARTON'S MANOR, in Farningham, 518, 520, 525.  
Chatham, the great earl of, account of, 25.  
Chaworth's, 529.  
CHELSFIELD, parish of, 83, A. 569.  
CHEPSTED MANOR, in Kingsdown, 482.  
Cherry garden, at Swanscombe, 401.  
Cherry-garden farm, at Charlton, A. 560.  
CHESILHURST, parish of, 2; A. 568.  
Chest, hospital of, at Chatham, possesses the tithes of E. Wickham, 203.  
Chesnuts, trees of, in Abbey wood in Erith, 228.  
Chesterfield, earls of, 117.  
Chicksend's, 487.  
Child's, of Osterly-park, 412.  
Child, trustees of Robert, possess Swanscombe manor, 413.  
CHIMBHAM'S, in Farningham, 521.  
Cholmeley's, account of, 148.  
Clarke, William, present rector of Orpington, 111.  
Clarence, George, duke of, 5.  
Cleeve, Bourchier, 137, 138, 520; A. 571.  
Clerke, John, 88.  
Cleves, lady Anne of, 305.  
Cleyndon manor, in Darent, 375.  
Clinton and Saye, Edward, lord, 107, 420.  
CLOCK-HOUSE, in Darent, 368.  
Clothworkers company in London, possess Borstall manor, 216.  
Cobham, Sir Thomas, 532, 547.  
Cobham's, 124, 302, 369, 432, 507; Brooke's, lords, 77, 297, 433, 507.  
Cobham's of Sterborough, 215, 481, 531, 547, 550.  
Cobham, chantry of, 506.  
Cockleshell-bank, 385.  
Cockshutt, Thomas, 329.  
Coke's of Holkham, account of, 479, 481, 482, 487.  
Cokerhurst, in Shoreham, 542.  
Cole, George, 334, 348, 352.  
Coleman, William, 217.  
Colfe, Abraham, 20.  
Collins's, 499.  
Coleraine, G. Hanger, lord, 518.  
Colyer, John, possesses a part of Poole farm, in Southfleet,

434; Henry possesses a mill in Farningham, 522.  
COMBES, alias Alchardin manor, in Swanscombe, 414.  
Commandery of the Knights of St. John, account of, 345.  
Comport's of Eltham, 155.  
Compton family, account of, 242.  
Comyn's of Badenagh, 408.  
Cooke's of North Cray, account of, 254, 154, 157, 181, 182.  
Cookes, Rev. Thomas, possesses the great tithes of Plumsted, 225, 186.  
Cooper, Mrs. possesses Chimbham's, in Farningham, 522.  
Coote's, 309.  
Cope, Tho. lessee of the duchy court of Farnborough, 50; of Crofton manor, in Orpington, 103; Bridgen-place, 172, 113.  
Copledike's, 32, 42.  
Cornhill, Gervas de, 489.  
Cosein, Mary Gerarde, 180.

xii

COTTON manor, in Stone, 392; A. 576.  
Cotton manufactory in Dartford, 289.  
Cotton, Edmund, 281; Sir John, 515, 517, 518, 519, 521.  
Coventry, Tho. possesses North Cray manor and place, 150; Ruxley manor, 153; patron of North Cray rectory, 158; possesses Idley farm in Ash, 463.  
Coventry's, 394.  
Court-hawe. See Crokenhill.  
Courtenay, Dr. rector of Lee, A. 563.  
Cowdale's, 533.  
COWDHAM, parish of, 60.  
Cowley's, 278, 279, A. 568.  
Coxe, Elizabeth, possesses Charlton's, in Farningham, 519.  
Cracker's, 519.  
Cranfield's, 347, 469.  
Cranford, stream of, 287.  
Crawton. See Crofton.  
CRAY, St. MARY, parish of, 112.  
Cray, North. See North Cray.  
Cray, Foot's. See Foot's Cray.  
Cray, Paul's. See Paul's Cray.  
Cray, Sir Simon de, 126, 130, 133.  
CRAYFORD, parish of, 263; A. 573.  
Crecanford, 265.  
Crephege's, 375, 378.  
Cressel's, 10, 456, 469.  
Crevequer's, 136.

Criol's, 529.  
Crisp's, 213.  
CROFTON manor, in Orpington, 101; A. 569.  
CROKENHILL manor and hamlet, in Eynsford, 532.  
Cromer's, 23.  
Cromwell, Thomas, 106, 153.  
Crosby, Mrs. possesses Chelsfield manor, 89.  
Cudham. See Cowdham.  
Culpeper's, 471.  
Cumberland, George, earl of, 352.  
Currey, John, present vicar of Dartford, 328; rector of Longfield, 444.  
Curtis, Mr. 217.  
Custom, odd one, at West Wickham, 30.  
Cutler, Sir John, A. 554.  
Cutte, John, 214.  
D.  
Dacre family, account of, 64, 70.  
Dacre, Lennards, lords, 67, 92; lady, A. 563.  
Darcy's, 300, 306.  
D'Aeth's, 129, 149, 153, 310, 322.  
Dalton's, 51, 52.  
DANSON-HILL, in Bexley, 172.  
Danby's, 129.  
Derbyshire, Edward, 416.  
Darcy family, account of, 297.  
Dare, Thomas, 182.  
DARENT, parish of, 367; A. 575.  
Darent, South. See South Darent.  
Darn. See Darent.  
DARTFORD and WILMINGTON hundred, 286.  
DARTFORD, parish of, 286; A. 574.  
Dartford, priory of, account of, 303, 308, 316, 336, 358, 415, 532.  
Dartford-place, 307; manor, 3, 345.  
Dashwood, Fr. possesses Mount Pleasant and Hall-place, in Bexley, 176; A. 572.  
Dashwood, Mrs. possesses Erith parsonage and advowson of the vicarage, 262.  
Dashwood's, 247.  
Davenport, Edmund, 368, 377, 378.  
Daunsington. See Danson.

fern in Bexley, 163.  
Deanbottom hamlet, in Horton, 494.  
Deadman's dock, in Deptford, A. 554.  
Delahay's, in Orpington, 107.  
Demesne, antient, 294.  
Denham's, 186, 137, 223, 225.  
Denne, Rev. Sam. present vicar of Wilmington, 342; of Da=rent, 383; lessee of Longfield manor, 442; Mr. 330.  
Denys, Sir Maurice, 302, 336, 346, 352.  
Denys's, account of, 70.  
DEPTFORD, parish of, A. 553.  
Denton, 438.  
Derbyshire, Mr. 217.  
Dering, Cholmondeley, possesses a house in Downe, 54.  
Despencer, Francis, lord le, 175.  
Despencer, Hugh, le, 408; Phi=lip, 478.  
Dingley's, account of, 169; Ro=bert, A. 560.  
Dinham's, 530.  
Disney, Rev. Wm. and others possess a moiety of Hering-hill, 248.  
Dixon's, 369.  
Dorrington, John, possesses a house in Eltham, A. 562.  
Dover, Fulbert de, 231. 232.  
DOWNE, parish of, 54.  
Downe-court, manor of, 55; hall, 56.  
DRAPER'S-PLACE, in Erith, 247.  
Draper's of Erith and Crayford, 246, 247, 257, 258, 278, 280, 281, 282, 456.  
Ducie, lord, 413.  
Dudley's, 395.  
Duke, Richard, 532.  
Duncannon, William, viscount, 417.  
Dyggis, James, 447.  
Dyke, Sir J. D. bart. possesses Farnborough-hall, 50; Or=pington manor, 100; East=hall, 106; Petham-place, 521; Eynsford manor and castle, 529; Southcourt, 531; Or=kesden manor, 532; Croken=hill manor, 533; Lulling=stone manor and advowson of rectory, 546; Lullingstane manor, 547; Patten-grove in Orpington, A. 570.  
Dyke's, baronets, account of, 245, 120, 538, 550.  
Dyneley's, 11.

E.

Eard. See Crayford.  
Eardley, Sampson, lord, possesses Belvidere house in Erith, 248.  
Earthen ware, manufactory of, in Deptford, A. 555.  
Earthquake, shock of, 511.  
Eastcombe, in Greenwich, A. 557.  
Easthall manor, in Orpington, 105.  
Ebbut, John, possesses Walden's in St. Mary Cray, 121.  
Edsall's, 176. 309.  
Edwards, Gerard Noel, possesses Charles manor in Dartford, 311.  
Egerton, Mrs. possesses Hackstaple manor in Sutton, 359.  
EGLANTINE FARM, in Farningham, 519, 520.  
Eglesfield's, 359.  
Egmont, earl of, A. 559.  
ELLAM, in Crayford, 279.  
Eliot, Mr. J. possesses Pickhurst, alias Heaver manor in Hayes, A. 568.

xiv

Elizabeth, queen, her progress into Kent, 306.  
Eltham parish, A. 561; palace, 562.  
Elwick, Nathaniel, 274, 280, 281.  
Emmerton, William, 504, 517, 523.  
Emmet, Henry, 182.  
Engham's, 460.  
Erhede, now Crayford.  
ERITH, parish of, 227; A. 572.  
Essex, Cromwell, earl of, 106, 153, 466.  
Eton college possesses Baldwin's manor, 315.  
Evans, 395.  
Evelyn, William Glanville, 117, 461, 462; Sir Frederick, bt. A. 554.  
Evere. See Hever.  
EYNSFORD, parish of, 527; A. 578.  
Eynsford de, family of, 136, 529, 464.

F.

Fagg, Mr. 415.  
Falkland, Sarah, viscountess, A. 565.  
Fane, alias Vane, Joane, 305.  
Fane's, 278, 284, 471.

FANTS manor, 253.  
Farmer, Samuel, resides at West Wickham, 30.  
FARNBOHOUGH, parish of, 46; duchy court of, 31, 413.  
FARNINGHAM, parish of, 510; A. 578.  
Farnaby, John, possesses Baston manor, 23; West Wickham manor and advowson of rectory, 34, 36; Keston manor, 43.  
Farrant, Thomas, 75; Godfrey Lee, 92; William, 372.  
Farrant, George Binsted, possesses Norsted manor, 93.  
Farrington's, account of, 16, 9, 17, 20, A. 568.  
Faulder, Joseph, present rector of West Wickham, 37.  
Faussett family, A. 574.  
Faustina, empress, coin of, 424.  
FAWKHAM, parish of, 444.  
Ferby's, account of, 130, 120, 132, 133, 170.  
Fermanagh, lady, resides at May place in Crayford, 275; A. 573.  
Ferry at Greenhith, 400.  
Fermor's, 284.  
Fielder, Mark, 316, 321.  
Fiennes family, account of, 63, 77.  
Filmer's, 376.  
Fisher's, 171, 434.  
Fitch's, account of, 155.  
Fitz's, 460.  
Fitzbernard's, 475, 492.  
Fitzherbert, Mrs. A. 559.  
Fitzwalter, Robert, 232.  
Fleet, Hussey, resides at Hawley in Sutton, 357.  
Fletcher, Joseph, 358, 502.  
Fletis and Fleetis. See Southfleet.  
Fludyer, Sir Thomas, A. 563.  
Fly, Henry, perpetual curate of Downe, 59; of Nockkolt, 83.  
Folkstone, Elizabeth, viscountess dowager, 358, 447.  
FOOT'S CRAY, parish of, 135; A. 570.  
Foot's Cray-place, 138.  
Ford, Thurstan, possesses Mount Pleasant in Wilmington, 330.  
Ford, Sir Richard, 181.  
Forrest, Richard, 457.  
Fortree's, A. 557.  
Fossils found at Charlton, A. 559; at Woolwich, 560.  
Fountaine, Robert, present vicar of Sutton, 367.

Fowel, John, D. D. present rector of Eynsford, 539.  
Fowke, Edward, 338, 368, 357, A. 576.  
Fowler's, account of, 466, 149, 473.  
Francis Basil, heirs of, lessees of Dartford parsonage, A. 574.  
Francey's, 92, 357.  
Frankenham's, 471.  
Frankish, family of, 500.  
FRANKS, a seat in Horton, 500.  
Fraser, Simon, lessee of Baldwin's manor, in Dartford, 316.  
Fraser, Thomas, possesses a seat in Hawley, 357.  
Freeland's, a seat in Bromley, A. 567.  
Fremingham's, account of, 514, 518; John de, 317.  
Frendsbury, 438, 427.  
Frith, Rev. Edward Cockayne, possesses Wollet-hall, in North Cray, 142.  
Frith's, 133, 142.  
FROGNALL, a seat in Chesilhurst, 10.  
Fulham's-place, in Plumsted, 15, 217.  
Fuller, John, possesses Hewit's, in Chelsfield, 91.  
Fuller, Thomas, possesses Farningham manor, &c. 518, and a seat in ditto, 520.  
Fullerton, John, 517, 520.  
G.  
Gainsford, Sir Thomas, 255.  
Gatewyk's, 470.  
Garret's, see Gerard's.  
Gavelkind, trial of, 299.  
Geary, Sir Francis, bart. possesses Apperfield, in Cowdham, 72.  
Gee's of Orpington, 51, 107, 108.  
Gellibrand's, 137.  
Gerard's, 429.  
Gideon, Sampson, account of, 248.  
Gifford's, 131, 360, 374, 448, 536, 538.  
Gilbourne's, A. 561.  
Gilden-hill. See Gilton-hill.  
Giles's, 88.  
Gills, hamlet of, in Darent, 373, 375, 381, A. 576.  
GILTON-HILL, in Sutton, 358.  
Glendower, Owen, 456.  
Glode, Sir Rich. possesses Mayfield, 105; Perry-court, in Orpington, A. 570.

Gloucester, Richard de Clare,  
earl of, 497.  
Glover's, 56.  
Goddard, Austen, 173.  
Godden, Robert, 462.  
GODDINGTON manor, in Chels= field, 89, 413.  
Goldsmith's, account of, 272,  
275, 310.  
Goldwell's of Bexley, 167, 168.  
Gooday's, 81, 93.  
GORE, a seat in Darent, 369.  
Gorfyn, William, 270.  
Gospel Society, in New Eng= land, possess Suffolk-place- farm in Plumsted, 216.  
Gosnold, Robert, 462.  
Gossage, John, 203.  
Gould, Sir Charles, 300.  
Gouge, family of, 293.  
GRANDISON'S, alias Wilming= ton manor, 332.  
Grandison's, 47, 86, 91, 106,  
332, 446, 465.  
Grauntson. See Grandison.  
Green, William, present vicar of Bexley, 183.  
Green, John, lessee of Eltham rectory, A. 562.  
Grene's, 213; Sir William, ba= ronet, 216.  
Greenstreet green hamlet, in Chels= xvi  
field field, 84; A. 569; hamlet in Darent, 368, 373, 375, 381.  
Greenstreet, hundred of, 485.  
GREENHITH hamlet in Swans= combe, 400.  
Greenwich parish, A. 555.  
Greenwood's, 113, 123.  
Gretenersce. See Greenhith.  
Grey of Ruthin, Reginald, lord,  
455, 456.  
Griffith, Sir John, 258.  
Grimstones, baronets, 503.  
Grote, George, esq. of Beck= enham, SHERIFF, A. 553.  
Groveherst, 520.  
Gunpowder, manufactory of,  
309.  
Gwydir, Peter Burrell, lord,  
possesses a seat, 30, and other houses in Beckenham, A. 566.  
Gyse's, 335, 357.  
H.  
Hackett's, 499.  
Hackstaple, in Sutton, 359.  
Haddenham, Jeffry, 373.  
Haddon's, 90, 112, 123, 124,  
352.  
Hagelei. See Hawley.

Halgell. See Hawley.  
Hali Sawters. See Hawley.  
HALYWELL, alias Hodsoll manor, in Ash, 467.  
Halywell nunnery in Shoreditch, 467.  
HALL-PLACE, in Bexley, 173.  
Hamond, John, 52.  
Handloe's, 187.  
Hanger's, 504, 517, 520.  
Hanging-wood, in Charlton, A. 559.  
Hardres, 415.  
Hardy, lady, resides at Sidcup, 139.  
Harenc, Benj. possesses lands in Foot's Cray, 137; Foot's Cray place, 138; A. 570.  
Harman's, 279.  
Harris, James, possesses Goddington manor in Chelsfield, 90; Thomas, 360, 365; Rev. Mr. A. 559.  
Harrison, John, 24.  
Harrington, Mr. 393; Aaron, 435.  
Hart, family of, 50, 100, 104, 106, 121, 124, 358, 418, 529, 530, 532, 533, 535, 538, 549, 551; account of, 543.  
HARTLEY, parish of, 452; A. 577.  
Harvey's, 372.  
Haskins, Charles, 30.  
Hastings, 355, 375, 407, 454.  
Hatchfield, Great, in Lee, A. 563.  
Hawkesworth, Dr. A. 567.  
Hawkins, Sir John, 203.  
HAWLEY hamlet and manor, in Sutton, 345, 353.  
Haws, Mr. 256.  
Hawte, Edward, 258.  
HAYES, parish of, 22; A. 568.  
Hayes's, 401; Bonham, 415; A. 576; James, A. 557.  
Hayley, George, 248.  
Hayward, Rowland, 352; John, 374.  
Haywood's, A. 562.  
Head's, baronets, 415; A. 576.  
Heathcote, Thomas, present rector of Stone, 399.  
Heather, William, 166.  
Hedges, William, 245, 259.  
HELLES hamlet of St. Margaret's in Darent, 373; chapel of, 371, 381.  
Hells, family of, 373; 345.  
Hengist, king of Kent, 265.  
Henley, Mrs. Mary, possesses Stanham, in Dartford, A. 574.  
Henry VIII. his progress into Kent, 229.

Herdson's, 33, 34; Henry, 420.  
HERING-HILL in Erith, 247.  
Hermensthorpe, John, 485.

xvii

Hermitage, in Plumsted, 217.  
Heron's, 130, 137; Sir Wm.  
63; Sir Christopher, 334;  
Mr. 393.  
Hesilt, William, 321.  
Hetherington's, 150, 157, 161;  
A. 571.  
HEVER manor, in Kingsdown,  
480, 490.  
Hever, family of, 480, 481.  
HEWIT'S manor, in Chelsfield, 90;  
farm, 91.  
Heydon's, 23, 41, 43; A. 569.  
Heywood's, A. 561.  
HIGHLANDS manor in Sutton,  
357.  
HIGHSTREET-HOUSE, in Bex=  
ley, 167.  
Higham, dairy farm in, 413.  
High Elms farm, in Downe, 54.  
Hill's of Sutton, account of, 347,  
344, 360, 367.  
Hiltesbury, manor of, 533.  
Hyndford, earl of, account of,  
273, 274, 280, 416.  
Hippisley, Sir John, 254.  
Hoare, Hen. A. 562; Mrs. resides  
at Beckenham, A. 566.  
Hobbes, family of, 575.  
HOCKENDEN manor, in St. Mary  
Cray, 119.  
Hodges, Nathaniel, assignees of,  
possess a seat in Darent, 368.  
Hodgson, James, present rector of  
Keston, 46.  
Hodsoll-street hamlet in Ash, 463;  
A. 577.  
Hodsoll, family of, account of,  
468, 121, 124, 467, 472; A.  
570; Edward, A. 568.  
Hodsoll, Mrs. Matilda, possesses  
Town-court, in Chesilhurst,  
16; a seat in St. Mary Cray,  
113; Charles possesses South  
Ash manor, 468; Chepsted,  
in Kingsdown, 483.  
Holker's, account of, 176.  
Holland's, 357.  
Holly-hill a seat in Erith, 228.  
HOLLWOOD-HOUSE, a seat in  
Keston, 43; A. 569.  
Hollis, Thomas, 347.  
Homewood, Edward, possesses  
Kirkby court in Horton, 500.  
HOOK-PLACE in Southfleet, 435,  
422.  
Hook-green hamlet, in Wilming=  
ton, 331.

Hornsby's, 500.  
Hornscross hamlet, in Stone, 384.  
HORSMAN'S-PLACE, in Dart=ford, 311.  
HORTON KIRKBY, parish of, 494.  
Hospitallers Knights, 345. See also St. John's.  
Howard, John Stafford, 356.  
HOWBERY MANOR, in Cray=ford, 277; A. 573.  
Howe, William, 395.  
Huddyshole's. See Hodsoll's.  
Hudson's, 415.  
Hulks, the, at Woolwich, A. 561.  
Hull, Christopher, 139.  
Hulse's, account of, 315, 338; A. 575.  
Hunt, Edmund, 356.  
Huntingfield's, account of, 31, 42.  
Hussey, William, 245.  
I. J.  
Jacobs, baronets, 503.  
Jacket's-court in North Cray, 154.  
James's, baronets, of Eltham, A. 562.  
Idley farm, in Ash, 463.  
Jenny, of Norfolk, 489.  
Jersey, earl of, viscount Vil=liers of Dartford, 253.  
INGRESS, in Swanscombe, 415; A. 576.  
Innocent, John, A. 567.  
Inwen, Thomas, A. 566.  
Johnson, Theodore, 248.

xviii

Jones, Col. Richard Steyning, possesses a seat in East Wick=ham, 185.  
Jones, Inigo, A. 560.  
Joselyn, Sir Robert, 216.  
Joydens wood in North Cray, 157; in Wilmington, 331.  
Iron-mills, 265, 289; manu=facture, A. 557.  
Isley's, 515, 519, 521.  
K.  
Kempe's, 334, 357.  
Kent, earls of, 3, 296, 408.  
Kent house, in Beckenham, A. 565.  
KESTON, parish of, 37; A. 569.  
KEVINGTON, in St. Mary Cray, 117.  
Keyt's, baronets, 394.  
Kilburne, priory of, 75.  
Killam, William, 247.  
Killingworth's, 393.  
KINGSDOWN, parish of, 475; A. 577.

Kipling Henry, patron of Plumsted rectory, 225.  
Kipling, Henry, present rector of Plumsted, 227.  
KIRKBY-COURT in Horton, 499.  
Kirkby's, 448, 496.  
Kirke, Joseph, A. 559.  
Kechyngrove, in Paul's Cray, 130.  
King, Edward, esq. resides at Beckenham, A. 566.  
Knockholt, in Swanscombe, 401.  
Know's, 71.

L.

Ladbroke, Sir Robert, 156.  
Lageham, in Penshurst, 345.  
Lamaby. See Lamienby.  
Lambard, Multon, possesses Ridley manor and advowson, 461, 462; Ash manor and Haliwell, alias Hodsoll manor, 467; Scotgrove in Ash, 471; and advowson of rectory, 473.  
Lambard, Thomas, present rector of Ash, 474.  
Lambard's hospital, in Greenwich, A. 558.  
Lambton, Mr. A. 559.  
Lambeth, manor of, 371, 378.  
LAMIENBY, in Bexley, 168.  
Lambyn, Thomas, 215.  
Lancaster, earls and dukes of, 46.  
Lancaster, duchy of, account of, 48, 113, 126, 468.  
Lane's, 375, 506.  
Langhorne, Sir Wm. A. 560.  
Langley, house of friars at, 306.  
Langworth's, 338; A. 574, 575.  
Latham, Thomas, possesses Bexley parsonage, 182; Dr. John, F. R. S.  
Latimer's, 468.  
Lawley's, baronets, 394.  
Leaves-green, in Keston, 37; in Cowdham, 60.  
Lee, parish of, A. 562, 563.  
Lee, William, esq. 368, 369, 377, 378.  
Leason-heath, in Erith, 228.  
Leicester, Sarah, countess of, 347, 349, 469.  
Leicester, Thomas Coke, earl of, 480, 481, 483, 487.  
Leigh's of Addington, account of, 197, 185; of Hawley, account of, 199, 356, 131, 166, 185.  
Leigh, Richard, sergeant at law, 314; Francis, 374; John, A. 564.  
Leigh, Richard, lessee of Bexley

manor, 166; possesses Horse=man's-place, in Dartford, 314; resides at Wilmington, A. 575; Mrs. possesses Haw=ley-house, in Sutton, 356.  
Lejay, Michael, 169.  
Leman, Sir John, 155, 254.

xix

Lennard's of West Wickham, account of, 33, 35, 23, 43, 532; A. 569.  
Lennard's of Chevening, account of, 66, 70, 92.  
LESNES MANOR, alias Erith, 231.  
Lesnes abbey, account of, 249; A. 572.  
Lesnes, abbot and convent of, 15, 217, 233, 311, 315, 441.  
Lethieullier's, account of, 350, 335, 352, 361; A. 564.  
Levett, William. 415; A. 576.  
Lewis, Marmaduke, present rector of Lullingstone, 552.  
Lewisham manor, 358; parish of, A. 563.  
Lewisham, lord viscount, resides at Hayes-place, 26.  
Lewknor's, 471.  
Leyborne's, 459, 461.  
Lidgbird's, 224.  
Lill, Rev. Dr. 415.  
Lime trees, the first in England, 309.  
Linckhill, borough of, 2.  
Lisley, Sir Thomas, 270.  
LITTLEBROOK manor, in Stone, 386, 388.  
Little Hoo, alias Hoobery, in Crayford, 277.  
Litelai, hundred of, 184.  
LITTLE and LESNES, hundred of, 184.  
LITTLEMOTE manor, in Eynsford, 533.  
Lodowick, Mr. 244.  
Lomax, Joshua, 217.  
London, mayor and commonality of, possess Crofton manor in Orpington, 103; Lesnes and Fants manors, and Lesnes abbey, 256.  
Long, John, D. D. present rector of Chelsfield, 97.  
LONGFIELD, parish of, 440; A. 577.  
Lovelace's, account of, 478, 414, 481, 482, 486, 487, 490.  
Lovell's, account of, 188.  
Lothian, marquis of, A. 559.  
Lownds, William, 390.  
Lowth, Rev. William, A. 565.

L. S. M. meaning of, 511.  
Lucas, John, 400; Thomas, A.  
    563.  
Lucy's, 179; Richard de, 231,  
    249, 254, 260.  
Luda, Thomas de, 311.  
ULLINGSTONE, parish of, 539,  
    540.  
ULLINGSTANE, parish of, 546.  
Lushington, William, resides at  
    Camden-place, in Chesil=  
    hurst, A. 568.  
Luxford's, 23; A. 568.  
M.  
Maddocks, Mrs. possesses Mount  
    Mascall, 156; John possesses  
    Vale Mascall, in North Cray,  
    ibid. Holly-hill in Erith, 228;  
    A. 572.  
Malhard Henry, 374.  
Malines, Mr. 395.  
Malmains, Nicholas, 446; John  
    de, 485.  
Maminot's, account of, 61, 42,  
    69, 72, 75.  
Maniford's, 395.  
Manning's, account of, 55, 57,  
    73, 117, 122, 393; Charles,  
    320, 322.  
Mansel, Robert, 273.  
MAPLESCOMBE manor in Kings=  
    down, 483.  
March, Mortimers, earls of, 236.  
Mares-place, in Cowdham, 74.  
Mares, John de, 114.  
Marler's, 280, 281.  
MARSHALL'S-COURT, in Cray=  
    ford, 275; A. 573.  
Marshal, John, 281; Edmund  
    present rector of Fawkham, 453.

xx

Marshes, by the river Thames,  
    account of, 217, 257.  
Marsham, Sir Robert, 273.  
Martin's, 321, 482.  
Martin's of Franks, 500, 520.  
Martin, John, resides at Bur=  
    wash-court, in Plumsted, 214.  
Massingbeard's, 395.  
Maud, James, 89.  
Maxfield, James Primrose, pos=  
    sesses Tubbenden, in Farnbo=  
    rough, 52.  
May-street, in Crayford, 279.  
MAYFIELD-PLACE manor, in  
    Orpington, 103.  
Mayo's, 356.  
Medley, George, heirs of, pos=  
    sess the Clock-house in Da=  
    rent, 368.  
Meetkirk, Adolphus, 95.

Mendes, Moses, 415.  
Mereworth, John de, 485.  
Meriel's, 415, 417.  
Mervin, Richard, 23, 33, 43.  
Michel's of Richmond, account  
of, 210, 448, 450, 498.  
Mile stone, Roman, 423.  
Milton-street hamlet, in Swans=  
combe, 401.  
Milward Thomas, 298.  
Milner, Charles, resides at Far=  
ningham, 520.  
Minshaw, Charles Stewart, pos=  
sesses Foot's Cray manor, 137.  
Miracle, story of one at Stone,  
386.  
Moile, Sir Thomas, 334, 357.  
Montchensie, account of, 405,  
420, 453.  
Moore, Thomas, present rector of  
Foot's Cray, 141; of North  
Cray, 162.  
Morden, Sir John, A. 557.  
Morgan, Sir Charles, possesses  
Dartford manor, 300; Tem=  
ple manor, 303; Dartford  
priory, 307.  
Morgan, 574.  
Morley, Henry Lovel, lord, 191.  
Morrison, general, A. 562.  
Mors Marina (a fish) taken at  
Erith, 230.  
Mortimer's, account of, 235,  
375, 410, 477.  
Mottingham, hamlet of, 19.  
Motley, Thomas, 331.  
Mountague, Mr. A. 557.  
MOUNT MASCALL, in N. Cray,  
154; A. 571.  
MOUNT PLEASANT, in Bexley,  
176; A. 572.  
Mount Pleasant in Wilmington,  
330.  
Mumford, Mrs. possesses Sutton=  
place, 353.  
Mumford, John, possesses Gran=  
dison's, alias Wilmington ma=  
nor, 335; Rowe-hill manor,  
336; the mansion of St. John's  
in Sutton, 348; Sutton ma=  
nor, 351; Highlands manor,  
in Sutton, 358.  
Mumford, Wm. lessee of Stan=  
hill tithes, in Wilmington,  
342; possesses St. John's ma=  
nor, in Sutton, 348; lessee of  
Sutton parsonage, 365.  
Mumford, William and John,  
possess quit rents in Ash, 469.  
Mynors, Robert, 300.  
N.  
Narborough, James, 129.

Nassau, Robert, 156.  
Naylor, Mr. A. 562.  
Nero, coin of, 402.  
Nesbit, John, possesses a seat in  
    West Wickham, 37; Ar=  
    nold, 30.  
Nevill's, 240, 486.  
Newell, in Orpington, 97.  
Newnham, Mr. possesses a seat  
    at Southborough, A. 567.  
Newbery, in Crayford, A. 574.  
NOCKHOLT, parish of, 78.

xxi

Norfolk, Howards dukes of,  
    191.  
Norfolk college, in Greenwich,  
    A. 558.  
Northampton, Bohun, earl of,  
    235, 477.  
North, Sir Edward, 462.  
NORTH-COURT, in Kingsdown,  
    476.  
NORTH CRAY, parish of, 141;  
    A. 571.  
Northend hamlet in Crayford, 264.  
Northfleet, Roman station near,  
    423.  
Northumberland heath, 264.  
Northumberland, earls of, 488.  
Norman George, lessee of Brom=  
    ley parsonage, A. 567.  
NORSTED manor in Chelsfield, 91.  
Norton's, 88, 94, 489.  
Northwood's, 277, 332, 390,  
    394.  
Noviomagus, Roman station of, 39,  
    267.

O.

Ockholt manor. See Shelleys.  
OCKMERE, St. MARY LYNG  
    manor, in St. Mary Cray, 114.  
Oldcastle, Sir John, 433.  
OLDCOURT HOUSE, in Cowd=  
    ham, 60.  
Oldner, Richard, 57.  
Oliffe, Sir John, 185, 196.  
Oliver's, alias Quintin's, 79.  
Oliver, Edward, present rector of  
    Swanscombe, 421.  
Onslow's, 119, 123.  
ORKESDEN manor, in Eynsford,  
    531.  
Orme, David, M. D. possesses  
    Lamienby in Bexley, 169.  
ORPINGTON, parish of, 97; A.  
    569.  
Orpington, Great, manor of,  
    22, 54.  
Orpington, rector of, patron of  
    Hayes rectory, 28; of Downe  
    parsonage, 58.

Ospringe, manor of, 115.  
Oxford, All Souls college in,  
    patrons of Chelsfield rector, 95.  
Oxford, Queen's college in, possesses Plumsted manor, 211;  
    Horton manor and castle, 499.  
Oxford, cardinals college in, 315.  
Oxford, historical professorship founded in, 13, 165.

P.

Page, Sir Gregory, A. 558.  
Palmer's, 56.  
Paper manufactories, 289, 309.  
Parker's, 172, 395.  
Parsons, William, the celebrated comedian, A. 563.  
Patten-grove, in Orpington, A. 570,  
Pateshul's, 144, 151.  
Pattison, General James, re-sides at Blendon, in Bexley, 172; A. 572.  
Pattison's of Woolwich, 213.  
Paveley's, 213.  
PAUL'S CRAY HILL, seat of, 130, 125.  
Payne, 499.  
Pearch, capt. Richard, 43, 45.  
Peche Joane, 233, 251.  
Peche family, account of, 541, 50, 104, 486, 548, 549, 550.  
Pembroke, Valence, earls of, 407, 454; Hastings, earls of, 455.  
Pencombe, Henry, 464.  
Penhale, Emma, 456, 481.  
Penshurst, Ralph de, 345.  
Percival, Samuel, 357, 362.  
Percy family, account of, 144, 146, 159.  
Perers, Alice, 304.  
Perkins's, 137.  
Perry-street hamlet, in Crayford, 264; Hall, in Orpington, A. 570.

xxii

Perry's, 330, 338; A. 575.  
PETHAM-PLACE, in Farningham, 521.  
PETHAM-COURT, in Eynsford, 533, 521.  
Petham, William, 521, 523.  
Petit, Clement, 321.  
PETLEY'S-PLACE, in Downe, 54.  
Petley, Mrs. Elizabeth, possesses Hewitt's manor, in Chelsfield, 91.  
Petley's, account of, 55, 57, 91, 50, 54, 79, 131, 374.

Petrie, Sir William, account of, 428.  
Petrie family, A. 565.  
Pett's, 489.  
Peverel, Jeffry de, 114.  
Peyforer's, 540.  
Philip, Sir Erasmus, 298.  
Pickhurst manor, in Hayes, 22; A. 568.  
Pickerday, in Erith, 228.  
Piggot, Grenado, 176.  
Pigou and Andrews, possess Bignor's manor and gunpowder mills in Dartford, 309.  
Pike, Mr. 309.  
PINDEN hamlet, in Horton, 504, 494.  
Pitcairn, Dr. David, resides at Hackstaple, in Sutton, 359.  
Pitt, Right Hon. William, possesses Holwood-house in Keston, 44, 26.  
Pitt's, account of, 24.  
Pix's, 276.  
Place-green, in Chesilhurst, 2; House, in Lewisham, A. 564.  
Plantagenet, Margaret, 333.  
Pleyer, William, lessee of Stanhill manor in Wilmington, 336.  
Plume, Dr. Thomas, 391, 395, 442, 443.  
Plume, Dr. Thomas, trustees of, possess Stone castle, 391.  
PLUMSTED, parish of, 203.  
Plummer, Thomas, possesses an estate in Wilmington, A. 575.  
Pocock, Capt. 37.  
POLE MANOR, in Southfleet, 432.  
Pole's, account of, 333.  
Polsted's, 74.  
Polhill's, 499.  
Port, family of, 268, 354, 464.  
Portbridge, alias Bignors. See also Bignors.  
Potts, Cuthbert, possesses High-street house, 168, and Bourne place, in Bexley, 177.  
Potter, Thomas, possesses Little-brook, in Stone, 390.  
Powel, David, possesses Alchar-din manor, in Swanscombe, 415; A. 576.  
Powel, David, possesses Reynold's place, in Horton, 504.  
Powis, Hon. Mrs. resides at High-street house, in Bexley, 168.  
Powlet, Rev. Mr. lessee of Westcombe, in Greenwich, A. 558.  
Poulter's, account of, 355.  
Poyning's, 87, 89, 106, 144,

150, 151, 152, 159, 270, 446,  
466.

Pratt, Rev. Mr. present vicar of  
Orpington, 112.

Pratt's, 14.

Puckle Tongue, 361.

Pullocil, Sir Thomas, 139.

Pulteney's, 130, 215.

Pusey, Hon. Wm. B. possesses  
Gilton-hill, in Sutton, 359;  
Fawkham manor, 447.

Q.

Quintin, alias Oliver, 79.

Quilter, William, 105.

R.

Randall, James, possesses Baston-  
court, in Hayes, 23; A. 568.

xxiii

Randyll Vincent, 337, 347,  
348, 349.

Radnor, Wm. Bouverie, earl  
of, 359, 447.

Raikes, Tho. resides at Bromley,  
A. 567.

Read, Sir Robert, 103.

Rashleigh, Peter, present rector of  
Southfleet, 440; A. 577.

Ravensbourne river, source of,  
39.

Raymond Jones, A. 566.

Raynes, Sir Richard, A. 558.

REYNOLD'S-PLACE, in Horton,  
502.

Reynold Smiths, hamlet of, in St.  
Mary Cray, A. 570.

Reynolds, Mr. resides at South-  
borough, in Bromley, A. 567.

Richmond, Margaret, countess  
of, 6.

Richmond's lands, alias Dart-  
ford manor, 6, 298.

RIDLEY, parish of, 485; A.  
577.

Rikhill's, 460.

Robinson, Robert, 357

Rochester, bishop of, 387, 426,  
445, 505.

Rochester, Dr. Thomas, bishop  
of, 54.

Rochester, bishop of, patron of  
Chesilhurst rectory, 19; pos-  
sesses the parsonage of Dart-  
ford, 323; patron of Dartford  
vicarage, *ibid.* possesses Stone  
manor, 388; patron of Stone  
rectory, 398; of Southfleet  
rectory, 437; and of Long-  
field, rectory, 443.

Rochester, dean and chapter of  
possess the tithes of Motting=

ham, 19, 20; Stanhill manor in Wilmington, 336; Wilmington parsonage, 340; Stanhill tithes, 341; patrons of Wilmington vicarage, 342; of Sutton, 363; possess Sutton parsonage, *ib.* Darent manor, 372, and parsonage, 380; patrons of Darent vicarage, *ib.* possess the tithes of Pole manor, in Southfleet, 435.

Rochester, dean and chapter of, 428.

Rochester, archdeaconry of, 441.

Rochester, archdeacons of, possess Longfield manor, 442.

Rochester, priory of, 18, 76, 323, 336, 339, 362, 369, 378, 386, 425, 434, 437, 441, 491; A. 565.

Rochester bridge, wardens, &c. of, 417.

Rochester castle, scite of, 412, 413.

Rochester, John, A. 564.

Roebuck, Henry, possesses Ingress, 417.

Roffey, Nathaniel, A. 568.

ROKESLEY, alias Ruxley, hundred of, 1. See also Ruxley.

Rokesley's, account of, 143, 150, 104, 115, 136, 448, 486, 504, 512.

Rokesley's of Lullingstone, 541, 546, 548.

Rokeby, dame Dorothy, 298.

Rolt, Thomas, 374.

Roman camp, at Keston, 38.

Roman road, 267, 292, 384, 402, 422.

Roman antiquities, 547.

Romney, Charles, lessee of Stone court lodge, 388; possesses Pole manor, p. 434; and a moiety of Pole farm, *ib.* lessor of Pole tithing, in Southfleet, 435; possesses Petham-court, in Eynsford, 534.

Romney, Robert, lord, 273, 280; Henry Sidney, earl of, A. 555.

Rondeau, James, 91.

Rooper's. See Roper's.

Roos, family of, 477, 478.

Roper, Hon. Harry, 415.

Roper's of Eltham, 515; of

xxiv

Farningham, 505, 517, 518, 521, 523, 525, 535.

Roper, Mr. of Charlton, A. 559.

Ros's, 496, 505, 511, 513, 518, 540, 541; Lora de, 206;

William de, 217; Anschitill de, 373, 495.  
Rothele's, 310, 375; William, 317, 322; Roger, 359, 375.  
ROWEHILL manor, in Wilming=ton, 335.  
Rowe's, 293, 489.  
Rucker, J. A. A. 566.  
Rudstone's, 498.  
Rufferth chantry, 103.  
Ruxley parish, 141; manor, 142.  
Ruxley. See also Rokesley.  
Rye-house, in Otford, 70.  
S.  
Sabine, Jonathan, possesses the scite of Place-house, in Lewi=sham, A. 564.  
Sadler, Sir Ralph, 253, 254.  
Salisbury, Robert Cecil, earl of, 303, 306.  
Selton, Alexander, lord, 316.  
Sandbache, Francis, 532.  
Sanderson, Mary, possesses South=fleet manor, 432.  
Sanderson's, baronets, A. 557.  
Sandwich, Ralph, 529.  
Sandy's of Downe, 56.  
Saunders, John, present vicar of Farningham, 526.  
Savory's, 460.  
Savoy hospital, 103.  
Sawbridge's, 171.  
Saxons and Britons, battle of, 369.  
Say's, account of, 62, 72.  
Say and Sele, Twisleton's, lords, 314.  
SCADBURY manor, in Chesil=hurst, 7.  
Scott's of Hayes, 24, 27.  
Scott, William, 172; lady Ma=ry, 171.  
Scotgrove manor in Ash, 469  
Scroope's, account of, 127, 33, 43, 86, 304, 446, 465.  
Searle's, 359, 362.  
Secker, Mrs. possesses part of Place-house, in Lewisham, A. 564.  
Sedcopp, Thomas de, 139.  
Sedgwick, John, 395.  
Sedley's, account of, 429, 435, 437, 456, 460, 462.  
Sedley. See also Sidley.  
Selby's, account of, 448, 131; John, 374.  
Selby, John Brown, possesses Pennis, in Fawkham, 449.  
Selwyn's, 9; John, 172; Wil=liam, 176.  
Selyard, 434.  
SENTLING manor, in St. Mary

Cray, 114.  
Sergison, Thomas, 120.  
Sewers, commissioners of, 217,  
279.  
Shardelow's, 314.  
Shaw, Sir John, bart. A. 562.  
Shaw, Rev. John Kenward, 435.  
Shells, strata of, account of, 385.  
SHELLEY'S manor, in Nockholt,  
80.  
Shelley's, account of, 80, 51, 92,  
103, 173, 180.  
Sherard, Dr. A. 562.  
Shere-hall, in Wilmington, 330.  
Shrewsbury, Elizabeth, coun= tess of, 242; Talbot's, earls of, 457.  
Shrewsbury, earl of, possesses a seat on Shooter's-hill, A. 562.  
Shooter's-hill, A. 562.  
Shorne, 428.  
SHOTTIS manor, in Nockholt, 80.  
Shovell, Sir Clodesley, account of, 272, 265, 276, 278, 280,  
281, 282; A. 574.  
Sibill's, 483, 521, 523, 527,  
533.  
SIDCUP hamlet, in Foot's Cray,  
139.

xxv

Simms, Richard, 176.  
Simpson, Baptist, possesses Cot= ton manor, in Stone, 394;  
A. 576.  
Simpson's, in Bromley, A. 567.  
Shire's, 416.  
Skegg's, 92, 93.  
Skinners company, in London,  
349.  
Slanie, lady Margaret, 34.  
Smith, James, 129.  
Smith's of Foot's Cray, 138.  
Smith's of Sutton, account of,  
334, 336, 338, 349, 352, 360,  
361, 376.  
Smith's of Ingress, 416, 418.  
SOUTH ASH, manor of, 467.  
Southborough hamlet, in Bromley,  
A. 567.  
SOUTHCOURT manor, in Eyns= ford, 530.  
SOUTH DARENT hamlet, in Hor= ton, 373, 375, 494.  
Southend, mill at, A. 564.  
SOUTHFLEET, parish of, 421,  
A. 576.  
Southall, alias Woolwich manor,  
A. 561.  
Southwark, St. Mary Overy's priory in, 217, 420.  
Sparrow's, 168, 181.  
Spencer, Hon. Richard, 107,

108; Henry, 201.  
Spilman, Sir John, 165, 308,  
321.  
Spratt's bottom, 84.  
Squerie's, 23, 32, 43.  
St. Clere's, 488, 530.  
St. John's of Jerusalem, knights  
of, 302, 345, 354, 469, 473,  
468.  
St. JOHN'S, manor of, in Sutton,  
365, 347.  
St. John's of Basing, account of,  
269, 475.  
St. John's, Poynings, lords, 270.  
St. MARGARET HILLES ham=let and manor in Darent, 373,  
381; chapel of, ib.  
St. Mary Cray parish, A. 570.  
St. Paul, earl of, 295.  
St. Thomas's, hospital of, in  
London, 103.  
Stacey's of Deptford, 361.  
Stampit, chantry of, in Dart=ford, 326, 376.  
Stangrave's, 119.  
STANHAM hamlet, in Dartford,  
316; A. 574.  
STANHILL, hamlet of, in Wil=mington, 331, 336; tithes of,  
339, 441.  
Stanhope's, 113, 116.  
Stanley, lord, 5, 297; Sir Wil=liam, 332, 338.  
Star Chamber, famous cause in,  
515.  
Stathan, Nicholas, 346, 352.  
Steele's, 169.  
Stewart, Sir John, 417.  
Stidolfe's, A. 564.  
Stockbery manor, 277, 413.  
Stoke manor, 427.  
Stonar's of Oxfordshire, 497.  
STONE, parish of, 384; A. 576.  
STONE-CASTLE, 390; PLACE,  
394.  
Stone's, 390.  
Stonewood, hamlet of, 384.  
Strabolgie, David de, 234.  
Strafford, William Wentworth,  
earl of, 120.  
Stratford abbey, in Essex, 253.  
Streatfield, Tho. possesses Cowd=ham manor, 68; Brampton,  
in Nockholt, 80.  
Strode, hospital of 341.  
Stukeley, Dr. p. 255: A. 572.  
Stuart (Atkens) Mr. A. 556.  
Styleman's, 172; John, 178,  
179.  
Style's, 90.  
Suffolk-place-farm, in Plumsted,  
216.  
Suffolk, Charles Brandon, duke

of, ib.  
Surry, Howards, earls of, 192,  
333.

xxvi

Sussex, Thomas Lennard, earl  
of, 71.  
SUTTON-AT-HONE, LATH OF,  
1; parish of, 343; manor, 348;  
PLACE, 352.  
Swan's, 348, 414, 417; account  
of, 435, 437.  
Swan-mark, grant of, 317.  
SWANLEY hamlet, in Sutton, 359.  
SWANSCOMBE, parish of, 399;  
A. 576.  
Sword fish, one taken, 230.  
Sydenham manor, in Lewisham,  
A. 564.  
Sydney, Thomas Townshend,  
viscount, possesses Chesilhurst  
manor, 7; Scadbury manor,  
10; Frogmire, seat of, *ibid.*  
Paul's Cray manor, 130; pa=  
tron of ditto rectory, 134; of  
Bexley vicarage, 182; account  
of him, 12.  
Symes, John, resides at New=  
bery, in Crayford, 275.  
Symons, John, present rector of  
Paul's Cray, 134.

T.

Talbot's, account of, 409, 128,  
414, 457.  
Talbot, John, lessee of Stone-  
castle, 391.  
Tang-court, in Chesilhurst, 217.  
Tash's, 156.  
Tasker, John, possesses a seat in  
Wilmington, 329.  
Tasker, Mrs. possesses Franks, in  
Horton, 502; Horton pa=  
sonage, 508; lands in Farn=  
ingham, 521.  
Tattersall, John, 89.  
Taylor's of Darent, 368, 378.  
Taylor, Mrs. Ursula, 443.  
TEMPLE manor, in Dartford, 301.  
Templars, knights, 301.  
Templar, James, resides at Bex=  
ley, A. 572.  
Tench's, baronets, 105, 532.  
Teynham, Henry, lord, 415.  
Thomas, Dr. bishop of Roches=  
ter, A. 567.  
Thornhill, Sir James, A. 556.  
Thorpe's of Bexley, account of,  
167, 177, 181.  
Thorpe, Dr. 402, 424.  
Thynne, Sir John, 262; Wil=  
liam, 316.  
Tibetot's, 478.

Till, John, present rector of Hayes, 28; A. 569.  
Tolson, Lancelot, 394.  
Tong-court. See Town-court.  
Tooke's of Dartford, 310, 321.  
Torpel, Mabella de, 470.  
TOWN-COURT farm, in Chesilhurst, 15; A. 568.  
Townshend family, account of, 9, 12, 18, 129, 130, 133.  
Townshend, Charles, possesses a seat in Chesilhurst, 16; Edward, 137.  
Tower-hill, abbot and convent of, 460, 461.  
Towse's, 176.  
Toxophilites, or bowmen, corps of, 291.  
Traylie's, 130, 133.  
Trenchfield's, 121.  
Trimmer, Mr. resides at Woollet hall, in North Cray, 142.  
Trinity priory, in London, 181, 260.  
Trinity, corporation of, account of, A. 554.  
Trowmer's, a seat in Downe, 54.  
Trundle Downe, in Darent, 369.  
Tryon's, 12, 17, 395; James, A. 565.  
TUBBENDEN'S, a seat in Farnborough, 50.  
Tuckey, William, possesses Stone place, 395.  
Twisleton family, account of, 312, 322, 319, 329.  
Twitham, Nicholas de, 301, 345.

xxvii

V. U.

Vagniacæ, Roman station of, 423.  
VALE MASCALL, in North Cray, 156.  
Valence's, 405, 454.  
Valoins, William de, 484.  
Van, Mr. 300.  
Vanhagen, Fr. possesses Brampston hall, in Bexley, 173.  
Vanheythusan, G. L. possesses a seat in St. Mary Cray, 115.  
Vanacker's, account of, 244, 259.  
Vaughan's, 136, 140; William, 308, 318.  
Vaux's, 64, 213.  
Vere, Hugh de, 406, 454.  
Vernetti, Mr. 310.  
Vernon, James Gladhill, possesses Downe court, manor, 56.  
Villiers, viscounts Dartford, 293.  
Umphrey, Finch, 131, 374.

Vortimer, king of Britain, 369.  
Urban, John, 436, 456, 481.  
Uvedall's, alias Udall's, 92.  
W.  
Waklin's, in Paul's Cray, 131.  
Walden's manor, in St. Mary Cray, 121.  
Walden, family of, in Erith, 258, 259; Sir Richard, 242, 376.  
Waldo, Sir Timothy, 368.  
Wales, princess of, A. 559.  
Waleys, Walter, 74; Augustine, 559.  
Waller, Charles, possesses a seat in West Wickham, 30.  
Waller's of Beaconsfield, 129.  
Wallraven's, A. 568.  
Wallys, Augustine, 107.  
Walpole, Hon. Thomas, 25, 50; Capt. Galfridus, A. 558.  
Walsingham family, of Chesilhurst, account of, 7, 6, 15, 18, 88, 130, 133, 137, 138, 393, 498, 499.  
Walter, Philip, present rector of Crayford, 285.  
Walter's of Fawkham, 448, 449, 450, 457, 471.  
Wantsum, F. in Bexley, 164; A. 572.  
Ward, Edward Vernon, possesses the Gore, in Darent, 369.  
Ward's, lessees of Littlebrooke, 390; Ambrose, 450.  
Warner's, 137.  
Warner, Joseph, possesses a seat at Southend, in Eltham, A. 562.  
Warren's, 173; Dr. A. 560.  
Warwick family, account of, 11, 17, 20.  
Warwick, Richard Nevill, earl of, 332.  
Wat Tyler's rebellion, 290.  
Watkin's, William, 11.  
Watlande. See Woodland.  
Watton's, 459.  
Webbe, Nathaniel, 335, 336, 351, 352.  
Weaver, John, 377.  
Weldon's of Swanscombe, account of, 411, 400, 418, 419.  
WELLING, hamlet of, 163, 185.  
Wentworth, Roger, 478; Thomas, lord, 498.  
West, Gilbert, A. 569.  
Wested farm, in Eynsford, 527.  
Westminster, abbey of, 214, 249.  
Weston-cross hamlet, in Swanscombe, 401.

Westwood, in Erith, 250  
Westwood-abby. See Lesnes.  
West Wickham, parish of, A. 569.  
WEST YOKE hamlet, in Ash, 463.  
Wheatley, Wm. possesses Erith  
manor, 246; A. 572.  
Wheatley's, 245, 259.  
White, James, present vicar of  
Erith, 263.

xxviii

Whitmore, George and Tho=mas, 6; William resides at West Wickham, 30.  
Wibourn, Robert de, 101.  
WICKHAM, WEST, parish of, 29.  
WICKHAM, EAST, parish of, 184.  
Wickham's of Garsington, A. 554.  
Williams, Tho. possesses a house in South Darent, 494; patron of Horton vicarage, 314, 508.  
Williams, Richard, present vicar of Horton, 509.  
Willis, Thomas, D. D. present rector of Kingsdown, 493.  
WILMINGTON, parish of, 328; A. 574, 575.  
Wilson, Sir Thomas, 30; A. 559; Rowland, 213; lady, A. 559.  
Wiltshire, James Boteler, earl of, 86, 465; Sir John, 359, 393, 394, 396, 398.  
Winchester, Hugh le Despencer, earl of, 408.  
Wingfield-bank, 422.  
Wingfield, Sir Richard, account of, 393.  
Winkworth, Mrs. possesses a house in Welling, 186.  
Winterborn's, 51.  
Whitaker, Mr. 522.  
Woldham, 427.  
Wollaston, Francis, present rector of Chesilhurst, 21.  
Woollet-hall, in North Cray, 142.  
Wolriche, lady, 92.  
Wolsey, cardinal, 252, 315.  
Wood, alias At-Wood, 482, 483.  
Wood's, A. 568.  
Woodlands, a seat in Greenwich, A. 558.  
Woodlands, alias Wick manor, in Kingsdown, 488.  
Woodward, Thomas, 393.  
Woolwich parish, A. 560.  
Wootton's, 116.  
Worcester, Rich. Beauchamp,

earl of, 355, 486.  
Wricklesmarsh, A. 559.  
Wright, Rich. possesses a house  
in Lewisham, A. 564; ditto  
in Foot's Cray, 571.  
Wrote's, 348, 360.  
Wroth's, account of, 170; John,  
336.  
Wrotham, 489.  
Wyat's, 433, 434, 534; Sir  
Thomas, 530.

Y.

Yates, Mr. 37.  
Yeend, Anne, 120.  
Yonge, Sir George, trustees of,  
possess Eglantine, &c. in Far-  
ningham, 526.  
Yonge, account of, 138.  
York, Richard, duke of, 477.

Z.

Zouch's, 529.

- - -

#### ERRATA.

VOL. II. Page 67, line 29, for Fienes read Francis.

<xxix>

Any ERRORS or MISTAKES, in the former edition, or com-  
munications towards the improvement of these volumes, will, at any  
time, in future, be thankfully received, if directed to W. BRISTOW,  
PARADE, CANTERBURY.

- - -

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE BINDER

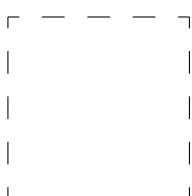
1. Before and opposite Title Page, A FANCY VIGNETTE, 8vo. —  
Plenty and Liberty presenting their attributes to the Genius of Kent.
2. To face p. 38, Plan of an ANTIENT CAMP at KESTON.
3. To face p. 184, Map of LESNES, &c. HUNDREDS.
4. To face p. 255, LESNES PRIORY, 8vo.
5. To face p. 343, Map of AXSTANE HUNDRED.
6. To face p. 382, North-west View of the Remains of the CHAPEL  
of ST. MARGARET HILLES.

- - -

<xxx>

<blank>

<1>



THE LATH OF SUTTON AT HONE  
CONTINUED.

CONTAINING THE HUNDREDS OF

RUXLEY.  
LITTLE and LESNES.  
DARTFORD and WIL=  
MINGTON.  
AXTANE.  
CODSHEATH.  
WESTERHAM and EATON=  
BRIDGE.  
AND  
SOMERDEN.

THE HUNDRED OF  
ROKESLEY, OTHERWISE RUXLEY,

LIES next north-eastward from that of Bromley and Beckenham. In the general survey of Domesday it is called the hundred of Helmestrei, which name it had lost before the reign of king Edward I. in the 7th year of which it was called by its present name, the king and the archbishop of Canterbury being then lords of it.

2

IT CONTAINS THE PARISHES OF

1. CHESILHURST, in part.
2. HAYES.
3. WEST WICKHAM.
4. KESTON.
5. FARNBOROUGH.
6. DOWNE.
7. COWDHAM.
8. NOCKHOLT.
9. CHELSFIELD.
10. ORPINGTON.
11. ST. MARY CRAY.
12. PAUL'S CRAY.
13. FOOT'S CRAY.
14. NORTH CRAY with  
RUXLEY, and
15. BEXLEY.

And the churches of these parishes.

And also part of the parishes of Hever and Chiddingstone, viz. so much as is within the borough of Linckhill, the churches of which parishes are in another hundred. It is divided into the two half hundreds of Upper and Lower Ruxley, under the jurisdiction of two constables.

- - -

#### CHESILHURST

LIES the next adjoining parish eastward from Bromley; a small part of it lying near Foot's Cray, is in the hundred of Blackheath. It was called by the Saxons, Ciselhyrst, as appears by the charters of those times in the *Textus Roffensis*, a name expressive of its situation among the woods.

Chesilhurst is one of the most pleasant and healthy parishes among the many that lie within the environs of the metropolis, and has within its bounds, besides those already described, numbers of elegant villas, with gardens and plantations beautifully disposed. These are dispersed throughout the village, and round

the common, and are in general inhabited by persons of fortune and distinction. The village, with the church and parsonage, stand adjoining the south side of the common, which is nearly in the center of the parish. Farther eastward is Place-green, and beyond, Scadbury and the mansion of Frogmire; at the southern

3

extremity of the parish is Town-place. The parish, especially towards the west and north, is much covered with coppice wood, to the amount of five hundred acres; the soil is in general thin, and much inclined to gravel.

This place is not mentioned in the general survey of Domesday; perhaps it might be considered in some measure as an appendage to the manor of Dartford, with which it appears early to have been connected, and may therefore be included under the description of that manor in it.

King Edward II. in his 15th year, by consent of parliament, granted to Edmund de Woodstock, earl of Kent, his half brother, the ferm of the royalty of Dartford, with its appurtenances, for life; the fee of which was confirmed to him by king Edward III. in his first year. That the manor of Chesilhurst was included in the above grant, appears by the inquisition taken after the earl's death, in the 4th year of that reign, in which, among the appurtenances of the manor of Dartford, the rents of assize in Chesilhurst are specified./a

His sons, Edmund and John Plantagenet, earls of Kent, dying without issue, Joane, their sister, usually stiled the Fair Maid of Kent, wife of Sir Thomas Holland, became their heir. She afterwards remarried Edward, prince of Wales, commonly called the Black Prince, and died possessed of this estate in the 9th year of king Richard II. as did her son, by her first husband, Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, in the 20th year of that reign, holding it in capite. After which it was possessed successively by his two sons, Thomas, created duke of Surry; and Edmund, earl of Kent; who both died without issue; on the death of the latter, his four sisters were found to be his heirs, and on the partition of his estates, the manor of Dart-

/a Rot. Esch ejus an. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 94.

4

ford, with the rents of assize in Chesilhurst, were allotted to Joane, his fourth sister, dutchess of York, who appears to have died without issue, in the 12th year of king Henry VI. possessed of it. Upon the partition of her inheritance among her sisters, Margaret, first wife of John earl of Somerset, and afterwards of Thomas duke of Clarence, became entitled to it, and died in the 18th year of that reign possessed of it. John earl of Somerset, her son by her first husband, being her heir./b He was afterwards created duke of Somerset, and died in the 22nd year of that reign, without male issue, possessed of this estate. His brother Edmund, marquis of Dorset, was found to be his next heir male, and as such possessed this estate. He was afterwards advanced to the title of

duke of Somerset, and taking part with Henry VI. was slain in the first battle of St. Alban's, anno 33d king Henry VI. His eldest son, Henry duke of Somerset, by Alianor, daughter and coheir of Richard Beauchamp earl of Warwick, fighting on the behalf of king Henry at the battle of Hexam, in Northumberland, was taken prisoner, and beheaded in the 3d year of king Edward IV. and being two years afterwards attainted in parliament, all his possessions came into the hands of the crown; whence the manor of Dartford, with Chesilhurst, was quickly afterwards granted to Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, commonly called the King Maker, who, after many changes from one side to the other, was slain, endeavouring to replace king Henry on the throne, at the battle of Barnet, in the year 1471. By his wife, Anne, daughter of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, who survived him, he left only two daughters, who both married into the royal family; Isabel to George duke of Clarence. brother to king Edward IV. and Anne, first to Edward prince of Wales, son of king

/b Rot. Esch. eor. an. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 306. vol. ii. 124.

5

Henry VI. and, secondly, to Richard duke of Gloucester, afterwards king Richard III.

After the earl's death, though his estates were seized by the authority of parliament, yet great part of them were afterwards given to his two daughters, and among others the manor of Dartford, with the rents of assize in Chesilhurst, was given to Isabel, whose husband, George duke of Clarence, in her right, became possessed of them. After which the duke falling under the suspicion of the king, his brother, was in parliament, anno 1477, attainted, being then a prisoner in the tower, and was soon afterwards, with the king's consent, drowned in a butt of malmsey, the duke of Gloucester assisting with his own hands. By Isabel his wife, who died of poison sometime before him, he had issue Edward earl of Warwick, then an infant, who never enjoyed any part of his patrimony.

Soon after the duke's death, this manor being in the king's hands, by reason of his son's nonage, was granted to Thomas lord Stanley for life, and although king Henry VII. in his third year, being desirous of securing to himself the possessions which the great earl of Warwick died possessed of, recalled the old countess of Warwick from her retirement in the north, where she lived in a distressed and mean condition, both her daughters being dead, and by a new act, annulling the former, restored to her all her late husband's possessions, with power for her to alien any part of them, not with the intent that she should enjoy them, but merely that she might transfer them to the king, which she did that year, by a special feoffment and a fine, by which she granted the whole, consisting of one hundred and fourteen manors, among which was that of Dartford, with the rents of assize in Chesilhurst, to the king and his heirs male, with remainder to herself and her heirs for ever./c Yet this

/c Hist. Greville, p. 54, et seq.

estate continued in possession of the lord Stanley, who in consideration of his services, and of his near alliance to the king, (having married Margaret, countess of Richmond, the king's mother) had been advanced to the title of earl of Derby. He died in the 19th year of that reign, possessed of this manor, leaving the lady Margaret, countess of Richmond, his second wife, surviving, who, by his will, peaceably enjoyed all the manors, lands, &c. assigned for her jointure, as by the act of parliament passed in the 1st of king Henry VII. Among others she possessed this manor, which from that is frequently called, in the records of that time, Richmond's lands, as will be seen hereafter. She died in the 1st year of Henry VIII. possessed of this estate, the reversion of which being vested in the crown, the king became possessed of it, where it remained till queen Elizabeth, in her 26th year, demised it, by the name of the manor of Dartford, Chesilhurst, &c. with the lands, tenements, &c. belonging to it, called Richmond's lands, (excepting all courts leets, advowsons, rents of assize of the free tenants, &c. to Edmund Walsingham, esq. for a term of twenty-one years; and in the 40th of that reign, Sir Thomas Walsingham had a farther demise of these premises, then called Richmond's lands, for the same term, under the like rent and covenants./d

King James I. in his 8th year, granted to George and Thomas Whitmore, esqrs. of London, the manor of Dartford, Chesilhurst, &c. with their rights and appurtenances, lately demised to Edmund Walsingham, esq. and late parcel of the possessions called Richmond's lands, to hold as of his manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only in free and common socage; and they, in the 9th year of that reign, conveyed these premises to Sir Thomas Walsingham of Scadbury, in this parish, in as full and ample a manner as they themselves then held them.

/d Augment. Off. Leases.

Sir Thomas Walsingham, two years afterwards, sold all the above premises to Sir Robert Darcy, excepting the manor of Chesilhurst in Chesilhurst, with the appurtenances, profits, and courts belonging to it; since which this manor has continued to this time in the possession of the same owners that Scadbury, in this parish, has, as will be related below; being with that manor, now the property of the right honourable Thomas Townshend, lord viscount Sydney, who resides at Frogmire, in this parish.

SCADBURY is a manor, which lies on the eastern side of the parish. It was a place of some note in former times, and had owners of the same name, who resided at it; one of whom, John de Scadbury, dying without male issue, about the 20th year of king Edward III. his daughter and sole heir, Anne, carried it in marriage to Osmund de Walsingham, descended from the knightly family of Walsingham, in Norfolk, who, as well as his descendants, bore for their arms, Paly of argent and sable, a fess gules. He seated himself at Scadbury, where his descendants

flourished for many generations, in the rank of those gentlemen, who were of the first eminence in this county; and their having been knighted for six successive descents is no small proof of it;/e one of whom, Sir Thomas Walsingham, died in the 7th year of king Edward IV./f His son, Sir James Walsingham, sheriff of this county, in the 12th year of king Henry VII. left two sons, Edmund, afterwards knighted, and William, who married Joyce, daughter of Sir Ed. Denny, by whom he had that famous statesman, Sir Francis Walsingham, secretary of state to queen Elizabeth, who died in 1590, having married, first, Anne, daughter of Sir George Barnes, by whom he had no issue; and secondly Ursula, daughter of John St. Barbe, esq. of Somersetshire, and relict of Richard Worsley, esq.

/e Philipott, p. 114. /f Rot. Esch. ejus an.

8

of Hampshire, by whom he left an only daughter, Frances, married first to Sir Philip Sidney, secondly to Robert earl of Essex, and thirdly to Richard earl of Clanrickard and St. Alban's./g Sir Edmund Walsingham above mentioned succeeded his father in this estate of Scadbury, and was lieutenant of the Tower of London twenty-two years. He procured, among others, his lands in this county to be disgavelled, by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. and died in 1549; and his grandson, Sir Thomas Walsingham, succeeding at length to this estate, in 1611, purchased the manor of Chesilhurst, as has been already mentioned, but his son, Sir Thomas Walsingham, alienated them both about the time of the restoration, to Sir Rich. Betenson of Layer de la Haye, in Essex, who was created a baronet in 1663, and in the years 1678 and 1679, served the office of sheriff of this county, at the end of which last year he died, having borne for his arms, Argent a fess gules, and in chief a lion passant guardant sable, all within a bordure ingrailed azure.

By Anne, eldest daughter of Sir William Monins of Waldershare, bart. he left two sons, Richard and Edward, the former of whom having married Albinia, daughter of Sir Christopher Wray, of Lincolnshire, died in his father's life time, in 1677, leaving a son, Edward, and four daughters. Edward, the son, on his grandfather's death, succeeded him in title and estate, and resided at Scadbury. He died unmarried in 1733, on which these manors descended to his three surviving sisters and coheirs; and the title of baronet, for want of issue male, went to his cousin Edward, son of Edward, second son of Sir Richard Betenson, the first baronet, and father to Sir Richard Betenson, bart. late of Bradborne, in Sevenoke.

/g See his life in Biog. Brit. vol. vii. p. 4137.

9

Albinia, the eldest sister of Sir Edward Betenson, by her husband, major-general Selwyn, left a son, John Selwyn, esq. who partly in right of his mother and partly by purchase from lady Hewet, another of the sisters and coheirs, became possessed of these manors, and a considerable part of the estates, and ha=

ving married Mary, daughter of Thomas Farrington, esq. (by Theodosia, his wife, the other sister and co-heir of Sir Edward Betenson above mentioned) had by her two sons; and a daughter, Albinia, married to the honourable Thomas Townshend, to whom he soon afterwards sold the entire fee of those manors of Chesilhurst and Scadbury.

The family of Townshend is said to be descended from Lodowick, a noble Norman, who came into England in the reign of king Henry I. and assumed the surname of Townshend. His direct descendant, through a long series of illustrious ancestors, who from the earliest time settled in Norfolk, was Roger Townshend (son of Sir John Townshend of Rainham, in that county) who was created a baronet in the 15th year of king James I. His second son, Sir Horatio Townshend, bart. was advanced to the dignity of baron Townshend of Lynn Regis, in Norfolk, in 1661, and in 1682, to the title of Viscount Townshend of Rainham, in the same county. He died in 1687, and left by his second wife, Mary, daughter of Sir Joseph Ashe, bt. three sons, Charles, his successor, Roger, and Horatio. Which Charles viscount Townshend, by his first wife, Elizabeth, only surviving daughter of Thomas lord Pelham, by his first wife, Elizabeth, had four sons, Charles his successor, Thomas, William, and Roger, and one daughter, and died in 1738./h

The honourable Thomas Townshend, the second son, married, in 1730, Albinia, daughter of John

/h Coll. Peer. last edit. vol. vi. p. 239, et seq.

10

Selwyn, esq. and became possessed of these manors, as has been already related. He resided at Frogmire, in this parish, and died in 1780, having had by his lady above mentioned, three sons and two daughters; of the former, Thomas the eldest son was created lord viscount Sydney, of whom hereafter; Charles now resides in this parish, and Henry died unmarried in 1760. Before his death, Mr. Townshend made over these manors, in 1760, to his eldest son, the honourable Thomas Townshend, since created lord viscount Sydney as above mentioned, who is the present possessors of them, and of whom farther mention will be made below.

The antient mansion of Scadbury has been many years in ruins, and there remains now only a farm house, built out of part of them.

The manor of Chesilhurst, with Scadbury, has a court leet and court baron. At the leet two constables are appointed, one for the upper, and the other for the lower borough of this parish.

Sir Nicholas Bacon, that great statesman, lord-keeper of the great-seal, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was born in this parish, and most probably in this seat of Scadbury.

FROGNALL is a seat in this parish, the antient and proper name of which is Frogpool, though it is now commonly called Frogmire. In the reign of king Henry III. this place was owned by a family of the name of Barbur; one of whom, Thomas le Barbur,

obtained a charter of free-warren for his lands in Chesilhurst in the 38th year of that reign, but this family was extinct here before the latter end of Edward II.'s reign, and then it came into the possession of the Cressels. John de Cressel is recorded, in an old survey of Rochester, to have been a liberal benefactor to the church of Chesilhurst in the reign of Edward III. on which account, most probably, his arms, Sable, a fess argent, between three chaplets or, were put up in

11

the windows of it; and hence a descendant of his, of the same name, in the 7th year of king Henry V. is registered among those, *Qui portabant arma antiqua, i. e. who bore an antient family coat of arms.*

After this mansion had continued for many descents in this family, it was, about the latter end of king Henry VIII.'s reign, conveyed by sale to Dyneley, whose descendant, Sir John Dyneley, in the reign of king James I. passed away his interest in it to Mr. William Watkins, who improved this antient mansion with additional buildings, and then, in the latter part of Charles I.'s reign, alienated it to Philip Warwick, esq. (afterwards knighted) clerk of the signet to king Charles I. who was secretary to the king at the treaty in the isle of Wight, and was a faithful servant to that prince in his troubles.<sup>i</sup> He was descended from the Warwicks, or Warthwykes, of Warwick, in Cumberland; and married Joan, widow of Sir William Boteler, bart. daughter of Sir Henry Fanshaw of Ware-park, in Hertfordshire,<sup>k</sup> by whom he had an only son, Philip, and dying in 1682, was buried near his wife in this church. He was succeeded in this seat by his only son and heir, Philip Warwick, esq. envoy extraordinary to the king of Sweden, who died without issue on the 12th of March following. He married Elizabeth, second daughter and coheir of John lord Frechevile (afterwards the fourth wife of Conyers lord Darcy, son of Conyers earl of Holderness) and died in his bed of an apoplexy, as he was returning post from thence, to take a last farwel of his father, and was buried near him in this church. Their arms were, Vert, three lions rampant argent.

<sup>i</sup> His interesting 'Memoires of the reigne of king Charles I. with a continuation to the happy Restauration of king Cha. II.' were published from the original manuscript, in 1701.

<sup>k</sup> See Wood's Ath. vol. i. Fasti, p. 277.

12

After which this estate passed by sale to the Tryons, a family who bore for their arms, Azure, a fess em-battled gules, between three estoils of the second, Rowland Tryon, esq. died possessed of it in 1720, without issue, on which William, his brother, became his heir; after the death of whose son, Thomas Tryon, esq. this estate went into the court of chancery, under a decree of which it was sold to the honourable Thomas Townshend, owner of Chesilhurst and Scadbury manors, as before mentioned, who afterwards resided here, and died possessed of it in 1780.

He was succeeded by his eldest son, the right hon-

ourable Thomas Townshend, the present possessor of it, then one of his majesty's privy council, who, in 1760, had married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Richard Powys, esq. of Suffolk. On March 6, 1783, he was advanced, by letters patent, to the title of Baron Sydney of Chesilhurst, to him and his heirs male; and farther, on June 9, 1789, to that of Viscount Sydney of St. Leonard's, in Gloucestershire. By his lady before mentioned he has several children, of whom John Thomas, the eldest son, married in 1790, Sophia, third daughter of Edward lord de Clifford, who died in November 1795, in childbed of her only son, John Charles Southwell, who likewise died within a year afterwards; by this lady, whose person, temper, and accomplishments, rendered her the delight of all who knew her, and who, at her death, was equally beloved and regretted, he has two surviving daughters, Sophia Mary and Mary Elizabeth.

His lordship's other surviving sons are, William Augustus, Horatio, and George Powis; his daughters are, Georgina; Mary Elizabeth, married to the earl of Cham-tham, Frances to Lord Dynevor, and Harriet Catherine to the earl of Dalkeith, eldest son of the duke of Buccleugh.

He bears for his arms, Quarterly, first and fourth, Townshend, Azure a chevron ermine between three es-

13

callop shells argent; second and third, Vere, In the center a crescent, for difference; Crest on a wreath, a buck tripping sable attired proper, and charged on the shoulder with a crescent or; supporters on the dexter side, a lion or, collared, chained, and charged on the shoulder with a pheon's head azure. On the sinister, a buck sable attired, collared and chained or, and charged on the shoulder with an escallop shell argent.

CAMDEN-PLACE is a seat, which stands on the west side of Chesilhurst-common, being made famous by two of its illustrious owners, its late lord, who took his title from it, and its former owner, from whom it takes its name, the great and learned William Camden, one of the most learned writers, diligent antiquaries, and impartial historians, that his own age, or this country, has produced. He was descended, on the mother's side, from the antient family of the Curwens, of Wirkington, in Cumberland, who were descended from Gospatrick, earl of Northumberland, as he himself informs us in his Britannia. He was second and then chief master of Westminster-school, and in 1597 was created Clarencieux, king at arms.

After being known, and admired, by the greatest ornaments of the literary world, for those works which so justly entitled him to the great character he obtained, and still preserves, he retired to this seat in 1609, and finding himself gradually declining with infirmities and old age, he no longer delayed his intention of founding the History Lecture at Oxford, but sent the gift of it to that university in the month of May, 1622. He did not live long after this, but died, after a severe fit of illness, at his house here on November 9, 1623, in the seventy-third year of his age. His body being removed to his house in London, was carried from thence to Westminster-abbey in great pomp, the whole col-

lege of heralds attending, in their proper habits, and great numbers of the nobility and persons of the first

14

distinction, accompanying the solemnity, where he was buried in the south isle, near the monument of Ca=saubon, and over against that of Chaucer. He bore for his arms, Or, a fess ingrailed sable, between six cross-croslets fitchee of the second./I

This seat, after Camden's death, was, most proba= bly sold, and passed into the possession of several inter= mediate owners, of whom I cannot gain the least in= telligence; after which it came into the possession of Weston, and afterwards of Harry Spencer, esq. who conveyed it by sale to Morrice, as he did to Charles Pratt, esq. afterwards created baron Camden of this place. He was the son of Sir John Pratt of Wilder= ness, in Seale, chief justice of the king's bench (and formerly one of the lords commissioners of the great seal) by his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of the reverend Hugh Wilson, and having applied himself to the law, he was promoted to the office of attorney= general, and afterwards to that of chief justice of the common-pleas, and was knighted. Having sat some time in that court, with much popular applause, he was, on July 16, in 1765, advanced to the title of lord Camden, baron of Camden-place, in this county, and next year, was made lord high chancellor, which high office he resigned in 1770, and retired to this seat, to which he made great additions and improvements, and to the grounds about it, and afterwards resided in it. On May 13, in 1786, he was farther advanced to the dignity of earl Camden and viscount Bayham, in Sus= sex; he died in 1794, being at that time president of the council and recorder of Bath, and was buried in the family vault in Seale church. He left by Eliza= beth, his wife, daughter of Nicholas Jefferies, esq. (who died before him in 1779) one son, John Jefferies, viscount Bayham, who succeeded him in title and estate,

/I Biographia Brit. p. 1119, et seq. vol. ii.

15

and four daughters, Frances, married to Robert Stuart, esq. Elizabeth; Sarah to Nicholas Price, esq. and Jane to James Walter Head, esq.

John Jefferies earl Camden, so succeeding his fa= ther in title and in this seat, was at that time a lord of the treasury and a teller of the exchequer, and was elected recorder of Bath. He married, in 1786, Miss Molesworth, by whom he has issue. He resided at this seat, and was afterwards appointed lord lieutenant of the kingdom of Ireland, in the execution of which office he now resides there.

He bears for his arms, Sable on a fess, between three elephants heads erased argent, as many mullets of the first. His crest, An elephant's head erased argent. His sup= porters, On the dexter side, a griffin sable, beak and fore legs gules; on the sinister, a lion rampant or; each gorged with a collar argent, charged with three mullets sable.

In the 11th year of king Henry VI. the abbot and convent of Lesnes, in this county, were possessed of TONG COURT, in Chesilhurst, now called TOWN-

COURT FARM, which was then exchanged for a tene=ment in Plumsted, called Fulham-place./m It appears, by an inquisition in the 19th year of king Edward IV. by virtue of a commission of concealment, that Tho. Walsingham was, at his death, in the 7th year of that reign, possessed of the manor of Tang-court, which was then held of the earl of Warwick, as of his manor of Dartford, by knight's service, and was of the yearly value of six marcs, beyond reprises. Constance, wi= dow of the above Thomas, possessed it after his death. She died anno 16 king Edward IV. and her second husband, John Grene, possessed it during the nonage of James Walsingham, her son./n How it passed from the name of Walsingham, I have not found, but that it afterwards came into the name of Hodsoll, at which time it bore the reputation of a manor, in the descend=

/m Tan. Mon. p. 216. /n Inquis. ejus an. No. 78.

16

ant of which it continued down to Edward Hodsoll, esq. of St. Mary Cray, who died possessed of it in 1794, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, who died about a month after him, unmarried, on which it came to his sister, Mary Matilda Hodsoll, the present owner of it.

At some distance westward from Frogmire is an OLD SEAT, which was for some generations in the possession of the family of Farrington. Thomas Farrington, esq. resided at it, and dying in 1694, was succeeded by his son, Thomas Farrington, esq. who was a lieutenant general in the army, and married Theodosia, daughter of Richard Betenson, esq. and one of the sisters and coheirs of Sir Edward Betenson, bart. of Scadbury, by whom he had one son, Thomas, and two daughters; Albinia, married to the marquis of Lindsey, afterwards duke of Ancaster; and Mary, married to John Selwyn, esq. He died in 1712, leaving the possession of this seat to his son, Thomas Farrington, esq. who at his death, without issue, in 1758, bequeathed it by will to his sister's son, the honourable lord Robert Bertie, third son of Robert Bertie, first duke of Ancaster, by his second wife, Albinia, daughter of lieutenant general Farrington, as above mentioned. Lord Robert Bertie married, in 1762, Mary, daughter and coheir of Montague, late lord viscount Blundell, in Ireland, and relict of Robert, late lord Raymond, by whom he had no issue. He resided here, and much improved both the house and adjoining grounds; he died, s. p. in 1782, and was buried here; since which it has become, by en=tail, made by lieutenant general Farrington in his will, the property of Charles Townshend, esq. only survi=ving brother to lord viscount Sydney, who now resides in it.

CHESILHURST is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church, which is dedicated to St.

17

Nicholas, consists of two isles and two chancels. It has a spire steeple, which, as well as the roof of the church, is covered with shingles. In the belfry hang

four bells.

In this church, among others, are the following monuments and inscriptions: – In the south isle, are memorials for the Golding's, Findall's, Owen's, and Poyntell's; on the south side, a monument for John Rand, who left a benefaction to the poor, obt. 1714; a monument for Sir Philip Warwick, obt. 1682, æt. 74, and his wife, Joan Fanshaw, of Ware-park, first married to Sir Wm. Boteler, bart. and for Philip Warwick, esq. their only son, who died an envoy to Sweden, in 1682. In the great chancel, a memorial for Mrs. Lucy, wife of William Dutton Colt, esq. daughter of Thomas Webb, esq. by Mrs. Eliz. Woodhouse, of Norfolk, and their daughter Eliz. æt. 6 years, obt. 1681; on a stone, before the altar rails, is a brass plate and inscription for Richard Carmarden, esq. supervisor of the customs and subsidies in the port of London, obt. 1603, æt. 67; another like for Thomas Wigg, esq. husband of Mary, daughter of Richard Carmarden, esq. obt. 1602, æt. 49; another for Alice More, first wife of Richard Carmarden, esq. descended from those of Odiham, obt. 1586, æt. 42; on the south side, a monument for Rowland Tryon of Frogmire, esq. and merchant of London, obt. 1720, æt. 53, Wm. being his brother and heir; another for Tho. Farrington, ob. 1712, æt. 48; he left his wife, Theodosia, of the family of Rich. Betenson, esq. surviving, and three children, Thomas his heir, Albinia married to the marquis of Lindsey, and Mary to John Selwyn; another for Thomas Farrington, who left surviving one son, Thomas, and Mary his wife, ob. 1694, æt. 63; and another for Mary Farrington, ob. 1717, æt. 71. Within the other altar rails, a stone with a brass plate, for Eliz. wife of Rob. Hickes, citizen and draper of London, and daughter of Edw. Poyntell, gent. ob. 1655, æt. 31. A memorial for Francis Fox, A. M. ob. 1686, æt. 43; a monument for the Cunliffe's; on the south side, under an arch, ornamented with Gothic work, an antient altar tomb, without any memorial; under an arch, on the north side, is a stone let into the wall, on which is a brass plate with the effigies of a priest at half length, and inscription in black letter, for Alex. Porter, rector, ob. 1452. In the north isle, a beautiful monument for lord Tho. Bertie, captain in the royal navy, ob. 1749, æt. 29; he was fourth son of Robert duke of Ancaster, by his second wife Albinia, daughter of lieut. gen. Farrington, who died in 1745, æt. 46, and lies buried here; a monument at the entrance and brass plate with the effigy of a woman, and inscription in black letter, for Custume Drylonde, wife of John Greene, esq. daughter of James Drylonde, esq. of Devyngton, ob. 1476; on the north side, under an arch of alabaster, is an altar tomb of Betersden marble, for Sir

18

Edm. Walsingham, lieut. of the Tower twenty-two years, ob. 1549, leaving three daughters and one son, Thomas, knighted, who erected this monument, and for Sir Tho. Walsingham, knt. the sixth in succession of that order, obt. 1630, æt. 64. Tho. Walsingham his son erected it. On a stone, near the above monument, on which were the effigies in brass of a man and woman, with four sons, now torn off, but there remain seven daughters, and inscription in black letter, for James Walsingham, esq. and Eleanor his wife, he died 1540, she died 15...; many of this family lie buried in a vault underneath. On the east side is an elegant mural monument, with an urn, by Rysbrack, for Roger Townshend, son of Charles viscount Townshend, by his first wife, Eliz. daughter of Thomas lord Pelham of Langton, ob. 1760, unmarried. Tho. Townshend his brother erected it. Near the above, a monument, shewing that in a vault, in this chancel, lies Sir Rich. Betenson, knt. and bart. he married Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Wm. Monyns

of Waldershare, knt. and bart. by whom he had eleven children; she died at a great age in 1681, and lies buried here; his eldest son, Richard, married Albinia, daughter of Sir Christopher Wray of Lincolnshire, by whom he had nine children; Richard his son lies buried here; Sir Richard died 1679, æt. 78, being then sheriff of this county. On the north side is a monument with a pyramid and inscription, shewing that in the vault underneath lies Sir Ed. Betenson of Scadbury, bart. son of Rich. Betenson, esq. of Surry, and grandson of Sir Rich. Betenson, bart. of this county, obt. 1733, unmarried, æt. 58; the monument was erected by Albinia Selwyn Theodosia Farrington, and dame Francis Hewitt, his sisters and coheirs; several more of this family of Betenson, as well as the Farrington's, lie buried in a vault underneath. In this church, in the vault of the latter, lies lord Montague Bertie, second son of Robert, second duke of Ancaster, by his second wife; he died in 1753, and lord Rt. Bertie, his next brother, who died in 1782./o

King Henry I. gave the church of Chesilhurst, with all tithes, rights, and appurtenances, to the church of St. Andrew, and Gundulph, bishop of Rochester; and he afterwards confirmed this gift by another charter./p Bishop Gundulph, when he had separated his own maintenance from that of the monks, assigned them this church, among others, for their support;/q

/o See an account at large of the monuments and memorials in this church, in Reg. Roff. p. 929.

/p Reg. Roff. p. 34. /q Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 1.

19

and he afterwards granted them the free disposition and presentation of it./r

This church was confirmed to the priory of Rochester by archbishop Anselm and several of his successors, and by Henry II. but bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, about the beginning of king Richard I.'s reign, on pretence that his predecessor, bishop Gundulph, had impoverished his see, by his too large donations to the priory, diverted them of it; however, he reserved to them a pension of half a marc yearly out of the profits of it, which was confirmed to them by Henry bishop of Rochester, in the 11th year of king Henry III. and by several of his successors. Since which the patronage of this church has continued part of the possessions of the bishopric of Rochester, and remains so at this time.

At the dissolution of the priory of Rochester, in 1540, the pension of six shillings and eight-pence from this church came into the king's hands, who next year settled it, among other premises, on his new erected dean and chapter of Rochester, who are now entitled to it.

The church of Chesilhurst, in the 15th year of king Edward I. was valued at ten marcs./s It is valued in the king's books at 16l. 3s. 61/2d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 12s. 41/2d./t

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Chesilhurst was a parsonage, sequestered, with a house and nine acres of glebe land, and two tenements, which were altogether worth 80l. per annum, one master Pearce performing the cure./u

The portion of tithes, which antiently belonged to

the priory of Rochester, in the hamlet of Mottingham, which lies partly in this parish, and partly in

/r Reg. Roff. p. 6. 353.  
/s Stev. Mon. vol. 1. p. 456.  
/t Bacon Lib. Regis.  
/u Lambeth Surveys, vol. xiv.

20

that of Eltham, has already been taken notice of, in the description of the latter parish. On the dissolution of the priory it was settled by king Henry VIII. in his 32d year, among other premises, on his newly-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, whose property it now continues.

#### CHARITIES.

JOHN CANAN by will, in 1630, gave to this parish 10s. yearly, charged upon his house and land in North Cray, vested in trust, and of the annual produce as above.

SARAH COWELL by will, in 1638, gave the sum of 12l. out of the interest of which she ordered that 16s. should be paid every year on Maundy Thursday, to eight poor widows or poor women, now vested in the parish stock, and of the annual produce of 1l. as will be farther mentioned.

The Rev. ABRAHAM COLFE, by will, in 1659, gave one penny loaf, to be distributed each Sunday to one poor householder after divine service, the money vested in the Leathersellers company, by a commission of charitable uses in 1698, now of the annual produce of 4s. 4d.

THOMAS PHILPOTT by will, in 1680, gave several tenements in Eltham parish, for building six alms-houses in that parish, and for the maintenance of six poor people – to be chosen, four out of Eltham, and two out of Chesilhurst, for ever, vested in trustees, of which more has been already mentioned under Eltham.

Sir PHILIP WARWICK by will, in 1682, gave 100l. the interest of it to be laid out yearly in putting a child of this parish to some sea service, which money is now 150l. 3 per cent. consol. Bank ann. vested in trustees, and now of the annual produce of 4l. 10s.

JOHN RAND by will, in 1705, gave 6s. a year for ever, and two houses and land, about three acres, now in the parish stock, as hereafter mentioned, to be distributed to the poor of it, by the minister and churchwardens, on the first Sunday in November; among the poorest widowers and widows, 3s. to each, and now of the above annual produce. He died in 1714, and lies buried in this church.

MARY FARRINGTON by will, in 1714, gave among such poor people annually, as the minister and churchwardens should see proper, eight lottery tickets, which proved blanks, and afterwards, with many changes and difficulties amounted to 70l. in the 3 per cent. consol. Bank ann. vested in trust, and of the annual produce of 2l. 2s.

Rev. G. WILSON by will, in 1718, gave, to teach the children to sing Psalms, and to buy Bibles, Prayer Books, and books of devotion, for the poor, two houses, now the school-house, adjoining to the poor house, and of the annual produce of 4l.

21

THOMAS MOORE, esq. in 1733, by will, gave a sum of money to the charity school, to be disposed of as the trustees should see proper, which school being dissolved, and another established in 1757, the money was vested in the 3 per cent. consol. Bank ann.

for the use of the new school, in money, now 100l. in the same annuities, and of the annual produce of 3l.

JOHN HARVILL, In 1781, executed a deed, which was enrolled in chancery, and was done in order to fulfil the design of his brother, William Harvill, who had left the same by will, but was void on account of the act of Mortmain, to teach six boys reading, writing, and accounts, a tenement in Chesilhurst, vested in trustees, and of the annual produce of 9l.

Several of the above charities, viz. Cowell's, Warwick's, Rand's, and Wilson's, which had been vested in land or houses before the year 1760, were by act, anno 33 Geo. II. vested in lord Robert Bertie, and other securities of greater value provided in their room, for the benefit of the poor of this parish, as above specified, a poor house or workhouse being erected by lord Robert Bertie, on condition that the parish rates should fulfil the design of Cowell's charity, by the annual distribution of 1l. among the poor, and of Rand's, by the distribution of 6l. per annum in November according to his will, the same lord Rob. Bertie building the school house adjoining, the rent of which is appropriated to the use of Mr. Wilson's will, the sum of 100l. being laid out in the purchase of 3 per cent. consol. ann. to fulfil the design of Warwick's will.

#### CHURCH OF CHESILHURST.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Bishop of Rochester      Stephen./w

John de Wilmingtone, 1316./x

Adam de Bromleigh./y

Alex. Porter, died in May, 1452.

Robert Garret, died 1560./z

Ralph Harvie, in 1589./a

A. Topham, D. D. Ap. 6, 1630./b

Richard Chase, A. M. 1636.

Richard Edwards, 1653, 1660.

Geo. Wilson, obt. Oct. 11, 1718./c

Thomas More, A. M. July 25,

1719, obt. July 1769.

Francis Wollaston, L.L.B. 1769.

Present rector./d

/w Reg. Roff. p. 227.

/x Ibid. p. 228.      /y Ibid. p. 353.

/z Also rector of Hayes, where he lies buried.

/a Custom Roff. p. 38.

/b Presented by the lord keeper.

Rymer's Fœdrus, vol. xix. p. 259.

/c He was, by his will, a benefactor to Bromley charity-school, of which parish he was curate.

/d In April 1777, he was made precentor of St. David's.

22

The BOTANISTS have observed the following SCARCE PLANTS in this parish:

Sparteum Batavicum et Angli= cum ceu sparteum nostras par= vum Hollandicum capillaceo folio minus, on Chesilhurst com.

Oxys alba, white wood serrel.

Trifolium acetosum vulg. variat  
flore rubro, in Stockwell wood in  
this parish.

Pinguicula sive sanicula Ebora=  
censis, butterwort or Yorksh. sanicula,  
planted here by Dr. Bowles.

Millegrana minima, dwarf all=  
seed, or rupture grass, on Chesil=  
hurst common.

Saxifraga alba petræa, white  
rock saxifrage, in the woods of  
this parish.

A rare kind of hippuris, or horse=  
tail, which grows up with ma=  
ny little branches, putting forth  
at each joint many little leaves;  
the joints towards the tops of  
the branches thick, the colour  
of the plant grey, inclining to  
green.

Herba paris, herb true love, or  
one berry./e

/e See Merrett's Pinax, p. 58, 90, 94. Johnson's Ger. Herb.  
569, 842, 1115, 1201, 1630.

- - -

#### HAYES

LIES south westward from Chesilhurst, being for=  
merly written in old deeds, Hese.

This parish is but small, the village stands nearly  
in the center of it, having the church on the western  
side of it, and about one hundred yards from it Hayes=  
place. The river Ravensborne flows by the north=  
east boundaries of this parish; in the southern part of  
it is Hayes common, on the edge of which is the an=  
tient scite of Baston manor, which claims over the  
greatest part of this parish, subordinate to the manor  
of Great Orpington, belonging to Sir John Dixon  
Dyke, bart. of which manor this parish is accounted  
an appendage. In the western part lies the reputed  
manor or farm of Pickhurst. The air is very healthy,  
the surface forms a valley, running nearly north and  
south, with the ground rising gradually on each side,  
on the west, towards Beckenham, where Pickhurst=  
green, and part of Langley-park, is at least of equal  
elevation; and on the east, towards Bromley com=

23

mon, the two predominant soils are gravel and clay,  
though there is some loam and sand.

The MANOR OF BASTON, mentioned above, was  
formerly part of the possession of the Squeries, a fa=  
mily of eminence in this part of the county, who bore  
for their arms, A squirrel brouzing a hazel nut; one of  
whom, Sir John de Squerie, was seated at Squerie's=  
court, in Westerham, as early as the reign of king  
Edward III. One of his descendants, Thos. Squerie,  
died in the 17th year of king Henry VI. possessed of  
this manor, as well as of the adjoining one of West  
Wickham, and left them to his son and heir, John  
Squierie, who dying without issue, in the 4th year of  
king Edward IV. his two sisters became his coheirs,

of whom, Margaret married to Sir William Cromer of Tunstal, and Dorothy to Richard Mervin of Fontel's in Wiltshire, who in her right became possessed of both these manors./f The manor itself of Baston, though the scite of it, with the demesne lands, were at some time afterwards, but when is not to be found, sold off to other proprietors, remained in the same tract of ownership as the manor of West Wickham, in the family of Heydon and Lennard; by the marriage of a female heir of the latter, Mary, daughter of Samuel Lennard, esq. they became together the property of John Farnaby, esq. (younger brother of Sir Charles Farnaby Radcliffe, bart.) and he is the present possessor of both these manors./g

THE SCITE of BASTON MANOR, called BASTON-COURT, with the demesne lands, after several intermediate owners, came into the name of Luxford, and William Luxford, in 1795, alienated Baston-court and the demesne lands adjoining to it, to Mr. James Randal, the present owner of them; but the rest of the lands, on the opposite side of the common, were

/f Philipott, p. 186, 359. /g See West Wickham.

24

sold by him at the same time to a different person, who annexed them to another farm.

HAYES-PLACE is a seat in this parish, situated about one hundred yards from the church westward, which was once the antient residence of a branch of the family of the Scotts of Halden, in this county. Sir Stephen Scott, knt. one of the sons of John Scott, esq. of Halden, who bore for his arms, Argent a cross croslet sable, kept his shrievalty for this county at this seat, in 1648, being then one of the gentlemen pensioners to Charles I. He afterwards removed his residence to Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, where he died in the year 1658, and was buried in this church. By his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of John Brograve, esq. he had several children, of whom John Scott, esq. the eldest son, became his heir in this seat, and was a gentleman of the king's privy chamber. He married dame Hester, widow of Sir Humphry Style, knt. and bart. of Langley, in whose right he resided there, and dying in 1670, lies buried here. Their descendant, Stephen Scott, esq. alienated this seat to Mr. John Harrison of Southwark, whence it was sold, in 1757, to the Rt. Hon. William Pitt, the second son of Robert Pitt of Boconnock, in Cornwall, esq. who was descended from Thomas Pitt, esq. sometime governor of fort St. George, who bore for his arms, Sable a fess chequy argent and azure between three bezants. He died in 1726, leaving three sons and two daughters; of the sons, Robert, the eldest, will be mentioned hereafter. Thomas, the second, was created earl of Londonderry, and John was in the army. Robert Pitt, esq. the eldest son, was of Boconnock, and married Harriet, sister of John Villiers, viscount Grandison, by whom he had two sons; Thomas Pitt, esq. who was of Boconnock, and William, the purchaser of this seat, as above mentioned,/h who

/h See Collins's Peer. vol. vi. p. 206, et. seq.

in 1756, being then a privy counsellor, had the conduct of government intrusted to him, as prime minister, in which post he conducted himself so ably that the English were united and happy at home, and feared and respected abroad; the British ensigns were displayed in the remotest regions, and the national honour advanced to a pitch unknown before.

On his resignation of the office of secretary of state, on Oct. 5, 1761, the king, in consideration of his great and important services, granted to the lady Hester Pitt, his wife, sister to Richard earl Temple, the dignity of Baroness of Chatham, in this county, to herself, and of Baron of Chatham to his heirs male. In 1766, he was again called to be minister of state, and on July 30, that year, was advanced to the titles of Viscount Pitt of Burton Pynsent, in Somersetshire, and earl of Chatham in this county, and at the same time he had the custody of the privy seal delivered to him, which he soon afterwards resigned. Soon after his purchasing this seat, he entirely rebuilt it, nearly on the old scite, but there being only a garden, and very little land belonging to it, he added to it several other parcels of land, which he bought as opportunity offered. When he came to the Burton-Pynsent estate, he sold this seat, with his property in this parish, in 1766, to the Hon. Thomas Walpole, who was the second son of the late Horatio lord Walpole, younger brother of Sir Robert Walpole, the first earl of Oxford of this family. He resided here, and made considerable improvements to this place, but two years afterwards re-sold it to the earl of Chatham, at his very earnest and importunate request, who after his retirement from public affairs, resided much here, during which time he finished the grounds and plantations round this seat with that elegance of taste and judgement in which he so particularly excelled, inclosing the whole within a park pale. This earl, called from his superior talents, The great Earl of Chat-

ham, died at this seat, on May 11, 1778, in consequence of the violent exertions he had made during a speech in the house of lords; when, fainting away, he was carried home to his house in London, and from thence hither, where he languished but a short time till his death, and was afterwards buried in Westminster abbey at the public expence. After his death, this seat was retained by his family only a few years, and in 1785, was by them alienated to James Bond, esq. then lately arrived from the East Indies, he resided here, and was high sheriff of this county in 1788, and part of the year 1789; when, being created a baronet of Ireland, he removed thither, having previously, in the latter year, sold this estate to the Rt. Hon. George viscount Lewisham, eldest son of the earl of Dartmouth, who is the present possessor, and now resides here./i>

The Right Hon. William Pitt, now prime minister of this kingdom, whose eminent and superior abilities justly entitle him to the admiration of all Europe, being the second son of The great Earl of Chatham,

was born at Hayes-place, on May 28, 1759, during his father's residence here.

#### CHARITIES.

ELIZABETH LLOYD by will, in 1693, gave, for putting poor children to school, a rent charge upon land, part now in the possession of Mr. Stephen Austen Cumberlege, and part in the possession of Miss Cleaver, of the annual produce of 3l.

ELIZABETH HARRISON by will, in 1738, gave 40s. yearly, for putting poor children to school, 10s. on every Good Friday, to such as should say their catechism best, and 10s. for the trustees, being in money 100l. vested in the 3 per cent. Bank ann. in trust, now of the annual produce of 3l.

HAYES is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar to

/i See a farther account of lord Lewisham, vol. i. p. 512.

27

the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such, is in the deanry of Shoreham.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and stands about the middle of the village. It consists of one isle and a chancel, and has a tower, on which is a low and rather unsightly pyramid; in it hang three bells, the most antient of which was cast by Robert Mot, anno 1602.

In this church, among others, are the following monuments and inscriptions. In the chancel, on a brass plate, the figure of a man in a priest's habit, and memorial for Sir John Heygee, late parson of this church, obt Dec. 19, 1523; another like plate for Sir John Andrew, but without date; a brass plate for John Handford, son of Humphry Handford of London, merchant, died an infant, 1610; another for John Hoare, eighteen years rector here, obt. Feb. 11, 1584, æt. 63; on a brass plate the figure of a priest, and inscription for John Osteler, rector of this church; an inscription under the east window for Rob. Garret, priest, rector of Hayes and Chesilhurst, obt. 1560; on a stone, a monument for John Scott, esq. eldest son of Sir Step. Scott of this county, who married dame Hester, widow of Sir Humphry Style, knt. and bt. of Langley; he was of the king's privy chamber and justice of the peace in quorum for this county, obt. 1670, æt. 45; on a grave-stone, two coats quarterly, 1st and 4th, Scott, a cross croslet, 2d and 3d, a chevron between three fleurs de lis; and a memorial for Sir Edw. Scott; on another, with a shield, the like arms; another Scott, impaling on a bend voided three fleurs de lis, a crescent for difference; a third Scott, impaling Brograve, a like difference, and a memorial for Sir Stephen Scott, one of the sons of John Scott, esq. of Halden, gentleman pensioner to the late king Charles, and sheriff in 1648; he married first Jane Morral, widow, daughter of Sir Cuthbert Hackett, secondly Elizabeth, daughter of John Brograve, esq. by whom he had five sons and four daughters; after a long residence in this parish he removed to his seat at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, where he died in 1658, æt. 79; on a stone, the arms of Bradgate, impaling Scott; and a memorial for Elizabeth, the wife of T. Bradgate, merchant, the eldest daughter of Sir Stephen Scott, and dame Eliz. his wife, obt. 1655, æt. 26, leaving a son, Martin, and a daughter, Elizabeth; on a stone a shield, Reeve impaling Scott, and a memorial for Anne, daughter of Sir Stephen Scott, late of this parish, deceased, and wife of Wm. Reeve, gent. of Fayre in the isle of Wight, obt. 1661, æt. 31; besides which there are several grave stones over the in-

fant children of Sir Stephen Scott./k

/k See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large in Reg. Roff. p. 818.

28

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church of Hese was valued at then marcs./l By virtue of a commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, out of chancery, it was returned, that Hayes was a parsonage, having a house and sixteen acres of land belonging to it, worth forty pounds per annum, one Mr. Christopher Montjoy enjoying it, an honest painful preacher./m It is a discharged living, in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of 49l. the yearly tenths of which are 13s. 91/2d.

The church of Hayes is at present a rectory, having the church of Downe as a chapel annexed to it, in the patronage of the rector of Orpington. There was a pension of 6s. 8d. (not 16s. 8d. as erroneously printed in Ecton) demanded by the rector of Orpington from the rector of this parish yearly, the payment of which, as there was not any trace found of its being paid for a number of years past, was refused a few years ago, and was immediately given up by the rector of Orpington.

#### CHURCH OF HAYES.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Rector of Orpington Thomas de Hedrysette, LL. D. ob.  
1405./n

John.

William Multon, clerk, resigned  
1411./o

Thomas Revell, 1411.

John Smith, 1464, 1488.

John Osteler.

John Andrew.

John Heygge, ob. Dec. 19, 1523.

Christ. Sharparrowe, ob. 1549./p

Robert Garrett, ob. 1566./q

/l Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/m Parl. Sur. Lambeth libr. v. xiv.

/n Blomfield's Norf. vol. ii. p. 467.

Also rector of Gillingham in this co.

/o Wm. Multon exchanged this rectory with Tho. Revell for the deanry of Hingham, in Norfolk. lb. vol. i.

/p Buried in this church.

/q Also rector of Chesilhurst.

29

PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Rector of Orpington John Hoare, clerk, ob. Feb. 11,  
1584.

Samuel Darknoll, Jan. 1586.

Francis Allott, in August 1615,  
obt. 1619.

Christopher Monkton, in March  
1619, obt. July 1, 1652.

Thomas Wood, 1652.

Robert Bourne, 1684.

G. Sclater, Ap. 1689, ob. 1696.  
Robert Davidson, A. M. induct.  
Dec. 17, 1696, obt. May 27,  
1714./r  
Christopher Clarke, A. M. induct.  
June 10, 1714, resig. Dec. 25,  
1733./s  
Thomas Walwin, A. M. induct.  
Ap. 12, 1733. obt. 1747.  
Walter Walker Ward, D. D.  
1747, obt. 1755.  
William Farquar, 1755, obt.  
March 1774.  
Francis Fawkes, A. M. in Ap.  
1774, obt. Aug. 1777./t  
John Till, Oct. 1777. Present  
rector./u  
/r Also rector of Chesfield, and cu=  
rate of Downe. He was buried in this  
church.  
/s He was also rector of Keston,  
archdeacon of Norwich, and preben=  
dary of Ely.  
/t He was before vicar of Orpington,  
with St. Mary Cray, and curate of  
Nockholt, which latter he kept with  
this rectory.  
/u And vicar of Orpington, with St.  
Mary's Cray.

---

#### WEST WICKHAM

LIES the next parish from Hayes, westward, ad=joining to the county of Surry. It is called West Wickham from its situation, and to distinguish it from two other parishes of the same name in this county; and has its name of Wickham from the Saxon words Wic, a street or way, and ham, a dwelling.

This parish bounds to the county of Surry, both to the south and west. It lies on high ground and is very

30

hilly. The soil is various, being in some parts chalk, and in others gravel, sand, and some clay, the whole being thin land. It contains about two thousand five hundred acres, mostly arable land. In the middle of the parish stands the court lodge and church, and about half a mile north-west the parsonage. About midway between the church and Beckenham, north-west, is the village, in the middle of which is a house, which some few years ago was the residence of Sir Tho. Wilson, who kept his shrievalty here in 1760. He alienated it in 1773, to Charles Haskins, esq. who lately sold it to Sir Peter Burrell, knight and baronet, since created lord Gwydir, and he is the present owner of it, but it is occupied by Samuel Farmer, esq. At a small distance northward is another good house, belonging to Charles Waller, esq. before Arnold Nisbet's, esq. now the residence of William Whitmore, esq.

There is an odd custom used in these parts, about Keston and Wickham, in Rogation week; at which

time a number of young men meet together with a most hideous noise, run into the orchards, and incircling each tree pronounce these words:

Stand fast root, bear well top;  
God send us a YOULING sop!  
E'ry twig, apple big;  
E'ry bough, apple enow!

For which incantation the confused rabble expect a gratuity in money, or drink, which is no less welcome. But if they are disappointed of both, they, with great solemnity, anathematise the owners and trees, with altogether as insignificant a curse.

It seems highly probable that this custom has arisen from the antient one of perambulation among the heathens, when they made their prayers to the gods, for the use and blessings of the fruits coming up, with thanksgivings for those of the preceding year. And as

31

the heathens supplicated Eolus, god of the winds, for his favorable blasts; so in this custom, they still retain his name with a very small variation, this ceremony being called Youling, and the word is often used in their invocations.

The liberty of the duchy of Lancaster claims over the manor of West Wickham, and over the messuage and lands called Spring-park, Old park, Friths-wood, and Chambers grove, as being within the jurisdiction of the duchy court of Farnborough./x

In the time of Edward the Confessor this place was held of the king by one Godric. William the Conqueror granted it to his half-brother, Odo, the great and potent bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, of whom Adam Fitzhubert held it, as the survey of Domesday informs us; in which it is thus entered, under the general title of the bishop of Baieux's lands:

The same Adam holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Wicheham. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are two carucates, and 24 villeins having four carucates. There are 13 servants, and one church, and one mill of 20 pence yearly value, and one wood for the pannage of 10 hogs. In the time of K. Edward the Confessor it was worth 8 pounds, and afterwards 6 pounds, and now 13 pounds. Godric held it of K. Edward.

This manor came afterwards into the possession of a branch of the eminent family of Huntingfield,/y who had large possessions in this county, and made both this and Huntingfield in Easling, their principal seats in it. By the Roll of Knights Fees, taken in the seventh of king Edward I. it appears, that Peter de Huntingfield was then lord of West Wickham. He was sheriff of this county in the 11th, 12th, and 13th years of that reign, and kept his shrievalty at his manor-house of

/x Kilb. Survey, p. 288, Parl. Surveys, Augtn. office.

/y See Philipott, p. 361.

32

Huntingfield before-mentioned. He is in the list of those brave Kentish gentlemen, who attended that king

in his victorious expedition into Scotland, in the 26th year of his reign, and assisted at the siege of Carlaverock, in that kingdom; for which service he, with many others, received the honor of knighthood. He died in the 7th year of king Edward II./z This branch of the family of Huntingfield bore for their arms, a fess between three cross crozlets gules, as appears by a seal in the Dering library.

His son and heir, Sir Walter de Huntingfield, in the 11th year of that reign, obtained a charter of free warren to his manor of West Wickham, a market weekly on a Monday, and a fair yearly on the vigil and day of St. Mary Magdalen; and he had at the same time licence to impark his wood here, called the Frith./a His son, Sir John de Huntingfield paid aid for it in the 20th year of King Edward III. as three knights fees, which Peter de Huntingfield before held in Wykham, of Ralph Fitznichols. He was summoned to sit as a baron in parliament, in the 37th, 38th, and 42d years of that reign;/b but before the end of it, this family terminated in two female heirs, Joane and Alice; the former of whom married John Copledike, and the latter Sir John Norwich.

On the division of their inheritance this manor was allotted to the former, whose husband, John Copledike, who seems to have assumed the arms of Huntingfield, as he bore, Argent, a chevron between three cross-crozlets gules, was possessed of it in the last year of king Richard II. But it did not long remain in this name; for in the 17th year of king Henry VI. Thomas Squerie, of Squeries-court in Westerham, died possessed of this manor. He left it to his son and heir, John Squerie, who dying without issue in the 4th year

/z Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/a Rot. Pat. anno 11 K. Edw. II. No. 23 and *ibid.* pt. 2.

/b Cott. Records, p. 88, 99, and 104.

33

of king Edward IV. his two sisters became his coheirs; of whom Dorothy, the youngest sister, married Richard Mervin of Fontels, in Wiltshire; who, upon the division of their estates, became in her right possessed of this manor. He, not long after, passed it away to Richard Scrope, who, in the 7th year of king Edward IV. alienated it by fine to Ambrose Creseacre, and he, not long after, transmitted it by sale, to Henry Heydon, of Baconsthorpe, in Norfolk, esq. afterwards knighted, who was the son of John Heydon, of that place, esq. descended of ancestors who were, many generations before, of Heydon, in that county, and bore for their arms, quarterly, Argent and gules, a cross engrailed, and crown interchanged. He resided at Baconsthorpe, and purchased three hundred marcs of land in yearly rent, of which one hundred pounds a year were here at Wickham, where he built that right fair manor-place, and fair church, as Leland calls it, now remaining./c

Sir John Heydon, of Baconsthorpe, knight, his son, inherited this manor, and left it at his death to his eldest son, Sir Christopher Heydon, whose son, of the same name, was a man of some note in the reign of queen Elizabeth; his son and heir, Sir William Heydon, succeeded to this manor in the twenty-second

year of that reign, the same being then held of the queen, as of the honour of Albermarle, by knights service; he alienated it in the latter end of that reign to John Lennard, of Chevening, esq. custos brevium of the common-pleas, who purchased it for his second son, Samuel Lennard, and, besides, left to him, by his will, five hundred marcs per annum.

He seated himself at Wickham, and was afterwards knighted, and married Elizabeth, one of the daughters of Sir Stephen Slanie, of London, and had by her several sons and daughters. He died in 1618, and was buried in this church.

/c Leland's Itin. vol. iv. part i. p. 13.

34

Sir Stephen Lennard, his eldest son, possessed this manor, and was created a baronet in 1642. He left by his third wife, Anne, daughter of Sir John Oglander, Sir Stephen Lennard, bart. his successor, who married Elizabeth, widow of John Roy, and daughter of Delaline Hussey, of Dorsetshire, esq. He was knight of the shire for the county of Kent, in the 7th year of queen Anne, and died in 1709, leaving by Elizabeth, his wife, one son, Sir Samuel Lennard, bart. and three daughters. He died, possessed of this manor, in 1727, without lawful issue, leaving two natural sons, Samuel and Thomas. To the former of whom by his will, in 1726, he devised this manor; and to the latter he bequeathed the advowson of this church.

Samuel Lennard, esq. the eldest son, died possessed of this manor, leaving his widow surviving, (afterwards re-married to Francis Austen, of Sevenoke, esq. since deceased) and an only daughter, Mary, who afterwards carried it in marriage to John Farnaby, esq. (younger brother of Sir Charles Farnaby Radcliffe, bart.) and he is the present possessor of it.

#### CHARITIES.

THE LADY MARGARET SLANIE, in 1612, gave 3l. yearly, payable by the Mercers' company, to put out poor children apprentices.

In memory of the Gunpowder Plot, Sir SAMUEL LENNARD, bart. in 1617, gave 20s. per annum to the Minister of this parish, to preach on the 5th of November; and 40s. to 40 poor people, viz. 15 of this parish, 10 of Keston, 10 of Hayes, and 5 of Farnborow; all of whom were to be present at the sermon. The land in Hayes, called Dock-mead, pays it.

WEST WICKHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church, which is dedicated to St. John Baptist, was built in the reign of king Henry VII. by Sir Henry Heydon, the patron and lord of the manor of West Wickham. It consists of two isles and a chancel; the steeple stands at the west end of the south side of it, and has five bells in it, the oldest of

35

which was made in 1642; at which time the steeple was repaired, and a handsome vane erected on the top of it.

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, are

the following: In the chancel three stones, with brass plates, one with the figure of a priest, and inscription for William de Thorp, once rector of this church, obt. May 10, 1407. Another like for Sir John Stockton, obt. Sept. 24, 1515. One against the south wall, with an inscription for John Langborne, at Richmond, in Yorkshire, afterwards fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge, then parson of this parish, and resident 37 years, obt. 1619, æt. 77. In the nave, a memorial for Elizabeth, wife of William Applebury, citizen of London, and daughter of Thomas and Martha Skewington, late of Haws, in this parish, obt. 1706, æt. 34. In the north chancel, which is solely appropriated to the Lennard family and their descendants, a monument with a shield for four coats, quarterly, first, Lennard, or on a fess gules, 3 fleurs de lis of the field; second, quarterly, argent and sable, an eagle displayed in the first quarter of the last; third, vaire, a chief ermine; the fourth, as the first, and an inscription for Sir Samuel Lennard, born at Chevening, bred at Cambridge and Lincoln's-Inn; he lived and died in this parish, having had by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Stephen Slanye, late lord-mayor of London, four sons and eight daughters, obt. 1618, æt. 65. In a window over it are his arms and quarterings, impaling quarterly, a bend between 3 martlets, or, and underneath, Lennard and Slanie; near which are three other shields of arms belonging to this family. In the same window are the figures of our Saviour, the Virgin Mary, and of death. In the three north windows are the figures of our Saviour, the Virgin Mary, St. Anthony and St. Christopher, carrying the infant Jesus over a river, and six different shields of the relatives of the family of Lennard. — Against the south wall, on a marble monument, are the arms of Hobbes, impaling Lennard, and an inscription for Margaret, wife of Thomas Hobbes, esq. eldest daughter of Sir Samuel Lennard, who died in child-bed of her only child, in 1608, aged 20./d

This church, which is a rectory, was always esteemed an appendage to the manor of West Wickham, and as such in the pateonage of the owners of it, till Sir Samuel Lennard, bart. dying in 1727, devised the advowson of it by his will, in 1726, to his youngest natural son, Thomas, and the manor to his eldest, Samuel

/d See the monum. and inscrip. in this church at large in Reg. Roff. p. 820.

36

Lennard, esq./e And though afterwards, on the death of Thomas Lennard, it came again into the possession of his eldest brother Samuel, owner of the manor likewise, yet it remained an advowson in gross, in which state it has continued down to John Farnaby, esq. owner of the manor of West Wickham, and the present patron of this church.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of West Wickham was valued at twenty-five marcs./f It is valued in the king's books at 11l. 10s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 3s. 1d./g It is now, 1784, of the clearly annual value of three hundred pounds.

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, out of the court of chancery, it was returned, that West Wickham was a parsonage, having a house and some glebe land belonging to it, worth seventy pounds per annum; one Mr. Cockerell enjoying it, a painful minister./h

CHURCH OF WEST WICKHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Lord of the manor of West Wickham William de Thorpe, obt May 10, 1407.

John Stockton, obt. Sept. 24, 1515.

John Lang, 1582, obt. 1619.

Daniel Cockerell, D. D. in 1630.

Benjamin Spencer, August 21, 1657./i

Charles Bunting, 1666.

Edward Taylor, 1700.

Charles Humphrys, D. D. obt. Nov. 23, 1719.

Charles Hussey, D. D. 1720.

/e Cases in Parl. anno 1733. Austen,

Bt. and others, versus Sir John Leigh.

/f Stev. Mon. vol. i, p. 451.

/g Bacon Lib. Regis.

/h Parl. Surv. Lambeth-libr. v. xiv.

/i He was presented by Sir Stephen Lennard, but whether it took effect I am not certain.

37

PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Trustees of Sir Samuel Lennard, bart. Henry Austen, presented in Oct. 1761, resig. 1784./k

Sackvil Austen, A. M. 1784, obt./l

John Farnaby, esq. Joseph Faulder, A. M. 1786, the present rector.

/k He resigned this rectory on being a convert to the Unitarian doctrine.

/l And rector of Horsted Caines, in Sussex, by dispensation, June 1785.

- - -

### KESTON

IS the next parish eastward. It was antiently written Chestan, the found of the Saxon C being often expressed by the letters Ch, and was so called probably quasi Chesterton, i. e. the place of the camp or fortification; but the Britons pronouncing the C as we do K at this time, it came to be called by its present name of Keston; and some ingenious etymologists have fancied they have discovered something of Cæsar's name in it, from whence they would have it derived, quasi Kæsar's Town, as the Britons always pronounced his name. The liberty of the dutchy of Lancaster claims over this parish, as being within the jurisdiction of the dutchy court of Farnborough./m

Keston is but a small parish, lying mostly on high ground, the soil is in general poor and thin, but in the vallies, especially towards the east, it is rich and loamy; there is no particular village, but there are two clusters of houses, which lie at about a mile distance, north and south; the latter built round Leaves-green, in the road leading to Westerham.

There are several good houses in the parish belonging to John Nesbit, esq. Col. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Yates, and Capt. Pocock, but the principal mansion is that

/m Parl. Surveys, Augtn. off.

38

of Holwood-hill, for the accommodation of which the old broad road, which used to go at the eastern side of it has been lately turned by Mr. Pitt, and now winds beautifully round the west side of the hill, leaving the church, parsonage-house, and Keston court, a little to the westward, and thence leads on to Leaves-green and Westerham. Holwood-hill is surrounded by much rough ground, on the west side of which is the antient Roman camp, near which the river Ravensborne takes its rise, on Keston common, at a small distance to the west of the camp, and directs its course through this parish, between those of Hayes and Bromley, and so on towards Beckenham and Lewisham, and having received into it several small streams, it passes from thence through the town of Deptford, and presently after empties itself into the Thames.

The remains of the above mentioned camp, which certainly is the finest piece of antiquity in all these parts, consists of a LARGE AND STRONG FORTIFICATION, of an oblong form, commanding an extensive view on every side; the æra whereof is partly inclosed with rampiers and double ditches, of a vast heighth and depth, especially on the south and west sides. It is so large as to be near two miles in compass, containing near one hundred acres of ground; one side of the innermost vallum being, by measurement, above seven hundred yards in length, from the brow of the hill towards Holwell-house, and must have been the work of much time and many hands, and is most probably Roman, not only from its form, but from the quantity of Roman bricks, tiles, antient foundations, and other remains, which have continually been discovered and turned up by the plough hereabouts. Coins of the middle and lower empire have likewise been frequently picked up by those whose curiosity has led them to examine this place.

/n Camb. p. 219. Harris, p. 168. Hors. Brit. Rom. p. 423.

39

From this camp are the remains of a plain way down towards the spring head of the river Ravensborne, which lies at a very small distance north west from it; by which the soldiers were, no doubt, well supplied with water. This spring was formed into a beautiful bath, at the expence of the late Mr. Burrow, who inclosed it with pales, and planted it round with trees. The late broad road across the camp, mentioned above, leading from Keston mark to Leaves-green, was but of a modern date; the south east part of the area was made into a lawn by the late Mr. Burrow; and this road has been turned more to the westward on the other side the house, as has been already noted before a few years ago.

Some have imagined this was the camp which Julius Cæsar made when the Britons gave him the last battle, with their united forces, just before he passed

the Thames, in pursuit of Cassivelaun. If so, it must have had great additions since from time to time, to bring it to that state of strength and magnitude which its remains now point out, for it is not probable that Cæsar either had time to cast up such a work, or that he would not have mentioned so considerable a one in his Commentaries. Others have supposed this to have been the remains of the Noviomagus, the first Roman station from London towards Dover; in support of which they urge, that the antient Roman road, instead of going through Deptford, as the present one does, directed its course much more southward, making a circle to avoid the marshes between Lambeth and Deptford, which were then passable with much difficulty, from their lying so very low; and as the river was not then imbanked, were overflowed upon all spring tides, as they are now upon all extraordinary ones. Others have conjectured this station to have been about Bromley, some as far off as Woodcote and Croydon in Surry; but Keston being more northern, and consequently much nearer the direct line from

40

London to both Rochester and Maidstone, seems a much more likely spot for it than either of those places, especially as the number of miles, which this place is distant from London, will very nearly answer those in Antoninus's Itinerary, in which Noviomagus is described as the first station, ten miles distant from London; for supposing some part of antient London to have stood on the southern side of the Thames, as it is said it did, and that the Romans reckoned their distance from the extremity of the suburbs, it will not be much, if at all, farther than ten miles distant from London; but its distance to the next station, Vagniacæ, whether that was at Southfleet or Maidstone, will not answer so well, it being much less than eighteen miles, the distance marked in the Itinerary, from the former, and much more from the latter of those places. But many of the learned in antiquities, among whom are bishop Stillingfleet, Somner, Burton, and others, conjecture, with more probability, that this station of Noviomagus was at or about Crayford; the grounds for which opinion the reader will find in the description of that place.

Mr. Horsley observes, in his *Britannia Romana*, that the ground within the compass of this fortification is too large for a station, even though garrisoned with horse; the largest, that he knew of, not being a tenth part of this compass. He says, it looks more like the *Castra æstiva*, or summer quarters, and such he believed it to have been; by which he supposes, with others, that the station could not be far distant.

This camp has been conjectured by many, and with great probability, to have been the place where Aulus Plautius, the prætor, after his fourth action with the Britons, encamped with his forces, whilst he waited the arrival of the emperor Claudius, as mentioned by Dion. Indeed, its nearness to the Thames, its size, strength, and other circumstances, are induce-

41

ments to think it could hardly be made for any other

purpose./o

There is another small intrenchment not far off, by West Wickham, which was cast up by Sir Christopher Heydon, lord of that manor, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, at the time he had command in these parts, and trained the country people to the use of arms. In the same manner there are many other places in this county, which may seem to have been camps and intrenchments, made in more antient times, though in reality they will be found to be of a much later date; among them are several which were made by the lord Cobham, lord lieutenant of this county in that reign, in pursuance of orders sent to him to make trenches, &c. in those places, where the enemy was most likely to land.

There are no parochial charities.

KESTON was one of those manors with which William the Conqueror enriched his half brother Odo, bishop of Baieux and earl of Kent, as may be seen in the survey of Domesday, taken 1080; in which it is thus entered, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

The same Gilbert (Maminot) holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Chestan. It was taxed at 1 suling. The arable land is . . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 4 villeins with 1 carucate. There is wood for the pannage of 5 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and after, it was worth 60 shillings, now 40 shillings. Sberne Biga held it of king Edward.

Four years after the above survey, all the bishop's possessions were confiscated to the crown, after which Gilbert de Magminot above mentioned, who was before tenant to the bishop for this manor, became immediate tenant to the crown for it, of which he after-

/o Of this opinion was Dr. John Tabor of Lewes. See Phil. Trans. No. 356. p. 785. See Dion Cassius Hist. Rom. lib. Ix. Claud. v. p. 768. A. et seq.

42

wards held it in capite by barony, as of the king's castle of Dover. In his descendants Keston continued till Wakelin de Maminot dying without issue, in the 3d year of king Richard I. his sister Alice became his coheir, and brought this place, with much other inheritance, to her husband, Geoffry, second son of William de Say;/p after which it appears, that William de Pesun held this manor in the reign of king Edward I. as half a knights fee, of William, great grandson of the above mentioned Geoffry de Say./q

In the 20th year of king Edward III. Sir John de Huntingfield was in possession of it, and then paid aid for it, held as before mentioned. Towards the latter end of this reign this family terminated in two female heirs, Joan and Alice Huntingfield; the former of whom married John Copledike, and the latter Sir John Norwich.

In the next reign this manor was in the possession of Sir Robert Belknap, chief justice of the common-pleas, who was attainted and banished to Ireland, in the 11th year of king Richard II. This manor es=cheated to the crown in the 2d year of king Henry V.

by the death of Juliana his wife, who was then in possession of it./r In which year the parliament, on the petition of Hamon Belknap, their son, enabled him in blood and land to Robert his father, notwithstanding the judgment made against him in the 11th year of king Richard II./s for though the parliament, in the 20th year of that reign, had permitted Sir Robert Belknap to return from banishment, yet his attainer still remained as before./t

The manor of Keston, alias Southcourt, with the appendant manor of Baston, situated in the adjoining parish of Hayes, was soon after this alienated to Sque=

/p Philipot, p. 203.

/q Book of Knight's Fees, in the Exchequer.

/r Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/s Cott. Records, p. 540.

/t Barr. ant. Statutes, p. 278.

43

rie of Squerie's-court, in Westerham,/u and Tho. Squerie of West Wickham, was found, by inquisition, to die possessed of it, in the 17th year of king Henry VI. and that John Squerie was his son and heir./v On his death, without issue, in the 4th of king Edward IV. his two sisters became his coheirs, of whom Dorothy, the youngest, marrying Richard Mervin of Fontels, in Wiltshire, he, upon the partition of their inheritance, became in her right possessed of this manor, with that of Baston likewise, and soon after conveyed them to Philip Reynolds and Thomas Tregarthan, in trust, for certain uses; and they, in the 8th year of king Edward IV. alienated them to Richard and Stephen Scoop, from whom, about the latter end of the same reign, they were transmitted by sale to Henry Heydon, esq. of Baconsthorpe, in Norfolk, afterwards knighted; since which these manors have remained in the same owners that the manor of West Wickham has, in his descendants and the Lennard's, but by the marriage of a female heir of the latter, they became the property of John Farnaby, esq. who is the present possessor of both these manors; but the scite of the manor of Baston, with the demesne lands in the adjoining parish of Hayes, have been a long time ago alienated from the manor, and are in other hands, as has been already mentioned before.

HOLWOOD-HOUSE is a seat in this parish, which takes its name from its situation on the hill of that name. In the year 1673 it was the property of Capt. Richard Pearch, who settled it, in 1709, on the marriage of his niece, Elizabeth Whiffin, with Nathaniel Gatton, esq. of Beckenham, in special tail. He left an only son and heir of the same name, whose only surviving daughter and heir, Mary Dippen, left Anne Dippen, her only surviving daughter and heir likewise; who, in 1765, alienated this seat to Peter Bur=

/u Philipott, p. 203. /v Rot. Esch. ejus ann.

44

rell, esq. of Beckenham, and he, in 1766, conveyed it to Wm. Ross, gent. of London, who in 1767, passed it away again to Rob. Burrow, esq. who made great

improvements to it, and resided here till his death. He was descended from Robert Burrow, who was of Longfield-house, in Longfield, in this county; in the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, one of whose descendants, Tho. Burrow, esq. was of Clapham, and bore for his arms, Azure three fleurs de lis ermine. He left three sons, Christopher; Robert, LL. D. and Sir James Burrow of Sterborough castle. Christopher, esq. the eldest son, was of London, and left Robert Burrow, esq. the possessor of this seat, as before mentioned, after whose death it was alienated to the Rt. Hon. William Pitt, second son of William the great Earl of Chatham, who now makes it his country residence, being at this time one of the privy council, first lord of the treasury, and chancellor of the exchequer, constable of Dover-castle and lord-warden of the cinque ports, &c. &c. and prime minister of this kingdom.

The fine woods, the variegated grounds, lately much improved under the direction of Mr. Repton, and the commanding prospects on every side, have ranked this seat in the opinion of all competent judges among the finest situations in this part of the kingdom.

There are no parochial charities.

KESTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar to the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such is in the deanry of Shoreham. The church stands on the southern side of Holwood-hill, nearly in the middle of the parish, it is a small neat building of one isle, and a chancel, having a cupola at the west end, in which hangs one bell.

In the church are the following monuments and inscriptions. Among others, at the west end, on a grave stone, a memorial for Christopher Clarke, A. M. archdeacon of Norwich, prebendary of Ely, and rector of this parish, obt. May 19, 1742, æt. 70. In

45

the isle, a memorial for Alice, sister of the Rev. Arthur Kay, obt. 1761, æt. 44; another for Mr. Dunc. Colchester, obt. 1746, æt. 42. In the great chancel, before the rails, a memorial for Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Francis Lee, gent. of Bagerle-hall, in Chester, ob. 1688, æt. 46; another for Jane, relict of Edward Smith, gent. of London, daughter of Tho. Pyke, late rector of this parish, obt. 1701, æt. 61. On the north side, is a memorial for Mr. Rich. Hetherington, commissary of marines, obt. 1711, æt. 45. On the south side, within the rails, a memorial for Judith and Elizabeth, the wives of Capt. Rich. Perch of Holwood-hill, the former died in 1683, the latter in 1704. In the west window is a shield of arms, being those of the see of Canterbury, impaling or on a bend, azure three quarters of the field between six cross croslets of the second./w

This church, in the reign of king Edward I. was valued at one hundred shillings. By virtue of a commission of enquiry, into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of Chancery, it was returned, that Keistone was a parsonage, having ten acres of glebe-land and an house belonging to it, worth forty pounds per annum, one master Thomas Picke enjoying it./x

It is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty pounds per annum, the yearly tenths of which are thirteen shillings./y

It is a rectory, in the patronage of his grace the arch-bishop of Canterbury.

CHURCH OF KESTON.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Archbishop of Canterbury. Robert de Hegham, in 22 Edw. I./z

William Sterling, buried Dec.

20, 1545.

Edward Smith, 1625.

Nicholas Pearson, 1602, 1637.

Thomas Pike, 1637, ob. Jan. 17,  
1657.

Robert Lowe, obt. Jan. 1659.

..... Wood, 1665.

Edward Taylor, 1679.

..... Medcap, 1680, 1684.

/w See the monum. and inscrip. in this church at large in Reg. Roff. p. 1007.

/x Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456. Parl. Surveys, Lambeth library, vol. xiv.

/y Bacon, Lib. Regis. /z Prynne, p. 599.

46

PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Archbishop of Canterbury. Thomas Chapman, 1684.

George Taylor, ob. Ap. 12, 1704.

Christopher Clarke, A. M. April  
1704, obt. May 19, 1742./a

William Best, D. D. induct. June  
10, 1742.

..... Lamb, 1761, ob. 1774.

James Hodgson, 1774. Present  
rector.

/a Also rector of Hayes, archdeacon of Norwich, and prebendary of Ely.

---  
FARNBOROUGH

ADJOINING to Keston, eastward, lies FARN-BOROUGH, called in the *Textus Roffensis*, FEARN-BERGA. It most probably took its name from the natural disposition of the soil to bear fern, the latter syllable, berge, signifying in old English a little hill; an etymology well suiting the situation of the place. This parish lies on high ground, the soil of it is but thin and poor. The village is situated on the high road from London to Sevenoke, having the church on the south side of it; about a mile north-east from it is Tubbenden. The north-west part of the parish is much covered with coppice wood, among which is a hamlet, called Brasted-green. The fair is held here on September 12, yearly.

The liberty of the duchy of Lancaster claims over this parish, the manor of Farnborough having belonged to that duchy from the first erection of it.

FARNBOROUGH, in the reign of king Henry III. appears to have been one of the fees belonging to Simon de Montfort, the great earl of Leicester, who being slain at the battle of Evesham, in the 49th year of that reign, fighting on the part of the barons, his estates and honours were seized on, and given by the king to his second son, Edmund Plantagenet, earl of

Lancaster, father of Thomas earl of Lancaster, of whom, in the reign of King Edward I. it was held by the eminent family of Grandison, Otho de Grandison then making it the principal seat of his residence./b In the 18th year of king Edward I. he obtained licence to hold a market every week, upon a Tuesday, here; and a fair yearly, on the feast of St. Giles the abbot, Sept. 1; and had at the same time a grant of free warren in all his demesne lands at Farnborough./c

After having had summons to parliament, in the 27th year of that reign, he died, s. p. leaving William de Grandison his brother, his next heir, who had likewise summons to parliament both in that and the succeeding reign of King Edward II. By Sibilla his wife, youngest daughter of John de Tregoz, he had three sons; and a daughter, Agnes, married to John de Northwood. Of the sons, Peter, the eldest, was made a knight banneret, and resided in Herefordshire, being summoned as a baron to parliament, and died without issue, anno 32 King Edward III. leaving his brother, John bishop of Exeter, his heir; and Otho, his third son, resided at Chelsfield./d

In the 18th year of King Edward III. Henry earl of Lancaster was in the possession of this manor, and had then a renewal of the liberties above mentioned, and an additional privilege of holding the fair on the eve and feast of St. Giles, and the eight days following.

After the execution of his brother Thomas, who had been beheaded at Pomfret, in the 15th year of King Edward II. he had been restored to all his titles, being lord of Monmouth, and earl of Lancaster, Leicestershire, Derby, and Lincoln. He died in 1345./e His son Henry succeeded his father in this manor, in whose

/b Philipott, p. 110.

/c Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 17.

/d Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 18.

/e Sandf. Gen. Hist. p. 105, 109.

life time he had been created earl of Derby. After his death, he had the earldoms of Lancaster and Leicestershire, and the stewardship of England; anno 23d King Edward III. he was created earl of Lincoln; and at a parliament held at Westminster, in the 25th year of that reign, duke of Lancaster. He died of the plague, in the 35th year of that reign, leaving by Isabell his wife, daughter of Henry lord Beaumont, two daughters his heirs, of whom Maud, the elder, married William, the fifth of that name, duke of Bavaria, &c. but dying without issue, Blanch, her younger sister, became her heir, being coheir of her father, and sole heir of her sister, she was fourteen years old at her father's death, having been married before to John of Gaunt, then earl of Richmond, fourth son of King Edward III./f who, anno 36 King Edward III. had a grant of the dukedom of Lancaster, and obtained the royalties of it; the king, his father, advancing the county of Lancaster into a palatinate for his benefit, and his possessions, in whatever county they were

situated, were afterwards esteemed as part of the duchy of Lancaster, and were under the jurisdiction of the court of that duchy. He died anno 22 Richard II. leaving his estates and honours to his son, Henry of Bolingbroke, at that time in banishment, who was possessed of both the dukedoms of Hereford and Lancaster, and having deposed king Richard II. he afterwards obtained the crown, taking upon himself the title of Henry IV. He conferred the honour of duke of Lancaster upon Henry his son, (afterwards king Henry V.) and that he might entail it upon him and his heirs for ever, dissevered it from the crown of England, and had it so confirmed by parliament. Afterwards king Henry V. by act of parliament, annexed a very great estate to this duchy, which had come to him in right of his mother, who was the daughter and

/f Sandf. Gen. Hist. p. 243.

49

coheir of Humphry Bohun, earl of Hereford. After which king Edward IV. in the 1st year of his reign, when he had attainted king Henry VI. in parliament, of high treason, annexed it to the crown, i. e. to him and his heirs, kings of England. King Henry VII. broke into this entail, by an act in his 1st year, and the duchy of Lancaster afterwards followed the succession of the crown, and as such was in the possession of king Charles I. at his death in 1648.

After which the powers then in being seized on the royal estates, and the same year passed an ordinance, to vest them (among which the duchy of Lancaster was particularly included) in trustees, in order for their being sold, to supply the necessities of the state. Accordingly the manor of Farnborough, commonly called the duchy court of Farnborough, belonging to the revenue of the duchy of Lancaster, part of the late king's possessions, was, in 1652, surveyed, and returned –

THAT there belonged to it several chief rents or common fines, payable for lands in Farnborough, West Wickham, Paul's Cray, and Chelsfield, and from several cottages (therein particularly mentioned) holding by copy of court roll, and at the will of the lord; that there was a court-leet and a three-week court, belonging to the liberty, with fines, issues, &c. and the profits of the fair held at Farnborough on the 1st of September yearly.

That the court leets were usually kept at Farnborough twice in a year, and the three-week court had been usually held at the same place, but had been discontinued nine or ten years. The liberties of the court extended to the townships of Farnborough, Chelsfield, West Wickham, Paul's Cray, and Caiston. At the three-week court, all actions under forty shillings were tried and determined. That Lewis, keeper of the courts, went over to the king at Oxford, and carried all the rolls, books, &c. of the court with him, and the parliament were forced to hold and keep a

50

court of survey by a jury for the better discovery thereof./g

At the restoration of king Charles II. in 1660, this manor again returned to the crown, and continued, among the revenues of it under the jurisdiction of the duchy court of Lancaster, without any grant being made of it till 1766, when the Hon. Thomas Walpole obtained a grant of it, under the seal of the duchy court, the term of which was renewed in 1787, for thirty-one years, to James Bond, esq. who, in 1788, passed away his interest in it to Thomas Cope, esq. of Bexley, who now possesses it.

FARNBOROUGH-HALL is an estate here, which appears to have been held by Simon de Chelesfield of Simon de Montfort, earl of Leicester, in the reign of king Henry III.

John Flemming possessed it in the reign of king Edward I. whose heirs paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III. as one knight's fee in Farnborough.

This estate went soon afterwards, by purchase, to Petley, and again to Peche, in a short time. From him it descended down to Sir John Peche, knight-banneret, of Lullingstone, who dying without issue, Elizabeth his sister became his heir, and her husband, John Hart, esq. of the Middle Temple, became in her right entitled to it; and in his descendants it continued till Percival Hart, esq. of Lullingstone, leaving an only daughter and heir, Anne, she carried it in marriage to her second husband, Sir Tho. Dyke, bart. of Horeham, in Sussex, and their only son, Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. of Lullingstone, is the present possessor of Farnborough-hall, and the estate belonging to it.

TUBBENDEN'S is an antient seat in this parish the demesnes of which lie partly in this parish, and partly in that of Orpington.

/g Camb. Brit. p. 981. Cott. Rec. p. 392, 541, 693. Parl. Surveys, Augmen. Off. /h Philipott, p. 110.

51

In the 21st year of the reign of king Edward I. it was in the possession of owners of the same name; for by a deed of that year it appears, that Gilbert Saundre of Crofton, in Orpington, demised several parcels of land to John de Tubbenden of Ferneborough, and his sons./i

After this family was extinct here, the Belknaps were owners of this place; of whom Sir Edward Belknap, son of Sir Henry, and privy-counsellor to king Henry VII. and VIII. dying without issue, his four sisters became his coheirs; of whom Alice, marrying Sir Wm. Shelley, justice of the common-pleas, of Mitchel-grove, in Sussex, he, on the division of her inheritance, became, in her right, entitled to this estate. He soon afterwards alienated it to Posier; who, after some years, sold it to Dalton, descended from those of that name in Yorkshire, in which name it continued till Anne Dalton carried it in marriage to Mr. Aunsell Becket, whose son, Mr. Matthew Becket, upon his decease, bequeathed it by will to Mr. John Winterborn of London, who was the son of Cuthbert Winterborn of Burnshall, in Yorkshire, in which county his family had been upwards of one hundred

years, and bore for their arms, Argent, three piles sa=ble. He soon after the year 1652, passed it away by sale to William Gee, esq. of Bishop's Burton, in York=shire,/k who conveyed it to Thomas Brome, esq. made a sergeant-at-law in the year 1660, whose arms are in one of the windows of Gray's-inn hall, viz. Azure, a dexter hand, couped at the wrist, and extended in pale ar=gent, with a crescent, for difference; and underneath, his name and addition of title./l He resided at Tub=benden's, and dying in 1673, was buried in this church. His grandson, Col. John Brome, who resided here, married Elizabeth, daughter and only child of George Berkeley, prebendary of Westminster, second son of George earl of Berkeley, and had by her several chil=

/i Philipott, p. 260. /k Ibid. /l Dugd. Orig. p. 303.

52

dren. He died in 1747, being succeeded in the inhe=ritance of his estates by his two surviving daughters; one of whom married ..... Clarke, M. D. and the other Mr. John Hamond, surgeon, at Chatham, and he, in her right, became intitled to Tubbenden's, of which he died possessed in 1774, leaving two daugh=ters his coheirs, one of whom married ..... Brown, and the other James Primrose Maxwell, esq. of Lynn, in Dorsetshire, the latter of whom, in his wife's right, is become the present proprietor of it.

#### CHARITIES.

GEORGE DALTON by will, in 1566, gave 3s. 4d. annually to the poor for ever, to be distributed on the next Sunday after the feast of St. Peter, charged on the Tubbenden estate, vested in the church-wardens, and the annual produce of the above sum.

STEPHEN BRAZIER by his will, left a tenement, garden, and orchard, in this parish, the profits to be equally divided between the poor of this parish, and of Chelsfield for ever, and vested it in five feoffees for that purpose.

FARNBOROUGH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester and deanry of Dartford. The church, which stands at the south-east end of the village, is dedicated to St. Giles the abbot.

On Dec. 26, 1639, it was so rent and torn by a violent storm of wind, that the inhabitants were forced to take it down and rebuild it, as appears by a brief granted for that purpose in the 17th year of king Charles I.

In this church, among others, are the following monuments and inscriptions. In the body, two grave stones for Eliz. Wyatt and Francis, son of Mr. Rich. Wyatt, who both died young. In the great chancel, a memorial for Elizabeth, wife of John Brome, esq. of this parish, ob. 1730, æt. 38, leaving five children; she was daughter and only child of George Berkeley, prebendary of Westminster, second son of George earl of Berkeley, and also for John Brome, esq. who died in 1747, æt. 53; above a shield of arms, being quarterly, of two coats, first and fourth, a dexter hand, couped at the wrist, and extended in pale; second and third, er=mine on a cross quarter pierced four per de molines, impaling Berkeley. On the north side of the altar is an elegant mural mo=

53

nument and inscription for T. Brome, esq. sergeant, ob. 1673, æt. 68; beneath, on a tablet, is an inscription, shewing that the above monument was put up by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir Walter Mansel, knt. and bart. on the top of the monument, two shields, the first Brome, the second Mansell, a chevron between threee maunches. Within the alter rails, an inscription for Sergeant Brome above mentioned, and Margaret his second wife, by whom he had six children. At top, the arms of Brome, impaling a lion rampant. A monument for Wm. Brome, esq. late of Tap=pendence, in this parish, ob. 1730, æt. 67./m

This church is only a chapel to the adjoining parish of Chelsfield, the rector of which is instituted to the rectory of Chelsfield, with the chapel of Farnborough annexed.

By virtue of a commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, out of chancery, it was re=turned, that Farnborough had been a chapel of ease to Chelsfield, and was already fitly divided; it had only one acre of land, and an old house, belonging to it, the parsonage being worth, at most, thirty pounds per annum, one master John Montagu the minister./n

John King, rector of the parish church of Cheles=field, with the chapel of Farnberg annexed, brought his suit in the consistory court of the bishop, against John Bertone, alias Botelere, of Farnberg, possessor of Diceris-croft in Farnberg, for withholding an annual spiritual pension due from the profits of it to the rector of Chelesfield, in right of his church, which had always been paid beyond the memory of man, excepting by him, who neither appearing nor making any defence, the official passed a definitive sentence in favour of the rector./o

/m See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 953.

/n Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib. vol. xiv.

/o Reg. Roff. p. 355.

54

- - -

#### DOWNE.

SOUTH-WESTWARD from Farnborough lies Downe, which takes its name from its high situation; the word Dune, in Saxon, bearing that signification.

This parish is but small; it is situated among the hills on high ground, the soil is poor, being clay mixed with chalk. It extends beyond Northend and High-elms, almost to the foot of Farnborough-hill, on the Sevenoke-road. The village is in the southern part of it; Petley's-place, situated within it, which though now only a farm-house, was formerly one of the seats of the antient family of Petley. Their arms, with different quarterings, still remain in the windows of it. It is now the property of Richard Gee Carew, esq. of Orpington.

Near the church is the mansion, formerly called TROWMER'S, now belonging to Mr. Omer, and in the centre of the village one called THE GREAT HOUSE, which formerly belonged to George Butler, esq. who resided here, and died possessed of it in 1783, after which it was purchased by Dr. John Thomas, late bishop of Rochester, who died in 1793,

leaving his widow, lady Yates, surviving; whose daughter, by her first husband, Sir Joseph Yates, one of the judges of the King's-bench, having married Cholmondeley Dering, esq. he now resides in it. The church stands on the east side of the village, and about a quarter of a mile southward from it Downe-hall, farther than which there is nothing remarkable in this parish.

This parish is within the manor of Great Orpington, to which it is an appendage, which manor is now in the possession of Sir John Dixon Dyke, of Lullingstone, bart.

55

The MANOR OF DOWNE-COURT, with the scite of it, in the reigns of king Edward I. and II. was the property and residence of Richard de Downe, who lies buried, with his wife Margery, in the chancel of this church, but without any inscription on his grave stone, the brass having been torn from it. This family was extinct here before the middle of the next reign of king Edward III. when the Petle's of Trowmer, in this parish, were become lords of it. John Petle of Trowmer, esq. died possessed of it in the 18th year of king Richard II. in whose descendants this manor continued down to John Petley, esq. (for so the name began now to be spelt) who lived in the reign of king Henry VIII. He died without male issue, leaving by Christiana his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Philipott, four daughters his coheirs; John Petle, the ancestor of this family, was settled at Downe, in the reign of king Henry III. and bore for his arms, Argent, two bends ingrailed, a canton sable. His son, Richard, left two sons, of whom John, the eldest, was possessor of Downe manor, in the reign of king Richard II. as above mentioned; and Richard left two sons, John, ancestor to those of Halsted, now extinct, and William, ancestor to those of this name seated at Filston, in Shoreham, now likewise extinct, and those of Riverhead, in Sevenoke, now remaining there. John Petle, eldest son of Richard, married Juliana, daughter and heir of William Troumer of Downe, by whom he had Thomas Petle, who died in the 9th year of king Henry V. and lies buried with Isabel his wife, in this church. His son, John Petle, married Alice, daughter and coheir of James Brampston, by whom he had John Petley, who lived in the time of king Henry VIII. and left four daughters his coheirs, as above mentioned./p Of whom Agnes, the eldest, was married to John Manning, esq. of Downe, who, on the division of their inheritance, became en-

/p Pedigree of Petley, attested by Sir William Segar, &c.

56

titled to it./q He was descended from John Manning, who was of Cowdham, and died in the 14th year of king Henry IV. leaving John Manning, his son, who by Juliana, daughter and heir of Richard Brockhill, had Hugh Manning of St. Mary Cray, who married the daughter of Sir William Brandon, by whom he had two sons, of whom Richard, the youngest, settled at St. Mary Cray, where his posterity continued

till within these few years; and John Manning, the eldest, married Agnes Petley, as above mentioned./r  
He died possessed of it in the 35th year of king Henry VIII. and lies buried with Agnes his wife in this church. His descendant, Peter Manning, esq. of Trowmer, in the reign of king James I. alienated this manor to Palmer, and in 1657 it was in the possession of John Palmer, whose son and heir, Michael Palmer, in 1662, sold it to Mr. Richard Glover, from whom it descended to Mr. Richard Glover, merchant of London, whose daughter marrying James Gladhill Vernon, esq. intitled him to the possession of it, and he is the present owner of it.

But the seat itself, formerly called DOWNE-COURT, but since DOWNE-HALL, which passed, together with the manor, to John Manning, in right of his wife Agnes, one of the daughters and coheirs of John Petley, as before mentioned, was, by his son, Henry Manning, esq. of Greenwich, separated from the manor, and sold by him to Sir Francis Carew of Beddington, in Surry, who some time afterwards alienated it to Mr. Ellis of London; from whom it passed by sale, in the reign of king Charles I. to Col. Richard Sandys, third son of Sir Edwyn Sandys of Norborne; the second son of Dr. Edwyn Sandys, archbishop of York, by Cicely, daughter of Thomas Wilsford of Cranbrooke. Henry Sandys, the eldest son of Richard above mentioned, by Hester his wife, daugh-

/q Philipott, p. 133.

/r Visitation of the Co. Kent, 1619, Pedigree, Manning.

57

ter of Edwin Aucher, esq. of Wilshorough, was of Downe-court, and married Catherine, widow of Sir John Kay, bart. and daughter of Sir William St. Quintin, bart. by whom he had Jordan Sandys, esq. who passed away Downe-court, by sale, to Rich. Oldner, esq. of Exton; and he a few years ago alienated it to Thomas Omer, esq. who left it by will to his grandson, Thomas Omer, esq. the present owner of it.

#### CHARITY.

RICHARD STEVENS by will, in 1647, gave for the use of the indigent poor, an annuity of 40s. out of land, now vested in earl Stanhope, and of the same annual produce.

DOWNE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar of the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such is in the deanry of Shoreham. The church is small, consisting of only one isle and a chancel, having a spire steeple, at the west end, in which are three bells.

In it, among other monuments and inscriptions, are the following. In the isle, a grave stone and inscription for Anne, wife of Roger Know, dec. obt. 1702, æt. 76, and for Anne, wife of Henry Powle, their daughter, ob. 1693, æt. 29. On the north side, a mural monument for Mr. Rob Durling, gent. late attorney in Gray's-inn, ob. 1760, æt. 38; another for Mr. Tho. Know of this parish, ob. 1728, æt. 70; he married Mary, daughter of Jos. Marsh, citizen of London, who died in 1723, æt. 62; at the top are these arms, viz. Argent on a bend ingrailed gules, three trefoils slipped of the field, impaling gules, a horse's head couped

argent between three cross crosettes fitchee of the second. Near the pulpit, on a grave stone, a brass plate with the figure of a man and woman, and inscription in black letter, for Tho. Petle, and Isabella his wife, the escutcheon of arms torn off. In the great chancel, on the south side of the altar, a grave stone and brass plate, with inscription in black letter for Jn. Manning and Agnes his wife, daughter and coheir of John Petle of Trowmer; he died in 1543; above a shield of arms, being a cross flory between four cinquefoils impaling two bends ingrailed and a canton. On the south side, a grave stone and memorial for Edw. Manning, once of prince Charles' household, youngest son of Peter Manning, esq. of Trowmer, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and coheir of Jacob Verzelini, lord of the manor of Downe, obt. 1622, æt. 20; above the arms of Manning, on the south side, a grave stone and brass, having the figure of a man and woman, the inscription gone, but

58

preserved in Weever, being for John Petle and Christian his wife, and John Petle and Alice, and Tho. Philipott, &c. another like with the figures of a man and woman, and inscription for Jacob Verzelini, esq. born in Venice, and Elizabeth his wife, born in Antwerp, of the antient houses of Vanburen and Mace, who lived in matrimony forty-nine years; he died in 1606; æt. 84; she died in 1607, æt. 74; beneath are the figures of six sons and three daughters, above them two shields of arms in brass, first coat, two battle axes in saltier, in chief a helmet; second coat, quarterly first and fourth, three frame saws; second and third, two cinquefoils, a canton charged with an hour glass; beneath another shield, Verzelini impaling as above. On the north side, within the rails, a grave stone with a brass plate and inscription for John Bederenden, citizen and chamberlain of London, obt. 1445. In the east window are several coats of arms of Manning, Paton, Verzelini, as before described, and others. In the north window of the chancel are the arms of Petley and the relatives of that family. In the south window of the chancel, above the pulpit, a shield, being or a bend ermine. In the first window, on the north side of the body of the church, is a large rose, finely coloured in glass, parted per pale argent and gules; within a glory, surmounted with a crown, for the union of the houses of York and Lancaster./s

This church is esteemed as a chapel to the church of Hayes, the rectors of which are now instituted to the rectory of Hayes, with the chapel of Downe annexed.

The rector of Orpington, who is patron of the church of Hayes, possesses the parsonage of Downe, in right of his rectory, with which it is from time to time leased out by him.

By virtue of a commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, out of the court of chancery, it was returned, that this parsonage was in one lease with that of Orpington, to one Mr. Robinson, and was worth thirty-four pounds per annum; that the vicarage of this parish was worth twenty pounds per annum, belonging to master King, who was a painful honest minister, and kept the school here./t

This chapel is not in charge in the king's books.

/s See an account at large of the monuments and memorials in this church, in Reg. Roff. p. 947.

/t Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib.

59

The lessee of the parsonage of Orpington is bound

by his lease to pay 13l. 6s. 8d. yearly to the curates of Downe, which covenant was first inserted in the lease of it, granted by the rector in 1687, and confirmed by the archbishop, and dean and chapter, the same year./u

CHAPEL OF DOWNE.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. CURATES.

Rector of Orpington      Oliver Bagthwaite, obt. Sep. 1,  
1585.  
..... King, in 1650.  
John Bradshaw, May 7, 1654.  
..... Wood, 1665.  
Philip Jones, 1672.  
James Farier, 1688, resigned  
1689./w  
John Dinham, A. M. Feb. 13,  
1689.  
Robert Davidson, A. M. May 6,  
1693, resigned 1696./x  
Christopher Clarke, A. M. Mar. 7,  
1696, resigned 1714./y  
Thomas Walwyn, A. M. 1714,  
obt. 1747./z  
Walter Walker Ward, D. D.  
1747, obt. 1755./a  
Wm. Farquar, 1755, obt. Mar.  
1774./a  
Francis Fawkes, A. M. April  
1774, obt. 1777./b  
John Browne, Oct. 1777, obt.  
1788./c  
Henry Fly, A. M. 1788. Present  
curate.

/u See Ducarel's Rep. p. 193.

/w He was one of the fellows of Magdalen college, in Oxford, and deprived by king James II. he was minister of this chapel for one year, when he was again restored to his fellowship.

/x He was instituted to the rectory of Hayes in 1696, where he lies buried.

/y He was presented to the rectory of Hayes in 1714, being also rector of Keston, archdeacon of Norwich, and prebendary of Ely.

/z He had been vicar of Cowdham, and was afterwards presented to Hayes.

/a Also rectors of Hayes.

/b And rector of Hayes. He was before vicar of St. Mary Cray.

/c See Nockholt.

- - -

COWDHAM

LIES the adjoining parish to Downe, south-eastward. The name of it is variously spelt in antient deeds and writings, as Codeham, Cudham, and Coldham; but it is now generally spelt and called Cudham.

This parish lies in general on high ground and very

hilly; the soil is but indifferent, being for the most part strong and stiff, mixed with chalk. It is very extensive, being bounded by no less than eleven parishes, and contains upwards of six thousand acres of land. It is but narrow from east to west, towards the latter it reaches as far as Skid-hill, on the confines of Surry; from north to south, it is near four miles in length. The village having the church within it, is situated in the eastern part of it, not more than one hundred rods from the parish of Chelsfield, and about a mile and a quarter from the high road from Farnborough to Sevenoake; the spire of it is a conspicuous object to all the country on the northern side of it. The high road from Bromley to Westerham crosses the western part of the parish, southward; near which are the estates of Luxsted, Southstreet, Cowdham-lodge and Apperfield; the southern side of Leaves-green, (the remainder of which is in Keston) is within this parish, where there is an old mansion, called Old Court or Old House, which was for many generations, and till lately, the residence of the Braziers; it is now called Leaves-green farm, and belongs to the widow of George Butler, esq. There is much coppice wood dispersed over the several parts of it.

COWDHAM was given by William the Conqueror to his half-brother Odo, bishop of Baieux; of whom it was held by Gilbert Maminot, as appears by the survey of Domesday, in which it is entered under the general title of the bishop of Baieux's lands as follows:

61

Gilbert Maminot holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Codeham. It was taxed at 4 sulings. The arable land is 10 carucates. In demesne there are 4, and 15 villeins, with 6 borderers having 6 carucates. There is a church, and 11 servants, and 2 mills of 14 shillings and 2 pence value. Wood for the pannage of 40 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 20 pounds, and afterwards 16 ponnds, and now 24 pounds.

On the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, in the 19th year of that reign, about four years after the taking of Domesday, Cowdham was seized into the king's hands, among the rest of the bishop's estates. This place afterwards continued in the possession of Gilbert Maminot before mentioned, who then became the king's immediate tenant for it, and appears to have held it in the 20th year of that reign, as two knights fees, parcel of the twenty-four, which made up the barony of Maminot, of which Deptford was the head or chief, and were held of the king, as of his castle of Dover, in capite by barony, the tenant of Cowdham being bound, by the tenure of them, to maintain a certain number of soldiers continually for the defence of that castle.

His great grandson, Wakelin de Maminot, died without issue in the 3d year of king Richard I. leaving his sister, Alice, his coheir; who brought this place, with much other inheritance, to her husband, Geoffry, second son of William de Say; he possessed this place in her right, and dying about the 16th year of king John, was succeeded by Geoffry his son, who was one of the *Recognitores Magnæ Assisæ*, in the 2d year of the

same reign, at the latter end of which he joined the confederate barons, and his lands were seized into the king's hands; after whose death they were however restored to him. He died in Gascoigne in the 14th year of king Henry III. leaving by Alice his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of John de Casyne, or Cheney, one son, William de Say, who succeeded him in this manor. In the 44th year of that reign he was

62

constituted governor of Rochester castle, and died in the 56th year of it, being then possessed of this manor held of the king in capite by barony./d

William de Say, his son, also died possessed of it in the 23d year of king Edward I. leaving Geoffry, his son and heir; the wardship of whom was obtained by William de Leyborne, whose daughter, Idonea, he afterwards married. In the 7th year of king Edward II. he was summoned to parliament, but in the 15th of that reign he died, being then possessed of this manor, held in capite, as parcel of the barony of Maminot, and leaving by Idonea his wife, who survived him, Geoffry, his son and heir,/e who making proof of his age in the 19th of Edward II. had possession granted of his lands, and was first summoned to parliament in the first year of king Edward III. after which, in the 8th year of that reign, he had a view of frank-pledge here, having that year obtained the king's charter for free-warren in all his demesne lands within this lordship of Cowdham, among others, with view of frank-pledge and divers other privileges. In the 10th year of Edward III. he was constituted admiral of all the king's fleet, from the river of Thames westward; in which service, besides himself, then a banneret, he had of his retinue four knights, twenty men at arms, and three archers./f In the 27th year of that reign he was again summoned to parliament, and next year he is named, by the title of Geoffry de Saye, lord of Codham, among the peers of the realm./g He died in the 33d year of that reign, leaving by Maud his wife, daughter of Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, William de Say, his son and heir,/h and three daughters who will be farther mentioned.

/d Philipott, p. 123. Rot. Esch. ejus an. No. 37. pt. 12.

/e Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 511. Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

/f In Magn. Rot. de an. 29 Edw. III. Rot. Car. No. 8, ejus an.

/g Cott. Records, p. 83. Rym. Foed. vol. v. p. 798.

/h Rot. Esch. ejus an. and Inquis. capt. 14 Julii eod. anno.

63

William de Say, the son, received summons to parliament in the 37th year of king Edward III. and died in the 49th of that reign, as appears by the inquisition then taken; by which he was found to die possessed of this manor, holden in capite by knights service, but how much was uncertain. He left John his son and heir, who died in ward to the king, in the 6th year of king Richard II. and a daughter Elizabeth, who, upon her brother's death, became his heir, and possessed this manor. She married first John de Fallesley, afterwards knighted, who had possession granted of the lands of her inheritance; but he dying, without issue by her soon

after, she married Sir William Heron, who possessed the manor of Codham, and was lord Say in her right./i In the 19th year of Richard II. he, together with her by the name of Elizabeth lady Say, levied a fine of it to the use of them and the heirs male of their bodies, remainder to her own right heirs; four years after which she died, s. p. upon which this manor came to Sir William Heron in her right, and he died possessed of it in the 6th year of king Henry IV. s. p. likewise, all which was found by inquisition then taken, and farther, that this manor was held in capite, and that there were sixty-six acres of land at Bedrede and land in North and South Berdenne, &c. and that there was a park there, and two leets in a year, and divers rents of assize, and that after Sir William Heron's death, who possessed that manor for his life, it came by the above fine to her heirs, viz. Sir William de Clinton, grandson of Idonea, eldest sister of William de Say last mentioned; Mary, wife of Otho de Worthington, and Matilda her sister, daughters of Thomas de Aldon and Elizabeth his wife, the next sister of the said William and Roger de Fiennes, grandson of William de Fiennes and Joane his wife, the third sister of the said William de Say. On the partition of their inheritance this manor was allotted to Roger de Fiennes, who accordingly took possession

/i Cott. Rec. p. 95, 99, 104, 115. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 512.

64

of it. He was descended from that John de Fiennes, who was one of the chief favourites of William the Conqueror, who made him constable of Dover-castle, and warden of the cinque ports. Roger de Fienes before mentioned, bore for his arms, Azure, three lions rampant or. He obtained licence of king Henry VI. to embattle his mansion at Hurstmonceaux, in Sussex, which he rebuilt in a most magnificent manner, and greatly enlarged his park there./k He left two sons, Richard and Robert, the former of whom was afterwards knighted, and having married Joane, one of the daughters, and at length sole heir of Sir Thomas Dacre, eldest son and heir of Thomas Dacre lord Dacre, he was, on that account, in the 37th year of king Henry VI. by letters patent, declared lord Dacre, and a baron of this realm, and to enjoy all pre-eminence belonging to that degree, and the next year he had summons to parliament accordingly./l

Sir Thomas Dacre before mentioned (whose daughter Joane married Sir Richard Fiennes) died in his father's life time, leaving two brothers, Ranulph, who died without issue, and Humphry Dacre, both of whom were successively, as heirs male of the family, stiled lords Dacre, Sir Humphry Dacre and his descendants being commonly called Lords Dacre of the North; and Fiennes, and his posterity, Lords Dacre of the South.

From the time of Sir Edward Fienes's being created lord Dacre as before mentioned, great disputes had arisen between him and his lady Joane, on the one part, and Sir Humphry Dacre, the uncle and heir male, on the other, concerning the lordships, manors, and castles, which belonged to the late lord Dacre. At length, they mutually agreed to leave all their differ-

ences to the decision of king Edward IV. who, in the 13th year of his reign, heard the cause, laid before him,

/k Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 23, 243. Coll. Peer. last edit. vol. vi. p. 228.

/l Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 23, 244. Cott. Record. p. 660.

65

and the lords assembled in parliament, and a provision was therein made for Sir Richard Fienes, and Joane his wife, and the heirs of the said Joane, and sundry entailts of manors, as well to the said lord Dacre of the North, the heir male, as to Fennys the heir general, were therein confirmed; wherein was also noted a pedigree for the line of lord Dacre;/m and the same place and precedence in parliament that her grandfather had enjoyed, were confirmed to Sir Richard and the lady Joane his wife, and the heirs of her body; together with divers manors and castles in dispute; but Gillesland, in Cumberland, the antient and capital seat of the Vaux's, and of all the barons their descendants, was adjudged probably on account of some late entail, with several other considerable estates, to Sir Humphry Dacre, who at the same time was created a baron, with place next below Sir Robert Fienes, and for distinction, stiled, Lord Dacre of Gillesland, or more commonly of the North, as the other was of the South; the former bearing for their arms, Gules, three escallops argent. To return now to Sir Richard Fiennes lord Dacre, who in the 13th year of king Henry VI. was made constable of the tower of London, and having been summoned to parliament by the title of lord Dacre, died in the 1st year of king Richard III. and was buried at Hurstmonceaux, being possessed at the time of his death, as appears by several inquisitions, of the manor of Codham, with its appurtenances, held in capite. He left Thomas his grandson, his next heir, and one daughter, Elizabeth, married to John lord Clinton and Saye. Which Thomas Fienes, lord Dacre of the South, was made knight of the Bath, and having been summoned to parliament in the 11th of king Henry VII. he died in the 25th year of king Henry VIII. possessed of this manor,/n and was buried in the church of Hurstmonceaux.

/m Cott. Records, p. 691.

/n Inquis. post mort. capt. ap. Cantuar, Jan. 9, eod. anno.

66

He left Sir Thomas Fynes, lord Dacre, his grandson, and heir apparent, who came to an untimely end; for going to chase the deer in Sir Nicholas Pelham's park, at Laughton, in Sussex, with several other persons, a fray ensued between them who went out with him and the park keepers, in which one of the latter was wounded, and died soon after; and though he was not present, but in another part of the park (for they had separated themselves, at their first coming there into different parties) yet he was found guilty of the murder, and suffered death for it accordingly, in the 33d year of king Henry VIII. being something more than twenty-four years of age./o

Historians agree, that there never was more reason for tempering the rigour of the law with mercy than

in this case; especially, as before this unfortunate accident, he was esteemed a young nobleman of a most hopeful and promising disposition; but it was his estate that caused his destruction, the courtiers exasperating the king against him, who was of himself too prone to severity./p>

He left one son, Gregory, and a daughter, Margaret, who were restored in blood and honours by act of parliament, in the first year of queen Elizabeth.

Gregory Fynes, lord Dacre before mentioned, who bore for his arms those of Fynes, quartering those of Dacre of the North, and of Fitzhugh, married Anne, sister of Thomas lord Buckhurst, but dying without issue, anno 36 queen Elizabeth,/q Margaret, his sister, became his sole heir. He had, in the 13th year of that reign, settled among other premises, the manor of Cowdham, after his own death, and failure of issue, on her, who was then married to Sampson Lennard, esq. of Chevening, and the heirs of her body; and after

/o The above account is an instance, among many others, of the different spelling of the same name at one and the same time.

/p Dug. Bar. vol. ii. p. 244. Coll. Peer. vol. vi. p. 524, last edit.

/q This account is taken from papers communicated by the late Thomas Lennard, lord Dacre.

67

his death, anno 39 Elizabeth, possession was granted to her of this manor; and on her making claim to the barony of Dacre, it was, in the 2d year of James I. adjudged to her and the heirs of her body, with pre-cedency, as her ancestors had enjoyed it. She died in the 9th year of king James I. possessed of this manor, as was found by inquisition, and that Henry lord Dacre was her son and heir, who died in the 14th year of the same reign; on which it descended to Richard Lennard, lord Dacre,/r his eldest son, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Arthur Throgmorton, by whom he had two sons, Francis Lennard, and Thomas, who afterwards died without issue. He afterwards married Dorothy, daughter of Dudley lord North (who survived him, and died in 1698) by whom he had one son, Richard, who took the name of Barrett; from whom Thomas Lennard, late lord Dacre, was, on the father's side, lineally descended, as he was from Francis lord Dacre, by his mother. He left likewise a daughter, Catharine, and died in the 6th of king Charles I. possessed of this manor; on which all his lands and hereditaments in Cowdham, (except the rents of assize of the manor, which had been settled by his father in jointure on Dorothy his second wife) descended to Francis Lennard, lord Dacre, his eldest son by his first wife./s He married Elizabeth, sister and coheir of Paul viscount Banning, by whom he had three sons, Thomas his successor, Francis, who died without issue, and Henry, who died in 1703, and left three daughters. Fienes lord Dacre, dying in 1662, was buried at Chevening, having by his will given all his lands to his son Thomas, in tail male, and leaving the possession of his lands in Cowdham in jointure to Elizabeth his wife, who was afterwards, in 1680, created countess of Shepey for her life, the before mentioned rents of assize being still in the possession of Dorothy, the dowager lady Dacre.

/r Inquis. post mort.  
/s Inquisition in the 6th year of king Charles I.

68

Elizabeth countess of Shepey died in 1686, upon which Thomas lord Dacre, her eldest son, (who had been created earl of Sussex by king Charles II. in his 26th year) solely enjoyed her jointure lands in Cowdham. He married the lady Anne Palmer, alias Fitzroy, daughter of Barbara, countess of Castlemain, afterwards duchess of Cleveland, and acknowledged by king Charles II. as his natural daughter.

Dorothy lady Dacre, dying in 1698, the earl of Sussex took possession of the rents of assize of the manor of Cowdham, which she held in jointure; and in 1707, the earl and his lady conveyed the manor of Cowdham, the rents of assize, and a messuage and lands belonging to it, to Thomas Streatfield, esq. But the year before this conveyance, Margaret, Anne, and Catherine, the infant, daughters and coheirs of Henry Lennard, who was the youngest of the three sons and coheirs in gavelkind to Francis and Richard, lords Dacre, by their guardian, laid claim to the moiety of this manor, and the lands belonging to it, so sold by the earl; and also the lands in Cowdham unsold, and still remaining in his possession. For, that Francis Lennard, the earl's other brother, being dead without issue, one moiety only of the above manor and lands descended to the earl of Sussex, and the other moiety to Henry Lennard, their father, as heirs in gavelkind to Francis and Richard, lords Dacre, as before mentioned. But the earl of Sussex, in a trial at the Queen's-bench bar, and on a full evidence, proved, that the premises never were of the nature of gavelkind, but had been always held of the king in capite by knights service, obtained a full verdict in his favour. From Thomas Streatfield, esq. before mentioned, this manor has descended to his grandson, Thomas Streatfield, esq. of Sevenoke, and he is the present possessor of it.

The MANOR OF APPULDREFIELD, called also anciently the manor of Appuldre, and now, by contraction of the former name, Apperfield, lies about two miles south-westward from Cowdham church.

69

It was anciently parcel of the lands which made up the two knights fees in Cowdham, part of the barony of Maminot, which has been fully mentioned before, as having been assigned by William the Conqueror to Gilbert Maminot, being held of the king, as of the castle of Dover, in capite, by barony.

From him the fee of this manor descended to Alice, sister and coheir of Wakelin Maminot, who carried it in marriage to Geoffry de Say; of which family of Say it was held in the reign of king Henry III. by one of the eminent family of Apuldrefeld, who bore for their arms, sable, a cross voided, or, and most probably took their name from this place, and then again fixed it on others in this county, in which they afterwards seated themselves.

Henry de Apuldrefeld, in the 38th year of king Henry III. obtained a fair and market to his manor of Apuldrefeld;/t and in the book of knights fees, taken

in the reign of king Edward I. and now remaining in the hands of the king's remembrancer in the exchequer, it is mentioned to be then held by him as one knight's fee, of William de Say.

In the 11th year of king Edward II. John de Insula had a charter of free-warren granted to his manor of Apuldrefeld; which was renewed to Stephen de Ashway, in the 38th year of king Edward III. who had a free chapel annexed to it. In the 20th year of that reign, Stephen de Ashway, and his coparceners, paid aid for this manor, as one knight's fee, which Henry de Apuldrefeld before held in Codeham of Geoffry de Say, being then held of the king as of the honor of Say, and performing ward to Dover castle.

It appears by the patent-rolls in the tower, of the 46th year of the above reign, that the king, by his writ that year, granted to John Atte-Welle, and Robert William, licence to assign rent of the value of four

/t Philipott, p. 123.

70

marcs, out of tenements, called La-rye, in Otteford, to Adam Flemynge, the chaplain celebrating divine service in the chapel of Apuldreselde, to hold to him and his successors celebrating divine service there./u

This manor continued in the name of Ashway for many generations, till at last it became, by purchase, the estate of Denny; and Thomas Denny, of Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, descended from John Denny, esq. who served king Henry V. in his wars in France, and bore for his arms, Gules, a saltier argent, between two crosses pattee, was possessed of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. and left the inheritance of it to the two eldest of his sons; John Denny, who settled in Norfolk; and Sir Anthony Denny, of Cheshunt, groom of the stole to king Henry VIII. and privy counsellor. They passed it away by sale to George Dacre, esq. and in the 35th year of king Henry VIII. an act passed for the assurance of this manor of Apperfield, and other lands, of the inheritance of John Denny and Anthony Denny, unto George Dacre, who was descended from Henry Dacre, of Malfield, in Staffordshire, alderman of London, and bore for his arms, Argent, a chevron sable, between 3 torteauxes gules; on each an escallop argent, in allusion to that of the lords Dacre of the north, from whom these were said to be descended. He exchanged it with the crown, from whence it was granted, under the yearly fee-farm of seventy-one shillings,/w to John Lennard, of Chevening, esq. on whose death, in the 33d year of queen Elizabeth, his son Sampson Lennard succeeded to it, and died possessed of it in the 13th of king James I. having by his will devised this manor to his eldest son, Henry, lord Dacre, in tail male; with remainder to his two sons, Gregory and Thomas, successively; but by reason of

/u Pat. 46 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 19.

/w Augtn. off. Rolls of Partic. of Fee farm Rents temp. Interregni, Roll. 18, No. 32.

71

a jointure in this manor, it did not come into the possession of his descendants till the time of Francis Len-

nard, lord Dacre, his grandson, who became possessed of it, under the will of Sampson Lennard, his great-grandfather. He by his will, in 1654, devised the inheritance of it to his eldest son, Thomas, afterwards created earl of Sussex, and the heirs male of his body; and dying in the year 1662, Elizabeth, his widow, afterwards countess of Shepey, possessed it in jointure, till her death, in 1686; upon which Thomas, lord Dacre, earl of Sussex, entered into possession of it; but the same claim was made to a third part of this manor, by Margaret, Anne, and Catharine, the infant daughters of Henry, the earl's youngest brother, (who died in 1703) by their guardian, in their behalf, as was made upon the manor of Cowdham, and other manors and lands of the earl, as being of the nature of gavel-kind. Soon after the above sale of this manor they laid claim to a moiety of it, Francis, the earl's second brother, being dead without issue; but the earl of Sussex, in a trial had at the queen's bench bar, set aside these claims, and obtained a full verdict in his favor.

The earl of Sussex, in 1707, conveyed the manor of Apperfield to Mr. Thomas Know, who died, possessed of it, in 1728, and was buried in Downe church; on which it descended to his only son, Roger Know, who, on his death, in 1737/x devised this manor, with other estates, to his cousins, Leonard Bartholomew and John-Know Bartholomew, sons of Philip Bartholomew, of Oxen Hoath, esq. by his first wife, the only daughter and heir of John Know, of Ford, in Wrotham, gent. (brother of Thomas Know before-mentioned) who both died without issue. His second wife was Mary, daughter of Alexander Thomas, of Lamberhurst, esq. by whom he had one daughter Mary, married to

/x He lies buried in Downe church.

72

Francis Geary, esq. who will be further mentioned hereafter.

On the partition of these estates this manor became the property of John-Know Bartholomew, and on his death, of his brother, Leonard Bartholomew, before-mentioned; who, dying without issue in 1757, by his will bequeathed it to the second son of Sir Francis Geary, bart. of Poloden, in Surry, by Mary, his half-sister; which second son, now Sir William Geary, bart. nephew of the said Leonard Bartholomew, is now possessed of this manor of Apperfield.

This manor now pays a fee-farm rent of 3l. 11s. per annum to the crown.

There is a place in this parish, formerly called the manor of Bertrey, which was part of that estate in Cowdham given to Gilbert Maminot, in the reign of William the Conqueror, for his assistance in the defence of Dover-castle.

From this family it went by marriage to the Says; one of whom, Geoffry de Say claimed, before John de Stonar and others, his associates, justices itinerant, in the 7th year of king Edward III. the holding of a yearly fair at this hamlet on the day of St. Laurence./y Before this name was extinct here, which was about the beginning of king Richard II's reign, this manor was

become annexed to the adjoining manor of Apuldre, (now Apperfield) in this parish; in which state it continues at this time.

Richard de Cherholt had antiently some property in this hamlet of Bertrey, or Bettred, as it was afterwards called, and held the reeveship of the manor of Bertrey under Geoffry de Say, who discharged him from this office in the 15th year of king Edward II. and most probably at the time of its being annexed to Apperfield. He died without issue male, and his daughter and heir carried the estate, which he held in

/y Philipott, p. 124. Reg. Roff. p. 633.

73

it, in marriage to William de Manning, who died in the 17th year of king Edward III. He was the son of Stephen de Manning; of whom there is mention in old deeds, of the time of king Edward I. who was descended from Simon de Manning, to whom John Silvester, of Westerham, demised land by deed in the 14th year of king Richard I. and who (as is recorded in an old pedigree relating to this family) was engaged in the holy war against the Saracens, under that king. They are said to be descended of an antient and noble family, which took its name from Manning, a town in Saxony, from whence they came into England, before the conquest, and some of them are said to have settled in Friesland. They bore for their arms, Gules, a cross potence, or flory, between four cinquefoils or./z From him it descended to Hugh Manning, who settled at St. Mary Cray, and left two sons; of whom John, the elder, was of Downe, and Richard, the younger, of Kevington, in St. Mary Cray, where his posterity remained till within these few years.

Hugh, son of Gilbert de Maminot, who lived in the reign of William the Conqueror, as mentioned above, gave the tythes of Bertrey, in Cowdham, to the church of St. Andrew in Rochester, in pure alms, which was confirmed by his son, Walchelin, and he further granted, that if any part of the lordship was then, or should hereafter be converted into tillage service,/a yet the tenths should remain to them entire, according to the first donation.

The gift was confirmed by Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, and several of his successors; by Theobald, archbishop of Canterbury, and others. The prior and convent of Rochester, anno 5 king Edward III. demised all their tythes of sheaves arising within the manor of Bertrey, and the like tythes in the hamlet of Mot=

/z Guillim, p. 138.

/a In rusticam servitutem in orig.

74

tingham, to Sir Henry de Reddlyngton, and others, at the yearly rent of eight marcs sterling./b

John de Shepey, prior of Rochester, and the convent of the same place, in the 10th year of king Richard II. demised, to John Stoke, of Ferneberge, and John Flemyn, of Rochester, at the yearly rent of six shillings, all their tythes arising from the manor of Bertrey in Codham, then annexed to the manor of Apperfield; the names of the fields within this tythery

may be seen in the Registrum Roff. p. 268.

It was found by inquisition, in the 7th year of king Henry VIII. that William Marsh, at his death, held of the king in capite, a messuage and land, in Cowdham; which were carried in marriage by Margaret, his daughter, to Nicholas Smith. In the first year of king Edward VI. he alienated this estate, then called Mares-place, with its lands and appurtenances, to Thomas Josceline./c In the 6th year of which reign his descendant, John Josceline, sold it to Thomas Polsted, whose grandson Francis Polsted,/d levied a fine of it anno 15 queen Elizabeth.

There are no parochial charities.

Cowdham is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It consists of a body and chancel, an isle on the north side, not extending the length of the church either way, and a sort of chapel on the south side, not much used, as a vestry room, and much out of repair. The steeple, which is a spire, stands on the south side of the church, and has four bells in it.

In this church, among others, are the following monuments and inscriptions: – In the isle, on a grave stone, with the figure of a woman in brass, and inscription in black letter, for Alys, wife of Walter Waleys, of this parish, sister to Johan a Legh, of Adyngton, in Surry, esq. obt. 1503. Above the figure are two shields in brass, being first, a fess ermine, a star in the dexter

/b Reg. Roff. p. 267, 117. Ibid. p. 47, 59, 87, 138, 528, 529. Ib. p. 352.

/c Rot. Esch. pt. 3. /d Rot. Esch. ejus an.

75

point; second, on a chevron, three lions rampant beneath the above arms, being those of Waleys impaling Legh; beneath are the figures of six sons and three daughters. In the great chancel, are several grave stones for the family of Brazier, of Old House, in this parish; on the south side, within the altar rails, is a mural monument for Thomas Farrant, sen. obt. 1680, æt. 62. Thomas Farrant, jun. died the same year, æt. 17. On the south side is an antient altar tomb of stone, with some letters cut in relieve, within a gothic rose on the sides of it, but no inscription. In the east window of the north chancel, are the following shields, very antient, first, the arms of England gu. three lions passant guardant or; second, Valence, Earl of Pembroke; third, quarterly, gules and or; fourth, Waleys./e

The countess Juliana, widow of Hugh Bigod, and wife of Wakelin de Maminot, who lived in the reigns of king Henry II. and Richard I. gave the church of Codeham to the abbey of Begham, as appears by the chartulary of that monastery.

Thomas de Wolton, as appears by the escheat-rolls, died possessed of the advowson of this church in the 46th year of king Edward III. who by writ of privy seal, in the 50th year of his reign, granted licence to Thomas de Wolton, clerk, and William Topcliffe, to grant to the prioress and convent of Kilburne, in the diocese of London, an acre of land, in Cowdham, together with the advowson of the parish church, held in capite; and he further granted licence to the prioress and convent, to appropriate this church to their own proper use, together with the acre of land to them and

their successors, to the finding of one chaplain, to celebrate divine service daily in the church of the house of the prioress and convent./f

Accordingly, Thomas Trilleck, bishop of Rochester, in 1371, appropriated this church, then valued at twenty marcs, to the before-mentioned prioress and convent, patrons of it, after the resignation or death of Ralph, then rector of it, saving a competent por-

/e See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 935. /f Ibid. 266.

76

tion to a vicar, and to the bishop and his successors, and to the church and archdeacon of Rochester, all due and accustomed rights, &c. and to the prior and chapter of Rochester their portion of tythes within the bounds of this church; and as the bishop's predecessors were used to receive certain emoluments from it during the vacancy of it, which by this appropriation would necessarily be extinguished, the bishop, with consent of the religious, on this account, received an annual pension of ten shillings, to be paid by them yearly, from the time of their taking possession of it.

This appropriation was confirmed by the prior and convent of Rochester, in the year before mentioned; saving always, their, and their monastery's antient right to the portion of five fields, viz. Brodefeld, Schidden, Elenchfelde, Plechlefelde, and Chersebemfeld; and to the portion of tythes of certain other small places, containing in the whole two hundred and twenty-one acres of land, lying dispersed within the bounds of this parish, to them and their monastery, antiently belonging, and due from the manor of Apulderfeld./g

This pension of ten shillings continued to be paid by the prioress and convent of Kilburne, to the bishop of Rochester, and his successors, as appears by the registers in the archives of the church of Rochester./h On the dissolution of the monastery of Kilburne, by the act passed in the 27th year of king Henry VIII. for the suppressing all religious houses under the value of two hundred pounds yearly income; the church, with the advowson of the vicarage, together with the rest of its revenues, became vested in the crown; being given by the act to the king and his heirs, for ever.

/g Reg. Roff. p. 264.

/h See Reg. Langdon, an. 1434. Reg. Roff. p. 135, and Regist. Fisher, an. 1508. Ibid. p. 142.

77

Soon after which George Brooke, lord Cobham, had a grant of this advowson, late belonging to the above monastery, to hold in capite, by the service of the fortieth part of one knight's fee.

King Edward VI. in his fourth year, granted the advowson of this vicarage to Sir Anthony St. Leger./i Roger Revell held it in the 11th year of queen Elizabeth./k Gregory Fynes possessed it in the 13th year of the same reign./l In the reign of king James I. the advowson was again vested in the crown, where it has continued to this time, the crown being the present

patron of it. John Warde, of Westerham, esq. is the present impropriator of the parsonage.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Codeham was valued at thirty-five marcs, and the vicarage of it at six marcs and a half./m This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 13l. 2s. 6d. but it is now a discharged living, of the clear certified value of 38l. 5s. 10d. the yearly tenths of which are 1l. 6s. 3d./n

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Cuddam was a vicarage, with a house, and one acre of land, all worth 40l. per annum; one master Casingherst enjoying it, and preaching constantly./o

Henry Rumney, in 1442, gave the profits of his tenement, called Bayles, to the use of this church for ever./p

/i Augtn. off. Deeds of purchase and exch. T. Edw. VI.  
box G. 20.

/k Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 11.

/l Ibid.

/m Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/n Bacon Lib. Regis.

/o Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-  
libr. vol. xiv.

/p Custum Roff. p. 41.

78

#### CHURCH OF COWDHAM.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Prioress and Convent of Kilburne Ralph, in 1377./q

#### VICARS.

The Crown David Lloyd, 1604, buried  
April 1627.

Hugh Morris, Cl. 1627, buried  
Sept. 22, 1646.

Robert Casingherst, 1646, buried  
Oct. 27, 1665.

Gregory Wheelock, buried Sept.  
19, 1709.

Thomas Walwyn, 1709, died  
1747./r

Charles Whitehead, presented  
Jan. 1747, resigned 1780.

John Ward Allen, Mar. 1780,  
the present vicar.

/q Reg. Roff. p. 264.

/r He was of Pembroke Coll. In  
1733 a dispensation passed for his  
holding the rectory of Hayes with  
this vicarage.

- - -

#### NOCKHOLT

IS the next parish south eastward from Cowdham.  
It took its name from the old English words Noke, a

corner, and holt, a wood; a derivation which aptly expresses the situation of this place, at the noke or corner of a wood.

This parish is but small; it lies near the summit of the upper or northern ridge of Kentish hills, which are the bounds of the southern part of it. The village, having the church in it, lies nearly in the centre of the parish, having Shelleys and Norsted-green to the northward of it; the east and west parts are much covered with coppice wood; at the former boundary of it, at Nockholt-pound, is the London high road through Farnborough to Sevenoaks. In the southern

79

part of the parish, near the summit of the hills, is the well known toll of trees, commonly called Nockholt-beeches, which, though standing in a hollow, near thirty feet deep, are seen as a conspicuous object at a great distance, both from the north and south. The soil is but poor, being in general a stiff clay, mixed with chalk.

The boundaries of this parish, and the lordship of Okholt, anno 3 Edward IV. are in a manuscript, among the archieves of the dean and chapter of Canterbury.

The parish of Nockholt is within the manor of Great Orpington, to which it is an appendage, which manor is now in the possession of Sir John Dixon Dyke of Lullingstone, bart.

BRAMPTON'S is a small manor in the western part of this parish, among the woods, which was formerly possessed by owners, who, most probably, ingrafted their own surname on it. One of this family, John de Brampton, held land at Ditton, in this county, in the reign of king Edward I./s which at this time bears his name.

This place afterwards became, by a female heir, to be the inheritance of Petley; a family which owned much land in this neighbourhood, from whence, about the latter end of king Edward IV.'s reign, it was conveyed by sale to William Quintin, who was succeeded by his son, Oliver Quintin of Seale; and his grandson, John, took the name of Quintin, alias Oliver, and was seated at Leyborne; his son, Robert, transposed these names, being called Oliver, alias Quintin, which last name he and his posterity entirely dropped;/t his descendant, Robert Oliver, was deceased in 1669, and Thomas Oliver then possessed this estate. By a female heiress of this name it went in marriage to St. John of Sevenoke; she survived her husband, and af-

/s Book of Aid, anno 20 king Edw. III.

/t Visitn. Co. Kent, pedigree of Oliver, alias Quintin. See more of this family under Leyburne.

80

terwards conveyed it by sale to Thomas Streatfield, esq. of Sevenoke, who is the present possessor of this estate, which has, for many years, lost even the reputation of having been a manor.

Brampton is held of the manor of Great Orpington by the yearly rent of 1s. 4d. per annum.

SHELLEY'S is another small manor here, lying about half a mile northward of the village, which was an=

tiently called the manor of Schottis, alias Ockholt, which last name it had from its situation among the oaken woods; Ac, in Saxon, signifying an oak; and holt, a wood; the A in Ac being frequently changed into O, as is plain in the names of many villages. It was an= tiently the property and residence of a younger branch of the family of Shelle, or as they afterwards spelt their name, Shelley. The elder branch afterwards settled at Michel-grove, in Sussex, where they still remain. This branch, in king Richard II.'s reign, changed their antient bearing from the three escallops to Sable a fess ingrailed between three welks or./u

Thomas Shelle possessed this manor in the reign of king Edward I. writing himself De Schottis, alias Ock= holt, and bearing for his arms, Three escallops./v His descendant, Thomas Shelle, was of Gaysum, in Wes= terham. He purchased Hall-place, in Bexley, at the latter end of king Edward's III.'s reign, where his posterity afterwards resided./w His son, John Shelle, succeeded him in this manor, of which he was posses= sed in the reign of king Richard II. and it appears by a deed, dated at Scottes Okolte, in the 20th year of that reign, that John Reynold of Scottes Okolte, gran= ted, among other premises, to Adam Sowedenne of Sondrishe, certain land, which he had there by the demise of John Shelle./x

/u Collins's Bar. vol. p. 61.

/v Baronetage, edition, 1720,  
vol. i. p. 135.

/w Philipott, p. 65, 359.

/x Deeds in possession of the  
late lord Dacre.

81

One of his descendants, John Shelley, esq. of Hall= place, died possessed of the manor of Shelley's, alias Ockholt, in the 20th year of king Henry VI. and was buried, with Joane his wife, in Bexley church. He was succeeded in it by William Shelley, esq. of Hall= place, who, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. alienated it, together with that seat, to Sir John Champneys./y who had been lord mayor of London, in the 26th year of that reign,/z whose lands were dis= gavelled by the act of the 31st of it. He resided at Hall-place, in Bexley, and dying in the 4th year of queen Mary, left by Meriell his wife, daughter of John Barrett esq. of Belhouse, in Essex, several sons and daughters. Of the sons, in the year 1590, only Justinian Champneis, the youngest, was living, and then in possession of this estate; his son, Richard Champneis, esq. conveyed it by sale to Wm. Gooday, gent. of Suffolk, who bore for his arms, A fess wavy between two leopards faces. He, by his last will, in 1647, devised his manor, called Shellies, lying in this parish, to John and Roger, his two sons; John Gooday of Pembroke-hall, in Cambridge, the elder son, in 1651, conveyed his moiety of this manor to his brother, Roger Gooday, citizen and merchant tay= lor of London, who died in 1675, and lies buried in Chelsfield church. She died in that year, and by her will confirmed the above gift.

His descendant, John Gooday, left an only daugh=

ter, Mary, who carried it in marriage to Mr. Richard Pancourt, and they joined in the sale of it to Richard Allnutt, esq. merchant of London; since whose death it is become vested in the trustees of his will, viz. Henry, Adams, William, Robert, and Arthur Pott, esqrs. for the use of his grand children.

/y Philipott, p. 252.

/z Strype's Stow's Survey, vol. ii. book v. p. 131.

82

Alanus, prior, and the convent of Christ church, in Canterbury, granted to Theob. de Einesford, and his heirs, twenty-four acres of their demesne in North Ockholt, to hold of them in gavelikende, by the rent of twenty shillings per annum, he and his heirs performing suit to their court of Orpington, as the rest of the tenants of the parish did./a

CHARITY.

RICHARD STEVENS by will, in 1647, gave for the indigent poor the sum of 40s. annually, issuing out of land, vested in earl Stanhope, and now of the above annual produce.

NOCKHOLT is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar of the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such is in the deanry of Shoreham.

The church stands in the midst of the village. It consists of one isle and a chancel, having a tower steeple at the west end, in which are three bells. It had a spire, which was blown down, and has never since been rebuilt. There are very few inscriptions in it, and only one of those of any account, being on a grave stone, on the north side of the chancel, part of which is under the rails, for Francis Collins, minister of this church, obt. Aug. 28, 1670./b It was once esteemed as a chapel to the church of Orpington, but it is now parochial, and held as a perpetual curacy, the patronage of which belongs to the rectors of the church of Orpington.

By virtue of a commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of the court of chancery, it was returned, that Knockholt was a parsonage, with a house, and two acres of glebe land, all worth thirty-four pounds per annum, one master Collins enjoying it; and that the tithes of wood of this

/a Somner's Gavelkind, p. 180.

/b See the inscrip. in this church at large in Reg. Roff. p. 1029.

83

place were included in the lease of Orpington parsonage, let by the rector thereof./c

The curate of Nockholt is endowed with the portion of two-thirds of the great tithes arising in this parish.

CHAPEL OF NOCKHOLT.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. CURATES.

Rector of Orpington William Gale, clerk, 1550.  
Nicholas Messenger, buried Feb.

8, 1564.

Griffen Lloyd, 1578.  
Michael Fludd, clerk, 1600.  
John Dennis, 1610.  
Michael Flood, buried Feb. 20,  
1644.  
Francis Collins, obt. Aug. 28,  
1670./d  
William Paule, buried Sep. 19,  
1674.  
James Haydocke, 1675.  
Thomas Watts, A. M. 1687, re= signed 1732./e  
James Whitehouse, A. M. obt.  
March 1755.  
Francis Fawkes, A. M. 1755./f  
Thomas Browne, A. B. 1777, ob.  
1788./g  
Henry Fly, A. M. Present cu= rate.  
/c Parl. Surveys, Lambeth Lib.  
vol. xiv.  
/d He lies buried in this church.  
/e And vicar of Orpington, with  
St. Mary Cray, as was his successor.  
/f Rector of Hayes. He, as well  
as his two predecessors, were suc= cessively vicars of Orpington with  
St. Mary Cray.  
/g See Downe.

- - -

#### CHELSFIELD,

WHICH lies the adjoining parish to Nockholt,  
northward, is variously spelt in antient writings; in  
Domesday, it is written both Cillesfelle and Ciresfel,  
Ch being one of the eight English aspirates, not known

84

to the old English Saxons; in the Textus Roffensis,  
Cilesfeld; in other records of a later date, Chellesfeld;  
and now CHELSFIELD. It most probably took its  
name from its cold and open situation; ceald or cile,  
in the Saxon tongue, signifying cold; and feld, a  
plain or field.

This parish, which is large, lies in general on high  
ground, among the hills. The village has nothing  
remarkable in it; at a small distance westward is the  
court lodge and the church, and at a like distance  
eastward, the parsonage. The high road from Lon= don, through Farnborough, to Sevenoaks, crosses  
this parish through the hamlets of Greenstreet-green  
and Spratt's bottom, southward. The soil is in ge= neral very poor and indifferent, and the lands are let  
at easy rents.

The liberty of the duchy of Lancaster claims over  
the manors of Chelsfield and Goddington, over the  
woodlands called Charm-wood, and over the rectory  
of Chelsfield./h These estates were accounted part of  
that duchy, as having been antiently held under the  
signory of Simon de Montfort, the great earl of Lei= cester, who forfeited them for rebellion in the 49th  
year of king Henry III. when his estates and honours

were given by the king to his second son, Edmund earl of Lancaster, whose grandson, Henry, was created duke of Lancaster; since which these places have been esteemed as part of that duchy.

CHELSFIELD was part of those vast possessions with which William the Conqueror enriched his half brother Odo, bp. of Baieux, and accordingly it is entered in the book of Domesday, under the general title of that prelate's lands, as follows:

Ernuf. de Hesding holds of the bishop (of Baieux)  
Ciresfel. It was taxed at 2 sulings. The arable land  
is . . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 20 vil=

/h Kilb. Survey, p. 51.

85

leins, with 4 borderers, having 8 carucates. There are 4 servants, and 1 mill of 10 shillings, and 10 acres of meadow, and wood for the pannage of 10 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 16 pounds, and afterwards 12 pounds, and now 25 pounds; and yet he who holds it pays 35 pounds. Tocchi held it of king Edward.

This Ernuf de Hesding I take to be the same person who, in the *Textus Roffensis*, is called Arnulf de Cilesfelda, and in another part of Domesday, Esbern de Cillesfelle, wherein he is recorded to have had the liberties of sac and soc for all his lands throughout the laths of Sutton and Ailesford.

This place afforded both seat and surname to his posterity. Letitia Domina de Chilefeld is mentioned in the *Chartulary of St. Radigund's abbey*, near Dover, as having been a benefactor to that monastery, wherein mention is made of Simon de Chilefeld her son. He held this manor, in the reign of Edward I. as one knight's fee, and the sixth part of a fee, of Sim. de Montfort, as of the honour of Newbury,/i and upon a plea of prescription before the Judges Itinerant, in the 7th of Edward I. had an allowance of a market, to be held weekly in this manor, on a Monday./k In the 13th year of the above reign William de Chellesfeld, who was sheriff of this county in the 15th, 16th, and 17th years of it, had a grant of free warren for his lands here, and at Halsted, Shoreham, Nockholt, and Orpington, in this neighbourhood./l

From this family the possession of this manor passed to Otho de Grandison, who, in the 18th year of king Edward I. obtained licence for a market here, and a fair on the feast of St. James the apostle, and free warren in all his demesne lands in Chelesfeld./m But

/i Account of knights fees in the Exchequer, T. Edw. I.

/k Philipott, p. 110. /l Rot. Cart. ejus anni, No. 75.

/m Ibid. No. 71. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 17.

86

William de Grandison, his brother, in the reign of king Edward II. was become his heir, whose third son, Otho, succeeded to the possession of this manor, which he held in the 20th of Edward III. as appears by the *Book of Aid*, in which he accounted for it as one knight's fee, and the sixth part of a fee, which Otho de Grandison before held in Chellesfeld and Caldecote

of Simon de Montforte, and he of the honour of Newbery. He died in the 33d of that reign, possessed of this manor,/n having by his will, directed his body, if he died at Chelsfield, to be buried in the chapel of St. John there. He left by Beatrix his wife, daughter and coheir of Nicholas Malmains, Sir Thomas Gran-  
dison his son and heir, who died without issue, pos-  
sessed of this manor, in the 50th year of the above  
reign./o

The manor of Chelsfield, in the 22d year of the next reign of king Richard II. was the inheritance of Philippa, grand daughter and heir of Sir Guy Bryan, and widow of John Devereux, who that year married Sir Henry le Scroope of Masham. She died in the 8th year of king Henry IV. being then possessed of this manor, and of others in this neighbourhood, leav-  
ing Elizabeth, wife of Robert Lovel, her sister and next heir./p

James Boteler, earl of Wiltshire, afterwards posses-  
sed this manor, and the advowson of the church of Chelsfield. Being in the battle of Towton-field, in Yorkshire, fought on Palm Sunday, in 1462, in which the Yorkists obtained the victory, he was taken, and afterwards beheaded at Newcastle, and being that year attainted in parliament, with Jasper earl of Pem-  
broke, and others, for procuring foreign princes to invade the realm, they were adjudged to forfeit all their hereditaments; upon which this manor and advow=

/n Rot. Esch ejus anni. /o Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 18.  
/p Rot. Esch. ejus an. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 659.

87

son became vested in the crown;/q whence they were granted for life to Robert Poynings, youngest son of Robert lord Poynings, who died possessed of them, in the 9th year of king Edward IV. On which they returned again to the crown, where they remained but a small time; for in the 14th year of that reign they were granted to Henry viscount Bourchier, and earl of Essex, in consideration of his services, to hold himself and Isabel his wife (the king's aunt) in special tail, the same being the estates late of James earl of Wiltshire, attainted.

In the 13th year of king Henry VI's reign, bear-  
ing then the title of earl of Ewe, he had summons to parliament as such, but never afterwards by that title; and in the 25th year of that reign was advanced to the dignity of viscount Bourchier, as it seems; for by that title he had summons to parliament that year. Notwithstanding his being a fast friend to the house of York, he was, in the 33d year of king Henry VI. constituted lord treasurer of England, as he was again by king Edward IV. in his first year; and by letters patent, on June 30, that year, he was advanced to the dignity of earl of Essex. Being a person of sin-  
gular parts, he was in such esteem with Richard duke of York, that, in his younger years, the more to oblige him to the interest of that house, the duke gave him his sister Isabel (aunt to king Edward IV.) in marriage. In the 11th year of which reign he was again constituted lord treasurer of England; and in the 14th year of it, in consideration of his services,

obtained from that king this manor and advowson, as above mentioned. He died in the 23d year of king Edward IV. being then possessed of this manor, and was buried in the abbey of Byleigh, in Essex, leaving Henry Bourchier, his grandson, his next heir (son of William, his eldest son, who died in his life time) and Isabel his wife, surviving, who died soon after, in the

/q Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 235. Cott. Records, p. 671.

88

2d year of king Richard III. being at the time of her death possessed of this manor. Which Henry, in the 9th year of king Henry VII. had possession granted of all the lands of his inheritance. He was of the privy council to king Henry VII. and much caressed and employed, both by that prince and king Henry VIII. but in the 31st year of the latter reign, he was killed by a fall from his horse, at his manor of Basse, in Hertfordshire, and was buried at his manor of Estanes, in Essex, leaving by Mary his wife (daughter and coheir of Sir William Say) one sole daughter and heir, Anne, married to Sir William Parre, lord Parre of Kendal, and afterwards earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton, which marriage was annulled by act of parliament in the 5th year of king Edward VI./r

In the 33d year of that reign, this manor was become part of the possession of the crown, and was then held of it by James Walsingham, esq. at the yearly rent of 25l. 8s. 11d. whose son, Francis Walsingham, esq. parted with his interest in it in the 4th year of king Edward VI. to Robert Giles, descended from those of lords in Sheldwich, the same being held of the king in capite, as of his duchy of Lancaster. His descendant, Francis Gyles, gent. passed it away by sale, in the reign of king James I. to Capt. Henry Lee of London, whose two daughters and coheirs, in the reign of king Charles I. carried it in marriage to John Clerke, esq. sergeant-at-law, of Huntingdonshire, and Mr. Thomas Norton of London./s Which last, in the end, became possessed of this manor, which continued in his name till the death of Mr. Thomas Norton, gent. of London, his grandson, in 1749, who lies buried with Elizabeth his wife in this church, having borne for his arms, Gules a fess argent, over all a bend vairy gules or. He bequeathed it by will to Mr. Henry Martyn, who in 1758 sold it to Mr. James

/r Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 130. /s Philipott, p. 110.

89

Maud, wine-merchant of London, on whose death, in 1769, it came to his daughter and sole heir, Mary, widow of John Tattersall, esq. of Gatton, in Surry, then married to Brass Crosby, esq. alderman of London, and he, jointly with her, possessed it; but since his death, in 1793, she again became entitled to it, in her own right, and is at present possessed of it. The messuage, called the Great Court lodge, in Chelsfield, is held of the manor of Farnborough, commonly called the duchy court, by the yearly rent of eighteen pence.

GODDINGTON is a small manor in this parish, which was antiently one of the seats of a family of the same

name, who had another mansion at Great Chart in this county./t Simon de Godyngton held this place in the reign of king Edward I. his descendant, William, son of John de Godyngton, paid respective aid for this manor in the 20th year of king Edward III. as one fee, which Simon de Godyngton before held in Chellesfeld, of Henry de Scoland, and he of Simon de Monteforte. In the 25th and 26th years of which reign a fine was levied between Henry duke of Lancaster (the chief lord) and Henry de Scoland (the mesne tenant of this manor) of three knights fees, which the latter held of the duke, in Chellesfeld, Farnburgh, and Strode./u

Alan de Godyngton was in possession of it in the 3d year of king Henry IV. and then paid aid for it on the marriage of Blanch, that king's eldest daughter, as one knight's fee, held as above mentioned.

When this family was extinct here, this manor came next into the possession of the family of Poynings; and Robert, younger son of Robert lord Poynings, died possessed of it, anno 9 Edward IV. leaving Edward, his son, who being an active person in his time, became an expert soldier; and having been faithful to

/t Philipot., p. 110. /u Book of Aid, an. 25 and 26 Hen. IV.

90

Henry earl of Richmond, in the time of his distresses, after the victory at Bosworth-field, wherein that earl attained the crown, he was chosen one of his privy-council, and was much favoured both by him and king Henry VIII. being made governor of Dover-castle, knight of the Garter, and lord warden of the cinque ports. He died of a pestilential air, in the 14th year of the latter reign. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir John Scott, he had only one son, John, who died in his life time, though he left several natural children,/w on which his estates escheated to the crown.

This estate went next into the name of Haddon, a family of good account, as appears by the registers of their arms, viz. A leg, couped and wounded, in the old rolls and ordinaries of the arms of the Kentish gentry; being always mentioned in them with the addition of Haddon of Kent, or of Godynton in Kent;/x one of whom possessed it about the middle of the same reign. It continued in this name for several generations, till the latter end of the last century, when it passed into the possession of Styles, and about the year 1701, it was the property of James Styles, gent. from whom it descended to his son, John Styles, gent. who passed it away, about 1736, to Mrs. Mary Aynscomb, by the name and description of the manor of Goddington, alias Gouldington, lying in the several parishes of Chelsfield, Orpington, and St. Mary Cray; whose son, Mr. William Aynscomb, passed it away to James Harris, gent. who is the present possessor of it, and resides here.

A court baron is held for this manor, and the tenants are all free tenants.

HEWAT'S, or, as it is now called, HEWIT'S, is another small manor here, which had once owners of that name. Jeffry de Hewat possessed it in the reign of king Henry III. as appears by an old dateless deed

of that time; after which it was, for many descents,  
/w Dudg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 136. /x Philipott, p. 111.

91

the property of the Petleys, originally of the neighbouring parish of Downe, from whom it devolved to a younger branch of that family, which settled at Moulsoe, in this parish; one of whom, William Petle (as they then spelt their name) of Chelsfield, is witness to a deed of John Coldigate of Coldigate, a farm, in Halsted, which bears date in the 11th year of king Henry IV./y After this manor had been resident for several generations in this name, it was passed away by Mr. Edw. Petley to Mr. Thomas Petley of Filston, in Shoreham, descended likewise of a younger branch of the Petleys of Downe. He left it by will to his only son, by his second wife, Mr. Ralph Petley, of Riverhead, whose descendant Ralph Petley, esq. dying in 1751 unmarried, bequeathed this manor to his cousin, Mr. Charles Petley of Rochester, the only son of John, younger brother of Thomas Petley, esq. of Riverhead, father of Ralph Petley of Riverhead, esq. the testator above mentioned, who possessed it at his death, in 1765, as did his eldest son, Ralph Robert Carter Petley, esq. at his death in 1788, and his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Petley now possesses it; but the mansion house with the lands, called Hewit's, in this parish, has been long separated from this family. It some few years since belonged to Mr. James Rondeau, who sold it to Mr. John Fuller, who now resides in it.

There is a court baron held for this manor, the tenants of it hold by annual quit rent, and a heriot, being best live beast belonging to the tenant.

NORSTED is a small manor here, which extends into the parishes of Cowdham and Farnborough. It was in antient times part of that estate possessed by the family of Grandison in this parish, and was purchased of Otho de Grandison by Simon de Francis, a wealthy citizen and mercer of London. In the 16th year of that reign he was lord mayor. He served in parliament for that city in the 12th year of king Edward III. and was so wealthy, that, when the king borrowed twenty thousand marcs of the citizens for his expedi-

/y Philipott, p. 111.

92

tion into France, he lent him eight hundred pounds, a great sum in those days, being as much as the lord-mayor himself had lent. He bore for his arms, Gules, a saltier or, between four cross-croslets botonnè of the same./z He died in the 32d year of king Edward III. being then possessed of this manor, and of great estates, especially in London and Middlesex./a

About the beginning of Henry IV's reign, this family was extinct here, and this manor was come into the possession of Uvedall, or Udall,/b a family of note, and owners of much land in Surry, Sussex, and Hampshire; in the former of which they chiefly resided. William Uvedall, who was sheriff of the county of Surry, in the 8th year of king Henry IV. was then owner of it; but in the 6th year of king Henry VI.'s reign, he passed this manor away by sale to John Shel-

ley of Hall-place, in Bexley, whose ancestors had been settled at Gaysum in Westerham, as early as the reign of king Edward III. He died possessed of it in the 20th year of the former reign, and was buried, with Joane his wife, in Bexley church. Their son, William Shelley, about the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. passed it away by sale to John Lennard, esq. of Chevening, whose grandson, Henry Lennard, lord Dacre, in the beginning of king James I. conveyed it by sale to the lady Wolriche; and she, upon her decease, in the time of king Charles I. settled it on her kinsman, Mr. Skeggs of Huntingdonshire; whose descendant, Mr. Thomas Skeggs, gent. possessed it at his death in the year 1739, when this manor came to his two nephews, Thomas and John Skeggs; the latter died under age, and without issue. Upon which the sole property of it became vested in his brother, Mr. Thos. Skeggs, who resided here, bearing for his arms, A chevron, in chief a lion passant, and in 1784, alienated it to Godfrey Lees Farrant, esq. of Widmore, near

/z Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 281. Ibid. App. ii. p. 7.  
/a Rot. Esch. ejus anni, No.33. Strype's Stow's Surv. book v. p. 110. /b Philipott. p. 111.

93

Bromley, and principal register of the high court of admiralty, whose only daughter and heir, Margaret, married George Binsted, esq. by whom she had two sons, George and Thomas. He survived her, and in 1795, in pursuance of the desire of Elizabeth Farrant of London, spinster, sister of the said Godfrey Lee Farrant, obtained the king's licence for him and his issue to take and use the surname and arms of Farrant only; he is now of Norsted, and the present owner of this estate.

A court baron is held for this manor, the tenants of which pay, on every death or alienation, a heriot, of the best live beast belonging to the tenant.

#### CHARITIES.

JOANE COLLET gave by deed, in 1608, for the use of the poor, a yearly sum, charged on land, vested in feoffees, and of the annual produce of 11. 9s.

STEPHEN BRAZIER gave by will, to certain feoffees, a tenement, garden, and orchard, in Farnborough, &c. the produce of it to be yearly divided between this parish and Farnborough, to the poor of them for ever.

CHELSFIELD is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester and deanry of Dartford. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. It is small; consisting only of one isle, a chancel at the east end, and a small chapel, dedicated to St. John, on the south side.

In this church, among other monuments and inscriptions in it, are the following: In the great chancel, on a grave stone before the rails, a brass plate, with the figure of a priest, and inscription in black letter, for William Robroke, rector of this church, obt. Sept. 17, 1420. On another adjoining, the figure of a woman, with inscription in black letter, for Alice, wife of Thomas Bray, and daughter of John Bouauetur, obt. 1510; beneath are the figures of four sons, that of one daughter is torn off. On an

adjoining grave stone a memorial for Thomas Skeggs, junior, of this parish, gent. obt. 1722, æt. 56, nephew of Thomas Skeggs, senior, of this parish. Above, is a shield of arms, being a chevron in chief a lion passant; another for Thomas Skeggs, gent. obt. 1717, æt. 85, and for Margaret, his wife, daughter of John Bodinham, esq. obt. 1699, æt. 55. On the south side, before the altar rails, a memorial for Roger Goodday, gent. obt. 1674,

94

æt. 51. Another within the rails, on the same side, for Michael Petty, rector of this parish, obt. June 28, 1751, æt. 84; above are these arms, on a bend three martlets, a label of three points. Another for Catherine, widow of Samuel Keck, of the Middle Temple, esq. obt. 1733, æt. 79. Above these arms, within a lozenge, a bend ermine between two cotizes flory, or an escutcheon of pretence, a fess dancette impaling the same. On the south side of the altar, against the wall, a tablet and inscription for three rectors of this parish, grandfather, father and son, named George Smith, of whom the first died on May 22, 1626, æt. 80; the second died on March 19, 1646, æt. 69, and the 3d on July 20, 1650, æt. 32. In an arch under the above is an altar tomb of black marble, to the memory of George Smith, sen. rector of this church as before-mentioned, put up by Edward Smith, rector of Keston, by the order of his mother Mary Smith, who lies near it. The black marble cover on which the above inscription is cut, is on an antient altar tomb of some other person, and made in form and shape to answer that, for Robert de Brun, on the opposite side, which is under an arch, being an antient altar tomb, on the cover of which are the portraits in brass, of the Virgin and St. John, on each side a crucifix, which is now lost, and behind them scrolls in black letter; on the verge is the following inscription in like letter, for Robert de Brun, rector of this church, obt. April 25, anno 1417. On the south side, at the west end of the chancel, is a mural monument, for John Brown, of Mile-End, obt. 1734, æt. 72, he was son of Captain Zachary Browne, and uncle to Thomas Browne, of Mile-End, esq. on the top a shield of arms, Browne, impaling sable a cross or. In the south chancel, on the south side, is a fine mural monument of alabaster, having underneath the figure of a man and woman, in the dress of the time, kneeling at an altar, with each a book open; behind him is a boy cumbent, and behind her two girls kneeling; and another at length. Beneath on a tablet, an inscription for Peter Collet, alderman and citizen of London, obt. 1607, æt. 64, leaving two daughters, his heirs, Hester, married to Anthony Aucher, and Sarah, to Peter Heyman, both knights; Joan, his wife, put it up, on the top of the monument, these arms, sa. on a chevron argent, three amulets of the field between three hinds tripping, of the second, a fleur de lis, or for difference; above the heads of the figures, within the arch, are two coats, first, ermine empaling as above; second, argent a chevron sa. between three ravens proper impaling Collet; adjoining to the former is a small mural monument, with the figure of a child resting on a cushion, and an inscription for Peter, eldest son of Sir Peter Heyman, of Sellinge, and Sarah, his wife, daughter of Peter Collet above-named, who died an infant. On the north side a monument, shewing, that in the family vault lie the remains of Thomas Norton, of London, gent. obt. 1749, æt. 80, and of Elizabeth, his wife, obt. 1746, æt. 57; beneath are these

95

arms, gules, a fret argent over all, a bend vairy gules, and or impaling qu. a fess between two chevrons argent. A memorial for Gravely Norton, obt. 1693, æt. 56. Another for Tho. Fother-

gill, esq. of Lincoln's Inn, obt. 1700, æt. 45, and Mary his wife, obt. 1711, æt. 58; arms, a buck's head couped, impaling a chevron between three fleurs de lis, Hughes. A memorial for Nicholas Hughes, gent. obt. 1703, æt. 47, arms, Hughes as above./c

The patronage of this church seems always to have been esteemed as an appendage to the manor of Chelsfield, and to have continued as such till one of the descendants of Mr. Thomas Norton, and lord of the manor, alienated it to Adolphus Meetkirk, esq. who, about the year 1753, passed it away to the warden and fellows of All Souls college, in Oxford, the present patrons of it.

The church of Farnborough is a chapel of ease to this church, the rector of which is instituted to the rectory of Chelsfield, with the chapel of Farnborough annexed.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Chelsfield was valued at thirty marcs./d In a taxation, in the reign of King Edward III. this church is said to have consisted of a messuage and fifty acres of arable, pasture, and wood, of the inheritance of the church, together with half a marc and six shillings payment of rent of assize, and accustomed oblations, with small tithes from ecclesiasticals and spirituials, worth sixty shillings. It is valued in the king's books at 24l. 14s. and 2d. and the yearly tenths at 2l. 9s. 5d./e

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Chelsfield was a parsonage, having about fifty acres of glebe land, and was worth, in all, eighty pounds per annum, one master Mills enjoying it, by gift from the heirs of master Lee, and that Farnborough had been a chapel of ease to Chelsfield, but was then already fitly divided./f

/c See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 1039.

/d Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456. /e Bacon's Liber Regis.

/f Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib. vol. xiv. Villicanus in orig.

96

Ernulf de Cilesfeld, lord of Cilesfeld, gave to Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, and the monks of St. Andrew, the whole moiety of the tithes of his demesne lands of Cilesfeld, viz. in corn, lambs, pigs, cheese, calves, and foals of mares, if there be any such, and one husbandman, together with five acres of land. In consideration of which the bishop and monks received him and his wife, and those under his protection, such and as many of them as he should choose, into their fraternity, that is, to be partakers of the benefits of their prayers; and upon this they established an annual mass for his deceased father and mother;/g which gift was, at times, confirmed by the several bishops of Rochester and others./h

Heimfred, tenant of the above mentioned Ernulf de Cilesfeld, on consideration of his having been admitted to partake of the like benefits, granted to the monks of St. Andrew, the tithes of the land which he had in Cilesfeld./i Thomas Toker, in 1442, gave to the rector of this church and his successors, five acres of land in Greatfield, lying under the parson's house, in this parish./k

CHURCH OF CHELSFIELD.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORs.

Lords of the Manor of Chelsfield. John de Rokesle, in 1345./l  
Robert de Brun, obt. April 25,  
1417.  
William Robroke, 1417, obt.  
Sept. 17, 1420.  
Richard Bonan, in 1442./l  
John King.  
William Gybbins, obt. Sept. 16,  
1576.  
George Smith, 1576, obt. May  
22, 1626.  
/g Text. Roff. p. 163. /h Reg. Roff. p. 47, 59, 87, 528, 529.  
/i Text. Roff. p. 179. /k Custum Roff. p. 41.  
/l Book of Aid, anno 20 king Edward III.

97

PATRONS, &c. RECTORs.

Lords of the Manor of Chelsfield. George Smith, obt. March 19,  
1646.  
George Smith, obt. July 20,  
1650.  
Robert Mills, 1650, obt. 1692.  
Michael Petty, A. M. instituted  
Feb. 16, 1692, obt. June 28,  
1751.  
Adolphus Meetkirk, esq. Charles Meetkirk, A. M. obt.  
March 1774.  
College of All Souls in Oxford Jo. Sandford, D. D. presented  
April 1774, obt. 1781.  
John Long, D. D. 1781, the pre=

sent rector.

---

ORPINGTON

ADJOINING to Chelsfield, northward, lies Or=pington. The name of this place is corrupted from its original, which was Dorpentune, a name partly British and partly Saxon, signifying, the village, or street, where the head or spring of water rises. In Domesday it is called Orpintun, and in old deeds and charters, Orpyntone, and Orpedingtune.

This parish is very extensive. The village, which is of some length, and very populous, lies in the valley, having the church, Mr. Carew's house on the east side of it; near which, northward, is the house of Barkhart. On the hills, at the eastern extremity of the parish, is East-hall; and at the western, among the woods, the manor of Crofton. At Newell, a little to the westward of the village, the river Cray, so called from the Saxon word Crecca, signifying a small brook or rivulet, takes its rise, and running from thence almost due north, it passes through the several parishes of Cray, (to which it gives name) to Bexley and Crayford, where it crosses the London road, and then joining the river Darent below the town of Dartford, it flows

98

in one channel with that stream into the Thames, nearly opposite to Purfleet in Essex.

A small part of this parish is in the liberty of the duchy of Lancaster, and the rest of it in that of the archbishop of Canterbury, which claims over the manor of Orpington.

The manor of Orpington, otherwise called Orpington Magna, or Great Orpington, extends likewise over the parishes of Hayes, Downe, Nockholt, and St. Mary Cray, which are accounted appendages to it.

In the year 1032 Eadgy, a priest, with the consent of king Canute, and  $\text{\textit{Ælf}}\text{gife}$  his queen, gave his land at Orpedingtune, which he bought with eighty marcs of white silver, by hustings weight, for the good of his soul, to the monastery of Christ Church in Canterbury, to God's servants, for garment land./m

Odo, bishop of Baieux, the king's half-brother, and earl of Kent, among other acts of tyranny and oppression which he committed, through the greatness of his power, seized on several manors and possessions belonging to the churches of Canterbury and Rochester, and added them to his own domains./n From the former he took this manor of Orpington, which, however, he was not suffered to keep long; for on the promotion of Lanfranc to the see of Canterbury, in the room of archbishop Stigand, he forced Odo to restore to both those churches whatever he had robbed them of, in a solemn judicial assembly of the whole county, convened by the king's special command for this purpose, in the year 1076, at Pinenden-heath; at which the liberties of the archbishop, and his church, were solemnly confirmed to both of them.

Archbishop Lanfranc, among other regulations which he made for the future good government of this mo-

/m Hustingi pondus, standard weight. See this grant, in Somner's Roman Ports, p. 72, and his Gavelkind, p. 215.

/n Reg. Roff. p. 27.

99

nastery, made a division of the manors and possessions of his church; for before this, the archbishop and his monks lived together as one family, and had their revenues in common; one part of which he allotted for the maintenance of himself and his successors in the archbishopric, and the other to the monks for their subsistence, cloathing, and other necessary uses of their monastery, in the proportion they now stand recorded in Domesday, under the general titles of each.

In Somner's Gavelkind is a petition from the subprior and monks of Christ Church, Canterbury, to king Henry II. on occasion of the dispute between them and archbishop Baldwin; wherein they assert, that archbishop Theodore (who was elected in 668) first parted the lands belonging to the church between himself and the monastery, assigning to each their respective share; and that the reason of archbishop Lanfranc's having been said to have made this division was, that when the Normans, having conquered England, had seized on all the lands of the church, king William resigned them, at the instance of Lanfranc, who restored to each church what before they had possessed; but retained to himself what had been possessed by his predecessors.

In this partition this manor fell to the share of the monks; and it is accordingly entered, under the title of the land of the monks of the archbishop, as follows, in Domesday-Book:

The archbishop of Canterbury holds Orpintun. It was taxed at three sulings in the time of king Edward the Confessor, and now at two sulings and a half. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 46 villeins, with 25 borderers, having 23 carucates. There are 3 mills of 16 shillings and 4 pence, and 10 acres of meadow, and 5 dens of wood, sufficient for the pannage of 50 hogs. In the whole value in the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 15 pounds, when he received it 8 pounds, and now 25 pounds, and yet it pays 28 pounds. There are two churches.

100

King John, by his letters patent, dated at Romney, in his 7th year, granted to the prior and monks a market weekly, on a Wednesday, at this manor.<sup>o</sup>

King Edward II. in his 10th year, granted and confirmed to them, and their successors, for ever, free-warren in such of their demesne lands as they were possessed of in Orpington in the time of his grandfather.<sup>/p</sup>

William Selling, who was elected prior of Christ Church in 1471, made great improvements at the several manors belonging to his church, especially at the apartments of the prior in this manor. In which state it continued till the final dissolution of this great monastery, in the 31st year of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered into the hands of the king's commissioners, by Thomas Goldwell, then prior, and the convent; together with the manors, lands, and revenues belonging to it. All which were confirmed to the king and his heirs, by the general words of the act passed the same year, specially for that purpose.

The manor of Orpington being thus vested in the crown, stayed there but a short time; for it was granted, with its appendages, in the parishes and hamlets of Orpington, Okeholt, St. Mary Cray, Lynkill, Downe, and Heze, among other premises, by that prince, in his 32d year, to Percival Hart, of Lullingstone, esq. at the yearly rent of one hundred shillings, one penny, and three farthings, to hold in capite.<sup>/q</sup> From him it descended lineally to Percival Hart, of Lullingstone, esq. who leaving an only daughter and heir, she carried this manor, with its appendages, in marriage to her second husband, Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. of Horeham, in Sussex, whose only surviving son, Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. of Lullingstone, is the present possessor of it.

<sup>/o</sup> Rot. Cart. ejus an. memb. 2, No. 14. Regist. Eccles. Christi, Cart. 131. <sup>/p</sup> Ibid. Regist. Cart. 134.

<sup>/q</sup> Rot. Esch. ejus anni, pt. 5.

101

Sir Percival Hart, knight of the body to king Henry VIII. and grantee of the manor of Orpington as before-mentioned, built a seat in this parish, in which he magnificently entertained queen Elizabeth, on the 22d of July, 1573; who, on her reception here, was addressed by a nymph, personating the genius of the

house. Then the scene shifted, and from several chambers, which, as they were contrived, represented a bark, or ship, and a sea conflict was exhibited to her view; which delighted the queen so much, that, at her departure, (to perpetuate the memory both of the owner and the entertainment,) she gave this house the name of Bark-Hart, by which it is still called, being part of the possessions of Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. of Lullingstone before-mentioned.

CROFTON is a manor, or, as it is now called, Crawton, which lies in the midst of the woods, about a mile and a half westward of Orpington-street. It is said to have been once a parish of itself, and to have been destroyed by fire. However that might be, the scattered foundations of houses, which the plough frequently turns up, and other such remains, shew it to have been formerly a place of some size and consequence.

This place was part of those vast possessions, with which William the Conqueror enriched his half-brother Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and it was accordingly entered, under the general title of that prelate's lands, in Domesday as follows:

Anschitillus holds of the bishop (of Bayeux) Croctune. It was taxed at 1 suling and 1 yoke. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is nothing; but there are 3 villeins and 4 borderers.

In the reign of king Edward I. this place was become the inheritance of Ralph de Wibourn, whose family was of good esteem and considerable property in this county, as appears by several ancient deeds of that

/r Strype's Annals, vol. ii. p. 3139.

102

time. From this name it went, about the latter end of king Edward III's reign, to Sir Robert Belknap, chief justice of the common-pleas, who was attainted and banished into Ireland, in the 11th year of king Richard II. In the 2d year of king Henry IV. this manor escheated to the crown, by the death of Juliana his wife, who had been left in possession of it by authority of parliament, notwithstanding her husband's attainder and banishment. In which year, on the petition of Hamon Belknap, their son, the parliament enabled him in blood and land to his father, notwithstanding the judgement made against him, as before-mentioned. For though Sir Robert Belknap was permitted by the parliament in the 20th year of that reign, to return from banishment, yet his attainder still remained as before. The Belknaps bore for their arms, Azure, on a bend between two cotizes three eagles displayed argent.

Sir Hamon Belknap left three sons, John, William, and Henry, each of whom successively inherited this manor. The latter, on the death of his two brothers, s. p. u. becoming possessed of it, resided at Beccles, in Sussex. He died in the third year of the reign of king Henry VII. leaving a son, Edward, and four daughters. He was succeeded in this manor by Edward his son, who became a great warrior, and a man of much public action, and was of the privy-council, both to king Henry VII. and VIII. He resided at Weston, in Warwickshire, and was afterwards knighted, and died in

the 12th year of that reign, without issue; on which his four sisters became his coheirs; Elizabeth, married to Sir Philip Cook, of Giddy-hall, in Essex; Mary, to George Dannet, of Dannet-hall, esq. Alice, to Sir William Shelley, and Anne, to Sir Robert Wotton./w On a partition of their inheritance, this manor fell to

/s Rot. Esch. ejus an. /t Cott. Records, p. 331.

/u See Dugg. Warw. p. 408.

/w Dugg. Warw. p. 409. MSS. pedigree of Bulter, of Sudley.

103

the share of Sir William Shelley, who soon afterwards passed it away by sale to Sir Robert Read, chief justice of the king's bench, in that reign; who, before the end of it, conveyed it to the hospital of the Savoy in London.

This hospital was suppressed in the 7th year of king Edward VI. a little before his death. Part of the revenue of it, consisting of seven hundred marcs yearly rent in lands, (in which was included this manor of Crofton) was given by the king to the citizens of London, towards maintaining his house of Bridewell, which he had given them at that time, and St. Thomas's hospital, in Southwark. This gift the king confirmed by his charter, on June 26, next following.

On the division of the above-mentioned lands between the two hospitals, this manor was allotted to St. Thomas's hospital, part of the possessions of which the inheritance of it still remains, and as such is now vested in the mayor and commonalty of the city of London, Thomas Cope, esq. being the present lessee of it.

There was a free chapel at this place, called Rufferth chantry, which was suppressed by the act of the 1st year of king Edward VI. and vested in the king: and it appears by the survey then taken,/x that it was distant two miles from the parish church, that there was a flood between them, by which the people of Crofton were hindered from going thither; and that there were two chantries more in this chapel.

MAYFIELD PLACE is a seat on the west side of the village of Orpington, being the scite of the small manor of Little Orpington, alias Mayfield. The latter name of Mayfield, or Mayvil, being its most antient and proper one, which it acquired from a family who formerly held it, as appears by several dateless deeds. Philip de Malevill, or Mayvil, as his name was commonly called, held this manor in the 12th and 13th of

/x In the Augtn. office.

104

king John's reign, of Richard de Rokesley, who held it of the archbishop, as the fourth part of a knight's fee; Malgerius de Rokesle, ancestor of Richard, held it of the archbishop by knights service, in the reign of the Conqueror, as appears by the general survey of Domesday, in which it is thus entered, under the title of land held of the archbishop by knights service:

Malgerius holds of the archbishop 3 yokes in Orpington, and it was taxed for so much without Orpington, in the time of king Edward the Confessor; now there are 2 yokes with-

in Orpington, and the third without. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 4 villeins, with 1 borderer, and 4 servants; and half a carucate and 3 acres of meadow, and wood for the pannage of 11 hogs. In the time of king Edward it was worth 40 shillings, when he received it 20 shillings, and now 50 shillings.

When the family of Malevill, or Mayvil, quitted the possession of this manor I do not find; but in the reign of king Edward III. the Rokesleys held it themselves; for John de Rokesley, grandson of Gregory, and rector of the church of Chelsfield, in the 33d year of that reign, conveyed it to Sir John Peche, from whom it descended down to Sir John Peche, knight-banneret, of Lullingstone, who dying without issue, in the reign of king Henry VIII. Elizabeth his sister became his heir, and being married to John Hart, esq. of the Middle Temple, he, in her right, became possessed of it./y His grandson, Sir George Hart, on the death of his father, in the 22d of queen Elizabeth, had possession granted of the manor of Mayfield, alias Malvyle, and two messuages, with five hundred acres of land, in Orpington, Chelsfield, Farnborough, and Otford; being held of the king, as of his manor of

/y Philipott, p. 259. Addenda.

105

Otford, by knights service./z From him it descended to his grandson, William Hart, esq. who died in 1671.

Sir Fisher Tench, bart. of Low Layton, in Essex, was possessed of it in the beginning of the reign of king George I. He had been created a baronet Aug. 8, in the 2d year of that reign; and bore for his arms, Argent, on a chevron between three lions heads erased gules, a cross croslet or./a He died in 1736, and was succeeded in the possession of it by his only surviving son, Sir Nathaniel Tench, bart. who died in 1737, unmarried; on which the title became extinct, and his only surviving sister, married to Soresby, became his heir, and he, in her right, became entitled to the manor of Little Orpington, which he soon after sold to Mr. William Quilter, leatherseller, of London, who new built the manor house. He was sheriff of this county in 1747, and died in 1764, having by will devised it to his niece, Susannah, who first married Mr. George Lake of Sevenoke, and next Richard Glode, esq. who on her death became possessed of it in his own right. He married secondly, Martha, daughter of James Oldershaw, esq. deceased of Leicester. He was sheriff of London, and knighted in 1795, and is the present owner of this estate, and at times resides here.

A court baron is held for this manor.

EASTHALL is a manor here, which is so called from its situation near the eastern bounds of this parish, though great part of the lands belonging to it lie in St. Mary Cray.

In the reign of king Edward I. it was in the possession of the family of Chellesfeld; one of whom, William de Chellesfeld, in the 13th year of that reign, had a grant of free warren for his lands here, and at other places in this neighbourhood. From this family the manor of Easthall, with that of Chelsfield,

passed, before the end of that reign, to Otho de Gran=  
/z Rot. Esch. ejus anni. /a Guillim, best edit. pt. ii. p. 215.

106

dison, whose descendant, Sir Thomas Grandison, died possessed of both in the 50th year of king Edward III. From which time to the 2d year of king Richard III. this manor passed in the same tract of ownership as that of Chelsfield did; in which year Isabel, widow of Henry viscount Bourchier, and earl of Essex, died possessed of them both.

In the next reign of king Henry VII. this manor appears to have been in the possession of Sir Edward Poynings, K. G. son of Robert, who was a younger son of Robert lord Poynings. He was a person of eminent note, and in great favour with Henry VII. who made him of his privy council, constable of Dover-castle, warden of the cinque ports, K. G. &c. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir John Scott, he had an only son, who died in his life time, though he left several natural children. He died possessed of it in the 14th year of king Henry VIII. as was found by the inquisition taken that year. On his death, not only without lawful issue, but without any collateral kindred, who could make claim to his estates, this manor, with his other lands, escheated to the crown,/b where it continued till king Henry VIII. granted it to Sir Thomas Cromwell, lord Cromwell, afterwards created earl of Essex, on whose attainder, in the 32d year of that reign, it became again vested in the crown, and staid there till the king, in his 36th year, granted it, among other premises, to Sir Martin Bowes, to hold in capite, by fealty only./c He alienated it in the 1st year of king Edward VI. to Sir Percival Hart of Lullingstone, from whom it descended lineally to Percival Hart, esq. of Lullingstone, whose only daughter and heir, Anne, carried it, with many other estates in these parts, to her second husband, Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. of Horeham, in Sussex, and

/b Philipott, p. 45. /c Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 16.

107

their only surviving son, Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. of Lullingstone, is the present possessor of this manor.

It appears by the escheat-rolls of the 28th of king Edward III. that Augustine Wallys then possessed premises called Bucklers, in Orpington. King Edward VI. in his 5th year, granted a messuage, formerly DELAHAYS, in Orpington, to Edward lord Clinton and Saye./d – The Hon. Richard Spencer, second son of Robert lord Spencer, of Wormleighton, was possessed of a seat in Orpington, in which he resided. He died in 1661, leaving by Mary his wife, daughter of Sir Edwin Sandys, bart. of Northborne, two daughters, Mary, married to William Gee, esq. of Bishop's Burton, in Yorkshire; and Margaret, to John Venables, esq. of Cheshire, who became their father's coheirs. William Gee, esq. seems, in right of his wife, to have become possessed of this estate, whose descendant, Richard Gee, esq. afterwards resided here, and died in 1727, having married Philippa, daughter of Sir Nicholas Carew, bart. widow of the Hon. John

Beaumont. He was succeeded in it by a son of the same name, who died in 1791, leaving by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Holt, esq. two sons, the eldest of whom became intitled to this seat. Before his father's death he took the name and arms of Carew, in pursuance of the will of Sir Nicholas Hacket Carew, bart. who died in 1762; an act having passed for that purpose in 1780, whose estate he likewise at length succeeded to by virtue of the limitations in Sir Nicholas's will. In 1794 he served the office of sheriff of this county, and now resides here. The arms of Gee are, Gules a sword in bend proper hilted or.

It appears by the survey, taken in pursuance of the act passed in the 1st year of king Edward VI. for the suppressing of chantries, obits, &c. that there was land in this parish of the clear yearly value of 6s. 8d. which

/d Augtn. Off. Deeds of Purch. and Excheq. box G. 34.

108

had been given for a sermon, to be preached yearly in the church of Orpington./e

There are no parochial charities.

ORPINGTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar of the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such is in the deanry of Shoreham. The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is small but neat, and kept in good repair; it consists of one isle, and a chancel at the east end; the screen between them is a curious piece of Gothic work, carved on oak, in good preservation; the spire and part of the tower are shingled; it contains two bells. On the north side of the inner door way, at the west end, is a tomb in the wall, under an arch of stone, of an elliptical or contrasted Gothic form, curiously ornamented; under it is an altar tomb, now boarded over, to form a seat. The entrance, or west door of this church is of Norman construction, as appears by the ornaments about it.

In this church, among others monuments and inscriptions are the following: on a small square board, fixed to the screen on the north side, next to the body of the church, is a memorial for Oliver, third son of Thomas Watts, vicar of this place, and of Aubrey his wife; he died an infant, 1698. In the great chancel, on the north side, a memorial for Rd. Gee, esq. ob. 1727; above are these arms quar. 1st and 4th, Gee a sword in bend: 2d and 3d, Spencer; another for Philippa, relict of the above mentioned Richard Gee, obt. 1744. Arms, Gee impaling three lions passant in a lozenge. On a grave stone, a brass plate and inscription in black letter, for William Gulby, esq. obt. 1439; underneath, a shield of arms, a chevron between three cross molines. On a grave-stone, in the middle, before the steps to the altar, is a large brass plate, with the figure of a priest, and inscription in black letter, for Tho. Wilkynson, A. M. preb. of Rippon and rector of Harrow, in Midd. and of Orpington, ob. 1511; on the south side, a mural monument for Mr. Rd. Spencer, 4th son of the Hon. Rd. Spencer, son of Rt. lord Spencer, arms, Spencer, above; below, Spencer, impaling or, a fess dancette between 3 cross crosetts fitchee gules. On adjoining grave-stones, within the rails, are memorials for Mary, wife of Wm. Gee, esq. of Bishop's Burton, in

/e Augm. Off. Survey of Chantries, &c.

109

Yorkshire, one of the daughters and heirs of the Hon. Richard Spencer, ob. 1702; above are the arms of Gee and Spencer quarterly; for Margaret, wife of John Venables, esq. of Agdon, in Cheshire, one of the daughters and heirs of the Hon. Rich. Spencer, ob. 1676; the arms, two bars impaling Spencer. A memorial for the Hon. Mary Spencer, widow of the Hon. Rd. Spencer, daughter of Sir Rich. Sandys of Northborne, obt. 1675, æt. 69; arms, Spencer impaling Sandys. A memorial for the Hon. Rich. Spencer, second son of Robert lord Spencer, baron of Wormleighton, obt. 1661, æt. 68; arms, Spencer with seven quarterings, a crescent for difference. In the north chancel, which is a small one, belonging to the seat called Barkhart, in this parish, at the west end, on a grave stone, is a brass plate, with the figure of a priest, and inscription in black letter, for Mr. John Gover, BLL. and vicar of this church, ob. Aug. 6, 1522. On two truss stones of an arch, at the east end, and on the capitals of the columns at the entrance of this chancel, are these arms, 1st, a chevron between three trefoils, 2d as the former, impaling a bend on a chief, two mullets pierced./f

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Orpington was valued at sixty marcs, and the vicarage of it at eight marcs./g

The church is a sinecure rectory, with a vicarage endowed, to which the church of St. Mary Cray is a chapel, as was formerly the church of Nockholt, which has been many years separated from it, and is now a free parochial chapel, the vicar of Orpington being instituted to this vicarage with the chapel of St. Mary Cray annexed. The vicarage was endowed by Richard archbishop of Canterbury, in 1173, and with a house and a parcel of land by archbishop Courtney, in 1393, which was confirmed by the dean and chapter that same year./h In 1687, Robert Say, provost of Oriel college, and rector of this church, on his granting a new lease of this parsonage, bound the lessee to pay annually an augmentation of 261. 13s. 4d. to the vicar of Orpington cum St. Mary Cray,

/f See the monum. and inscrip. at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 964.

/g Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/h Archives of dean and chapter, MSS. A. 11. Regist. Morton, Dene, Bourchier, and Courtney, MSS. Lamb.

110

which was that year confirmed by the archbishop and dean and chapter, and entered in the Register of the latter.

The rectory is a donative, in the gift of the archbishop of Canterbury, and is from time to time leased out by the rector, together with the tithe of wood in Knockholt, the parsonage-house, and about sixty acres of glebe land belonging to it. Hugh de Mortimer, rector of this church, released the demand of small tithes from the priors manor of Orpington./i

The rector is patron of the vicarage, and receives 16s. 8d. as a yearly acknowledgement from the vicar, who has 40l. per annum paid him by the lessee of the parsonage. The church of Orpington, with the chapel of St. Mary Cray, is valued in the king's books at 30l. 14s. 4<sup>1</sup><sub>2</sub>d. and the yearly tenths at 3l. 1s. 5<sup>1</sup><sub>4</sub>d. The vicarage is a discharged living of the clear yearly value, as certified, of 45l. the yearly tenths of which are 13s. 9d<sup>3</sup><sub>4</sub>./k

By virtue of a commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that the parsonage of Orpington was a donative, belonging to one Mr. Robinson, who received forty pounds per annum out of it, and held it by grant from the last archbishop of Canterbury, and let it out with the tithe wood in Knockholt, with the parsonage house, and forty acres of glebe-land, in Orpington, for certain years, and was worth, communis annis, two hundred pounds. That the vicarage belonged to one master Joiner, who had forty pounds per annum paid him out of the aforesaid tithes, and that the vicarage, as computed, was worth twenty pounds per annum./l

/i Cart. Antiq. chap. 349, among the archives of the dean and chapter.

/k Bacon, Lib. Regis.

/l Parl. Surveys, Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

111

#### CHURCH OF ORPINGTON.

##### PATRONS,

Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Hugh de Mortimer, in 1254./m

Archbishop of Canterbury      Master Reginald de Brandon,  
1293./n

Thomas Wilkinson, A. M. obt.

Dec. 13, 1511./o

Hugh de Mortimer./p

John Bancroft, D. D. obt. Feb.

1640./q

..... Robinson, 1640.

Robert Saye, in 1687./r

Robert Uvedale, LL. D. in 1696.

Henry Hall, A. M. obt. Oct. 31,  
1763./s

Charles Plumptree, D. D. Nov.

1763, obt. Sept. 14, 1779./t

The Crown, by lapse      William Backhouse, D. D. Ap.

1780, resigned 1781.

William Clarke, A. M. Mar. 30,  
1782.

#### VICARS.

Rector of Orpington      John Gover, LLB. obt. Aug. 6,  
1522.

William Wood, obt. June 1620./u

Christopher Monkton, obt. July 1,  
1651./w

Henry Stiche, obt. Nov. 1670.

Benjamin Blackstone, obt. Jan.  
1671./x

Robert Bourne, 1671, obt. Nov.  
1687./y

/m Chart. Antiq. Cap. Cantuar. He  
was provost of Oriel college, Oxford.

/n Prynne's Records, p. 592.

/o Also rector of Harrow on the  
Hill, prebendary of Rippon.

/p Archives of the dean and chap-  
ter.

/q Bishop of Oxford. He lies buried in Cuddesdon church. He held this rectory in commendam. Willis's Cath. vol. ii. p. 433, 553.

/r Reg. dean and chapter of Canter.

/s He was also vicar of East Peckham, rector of Harbledown, and treasurer of Wells.

/t And archdeacon of Ely, and rector of St. Mary Woolnoth, London.

/u He lies buried in this church.

/w And rector of Hayes, where he lies buried.

/x He was buried at Chichester.

/y He was rector of Hayes, and was buried in this church.

112

PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Rector of Orpington Thomas Watts, A. M. 1687. re-signed 1732.

James Whitehouse, 1732, obt.

Francis Fawkes, A. M. resig. 1755.

1774./z

John Till, A. M. 1774./a

J. Pratt, 1778. Present vicar.

/z He resigned this vicarage on being presented to the rectory of Hayes.

/a He was presented to Hayes in October 1777.

ST. MARY CRAY

LIES the next parish northward. It was anti-ently called South Cray, as being the most southern of those parishes in this neighbourhood, which take their name from the river Cray; but so early as king Edward I.'s reign it was known by its present name of St. Mary Cray, the church of it being dedicated to St. Mary.

This parish lies in a valley close to the river Cray, near the western banks of which it has a populous, handsome village, consisting of a street near three quarters of a mile in length, with the church on the eastern side of it. The market was continued to be kept in the market-house here till it was blown down, all but the chimney, in the great storm, on Nov. 26, 1703, since which it has been disused, to the no small detriment of the place.

In the village are two seats worth notice, one of which belonged to the Haddons, owners of Godyngton, in Chellsfield, in which name it continued till Alexander Haddon, jun. gent. passed it away to Edmund Hodsoll, third son of William Hodsoll, gent. of South Ash. He died in 1711, and was buried in this church, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, only daughter of Thomas Stonehouse of London, four sons and

113

seven daughters; from him this seat descended to Mr. Edward Hodsoll, banker, of London, who much

improved it, and resided here. He died possessed of it in 1794, as did his son about one month afterwards, unmarried, on which it came to his sister Matilda Hodsoll, spinster, the present possessor of it.

The other seat was the property and residence of Benjamin Greenwood, esq. who, by Philadelphia his wife, daughter of Sir George Mertins of London, left one son, George, and a daughter, married to William Cope, esq. George Greenwood, esq. resided here, and died possessed of this estate in 1775, leaving his sister above mentioned his sole heir, whose husband, William Cope, esq. passed it away to Mr. Whitaker of London; since which it has been purchased by Gerard Levinge Van Heythuysen, esq. who resides in it, the present owner of it.

The house in which the Stanhopes are said to have resided in this parish is called the Mount, and by the ruins of walls, foundations, &c. round it, appear to have been a seat of some size and note, but it is now dwindled down to a mere cottage, being at present the property of James Chapman, esq. of Paul's Cray hill.

A fair is holden here on September 10, for toys.

THIS PARISH is within the manor of Great Orpington, to which it is an appendage, which manor is now in the possession of Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. of Lullingstone.

The liberty of the duchy of Lancaster claims over such part of this parish as is not within this manor.

In the 7th year of King Edward I. the prior of Christ church, Canterbury, claimed before J. de Reygate, and others his associates, Justices Itinerant, the privilege of a market in the town of Crey weekly, on a Wednesday throughout the year, and all rights belonging to it./b

/b Regis. of Christ ch. Cart. 283.

114

ST. MARY LYNG OCKMERE is a manor in this parish, which was formerly two, called the manors of Ackmere and Sentling.

At the time of taking the survey of Domesday, in the reign of William the Conqueror, these manors were part of the possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, the King's half brother, under the general title of whose lands they are thus entered in it, viz. the former manor by the name of South Cray.

Adam Fitzberbert holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Sud Crai. It was taxed at 1 suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates and 14 villeins with 1 borderer having 4 carucates. There are 6 servants, and 10 acres of meadow; wood for the pannage of 10 hogs. In the time of King Edward the Confessor it was worth 6 pounds, and afterwards 4 pounds, and now 10 pounds. Toli held it of king Edward.

And the manor of Sentling as follows:

Hugh, grandson of Herbert, holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Sentlinge. It was taxed at 1 suling and a half. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 20 villeins with 2 carucates. There is a church and 9 servants, and 6 acres of meadow, and 20

acres of pasture; wood for the pannage of 8 hogs. In the time of Edward the Confessor it was worth 8 pounds, and afterwards 6 pounds, now 8 pounds. Bonde held it of the archbishop.

After the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, in the 19th year of the Conqueror's reign, these two manors came into the possession of Jeffry de Peverel, who held them in capite, by barony, as of the castle of Dover.

In the 13th of King John, they were in the possession of John de Mares, who held them by the like service, and was descended from Thomas de Mares, who accompanied king Richard I. to the Holy Land, and was with him at the siege of Acon there, /c in whose

/c Philipott, p. 260.

115

name they continued in the beginning of Edward I.'s reign, when they passed to Gregory de Rokesle, who, in the 9th year of it, obtained the confirmation of a market weekly on a Wednesday, and a grant of a fair on the assumption of the Virgin Mary, in his manor of Sentling. /d Gregory de Rokesle died possessed of these manors in the 20th year of king Edward I. Reginald de Rokesle held them at the time of his death, in the 11th year of king Edward III. as appears by the inquisition then taken, in capite, by the service of one knight's fee, and paying besides to the ward of Dover-castle, 16s. 4d. for each week in which he ought to perform ward there, and paying to the manor of Ospringe one pair of gilt spurs, and suit to the king's court of Ospringe; and it was then found that his grandson Richard, son of William de Rokesle, was his heir. In the 20th year of that reign, John de Rokesle, parson of the church of Chellesfield, paid respective aid for them, by the names of the manors of Seintlyng and Okemore, alias St. Mary Cray, as one fee, which Roger de Rokesle before held of the king in Seintlyng and Okemore, the tenants of them always paying to the ward of Dover-castle.

They continued in the possession of this family till the latter end of king Edward III.'s reign, in the 46th year of which Reginald de Rokesle died possessed of them, /e soon after which they became the property of Sir Robert Belknap, chief justice of the common pleas, who was attainted and banished into Ireland, in the 11th year of king Richard II. notwithstanding which, his wife Juliana continued in possession of them by grant of parliament, and died possessed of them in the 2d year of king Henry V. leaving Sir Hamon Belknap her son and heir; who, on his petition to parliament, was enabled to succeed to these

/d Rot. Pat. anno 9 Edward I. No. 35.

/e Rot. Esch. ejus an. Cott. Rec. p. 331, 340.

116

manors, of which he died possessed in the 7th of king Henry VI. as did his grandson Sir Edward Belknap, in the 12th year of king Henry VIII. On his death without issue, his four sisters became his coheirs; and on a partition of his estates among them, these manors fell to the share of Anne, married to Sir Robert

Wotton of Bocton Malherb, who, in her right, became possessed of them. By the inquisition taken after the death of his son, Sir Edward Wotton, in the 6th year of king Edward VI. it appears that these manors were then held in capite; they afterwards descended to his grandson, Sir Edward Wotton, of Bocton Malherb, who in the 1st year of James I. was created lord Wotton, baron of Marley in this county./f He was succeeded by Thomas lord Wotton, his son and heir, who died in the 6th year of king Charles I. without male issue, on which his four daughters became his coheirs; of whom Catharine, the eldest, carried this manor (for both Sentling and Ockmere seem now to have been esteemed but as one) in marriage to Henry lord Stanhope, son and heir to Philip earl of Chesterfield,/g who died in his father's life time, leaving one son, Philip, and two daughters surviving.

Catharine, lady Stanhope, on her husband's death, became again possessed of this manor in her own right, and carried it in marriage to her second husband, John Poliander Kirkhoven, lord of Hemfleet, in Holland. She was afterwards created countess of Chesterfield for her natural life, and married, thirdly, Daniel O'Neale, and died in 1667. By her second husband she had one son, Charles Henry, who succeeded his father in this estate, and was afterwards, on account of his mother's descent, created lord Wotton in Kent, baron Wotton of Boughton, anno 2 Charles II. and in 1660, was naturalised by parliament. He was likewise created earl of Bellamont in the kingdom of Ire=

/f Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 414. /g Philipott, p. 260.

117

land, and dying without issue,/h was buried in the cathedral church of Canterbury, in 1683. He died possessed of this manor of St. Mary Cray, alias St. Mary Okemore, which he devised by his will to his nephew, Charles Stanhope, second son of his brother Philip before mentioned, then earl of Chesterfield, with several limitations and remainders in it.

Charles Stanhope, esq. above mentioned, changed his name to Wotton, and possessed this manor, but died in 1703, without issue, on which it came, by the above entail, to Philip lord Stanhope, his elder brother, who, on his father's death, in 1713, succeeded as earl of Chesterfield, and died in 1726, being succeeded in titles and estate by his eldest son, Philip Dormer Stanhope, earl of Chesterfield, who passed away this manor of St. Mary Lyng Ockmore to Thomas Borrett, esq. of Shoreham, in this county, late prothonotary of the court of common-pleas. He died possessed of it in the year 1751, leaving two daughters his coheirs; the eldest of whom, Susannah, married William Glanvill Evelyn, esq. of Ightham; and the youngest, Martha, married her kinsman, Thomas Borrett, esq. of Shoreham, the son of Trevor Borrett, eldest son of John Borrett, prothonotary, by Elizabeth Trevor, his second wife; which John Borrett, by Anne Partridge, his first wife, was father of Thomas Borrett of Shoreham, father of Susannah and Martha above mentioned. They, in right of their wives, jointly possessed this manor, in undivided moie=

ties, and afterwards joined in the sale of it to Herman Berens, esq. of Kevington, who died possessed of it, in 1794, and his only son, Joseph Berens, esq. is now owner of it.

KEVINGTON is a manor and seat in this parish, now vulgarly called Kebington.<sup>i</sup> This estate was,

<sup>/h</sup> Coll. Peerage, last edit. vol. iii. p. 270.

<sup>/i</sup> Augtn. Off. Parl. Surveys.

118

for some generations, the residence of the Mannings, a family of good account in this part of Kent, who took their name from a town so called in Saxony,<sup>k</sup> from whence they came very early into this kingdom. In the reign of king Henry IV. John Manning<sup>l</sup> was settled in Cowdham, his son of the same name was also of that parish, and died anno 14 Henry VI. leaving by Juliana his wife, daughter and heir of Richard Brockhill, relict of William Wallys, one son, Hugh Manning, who was of St. Mary Cray, and married the daughter of Sir William Brandon, kinswoman to Charles duke of Suffolk, by whom he had two sons, John, who settled at Downe, from whom descended the Mannings of Downe, Halsted, and Westerham; and Richard, who continued at St. Mary Cray, and had three sons; of whom Richard, son of Thomas, the eldest, is said, in his epitaph, to have been of Manning's-hall, the old family seat. He lies buried in this church with the rest of this family.

The Heraldic Visitation of Kent, taken in the year 1619, gives the arms of Manning, Gules, a cross patonce between four cinquefoils or. Notwithstanding which it appears by their monuments and grave stones in this church, which was the burial place of the family for many generations, that the Mannings of this parish bore the cinquefoils in their coat of arms slipt; those of Westerham bore, A chevron between three cinquefoils slipt.

John Manning, gent. the youngest son of Richard above mentioned, was of Kevington, and had two sons, Edward, who was bred to the law, and Richard; the former of whom succeeded to this manor in 1640.

Edward Manning, great grandson of Edward, the youngest son of Edward above-mentioned, succeeded at length to Kevington, and married Anne, only

<sup>/k</sup> Guillim, p. 138.

<sup>/l</sup> Vis. Co. Kent, anno 1619. Pedigree of Manning.

119

daughter of Sir Henry Onslow of Drungwick, in Sussex, by whom he left several children. He died in 1703, and was buried in this church; on which Richard Manning, esq. their eldest surviving son, succeeded to this manor, and resided at Kevington, of which he died possessed in 1753, without issue, and by his will bequeathed it to his nephew, Denzil Onslow, esq. of Drungwick, son of Denzil Onslow, esq. of that place, by Mary his sister; he afterwards resided at Kevington, and married in 1730, the daughter of Thomas Middleton, esq. Their son, Middleton Onslow, esq. after some years, passed it away by sale to Hermans Berens, esq. merchant of the city of London, who re-

sided here. He married the daughter of Mr. Stephen Riou, merchant of London, and died in 1794, leaving one son, Joseph Berens, esq. of Hextable, and two daughters unmarried. He was succeeded in this estate by his son above mentioned, who is a director of the South Sea and Hudson's Bay companies, and is the present possessor of this estate.

HOCKENDEN is a manor, which lies partly in this parish, and partly in Paul's Cray and Sutton at Hone.

In the reign of king Edward I. it was in the possession of the family of Stanggrave, who were owners of Eatonbridge in this county.

Sir Robert de Stanggrave was owner of the manor of Hockinden, in the 24th year of the above reign, for he then released to the prior and convent of Christ church, in Canterbury, a piece of land lying hard by their wood at Hockinden, in consideration of which they released him from the custom of fencing round their wood. His seal, being a cross verry, remained appendant to the deed. In the 28th year of the same reign he had a grant of free warren for his manor here,/m and his descendant, Robert de Stanggrave, died possessed of it in the 12th year of king Edward III./n

/m Rot. Cart. ejus anni. No. 13. /n Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

120

In later times the family of Feerby, or Ferby, who resided at Paul's Cray hill, were in possession of it; one of them, Sir Leonard Feerby, in 1675, conveyed his manor of Hockenden to Mrs. Anne Yeend, widow, who devised it by will to her grandchild, Mary, the eldest daughter of Sir Anthony Browne, by Mary her daughter.

Sir Anthony Browne left four daughters, Mary the devisee above mentioned, who married John Archer, but died without issue; Anne, married to Sir John Tyrrel, who likewise died without issue; the third daughter was lady Rawsterne; and the fourth Elizabeth, who married Robert King, by whom she left surviving three daughters, her coheirs. On the death of Mary, the eldest daughter of Sir Anthony Browne, and devisee of this manor, without issue, Lady Rawsterne, by a decree of Chancery, became entitled to one moiety or three-sixths of it, which part came afterwards into the possession of William Wentworth, earl of Strafford, who died possessed of it in 1791; since which it has passed from his heirs by sale to James Chapman, esq. of Paul's Cray hill, who is the present owner of it.

The other moiety was divided between the issue of the fourth daughter Elizabeth, and their husbands. In consequence of which two-sixths of this manor became at length, by descent and marriage, the property of Thomas Sergison, esq. who, in the year 1740, conveyed them by sale to Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. of Lullingstone.

As to the remaining sixth part of this moiety, it came at length by descent, as well as will, to Elizabeth, the only daughter and heir of Richard Young; and she, in 1747, sold her interest in it to Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. before mentioned, who on this became possessed of the three sixth parts, or one full and undivided moiety of this manor.

From him it descended to his only surviving son,  
Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. who obtaining an act of

121

parliament for that purpose, passed it away by sale, in 1767, to James Chapman, esq. of Paul's Cray hill, who by purchasing the other moiety of the earl of Stafford's heir, as before mentioned, is now become the owner of the whole of this manor and estate.

It appears by an inquisition taken at Hockynden, before the king's escheator, in the 2d year of Edward I. that Isabella de Monte Alto, held in gavelikende of the prior of Christchurch in Canterbury, a messuage and forty-two acres in Hokinden, by the service of 10s. 11d. per annum, and by the service of ploughing, mowing, and carrying the produce of certain lands of the prior to his grange at Orpington, and other services, and by making suit at the court of the prior there./o

WALDEN'S is a reputed manor in this parish, which in 1662, was in the possession of Caleb Trenchfield, esq. who lies buried in Eltham church, and died possessed of this manor; he was the son of Thomas Trenchfield, esq. one of the admirals of the navy in the reign of king Charles I. and left by Judith, his wife, daughter of Edmund Poyntell, esq. of Chelsilhurst, a son, Caleb Trenchfield, who was a merchant of London. The Trenchfields bore for their arms, A chevron between three cinquefoils. He sold this manor to Ebbutt, whose descendant, Mr. John Ebbutt, dying a few years since, left it by will to his nephew of the same name, who is the present owner of it, and resides here.

#### CHARITIES.

SIR GEORGE HART ordered by his will, 40s. to be given in money to the poor of this parish, who do not receive alms, and 3s. 4d. in bread, and 6s. 8d. in money for a sermon, charged on an estate, called Wested, now belonging to Sir John Dyke, vested in the minister and churchwardens, and of the annual produce of 2l. 10s.

Mr. EDMUND HODSOLL in 1711, gave by his will, the annual sum of 15s. in money, to be given weekly to the poor, who shall

/o Somner's Gavelkind, p. 184.

122

be aged and impotent, and who come to church to hear divine service and sermons, charged on a farm, called Hutchin's, in St. Mary Cray, vested in the minister and churchwardens, and of the above annual produce.

Mr. MANNING gave by will, for three poor people, who do not receive alms, a sum of money yearly, one-third charged on the Kevington estate, in St. Mary Cray, the other two thirds on an estate, called Patten-grove, in Orpington, now vested in the owner of the former estate.

Mrs. CATHARINE WITHENS, gave by her will, in 1715, for the education of poor children at school, and towards the support of poor aged men and women, who do not receive alms of the parish, a sum of money to purchase lands, which were accordingly purchased near Eatonbridge, now vested in the ministers of Paul's Cray, St. Mary Cray, and Orpington, and in trustees appointed by them, and of the annual produce of 40l.

Mr. VALENTINE SPARROW gave by his will, in 1726, to be distributed in bread for the poor weekly, to the minister one guinea for a sermon on Easter Sunday, and to the clerk half a guinea, money vested in the public funds, of the annual amount of 205*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* in the names of trustees, now of the annual produce of 6*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.*

ST. MARY CRAY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester and deanry of Dartford. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. It is a large building, and contains three isles and a cross isle, a large chancel, and two small ones or cha= pels; the two latter belonging to the family of Hod= soll, of this parish. At the west end is the steeple, in which hang five bells. It is esteemed as a chapel to the church of Orpington, and as such is in the pa= tronage of the rector of that church, the vicar of Or= pington being instituted to that vicarage with the chapel of St. Mary Cray appendant to it.

In this church, among other monuments and inscriptions, are the following. In the cross isle, at the west end, on a grave stone, a brass plate with the figure of a woman in her shroud, and in= scription in black letter, for Isabell Cossale, and for William Obson her son; on another, near the former, a brass inscription, the figure having been torn away, John Morgan, sen. ob. 1479. In the middle isle, on a grave stone, a memorial for Mr. John Ab= bot of this parish, ob. 1759, æt. 69. In the south isle, a brass plate with inscription in black letter, the figure torn off, for Alice Lorde,

123

ob. 1515. In the great chancel, within the rails of the altar, a mural monument for one of the Manning family, the arms at the top are defaced; on the south side, within the rails, an altar tomb, on which are the figures of a gentleman and lady finely engraved in brass, and over them an inscription for Richard, son of John Manning, gent. who married Rachael, one of the daughters and coheirs of William White of Hempsted, in Middlesex, with whom he lived thirty-nine years, and died in 1904, æt. 63, s. p. leaving her surviving; above are the arms of Manning, Gules a cross pa= tonce between four cinquefoils slipt or, a crescent for difference. On the north side, within the rails, opposite the above, is an altar tomb with a brass plate, with an inscription for Richard, son of Tho. Manning, who dwelt and died at Manning's-hall, the old homestall of this family, he died in 1605, æt. 72. On a grave stone, without the rails, a memorial for Edward, son of Edward Manning, esq. who married the only daughter of Sir Henry On= slow of Drungwick, in Sussex, by whom he had fifteen children, nine of whom are here buried, and Thomas was then living, ob. 1703, æt. 49; above are these arms, quarterly, 1st, Manning, as above; 2d, a cross between twelve croslets fitchee impaling a fess between six rooks. A memorial for Edward, son of Edw. Man= ning, esq. and Anne his wife, daughter of Geff. Nightingale, esq. of Newport Pond, in Essex, he died in 1640, æt. 65; she died in 1659, æt. 79. Richard Manning, esq. died in 1753, æt. 54; above are these arms, quarterly, 1st and 4th, Manning; 2d, a bend counterchanged; 3d, a cross between twelve cross croslet. fitchee; at the bottom, in a lozenge, the arms of Manning impa= ling per pale ermine a rose. On a hatchment against the screen, on the north side, are the arms of Manning, a crescent for difference, and over them an inscription, shewing, that under a stone in this chancel lies buried Thomas Manning, of the exche= quer office, gent. of Clifford's inn, second son of Edw. Manning; esq. of this parish; he died unmarried in 1704; on the north side

of the altar is a boarded pannel, shewing that the same was erected by Stephen Parker and Anne his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Onslow, to the memory of her three children, Edward, Elizabeth, and Anne Manning, who lie buried in this chancel by their father, Edward Manning, esq. on the south wall is a hatchment with these arms, Sable, lion rampant, ermine langued, and armed gules between three crosses pattee fitchee gules, a crescent for difference, and an inscription, shewing them to be the arms of Henry, son of Robert King, who died in 1659; on the north side, another hatchment, with the like arms in lozenge, being those of Anne King, youngest daughter of Robert King, gent. ob. 1615. At the entrance into the chancel, a memorial for Philadelphia Greenwood, eldest daughter of Benjamin Greenwood, esq. by Philadelphia his wife, ob. 1751, æt. 18; under the above inscription, the figure of a woman in brass, and beside it a mark

124

cut in the stone, as if intended for another figure, and an inscription for Mrs. Philadelphia, wife of Benjamin Greenwood, esq. of this parish. She was second daughter to the late Sir George Mertins, of London, she died in 1747, æt. 46 years. On a grave stone on the north side, before the rails, is a brass, with the effigies of a man and his three wives, and an inscription in black letter, for Richard Avery, Johne, Agles, and Elinor, his wives, obt. 1588. In the south chancel, on a mural monument, are the effigies in stone of a man and his wife, in the dress of the age, kneeling at a desk, with each a book open, and behind him his son, and beneath an inscription for Margaret, wife of Robert Crewes, citizen and grocer of London, who had one son buried here by her, she died in 1602, and was the daughter of Francis Haddon, of this parish, gent. beneath are the arms of the Grocers Company, and above these, or, a bend indented quarterly between 6 escallop shells, or, impaling Haddon, or, a leg couped at the thigh, azure; on a hatchment, are these arms, Hodsoll quarterly, a fess wavy argent between three stone fountains; of the second, impaling argent on a fess sable, a leopard's head between two mullets, or, between three falcons with their wings displayed azure, armed, jessed and belled or, and inscription, shewing, that under a stone near it, lies Edward, third son of William Hodsoll, of South Ash, gent. he married Elizabeth Stonehouse, only daughter of Thomas Stonehouse, citizen and apothecary of London, by whom he had eleven children, of whom two sons and two daughters lie in the church of Stansted, near Wrotham, and two sons and one daughter in this chancel; he died in 1711, æt. 71. She died in 1725, æt. 77, and were buried in the same grave. Mr. Hodsoll purchased this estate of Alexander Haddon, gent. the younger. A memorial for Jane, wife of Samuel Atwood, rector of Ash, near Wrotham, youngest daughter of Edmund Hodsoll, of this parish, gent. obt. 1734, æt. 50; above, a lion rampant between eight acorns impaling Hodsoll. A memorial for Mrs. Helena Hodsoll, eldest daughter of Mr. Edmund Hodsoll, late of this parish, ob. 1756, æt. 83. In the north chancel, on a grave stone, the figure of a woman in brass, and inscription in black letter, for Elizabeth Cobham, late wife of George Cobham, brother to the lord Cobham, and her first husband, John Hart, gent. father and mother to Sir Percival Hart, she died 1543. At the corners of the stone have been four shields, the two upper ones only remain, viz. quarterly, first and fourth, Hart; second and third, Peche./p

/p See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large in Reg. Roff. p. 1017.

125

By virtue of a commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that St. Mary Cray was a vicarage, and chapel of ease to Orpington, and fitly divided already from it, being worth sixteen pounds per annum; and that it had neither house or glebe land belonging to it./q Its valuation in the king's books is included in that of Orpington.

- - -

#### PAUL's CRAY

LIES the next parish northward. This place takes its name from the church being dedicated to St. Paulinus, and the river Cray, which runs through it; being in antient deeds usually written Paulins Cray, and sometimes Cray Paulins. In the Textus Roffensis it is called Rodulphs Cray.

This parish is but small, being hardly more than two miles and a half in length, from east to west, and somewhat less than a mile and a half in breadth. It lies for the most part in the vale, through which the river Cray takes its course, and having turned a corn mill belonging to the Paul's Cray hill estate, it runs on northward towards Fooths Cray. The high road from Orpington and St. Mary Cray passes through it towards the Maidstone road, and thence across it to Bexley and Dartford heath. There is no village; the houses in the parish, about fifty in number, standing dispersed throughout it. The church stands alone, half surrounded by tall elm trees, the shade of which casts a pleasing gloom, and makes a picturesque appearance to the building, as well as the church-yard around it. It is situated near the road through it on the eastern side, the way to it used, till of late, to be through the water, to the great inconvenience of the parishioners, but it

/q Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr. vol. xix.

126

is now raised above it. About half a mile eastward from hence, is the seat of Paul's Cray Hill; the opposite or western boundary is much covered with coppice wood, near which is Paul's Cray common, extending up to Chesilhurst, which is supposed on this side to have at times incroached much on the boundaries of this parish. The soil is chiefly a light dark coloured mould, though on some of the high grounds there is a strong loam. It is in general very fertile, pleasant and healthy, being diversified with hill and dale, interspersed with woods, verdant pastures along the valleys, and on the gentle declivities fertile fields of corn land.

The liberty of the duchy of Lancaster claims over part of this parish, as being within the duchy court of Farnborough, to which such lands holding of it, pay certain annual rents./r

Paul's Cray was given by William the Conqueror to Odo, his half-brother, bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent; and it is accordingly entered in the survey of Domesday, under the general title of the bishop's lands in this county, as follows:

Anschill de Ros holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Craie.

It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate and 7 villeins, with 6 borderers having 1 carucate. There is a church and 1 acre of meadow, and 3 acres of pasture.

In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth 4 pounds, and now 3 pounds. Leoric held it of king Edward.

This place was afterwards part of the possessions of Sir Simon de Cray; he was lord-warden of the cinque ports in the 3d and 4th years of king Edward I. and his sons, William and Simon de Cray, attended that king in his victorious expedition into Scotland, and were there knighted./s He held it of the honour of Alber-

/r Parl. Surveys, Augtn. off. /s Philipott, p. 109, 122.

127

marle, by homage and service, and it was again held of him by Peter de Huntingfield and Simon at Broke, as half a knight's fee.

In the reign of king Edward III. this manor was in the possession of a family called De Campagne; one of whom, John de Campagne, in the 20th year of that reign, paid aid for it as half a knight's fee, which Peter de Huntingfield and Simon at Broke before held in Crey Paulin of Simon de Cray.

From this name it passed soon afterwards into that of Scroope; and Henry le Scroope, of Masham, was possessed of it in the beginning of the next reign of king Richard II. as he was likewise of another half knight's fee in this parish, which once belonged to Anthony Bec, bishop of Durham. He was son of Geoffry le Scroope, who was possessed of the manor of Eltham, and was of the same family as those of Bolton, in Yorkshire. In the second year of king Richard II. being then banneret, he was sent ambassador to Charles, king of Navarre;/t and died in the 15th year of that reign, possessed of this manor, which was held in capite, being worth twenty marcs yearly./u He left two sons, Stephen, his heir, and William, who was afterwards created earl of Wiltshire.

The eldest son, Sir Stephen le Scroope, succeeded him here that year, and obtained a grant of free-warren for his manor of Paulin's Cray. He died in the 7th year of king Henry V. being then possessed of this manor, and leaving Sir Henry Scroop his son and heir. But Margerie, his mother, surviving, had for her dower, among other premises, an assignation of two parts of it.

In the 1st year of king Henry V. he was appointed to conclude a peace with the French; a trust which he shamefully abused, by treating privily with them, on promise of a reward; but before this plot could be

/t Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 658. /u Ibid. vol. p. 427. Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

128

put in execution, it was discovered; soon after which he was tried at Southampton, and was beheaded there. On his attainder this manor escheated to the crown. Sir John Scroope, his brother, on his death without issue, became his next heir. He wrote himself of Masham and Upsale, where he had two eminent seats.

In the 2d year of king Henry VI. by the assent of the lords in parliament, he obtained a grant from the king of those lordships, which came to the crown by the attainder of Henry lord Scroope, his brother, to hold for four years, among which was this manor, of which he afterwards obtained the fee. He died in the 34th year of king Henry VI. being then possessed of this manor, which descended down to Thomas, lord Scroope, who was summoned to parliament from the 22d year of Edward IV. until the 7th year of king Henry VII. and died shortly after possessed of this manor, leaving by Elizabeth, daughter of John Nevill, marquis Montagu, one sole daughter, his heir; who carried it in marriage to Henry, lord Scroope, of Bolton; who leaving likewise one only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married to Sir Gilbert Talbot, knight-banneret,/w he, in her right, became possessed of it.

Sir Gilbert Talbot was of Grafton, in Worcestershire; and was third son of John, second earl of Shrewsbury, by his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of James Butler, earl of Ormond and Wiltshire, and was ancestor to the present earl of Shrewsbury and the late earl Talbot; and being a great favorer of king Henry VII's pretensions to the crown, when earl of Richmond, he was by that king, in his 1st year, made a privy-counsellor; and being then knight for his majesty's body, had many rewards of lands conferred on him, and among others the manor of Grafton above-mentioned. In the 2d year of that reign, being one of the commanders at the battle of Stoke, near Newark,

/w Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 657.

129

where Lambert Simnel, and his followers, were defeated, he was made a knight-banneret; and being a person of singular wisdom and valour, was elected knight of the Garter; and was honorably employed, both by that king, and his son king Henry VIII. till the time of his death, in the 8th year of that reign. He had two sons; Sir Gilbert, his heir, and Sir Humphry Talbot, who died without issue, in the holy land; and two daughters, Catherine and Jane./x By one of these daughters the manor of Paul's Cray went in marriage to Danby, descended from those of Middleham, in Yorkshire;/y in which name it continued some years, till it was sold to Hunt; and from thence again, in the reign, of queen Elizabeth, to Mr. James Smith, of London, gent. who deceasing without issue male, Mary, his sole daughter and heir, carried it in marriage to Mr. Edmund Waller, of Beaconsfield, in Buckinghamshire; whose descendant passed it away by sale to James Narborough, esq. only brother of Sir John Narborough, knight and baronet, admiral of the fleet in the reigns of king Charles and James II. both of whom were unfortunately cast away, with Sir Cloudesly Shovel, on the rocks of Scilly, in 1707.

James Narborough, esq. had settled this manor and his other estates in this parish, on his three nieces Elizabeth, Elhanna, and Sophia, daughters of Sir Thomas D'Aeth, bart. by Elizabeth, daughter of his brother, Sir John Narborough. They carried this manor and estate in marriage to their three husbands;

Elizabeth, being married to the hon. Henry Dawney, clerk, third son of Henry viscount Downe; Elhanna to captain Fitzgerald; and Sophia to William Champneys, esq. of Boxley, in which state it continued till about the year 1742, when they all joined in the sale of it to the hon. Thomas Townshend, of Chesilhurst,

/x Collins's Peerage, last edit. vol. ii. p. 425.

/y Philipott, p. 109.

130

whose son, the right hon. Thomas, lord viscount Sydeney, is the present proprietor of it.

The quit rents of this manor are small; a court-baron is held for it.

There were some lands, part of the manor of Paul's Cray, which, with the advowson of the church, were alienated, in the reign of king Edward I. by Sir Simou de Crey, owner of them, to Walter de Trailly; and on his death, descended to his son, of the same name; and his descendant, John Traylie, died possessed of them in the 34th year of king Edward III. They came afterwards into the possession of Heron, owner of Kitchin-grove, another parcel of this manor, which formerly belonged to the family of Crey before mentioned, and in the 20th year of king Edward III. was possessed by John de Paulteney, and others, who then paid aid for it as half a knight's fee, as parcel of the manor of Paulin's Crey, called Kechyngrove.

Sir Christopher Heron possessed these premises in the reign of king Henry VIII. when he alienated them, with the advowson, to Walsingham, of Scadbury, in Chesilhurst; whence they passed, in like manner, by sale to Betenson; and from that name to the hon. Thomas Townshend, of Chesilhurst, whose son, the right hon. Thomas, lord viscount Sydney, is the present proprietor of these premises, together with the advowson of the church of Paul's Cray.

PAUL'S CRAY-HILL is a seat in this parish, which takes its name from its situation. It was very early the residence of the family of Fereby, or, as they afterwards were called, Ferby, whose antient seat was at Speldhurst, where they resided in the reigns of king Edward II. and III. John de Fereby, of Speldhurst, in the latter end of those reigns, sealed with his paternal coat armour, A fess ermine, between three goats heads erased,

/z Reg. Roff. p. 269.

/a Philipott, p. 109.

131

as appears by the labels fixed to several of his deeds./b One of his descendants, some time after, removed from Speldhurst hither,/c having purchased lands, at Hockenden and elsewhere in this parish, of John Dynley, who in the 16th year of king Edward III. had licence to build a bridge over the river here, to his demesne lands at that place.

Andrew Ferby possessed this seat, the manor of Hockenden, and other premises in this parish, in the reign of king Henry VII. and lies buried in this church, bearing for his arms, Sable, a fess ermine, between three goats heads erased argent./d In whose descendants it continued down to Leonard Ferby, esq.

who resided at this seat, which he much improved; one of the gateways belonging to it still bearing the initial letters of his name, and the date, 1632. He was knighted in 1629, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Percival Hart, and then settled on her in jointure his seat in Paul's Cray, his manor of Hockenden in St. Mary Cray, and his capital messuage called Walkins, alias Waklins, and other premises in Paul's Cray, and died at Dartford in 1679, after which his grandsons, Maniford Feerby, of Farningham, esq. and Catherine his wife, and Leonard and John Feerby, his brothers, (sons of Percival Feerby, esq.) conveyed this estate in 1686 to George Gifford, of Penis, in Fawkham, esq. whose son and heir, Thomas Gifford, esq., dying without issue male, his estates became, partly by his will, and partly by descent, the property of his three daughters and coheirs; Margaret, married to Thomas Petley, esq. Mary, to John Selby, of the Mote, in Igham, esq. and Jane, first to Finch Umphrey, gent. and afterwards to Francis Leigh, of Hawley, esq.

In 1718, a partition was made of several of the estates left by his will to his daughters, Mary and Jane,

/b Philipott, p. 320. /c Ibid. p. 109.

/d Visitn. co. Kent, anno 1619, pedigree of Ferby.

132

and among others, one moiety of this seat and estate, was by it allotted to Francis Leigh, and Jane his wife, who were before possessed of the other undivided moiety of it. They in 1722, by their trustees, conveyed this estate to Mr. William Chapman; on whose death his son, Richard, possessed it; but dying, without male issue, Eleanor, his daughter, carried it, first, in marriage to Mr. Richard Abbot, and then to Mr. James Chapman. She left only by her last husband, one son, James, and a daughter, Anne, who married the Rev. Edmund Faunce, late vicar of Sutton-at-Hone.

James Chapman, esq. the son, on his father's death, became intitled to this manor, with the seat and estate belonging to it, of which he is the present possessor, and resides here. He married Miss Mawe, by whom he has three sons and four daughters, the eldest of the sons, James Chapman, jun. esq. of the secretary of state's office for the war department, married in 1792, Miss Greenwood, of New Norfolk-street, London.

By virtue of a commission of concealments an inquisition was taken, anno 19 king Edward IV. in which it appeared that Thomas Sutton, clerk, and others, were possessed of a fourth part of the manor of Broke, in this parish; which they conveyed to Thomas Walsingham, esq. who possessed it at his death in the 7th year of that reign, when it was held of the king, as of his duchy of Lancaster, by knights service.

#### CHARITIES.

ARABELLA KINGSMAN, by will, in 1751, gave towards the putting of children of this parish to school, a sum of money, being now 50l. vested in the 3 per cent. Bank annuities.

RICHARD CHAPMAN, by will, in 1724, gave a like sum of money for the same purpose, vested in the hands of James Chapman, at the interest of 4 per cent.

JOHN FERBY, esq. in the reign of king Henry VI. by deed in

his life-time, founded an alms-house in this parish, which he ordered by his will, to be regulated in every thing accordingly by it.

/e Rot. Esch. ejus anni, No. 78.

133

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church is dedicated to St. Paulinus. It consists of two isles and a chancel, having a low pointed steeple at the west end, in which are three bells.

In this church, among other monuments and inscriptions, are the following: – In the chancel, a grave-stone and memorial for Mr. Henry Frith, of North Cray, son of John, and grandson of Mr. Roger Frith, some time rector of this place, obt. 1697, æt. 78; another for John Ashley, A. M. rector of this parish 41 years, obt. July 18, 1703, æt. 63; and Hannah, his wife, obt. 1691, æt. 44; and two of his children, who died young. On another, a memorial for William Scrafton, A. M. rector of this parish 38 years, obt. Jan. 31, 1743, æt. 64; and Frances, his wife, obt. 1738, æt. 78; and for their grandson, lieut. Thomas Sharpe, who was lost in the Ramielies, on Feb. 15, 1760, æt. 24. In the north isle, a grave-gone, with a small plate, having an inscription in black letter, for John, second son of James Smythe, of London, gent. obt. 1584; above is his figure in a winding sheet. In the upper end of the south isle, on a grave-stone a brass plate, with the remains of an inscription in black letter, for John Ferby, gent. obt. 14 . . under the inscription were the figures of himself and his wife, under him 4 sons, and under her 2 daughters. Many of the family of Ferby of Paul's Cray-hill, are buried in this church, but the chancel belonging to them in it having tumbled down, continues still a heap of ruins, covering their grave-stones and monuments so much, as to prevent the discovery of any of them. It is shut out from the rest of the church by a wall./f

The patronage of it was formerly appendant to the manor of Paul's Cray, and continued so till Sir Simon de Crey, lord of that manor, enfeoffed Walter de Trailly in this advowson, among other premises, part of the manor of Paul's Cray, as has been already mentioned. His descendant, John Traylie, possessed them in the 34th year of king Edward III.

In the reign of king Henry VIII. the Herons were patrons of this church, from whence it was alienated to the family of Walsingham, and from them to Betenson, from whom it passed to the hon. Thomas Townshend,

/f See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 1001.

134

of Chesilhurst, whose son the right hon. Thomas, lord viscount Sydney is the present patron of it.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Greypaulin was valued at eleven marcs./g It is valued in the king's books at 12l. 13s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 5s. 4d./h There are twenty-two acres of glebe land belonging to it.

By a commission of enquiry in 1650, it was returned, that Paul's Cray was a parsonage, with an house, and eighteen acres of glebe land, all worth sixty pounds per annum; one master Snelling preaching there./i

CHURCH OF PAUL's CRAY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Robert de Lodesdone, in 1316./k  
William Hermer, 1453./l  
John Seman, 1557./m  
Roger Frith.  
Sir Thomas Walsingham, knt.      Laurence Snelling, deprived in  
1637./n  
John Ashley, instituted in 1662,  
obt. July 18, 1703.  
William Scrafton, A. M. instit.  
Nov. 19, 1703, obt. Jan. 31,  
1743.  
Colonel Selwyne.      Tho. Kingsman, ob. July 1752./o  
Hon. Thomas Townshend.      Edward Barnard, D. D. ind. Sep.  
28, 1752, obt. Dec. 2, 1781./p  
John Symons, ind. May 23, 1782,  
the present rector.  
/g Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.  
/h Ect. Thes. p. 382.  
/i Parl. Surveys; Lambeth libr.  
/k Reg. Roff. p. 113.  
/l He was canon of Windsor in  
1453, and was prebendary of Troll in  
the church of St. David. Antiq. of  
Berksh. vol. iii. p. 250. He died in  
1472. Le Neve's Fasti, p. 379.  
/m Reg. Roff. p. 588.  
/n He was censured and deprived,  
for not reading the Book of Sports.  
Rushworth, vol. ii. p. 459.  
/o He and his two predecessors were  
buried in this church.  
/p Afterwards head master of Edton  
school; in 1760 canon of Windsor,  
provost of Edton college, and vicar of  
Ospringe in this county.

135

- - -

FOOT's CRAY.

NEXT to Paul's Cray, northward, lies Foot's Cray, which takes its name from the owner of it in the time of the Saxons, one Godwin Fot, (Fot in the Saxon tongue signifying the same as Foot in English), and from the river Cray which runs through this parish. It is also frequently written Votes-Cray, and Foets Cray, in old deeds and writings.

The high road which leads through the centre of this county from New Cross to Wrotham, and thence to Maidstone, Cocks-heath, and the Weald of Kent, passes through this parish. Near the east end of which a small street of houses built on each side of the above road forms the village of Foot's Cray, at the east end of which the river Cray, crossing that road, and having turned a mill, directs its course towards North Cray. Foot's Cray park almost adjoins the village, on the north side of it, near which the church stands. Hence the ground rises westward towards Sidcup, at about

half a mile distance from whence, towards the western bounds of this parish, it is very dreary and unpleasant, and much covered with coppice wood, and the soil is very poor, being much of it either a gravel or cold unfertile clay. It contains about sevend hundred and fifty acres of land.

At the time of the taking of Domesday, in the reign of the Conqueror, this place was part of the possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, the king's half brother; accordingly it is entered in that survey under the general title of the bishop's lands:

The same William (Fitzoger) holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Crai. It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 8 villeins, with 1 carucate and an half, and 4 cotagers, and 1 mill of 10 shillings. There is 1 servant,

136

and wood for the pannage of 6 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 4 pounds, and afterwards 3 pounds, now 4 pounds. Goduin (Fot.) held it of king Edward.

On the bishop of Baieux's disgrace in 1084, his estates were all confiscated to the crown.

In the reign of king John Robert de Crevequer held one knights fee in Foot's Cray, and William de Eynesford held it again of him. After which this place was held by the family of Rokesle. Gregory de Rokesle died possessed of it in the reign of king Edward I. His son Roger de Rokesle seems to have possessed only a moiety of this estate, the other being possessed by Thomas de Warderoba. Roger de Rokesle passed away his interest in it in the 33d year of that reign, to John Abel, who died possessed of it in the 16th year of king Edward II./q his son Walter Abel conveyed it to Sir Simon de Vaughan,/r who paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III. In the book of which it is thus entered.

'Of Sir Simon Vagen, and the prior of St. Mary, of Southwarke, for one fee in Fotiscrey, which the heirs of Thomas de Wardroba, and the tenants of Robert Crevequer, held of Hamon Crevequer; of which Simon holds one moiety, viz. that part which was Robert Crevequer's; and the prior holds the other moiety, which was the aforesaid Thomas's, in the fields called Le Hoke and Craywode, in this parish.'

Sir Simon Vaughan died possessed of the manor of Fotis Crey, who lies buried with his wife under an altar tomb in this church, with their figures at length on it. His descendant, Hamo Vaughan, died owner of it in the 18th year of king Richard II. and left an only daughter and heir, Alianore, who carried it in mar-

/q Rot. Esch. ejus anni. /r Philipott, p. 109.

137

riage to Warner, from whom it descended to John Warner, esq. of Foot's Cray, who was sheriff of this county in the 20th year of king Henry VI. But this family at length ended in two daughters, and coheirs, one of whom married John Heron, and the other Den-

ham; and on the division of their inheritance, this manor was allotted to the former. His descendant, Christopher Heron, esq. in the 21st year of king Henry VIII. passed it away by sale to Sir Edmund Walsingham, whose descendant, Sir Francis Walsingham, principal secretary of state to queen Elizabeth, about the middle of that reign, alienated some part of the lands by fine in the 7th and 8th of that reign to John Ellis, and the manor itself, with the remainder of the demesne lands some years afterwards to Mr. John Gellibrand, of London; whose descendant, Mr. Samuel Gellibrand passed it away by sale in 1694 to Mr. George Perkins, gent. of Lambeth, on whose death it descended to his son, John Perkins; who, dying without issue male, Mary, his only daughter and heir, carried it in marriage to Mr. Edward Townsend, of Brockley, in Deptford, who joined with his wife in the sale of part of the demesne lands to Bourchier Cleve, esq. to enlarge his possessions about Foot's Cray Place, and they are now in the possession of Benjamin Harenc, esq.

But the manor of Foot's, alias Votes Cray, with the residue of the demesne lands, descended to their three sons and coheirs; who, in 1764, alienated it to John Calcraft, esq. of Ingries, who died possessed of it in 1772, and his eldest son, by his will, became intitled to it, by whose trustees it was afterwards sold to Charles Stewart Minshaw, esq. the present owner of it.

A court-baron is held for this manor, which extends over part only of this parish. The tenants are all freeholders, and it appears by the court rolls, that some of the lands within it are held by heriot service.

/s Philipott, p. 110. See his life Biog. Brit. vol. iv. p. 2188.

138

FOOT'S CRAY-PLACE is a seat in this parish, which was built on that part of the demesnes of the manor of Foot's Cray, which was sold by Sir Francis Walsingham by fine, anno 7 and 8 queen Elizabeth, to John Ellis; from which name this estate passed to Limen, and from thence to Smith, in which it remained till the heirs of Mr. George Smith alienated it to Bourchier Cleve, of London, pewterer, who pulled down the old seat, and erected, at some distance northward from it, an elegant mansion of free-stone, built after the model, though with some few alterations, of the late earl of Westmoreland's seat at Mereworth, who designed it after one of Andrea Palladio, built for a Vincentine gentleman on the bank of the river Bacchiglione, near the city of Venice. At the same time he inclosed a park round it, which he embellished with plantations of trees, and an artificial canal, which flows the whole length of the park, at about a quarter of a mile's distance from the house, seeming from thence a natural stream, though it is but an artificial cut from the river Cray, which runs just by.

He died possessed of it in 1760, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who, in 1765, carried this seat, with other possessions, in marriage to Sir George Yonge, bart. The ancestor of whose family was Walter Yonge, esq. who is mentioned in the visitation of Devonshire, taken in 1620, to be a younger son of the Yonges of Berkshire, and to have

settled in Devonshire in the reign of king Henry VII. Sir John Yonge, on the restoration of king Charles II. was advanced to the dignity of a baronet, Sept. 26, 13 King Charles II. from whom descended the present baronet. They bear for their arms, Ermine on a bend, between two cotizes sable, three griffins heads or. They in 1772 joined in the sale of Foot's Cray-place, with the rest of their estate in this parish, to Benjamin Haren, of London, esq. sheriff of this county in 1777, who now resides here.

139

Sir Thomas Puloccil, or Pullyson Draper, who was lord mayor in the 26th year of queen Elizabeth, was son of William Pullocil, of Foot's Cray.

SIDCUP is a hamlet in this parish, lying on the Maidstone road, and was so called from a family who formerly possessed much land in and about it. Thomas de Sedcopp was owner of this estate in the 35th year of king Henry VI. as appears by his deed; wherein styling himself of Chesilhurst, he grants to Bernard Cavel, gent. of the same place, a parcel of his land here, called Estfeld and Groves. It consists at present of a small street of houses, among which is an inn of much resort, and two or three gentlemens houses, the principal of which is a seat which belonged to Christopher Hull, esq. who resided here, and died possessed of it in 1790, having married the widow of Mr. Eastchurch, of Maidstone, sister of Lewis Cage, esq. by whom he had no issue. He devised his interest in it to his nephew of the same name, now of London, gent. who is at present intitled to his interest in it, but it is in the occupation of lady Hardy.

There are no parochial charities.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester and deanry of Dartford. The church stands at the back of the village on the north side, close to the corner of Foot's Cray park. It is a small mean building, consisting of two isles and a chancel, having a low spire steeple at the west end, and is seemingly of high antiquity. It is dedicated to All Saints.

In this church, among others, are the following monuments and inscriptions: – In the chancel, a grave-stone and memorial for John, the infant son of Sir Robert Marsham, and Margaret, his wife, obt. 1682; a grave-stone and brass plate and inscription in black letter, for Thomas Myton, rector of this church, obt. Jan. 30, 1489; on the south side a small monument and inscription, shewing that in the cemetery at the east end of this chancel, is buried William Smith, rector of this parish, obt. Aug. 4, 1765. In the north chancel, on an altar tomb, under an arch on the north

140

side, are the figures in stone of a man in armour and his wife, with their heads resting on cushions, that of the man is much broken, but the woman is entire, with a dog at her feet; they are very antient, and of rude sculpture; Philipott says they represent Sir Simon de Vaughan and his wife, and were entire when Robert Glover made his collections of the Kentish monuments. In the east window of the great chancel are these arms, very antient, argent, a chevron gules between three mullets pierced sable, impaling argent a saltier engrailed azure, bearing the arms of Abell./t

The advowson of this church was part of the possessions of the priory of St. Mary Overy in Southwark, so early as the reign of king Edward I./u and seems to have been part of that moiety of this place which the prior paid aid for, in the 20th year of king Edward III. as hath been already mentioned.

The patronage of it continued in the prior and convent of St. Mary Overy till its final dissolution, which happened in the 31st year of king Henry VIII. when the priory, together with the revenues and possessions belonging to it, were surrendered into the king's hands./v The advowson of this church, thus becoming part of the royal revenues, has remained fixed there ever since, the king being the present patron of this rectory.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at one hundred shillings./w

This rectory is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of 42l. 17s. the yearly tenths of which are 16s. 4d./x

By virtue of a commission of enquiry in 1650; issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Foot's Cray was a parsonage sequestered, with a house and seven acres of land, all worth thirty-five pounds per annum, one master May preaching there./y

/t See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 954.

/u Tan. Mon. p. 537.

/v Stry. Sto. Surv. b. iv. p. 9.

/w Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/x Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/y Parl. Surveys, Lamb. libr. vol. xix.

141

#### CHURCH OF FOOT's CRAY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Prior and Convent of St. Mary  
Overy.      Thomas Myton, obt. Jan. 30,  
1489.

The King.      John Smith, in 1557./z  
— Holt.

Adam Wilson, D. D. June 25,  
1633, obt. 1634./a

Edward Folliatt, L.L. B. June  
9, 1634./b

John Rowlands, M. A. presented June 12, 1734, obt.  
1660./c

Isaac Hunt, clerk, 1690.

John Hancocks, clerk, presented  
1691.

John Whittell, 1720, obt. 1726.  
Richard Lucas, instit. July 26,  
1725.

— Uffington, May 12, 1739.  
William Smith, 1747, obt. Aug.  
4, 1765.

— Gwyn, June 1766.

Thomas Moore, M. A. 1768. Pre=

sent rector./d  
/z Reg. Roff. p. 588.  
/a Vacant by death. Rym. Fœd.  
vol. xix. p. 531.  
/b Ibid. p. 614. He was presented  
to Ashmers, in the diocese of Peter=  
borough.  
/c Ibid. p. 615.  
/d In 1768 a dispensation passed, for  
his holding this rectory with that of  
North Cray.

- - -

#### NORTH CRAY

LIES the next parish north-eastward. It is so called from the river Cray, and from its situation, being the northernmost of the three parishes before mentioned, which take their names from it.

North Cray and Ruxley were formerly two distinct parishes, and continued so till they were united by cardinal Pole, archbishop of Canterbury, in 1557.

142

This parish is exceeding pleasant and healthy, being situated on a gravelly soil, and in a well frequented neighbourhood. The high road from the Crays, which may be stiled the garden of this part of Kent, and Orpington to Bexley passes through the village of North Cray, in which is a neat seat called Wullet-hall, late belonging to Neighbour Frith, esq. of London, who died possessed of it in 1776, and devised it by his will to his nephew, the Rev. Edward Cockayn, who has since changed his name to Frith, and is the possessor of it, but Mr. Trimmer is the present occupier of it.

The river Cray takes its course on the eastern side of this parish, and having passed the gardens of North Cray-place, Wullet-hall, and Vale Mascall, at which last it forms a beautiful cascade, it flows on to Bexley.

On the south side of this parish is the manor house of Ruxley, seated on a fine eminence, just above the 13th mile stone, in the high road to Farningham; and by the foundations, which still may be traced in the farm yard, the antient mansion appears to have been a large pile, suitable to the eminent families who have resided in it. The present building is a neat house, which was enlarged not many years since, and the lands contiguous to it now laid out, and much improved, by Mr. James Bedell, the late occupier of it.

This place was given by William the Conqueror to his half brother Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, under the general title of whose lands it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday, taken about the year 1080.

The same Anschitillus de Ros holds of the bishop (of Baieux) another Cray. It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 7 villiens, with 5 borderers, having 1 carucate. There is 1 mill of 42 pence, and 5 servants. Wood for the pannage of 7 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth 4 pounds, and now

three pounds. – These two estates were 2 manors in the time of king Edward the Confessor, and now they are in one manor. Alwin held the same of Alnod Cilt.

These two estates are North Cray and Paul's Cray; the latter of which was in the possession of the same owner as the former, viz. Anchitillus de Ros; and the description of the latter immediately precedes that of North Cray, above recited in Domesday. Most likely, when the property of them was separated, which happened no long time after, they again became two distinct manors, and as such they now remain.

In the reign of king Richard I. North Cray was become part of the possessions of a family, who were seated in the adjoining parish of Rokesle, now called Ruxley, and assumed their surname from it. Magerius de Rokesle was seated there at the time of the survey of Domesday. His descendant, Sir John de Rokesle, accompanied king Richard I. into Palestine, and was present with that prince at the siege of Acon there, with many others of the Kentish gentry. He died possessed of these estates, and from him they afterwards descended to his grandson, Gregory de Rokesle, a person of no small account in his time, having been lord mayor of London several times. He was also, as appears by the chartularies of London, keeper of the king's exchange there, and assay master general of the king's mint, and was a good benefactor to the Grey Friars./e He died in the 20th of that reign, and was buried in the choir of the church of the friars above mentioned, now called Christ church, but his monument has been long defaced./f His son, Sir Richard de Rokesle, was a person of no less reputation, being seneschal and governor of Poictou and Montreal, in Picardy, in the 1st year of king Edward II.'s

/e Philipott, p. 108. Strype's Stow's Survey, book ii. p. 106. Howel's Londin. p. 312. Nich. Hist. Lib. p. 254.

/f Stow, book iii. p. 129, 132. Coll. Aug. Min. part ii. p. 5. Newc. Rep. vol. i. p. 461.

reign. He is said to have borne for his arms a coat similar to the lord Leybornes, viz. A fess gules, between six lions rampant;/g yet this coat was not borne by all the different branches of it; for John de Rokesle, grandson of Gregory before mentioned, who was lord of the manor of Lullingstone, in this county, bore, A cross, and in the dexter quarter a rook,/h as appears by his grave-stone in that church. Sir Richard, above mentioned, married Joan, sister and heir of John de Criol;/i he left by her two daughters, his co-heirs, of whom Agnes, the eldest, married Thomas de Poynings; and Joan, the youngest, became the wife of Hugh de Pateshul; notwithstanding which, upon his death, the manor of North Cray descended to a younger branch of the family of Rokesle,/k and in the 20th year of king Edward III. it was held by Roger de Rokesle, jun. and his coparcenors, who then paid aid for it, as half a knight's fee in Crey. This Roger de Rokesle it seems died without issue, and this manor devolved to Poynings, as next of kin, whose descend-

ant, Robert de Poynings, son of Richard de Poynings, by Isabel, daughter and heir of Robert lord Fitzpain, died anno 25 Henry VI. being then possessed of the manors of Rokesle and North Cray, *l* leaving Alianore, the wife of Sir Henry Percy, his cousin, and heir, who had, in her right, possession granted of the manors and lands of her inheritance, among which was the manor and advowson of North Cray; but the manor and advowson of Rokesle went to Robert, younger and only surviving son of the above mentioned Robert de Poynings, as will be hereafter shewn. This antient and right noble family of Percy, derive their descent from Mainfred de Perci, who came out of Denmark into Normandy.

*g* Camden's Rep. p. 213.

*h* Pat. 1 King Edw. ii. p. 1.

Rym. Fœd. tom. iii. p. 19.

*i* Dug. Bar. vol. i. p. 771.

*k* Philipott, p. 108.

*l* Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

145

William de Perci, his direct descendant, came into England with William the Conqueror. He had the surname of Gernon or Algernon, and being much in favour with that king, enjoyed, through his bounty, vast possessions in this realm.*m*

His descendant, William de Perci, had four sons, who all died issueless, and two daughters, Maud, married to William earl of Warwick, who afterwards died without issue; and Agnes to Josceline de Lovaine, a younger son of Godfrey duke of Brabant, who, on their father's death, in the reign of king Henry I. became his coheirs. This Agnes, before she accepted of Josceline de Lovaine for her husband, covenanted with him, that he should either bear the arms of Percy, Azure five fusils in fess or, and omit his own; or continue his own arms, and take the surname of Percy to him and his posterity for ever. He chose the latter, and continued to bear the arms of Brabant, Or, a lion rampant, azure; *n* and from this marriage sprung the Percys, earls of Northumberland, who afterwards made so illustrious a figure in the annals of this kingdom. In a direct line from the above marriage was descended Henry lord Percy of Alnwick, who being present as marshal of England, at the coronation of king Richard II. was then advanced to the title of earl of Northumberland, and in the 7th year of that reign made a knight of the Garter.

This great earl, who was slain in rebellion in the 9th year of king Henry IV. married first Margaret, daughter of Ralph lord Nevill, by whom he had three sons; of whom Henry, the eldest, surnamed Hotspur, was slain in the battle of Shrewsbury, in his father's life time.

He married secondly Maud, sister and heir to Anthony lord Lucy, and widow of Gilbert de Umfraville, earl of Angus, by neither of whom she had any issue.

*m* Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 269, et seq. *n* Lel. Itin. vol. viii. p. 6.

146

She joined with the earl in settling a large portion of

her great inheritance, in case she should die without issue upon Henry lord Percy, his son and heir, by his first wife, on condition, that he and the heirs male of his body should bear the then arms of Percy, that is, of Brabant quarterly, with the arms of Lucy, Gules, three lucies, argent, in all shields, banners, and so forth, whosoever there should be occasion of bearing and shewing forth their own paternal arms; which agreement was made in the presence of the king, and by his special command.

The gallant and high-spirited nobleman, Hotspur lord Percy, left a son, Henry, who, upon his humble petition to parliament, in the 2d year of that reign, that the king had enabled him to be earl of Northumberland, notwithstanding any forfeiture of his ancestors, and praying a general restitution to them in blood, and all their hereditaments, which were intailed, had it then granted to him./o

He was succeeded in his honours by Sir Henry Percy, lord Percy, his eldest son, who married, as has been above mentioned, Alianore, daughter of Richard de Poynings, deceased, and next heir of his father, Robert de Poynings, baron Poynings, Bryan, and Fitzpain; on whose death, in the 25th year of king Henry VI. Sir Henry became, in right of his wife, intitled to the manor of North Cray, with other great inheritance in this county, and elsewhere, of which he had possession granted next year. Succeeding likewise by this marriage to the above baronies, he was summoned to parliament as lord Poynings, the writ being directed, Henrico Percy Dno de Poynings, chival. He was slain in the 39th year of that reign, fighting on the king's part, at the fatal battle of Towton-field, in Yorkshire; and the next year, being the 1st of Edward IV. an act of attainder passed against him, king Henry,

/o Cott. Rec. p. 540, 545.

147

the queen, and others, for the death of Richard duke of York./p

Henry lord Percy, his son, was in his minority when his father was slain, and was kept in the Tower, till the 9th year of that reign, when he was released, and swore allegiance; and next year, on the resignation of the title of earl of Northumberland by John Nevill, who was thereupon created marquis Montacute, had that dignity restored to him, and he had summons to parliament as earl of Northumberland, in the 12th year of king Edward IV. and the same year an act passed to restore him in blood to that earldom, and all such hereditaments of the late earl, as came to the king's hands, in his 9th year, and the attainder made against him was made void./q After which he was made K. G. honourably employed by him throughout his reign, and in the 1st of king Richard III. he was constituted lord high chamberlain; afterwards, repairing with all his strength to the king at the fatal battle of Bosworth-field, he was taken prisoner; but in consideration of the neutrality which he kept there, he was taken into king Henry's favour, and made one of his privy council, &c.

In the 4th year of that reign, being commanded

by the king to levy the aids, which he was extorting from the people, and entering Yorkshire for this purpose, the people conceiving that the earl was the cause of it, tumultuously rose and murdered him, near Thrisk, in that county.

Henry Algernon, his eldest son, became the fifth earl of Northumberland, and was K. G. and in the 12th year of king Henry VII. was one of the chief commanders of the king's forces in the battle of Blackheath, against the lord Audley and others, and the year afterwards had possession granted of his lands;

/p Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 281. Cott. Rec. p. 670.  
/q Cott. Rec. p. 681, 689.

148

and dying in the 18th year of that reign, was buried at Beverly, leaving several children; of whom Henry, the eldest son, succeeded his father in titles; and, in the 19th year of king Henry VIII. had possession granted of all the lands which descended to him as heir to his father; and having married Mary, daughter of George Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury, whom his father had caused him to marry, to prevent his giving umbrage to the king, by his addresses to Anne Boleyn, of whom he had been much enamoured. He died without issue, in the 29th year of that reign, and was buried in the church there. The year before his death, being possessed of this manor of North Cray, he that year, by the title of earl of Northumberland, lord of the honour of Cockermouth, baron of Percy, Lucy, Poynings, Fitzpayne, and Bryan, warden of the East and Middle marches of Wales, and K. G. granted to the king, whom he styles, The most dread, invincible, and most excellent Prince, Henry VIII. all his manors, castles, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, within the realm of England, though the year before this, an act had passed, for assuming to the king and his heirs, all the lands and possessions of this earl, in case of failure of heirs of his body.

This manor, thus coming into the king's hands, he granted it in his 36th year to Sir Roger Cholmley, together with the rectory and advowson of the church of North Cray appendant to the manor, to hold in capite./r

Sir Roger Cholmeley was the natural son of Sir Richard Cholmondeley, or Cholmeley, a younger son of the Cholmondeleys of Cheshire, and in the 27th of king Henry VIII. being then sergeant at law, was chosen recorder of London, and in the 33d year, one of that city's representatives in parliament, and after=

/r Rot. Esch. ejus anni, pt. 3 and pt. 18.

149

wards chief baron of the exchequer, and then chief justice of the king's-bench./s

He held this estate but two years; for in the 38th year of that reign he alienated this manor and advowson to Sir Martin Bowes, /t the son of Thomas Bowes, of the city of York, and being of the Goldsmiths-company, was lord mayor of London in the 37th year of the same reign. He was buried in the church of St. Mary Woolnoth, London, with his three wives.

He bore for his arms, Ermine, three bowes in fess erect gules, on a chief azure, a swan argent billed and membered gules, having in its bill an annulet or, between two leopards faces of the last./u

By the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. his lands and possessions were disgavelled. He died anno 9 queen Elizabeth, and was succeeded in this manor of North Cray, with the advowson of the church of it, by William Bowes, his son and heir, who held it in capite. He died without male issue, leaving two daughters his coheirs, Elizabeth, married to William Buggin; and Anne, to Sir Edward Fowler, who, in right of their respective wives, became joint possessors of his estates;/w but upon a partition of their inheritance, in the year 1634, this manor, together with the advowson, became the sole property of Mr. William Buggin; whose descendant, John Buggin, esq. sold them about the year 1710 to Thomas D'Aeth, esq. afterwards created a baronet in 1716. He joined with his eldest son, Narborough D'Aeth, esq. about the year 1738, in the sale of both manor and advowson, the mansion-house, called North Cray-place, and other premises belonging to them in this parish, to Jeffry Hetherington, esq. who resided

/s Coke's Rep. pt. ii. p. 113.

Ir. Peer. vol. iii. p. 71. Strype's Stow's Surv. book v. p. 160.

Ibid. second Appendix, page 9. Dudg. Orig. p. 86, 88.

/t Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 11.

/u Strype's Stow's Surv. book ii. p. 161. bk. v. p. 132. Coll.

Aug. Min. pt. ii. p. 4.

/w Philipott, p. 109.

150

here; and dying unmarried, possessed of them, in 1767, by his will devised them, among his other estates in this county, to his only surviving brother, the Rev. William Hetherington, fellow of Eaton-college, and rector of Farnham Royal, in Buckinghamshire; a gentleman, whose universal benevolence and liberality of mind, gained him the praise and admiration of every one. He died in 1778, unmarried, and by his will (his younger brother, Mr. Samuel Hetherington, having died likewise unmarried, in 1765) devised them, among his other estates, to Thomas Coventry, esq. descended of the same ancestors, as the present earl of Coventry. He is the present owner of this manor and advowson, and resides here. Mr. Coventry is a widower; his wife, Mrs. Coventry, died in 1779, without issue.

This manor has a court leet and court baron, and the custom of the manor is for the jury in the leet to present two persons to the lord, or his steward, for the office of constable of the parish of North Cray, out of which they appoint one. In the court baron the tenants are all freeholders.

Robert Poynings, carver, and sword bearer to Jack Cade, after he had been pardoned for being in that rebellion in the 29th year of king Henry VI. raised another rebellion in this place, in the 32d of that reign.

ROKESLE, otherwise RUXLEY, as has been already mentioned, was a distinct parish, from North Cray, till it was united to it by cardinal Poole, archbishop of Canterbury, in 1557.

This place, as well as North Cray, was given by William the Conqueror to Odo, bishop of Baieux, his half brother; and it is accordingly thus entered in the survey of Domesday, taken in that prince's reign under the general title of the bishop of Baieux's lands.

In Helmestrei hundred, Malgerius holds Rochelei of the bishop (of Baieux). It was taxed at 1 suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 caracute

151

and an half, and 10 villeins, with 10 borderers, having 2 caracutes and an half. There is 1 mill of 12 shillings. Wood for the pannage of 3 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 4 pounds, when he received it 3 pounds, and now 100 shillings. Alured held it of king Edward.

This Malgerius, from his possession and residence at this place, assumed the surname of Rokesle, being called Malgerius de Rokesle,/x and notwithstanding the disgrace and forfeiture of the bishop of Baieux, continued in the possession of Rokesle, though the fee of it was granted to Hugh de Crevequer, who held it in capite, by barony of the king, as of his castle of Dover, it making part of the barony of Crevequer. Of him it was held by Malgerius de Rokesle, by the tenure of performing watch and ward within the castle for a certain time, according to his proportion of land. His descendant, Sir John de Rokesle, who attended king Richard I. into the Holy Land, died possessed of this place; and from him it descended to Richard de Rokesle, who held it in the 7th year of king Edward I./y

In the 21st year of that reign, John de Rokesle, was owner of Rokesle, and then endeavoured to get his lands here exempted from suit and service, at the hundred court, but the jury gave it against him./z He died possessed of it in the 29th year of Edward I.

In the next reign of king Edward II. this place was held by Sir Richard de Rokesle, seneschal and governor of Poictou and Montreal in Picardy, who died without male issue, leaving by his wife Joan, sister and heir of John de Criol, two daughters his coheirs, of whom Agnes, the eldest, married Thomas de Poynings; and Joan, the youngest, married first Hugh de Pateshull, and secondly Sir William le Baud,/a who in her

/x Text. Roff. p. 182.

/y Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

/z Harris's Hist. Kent, p. 263.

/a Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 771.

152

right became possessed of this manor, and died owner of it in the 4th year of king Edward III. In remembrances of which marriages the arms of Baud, Three chevrons, in chief a label of three points, impaling Rokesle, and of Rokesle impaling Criol, were carved on the roof of the cloisters at Canterbury; and in St. Pe-

ter's church, in Canterbury, were the coats of Rokesle and of Poynings, single; and of Poynings impaling severally Rokesle, Talbot, Norwood, and Fitzpain; and of Baud impaling Rokesle. The arms of Rokesle were likewise in the windows of Sheldwich church.

Their son, Sir William Baud, died in the 50th year of king Edward III. possessed of it, with the advowson of the church of Rokesle, holden of the king of his castle of Leeds, as of the barony of Crevequer, by homage and fealty, and by the service of paying to the ward of Dover castle, Richard de Poynings being his kinsman and next heir,/b who was the younger brother of Thomas, grandson of Thomas de Poynings, who married Agnes, the eldest daughter and coheir of Sir Richard de Rokesle, and sister of Joane, mother of the said William le Baud last mentioned. He died possessed of this estate in the 11th of king Richard II. holding it by the tenure before mentioned./c On his death Isabel, his widow, daughter and heir of Robert lord Fitzpain, held it in dower, till her death, in the 17th year of that regin; upon which Robert de Poynings, their son, succeeded to them, and died possessed of them in the 25th of king Henry VI./d His eldest son, Richard, whose daughter, Alianore, married Sir Henry Percy, died in his life time, so that Robert de Poynings, the younger and only surviving son of Robert, became intitled to it, and died possessed of it in the 9th year of king Edward IV. he was succeeded by his son, Sir Edward Poynings, a man much in favour, both with king Henry VII. and VIII. be=

/b Rot. Esch. ejus anni. /c Ibid. /d Ibid.

153

ing governor of Dover castle, lord warden of the five ports, and K. G. who died possessed of them in the 14th year of the latter reign,/e having married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Scott, by whom he left no issue, though he had several natural children. He died not only without legitimate issue, but without any collateral kindred, who could make claim to his estates; so that this manor and advowson, among others, escheated to the crown, and were afterwards granted by king Henry VIII. to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, who, in the 31st year of that reign, had, among others, an act passed for disgavelling his lands and possessions in this country;/f on whose attainer and execution, in the 32d year of that reign, they reverted again to the crown; four years after which the king made a grant of them, among other premises, to Sir Martin Bowes, to hold in capite, by fealty only./g He was succeeded in them by William Bowes, esq. his son and heir; after which they descended in the same course of ownership that the manor of North Cray did, to Sir Narborough D'Aeth, bart. who, about 1746, conveyed them to Jeffry Hetherington, esq. to whom he had, about seven years before, sold the manor, and appendant advowson of North Cray. He died, unmarried, in 1767, and devised them by his will to his only surviving brother, the Rev. William Hetherington, who died, unmarried likewise, in 1778, and by his will devised this, among his other estates, to Thomas Coventry, esq.

now of North Cray-place, who is the present owner of them.

The antient structure of the church of Rokesley is still standing, at a very small distance from the manor house: it has been many years made use of as a barn,

/e Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 136.

/f See an account of Cromwell, Biog. Brit. vol. iii. p. 1538.

/g Rot Esch. ejus anni, pt. 16.

154

for the use of Rokesle farm. In the chancel part there yet remains two confessionary stalls, with mitred arches and seats in them, and near them the receptacle for holy water.

Several lands in Chesilhurst, Foot's Cray, and Horton Kirby, are held of this manor. It has a court baron held for it.

There was, in 1650, a chief rent of two shillings payable from the messuage of Ruxley to the manor of Horton, known by the name of redvelet money./h

MOUNT MASCALL is situated in that part of the parish of North Cray next Bexley. This seat, which stands on an eminence, having a double avenue of trees in front of it, down to the road, is built on part of the lands antiently belonging to a mansion which stood two fields southward from it, which, though now almost unknown, was once of some note, being called Jacket's-court, from the owners, who resided in it; and Philipott saw an old roll of Kentish arms, wherein Jacket, of Jacket's-court, is recorded; but the arms were so obliterated by time that he could not distinguish what they were.

From this family it went by sale to Switzer, a name of long standing in this neighbourhood, as gentlemen; one of whom, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Edmund Cooke, esq. of Lesnes-abbey in this county, the eldest son of Henry Cooke of that place, second son of John Cooke of Broadwater, in Sussex, who bore for their arms, Gules, three crescents and a canton, argent./i By Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Nichols, comptroller of London-bridge, he left two surviving sons, Lambert and George.

Lambert Cooke, the eldest son, was of Mount Mascal, but died without surviving issue. George, the second son, was of Bexley, and by Anne, daughter of Sir Timothy Lowe, of Bromley, had two sons; of

/h Augm. office, Parl. Surveys. /i Visit. Co. Kent, 1690.

155

whom George, the eldest, was of Mount Mascal, which he passed away, together with Jacket's-court, to Sir John Leman, the second son of John Leman, esq. of Gillingham, in Norfolk, who bore for his arms, Azure, a fess between three dolphins naiant, embowed, argent. He was lord mayor of London in 1616; and afterwards alienated them to William Wiffin, citizen of London; whose daughter and heir, Hannah, being married to Thomas Bayles, esq. of the Middle Temple, he became possessed of this estate, and continued owner of it in 1670; after which he passed it away by sale to Sir Thomas Fitch of Eltham, descended from the Fitches of Essex, who bore for their

arms, Vert, a chevron between three leopards heads, or, Sir Thomas bore the like within a bordure gules; he was made a baronet Sept. 7, in the last year of king James II. and died possessed of both Mount Mascall and Jacket's-court in 1688.

By Anne, his wife, daughter and heir of Richard Comport, gent. of Eltham, who bore for his arms, Argent, on a chevron gules, between three torteauxes, as many quarterfoils, or, which coat was granted to his ancestor Christopher Comport, of Eltham, /k in 1663, by Sir Edward Walker, garter. /l He left Sir Comport Fitch, bart. his only son, who was of Eltham, who died in 1720, leaving an only daughter and heir, Alice, to whom the inheritance of both Mount Mascall and Jacket's-court descended. She carried them in marriage, in 1740, to Sir John Barker, bart. of Sproughton, in Suffolk, who died possessed of them in 1757, leaving one son, Sir John Fitch Barker, bart. who died without issue.

Lady Barker, on her husband's death, became by her marriage settlement again possessed in fee of both Mount Mascall and Jacket's-court, and afterwards remarried with Philip Brooke, esq. of Nacton, in Suffolk,

/k Coll. Bar. vol. iv. p. 702.

/l See the grant, Harl. MSS. No. 1172-44. Guillim, p. 361.

156

and surviving her son, Sir John Fitch Barker above-mentioned, died in 1771, having by her will devised this estate to Isabella, Elizabeth, and Thurland, three of the daughters of her husband Philip Brooke, by his former wife. They joined in the sale of it to John Maddocks, esq. one of the king's council, and a bencher both of Lincoln's-Inn and the Middle Temple, who resided here, and died possessed of it in 1794, leaving his widow surviving, who, by the devise of his will, now resides in it, and likewise three sons, John Edward, who married the Hon. Miss Craven, sister of lord Craven, and resides at Holly-hill, in Erith; Joseph; and Erasmus, who married the daughter of Shovel Blackwood, esq. of Charlton, in this county. Mount Mascall had not before been inhabited by the owners of it for some years. Sir Robert Ladroke, an alderman of London, formerly resided in it, and some years ago Sir William Calvert, and before him Sir William Billers, both aldermen of London.

VALE MASCALL is a small seat, which stands at the end of the avenue of trees leading up to Mount Mascall, on the opposite side of the road near the river, which is here elegantly disposed, as well as the grounds adjoining to it.

It was built not many years since by Thomas Tash, esq. second son of Sir John Tash, late alderman and lord mayor of London, on part of the Mount Mascall estate, belonging to Sir John Barker, bart. on whose death, in 1757, by some omission in lady Barker's settlement, the inheritance of Vale Mascall and its appurtenances, passed to their son, Sir John Fitch Barker, bart. who died without issue in 1766, and by his will devised it to Robert Nassau, esq. second son of the hon. Richard Savage Nassau, brother to the earl of Rochester. He sold it to the late John Maddocks, esq.

whose eldest son, of the same name, afterwards resided in it, till he removed to Erith. It now belongs to this family, but is inhabited by Mr. Burdett.

157

It appears by the escheat-rolls, that in the 19th year of king Edward IV. the prioress and convent of Dartford were possessed of lands in North Cray./m After the suppression, king Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted to Henry Cooke part of them, called Jordens, alias Joydens, wood, containing one hundred and forty acres, in this and the adjoining parishes of Dartford and Wilmington, to hold in capite,/n and in the 5th of king Edward VI. Edward Cooke, his son and heir, was found to possess them./o

#### CHARITIES.

SIR MARTIN BOWES and WILLIAM SOUTHWOOD, in 1557, gave by will a sum of money, for 12 halfpenny loaves, to be distributed every Sunday by the churchwardens to 12 poor people, or housekeepers, and one to the clerk, amounting to 1l. 6s. ten shillings towards the repairs of the church, and 2s. a piece to the churchwardens, in all 40s. payable out of estates belonging to the Goldsmith's Company, in which it is vested, for the wardens to pay the same to the minister and churchwardens, now of the above annual produce.

A PERSON UNKNOWN, before the year 1712, gave three tenements, and a small piece of garden, for the use of the parish poor, who are placed in them by the parish officers, the same being vested in the parish.

The Rev. WILLIAM HETHERINGTON, in his life-time in 1771, erected upon the parish ground 5 tenements, having small gardens to them, viz. one for a school-house, one for the parish-clerk, and the other three for 3 poor persons or families, not receiving alms, the same being vested in the parishioners, and at the disposal of the minister and churchwardens.

Mrs. ELIZABETH HETHERINGTON, of Queen's square, London, in 1776, gave by will towards a parish school, in money, 100l. vested in the rector and churchwardens, who have placed the same in the New South-Sea Annuities, and it is increased to 181l. 14s. 9d. being of the annual produce of 5l. 8s. 11d.

The Rev. WILLIAM HETHERINGTON before-mentioned, gave in 1777, for a fund, to keep the five houses he had erected in repair, and other purposes, at the discretion of the minister and churchwardens, to be approved of by the parishioners in vestry, 200l. placed in Old South-Sea Annuities, and vested in the mi-

/m Tan. Mon. p. 236. /n Rot. Esch. ejus anni. pt. 13. /o Ibid. ejus anni.

158

nister and churchwardens, being 300l. in stock, of the annual produce of 9l.

Besides the above, PETER COLLETT, alderman of London, who lies buried in this church, gave to it 24s. per annum; CHRISTOPHER SMITH ordered by his will that the heirs of CHRISTOPHER TINGEWICK, and AGNES, his wife, should yearly pay out of his messuage with its appurtenances, to the churchwardens, 20d. the Sunday next before Easter, for ever, with power to dis- train, &c. EDWARD HARVILL, clerk, gave by will to the poor of this parish, 40s. to make them a stock, and account thereof yearly to be given by the churchwardens, with SIR MARTIN BOWES's gift./p

NORTH CRAY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JU-

RISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church is a small mean building, having a low spire at the west end. It consists of one isle and a small chancel. It is dedicated to St. James.

In this church are, among others, the following monuments and inscriptions: – In the chancel, on a grave-stone, a memorial for Josias Bull, 24 years rector of this church, obt. Oct. 22, 1656, æt. 54; a small stone in the wall, by the altar, and memorial for Charles Weale, and two daughters; he was rector of North Cray, and died May 8, 1701, æt. 51. On the north wall, opposite the above, Jonathan Reade, rector, anno 1709; on the north side, above the pulpit, a mural monument and inscription for Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of William Bowes, wife of William Buggin, obt. 1657, æt. 79. The arms, Buggin and Bowes, and their several quarterings./q

The patronage of the churches of North Cray and Ruxley have ever been appendant to those manors; and as such, the advowson of the church of North Cray cum Ruxley is part of the possessions of Thomas Coventry, esq. lord of those manors, as before noticed.

In the 25th year of king Henry VI. a presentation to this rectory was exhibited to the bishop of Rochester, who commanded his official to enquire of the right of patronage, by inquisition, who found that the church

/p See Custumale Roffen. p. 39.

/q See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 1006.

159

of North Cray was vacant by the resignation of master Edward Poynings, and that the lord of North Cray was the true patron of it, viz. Sir Henry Percy, and the lord Robert Poynings, lord of the manor; and that their feoffees presented Sir William Ipever Chapple; that the church was neither in litigation, nor payed pension or portion; that the payments out of it were, archdiaconal procurations, five shillings; the finding of bread, wine, and lights, which amounted in a year to five shillings; and that it was taxed at five marcs; and according to that taxation the rector paid towards the expences of the proctors of the clergy, and other contributions, and thus the true annual value of the benefice one year with another, by their estimation, was eight marcs; that the rectory was wholly ruinous, and that the defect had happened chiefly through Thomas Ripple, the rector there, and that twenty marcs would scarce suffice for the fit reparation of it; and that the last rector had received nothing towards the repairing of it; and that Sir William Nittingall, who was then presented, was in priests orders, and of sufficient age, but whether he was beneficed elsewhere they knew not. The bishop therefore admitted him to this church, and instituted him in it, with all its rights and appurtenances, &c. and the archdeacon was commanded to induct him, &c./r

In the year 1557, anno 5 and 6 of Philip and Mary, on the petition of Sir Martin Bowes, patron of the churches of North Cray and Rokesley, made to archbishop Pole, then cardinal Legate, setting forth, that the parish church of Rokesley, the profits of which did not exceed by estimation the sum of six pounds, as

well in the steeple as in the roof and walls of it, was much decayed and ruinous; and that there was no one, especially on account of the great scarcity of clergy in those parts, who could be conveniently found to serve

/r Reg. Roff. p. 268.

160

it, insomuch that a priest could not be provided to perform the service there for scarce a fourth part of the year, to the great prejudice and inconvenience of the parishioners; and praying that the church might be suppressed and wholly abolished as a parish church, and all the goods and rights of it might be appropriated to, and incorporated with, the church of North Cray, which was not distant from it above one mile, and had been hitherto well and sufficiently repaired, and decently furnished with bells and other necessaries; and that, as far as might be, the ruinous timbers, stone, mortar, leads, and whatsoever other materials there were of the church of Rokesley, or its appurtenances, in building or other necessaries, should be assigned to the upholding of the church of North Cray; and that the parishioners of the church of Rokesley, who did not in the whole exceed the number of ten persons, might be added to the cure of the church of North Cray; and that out of the above two parishes, there might be made one and the same parish, under the name, style, and denomination of the parish of North Cray. In consequence of this petition, an inquisition was made towards effecting the above union; who found that the church of North Cray, all outgoings being satisfied, was well worth ten pounds yearly; and that the church of Rokesley was worth in like manner eleven marcs.

To which petition the archbishop consented, and by virtue of his legantine power, granted his faculty to the bishop of Rochester that year, for completing this union, according to the above-mentioned petition, and for turning to common use the church and church-yard, and for pulling down and removing the building, as far as might be, and the several materials of it to the end, that out of the price for which they were sold, the church of North Cray, when it wanted reparation, might be upheld in its building, and for assigning, appropriating, and incorporating, with the church of

161

North Cray, the whole scite and precinct, and the tenths, fruits, profits, obventions, rights, and goods of the church of Rokesley, moveable and immoveable for ever, &c./s

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Nordcray was valued at ten marcs, and that of Rokesley at eight marks./t This rectory is valued in the king's books at 13l. 19s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 7s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d./u

By virtue of a commission of enquiry in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that North Cray was a parsonage, with a barn, and some thirty acres of glebe land, worth ten pounds per annum, altogether sixty-five pounds per annum, master Bull then preaching there./w

There has lately been a new parsonage-house built in this parish, for the use of the rector, there having been none for a great number of years before. It was built chiefly by the liberality of the Rev. William Hetherington, the patron of it.

CHURCH OF NORTH CRAY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Lords of the Manor of North Cray. Thomas Ripple./x

William Ipever./y

Edward Poynings, resigned 1445./z

William Nitlingall, instituted

March 27, 1447./a

Roger Frith./b

Edward Hariull.

Josias Bull, instit. 1532, obt.

Oct. 22, 1656./c

Richard Owen, B. D. 1656, obt.

Jan. 1683./d

/s Reg. Roff. p. 588.

/t Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/u Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/w Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr.

/x Reg. Roff. p. 269. /y Ibid.

/z Ibid. p. 268. /a Ibid. p. 269.

/b He was no graduate.

/c He lies buried in this church.

/d He had been vicar of Eltham,  
and was there buried.

162

PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Lords of the Manor of North Cray. Charles Weal, obt. May 8,  
1701./e

Jonathan Read, obt. 1709.

Jacob Rice, obt. Sept. 1728.

Hopton Williams, A. M. resigned  
1729./f

William Ayerst, D. D. instituted  
Dec. 24, 1729, obt. May 9,  
1765./g

..... Hotham, 1765.

Thomas Moore, present rector./h

/e He was buried in this church, as  
was his successor.

/f See Stourmouth, and Preston by  
Wingham.

/g See Southfleet.

/h And rector of Fooths Cray.

---

BEXLEY

IS the next parish northward. It is written in ancient deeds Bekesley, and derives its name from the words Becc, or Beke, which signify a stream, and ley, a pasture. In Domesday-book it is written Bix; in the Textus Roffensis, Bixle, and now, in general, Bexley.

The parish of Bexley is very extensive, being about three miles across each way. There is great variety of

country in it, with frequent hill and dale, the whole of it interspersed with much coppice wood, especially towards the west, the soils of it are various, but the most predominant ones are gravel and a stiff clay; great part of it is very poor and barren, (excepting in the vale near the river) and much covered with heath and furze; eastward of the village it is very hilly, and near the road there leading to Dartford heath, which is at the bounds of it, there is much sand; westward of it are the several seats of Lamienby, Blendon, and Danson, and the several small hamlets of Hurst, Half-way-street, Bridgen, Blendon, Upton, and Welling, or

163

indeed, more properly, Wellend, (which name was given to it from the safe arrival of the traveller at it, after having escaped the danger of robbers through the hazardous road of Shooter's hill hither) and among the woods, at the western extremity, that of Blackfen, the manor of which belongs to Mr. Richard Day. At the southern bounds of the parish, are the seats of Mount and Dale Mascal; and at the northern, that of Hall-place, beyond which it extends to the hither side of the London high road to Dover, which crosses Bexley heath for a mile in length, along the bounds of it. The several high roads from the Crays, Dartford-heath, Eltham, and the London road at Bexley heath and Crayford lead through the village of Bexley, which is situated in the eastern part of the parish in the valley, on the banks of the river Cray. From its size, and number of inhabitants, it may well be stiled the town of Bexley; in it, as well as in the several hamlets above-mentioned, there are many handsome modern-built houses, inhabited by genteel families of fortune. The church stands at the east end of it, and adjoining to the church-yard. Still further eastward is the manor place, which has for many years been made use of only as a farm-house. Opposite the church southward, stood the parsonage, a large and curious old timbered building, lately pulled down, but the yard, barns, and other buildings belonging to it are still remaining.

The river Cray flows through the middle of this village, where it turns a corn-mill belonging to the lord of the manor, and then passing under a brick bridge, erected a few years since by the subscription of the neighbouring gentry, it flows on by the late Mr. Thorpe's gardens to those of Hall-place, a little above which it receives into it on the west side a small brook, which rises above Lamienby, and having passed through Blendon paddock, crosses the Eltham road on its way hither, where it joins the river Cray, just below Bourne place. Hence the river flows on by Hall-place, and

164

then by the farm of Wantsum, belonging to Shovel Blackwood, esq. unto Crayford; and here it may not be improper to observe, that the manor of Bexley claims over this river, at the entrance of it, into this parish from North Cray, till within one field of Crayford bridge.

Along the edge of the sandy bank for about a rod, on the summit of Park-hill, in this parish, and opposite the white gate, Mr. Thorpe observed growing in

patches, that elegant little plant, the smallest of the fern kind, *Trichomanes* of Parkinson, 1051, mas, Gerard, 985, English black maiden-bair. Gerard, in his Herbal says, he found it growing in a sandy lane in Betsum, in the parish of Southfleet, which he thinks must be the lane leading to Shell-hill there, from Greenstreet-green, but by mistake has given the figure wrong. The above plants in Bexley were totally destroyed in 1785, in paring down the bank to widen the road, except a few which he transplanted on the walls of his garden. Up the lane, by Marle-house, he found some years since the *Moschetellina foliis fumarid bulbosa*, *Radix cava Minima Viridi flore*, Gerard 933, Tuberous Moscatell, some of which he transplanted to his garden, where they afterwards flourished./i

---

CENULPH, king of Mercia, having made the kingdom of Kent tributary to him, gave to Wilfred, archbishop of Canterbury, for the use of Christ church, in Canterbury, ten plow lands, viz. Bixley, L. S. A./k which three letters mean Libere sicut Adisham; that is, that the lands given by this charter to the church should be granted with the same franchises, and liberties as Adisham originally was. In most of the Saxon grants to Christ church the archbishops procured the addition of this franchise, if the lands were in this county.

/i *Cust. Rott.* p. 255. /k *Dugd. Mon. vol. i.* p. 19.

165

In the survey of Domesday this place is thus described, under the general title of the archbishop's possessions in this county:

In Helmestrei hundred the archbishop himself holds Bix. It was taxed at 3 sulings in the time of king Edward the Confessor, and now for 2. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 41 villeins, with 15 borderers having 10 carucates. There is a church, and 3 mills of 48 shillings, and 8 acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of 100 hogs. In the whole it was worth, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, as well as afterwards, 12 pounds, and now 20 pounds, and yet it pays 30 pounds and 8 shillings.

Archbishop Walter Reynolds, in the 9th year of king Edward II. procured a market weekly at Bixley, upon a Tuesday, and a fair upon Holyrood-day./l

This manor remained part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury till archbishop Cranmer, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. granted it, with all his estates in this parish, parcel of the archbishopric, of the yearly value of 503l. 14s. 5d. over and above all reprises, excepting some annual payments, amounting to 29l. 17s. 2d. per annum, to that king./m

The manor of Bexley continued in the crown, till it was granted by king James I. in fee to Sir John Spilman, his jeweller, originally descended out of Germany, who quickly afterwards conveyed it by sale to that great antiquary William Camden, esq. clarencieux, king at arms;/n who, not content with devoting his pen to the service of the learned world, endowed it also with the greatest part of his fortune, by founding an historical

lecture in the university of Oxford.

For this purpose, he by his deed, in the 19th year of the same reign, acknowledged in chancery made

/l Rot. Pat. ejus anni, No. 49.

/m Augtn. off. box A. 21. In the taxation of the archbishop's temporals, this manor was valued at 83l. 16s. 11d. Batteley's Somn. part ii. supplem. p. 30. /n Philipott, p. 65.

166

over his right in this manor, with all profits, emoluments, &c. to the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university of Oxford and their successors, with this proviso, that the profits of it, which were computed to be of the yearly value of four hundred pounds, should be enjoyed by Mr. William Heather, his heirs and executors, for ninety-nine years, from the death of the donor. During which time the possessor of it, should pay to the professor of history in Oxford one hundred and forty pounds per annum, and after the expiration of the above term, that the whole estate should be vested in the university./o

Mr. Camden died in 1623, on which the fee of this manor became vested in the university of Oxford, subject to Mr. William Heather's term of ninety-nine years; who parted with his interest in it to Sir Francis Leigh, of Addington, in Surry. His great grandson, Francis Leigh, esq. of Hawley, was in possession of this manor when the above term expired, and had then a lease of it granted to him by the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university, under their common seal, for twenty-one years, at the yearly rent of one hundred and forty pounds; which has since been renewed from time to time, in the usual method of collegiate leases.

Francis Leigh, esq. above-mentioned, died in 1734, possessed of this lease; as did his son, Francis Leigh, esq. of Hawley, in 1774, without issue, and by his will, bequeathed his interest in it to his nephew, Richard, only son of his brother Richard Leigh, esq. serjeant-at-law, deceased, who is the present lessee of it.

Some few copyholds are held of this manor; the rest are free tenants, and are many in number, almost all the lands in the parish of Bexley, which is very large, being held of it. At the court-leet two constables are elected, one for the town, and the other for the upland liberty of the parish, and one aleconner.

/o Biog. Brit. vol. ii. p. 1133.

167

HIGHSTREET-HOUSE is a seat, which stands in the village of Bexley, adjoining to the church-yard. It seems to have been a mansion of note for some ages past, and was formerly in the possession of the family of Goldwell, whose arms were carved in stone, on several chimney pieces in it. After which it passed into the family of Austen, of Hall-place. Sir Robert Austen, bart. of Hall-place, died possessed of it in 1666, upon which his widow, Lady Ann Austen retired to this seat with her younger children, she built a handsome front to it, and died here in 1687, being succeeded in the possession of it by her third son Edward Austen, esq. whose son John Austen, esq. died possessed of it in 1750, s. p. on which his two sisters, Elizabeth

and Anne, became his coheirs, and they soon afterwards joined in the sale of it to John Thorpe, esq. who was descended of a family which had been of good repute in this county for several generations, one of whom, Edward Thorpe, was of Rovenden, in king Henry VIIth's reign, whose descendants were afterwards of Westerham, one of whom, Dr. John Thorpe, M. D. was of Rochester, and was F. R. S. a most learned and indefatigable antiquary, as the several works he published, and the numerous manuscripts he left behind him, sufficiently prove. He died in 1750, and was buried at Stockbury, leaving, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Woodhouse, esq. an only son and heir, John Thorpe, esq. above-mentioned, the purchaser of this seat. He was F. S. A. and as well as his father a most curious searcher into the antiquities of this county, and well versed in antient and natural history. He rebuilt this seat in 1761, and resided in it till a few years before his death, when, having lost his wife, he removed to Chippenham, in Wiltshire, where he died in 1792, æt. 78, and was buried by his own desire in the church yard of Harden Huish, not far distant in the same county. He bore for his arms, quarterly, 1st and 4th, Azure a fess dancette ermine;

168

second and third, Azure, three crescents argent. By his first wife Catherine, only daughter of Dr. Laurence Holker, of Gravesend, (who died before him in 1789, and he remarried the widow of the Rev. Mr. Holland, of Stifford, in Essex, who survived him, but by whom he had no issue) he left two daughters, his coheirs, the eldest of whom Catherina Elizabetha married John Meggison, esq. of Morpeth, in Northumberland, by whom she has living six sons; the youngest married Cuthbert Potts, esq. of Pall-Mall, surgeon, by whom she has surviving two sons and one daughter, after their father's death they became jointly intitled to this seat among his other estates, and afterwards on a partition, by a decree of chancery, Highstreet-house was allotted to Mrs. Potts, whose husband, in her right, is now entitled to it, but it is occupied by the hon. Mrs. Powis.

LAMIENBY, now corruptly called Lamaby, is a seat in this parish, situated about two miles westward from Bexley church, between the hamlets of Hurst and Halfway-street. It once belonged to an antient family, called in deeds Lamienby, alias Sparrow, who bore, as appears by their seals, three chevrons for their coat of arms. The last of this name was Thomas Sparrow, who died in 1513, and lies buried in this church. He left Agnes, his daughter and sole heir, who carried this seat in marriage to James Goldwell, descended from the family of that name in Great Chart.

A good house was erected here by him and his heir; which, in memory of them, was called Lamienby Goldwell, which at length became the property of his grandson John Goldwell, in the reign of king Charles I. and he resided here in 1657./p One of his descendants sold this seat to James, and John James passed it away to Nicholas Warren, esq. who owned it in 1715, and he conveyed it to Thomas Foster, who, about the year

1744, passed it away by sale to William Steele, esq. who rebuilt this seat in its present form, and laid the ground round it into a park. His son dying without issue, this estate descended to his four sisters and co-heirs, one of whom, some years ago, parted with her interest in it to Robert Dingley, esq. and the other three sisters joined in the sale of their respective shares to Mr. Michael Lejay, of London, who bequeathed them, by his will, to Anthony Chamier, esq. who died in 1780, and by his will directed his interest in it to be sold, accordingly his executors alienated it in 1783 to David Orme, esq. of Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, London, M. D. Robert Dingley, esq. the possessor of the other fourth part, afterwards resided here. He was descended from Sir John Dingley, of Wolverton, in the Isle of Wight, who lived in king James the 1st's reign, whose ancestor held lands at Eatenbridge in this country, in king Edward the 111d's reign. He bore for his arms, Argent, a fess azure in chief, a mullet of the second between two hurts, a coat which this branch changed as to its colours, from that borne by the Dingles of Wolverton, which were sable, instead of azure./q He married first, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Thompson, esq. of Boreham-hall, in Yorkshire, by whom he had Susanna Cecilia, married to the late Richard Hoare, esq. of Boreham-hall, in Essex, and Robert Henry, in holy orders, who married Miss Hills, of Colchester, in Essex, and died in 1793. – He married secondly, Esther, sister and heir of Thomas Spencer, esq. of London, who died s. p. in 1784. He died in 1781, and lies buried with his two wives, at Charlton, in this county, leaving his interest in this estate to his son, the Rev. Robert Henry Dingley, who, in 1783, alienated his fourth part of it to David Orme, esq. M. D. the purchaser of the other three fourths of it as before-mentioned, be=

/q See a further account of this family under Easling.

came possessed of the whole of it. He married Miss Thomas, of Highgate, in Middlesex, and now occasionally resides here, having made several additions and improvements to this seat.

BLENDON-HALL, written in old deeds Bladindon-court, is a seat which stands in the hamlet of Bridgen, in this parish, and was antiently in the possession of Jordan de Bladindon, a name in process of time contracted into Blendon; who, about the 1st of king Richard II. passed it away to Walsingham, in which family it continued till the latter end of the next reign of king Henry IV. when it was passed by sale to Ferbie, of Paul's Cray-hill, one of whose descendants, in the beginning of king Henry VI. conveyed it to William Marshall, who alienated it not long afterwards to Rawlins; in which name it continued for some generations, and then, by purchase, became the inheritance of May, who, in the reign of king Charles I. conveyed it to Wroth, descended from the antient family of that name at Durants, in Middlesex./r John Wroth, esq. was

seized in fee of Blendon-hall, and the lands belonging to it in 1657, and was created a baronet in 1660, he bearing for his arms, Argent, on a bend sable, three lions heads erased of the field, crowned or./s He died in 1671, and this estate descended to his son and heir, Sir John Wroth, bart. subject to a mortgage term of one thousand years granted by his father.

In the year 1672, Edward Brewster became owner of the residue of this term; and as such took possession of Blendon-hall, and in 1673, conveyed his interest in them to Sir Edward Brett, who was descended from the antient family of the Bretts, of Whitstanton, in Somersetshire, and having served in Germany, under Gustavus Adolphus, was called upon by king Charles I. to assist him, and received from that king's hand the honour of knighthood, in the open field, on horse-

/r Philipott, p. 65. /s Guill. Heraldry, p. 185.

171

back. He afterwards commanded in the Netherlands, through favor of the Prince of Orange, and continued his command in the army for several years after the restoration. He resided here, and dying in 1684, without issue, he lies buried in this church. He bore for his arms, Or, a lion rampant between seven cross-croslets fitchee gules. By his will he devised his interest in this estate (the fee of which still remained in Sir John Wroth's heirs) to John, the first son of Henry Fisher, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heir of Elizabeth, his own sister. In pursuance of which, John Fisher, took the name of Brett, and became possessed of the residue of the mortgage term, and resided at Blendon-hall. In 1731 he purchased, of Thomas Troyte and Cicelie his wife, and Thomas Palmer and Elizabeth his wife, the sisters and heirs at law of Sir Thomas, son of Sir John Wroth, who died s. p. the fee and inheritance of this estate, and dying without issue in 1732, devised Blendon-hall, and the lands belonging to it, by his will, to Jacob Sawbridge, late one of the South Sea Directors. He died in 1748, and was succeeded in this estate by his second son, Jacob Sawbridge, esq. of Canterbury, who, about 1763, conveyed it by sale to the right hon. lady Mary Scott, one of the four daughters of Charles Compton, fourth son of George, fourth earl of Northampton. She married first, Richard Haddock, esq. son of admiral Haddock, by whom she had one daughter; and secondly, in 1751, Arthur Scott, esq. commissioner of Chatham-yard, and a younger son of the Scotts, of Scott's-hall. He died in 1756, and left no issue by her.

Her two brothers succeeding in turn on the death of their uncle, George, earl of Northampton, to that title, she had given her, by special favor, the rank and precedence of an earl's daughter. She resided here, and erected on the old scite a neat mansion, and much improved the park and grounds about it, and dying in

172

1782, was buried at Bexley. She left the possession of this seat, by her will, to William Scott, esq. the eldest son of George Scott, esq. of Scott's-hall, by his se-

cond wife Cecilia, daughter of Sir Edward Dering, bart. and brother of Arthur Scott, esq. before-mentioned. He resided for some time at Blendon, till he removed, on his sister Mrs. Cecilia Scott's death to her house in Canterbury, where he now resides, and continues the owner of this estate, which is occupied by lieut. gen. Pattison, who resides at it.

Near Blendon-hall is a seat, called Bridgen-place, from its situation in this hamlet, built by William Cope, esq. who resides in it.

DANSON-HILL is a manor and seat adjoining to the high Dover road, in the northern part of this parish, near Welling. It was formerly called the manor of Daunson, alias Daunsington, and in the reign of queen Elizabeth belonged to Matthew Parker, second son of Matthew, archbishop of Canterbury; who, dying without issue surviving, by his will devised it to the archbishop, his father, to be disposed of as he thought proper, who gave it to his son John by deed in 1574, /t and he, together with Joan his wife, levied a fine of it in the 20th year of that reign; after which this manor came into the possession of John Styleman, of London, merchant, who died possessed of it in 1734, and lies buried in this church with his five wives. He bequeathed, by his will, the moiety of this estate (then let to John Selwyn, esq. who resided at Danson) for ever, in trust for the charities mentioned in it.

This moiety, in which Danson and the lands round it were included, was afterwards let to Mr. John Boyd, of London, merchant; who, in the 2d year of king George III. in pursuance of an agreement made by him with the trustees of this estate, procured an act for vesting a rent charge of one hundred pounds per an-

/t See Strype's Life of abp. Parker, p. 514.

173

num in fee simple in them, for the benefit of certain poor families described in the will, in lieu of the moiety of the lands devised in it for that purpose, and for vesting the moiety in fee simple in him and his heirs.

Soon after this, Mr. Boyd erected on an eminence, a quarter of a mile from the old seat, a most elegant mansion of Portland stone, the inside of which is decorated in a superb and magnificent taste, and gave it the name of Danson-hill. The original design for this structure was given by the late ingenious Mr. Taylor, architect of the Bank, but several alterations were found necessary to be made to it, for the accommodation of a family, whilst the house was building, and two wings were added to it for that purpose. Behind the house, at a proper distance, is a most magnificent sheet of water, so contrived as to seem a beautiful serpentine river, flowing through the grounds. It was designed, and with much difficulty formed and secured by the noted Capability Brown, who likewise laid out the adjoining grounds, which are well cloathed with many thriving plantations of different kinds of trees.

On May 20, 1775, he was advanced to the dignity of a baronet. He is the present proprietor of this seat, and resides in it. He bears for his arms, Azure, a fess chequy or, and gules, three mullets in chief, and a crescent in base, or.

BRAMPTON-HALL is a seat at the northern boundary of this parish, being situated on the opposite, or northern side of the high London road, which was formerly the property of Austin Parke Goddard, esq. who alienated it to Mr. Peter Warren, of London, wine-merchant. He resided here, and died possessed of it in 1772, leaving his son, Mr. Alport Peter Warren his heir, who sold it to Mr. Francis Vanhagen, of London, and he resides in it.

HALL-PLACE is an antient and stately mansion, which stands in the northern part of this parish, next Crayford. It was antiently the inheritance of a family

174

who assumed their name from it, being called At-hall; the last of whom was Thomas At-hall, who in the 41st year of king Edward III. conveyed it to Thomas Shelle, of Gaysum, in Westerham; in whose name and family it continued down to John Shelley, who resided here, and died possessed of it in the 20th year of king Henry VI./u

His son, William Shelley, passed away this seat in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. to Sir John Champneis, the son of Robert Champneis, of Chew, in Somersetshire, and being of the Skinners Company, was lord-mayor of London in the 26th year of the above reign. He bore for his arms, Parted per pale or and sable, a lion rampant, charged on the shoulder with a mullet within a bordure ingrailed, counterchanged./w He had, among others his possessions in this county, disengaged by the act of the 31st of that reign, and resided at Hall-place, and dying in the 4th year of queen Mary, lies buried in this church, leaving by Meriell, his wife, daughter of John Barret, esq. of Belhouse, in Essex, several sons and daughters.

Of the sons, Justinian, the youngest, became the only survivor, and possessed this estate in the 25th year of queen Elizabeth, being then sheriff of this county, On his death Richard Champneis, esq. his son, succeeded to Hall-place, and remained possessed of it during the reign of king Charles I. soon after which he conveyed it to Robert Austen, esq. who was made a baronet on July 10, in the 12th year of king Charles II. and was sheriff of this county that and the next year, bearing for his arms, or, a chevron gules between three bears paws erased sable./x He left four sons, of whom John, the eldest, succeeded him in title and estate; Robert, the second son, was of Heronden, in

/u He lies buried, with Joane his wife, in this church.

/w Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 131. Philipott, p. 65.

/x See Visit. co. Kent, 1619. Guill. Her. pt. ii. p. 199.

175

Tenterden, the antient seat of the family, which branch afterwards succeeded to the title of baronet, on failure of the elder line, and Edward, the third son, was of Highstreet-house, in Bexley, as has been mentioned before.

Sir Robert Austen died in 1666, and was succeeded in this seat by his eldest son, Sir John Austen, bart. who resided here, as did his eldest son Sir Robert Austen, bart. who married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir

of George Stawel, esq. of Somersetshire, by whom he left three sons, Robert, Sheffield, and John, and several daughters, and died in 1706.

Sir Robert Austen, bart. the eldest son, succeeded his father and resided at Hall-place. He was sheriff in 1724, and married Rachel, daughter of Sir Francis Dashwood, bart. of West Wicomb, by whom he had no issue. He died at Bath in 1743, and was buried at Church Dane, in Gloucestershire, where there is a memorial for him. He was succeeded by his next brother, Sir Sheffield Austen, bart. who resided in Ireland; and, on his death without issue, (his younger brother John being deceased some time before, likewise without issue) the title, together with the fee of this seat, came to Edward Austen, esq. of Boxley Abbey, the grandson of Robert, second son of Sir Robert Austen, the first baronet, as before-mentioned; and on his death likewise without issue in 1760, they descended together to his younger brother, Sir Robert Austen, bart of Tenterden, who dying in 1772 without issue, the title of baronet became extinct, and he being only tenant for life, the fee of this seat and estate, by the will of Sir Robert Austen, bart. who died in 1743, became vested in Francis lord Le Despencer. After the death of Sir Robert Austen last-mentioned, this estate had been put under the direction of the court of chancery, on account of the great debts and legacies which he had left charged on it by his will, and there being large jointures on it besides, which amounted to=

176

gether to the full annual receipts, it is hard to say, whether the succeeding baronets, after his death, ever had possession of it, the fee of it they were certainly entitled to, but none of them resided here.

Francis, lord Le Despencer becoming thus proprietor of the fee of this estate, died possessed of it in 1781, and by his will devised it to Francis Dashwood, esq. who resided at it for a few years afterwards, and he still remains the owner of it, but the mansion has been for some time occupied as a school for young gentlemen.

At a small distance from Hall-place, in the road leading from thence to Crayford, is a small seat called Mount Pleasant, built by Richard Simms, esq. of Blackheath, on a part of the Hall-place estate, on his marriage with one of the sisters of Sir Robert Austen, who died in 1743. By her he left an only daughter, who carried her interest in it in marriage to Granado Piggot, esq. on whose death the term in it again became vested in her. It was afterwards sold to Thomas Edsall, esq. who resided here, and laid out much money on the house and premises, but becoming a bankrupt in 1778, the remainder of his term was sold to William Selwyn, esq. one of the king's council, who now resides here; but the inheritance belongs to Francis Dashwood, esq. before-mentioned.

BOURNE PLACE is a small, yet elegant house, standing at no great distance from Hall-place, on the other side of it, near the spot where the bourne or rivulet which comes from Lamienby joins the river Cray. It was erected not many years ago, by Laurence Holker, esq. of London, who, from its situation, named it Bourne Place, and afterwards resided in it. He bore

for his arms, per chevron or, and azure, three lions rampant counterchanged, being descended from an antient family seated at Holker, near Furness Abbey, in Lancashire, whence his ancestor Laurence Holker removed in king Charles II's time to Gravesend, whose grandson of the same name practised there as a physician,

177

and died in 1738, leaving one son, Laurence, the builder of this seat as before-mentioned, and a daughter, Catherine, married to the late John Thorpe, esq. of this parish. Mr. Holker was an eminent practitioner of the law, and dying unmarried in 1793, was buried in St. Mary Aldermanry church, in Bow-lane. He had devised this, among the rest of his estates, to his sister Mrs. Thorpe, but she having died four years before him, her two daughters, his nieces, became, as coheirs, entitled to them, after which, on a writ of partition issuing from the court of chancery, this seat was allotted to the youngest daughter, married to Cuthbert Potts, esq. of London, surgeon, who in her right became intitled to it, but it is at present occupied by Alexander Bournside, esq.

Mr. Potts bears for his arms, Azure, two bars surmounted by a bend, or. His first wife was Mary Dorothy, daughter, and at length heir of Mosyer Rich, esq. of Cecil-street, London, by whom he had no issue; by his present wife he has surviving two sons and one daughter.

#### CHARITIES.

AN UNKNOWN PERSON gave, to be distributed in rye, from the parsonage, the annual produce of 1l. and another, in bread and cheese from the same, the annual produce of 10s.

HENRY LANE gave by will, for the use of the poor, an annuity of 10s. issuing from houses, and now of that annual product.

AN UNKNOWN PERSON gave, for the use of the poor, land vested in the parish officers, of the annual produce of 12l.

NICHOLAS FRANKWELL gave by will, for the like use, an annuity issuing from houses, vested in the Waxchandlers company, now of the annual produce of 6l.

WILLIAM KENDALL gave by will, in 1558, for the like use, an annuity issuing from houses, vested in the same company, of the annual produce of 2l.

There is paid from certain houses, included in Greenwich college, an annuity of 6s. 8d. to this parish.

WILLIAM FITCHETT gave by will, in 1636, for the use of the poor, land how vested unknown, but of the annual product of 10s.

MRS. SHERMAN gave by will, for the like use, money vested in the parish chest, being the sum of 7l. 10s.

178

ARTHUR POULTER gave by will, to be distributed in bread, the sum of 5l.

LADY ANNE AUSTEN gave by will, for the same use, money vested in the parish chest, being the sum of 10l.

SIR EDWARD BRETT gave by will, to be distributed in like manner, money vested in the parish chest, being the sum of 20l.

HENRY TRAVEIS gave by will, for the like use, money vested in the parish chest, being the sum of 10l.

FRANCIS MOORE gave by will, in 1684, for the like use, money vested in like manner, being the sum of 10s.

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON gave by will, for the like use, mo-

ney, unknown how vested, being the sum of 50l.

THOMAS SMOULT gave by will, to put children to school and apprentices, certain houses in the parish hands.

THE FAMILY OF AUSTEN, by their wills, gave in money 150l. vested in Granado Piggot, esq. and the parish, and of the annual product of 6l.

THOMAS COOPER gave by will, in 1714, to be distributed in bread, lands vested in James Crofton, of the annual product of 1l.

ELIZABETH COOPER gave by will, in 1694, money for a sermon on Good Friday, and on Nov. 4.

The total amount of the charities in money is 252l. 10s. and of the annual product of 132l. 6s. 8d.

N. B. The several sums in the parish chest are of the annual product of 2l.

JOHN STYLEMAN, esq. bequeathed by his will, in 1732, the moiety of his estate in this parish, Plumsted and elsewhere, in Kent, then let to John Selwyn, esq. at 200l. per annum, free of all taxes, to certain trustees, for erecting twelve alms houses for twelve poor families of this parish, to be nominated by the trustees, minister, and churchwardens; and he ordered, that two guineas should be paid to the minister of Bexley yearly, for preaching an annual sermon on Midsummer-day; and three guineas for a dinner yearly on that day. Since Mr. Styleman's decease, these alms houses have been completed by his trustees, on a spot of ground lying in the village of Bexley. In the centre, under the pediment, is a white marble, with an inscription, according to the will of the founder.

BEXLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar of the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such is in the deanry of Shoreham. The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and has two isles, and a large chancel.

The handsome altar piece in it was given by Mr. Benjamin Huntington, vicar, about 1705. On the south side of the chancel is a confessional, consisting

179

of three divisions of pointed arches and a recess for holy water. On the north side are seven antient stalls of oak, ornamented with Gothic mouldings and carved heads, with other figures; on the opposite side were a like number of stalls, which were a few years ago removed, to make room for some pews; on the upmost stall was carved an antique shield, being three pikes or pisces lucii, naiant, the arms of Lucy. These stalls seem to have been formerly made, as well for the accommodation of the members of the priory of the Trinity of London, appropriators of this church, as such other of the clergy and chantry priests as might at any time officiate or be present in the church at divine service. At the west end is a spire steeple, covered with shingles, with a clock and dial, and a peal of bells formerly but five; but in 1763, when the church was repaired, new cast into a small peal of six; besides which there is a sancta bell. The church is much too small for the parishioners, notwithstanding there is a gallery at the west end of each isle, owing to the large pews in it for the use of the family seats in it./y

In this church, among others, are the following monuments and inscriptions: In the south isle, a mural monument for John Styleman, esq. of London, merchant, obt. 1734, æt. 82; and for

his four wives. He left by his will, an endowment for twelve alms houses, for twelve poor people in this parish, as has been more fully mentione before. Arms above Styleman, Sable, an unicorn tripping, or, on a chief of the 2d, three billets of the field, in separate shields, impaling his four wives. In the north isle, a memorial for John Hater, esq. secretary to the lieut. gen. of the ordnance, obt. 1763. A mural monument for Edward Austen, esq. of this parish, obt. 1712; third son of Sir Robert Austen, bart. of Hall-place; he left three children by his second wife, John, Elizabeth, and Anne, who survived him; likewise for John Austen, esq. his son above mentioned, obt. 1750; and for Elizabeth, obt. 1755; above, the arms of Austen. A monument for Sir Edward Brett, who married Barbara, only daughter and heir of Sir John Fleming, descended from those of Glamorgan, who died, s. p. at

/y See a more particular account of this church and its monuments, in Cus-tumal. Roff. p. 76.

180

the Hague, in 1674, and was buried at Flushing, in the vault of her ancestors; he died in 1683. Arms, Or, a lion rampant, gules, between seven cross croslets of the 2d. In the north chancel, on the north side, a mural monument, with the effigies of a man and woman, in the dress of the time, kneeling at the desk, with books open, for Sir John Champneis, sometime lord mayor of London, obt. 1556; he married Meriell, eldest daughter of John Barrett, esq. of Belhouse, in Essex, by whom he had surviving only Justinian, the youngest son; underneath, another inscription for Helen Hall, first wife of Justinian Champneis, esq. obt. 1565; also for Theodore, his second wife, one of the daughters and heirs of John Blundell, esq. of Steeple Barton, in Oxfordshire, obt. 1582, by whom he had several children; above, the arms of Champneis, Parted per pale, or, and sable, a lion rampant, gules, charged on the shoulder with a mullet, sable, within a bordure, inverted, counterchanged, of the field, with its quarterings. On the east side, inclosed with iron rails, a handsome monument and inscription, shewing, that in a vault under it, lies buried Sir Robert Austen, bart. who died 1666, æt. 79, who left by a former wife, one daughter, Elizabeth, and four sons; and two daughters by his second wife, Anne, daughter of Thomas Muns, esq. merchant, who died, 1687; on a grave stone, near the above, were two shields and a brass plate torn off, but there yet remains a shield of brass with these arms, A cross ingrailed within a bordure, charged with six crowns, embattled; to the above coat is appendant a bugle horn, stringed and garnished, which denotes that the person held under the service, called Cornage tenure. In the south chancel, a grave stone, with a brass plate, and inscription in black letter, for Matilda, wife of Thomas Heneworth, and afterwards of John Shelley; another like for Margaret, wife of John Bunton, pastor of this church; she died 1585; another like, near the stalls, or north side, for John Shelley, and Joan his wife; he died 1441; separate grave stones adjoining, for John Styleman, esq. and his five wives, with his arms and impalements; a grave stone for Edward Bishoppe, esq. of Evesham, in Worcestershire, obt. 1633; above, on a bend, voided, three besants. On the south side, a mural monument for lady Mary Gerard Cosein, late wife of Sir Gilbert Gerard Cosein, bart. of Yorkshire, sole issue of Charles lord Berkeley, of Rathdown, earl of Falmouth, &c. above these arms, in lozenge, quarterly, 1st and 4th Berkeley, 2d, ermine, 2d and 3d, chevronels, azure. A mural monument for Mr. Benjamin Huntington, vicar of Bexley, with his wife, son, and daughters; having finished this altar piece at his own cost, he left 50l. for the use of the poor; obt. Jan. 1, 1706, æt. 66; above, a fret of

eight pieces, in chief three mullets. On the north side, a mural monument for Anne, surviving daughter of Edward Bishope, esq. of Evesham, in Worcestershire, and of the Middle Temple, London, and wife of Henry Travels, gent. of London, obt. 1679;

181

arms above, a saltier between four gad-bees, impaling on a bend, voided, three besants. A grave stone, before the altar rails, for Sir Richard Ford, lord mayor of London in 1671, whose mural monument is on the south side; he died in 1678, æt, 65; these arms above, two bends vaire, on a canton, an anchor impaling three saltiers. On the north side of the altar, a stone, on which is the figure of a man in brass, and a label from his mouth, and beneath an inscription, for Thomas Sparrow, late of Bexley, who died Oct. 21, 1513./z

In the church-yard, among others, lie buried the Rev. Nicholas Frankwell, vicar of this parish forty-eight years, obt. 1658, æt. 80; a man of rare knowledge in the oriental tongues. An altar tomb for Elizabeth Cooke, spinster, sole heir of Geo. Cooke, esq. of Mount Mascall, by Rebecca, fourth daughter of Sir Henry St. George, garter, &c. and Mary his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Dayrell, of Lullingstone Dayrell, obt. 1736. There are several tombs in the church yard, which have been long crumbled into pieces, and whom they are in memory of unknown. In a vault in this church yard, lie buried Mrs. Thorpe, first wife of John Thorpe, esq. who died in 1789, and Mrs. Harris, her mother, in memory of both whom there is a memorial on marble, against the church wall.

The church of Bexley was very antiently appropriated to the priory of the Holy Trinity, London, between which and the archbishop the right to it was litigated, and afterwards, on an appeal to the pope, in the 29th year of king Henry III. a definitive sentence was given in favour of the priory, which was confirmed by the bull of Alexander IV./a

Archbishop Stephen Langton decreed an endowment of this vicarage anew, for there had been before one made by his predecessor, archbishop Corboil, of the third part of the portion of this church to the vicar, but it being without the consent of the patrons of it, as such it had not taken effect. By this second endowment, the vicar, who should in future be presented by the prior, and instituted by the archbishop, should have all the profits of the church, together with the third of the rents and houses belonging to it,

/z See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 922. Cust. Roff. p. 79. /a Rym. Fœd. vol. i. p. 539, 640.

182

excepting the barns and yard, which should specially belong to the religious, and the tithes of sheaves, and of mills, and hay, which should wholly belong to them, so that they should not exact nor have any thing farther from it, and that the vicar besides should, in future, receive yearly two marks from the chamberlain of the priory, which, if not paid, the vicarage should return to the same state it was in before, of the third part of the portion of the church, but that the vicar should answer small episcopal payments, so that the religious should sustain no burthen on that account, which endowment was confirmed by the prior and chapter of Christ church./b

The church of Bexley, with the advowson of the vicarage, remained among the possessions of the above mentioned priory till its final dissolution, in the 23d year of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered, together with its revenues into the king's hands./c

Henry Cooke held the rectory and advowson of Bexley of the king in capite, and died possessed of it in the 5th year of king Edward VI. in whose descendants the rectory or parsonage continued down to Robert Cooke, esq. of Mount Mascall, who married Rebecca, fourth daughter of Sir Henry St. George, garter principal king at arms; she died in 1710. After her death her brother, Sir Thomas St. George, afterwards garter, possessed it, as did Tho. St. George, esq. his son, who left an only daughter and heir, Eleanor, married to Thomas Dare of Taunton, in Somersetshire, one of whose descendants, the widow of Mr. Henry Emmett, died not many years since possessed of it, and by her will devised it to trustees, for the benefit of the eldest son of Mr. Thomas Latham, who had married her neice, Miss Wardlow, in which situation it still continues.

/b Taken from a part of the Register of the priory of the Holy Trinity of London, in the Shelburne lib. MSS. No. 461. Custum. Roff. p. 85. /c Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 411.

183

The parsonage house, which stood opposite the church, and was one of the most antient edifices of the diocese, having been for many years inhabited by poor families, was pulled down in 1776, and no other has been since erected in its room./c

The rectory of Bexley pays a yearly fee farm to the the crown of 1l. per annum. The Rt. Hon. lord viscount Sydney is the present patron of the vicarage.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at thirty marcs, and the vicarage of it at ten marcs./d This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 13l. 4s. 7d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 6s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d./e

By virtue of a commission of enquiry in 1650, issuing out of the court of chancery, it was returned, that Bexley was a vicarage, with a house and five acres of glebe land, all worth forty pounds per annum, master Nicholas Frankwell then preaching there.

#### CHURCH OF BEXLEY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. VICARS.

John Bunton, obt. July 1591.  
Wm Luffe, A. M. ob. Nov. 1609.  
Nicholas Frankwell, 1610, obt.

Oct. 1658./f  
Thomas Smoult, S. T. P. resigned

1665./g  
Benjamin Huntington, 1665, obt.

Jan. 1, 1706./h  
Robert Huntington, obt. Mar. 20,

1732./i

..... Knipe, obt. Nov. 1736.  
H. Piers, A. M. 1743, ob. 1769.  
Honourable Thomas Townshend William Green, 1770. Present  
vicar.

/c There are two views of it in Cus=tumal. Roff.

/d Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/e Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/f He lies buried in this church yard.

/g He lies buried in the church of Barkway, in Herts, to which, on the resignation of this vicarage, he succeeded as rector. He died July 9, 1707, aged 74, and was buried there.

Le Neve's Mon. Angl. vol. ii. p. 131.

/h He was brother to the learned Dr. Rob. Huntington, bishop of Rathphoe, in Ireland, and was a good benefactor to this vicarage house.

/i Nephew to the former vicar.

184

- - -

### THE HUNDRED OF LITTLE AND LESNES

LIES next northward from that of Ruxley. In the general survey of Domesday it is called the hundred of Litelai; which name it retained in the reign of king Edward I. the king being then lord of it.

In the 20th year of king Edward III. on levying forty shillings on every knight's fee, this hundred of Littley answered for one knight's fee and a half.

In the reign of king Henry IV. I find it called by its present name, of Little and Lesnes; the latter being, in fact, no more than the name of one of the two half hundreds into which it was divided. Two constables have jurisdiction over it.

IT CONTAINS THE PARISHES OF

1. EAST WICKHAM.
2. PLUMSTED.
3. ERITH.
4. CRAYFORD.

And the churches of those parishes.

- - -

### EAST WICKHAM

LIES the next parish north eastward from Bexley. This place takes its name of East Wickham, to distinguish it from the parish of Wickham, near Bromley, usually called West Wickham, and that of Wickham from its nearness to the great high road; Wic signifying, in Saxon, a street or way, and ham, a dwelling.

185

This parish is but small; it contains about seven hundred acres of land, and about thirty-four houses. The southern extremity of it reaches to the high London road, where the soil is level; and there is some land tolerably fertile, but the western and northern parts of it are but poor and barren, being much addicted to gravel and a stiff clay, the former part being

much covered with coppice wood. The village through which the road leads to Plumsted and Woolwich, is situated nearly in the centre of the parish, about a mile from the high London road. At the north-east part of it is the court lodge, an old fashioned timbered building, and a little farther eastward, the church, near which was an antient good looking seat, lately pulled down, built seemingly about queen Elizabeth's reign, probably by Sir John Oliffe, soon after his purchasing this manor, by the marriage of whose daughter, it coming into the possession of the Leighs of Addington, was let to the family of Buggin, who resided in it for some time; after which Sir Thomas Leigh (eldest son of Sir Francis Leigh by his second wife, Christian Thynne) resided in it till his death, as tenant to his father; but his son, Sir Francis, removing first to Tring, in Hertfordshire, and afterwards to Hawley, this house continued afterwards uninhabited. About a quarter of a mile northward from this village, near Borstall-heath, is a modern built seat, which was built by Thomas Jones, esq. comptroller of the laboratory at Woolwich, who resided here; after whose decease, in 1766, it descended to his son, by Miss Pelham, Col. Richard Steyner Jones, who died lately in the West Indies, and his eldest son is now entitled to it, but it is at present uninhabited.

The hamlet of WELLING is situated at the south-eastern boundary of the parish, on the high road from London to Dover, which divides this parish from that of Bexley, the houses on the southern side of it being in that parish. At the east end of Welling, within

186

this parish, is a good house, which was not many years since the residence of John, the only surviving son of Peter Denham, esq. who died in 1736, and lies buried in Plumsted church, near his wife; he had besides John, above mentioned, a daughter, married to John Lidgbird, esq. The Denhams bore for their arms, Gules, six lozenges in fess, ermine. John Denham, the son, died in 1760, leaving by Joan his wife, daughter of Thomas Willyams, esq. of Plaistow, in Essex, an only daughter and heir, Anne, who carried her interest in it in marriage to Thomas Cookes, esq. of Worcestershire, who afterwards took holy orders, and was of Hearne, in this county. He sold it to Mr. Benjamin Winkworth, who resided in it; as did, after his death, his son of the same name, who died in 1796, and his widow now resides in it.

The MANOR of East Wickham was antiently part of the possessions of the family of Burnell, who were of great antiquity in England, as appeared by an old Martyrologie, sometime belonging to the abbey of Buldewas, in Shropshire, in which many of them were recorded; and among others, Sir Robert Burnell, who died in the 20th year of king William the Conqueror, anno 1087. Of this family was Robert Burnell, who was possessed of this manor in the reign of king Edward I./k In the year 1275, he was consecrated bishop of Bath and Wells, and was a man of great power in those days; being first treasurer, and then chancellor of England, and always of the privy-council. He died at Berwick in the 21st year of that reign,

and was buried in the cathedral of Wells./l He died possessed of this manor,/m and was succeeded in it by his nephew and heir, Philip, son of Philip, his eldest brother, who had possession granted of his uncle's

/k Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 60.

/l Newcourt's Rep. vol. i. p. 156. Le Neve's Fasti, p. 32.

/m Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

187

lands, and having married Maud, daughter of Richard earl of Arundel, died the year afterwards, leaving by her Edward, his son and heir; and one daughter, Maud, first married to John Lovel of Tichmersh, by whom she had one son, John; and secondly to John de Handloe;/n which Edward, in the 1st year of king Edward II. had possession granted of his lands, and was summoned to parliament in the 5th of that reign, and died in the 9th year of it, without issue, being then possessed of this manor, and leaving Maud, then the wife of John de Handloe, his sister and heir.

Upon which John de Handloe had possession granted of all his lands (excepting such as Aliva his widow, daughter of Hugh de Spencer, held in Dower). He had summons to parliament in the 1st year of king Edward III. and having, together with Maud, his wife, settled this manor, in special tail remainder, to her right heirs; he died in the 20th year of that reign, then possessed of this manor,/o leaving two sons, Richard and Nicholas, of whom the former died in his life time, leaving a son, Edmund, who died in his minority, anno 29 Edward III. and two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth, afterwards their brother's heirs; the first being married to Sir Edmund de la Pole, and the latter to Gilbert Chastlein; Nicholas surviving his brother, inherited this manor by virtue of the above entail, and in the 22d year of the same reign had possession granted of his lands, by the surname of Burnell, which he from henceforth assumed from his mother, in regard she was so great an heir.

He had summons to parliament in the 24th year of that reign, and afterwards till the time of his death, in the 6th year of king Richard II. being then possessed of this manor, leaving Sir Hugh Burnell his son and heir, who had possession granted of his lands;

/n She died 37 Edward III. Dugd. Warw. p. 543. vol. ii. p. 61.

/o Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

188

and having married Joyce, daughter of John Botetourt, grand child and heir of Sir John Botetourt, he had possession granted of the lands of her inheritance.

In the 10th year of king Richard II. he was constituted governor of Bridgnorth castle; soon after which, being reputed one of the king's favourites, he was, with others, banished the court; but the king getting strength again, he was recompensed for his losses, and on the deposal of king Richard, became so popular, that he was one of the lords then sent to the Tower of London, to receive his resignation of the crown; and he afterwards stood in such esteem with king Henry IV. as to have several important trusts conferred on him; having been summoned to

parliament from the 7th of king Richard II. to the 8th of king Henry V. in which year he died. He had by Joyce his wife, before mentioned, only one son, Sir Edward Burnell, who died in his life time, leaving by Alice his wife, daughter of the lord Strange, only three daughters, heirs to their grandfather.

The issue male of the Burnells becoming thus extinct, this manor, by virtue of the entail made by John de Handloe and Maud his wife, in the 18th year of king Edward II. devolved to her right heirs, viz. her descendant by her first husband Lovell, in consequence of which Sir William Lovell of Tichmarsh, lord Lovell, became entitled to it./p

The first we have any account of, who assumed this surname of Lovell, was William, son of Asceline Goell, son of Robert, lord of Iveri, in Normandy, and Isabel his wife, natural daughter of William de Britolio, brother of Roger, sometime earl of Hereford.

Of this family was John Lovell, who flourished in the reign of king Henry III. and was made sheriff of the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon, and governor of the castles of Northampton and Marleberge.

/p Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

189

Sir John Lovell, his son and heir, was first summoned to parliament in the 25th year of king Edward I. whose son and heir, John, married Maud, the daughter and heir of Sir Philip Burnell, afterwards re-married to John de Handloe, by whom he had John, his son and heir, as has been already mentioned, whose descendant, of the same name, in the 47th of Edward III. married Maud, the daughter of Robert de Holand, son of Robert de Holand, deceased, and heir to her grandfather of the same name, having received summons to parliament throughout the reign of king Richard II. and to the time of his death, by the title of John Lovell of Titchmerch, chiv/r. He died in the fourth year of king Henry IV. bearing the title of John, lord Lovell and Holand, whose grandson, William, succeeded to the possession of this manor, as before mentioned.

He died possessed of it in the 33d year of king Henry VI. leaving by Alice his wife, who survived him, John, his son and heir; and a second son, William, who married Alianore, daughter and heir to Robert lord Morley, by reason of which he had the title of lord Morley./q John Lovell, the eldest son, above mentioned, was afterwards knighted; and, in the 30th year of that prince's reign, had summons to parliament; before the end of which year, upon the landing of the duke of York and his party, this John lord Lovell, accompanied the lords Scales and Hungerford to London, in hopes to gain the citizens over to king's Henry's interest, but failing therein, he was forced to flee to the Tower for refuge; soon after which he seems to have made his peace with king Edward IV. for he received summons to parliament both in the 1st and 3d year of that prince's reign, and died in the 4th year of it, leaving Joane his wife, daughter of William viscount Beaumont surviving;

/q Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 561.

and Francis, his son and heir, an infant, and two daughters. Francis lord Lovell, on his father's death, inherited this manor; and in the 22d year of king Edward IV. had summons to parliament by the title of Francis Lovell de Lovell, chivr./r and before the end of it, he was advanced to the dignity of viscount Lovell. Being a great friend and favourer of Richard III. he assisted him in every step he took to obtain the crown, in reward for which he was advanced to the office of lord-chamberlain of his household, made constable of the castle of Wallingford, and constituted chief butler of England; upon which this distich was made on him, Ratcliffe, and Catesby, two other of king Richard's adherents:

The rat, the cat, and Lovell, the dog,  
Rule all England, under the HOG.

Alluding to king Richard's crest, which was a boar. Having thus entwined his interest with that of the king, he was present on his part at the battle of Bosworth, where the king being slain, and his army totally routed, the lord Lovell made shift to escape with his life; and at last got safe into Flanders, to Margaret duchess of Burgundy (sister to king Edward IV.) by whom he was sent with two thousand men into Ireland, in support of Lambert Simnell (the counterfeit duke of York); from thence he came over into England with John de la Pole, earl of Lincoln, and the rest of that party, and afterwards underwent the same fate as they did, being slain in the battle of Stoke, near Newark upon Trent, in the 3d year of king Henry VII. In the 1st of which an act had passed for his conviction and attainder, and of the duke of Norfolk, earl of Surry, and others; as did another for his attainder again in the 11th year of that reign. The Lovells bore for their arms, Barry of six nebuly, or, and gules.

/r Cott. Rec. p. 705.

Upon his death, without issue, this manor, by the entail before mentioned, descended to Henry Lovell, lord Morley, son of William, son of William lord Lovell, father of John, lord Lovell and Holand, father of the above Francis, viscount Lovell, and he died possessed of it in the 5th year of king Henry VII. holding it in capite by knights service./s

On his death without issue, he being the last in the entail of this manor, it became vested in the crown, where it remained till the 5th year of king Henry VIII. when it was granted by letters patent that year, with many other manors in different counties, in special tail, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, to hold by the service of one knight's fee./t

This illustrious family of Howard derive their descent from Sir William Howard, who was chief justice of England, in the reign of king Edward I. from whose eldest son, Sir William Howard, in a direct line, was descended Sir Robert Howard, who flourished in the reign of king Henry VI. and married Margaret, eldest daughter and coheir of Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter and coheir

to Richard Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, and cousin and coheir to John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, which marriage was the foundation of all the grandeur and rank, which the family of Howard afterwards attainted to; for by it one moiety of the inheritance of those great families, became at length vested by her in the family of Howard, and the other moiety by the other coheir in that of Berkeley. By her Sir Robert Howard had one son, John, who died in his father's life time, leaving one son, Sir John Howard, who began in his youth to distinguish himself as a soldier, and became one of the most illustrious noblemen of his time, being employed, during the remainder of the reign of king

/s Rot. Esch. ejus anni. /t Ibid. pt. 20.  
/u Coll. Peer. last edit. vol. i. p. 49. Seld. Tit. of Hon. p. 682,  
684. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 265. Coll. Peer. vol. ii. p. 53.

192

Henry VI. and throughout that of king Edward IV. in the most important trusts, civil as well as military.

In the 12th year of king Edward IV. he was first summoned to parliament; after which, being then a knight of the Garter, he obtained a grant of constable of the Tower of London; and having been thus faithful to the house of York during the whole of that reign, he continued no less stedfast to king Richard III. after he had obtained the crown; in recompence for which, and to oblige him the more to his interests, he was, in the 1st year of his reign, made earl marshal of England, to hold to him in tail male, and on the same day advanced to the title of duke of Norfolk; and, in order to the solemnity of king Richard's coronation, was constituted high steward of England for that day, as also lord admiral of England, Ireland, and Aquitain, for life. But he did not long enjoy these great honours and vast possessions, for next year, being placed in the front of the king's army, at Bosworth-field, he was, with the king, slain there, and was buried in the abbey of Thetford, in Norfolk. He had been warned by some of his friends from going into this battle, by this distich, set on the gate the night before:

Jocky of Norfolk, be not too bold,  
For Dickon, thy master, is bought and sold.

Yet he would not absent himself from it, but as he had faithfully lived under the king, so he manfully died with him, and for his great worth was lamented, even by his enemies. After which he was attainted in parliament in the first year of king Henry VII.

This great duke married two wives; by the first, Catharine, daughter to William lord Molins, he had Thomas, his son and heir, who was first page and then squire of the body to king Edward IV. and in the 16th year of that reign was created earl of Surry at the time his father was created duke of Norfolk, by king Richard III. as has been already mentioned; and was

193

elected knight of the Garter. At the battle of Bosworth he was taken prisoner, and committed by king Henry VII. to the Tower; after which he was attainted with his father; notwithstanding which the king

afterwards received him into favour; and in the 4th year of that reign he was in parliament restored to the title of earl of Surry, and he remained in such trust and confidence with the king, that he made him one of the supervisors of his will.

In the 8th year of king Henry VIII. he was made one of the privy council, and had his patent for lord-treasurer renewed, and the next year was constituted earl marshal of England for life. In the 4th year of that reign he gained a most memorable victory over the Scots at Floddenfield, the earl leading the battle himself, his two sons, Thomas and Edmund, the van of the English army; in which fight the king of Scotland was slain, and the Scots entirely routed. For this eminent service the earl of Surry had a special grant from the king of an honourable augmentation to his arms, to bear on the bend in them the upper half of a red lion, depicted, as the arms of Scotland are, pierced through the mouth with an arrow.

On February 1, following, he was advanced to the dignity of duke of Norfolk;<sup>x</sup> and by other letters patent, bearing the same date, he obtained a grant, in special tail, of several manors and lands in different counties, among which was this manor of East Wickham, as has been mentioned before.

He died in the 16th year of that reign, at his castle of Framlingham, and was buried, according to his will, in the priory of Thetford, whence his bones were removed, at the dissolution, to Framlingham. By his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir to Sir Frederick Tilney, widow of Sir Humphrey Bourchier, he had several sons and daughters, of whom William was an=

<sup>x</sup> Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 267. Coll. Peer. last edit. vol. i. p. 73.

194

cestor of the earls of Nottingham, now extinct, and the present earl of Effingham; and Thomas, the eldest son, had been, in his father's life time, created earl of Surry. In the second year of the same reign, he was elected knight of the Garter, and in the 5th year of it constituted lord admiral, in which post he signalized himself with great conduct and valour; in consequence of which, and of the great service performed by him at Floddenfield, he was on February 1, following, being the day of his father's advancement to the title of duke of Norfolk, created earl of Surry.

In the 16th of that reign, upon his father's death, he had special possession granted of his lands;<sup>y</sup> and among them, of this manor of East Wickham; and in the 25th of it was constituted earl marshal of England; but notwithstanding his great and signal services, both in the station of a soldier and a statesman, through the king's jealousy of his greatness, which was not a little fomented by several of the nobility, who bore no good will to him, on account of some expressions of contempt which he had made use of concerning them, as new raised men, he was, in the 38th year of Henry VIII. suddenly apprehended and committed to the Tower; and although he submitted himself with all humility to the king's mercy, yet he was, together with the earl of Surry, his eldest son, attainted by special bills in parliament. The earl was soon af=

terwards beheaded; and a warrant was sent for beheading the duke, on Jan. 28, 1546; but the king dying that day, his executors did not choose, at that critical juncture, to put his order in execution.

Though by the king's death, the duke's life was preserved, yet his enemies were so powerful, that he was by name excepted out of king Edward's general

/y Duggd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 273. Coll. Peer. last edit. vol. i. p. 86.  
In the 16th, 21st, 25th, and 26th years of king Henry VIII. acts passed in parliament for the assurance of lands to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and his heirs male.

195

pardon, and he remained a prisoner in the Tower till Aug. 3, 1553, the day on which queen Mary made her triumphant entry into London; when, without any pardon or restitution, he was allowed to be duke of Norfolk, and had such of his lands restored to him as then remained vested in the crown, and had not been granted from it. An act likewise passed for the repeal of the duke's attainder, by which he was restored to all estates, possessed by him at that time; by virtue of which he again became entitled to this manor of East Wickham.

In the 2d year of queen Mary, being then more than eighty years of age, he retired to his seat at Kenting-hall, in Norfolk, where he soon after died. By the different inquisitions then taken it was found, that Thomas, his grandson, son of Henry Earl of Surry, was his heir, and that he was married to the lady Mary, daughter and coheir of Henry Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel, lord steward of the queen's household.

The duke of Norfolk was twice married; first to Anne, one of the daughters of king Edward IV. by whom he left no issue; secondly, to Elizabeth, daughter to Edward duke of Buckingham, by whom he had Henry, his eldest son, who bearing the title of earl of Surry, in his father's life time, became not only eminent as a soldier, but as an accomplished gentleman and a scholar. But his great virtues became the cause of his ruin, for the king being jealous of him, caused him to be accused of treason, the principal charge being his bearing the arms of king Edward the Confessor with his own; upon which, being arraigned and condemned, anno 38 Henry VIII. he was beheaded on Tower-hill, and was first buried in the church of Allhallows Barking, near the place of his execution; but his body was afterwards carried to Framlingham, in Suffolk, where it was honourably intombed.

By Frances his wife, daughter of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, he left two sons, Thomas and Henry,

196

which latter was, with his three sisters, restored in blood in the parliament, held in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth; and in the 1st year of James I. he was made of his privy-council, and lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover castle; after which he was created earl of Northampton, knight of the Garter, and made lord privy-seal. He died unmarried in the 12th of king James I. and was interred in the church in Dover castle, from whence his body was removed, and

placed in the chapel of his hospital, commonly called the Duke of Norfolk's college, in Greenwich. He was also chancellor of the university of Cambridge, and founded two other hospitals, besides this at Greenwich.

Thomas, the eldest son, was earl of Surry, being eighteen years of age, at his grandfather's death, and succeeded him as fourth duke of Norfolk.

In the 4th and 5th of king Philip and queen Mary, he had possession granted of the lands of his father's inheritance, and among others of this manor of East Wickham. After the death of queen Mary, he grew much in favor and esteem with queen Elizabeth; in somuch, that he was, in the 1st year of her reign, elected one of the knights of the garter, at which time he bore for his arms a coat, containing those of Howard, Brotherton, Warren, Mowbray, and Maltrevers.

In the 4th year of that reign he alienated this manor to trustees,/z who, by his direction, conveyed it that year to John Olyffe,/a afterwards knighted, and an alderman of London, who died possessed of it in 1577, and bore for his arms, Or and sable, party per pale and chevron, three greyhounds heads, erased and coloured, counterchanged.

On his death, Jane, his wife, became possessed of a life estate in it, and in the 24th year of queen Elizabeth, in 1581, having married John Omsted, he had in her

/z Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 9.

/a Aubrey's Antiq. of Surry, vol. ii. p. 52.

197

right possession granted of it, to hold in capite by knights service.

On her death Sir Olyffe Leigh, son of John Leigh, esq. of Addington, in Surry, became entitled to it, in right of his mother, her sole daughter and heir, by her first husband, Sir John Olyffe, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

This family of Leigh is descended from William a Legh, who lived in the beginning of the reign of king Edward III. His son, Robert de Legh held the manor of Est-Leigh, in this county, of the archbishop, by knights service. In the 20th year of king Edward III. Walter a Legh possessed the above manor of Est Legh, or Leigh, and the manor of Sibeton adjoining; of which his descendant, Thomas Legh, was possessed in king Henry the VIth's reign. He left one son, John Legh, who was of Addington, in Surry, of which county he was sheriff in 1469, and dying in 1479, lies buried in that church, his son John Leigh, alias a Legh, was of that place likewise, and was sheriff of the same county in 1486,/b and justice of the quorum. His descendant, of the same name, was of Addington, and appears to have been possessed of good estates in Kent and elsewhere, for, by a deed of exchange made by him, with king Henry the VIIIth, in the 35th year of that reign, anno 1543, he passed away several manors in this and other counties, for other lands therein mentioned,/c bearing for his arms, Or, on a chevron sable, three lions rampant argent. He married Isabel, daughter of John Harvey, of Thurley, in Bedfordshire, and sole sister of Sir George Harvey, by whom he had Nicholas Leigh, esq. of Addington, who, in consequence of

a bargain made by his father, with the same king, conveyed to him the manor of Leigh before-mentioned, in consideration of which he had granted to him the manor of Addington, and other premises there, late be-

/b Aubrey. Ibid. p. 35, 36. /c Inrolm. Aug. off.

198

longing to the priory of St. John of Jerusalem, of which himself and his ancestors had been tenants from the time of king Henry the Vlth./d He married Anne, daughter of Sir Nicholas Carew, of Beddington, in Surry, by whom he had John Leigh, esq. of Addington, who died in 1576, having married Joane, daughter and heir of Sir John Olyffe, as before-mentioned, who survived him, by whom he had several sons and daughters; Olyffe, the eldest son, will be further mentioned, and Charles went captain of a ship to Guinea, to make discoveries in 1604, and died there soon afterwards./d

The eldest son, Sir Olyffe Leigh, was likewise of Addington, and succeeded his mother in this manor as has been before mentioned. He died in 1611, and lies buried with his ancestors in Addington church, leaving by Anne his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Browne, of Beechworth-castle, an only son Sir Francis Leigh, who was of Addington, and had been sheriff of Surry during his father's life-time in 1600./f He was twice married; first to Elizabeth Mitton, alias Morton; and 2dly, to Christian, second daughter of Sir John Thynne, of Longleat. He died in 1644, leaving by his first wife a son and heir, Wooley Leigh, esq. who was of Thorpe, in Surry, and by his second wife two sons, Thomas, who was ancestor of the Leighs of Hawley, in this county; and William, ancestor of Thomas Leigh, of Farnham, in Surry.

Wooley Leigh, esq. married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Hare, of Stow Bardolph, in Norfolk, (who surviving him, afterwards married Sir John Lowther, of Westmoreland).

By her he had Sir Thomas Leigh, who left two sons, Sir John Leigh, his heir, and Wooley Leigh, esq. who, left two daughters his coheirs, Mary, married to John

/d Inrolm. Aug. off. /e Naval Chron. vol. ii. p. 287.  
/f Aubrey ibid. p. 40.

199

Bennet, by whom she had issue; and Anne, to Henry Spencer, by whom she had a son, Wooley Leigh Spencer,/g of both whom further mention will be made hereafter.

Sir John Leigh, the eldest son of Sir Thomas, by Catherine his wife, daughter of John Barton, serjeant-at-law, who afterwards married William Walsham, esq. and lies buried in this church, left Sir John Liegh, his son and heir, who was of Addington, and died in 1737, having been twice married; first, to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Stephen Lennard, of West Wickham, bart. and 2dly, to Elizabeth, daughter of William Wade, of Bromley. He had issue only by his first wife a son Francis, who was of Addington, and died without issue in his father's life-time, in 1731.

But before I proceed further in the account of this

manor, it will be proper to give some account of the branch of this family, afterwards seated at Hawley, in this county.

Sir Francis Leigh, of Addington, left by Christian Thynne, his second wife, two sons, as has been already mentioned. Of these, Thomas, the eldest, resided in this parish, and married Christian Lutterel, by whom he had issue Sir Francis Leigh, who first settled at Hawley, and was knight of the shire for this county in the first parliament of queen Anne. He first settled at Tring, in Hertfordshire, where he married his first wife, Sarah Lovell, niece to Henry Guy, esq. of that place. She died in 1691, and lies buried in Addington church; where his arms, having a crescent for difference, as a younger branch of Leigh, are impaled with hers, Argent, a chevron azure, between three squirrels gules. After this he removed into Kent, and settled at Hawley, near Dartford, and died there in 1711, leaving by Francis Cheney, his second wife, Francis, his heir, and several daughters, of whom, Christian married

/g Stemm. Chich. p. 240, and MSS. pedigree of Leigh.

200

Francis Isaac Bargrave of Eastry, by whom she had Isaac Bargrave, esq. late of Lincoln's-inn-fields, but now of Eastry, and Elizabeth, the wife of Mr. Robert Bargrave.

Francis Leigh, esq. the son, was likewise of Hawley. He died in 1734, and was buried at Sutton-at-Hone church, leaving by Jane his wife, daughter and coheir of Thomas Gifford, esq. of Pennis, and widow of Mr. Finch Umphrey, who died in 1766, and was buried at Eynesford, two sons; Francis Leigh, esq. who was of Hawley, and died without issue in 1774; and Richard Leigh, esq. serjeant-at-law, who died in 1772, leaving one son, Richard, heir likewise to his uncle Francis, and a daughter named Elizabeth, who married John Mumford, esq. of Sutton-at-Hone.

Having thus finished the descent of the different branches of this family, I shall now return to the account of the manor of East Wickham.

Sir John Leigh, last mentioned above, as of Addington, died in 1737, leaving no issue surviving, by either of his wives, and possessed, among other premises, of this manor of East Wickham. By his will he devised it with other his lands in Kent to his father-in-law, William Wade, and his lands in Surry to Francis Leigh, esq. of Hawley, and afterwards made a deed of settlement of them accordingly.

On Sir John's death, in 1737, William Wade entered on these estates in Kent, as did Francis Leigh and others on those in Surry. Two years after which John Bennet, who had married Mary, and Henry Spencer, who had married Anne, the two daughters and coheirs of Wooley Leigh, younger brother of Sir John Leigh, father of Sir John Leigh, the testator, and as such his nearest kin, and heirs at law, in right of their wives, exhibited a bill in chancery, setting forth, that the will and settlement were obtained by the management of William Wade, and others, and executed by Sir John Leigh, at a time when he was incapacitated, as well by weakness of body as of mind, to dispose of his estates.

201

In 1742 the lord chancellor decreed, that the deeds of settlement were procured by fraud, and should be delivered up to be cancelled; and that William Wade should convey this manor and lands in Kent to the said Mary and Anne, as heirs at law to Sir John Leigh, to hold to them and their heirs, as tenants in common, and not as joint tenants, and they accordingly took possession of them. After which, Francis Leigh, esq. preferred a petition to the chancellor, that he might make a new defence, but this appeal was dismissed. On which he appealed to the house of lords, and the cause was heard at the bar of that house, on Jan. 28, 1744, when the chancellor's decree was affirmed.

John Bennet and Mary his wife, and Henry Spencer and Anne his wife, being thus confirmed in their right to the inheritance of Sir John Leigh's estates, both in Surry, Kent, and elsewhere, continued in possession of them, as tenants in common, till the year 1767; when both John Bennet and Henry Spencer being deceased, the devisees of the former joined with Anne Spencer, widow of the latter, in procuring an act of parliament for dividing these estates. In the partition of which this manor of East Wickham, among other lands, was allotted to the devisees of John Bennet; one of whom, the Rev. Wooley Leigh Bennet, rector of Finnmore, in Oxfordshire, died there in 1790, possessed of it, and his son, the Rev. John Leigh Bennet is now the proprietor of this manor.

#### CHARITIES.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave for the benefit of the poor of this parish certain houses and land, vested in the inhabitants, and of the annual produce of 2l. 12s.

Mr. WILLIAM FOSTER, of Croydon, in 1728 founded a school at this place, for 20 poor children, of East Wickham and Welling, endowing it with some lands at Croydon, now worth about 20l. per annum, as a salary for the master.

EAST WICKHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford.

202

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, is a small antient structure, consisting of a nave and chancel; at the west end is a small turret, and a wooden spire, having two bells in it. The font is octagonal, ornamented with quaterfoils.

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church are the following: – In the nave, a mural monument for Catherine, daughter of John Barton, serjeant at law, first married to Sir John Leigh, of Addington, in Surry; 2dly, to William Walsham, esq. of the Middle Temple, obt. 1715, æt. 53; and for the said William Walsham, who died 1728, æt. 63. Beneath these arms, sable, a chevron argent between 3 cinquefoils, or, impaling argent 3 boars heads couped, gu. langued, or. In the chancel, a grave-stone, on which has been a brass plate, the length of the stone, in form of a cross flory gradated, now torn away, except the effigies of a man and woman at half length, and piece of the inscription in capitals of the 14th century, for John de Bladicdone and Maud, the rest obliterated. On the north side, on a grave-stone, the effigies of a man in brass, between his three wives. He is represented as a corpulent man, with a thick

beard, and rough in his uniform, with trunk breeches and sword by his side, having on his breast a rose, surmounted by a crown, and under him an inscription in black letter, for William Payn, yeoman of the guard, and Elizabeth, Joane, and Joane, his wives, he died in 1568, beneath are the effigies of his 3 sons./h

This church was always accounted as a chapel to Plumsted, and as such is not in charge in the king's books./i

Being an appendage to Plumsted, it was of course included in the gift made of that church and manor to St. Austin's monastery, near Canterbury, and continued with it till its suppression; after which it was, together with the manor, church, &c. of Plumsted, granted by king Henry VIII. in his 30th year, to Sir Edward Boughton, as may be seen in the account of that manor as follows.

Sir Edward Boughton died possessed of the church of Plumsted and this chapel, which he held in capite

/h See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 992. /i Bacon's Lib. Regis.

203

by knights service. He was succeeded in it by his son, Nicholas Boughton, whose son and heir Edward, in the 9th year of queen Elizabeth, had possession granted, among other premises, of that church, with the chapel of East Wickham, held of the king as aforesaid. In the 17th year of queen Elizabeth, Edward Boughton alienated the tythes arising from all the lands in Welling and East Wickham, to John Hawkins,/k who was afterwards knighted in 1588, for his gallant behaviour at the defeat of the Spanish armada.

Having founded an hospital for poor distressed mariners at Chatham, about the 36th of queen Elizabeth, he conveyed these tythes to the governors of it, for the use of his charity there for ever, where the inheritance of them remains at this time./l Mr. Christopher Chapman is the present lessee of them.

But the patronage of the chapel of East Wickham, with the other dues and profits belonging to it, still continue annexed to the vicarage of Plumsted, the vicar of which is presented and instituted to the vicarage of Plumsted, with the chapel of East Wickham annexed.

- - -

#### PLUMSTED

LIES the next parish northward from East Wickham, on the banks of the river Thames, which is its northern boundary.

This parish, which contains about two thousand three hundred acres of land, lies so much exposed to the damp and foggy air of the marshes, that it is far from being healthy. The high road to Woolwich passes through it, separating the marshes from the upland; on this road stands the village of Plumsted, having the

/k Rot. Esch. ejus anni, pt. 2.

/l See more of Sir John Hawkins, under Chatham.

204

Plumsted park-house nearly in the center of it, and

the court-lodge, church, and parsonage to the eastward, and a little farther the hamlet of Bostall, or Boston, as it is frequently called, and the heath of the same name; southward of the village is Plumsted common. The upland or southern part of the parish is very hilly, and much covered with coppice woods, not less than four hundred acres, reaching up to the high Dover road, and taking into its bounds the whole northern side of Shooter's-hill, an account of which, with the buildings on it, has been already given under the description of the adjoining parish of Eltham. The southern upland in this parish is very poor, being mostly gravel, or a stiff clay. The lower part is more fertile, in which are included ninety acres, used for market gardens, of which fifty are for green peas, and about one hundred acres of orchard, chiefly planted with cherries. The more northern part, being the marsh land, which is bounded northward by the river Thames, contains near a thousand acres, being about a mile and a half across each way; these marshes are very rich and fertile, about one hundred acres of them are annually ploughed up, and bear exceeding great crops of corn. Between Plumsted and Crayford, in a lane leading to the marshes, is found *Muscus Palmaris, qua tuor gestans in summitate folia ad instar Tormentillœ.*/m

King Edgar, in the year 960, gave to the monastery of St. Austin, near the city of Canterbury, four plough lands, called Plumstede, which were afterwards taken away by Godwyn, earl of Kent, who gave them to his fourth son Tostan.

King Edward the Confessor restored them again to the monastery; but on his death, in the year 1066, Tostan again took possession of them. He was slain in rebellion against his brother king Harold, who seized on this among the rest of his estates. After the fatal

/m Merrett's Pinax, p. 81.

205

battle of Hastings, in which king Harold lost both his kingdom and his life, the Conqueror gave it, among other vast possessions in this county, to Odo, bishop of Baieux, his half brother, whom he afterwards made earl of Kent; soon after which a moiety of this land, at the intercession of archbishop Lanfrance, and by the interest of Scotland, then abbot of St. Austin's, who was a Norman by birth, and had been presented to this post by the king himself, was restored to that monastery, and by the conqueror's charter confirmed to it. Odo, bishop of Baieux, at the same time quitting his claim to it, and subscribing this donation. Not long after which Odo, by his deed, anno 1074, made a grant to the abbot and convent of the other moiety of this parish of Plumsted, to hold of him as chief lord of the fee./n

Accordingly these moieties are thus separately entered in the survey of Domesday, which was taken about the year 1080.

The former, under the title of the land of the church of St. Augustine, as follows:

In Litelai hundred. The abbot of St. Augustine has 1 manor, named Plumstede, which was taxed at 2 sulings and 1 yoke. The arable land is . . . . In demesne

there is 1 carucate and 17 villeins, with 6 cottagers, having 6 carucates, there is wood for the pannage of 5 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards it was worth 10 pounds, now 12 pounds, and yet it pays 14 pounds and 8 shillings and 3 pence.

The latter thus, under the general title of the bishop of Baieux's lands:

The abbot of St. Augustine holds of the bishop of Baieux, Plumsted. It was taxed at 2 sulings and 1 yoke. The arable land is 5 carucates. In demesne there is 1 carucate and 17 villeins, with 3 borderers, hav=

/n Regist. Monast. St. August. Cart. 163 and 200. Dec. Script. col. 1779 and 1787.

206

ing 4 carucates. There is wood for the pannage of 5 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 10 pounds, when he received it 8 pounds, and now as much, and yet he who holds it pays 12 pounds. Brixi Cilt held it of king Edward.

Reginald, son of Gervase de Cornhill, who lived about that time, released to the abbot and convent all claim in this manor from David de Cornhill, and Robert his brother, who had rented it of them. In 1273 Nicholas de Spina was elected abbot of this monastery, and the next year there was a general aid paid to him, as for his palfrey, by the several tenants of it, those of Plumsted paying him seven pounds./o

Lora de Ros, lady of Horton, in 1287, quit-claimed to Thomas, abbot, and the convent of St. Augustine, all her right to two carucates of land, and fifty acres of wood, in the manor of Plumsted, in consideration of which, they granted, that she and her heirs should be partakers of the prayers performed in their church, in the same manner as their own brothers and domes=tics. It seems that Robert, the last abbot but one, had recovered a moiety of this manor against Richard de Ros, her kinsman, whose heir she was; it having been found, by a jury of grand assize, that his ancestors held this land in fee farm of the abbot and convent at the rent of twelve pounds per annum./p

In the 7th year of king Edward II. the abbot was summoned before Hervy de Stanton, and his societies, Justices itinerant in this county, to shew by what right he claimed sundry liberties, as well on the land as the water, in his manor of Plumstede, and others by them specified; and free warren in all his demesne lands in this manor and others, and a market weekly in his

/o Ibid. Regist. Cart. 247. Decim. Script. col. 1788, 1863. Regist. Mon. St. Aug. Cart. 325. Dec. Script. col. 1921.

/p Dec. Script. col. 1942, 1949. Regist. Mon. St. Aug. Cart. 311 and 370.

207

manor of Plumsted on a Wednesday, and a fair yearly in it for three days, on the Eve day, and morrow of St. Nicholas; and view of frank pledge, and whatso=ever belonged to it in this manor among others; and waif and wreck of the sea, together with year and waste, and all cattle, called weif, in this manor among others;

to which the abbot pleaded, that king Edward I. by his charter, granted to St. Augustine, and the convent there, the liberty of soke and sake, &c. as above-mentioned, which charter he then produced. And further, that the then king (Edward II.) – having inspected the charter of confirmation of the late king Henry his grandfather,/q in which was contained that of the late king John his father, by which the latter granted and confirmed to the church of St. Augustine, and the abbot and monks there, in free, pure, and perpetual alms, for ever, their sake and soke, and breach of the peace, and other privileges, and their toll upon the land and the water, and the custom called theomas, upon all their tenants in fee simple, which they had had given them, &c. – had confirmed those grants and confirmations of king John and king Henry, to the then abbot and convent. By reason of all which he claimed the above liberties, and he further said, that the liberties in the aforesaid charter of king Edward were allowed in the last iter of John de Berwick, and others his associates, justices itinerant in this county. And as to free warren, market, fair,/r view of frank pledge, and wreck of the sea, together with all liberties and free customs, year and waste, and cattle called waifs in the manors of Plumstede, &c. that all these liberties were allowed in the said last iter. And that the king had confirmed the said grant and confirmation of king Edward his father, to the then abbot and convent, and their successors, as by his charter more plainly appeared.

/q In the 50th year of his reign. Decim. Script. col. 2271.

/r Ibid. Cart. 54 Hen. III.

208

And further the abbot pleaded, that the then king, having inspected the record of John de Berwick, and his associates, justices itinerant of the late king Edward, in the 21st year of his reign, to hold the common pleas in this county, concerning the liberties claimed and allowed in it; for some of which the abbot and convent had not as yet had any charter from any of the king's progenitors; therefore, being willing to provide for the security of the abbot and convent, and their successors, and to do them a further favor, the king granted and confirmed to them by his charter, that they should have for ever, in their manors, all the liberties contained in the record, &c. granting likewise to them, that although neither they nor their predecessors had as yet used any of these liberties, yet that they should, by virtue of the said charter, fully use and enjoy them, and every part thereof, for ever, without any hindrance or impediment from the king or his officers, &c. which charter was dated at Dover, in the 6th year of king Edward II./s upon which the whole of these liberties was allowed to the abbot and convent by the justices itinerant.

King Edward III. in his 5th year, exempted the men and tenants of the manor of Plumsted from their attendance at the turne of the sheriff, heretofore made by the borsholder, with four men of each borough within it, and directed his writ to Roger de Reynham, then sheriff of Kent, commanding, that for the future they should be allowed to perform it with one man only, and

by his charter of inspeximus, in his 36th year, he confirmed to the monastery all the manors and possessions given to it by former kings, among which is that of William the Conqueror granting back this manor of Plumsted to the abbot and convent, with the testimony of bishop Odo to it, releasing all claim he might have to it. At the same time king Edward confirmed to

/s Dec. Script. col. 2015. Cart. 6 Edw. II. No. 3.

209

them, by his like charter, the several grants of liberties and confirmations made by the kings his predecessors, among which are those which have been mentioned before.

By a taxation of the temporalities of this monastery, in the reign of king Richard II. those at Plumsted were valued at 69l. 10s. 6d./t King Henry VI. confirmed the several liberties formerly granted to this monastery./u

This manor, together with the church of Plumsted and the chapel of Wickham annexed to it, remained part of the possessions of the monastery till its final dissolution, in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when this noble abbey, with all its revenues, was surrendered into the king's hands by John Essex, then abbot, and thirty more members of it./w

The manor and church of Plumsted becoming thus vested in the crown, did not long remain there; for on January 20th following, the king, by deed inrolled in the Augmentation-office,/x granted, in exchange for other estates, to Sir Edward Boughton, of Burwash-court, in this parish, this manor, and the parsonage late belonging to St. Augustine's monastery; and all tythes of corn and grain, and other things belonging to the same, within the parishes and villages of Plumsted, Bostall, Wickham, Welling, Woolwich, Bexley, Leesness, Erith, and Yard, alias Crayford, and the advowson of the vicarage of Plumsted, and of the chapel of Wickham thereunto annexed, at the yearly rent of four pounds, and next year Sir Edward Boughton, among others, procured his lands and possessions to be disengaged by act of parliament; being called in the act, Sir Edward Bowton, as his name was then pronounced.

/t Dec. Script. col. 2054, 2123, 2129, 2163.

/u Rot. Cart. de 21 usq. ad 24 anni ejus regni.

/w Dec. Script. col. 2293.

/x Box A. 18. Rolls of Particulars for Fee-farm Rents, temp. Interregni, roll 6-12.

210

He bore for his arms, Gules, on a fess argent, three fleurs de lis azure, between three goats heads erased of the third, attired, or.

King Henry VIII. in his 33d year, made a further grant to him of one hundred and twenty acres of marsh land, then covered with water, in this parish, parcel of the manor, adjoining northward to fifty acres of Martin Bowes; and several parcels of wood in Wickham, and other premises in Plumsted, in the possession of Martin Bowes, to hold in capite by knights service./y He died in the 4th year of king Edward VI. possessed of this manor, with the church, and the chapel of East

Wickham, four messuages, and eleven hundred acres of arable, marsh, pasture, and wood, in Plumsted, then held as before-mentioned. In all which he was succeeded by his son, Nicholas Boughton, esq. on whose death in the 9th year of queen Elizabeth, his son and heir, Edward Boughton, esq. had possession granted of this estate, then held of the king in the like manner; though among the escheat rolls of the reign of king Henry VIII. and the succeeding ones, there are many entries of the sale of lands, parts of this manor, made by Sir Edward Boughton and his descendants, to different persons. His descendant, Mr. Boughton, was in the possession both of the manor and church of Plumsted, in the year 1656,/z whose heirs in 1685 sold them to John Michel, esq. of Richmond, in Surry, whose family had been for many years seated at Old Windsor, where they had a good estate. In the chancel of which church there are many memorials of this family, and in the church-yard, adjoining to the chancel wall, is a vault belonging to them. They bore for their arms, Azure, three leopards heads, or, a chief embattled, ermine./a Humphry Michel, esq. was surveyor of

/y Rot. Esch. ejus anni, pt. 8. /z Philipott, p. 277.

/a Aubrey's Antiq. of Surry, vol. v. p. 341 and seq.

211

Windsor-castle to queen Elizabeth, and died in 1598, having had two wives; first, Catherine Hobbs, by whom he had one son, Francis; secondly, Frances, daughter and heir of Francis Waller, esq. by whom he had Samuel, and four daughters. Samuel Michel married Anne, daughter and heir to Isaac Rudstone, of Bocton Monchelsey, in Kent, by whom he had two sons, John and Humphry. She afterwards married William Duke, esq. of Richmond. Samuel Michel, esq. died in 1613; John, his eldest son, died in 1661, leaving a son, John; Humphry, the second son, died without issue, in 1696, and left his nephew, John, sole heir male of this family. John Michel, son of John, by Benet, daughter and coheir of Mathew Read, of Folkestone, perfected the endowment begun by him of an alms-house at Richmond, where he resided, and dying unmarried, by his will, in 1736,/b devised this manor of Plumsted, with his marsh land in this parish, his manor of Horton-Kirkby, and all his lands and marsh lands in Sandwich and Worde, in this county, and his lands and tenements in Old Windsor, to the provost and scholars of Queen's college, in Oxford, and their successors for ever; to the intent, that out of the revenues of the same, eight master-fellows and four bachelor-scholars might be maintained in the college, with such competent allowances as the income thereof might bear, which, by a moderate computation, would amount to fifty pounds per annum each master, and thirty pounds per annum each bachelor; and it was by his will provided, that after the above payments were satisfied, there would be a competent fund to answer extraordinary occasions; and that all surpluses, which might arise out of the estates by fine, improvement of rents, and sales of timber, &c. should be laid out in the purchasing of advowsons, or presentations to livings, above the value of 120l. per annum, to be annexed for

/b See an account of this bequest, Biog. Brit. vol. 6. p. 3740.

212

ever to these fellowships, with several other regulations mentioned in the will.

But the provost and scholars of queen's college, not thinking themselves sufficiently empowered to put this will in execution, procured an act of parliament, in the 25th of king George II. for this purpose; and four under graduate exhibitioners were added by another act, passed in 1769, in which trust the inheritance of this manor is at present vested. The court lodge, which is a neat building, is situated near the church, being inhabited by Mr. John Budgen, who is the lessee of the manor farm and demesnes belonging to it. The manor of Plumsted extends over this parish and part of that of East Wickham. A court leet and court baron is held for it; the quit rents are considerable; all the tenants are freeholders. At the court leet a constable and ale conner are elected for the parish of Plumsted.

The fee farm rent of four pounds, at first payable for this manor, by the grant of king Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Boughton, still continues to be paid for it; though by the several alienations of him and his descendants, it is divided into several proportions, paid by the provost and scholars of Queen's college, Oxon; Matthew Kenrick, esq. the heirs of Sir Francis Leigh; the heirs of John Bennet and Henry Spencer, esq. (in right of their wives, heirs of Sir John Leigh) John Lidgbird, esq. Mr. Matthew Henderup; the heir of Mr. John Denham; Mr. Thomas Murray; and Mrs. Rachel Hoskins; for parts of this manor in their several tenures.

BURWASH-COURT, now commonly called Burrish-place, is a seat in this parish, lying at the western bounds of it, almost adjoining to the town of Woolwich. It formerly was of some account, from its being the property of the noble family of Burghersh, or, as they were commonly called, Burwash, who settled their name on it.

213

Bartholomew de Burghersh, a man of great eminence in the time of king Edward III. died in the 29th year of that reign, possessed of this estate, as appears by the inquisition taken after his death; and that it was then esteemed a manor;/c whose eldest son and heir, of the same name, was in such high esteem with king Edward III. that, on the institution of the order of the Garter, he was made one of the knights companions of it.

He passed this estate away, with much other land in this county, in the 43d year of that reign, to Sir Walter de Paveley, K. G. in whose family it remained until the latter end of king Richard II. and then it was conveyed to Vaux, of Northamptonshire; in which name it staid till the latter end of Henry VI.'s reign, when it was alienated to John Grene, esq. whose son, Sir Thomas Grene, was found, jointly with Maitilda his wife, to hold this manor and seat of Boro-washe at the time of his death, in the 4th year of king Edward IV. Thomas Grene, his son, being then an

infant.

In this family it remained till the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, when it was sold to Sir Edward Boughton, who made this place his residence; and one of his descendants, in the reign of Charles I. passed it away by sale to Mr. Rowland Wilson, of London, who, upon his decease, gave it to his daughter, who first married Dr. Crisp, and afterwards Col. Row of Hackney; both of whom, in her right, became possessed of a life estate in it; after which it became vested in the daughter and heir of Sir Rowland Crisp, who married Nathaniel Macey, esq. whose daughter and heir, marrying James Pattison, esq. he became entitled to it. Their son, Mr. Nathaniel Pattison, resided here, and died a few years ago possessed of this seat, leaving two sons and a daughter,

/c Rot. Esch. ejus an. and Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 35.

214

who married John Martin, esq. and he now resides in it.

BORSTALL, or as it is commonly called, Bostoll, is a hamlet in the eastern part of this parish, which was always reputed a manor.

In the beginning of the reign of king Henry VII. this manor of Borstal was in the possession of John Cutte, gent. of Essex, who sold it, in the 19th year of that reign, to the abbot and convent of St. Peter in Westminster. By an indenture, in the 19th of king Henry VII. between that king and John Islippe, abbot of Westminster, and the prior and convent of that monastery, the king granted them, on condition of various religious services and charities to be performed in it, during his life as well as afterwards, several advowsons, and the lands, tenements, and possessions of them, and in ready money, 5150l. to purchase other manors, lands, &c. With this money they purchased, among others, this manor of Borstall of John Cutte, with other lands in Plumsted, Lesnes, Borstall, and Erith./d After which the manor of Borstall continued in the possession of this monastery till its final dissolution, in the 31st of king Henry VIII. when it was, with all its possessions, surrendered up into the king's hands by William Benson, the abbot, and seventeen monks, the king placing in their room a dean and prebendaries.

But this establishment was soon again dissolved, for the king next year made it an episcopal see, and this church of St. Peter a cathedral church, consisting of a bishop, a dean, and twelve prebendaries, and constituted Thomas Thurlby the first bishop of it./e After which, by other letters patent, in the 34th year of his reign, the king granted to the dean and chapter, and

/d See the account of this indenture at large, in Harl. MSS. No. 1498, where the originals are deposited.

/e Newcourt's Rep. vol. i. p. 711.

215

their successors, several manors, lands, &c. particularly specified, ordaining, that they should yearly elect and maintain twenty students of divinity at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Afterwards, on con-

sideration of the king's discharging them of the main-  
tenance of these students, William Benson, then dean  
of Westminster, and the chapter, in the 36th year of  
that reign, granted to the king, for ever, among others,  
the manor of Borstall, with its appurtenances, late in  
the occupation of John at Deane.<sup>f</sup> Soon after which  
the king granted it to Jane Wilkinson, to hold in ca-  
pite; and she next year alienated it to Thomas Bowes,  
gent. and the heirs male of Martin Bowes his father,  
to hold of the king in like manner.<sup>g</sup> His descendant  
of the same name sold it to Barnes; and in the  
17th of queen Elizabeth, George Barnes was possessed  
of the manors of Borstall, alias Bostall, and Plumsted,  
alias Acon, held as above mentioned. As to which  
latter manor, in the 15th year of king Edward III.  
Thomas, the son and one of the heirs of Edmund Lam-  
byn, of London, granted to Sir John de Pulteneye all  
his right to those lands, which fell to him after his  
father's death, in Plumsted and Est Wickham, of which  
this manor was part. In the 17th year of that reign  
Sir John de Pulteney granted to Thomas de Columbers  
an annuity of ten marcs, issuing out of it. He died  
possessed of it anno 23 Edward III. as appears by the  
escheat rolls of that year, leaving William de Pulteney  
his son and heir. In the 4th year of king Henry IV.  
Reginald de Cobham, senior, died possessed of it. Af-  
terwards it became parcel of the possessions of the hos-  
pital of St. Thomas of Acon, in Cheapside, London;  
whence it became to be called Plumsted, alias Acon;  
where it continued till the surrendry of that hospital  
by Laurence Gospeller, the master of it, in the 30th

<sup>f</sup> Augm. office, box D. 42. Inrolled before Walter Hendley,  
esq. on the 10th of that month. <sup>g</sup> Rot. Esch. eor. annor.

216

year of king Henry VIII. George Barnes, mentioned  
above, had afterwards a grant of this manor of Plum-  
sted, alias Acon, held in capite by knights service, and  
several messuages, with thirteen hundred acres of land,  
in Plumsted, alias Acon, Borstall, alias Bostall, and  
Woolwich, held by like tenure.

John Barnes was in the possession of both manors  
in the 20th year of that reign, when he settled the  
whole of this estate, in trustees, for the use of him-  
self for life, remainder to Edward Altham, and Eliza-  
beth his wife, who was his daughter.<sup>h</sup> Soon after  
which it became vested in the Clothworkers company  
of the city of London, part of whose revenues it re-  
mains at this time. Part of these lands are still called  
by the name of Westminster, as having formerly be-  
longed to the abbey there. The company's estate  
here is let out by them in different parcels; one part,  
which lies near Woolwich, is called Bramblebury, and  
is occupied by General Sir William Greene, bart. of  
the corps of engineers.

SUFFOLK-PLACE FARM is an estate, situated in  
the hamlet of Bostall likewise, which took its name  
from its noble possessor, Charles Brandon, duke of  
Suffolk, in the reign of king Henry VIII. who aliena-  
ted it in the 27th year of that reign to Sir Martin  
Bowes, from whose descendant it passed away with the  
above mentioned manors to Barnes, by the female heir

of which name it went, by marriage, with them to Altham, and James (son of Sir Edward Altham, by his second wife Joan, daughter of Sir John Leverthorp, and grandson of Elizabeth Barnes) sold it in 1650, to Sir Robert Joselyn, by whom it was conveyed in 1665, to the company, for the propagation of the gospel at Boston, in New England, in whom it is now vested.

/h Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 3.

217

Among the manuscripts of Roger Dodsworth, in the Bodleian library in Oxford, is a charter of William de Ros, concerning the gift of the HERMITAGE here to the canons of St. Mary Overy's, in Southwark./i

In the 11th year of king Henry VI. the abbot and convent of Lesnes exchanged their tenement, called Tang-court, in Chesilhurst, for an estate in this parish, called Fulham's-place./k

There is an estate in this parish, called PLUMSTED PARK FARM, consisting of a good house, situated in the centre of the village of Plumsted, with a large tract of land, called the Park, belonging to it. In 1765, it was the property of Mr. Derbyshire, by whom it was purchased of the heirs of Joshua Lomax; he that year alienated it to Mr. Curtis, merchant, of London, who sold it to William Coleman, esq. as he did to Mr. Richard Bowser, of Southwark, the present possessor of it,

The account of the MARSHES in this parish, and the imbanking of them, and the several accidents which have happened to them, and the other marshes in the neighbouring parishes, adjoining the Thames, may be seen fully described in Dugdale's History of Imbanking. The care and management of them is now united under the Commission of Sewers, extending from Lombard's-wall, a little below Greenwich, to Gravesend-bridge. The first mention that I find made of the innning of the marshes in this parish, is from the annals of St. Augustine's monastery, which report, that in 1279, anno 8 Edward I. the abbot and convent of Lyesnes inclosed a great part of their marsh in Plumsted; and that within twelve years after they inned the rest of it, to their no small benefit.

The first mention that there is of these marshes, which border on this part of the river Thames, having

/i Tan. Mon. p. 537.

/k Pat. 11 Hen. VI. pt. 1, m. 13. See Chesilhurst, p. 15.

218

been put under the care of persons, authorised by the king to take the management of them, is in the 8th year of king Edward II. John Abel and John de Horne being then, by letters patent, constituted commissioners for the viewing and repairing the banks, ditches, &c. and for the safeguard, from the overflow=ing of the tide, of those marshes which lie between Dartford, Flete, and Greenwich. From which time there were commissions, year after year almost, in the several succeeding reigns, granted to different persons, to view and repair the several breaches made by the tides, and the defaults in the walls and sewers, oc-

casioned by the neglect of the occupiers and owners of the marshes, from London bridge as far as Gravesend, and to hear and determine all matters relating to them, according to the marsh law, and according to the law and custom of the realm, and the custom of Romney marsh.<sup>1</sup> Yet notwithstanding these continual appointments, and the care of the commissioners in seeing them put into execution, such had been the backwardness of some, that for want of the timely repair of those breaches, which through the violence of the tides were made in Plumsted, Lesnes, and Erith, the marshes of Plumsted and Lesnes had not only been suffered to be drowned, but after several taxes had been made for regaining them, and for making a new cross wall, from the Thames to the Upland, for the inning of Plumsted marsh, and a number of acres in the levels and marshes of Lesnes, defending them from the overflowing water which entered at Erith breach; and for farther maintenance of the old marsh walls by the Thames side, from the New Cross wall, nigh Wolyche, several that were assessed not paying their proportion, these marshes and the level would have been irrecoverably lost, had not the bailiff of the marsh,

<sup>1</sup> See the several commissions granted, in Dugdale's History of Imbanking, p. 59, et seq. Lamb. Per. p. 482.

219

and others, by his assignment, laid down the money. Therefore, for the recovery of those assessments, and the better levying of such sums of money, as had been before employed for the inning and defence of those marshes, upon complaint made in parliament in the 22d of king Henry VIII. an act passed for that purpose, as another did in the 37th year of it.<sup>2</sup> But all this care seems to have been insufficient; for some time after this, it was represented to the parliament, in the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, that there were two thousand acres in the parishes of Erith, Plumsted, and Lesnes, which, in former times, were good pasture grounds and meadows, but by breaches in the walls within thirty years, had been laid waste by the inundation of the Thames; and that one Jacobus Acontius, an Italian, servant to the queen, had undertaken, at his own charges, their recovery, in consideration of a moiety of them for his charges; but the lords and owners of them were many, and had several kinds of estates in them, so that their consent could not be procured. It was therefore enacted, that he and his assigns should, at their cost and charges, after the 10th of March, 1562, during the term of four years next following inne, fence, and win these grounds or any parcel of them, and that having so done, he, his heirs, executors, or their nominees, in consideration of such recompence, should have one moiety of them, to be parted from the rest within two years after the winning of them, by four or more discreet commissioners, to be appointed by the lord chancellor or lord keeper; after which lots were to be cast for the assigning each proportion to the parties. After which queen Elizabeth issued out a commission, in her 7th year, to inquire whether Acontius, who undertook the innings of these marshes, had accordingly performed it. Upon

which they certified, in the beginning of the next year,  
/m Dugd. Hist. of Imbanking, p. 62, et seq.

220

that six hundred acres were then won and inned, with walls, banks, &c. from the water and flood of the river Thames, according to the tenor of the act; all which was more particularly taken notice of by another act, made in that year, in which it appears, that Jacobus Acontius had won some part of them, which was, by the violence of the floods, shortly after lost; and not being able to recover it, he deputed John Baptista Castilion, one of the grooms of the queen's privy-chamber, with several others, citizens of London, at their costs and charges, to inne, fence, and win the same, or some convenient portion thereof; in consequence of which they did inne and win a part thereof, containing about six hundred acres, of which a division was made, and the one part, called the East Marsh, was allotted to Acontius and his assigns; and the other, called the West Marsh, to the owners, &c. The East Marsh being assigned by Acontius to John Baptista Castilion and others, as above mentioned, in consideration of their charge, which amounted to five thousand pounds; upon which it was enacted, that Castilion and the rest of the undertakers above mentioned, should have their part to them and their heirs for ever, to be held of the chief lord of the fee, by such services as it was formerly held; and further, that they should have power to inne and win the rest of the surrounded grounds, for the next ensuing eight years, and to enjoy a moiety of what should be so won, to be divided by lots, as in the former act. And in the 14th year of the same reign, another act was made, by which it appears, that the work was not finished; and granting eight years more to Castilion, and the rest of the undertakers, to accomplish their work in, and to have the moiety so won and divided.

After this, in the 23d of that reign, by another act it appears, that since the former one, all the parts of the undertaking were come to the hands of John Baptista Castilion, and of Thomas Smith, George Barnes,

221

Richard Young, Thomas Fisher, Ferdinando Pointz, James Guichardine, and Roger James; and as the eight years were fully expired, and the innning thereof having been hindered by floods and tempests, it could not be finished without longer time; it was therefore enacted, that it should be lawful for the parties to inne the same within two years after the end of that session of parliament, and then to enjoy the moiety of such partition, and to take such reed and earth upon the premises as they should find needful./n And in consideration of their maintaining the banks one whole year after winning them, that they should have an half of the eighth part of the other half so won, to be divided as above mentioned; and further, that in consideration of the great charges about the same, the premises should be discharged of all tithes whatsoever for the seven years next after the innning of them; and that all shelves and forelands between the said banks

and the river Thames should be kept and maintained at the common charge of the owners and inners, their heirs and assigns; and that no earth or reeds should be taken from them, but for the use and repair of the banks, upon penalty of five pounds for every such offence, to the inners or owners, who were authorised to sue for the same in any court of record. In the 27th year of the same reign another act passed for the more effectual inning of Erith and Plumsted Marsh. Three years after which, in 1587, there was an inning of one thousand acres more. The great breach being not then made up, by which about five hundred acres next to Lesnes still continued under water./o In the 4th year of king James, upon a petition exhibited in parliament, for the inning and winning of the marsh grounds, lying in the drowned marshes of Lesnes and Fants, which had been of long time overflowed, it was enacted that William Burrell, gent. of Middlesex

/n Dugd. Hist. of Imbanking, p. 64. /o Lamb. Per. p. 483.

222

(who had covenanted with the owners of those surrounded grounds, by indentures made between them and him, in 1606, for the consideration therein expressed, to do his best endeavour therein) should have power to enter on the work, and to take reed and earth on any part of the drowned marshes, so that he dug not within twenty rods of any wall already made within that marsh. And that immediately after his accomplishment of it, he, his heirs, and assigns, should have one half of all the grounds so inned, according to the purport of the indenture; the other moiety to belong to the owners of the marsh grounds, according to the several proportions of their quantities which they then had in those grounds, to be holden of Edmund Cooke, esq. his heirs and assigns, as of his manor of Lesnes and Fants, in free socage, by fealty and one penny rent for every acre, and not in chief or by knights service; and that, in consideration of the great charges of this work, the inned marshes should be discharged from all tithes and tenths whatsoever, for the term of seven years next after the inning, winning, and fencing of them./p

The above is the last application made to parliament on account of these marshes, from which time they have been subject to the same orders and method of taxation that the rest of the neighbouring marshes have, under the directions of the commissioners of sewers, extending from Lumarde's-wall to Gravesend-bridge, as before mentioned.

#### CHARITIES.

JEFFRY SMITH gave, by will, in 1611, a payment of 40s. per annum to the poor of this parish, out of a field of seven acres in Stratford Bow, the yearly rent of it, in 1718, being 6l. It is now vested in the minister and church wardens, and of the annual produce of 2l.

HANNAH SCOTT, in 1677, gave by will, 100l. for the benefit of the poor, since laid out in the purchase of freehold lands in

/p Dugd. Hist. of Imbanking, p. 65.

223

Bromley, vested in the minister and churchwardens, of the annual produce of 7l.

JOHN GOSSAGE, in 1672, gave for the like purpose, to be given away yearly, in bread, lands in Plumsted, vested in the same, and of the annual produce of 2l. 10s.

PLUMSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS-  
DICTION of the diocese of Rochester and deanry of Dartford. The church stands at the east end of the village, and is dedicated to St. Nicholas. It formerly consisted of a nave, two side isles, and a chancel, but in the early part of the last century the whole was in so dilapidated a state that the roof fell in, in which condition it laid for near twenty years, when it was at length repaired as to the south isle of it, which now constitutes the whole of this church, forming the nave and chancel of it, by the care and industry of Mr. John Gossage, an inhabitant of this parish, who died in 1672, and lies buried in it. At the west end is the steeple, being a handsome lofty tower of brick, embattled at the top, having four bells in it. The south wall of the church seems very ancient, having some narrow lancet windows in it. The ruined wall of the north isle yet remains,

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, is a mural monument for Peter Denham, esq. ob. 1736, leaving John his only surviving son, and Elizabeth, wife of John Lidgbird, esq. His ancestor is recorded by a very large benefaction to this church steeple; beneath are his arms, Gules, six lozenges in fess, ermine. Another monument for John Denham, esq. (only son of Peter Denham, esq. ob. 1760, leaving Anne, his only child, and Jane, his widow, daughter of T. Willyams, esq. late of Plaistow, Essex; above, the arms of Denham, impaling argent, a fess chequy, gules and argent, between three eagles heads, erased proper, gorged with ducal coronets, or. A grave stone for Mr. John Gossage, who caused this church to be repaired, after above twenty years lying waste and ruinous, ob. 1672. Another for Margaret, wife of Thomas Nugent, esq. and daughter of Hugh, eldest son of Sir Henry Parker, bart. of Honington, in Warwickshire, ob. 1748; another for Benj. Barnet, D. D. prebendary of Gloucester, and vicar of Plumsted, ob. 1707, æt. 57./q On the north wall of the

/q See the monuments and inscriptions at large in Reg. Roff. p. 989.

224

nave, an elegant monument for John Lidgbird, esq. of Shooter's-hill, ob. 1771. In the church yard are many tombs and memorials, mostly for the officers of the Artillery and their families; among others, for Col. Tho. Ord, in 1777; Col. John Innes, in 1783; General Goodwin, in 1786; Col. Griffith Williams, in 1790; and Col. Williamson, in 1794. – The burials in this parish are greatly increased by the numbers brought hither, to be interred, from other parishes, but principally from Woolwich.

This church was very early appropriated to the monastery of St. Augustine by the bishop of Rochester, with the consent of his chapter, for the use of the almery, and was confirmed to it afterwards by several popes./r

Laurence, bishop of Rochester, again confirmed this appropriation in 1269, by inspeximus, provided, nevertheless, that a portion should be assigned for the vicar and his successors, serving in this church, out of the profits of it, in like manner as is provided for in

the former confirmations of it, sufficient for his competent maintenance, and for the decent support of the incumbent burthens of it./s

Before this appropriation the abbot and convent of St. Austin received an annual pension of ten shillings from the rector of this parish, for the like use of their almynery, which was increased by Richard, bishop of Rochester, in 1236, to ten pounds per annum, or that there should be assigned to it, by the bishop, or his successors, a portion of the great tithes of the same value, to be employed in pious uses for ever; which was confirmed by William Prior and the convent of Rochester, in 1239.

A dispute having arisen between Hamo, prior, and the convent of St. Saviour, Bermondsey, and Sir John Renger, rector of this church of Plumsted, concerning certain tithes arising from the demesne, once belonging to Alexander de Camera in this parish, at last, in the year 1254, it was amicably adjusted, and the

/r Regist. Mon. Aug. Cart. 108, 150, 151. Reg. Roff. p. 522.

/s Reg. Roff. p. 523, 524.

225

prior and convent released those tithes to the rector and church of Plumsted.

The appropriation of this church, together with the advowson of the vicarage, continued among the possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine till its final dissolution, in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it was, together with all its lands and revenues, surrendered into the king's hands, where they did not continue long, for they were granted, as has already been mentioned, on the 20th of January following the surrendry of them, to Sir Edward Boughton, of Burwash-court, in whose descendants they continued some time; after which they appear, about the latter end of king Charles I.'s reign, to have been separated, but in 1650, they were again united, being the property of the heirs of one Poole, then lately deceased; since which the parsonage or tithes of corn and grain have become the property of the family of Denham, Peter Denham, esq. of Welling, in this parish, died possessed of them in 1736, as did his son John, in 1760, whose only daughter, Anne, carried his interest in them in marriage to Thomas Cooke, esq. of Worcestershire, since in holy orders, and he is at this time intitled to them.

The advowson of the vicarage passed from the heirs of Poole into the possession of John Michel, esq. in king Charles I.'s reign, by whom it was sold some years before his death, and afterwards became the property of the families of Hodgson and Farr, by a daughter and heir of which last name it passed in marriage to Abbot; she survived her husband, and in 1763, alienated it to Henry Kipling, esq. of the Six Clerks office; since whose death, in 1780, his eldest son, the Rev. Henry Kipling, vicar of this parish, has become the present owner of it.

The endowment of the vicarage, dated anno 1292, is entered in a register book of St. Augustine's monastery, now in the library of Sir John Sebright, bart.

226

The manor farm of Plumsted claims an exemption of great tithes on the uplands, but not on the marsh lands. There are three acres of glebe land belonging to the vicarage.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Plumsted was valued at forty-four marcs, and the vicarage at ten marcs./t The vicarage of Plumsted is valued, in the king's books, at 6l. 18s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 13s. 10d./v

By virtue of a commission of enquiry, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Plumsted and East Wickham were a parsonage of impropriation, belonging to the heirs of one Poole deceased, as an inheritance within the parish; that there was a vicarage, consisting of Plumsted, with East Wickham, a chapel, annexed; that the vicarage was presentative with cure of souls, and was worth 140l. per annum, whereof there were two acres of glebe land, and an old house, worth 4l. 10s. per annum, Isaac Sander, then vicar. That the roof of the church of Plumsted was fallen down, and the parishioners inforced to get leave to set in the chancel of it./u

#### CHURCH OF PLUMSTED.

##### PATRONS.

Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Abbot and Convent of St. Augustine      Adam./w  
Sir John Renger./x

##### VICARS.

William Boughton, ind. 1619./y  
Edward Boughton, A. M. June,  
1632./z  
William Clapham, senior      William Clapham, ind. 1635./a  
Isaac Sander, in 1650./b  
John Turner, 1682.  
Isaac Sanderson, 1683, 1690.

/t Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/v Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/u Parl. Surveys, Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

/w Reg. Roff. p. p. 526.

/x Ibid.

/y Regist. Abbot Lamb. pt. 2. f. 313.

/z By lapse. Rym. Feod. vol. xix.

p. 437.

/a Regist. Laud Lamb. f. 231.

/b Parl. Surveys, Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

227

##### PATRONS, &c.      VICARS.

William Clapham, senior      Benjamin Barnett, D. D. ob. Aug.  
1, 1707./c  
Charles Jones, A. M. instituted  
1707, ob. 1741.  
Rev. Mr. R. Williams, as a trustee      Jukes Egerton, A. M. inducted  
May 14, 1741, obt. 1772.  
Henry Kipling, gent.      Henry Kipling, 1772. Present  
vicar.

/c He was prebendary of Gloucester, and lies buried in this church.

---

## ERITH

LIES the next parish eastward, having the river Thames for its northern boundary. This place was formerly called Lesnes, alias Erith. The former name was, as Mr. Lambarde thinks, /d mispelt by the Normans, instead of the Saxon word Leswes, which signifies pastures; but I should rather conjecture it to be derived from the old British word, lese, pastures, and nese, a promontory or cape, both names being suited to the different parts of this parish; the former to the western, and the latter to the eastern part of it. It was written, in old records, Hliesnes; in the Textus Roffensis, Lisna; and in Domesday, Loisnes.

The name of Erith seems to be derived of the Saxon word, ærre-hythe; that is, the old haven./e

THIS PARISH, which is about three miles across each way, is nearly one half of it marsh land, which is bounded on the north by the river Thames; the western part of it seems particularly to have retained the name of Lesnes, as the eastern part about the town and haven, did that of Erith. In the upland, or southern parts, the soil is very light and barren, having several heaths in them, as Northumberland-heath, where it joins to Crayford, part of it being in

/d Lamb, Peramb. p. 478. /e Ibid. p. 484.

228

that parish; but on the north side of it, within the bounds of this parish stands Mr. Wheatley's new mansion; westward from hence is West heath, near which is the hamlet of Bedenwell and the parsonage farm; northward from which is Leason, commonly so called for Lesnes heath; and northward from it, near the marshes, the hamlets of Chalkside and Pickerday. On the east side of Lesnes heath is lord Eardley's seat of Belvidere; not far from which, on the east side of the road leading from the heath, towards the church, is a cottage, not improperly so stiled, being upon a very small scale indeed, erected by John Maddocks, esq. late of Vale Mascall, in North Cray, who gave it the name of Holly Hill, and resides in it. It is a neat and elegant box, and from it there is a delightful view of the Thames, and of the county of Essex beyond it; about half a mile north eastward from thence, close to the marshes, is the church, standing remote from any other building. In the western part of the parish is the large wood, formerly called Westwood, but for many years past the abbey wood, from its having belonged to the abbey of Lesnes, the ruins of which remain close below, on the north side. In the above mentioned wood there is great plenty of chesnut, both timber and stubbs, and a number of large stools of timber trees of that species formerly felled, but now quite hollow and decayed; one of the many instances in this county, of that tree being the indigenous growth of England,

At the north east extremity of the parish lies the town of Erith, consisting of one small street of houses, which leads to the water side, where it lies open to the haven which the Thames forms here.

At the entrance of this village from Crayford, on the west side of it, stands the old manor house. On the Thames opposite this town, the Indiamen, in their passage up the river, frequently come to an anchor, and lay some time to be lightened of part of their

229

burthen, that they may proceed with greater safety up the river.

This makes a great resort to Erith, not only of the friends and acquaintance of those who are on board these ships, but for some continuance afterwards, in the carrying on a traffic with the inhabitants and neighbouring country, for the several kinds of East India goods, which have been procured from on board. This, together with the shipping of goods to and from London, the sending hither from hence the produce of the extensive woods in these parts (great part of which is first piled up upon wharfs built here for that purpose) and some few fishing vessels, employ the generality of the inhabitants of this place.

Two fairs are kept yearly at Erith, one upon Ascension-day, and the other upon Michaelmas-day, Sept. 29; and another is kept on Whit-Tuesday, on Leason-heath, in this parish.

Here is an establishment of the customs, of a surveyor, and two watermen.

The marshes in this parish, being the northern part of it, contain about fifteen hundred and fifty acres, the whole of which is at times ploughed for corn, and in general more than one thousand acres yearly, which bear constantly the most exuberant crops of corn.

In the year 1544, king Henry VIII. being to embark for France, took his journey from his royal palace of Westminster to this place by water, lay here that night, being the 11th of July; the next day he departed hence by water to Gravesend, and there dined; and then took his horse, and rode that night to Faversham. The next morning the king rode from thence to the house of the lord archbishop of Canterbury, called Forde, near Canterbury, and there dined, and then rode the same night to Dover./f

/f Rym. Fœd. vol. xv. p. 52.

230

Towards the latter end of the reign of Henry VI. there were taken in the river, opposite this town, four very large and uncommon fishes, of which one was called mors marina, another a sword fish, and the others were supposed to be whales./g

The BOTANISTS have observed the following scarce plants here:

Alopecurus maxima Anglica paludosa, or the great marsh fox-tail, in the salt-marsh by the church.  
Plantago marina, or sea plantain, though it grows in most places in England near the sea, yet it is found especially at Erith.  
Althea ibiscus, the common marsh mallow, grows plentifully on the Kentish and Essex shore, along the river Thames, and among other places here./h

In the time of the Saxons this parish was possessed by Azor de Lesneie, who, as appears by Domesday, had the liberties of sac and soc for all his lands in the lath of Sutton.

William the Conqueror gave Lesnes, among other great possessions in this county, to his half brother, Odo, bishop of Baieux and earl of Kent, under the general title of whose lands it is entered in the record of Domesday as follows:

In Litelai hundred, Robert Latin holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Lesnes. The arable land is 17 caruces. In demesne there is 1, and 60 villeins, with three bor- derers, having 15 caruces. There are 2 servants, and 3 cottages, and 3 fisheries of 4 sulings, and 30 acres of meadow; wood for the pannage of 20 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth 20 pounds, when the bishop received it 18 pounds, and now 22 pounds, and yet he who holds it pays 30 pounds. This manor was taxed in the time of king Edward the Confessor at 10 su= lings, and now at 4 sulings. Azor held it.

/g Lamb. Per. p. 486.

/h Merrett's Pinax, p. 4. Johnson's Gerard's Herb. p. 424, 934.

231

Upon the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, the king his brother seised on all his lands and possessions, by which means the fee of this manor became again vested in the crown.

Richard de Lucy, justice of England, possessed it in the reign of king Henry II. in the 12th year of which, upon the aid then assessed for marrying the king's daughter, he certified his knights fees lying in Kent, Sussex, and Norfolk, of the old feoffment, to be seven, and that his ancestors performed the service of castle guard at Dover for them. Among many other acts of piety and religion, as they were then esteemed, he founded, in the 21st year of king Henry II. the abbey at Westwood in this parish, which he plenti= fully endowed, and in particular with a moiety of his possessions in this parish, being the western part of it, afterwards stiled the manor of Lesnes, of which farther mention will be made in the account of this abbey; and the next year, taking upon himself the habit of a religious there, he died, and was buried in it./i The remaining part of the possessions of Richard de Lucy, being the eastern part of this parish, from thenceforth stiled the manor of Lesnes, alias Erith, descended to his posterity; for by Roesie, his wife, who died be= fore him, and was buried in the abbey of Faversham, he had two sons, Geoffry and Herbert, and two daugh= ters, Maud, who married Walter Fitz Robert, whose son took the name of Fitzwalter; and Roesie.

Geoffry de Lucy died in his father's life time, leav= ing Richard his son and heir, who died without issue, upon which this manor, among the rest of his inhe= ritance, became vested in Roesie above mentioned, his then only surviving aunt, married to Fulbert de Dover; and she, in the 7th year of king Richard I. compounded with the king for the possession of the moiety of the lands of Richard de Lucy, her grand=

/i Duggd. Bar. vol. i. p. 566.

father, in England and Normandy, of which Richard her nephew had been possessed.

Their son and heir, as is conjectured, Robert de Dover, died before the 6th of king John, his mother Roesie still surviving; who, in the 9th year of that reign, made an agreement with the king for possession of the whole barony, now descended to her by the death of both Richard and Herbert de Lucy, without issue./k

To Robert de Dover succeeded Roesie, his daughter and heir, who married Richard, son of Roger de Chilham; and in the 12th year of king Henry III. had possession granted of the manor of Lesnes, which she and her husband had recovered upon trial by battle against Robert Fitzwalter. On her husband's death, before the 16th year of that reign, she shortly after married Richard, a natural son of king John, commonly called Richard le Fitzroy; and in the Bodleian library,/l is an agreement made between Richard, son of the king, and Roesie his wife, and the abbot of St. Peter's, Westminster, in the 26th year of king Henry III. concerning lands in Lesnes and Hamme, in Kent; about which time the justices of the Jews were prohibited to take distress upon her manor of Lesnes, for any money lent by them to him, because this manor was assigned, in the king's presence, for her maintenance. After which, in the 35th year of that reign, giving a fine to the king to marry whom she pleased, she lastly became the wife of Richard de Wilton, who was called also Richard de Dover, and as well as his wife Roesie, were found, in the 56th of that reign, to have died possessed of this manor, held of the king by homage, leaving a son, called Rich. de Dover, their next heir, and a daughter, Isabel. On the death of Richard de Dover, the son, without issue, John,

/k Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 462. 566. Madox's Excheq. p. 321.

/l Catalogue of MSS. 222.

earl of Athol, or, as he was called in Scotland, John de Asceles, son of Isabel his sister, before-mentioned, by David de Strabolgie, earl of Athol, afterwards married to Alexander Baliol, became his heir./m

Joane Pecche, widow of the last-mentioned Richard de Dover, in the 21st of king Edward I. claimed, and was allowed certain liberties in her manor of Lesnes, alias Erehethe, which she then held in dowry, as of the inheritance of John, earl of Athol, assize of bread and ale, pillory, and tumbrel, free warren and gallows; all which, as it was then found, his ancestors had enjoyed beyond memory./n The same year Joan Pecche, and the abbot of Lesnes, each claimed wreck of the sea in the Thames, within their respective manors of Lesnes. The abbot alledging, that he found this church possessed of it at his coming to it; but it was given against him, it being found, that the ancestors of John, earl of Athol, had enjoyed such wreck, within their manor of Lesnes, alias Erehethe, beyond memory, &c.

In the 32d year of king Edward I. upon the death of Joane, widow of Richard de Dover, last-mentioned, the earl of Athol had possession granted of this manor,

which descended to him from Isabel, his mother, sister of the said Richard.

Being concerned in the death of John Comin, and the crowning of Robert de Brus, king of Scotland, and being taken in England, he was, by king Edward I. sentenced to death, in the 34th year of that reign; but in respect of his descent from royal blood, he was not drawn, as traitors usually are, but was set on horseback, and hanged on a gibbet fifty feet high, his head was fixed on London-bridge, and his body burnt.

Upon which this manor came into the hands of the crown, and was given by the king that year, to Margaret, queen of England, who appears by the patent-

/m Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 462.

/n Reg. Roff. p. 319, 328. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 95.

234

rolls of that year, to have been in possession of it, but it did not continue long with her; for king Edward II. in his 3d year, at the instance of Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, and Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, made a grant of it to Bartholomew, son of Gunceline de Badlesmere, to hold by the service of half a knight's fee, during his life, and that of Margaret his wife; and in the 8th year of that reign he obtained of the king the further grant of the fee of this manor.<sup>/o</sup> The year after which he obtained, as a reward for his eminent services, several privileges and liberties to his manors and estates; among which was the grant of a market every week, on a Thursday, at Erheth; and two fairs yearly, one on the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, and the other in Whitsun-week; and a market weekly on the Thursday, at Lesnes, and two fairs yearly on the same days as those at Erheth; and free warren in all his demesne lands of Erheth and Lesnes.

In the 15th of king Edward II. having associated himself with the earl of Lancaster, and others of the discontented barons, and having with them received a defeat at Borough-bridge, in Yorkshire, he was taken and sent to Canterbury, where he was executed, and this manor became forfeited to the crown.

The same year the king granted it to David de Strabolgie, son of John, earl of Athol, before mentioned, in regard of his eminent services. He died in the 20th year of king Edward II. possessed of the manor of Erith, with the passage there across the Thames; on which it reverted again to the crown.

Giles, son of Bartholomew de Badlesmere, whose process and judgment had been reversed, had his father's manors and lands restored to him in the 2d year

<sup>/o</sup> See also pat. de an. 7 Edw. II. pt. i. Pat. rolls, anno 3 Edw. III. Rot. Cart. anno 8 Edw. III. No. 57. See also Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 58.

235

of king Edward III. among which was this manor. He was in such favor with the king, that in the 7th year of that reign, though not then of full age, he had possession granted of all his lands, and having been summoned to parliament, he died in the 12th year of that reign, being then possessed of this manor, and the

passage of the Thames here,/p leaving his four sisters his coheirs. His wife, daughter of William de Montacute, earl of Salisbury, then surviving, who had for her dowry an assignation of this manor./q She died in the 33d year of the same reign, possessed of the manor of Erith, held of the king, as of his castle of Dover, by the service of two knights fees, as was then found by inquisition.

On her death there was a farther partition made (for there had been one already) of the inheritance of Giles de Badlesmere among his four sisters, viz. of her dower, when this manor fell to the share of Elizabeth, then the wife of William de Bohun, earl of Northampton. She died in the 1st year of king Richard II. having survived the earl her husband, and leaving by him one son, Humphry, who afterwards, by the decease of his uncle, Humphry, without issue, succeeded to the earldoms of Hereford and Essex, and to the office of constable of England; but the manor of Erith descended to Roger, her only surviving son by Edmund Mortimer, her first husband.

This great family of Mortimer derive their descent from Roger de Mortimer, founder of the abbey of St. Victor, in Normandy, who was of consanguinity to William the Conqueror, his mother being niece to Gunnora, wife to Richard, duke of Normandy, great-grandmother to the Conqueror.

Ralph de Mortimer, his son, as is supposed, accompanied William, duke of Normandy, in his expedition

/p Pat. anno 9 Edw. III. pt. 1. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. ibid. Rot. Esch. an. 1 Edw. III.

/q Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 59. Ibid. vol. i. p. 395. See Badlesmere.

236

hither, being one of his chief commanders, and shortly after the duke's conquest of this realm, one of his most puissant captains in the further subduing of it; he afterwards overcame and took prisoner Edrick, earl of Shrewsbury, who stood out against the Conqueror, and was rewarded with his vast estate.

Among his possessions there are one hundred and thirty-one of his lordships, lying in different counties, recorded in the book of Domesday, besides the castle of Wigmore, which afterwards became the principal seat of him and his posterity.

But these great possessions raised his descendants to such power, and inflamed them with so much ambition, as, joined with their alliance to the blood royal of England, came to be the frequent cause of much blood-shed and trouble in this kingdom, as well as of attainders and executions among themselves; yet did they persevere, till at length, after many struggles, in which they made the throne frequently shake, his posterity, in the person of king Edward IV. attained to, and died in the peaceful possession of the crown of England.

The eldest, or principal branch of this family, was distinguished by the addition of Mortimer of Wigmore; as the youngest was by that of Mortimer of Ricards castle.

A direct descendant of Ralph Mortimer, who accompanied William the Conqueror, through a series of illustrious ancestors, of the eldest branch of Mortimer

of Wigmore, was that great, but ambitious Roger Mortimer, of Wigmore; who, after various changes of fortune, became, for his insolence and haughtiness, so odious to king Edward III. and the nation in general, that the king had him apprehended at the castle of Nottingham, where he then was with the queen, and upon the meeting of parliament he was found guilty in particular of consenting to the murder of the late king Edward II. upon which he was condemned and executed in the 4th year of that reign.

237

This great, but unhappy man left four sons and several daughters, of the former, Edmund, the eldest, had not the title of earl of March, his father's attainder not being reversed in his time. He was of Wigmore, and married Elizabeth, one of the four sisters and co-heirs of Giles de Badlesmere. He died, in the flower of his youth, at Stanton Lacy, in the 5th year of king Edward III. leaving Elizabeth his wife surviving, who afterwards married William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, as has been already mentioned before.

Roger de Mortimer, his son, in the 28th year of the same reign, obtained a reversal of the judgment given against his grandfather Roger, earl of March, as erroneous, and was restored in blood; after which he bore that title, and he had then restitution of all his other lands, which by that forfeiture came to the crown.

The following year he was made constable of Dover castle, and warden of the cinque ports; and in the 33d year of that reign, he had possession granted of the manor of Erythe, the inheritance of which then descended to him, upon the death of Elizabeth, widow of Giles de Badlesmere, and afterwards of Hugh le Despencer, he being right heir to the former, being the son of Elizabeth, one of his sisters and co-heirs. He died next year, at Ronera, in Burgundy, where he commanded the English forces, being then possessed of the manors of Swanscombe and Erythe, which last he held of the king, as of his castle of Dover, by the service of one knight's fee./s Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, his eldest son, married Philippa, daughter and heir to Lionel, duke of Clarence, third son of king Edward III. by Philippa of Henault, his wife, from which match his descendants afterwards claimed the crown, as their just inheritance.

/r Cott. Records, p. 85. /s Rot. Esch. ejus an.

238

In the 46th year of that reign, he had possession granted of his own lands, though he had not then accomplished his full age, and in the 1st year of king Richard II. he bore the titles of earl of March and Ulster, lord of Wigmore, Clare, and Connaught, and marshal of England. In the 3d year of that reign, he was constituted the king's lieutenant of Ireland, where, in passing a great river near Corke, he caught cold and died there, in the 5th year of that reign, being then possessed of the manor of Erith, with the passage over the Thames there, held in capite, by homage, as was found on inquisition, but by what service was unknown. By Eli-

zabeth, the mother of the lady Philippa his wife, who was daughter and heir of William, son and heir of John de Burgh, earl of Ulster, by Elizabeth his wife, third sister and coheir of Gilbert de Clare, the last earl of Gloucester, he enjoyed the third part of the earldom of Gloucester, and by the said William the county of Ulster, and dominion of Connaught in Ireland./t He had by her two sons and two daughters. Roger Mortimer, his eldest son, was, at his father's death, but eleven years of age; but being a hopeful youth, and every way accomplished, he was shortly after made lieutenant of Ireland, and in the parliament held in the 9th year of king Richard II. by reason of his descent from Lionel, duke of Clarence, was declared heir apparent to the crown of this realm. In the 17th year of that reign, he had possession granted of all his lands; and being retained in the king's service, then followed him into Ireland, having in his retinue an hundred men at arms, whereof two were bannerets; also eight knights, two hundred archers on horseback, and four hundred on foot; and the next year was constituted lord lieutenant of that whole realm, as he was in the 21st year of that reign, when he went thither again. But the year following, too much relying on his own bravery, he

/t Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 150.

239

ventured too far before his army in an Irish habit, and was slain at Kenles. He died possessed of this manor, with the passage over the Thames there, which, as was then found, was held in capite by knights service./u

His son, Edmund Mortimer, was the last earl of March of this family, and was, by king Henry IV. for some time, kept in strict custody, for the king was but too conscious, that he was right heir to the crown of England, by just descent from Lionel, duke of Clarence, third son of king Edward III. in preference to himself, who was descended from John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, the fourth son of that king.

Notwithstanding which, in the next reign of Henry V. he found such favour, that in the 1st year of it, he received his summons to parliament as earl of March, and was employed throughout that reign in many important services. He died in the 3d year of king Henry VI. without issue, upon which Richard, duke of York, son of Anne his sister, wife of Richard, earl of Cambridge, was by inquisition found to be his next heir,/w being the only son of Richard de Coningsborough, earl of Cambridge, the second son of Edmund de Langley, duke of York, earl of Cambridge, and lord of Tindall, fifth son of king Edward III.

Thus both by his father and mother's side, he was descended from that king.

On the death of his uncle, Edward, duke of York, who was slain at the battle of Agincourt, in the 4th of king Henry V. and died without issue, this Richard his nephew was found to be his heir, and in the 3d year of king Henry VI. on the death of his cousin, Edmund Mortimer, the last earl of March, without issue, he was likewise found to be his heir, as has been mentioned before, and as such became entitled to the manor of Erythe; and in the 8th year of that reign, though

/u Rot. Esch. ejus anni.  
/w Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 150, 151. Cott. Records, p. 533.

240

not then of full age, he was made constable of England, in the room of John, duke of Bedford. In the 10th year of it, having attained his full age, he made petition to parliament by the title of Richard, duke of York, son of Richard, brother of Edward, late duke of York, and cousin to Edmund, earl of March, for the possession of the hereditaments of the late duke and earl, which was assented to, and the next year he received summons to parliament./x After which he was appointed lieutenant and captain-general of all France and Normandy; and then constituted lord lieutenant of Ireland, but returning from thence, he turned his thoughts solely to the recovery of his right to the crown of England, as the lineal heir male to it, and possessed of a prior right to that claimed by the house of Lancaster.

To effect this, he levied an army, and entering Kent, encamped on Dartford Brent, and the king coming with his forces to Blackheath, there was, by the mediation of some of the nobles, a feigned reconciliation made between them, and the duke was, on his submission, pardoned.

Soon after which, the more to strengthen his party, the duke married Cicilie Nevill, the youngest daughter of Ralph, earl of Westmoreland, and Joane Beaufort his second wife, daughter of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster. By which match he became related to most of the greatest nobility in the kingdom, and nearly allied to the numerous and flourishing family of Nevill, for she had for her brothers, Richard Nevill, earl of Salisbury, father of Richard, earl of Warwick, surnamed Make King; William Nevill, lord Fauconberg; George Nevill, lord Latimer; Edward Nevill, lord Bergavenny; and Robert Nevill, bishop of Durham; and to her half-brothers, Ralph Nevill, earl of Westmoreland, and Nevill, lord Ousley. By

/x Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 158. Cott. Records, p. 604, 606.

241

whose assistance he was well enabled to cope with the house of Lancaster for the crown./y

Relying therefore on the power of so great an alliance, he again raised an army, to support his pretensions to it, against king Henry, and after several battles fought with the Lancastrians with various success, at one time obtaining the victory and taking the king prisoner, and at another being vanquished, and forced to fly the realm, the duke at last, on the queen's raising a power against him, marched from London northward, appointing his son, the earl of March, to follow him, with all his power, and came to his castle of Sandale, near Wakefield, in Yorkshire, on Christmas-eve, anno 38 king Henry VI. Thither the queen immediately followed him; and the duke, though much inferior in number, drew out his forces towards Wakefield; but being overpowered, his little army was soon routed, and he himself slain, and his corpse being first interred at Pontefract, was afterwards car-

ried and intombed in the choir of the collegiate church of Fotheringhay./z He died possessed of the manor of Eryth, as appears by the inquisition taken in the 3d year of king Edward IV. Notwithstanding there had passed in the 38th year of the last reign a long attainder against him and others, with the forfeiture of all their hereditaments in fee, or fee tail,/a on his death it descended to his eldest son Edward, who bore the title of earl of March in his father's life-time, not by any patent of creation, but as his eldest surviving son, by reason of his descent from the Mortimers, earls of March, though by an heir female, as has been already observed.

Being at Gloucester when his father was slain, he immediately raised a large army, and routing a numerous party of the king's friends at Mortimer's Cross,

/y Sandford's Gen. Hist. p. 369.

/z Duggd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 160, 161. /a Cott. Rec. p. 661, 663.

242

and being joined by a considerable reinforcement, he entered the city of London, great numbers coming to his assistance from the counties of Kent and Essex, and other parts. Upon which he called a great council of the lords, in which it was adjudged, that as king Henry was insufficient to rule, and therefore fit to be deposed, they admitted Edward, earl of March, for king; who was accordingly proclaimed by the title of king Edward IV. where I shall leave him, with the remainder of his life and actions to our public historians./b

The manor of Eryth, thus becoming part of the royal revenue, continued in the crown till king Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted it to Elizabeth, relict of George, earl of Shrewsbury, by the description of the manor of Eryth, alias Lysnes, with all its members and appurtenances, to hold in capite, by knight's service./c

She was the second wife of George, earl of Shrewsbury, who died anno 33 king Henry VIII. being one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir Richard Walden, of this parish, and the lady Margaret his wife, who both lie buried in this church./d By him she had one son, John, who died young, and Anne, married to Peter Compton, son and heir of Sir William Compton, who died in the 35th year of that reign, under age.

Elizabeth, countess of Shrewsbury, in the 4th year of queen Elizabeth, levied a fine of this manor, with the passage over the Thames, and dying in the 10th year of that reign, lies buried, under a sumptuous tomb, in this church, having her effigies at full length on it.

Before her death this manor, &c. seems to have been settled on her only daughter, Anne, then wife of William Herbert, earl of Pembroke, and widow of Peter Compton, as before related, who was in posses-

/b Duggd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 162. /c Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 6.

/d Duggd. Bar. vol. i. p. 332.

243

sion of it, anno 9 queen Elizabeth. The earl of Pembroke died in the 12th year of that reign, leaving no issue by her./e She survived him, and died in the 31st

year of it, and was buried, with great solemnity, in Eryth church, and this manor descended to her only son and heir Henry, by Peter Compton, her first husband.

This family of Compton was descended from Philip de Compton, who lived in the reign of king John; whose grandson of the same name, possessed the manor of Compton Wyniate, in Warwickshire, which has been the seat of his posterity ever since. His direct descendant, Sir William Compton, was in such favor with king Henry VIII. whose page he had been, when duke of York, that he advanced him to be chief gentleman of his bedchamber; and within three years after, in consideration of his services, he had a special grant to him and his heirs, of an honorable augmentation to his arms, out of the king's royal ensigns and devices; viz. A lion passant-guardant or, as appears by the special letters under that king's sign manual. They bore before, Sable, three helmets argent, to which this lion passant-guardant or, was added in the centre; which coat of arms they bear at this time.

He died in the 20th of king Henry VIII. being then of the bedchamber to the king, and was succeeded by his only son, Peter Compton, before-mentioned; whose only son, Henry, by the lady Anne, daughter of George, earl of Shrewsbury, on his mother's death, succeeded to this manor of Eryth, as has been already related before.

He had been knighted, and was summoned to parliament among the barons, by writ, in the 14th year of that reign, as baron Compton, of Compton, in Warwickshire, and dying in the 32d year of it, was buried at Compton, among his ancestors. He married

/e Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 259.

244

first, Frances, daughter of Francis Hastings, earl of Huntingdon, by whom he had William, his heir, and Thomas, and one daughter, Margaret./f His second wife was Anne, daughter of Sir John Spencer, of Althorpe, widow of William Stanley, lord Mounteagle; by her he had Sir Henry Compton, of East Grinstead, in Sussex, K. B. which branch is now extinct.

Henry, lord Compton, above-mentioned, settled the manor of Eyrth on Sir Thomas Compton, his second son by his first lady, on his marriage with Mary, countess of Buckingham, relict of Sir George Villars, and mother of George, duke of Buckingham. He died without issue, and devised it by his will to his great nephew, Sir William Compton, third son of Spencer, earl of Northampton, only son of William, lord Compton, who was created earl of Northampton, by king James I. in the 16th year of his reign, and was elder brother to Sir Thomas Compton, possessor of this manor, as before-mentioned./g Sir William Compton was a most loyal and valiant gentleman, and engaged in the civil wars for king Charles I. in the 18th year of his age, during which he was made governor of Banbury-castle, and in 1648 major-general of his Majesty's forces. Soon after which he conveyed the manor of Eryth to Mr. Loddwick, of London; who quickly sold it to Nicholas

Vanacker, esq. merchant of that city, descended from ancestors of foreign extraction, who bore for his arms, or, on a bend gules, three cinquefoils argent./h

He left four sons and two daughters. Of the sons, Francis Vanacker, esq. the eldest, will be mentioned hereafter; James died unmarried; Nicholas was a Turkey merchant, and was created a baronet in the 12th year of king William, with remainder to his bro-

/f Dugg. Warw. p. 423, et seq.

/g Ibid. p. 424. Coll. Peer. last edit. vol. iii. p. 144. Phil. p. 142.

/h Coll. Baronetage, vol. v. p. 89.

245

ther John, remainder to Sir Jeremy Sambrooke, but he died without issue. John, the 4th son, was a Turkey merchant, and succeeded to the title of baronet, and died without issue. Of the two daughters, Susanah was married to Sir William Hedges, and Judith to Sir Jeremy Sambrooke, whose son, Samuel, succeeded his uncle John, in the title of baronet.

Francis Vanacker, esq. the eldest son, on his father's death, became possessed of the manor of Erith, and was sheriff of this county in 1675. He married Cornelius, daughter of William Bovey, esq. of Gloucestershire, by whom he left no issue. He died in 1686, and was buried in this church. On his death his widow became possessed of it, and afterwards married William Bateman, esq. who in her right enjoyed it. She survived him, and dying in 1702, lies buried in this church. She was succeeded in this manor by her brother in law, Sir John Vanacker, bart. and merchant of London, the only surviving brother, and heir of her first husband, Francis Vanacker, esq. deceased.

Sir John Vanacker, bart. dying without issue, this manor came into the possession of his kinsman, Sir William Hedges, alderman of London, in right of his wife, Susanna, sister of Sir John Vanacker, as before-mentioned, and he died possessed of it in the year 1701.

On his death, his son, William Hedges, esq. became possessed of it, and dying without issue in 1734, was buried in this church. He devised the manor of Erith to John Wheatley, esq. who died in 1748, and lies buried with Margaret Salisbury Wheatley his wife, in this church. He seems before his death to have settled this manor on his son, William Wheatley, who died possessed of it in his father's life time, in 1745, and was buried here, leaving his widow surviving, who afterwards married Mr. William Hussey, the city solicitor, whom she likewise survived, and died in 1777.

246

He was succeeded in it by his only son and heir, William Wheatley, esq. who, in the year 1769, served the office of sheriff for this county. He is the present possessor of the manor of Erith, alias Lesnes, and resides here in a new mansion, which he has lately built on the north side of Northumberland heath, on a much more elevated situation than the old manor house which is situated in the town of Erith. He married, Mary, daughter of Mr. Randall, by whom he has several children. He bears for his arms, quarterly, first

and fourth, parted per fess a pale counterchanged, three lions rampant; second and third, parted per fess wavy, three bucks heads caboshed.

At the court leet are chosen a constable and bors=holder for the town, a constable for the uplands in this parish, and two aleconners.

There are some few copyhold estates held of this manor, but the principal of the tenants are freehol=ders, at small quit-rents. The copyholders hold at the will of the Lord, and the customary fine.

BEDENWELL is a small hamlet of houses, formerly reputed a manor. It was once the inheritance of the family of Burford; and in the 1st year of king Edward III. was held of David de Strabolgie, son of John, earl of Athol, as chief lord of the fee./i Rose de Burford held this manor at her death, in the 3d of king Edward III./k Her successor, James de Burford, obtained a charter of free warren for his lands at Bedenwell, in the 35th year of that reign, and then held it as half a knight's fee of the heir of Roger Mortimer, earl of March, late deceased./l

After this family was extinct, which was before the end of king Richard II's reign, it came into the pos=session of Draper, descended from an antient family of that name in Nottinghamshire, the last of whom, John

/i Rot. Esch. ejus anni. /k Ibid. No. 52. Philipott, p. 145.

/l Inq. de foedis Com. Marchiæ. – MSS. E. H.

247

Draper, dying without male issue, his sole daughter and heir carried Bedenwell in marriage to William Killem, with the proviso of his changing his name to Draper, which he and his descendants complied with. But in the reign of Charles I. Bedenwell was split into several parts, one of which was sold to Turner, another to Gainsford, of Crowherst, in Surry, who not long after alienated his part to Cholmley, and other parts were sold to others; which entirely destroyed all its rights as a manor; since which it has been again divided by dif=ferent conveyances into many more separate properties and tenements, in which state it now remains.

HERING-HILL is a place in this parish, which was antiently the residence of a family called Abell, who bore for their arms, a saltier engrailed;/m of these Sir John Abell was among those Kentish knights, who at= tended king Edward I. at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, in the 28th year of his reign. He had, by Margaret his wife, two sons; John, who, as appears by the patent rolls, was one of the barons of the ex=chequer, in the 5th year of king Edward II. and Wal=ter, who was owner of Foot's Cray.

In the reign of king Henry IV. as appears by the registers of the crown office, Edward Abell was in the commission of the peace for this county, and lies bu=ried in this church. His descendant, John Abell, died possessed of Hering hill, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth. His son, Samuel Abell, was the last of this family here; and, in the 10th year of James I. together with his son John, passed this estate away by sale to Mr. William Draper, of Drapers place, in this parish, a seat which afterwards passed by sale to Bate=man, and thence to Dashwood, by marriage, it is now

called Blackhall, and is almost in ruins, being inhabited only by working people. Mr. William Draper's descendant, Charles Draper, esq. died possessed of Hering-

/m Philipott, p. 145.

248

hill in the reign of king George I. and his widow was possessed of it in the year 1725; soon after whose decease, this estate became divided into moieties, one of which became the property of Theodore Johnson, of Lincoln's-inn, esq. custos brevium of the court of king's bench, who died greatly advanced in years, in 1774, and by his will devised his interest in it to three sisters of the name of Smyth, the youngest of whom in this county, and they are now entitled to it. The other moiety was vested in Mr. Edmund Benson, attorney-at-law in Yorkshire, in which name it still continues.

BELVIDERE-HOUSE stands on the eastern side of Leason-heath, about half a mile westward from Erith church. It was originally erected by George Hayley, esq. who, after residing in it for some time, passed it away by sale to Charles Calvert, lord Baltimore, of the kingdom of Ireland, which title had been conferred on his ancestor Sir George Calvert, by patent, in the 22d year of king James I. who bore for his arms, Paly of six, or, and sable, a bend counterchanged, granted to him by Sir George Norroy, instead of their antient family bearing or, three martlets sable./n Charles, lord Baltimore, died here in 1751; soon after which this seat was sold by his devisee to Sampson Gideon, esq. who resided at Belvidere, which he greatly improved, and dying in 1762, leaving by Jane his wife, daughter of Charles Ermell, who survived him, one son Sampson, and two daughters, Susannah and Elizabeth, the latter of whom married lord viscount Gage. He was succeeded in this seat and his ample fortune, by his son Sir Sampson Gideon, bart. he having been so created in his father's life time on May 21, 1759, being stiled in the patent of Spalding, in Lincolnshire, since which in 1789, he has been created lord Eardley, of the king-

/n See Irish Peer. vol. iv. p. 130.

249

dom of Ireland. He married in 1766 Maria Marow, daughter of Sir John Eardley Wilmot, late chief justice of the common pleas, who died in 1794, by whom he has several children. He bears for his arms, Parted per chevron vert and or, in chief a rose; of the second, between two fleurs de lis argent, in base a lion rampant, regardant azure. Lord Eardley has lately rebuilt this seat, and makes it his principal residence.

This house is situated on the brow of a hill, and commands a vast extent of prospect over the river Thames, and many miles beyond it. The river and navigation add greatly to the beauty of the scene. The grounds and woods around it are judiciously laid out, and have many beautiful walks in them. The collection of pictures here, though not numerous, yet is very valuable; containing none but pieces which are originals, by the greatest masters, and some of them very capital.

The abbey of Westminster was antiently possessed of lands in this parish, bequeathed to it by one *Æt-*sere. King Edward the Confessor confirmed this gift, as did William the Conqueror, Vitalis being then abbot of that monastery.

Godfrid, bishop of Winchester, who was consecrated anno 1189, confirmed the gift which his father Richard de Laci had made, in perpetual alms, to Christ church, in London, and the canons there, of all the land which Godfrid Benum held in his manor of Lesnes.

RICHARD DE LUCY, chief justice of England, in the year 1178, founded and endowed AN ABBEY of Canons Regular, of the order of St. Augustine, at Westwood, in his village of Lesnes. The scite of the abbey being about a mile and three quarters westward from Erith church, at the edge of the marshes, and adjoining to the large wood before-mentioned, then called Westwood, but since the Abbey-wood, and he endowed it amply, and particularly with a moiety of his possessions in this parish, being the western part of it, afterwards

250

stiled the manor of Lesnes, as the other moiety which remained with his heirs, was from its situation, as well as to distinguish it, the manor of Lesnes, alias Erith, of which a full account has been already given before. The next year, quitting his honors, and great preferences, he took upon him the habit of a canon in this house, then scarce finished, and dying in 1179, was buried under a sumptuous monument in the choir of his church here, and, as is said, with this epitaph on it: —

Rapitur in tenebras Richardus lux luciorum,  
Justicie pacis dilector, et urbis honorum.  
Christe sibi requies tecum sit sede piorum;  
Julia tunc orbi lux bis septena nitebat,  
Mille annos C. novem et septuaginta movebat./o

This monastery, as first called from its situation, the ABBEY OF WEST-WOOD, which name however was soon changed to that of LESNES, was, with the church of it, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr, for so archbishop Becket was called within about eight years after his death. Godfrey de Lucy, a near relation of the founder, bishop of Winchester, was a great benefactor to this house./p In the 9th year of king Edward I. the abbot of Lesnes had free-warren granted to him and his successors, for his lands here, at Tong, and at Acolt./q And in the 5th year of king Edward III. the abbot and convent of Westwude had a confirmation of their foundation-charter, and of their liberties,/r the foundation and possessions of which were afterwards confirmed by king John, and king Edward II. and III./s In an antient valuation of the temporalities

/o Weever, p. 356. According to others he was buried in the chapter-house of this monastery. Tan. Mon. p. 216. Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 301, 302.

/p Dugdale, Tanner, and Weever, *ibid.*

/q Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 85. /r *Ibid.* No. 61.

/s Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 302.

251

of the religious houses taken in the 15th of king Edward I. those of the abbot of Lesnes, with the passage of the water, and the marsh lands, with the revenue of Dartford, Lodeham, and Greenwich, were valued at 22l. 18s. 8d.

The abbot of Lesnes was summoned to parliament in the 49th year of king Henry III. and in the 23d year of king Edward I. but when king Edward III. reduced the number of the abbots summoned to parliament, this of Lesnes was omitted./t

In the 7th year of king Edward I. the abbot claimed several liberties, for himself and his tenants; for that he and his predecessors had used them, from the granting of them by king Henry to that time./u In the 21st year of the above reign, the abbot, and Joan Pecche, who held the manor of Lesnes, alias Erith, in dower, as of the inheritance of John, earl of Athol, each claimed to have wreck of the sea in the Thames, within their manors of Lesnes, as has been noticed before, the former alledging, that he found his church seized of it at his coming to it. But it was given against him; it being found by inquisition that the ancestors of the before-mentioned earl had enjoyed such wreck, within their manor, beyond memory, &c. The same year he claimed to have free-warren in his demesne lands in Lesnes, by charter from the then king; which was by the jury allowed him./w

The abbot and convent of Lesnes, in the 10th year of king Edward III./x granted to the prior and convent of Rochester, an annual rent of 4l. 6s. 8d out of their manors of Leisnes and Akholt, for the performance of certain religious services. In consideration of which, they received of Hamo, bishop of Rochester, one hundred and sixty marcs sterling; which they in great

/t Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 455. Ibid. vol. ii. append. p. 13.

/u Reg. Roff. p. 328. /w Ibid. p. 328, 319.

/x See Anglia Sacra, p. 275, where it is anno 17 king Edw. III.

252

measure applied to the reparation of their church, which was by sudden chance become ruinous; in defence of their lands against the Thames, and in aid of the burthen of their heavy debts; by reason of which, and the purchasing the advowson of the church of Elhethelle, in the diocese of London, lately appropriated to them; the deficiency of their corn harvest, and their various suits, and other different matters happening to them, they were necessitated to make the grant of it./y

This abbey continued, without any further occurrence worth mentioning, till the reign of king Henry VIII. when cardinal Wolsey, being desirous of finding two colleges, one at Ipswich, and the other at Oxford; obtained a bull of pope Clement VII. in 1524, for the suppression of St. Frideswide's priory, in Oxford, and that year he obtained another from that pope, for suppressing (with the king's leave) as many small monasteries as were needful, to raise a revenue, not exceeding three thousand ducats per annum. This the king consented to, and granted a commission for that purpose; whereupon this monastery, with seventeen other small ones in different counties, were suppressed;/z

this in particular, on the 20th of July following;/a  
when it appears, that the spiritualities of it were valued  
at 75l. 3s. 4d. and the temporalities at 111l. 5s. 8d. in  
the whole 186l. 9s. per annum./b

After which the king, by his letters patent in his  
17th year granted the several suppressed monasteries of  
Lesnes, Tunbridge, Begham, and Calcote, together  
with all their manors, lands and possessions, to Thomas  
Wolsey, cardinal of York, for the better endowment  
of his college, called the college of Thomas, cardinal

/y Reg. Roff. p. 324, 330.

/z Praef. Tan. Mon. p. xxxv. Cardinals bundle in Chancery.

/a Duggd. Mon. vol. i. p. 1037. In the Reg. Roff. p. 342.

/b Tan. Mon. p. 216.

253

of York, and vulgarly, Cardinal college, in Oxford,  
which letters patent were again confirmed by others  
that year.

But four years afterward, when that great prelate  
was cast in a præmunire, all the estates of the above  
college, which for want of time had not been firmly  
settled on it, were forfeited to the king, and became  
part of the royal revenue of the crown, where this  
suppressed abbey did not remain long, for king Henry  
VIII. in his 25th year, granted to William Brereton,  
the precinct of the late abbey of St. Thomas the Mar-  
tyr, of Liesnes, excepting the marsh belonging to the  
manor, to hold to him and the heirs of his body, by  
fealty only. But he afterwards engaging in the fatal  
transaction of queen Catherine Howard, in 1542, was  
attainted and executed, and this, among the rest of his  
estates, became forfeited to the crown./c

King Henry VIII. in his 28th year, granted to Ralph  
Sadler, gent. afterwards knighted, the late monastery  
of St. Thomas the Martyr, of Lesnes, and the manors  
of Lesnes and Fants, with their appurtenances, in the  
county of Kent; and all lands, tenements, &c. in the  
parishes and fields of Lesnes, Fants, Eryth, Bexley,  
Dartford, Plumsted; Higham fields, Fawists-garden,  
Ledayne, Inveynerd, Hakis, Walstow, Saltland, Ruf=

feld, John-hill, and Mansfield, and one marsh called

Coldherber, to hold in capite by fealty only.

THE MANOR OF FANTS mentioned before, was  
situated within the bounds of this parish, and was part  
of the revenues of the monastery of Stratford, in Essex,  
on the suppression of which, in king Henry the VIIIth's  
reign, it had come into the king's hands, whence it  
was soon afterwards granted, with the manor of Lesnes  
as before-mentioned, to Sir Ralph Sadler, who some  
little time before had had a grant of the tenths of the

/c Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 156. Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. i. Phi=

lipott, p. 146.

254

manor of Fants, late belonging to the same monastery  
of Stratford, to hold of the king, in capite.

In the 32d year of the king Henry VIII. Sir Ralph  
Sadler alienated both the above manors, with their ap=

purtenances (excepting the marshes belonging to them)  
to Henry Cooke./d

It has been mentioned before, that when the king,

in his 25th year, made the first grant of the manor of Lesnes to William Brereton, the marsh lands belonging to it were wholly excepted, and they remained it seems in the crown till the king, in his 35th year, granted among other lands, all these marshes belonging to the above manor, to Thomas Arderne, of Faversham, to hold in capite./e

Henry Cooke died in the 5th year of king Edward VI. possessed of these manors, and the scite of the monastery of Lyesnes, held as before-mentioned, and other marsh lands, as well salt as fresh, in Leysnes, Erith, Bexley, Crayford, and Dartford, held in capite by knight's service, and several other lands in these parts, as was then found by inquisition, and that Edmund Cooke was his son and heir,/f who was of Lesnes abbey, and of Mount Mascal in this county, and died possessed of both in 1619. His eldest son, Lambert Cooke, conveyed these manors, and the scite of this abbey, to Sir John Leman, alderman of London, who soon after sold them again to Sir John Hippisley. In whose time some workmen, digging by his order for stones in the place where the church of this abbey sometime stood, then overgrown with trees and bushes, found several stone coffins, and a handsome funeral monument, on which was the full proportion of a man, in his coat armour, cut in free stone; his sword hanging at his side in a broad belt, upon which the

/d Rot. Esch. eorum anno. /e Ibid. ejus anni, pt. iv.

/f Ibid. anno 5 king Edward VI. See more of this family under North Cray.

255

fleur de lis or luce, was engraved in many places, perhaps a device or rebus for the name of Lucy. This figure lay on a flat marble stone, which served as a cover or lid to a hollowed tomb of white smooth hewen asheler stone; in which, wrapped in a sheet of lead, lay the remains of an ashy dry body, whole and undisjoined, having upon its head something like hair. They found likewise other statues of men, in like manner proportioned, and of a woman in her attire and habiliments, with many gravestones and bones of deceased persons; to see all which great crowds of people resorted continually, not only from the neighbouring parts, but even from London./g

By the direction of the then owner, the first mentioned monument was again covered, and he planted a bay tree over it; when Dr. Stukeley visited this place, in 1753, he thought this tree the finest of the kind he had ever seen, but it is since wholly withered and decayed. The doctor was of opinion that the farm house, standing on the premises, was the original mansion or seat of the founder, in which he and his successors, the abbots, used to reside; it is however certain that all the buildings, used by the religious, were situated southward of the house; whilst this spot was inhabited by the occupiers of the land, the area of the church and cloisters was used as a garden, but the cattle now range over the whole of it. The ruinous north wall of the church, of which the doctor drew a sketch, is inserted in the *Archæologia*, and again in this volume, is much more dilapidated, but

the boundaries of almost the whole precinct may still be traced./h

But to return – Sir John Hippesley/i sold these estates to Sir Thomas Gainsford, of Crowherst, in Surry, who, in the reign of king Charles I. sold them

/g Weever, p. 42, 777. /h Archæologia, vol. i. p. 44.  
/i Weever calls him Epsley, p. 777.

256

to Mr. Haws of London; and he dying without issue, settled them by his will for ever on the mayor and commonalty of London, as governors of the hospitals of Bridewell, Christ church, and St. Thomas, in whose possession they continue at this time.

ABBOTS AND PRIORS OF LESNES.

In the 53d year of king Henry III. John de St. Edmund was prior of Lesnes, and then resigning it, was made prior of Bicknare, in Essex.

In 1269, RICHARD was abbot of this monastery.

In 1321, ROGER DE DERTFORD was abbot. He was deprived by the bishop in 1341./k

WILLIAM was abbot in 1475, in which year he died.

JOHN appears to have succeeded him as abbot the same year.

In 1512, Feb. 22, HENRY BLACKAMORE, abbot, resigned. Thomas Bible then prior.

..... March 22, WILLIAM TISEHERST, prior Bilsington, was elected abbot.

The names of the canons of this monastery, present at the above election, were Henry Blackamore, late abbot, Thomas Bible, prior, Robert Hale, sub-prior, John Johns, John Cytingborne, William Brighth, William Copere, Richard Lee. Absent, John Makyns, John Kynge, and Thomas Lambe; in all eleven; and in the Registrum Roffense there is a long and full account of the manner of his election, the confirmation of it, and of his consecration, by the bishop of Rochester. King Henry VIII.'s licence to the monastery, to proceed to election, is dated from Charing, March 4, that year./l

Of the imbanking and draining THE MARSHES, lying on the Thames, between Greenwich and this place, and from thence to Gravesend, at different times, and the breaches and other accidents which

/k Newc. Rep. vol. ii. p. 206. Reg. Roff. p. 320. Ang. Sacra, p. 362, 374. /l Ang. Sacra, p. 332, et seq.

257

have happened to them, the reader will find a particular account in Dugdale's History of Imbanking, and some account of the inning of part of these marshes in the description of the parish of Plumsted; however, it may be proper to take notice here, that in the fourth year of king James I. upon a petition then exhibited in parliament for inning and winning of certain marsh grounds, lying in the drowned marshes of Lesnes and Fants, which had been of long time overflowed, an act passed, that William Burrell, gent. of Ratcliffe (who had covenanted with the owners for this purpose, in 1606) should have power to enter on this work for the recovery of the same; and that he and his heirs should have one half of the grounds so

inned, according to that agreement, and the other moiety should belong to the owners of these marsh grounds, according to the several proportions of their quantities, which they had then in them, to be holden of Edmund Cooke, esq. his heirs and assigns, as of his manor of Lesnes and Fants, in free socage, by fealty, and one penny rent for every acre, and not in chief nor by knights service./m

#### CHARITIES.

MARY, wife of Wm. Draper, of Crayford, who died in 1652, and lies buried in Crayford church, left by her will, 50l. to the poor of this parish.

THOMAS COOPER, in 1704, gave by will, 20s. payable out of Birchwood, in Bexley, vested in Mrs. Payn, and of that annual produce.

JOHN STREET, in 1718, gave by will, to be distributed in two-penny loaves, 2s. worth every Sunday, for fifteen Sundays, to begin one month before Christmas, payable out of six acres of marsh land in this parish, of the annual produce of 1l. 10s.

WILLIAM TURNER, in 1739, gave by will a yearly sum of 5s. worth of bread, to be given for eight Sundays to the poor who receive no alms from the parish, payable out of a messuage and farm, called Woodcock's, in this parish, vested in lord Eardley, and of the annual produce of 2l.

/m Dugdale's Hist. of Imbanking, p. 65.

258

RICHARD TURNER, in 1745, gave by will, to be distributed to the poor, in bread, payable out of nineteen and fifteen acres of marsh land, the yearly sum of 20s. vested in the same, and of that annual produce.

FRANCIS CLARE gave by will, 20s. to be given every Christmas to twenty poor people, 7s. worth of bread, to be given every Sunday for three Sundays after, to poor people, vested in Mrs. Bradford, and of the annual produce of 2l. 1s.

ERITH, alias Lesnes, is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It consists of three isles and two chancels, having a spire steeple at the west end, in which are six bells.

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, are the following: In the great chancel, a monument for Sir John Griffith of Erith, and dame Mary his wife; he died in 1677. Underneath these arms, Three eagles displayed, impaling parted per chevron flory, three talbots heads, erased and collared. A grave-stone and brass plate, with inscription in black letter, for Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Harman, esq. of Crayford, and wife of William Draper, gent. of Erith, obt. 1574, leaving two sons and two daughters. On a grave stone, before the rails of the altar, are the marks where have been the effigies in brass of a man and woman, which, with the inscription, are lost; but at the four corners are these arms in brass, on a fess, three mullets of five points, between three fleurs de lis; 2d, shield on a bend, three roses. In the south chancel, on a grave-stone, is the effigies of a man between his two wives, and an inscription in brass and black letter for John Aylmer, Margaret and Bennet his wives; he died 1511. Adjoining another, having the effigy of a man in brass, and inscription for Roger Sencler, formerly in the service of the abbot and convent of Lesnes, obt. 1421. On the south side on a

grave stone, is a large brass plate, with the effigies of a man and woman, which had labels from their mouths, now lost, the inscription in black letter now remains for John Ailmer, ob. 1405, and Margaret his wife. Within the rails, on the north side, on a grave-stone, the effigies in brass of a man in armour, and of his wife, and inscription in black letter, for Edw. Hawte, esq. and Elizabeth his wife; he died 1537; under have been the figures of three sons and one daughter, now lost. Adjoining to the above is another, with the figures of a woman in brass, and inscription in black letter, for Emma, wife of John Wode, citizen of London, and merchant of the staple at Calais, daughter of John Walden, ald. of London, and merch. of the staple at Calais likewise, ob. 1471;

259

under, a shield in brass, Walden, being a bend, cotized, between six martlets. On a large grave stone, are the effigies in brass, of a man in armour and of his wife, beneath his three sons, the inscription and those of the daughters are lost; over his head, the arms of Walden in brass. On a grave-stone adjoining, are the effigies in brass of a man in armour, with his tabard of arms, and of his wife. On his tabard are the arms of Walden, as above, but the inscription and shield of arms are gone, which was for Sir Rich. Walden, and is preserved in Weever. On the south side is a noble altar tomb of white marble, for Eliz. countess of Shrewsbury, daughter and heir of Sir Rich. Walden, on which is her effigies in her robes and coronet, lying at full length, her head supported by a pillar; on the sides of the tomb are her arms, with a great variety of quarterings, the colours of which are now defaced, as well as the inscription, which is preserved in Weever; she died in 1568. On the north side is a mural monument for Francis Vanacker, esq. lord of this manor of Erith, obt. 1686, who left surviving Cornelia his wife, and his two brothers, Nicholas and John, merchants of London; above are the arms of Vanacker, or, on a bend, gules, three cinquefoils, argent, impaling ermine, on a bend, gules, three guttee d'or between two ravens, proper; under the above tomb, and over the grave, is an elegant altar tomb of white marble, covered with black. On a grave stone, within iron rails, an inscription for Mrs. Cornelia, widow of W. Bateman, merchant, lady of this manor of Erith, and formerly the widow and relict of Francis Vanacker, esq. lord of the same manor, obt. 1702; and left her brother-in-law, Sir John Vanacker, bart. and merchant of London, the present lord of this manor, the only surviving brother of her said husband, Francis Vanacker, esq. On a grave stone, a memorial for Margaret, daughter of John Wheatley, gent. by Margaret his wife; she died 1718, æt. 19; above these arms, Wheatley, parted per fess a pale, counterchanged, three lions rampant; another for Wm. Hedges, esq. lord of this manor, obt. 1734, æt. 57; above these arms, two coats quarterly, 1st and 4th, three swans necks, erased, 2d and 3d, a chevron, ermine, between three lions rampant. A memorial for Margaret Salisbury, wife of John Wheatley, esq. and lady of this manor, obt. 1743; for John Wheatley, esq. obt. 1748; above are these arms, being two coats quarterly, 1st and 4th, Wheatley as above, 2d and 3d, parted per fess, wavy, three bucks heads, carboshed, over all an escutcheon of pretence, being a bend between three martlets; another for Wm. Wheatley, esq. lord of this manor, obt. 1745; above are the arms of Wheatley. On a grave stone, at the entrance into the south isle, is a brass plate with this inscription in black letter./n

ELLIN ATTE COKE GIST ICY  
DIEU DE SA ALME EIT MERCY.

/n See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 985.

It appears by the Escheat Rolls, of 35 Edw. III. that Peter atte Coke possessed land in Lesnes. In another record he is called Peter de Wenslingburg, alias Peter atte Coke. In this church lie buried likewise Anne countess of Pembroke, who died in 1589; and Edward Abell, of Hering-hill, who died in king Henry IV.'s reign, as has been already noticed before.

In the 17th year of king John's reign, Peter, bishop of Winchester, William earl Warren, William earl of Arundel, and Hubert de Burgh, chief-justice of England, and constable of Dover-castle, were constituted commissioners to treat with Richard earl of Clare, and others, on behalf of the discontented barons, in the church of Erith, touching a peace betwixt the king and them, for which the latter had a safe conduct./o

Richard de Lucy, founder of the abbey, in the reign of king Henry II. gave the church of Lesnes, in perpetual alms, to the church of the Holy Trinity, London, and to Ralph, prior, and the canons in it, together with all the lands and tenths belonging to it; to which grant queen Matilda and many others were witnesses; which gift was confirmed to them by Godfrid, bishop of Winchester, his descendant, by king Stephen, among the rest of the possessions of that monastery, and by several kings his successors, and different popes from time to time./p Walter de Merton, bishop of Rochester, and Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, confirmed this church and its possessions to them. Pope Innocent III. in the 2d year of king John, granted a bull for their protection, and the confirmation of their possessions, among which the church of Lesnes is mentioned./q And another, containing many additional privileges to it, and its lands and possessions, especially an exemption from their paying tenths, either of their lands which had

/o Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 693. Pat. Rolls, ejus an. No. 45.

/p Reg. Roff. p. 325, 328. Stev. Mon. vol. ii. p. 86, et seq. Rym. Fœd. vol. i. p. 7, 9, 314; vol. ii. p. 192.

/q Reg. Roff. p. 327. Rym. Fœd. vol. i. p. 122.

never before been cultivated,/r and of which none had ever received tithes, so long as they kept them in their own hands, or of the food of their cattle./s

In the 10th year of king Edward I. there was some dispute between the above mentioned abbot and convent, and the parishioners of the churches of Lesnes and Bexley, then appropriated to it concerning the payment of tenths for certain things, for which they alledged they had never as yet paid any; upon which pope Martin directed his bull to the prior of the Crucerois, or Crutched friars, in London, to adjust the same between them.

Another matter of dispute arose in the reign of king Henry VI. between the parishioners of Lesnes and the prior and convent, proprietors and rectors of this church, concerning the finding ornaments for the use of the high altar, and the finding of books by the latter, as by antient agreement between them; which at last, by mutual consent, was referred to the bishop of Rochester, who, in 1432, decreed, that the prior and

convent, and their successors, should yearly pay ten shillings to the parishioners, towards the finding ornaments and books for the high altar, with power, in case of non-payment, of distraining all their tenths and chattels, as well in their demesne lands as in their rectory or elsewhere, in the parish./t The church of Lesnes, alias Erith, with the advowson of the vicarage, remained among the possessions of the monastery till its final dissolution, in the 23d year of Henry VIII. when it was surrendered, with its revenues, into the king's hands./u

By virtue of a commission of enquiry in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Erith was a parsonage, which was an impropriation belonging to Sir Thomas Thynne, and that there was in the pa=

/r Novalia. /s Reg. Roff. p. 326.

/t Rym. Foed. vol. ii. p. 194. Reg. Roff. p. 331.

/u Rym. Foed. vol. xiv. p. 411. Tan. Mon. p. 303.

262

rish a vicarage presentative with cure of souls, which was worth fifty pounds per annum, including the glebe land, which was worth ten pounds./w

John Weever, the author of the Funeral Monuments, appears to have been possessed of this rectory at the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth./x

In the 7th year of king James I. Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, was owner of this rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage. His descendant, Sir Thomas Thynne, possessed them in the beginning of the reign of king Charles I. It afterwards became the property of Sir James Bateman, lord mayor of London, whose eldest son, William, was created viscount Bateman of the kingdom of Ireland, but he devised this estate, which consists of the parsonage or great tithes of this parish, and an inclosed farm, together with the perpetual advowson of the vicarage, to his younger son, James Bateman, esq. who was seated at Well, in Lincolnshire. He left an only daughter and heir, Anne, who carried it in marriage to Samuel Dashwood, esq. of that county, the grandson of Sir Sam. Dashwood, lord mayor of London; on Mr. Dashwood's death, his widow became entitled to it for the term of her life, and she is the present possessor of it; she had by Mr. Dashwood a daughter, married to major Carteret of Lincolnshire, and one son, Francis Bateman Dashwood, esq. to whom the inheritance of this estate now belongs. He married Theresa, daughter and coheir of Mr. March, of Huntingdonshire, by whom he has six children. He bears for his arms, quarterly, first and fourth, Dashwood, Argent, on a fess between two bars gemels, gules, three griffins heads erased, or, second and third, Bateman.

The rectory of Erith and Leason pays an annual fee-farm rent of 1l. 10s. to the crown.

/w Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib. vol. xix.

/x Weever, p. 337.

263

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Lesnes was valued at fifty marcs, and the vicarage at eight marcs./y and the temporalities of the priory of

the Holy Trinity in Lesnes at 4l. 4s. 4d./z

The vicarage of Erith is valued in the king's books at 9l. 12s. 6d. and the yearly tenths at 19s. 3d./a. It is now of the value of about 200l. per annum. The abbey lands are exempt from all tithes whatsoever. The parsonage farm pays small tithes to the vicar. There are seven acres and a half of glebe land. There is no vicarage house.

#### CHURCH OF ERITH.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Priory of the Holy Trinity, London John Stone, obt. Ap.18, 1475./b  
Edward Harwood, in 1724.

John White, void by cession,  
Mar. 8, 1734, ob. 1767./c

Samuel Dashwood, esq. James White, 1767. Present  
vicar./d

/y Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/z Ibid. p. 455.

/a Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/b He lies buried in this church.

/c Also vicar of Wilmington, and  
formerly minor canon of Rochester.

/d Son of the former.

- - -

#### CRAYFORD

LIES the next parish south-eastward from Erith, having the river Thames and that parish for its northern boundary. It appears to have been called, soon after the arrival of the Saxons in this island, by the name of Creccan ford; that is, the ford or passage over the water, then called Crecca. now Cray./e In the time of archbishop Dunstan, who came to the see of Canterbury, in 960, it was known by the name of Erhede, or Eard, and at the conquest by that of Eard,

/e Lamb. Per. p. 484.

264

alias Crayford; by which it continued to be described in all antient deeds and writings to the time of king Henry VIII.

THIS PARISH is in extent, from north to south, about three miles, and from east to west somewhat less than two. The air is not esteemed in general the most healthy, especially the lower or north-east part of it, near the marshes. The soil of it in the upland parts is much subject to gravel and sand, and the lands are but thin and poor, especially towards Northumberland and Bexley heaths, near which are two parcels of coppice wood, the only ones in this parish. The lower parts, nearer the river, and in the marshes, are very fertile, but the latter, being about five hundred acres, are never ploughed. The high London road crosses the southern part of this parish, in which is the village, commonly called Crayford-street, where the ground rises to the upland or western part of the parish, and here the roads branch off, one to Bexley-heath, a second to Woolwich, near which is the church, May-place, and Newbery, and

another to Erith, near which is the parsonage, and farther on, the two hamlets of Perry-street and North-end; and at about three quarters of a mile distance from the former, eastward, Howbury-farm. The northern parts of the parish, being the marshes, are bounded still further northward by the river Thames.

The high London road passed through Crayford-street, but a few years ago it was turned aside from it, a new cut having been made, which avoiding the street, joins the old road again at the east end of the street, close to the bridge, which has been new built for the purpose.

It is a narrow ill-built street, of near half a mile in length. At the east end of it, near the river, stood a large handsome seat, which seemed of the time of queen Elizabeth, and was called in antient deeds the mansion-house in Crayford, and afterwards the old place

265

house. It was formerly part of the estate in this parish belonging to Sir Clodesley Shovel, whose daughter and coheir, Anne, intitled her husband, John Blackwood, esq. to it, on whose death, in 1777, his son, Shovel Blackwood, succeeded to it, and he owns the scite of it at this time. It was for many years made use of for carrying on the linen manufactory established here; since which it has been let on a long lease to an eminent calico printer and whitster, who pulled it down, and converted the materials into work houses, &c. for his manufactory.

Here is a fair held on September 8.

The river Cray takes its course through the marshes in this parish, nearly north-north-east; and after having received into it, on the south side, a small spring, which rises at Wantsum-farm, it branches into two parts, both of which cross the high London road, as does a third small portion of water out of it, granted by the commissioners of sewers in the year 1633, as has been before mentioned.

Two of these streams, having supplied two large manufactories for the printing of calicoes, and having received the third stream again into them, unite about half a mile below, where this river turns an iron mill, antiently made use of for the making of plates for armour; and having supplied the whiting grounds, it makes several small windings, and joins Dartford-creek on the west side of it, about a mile below that town, and then it flows, in one united stream with it, into the river Thames.

In the year 457, Hengist, the first Saxon king of Kent, meeting with the Britons at Crecanford, gave them battle, flew four of their chief commanders and four thousand men, / and gave them such a bloody de-

/f Camd. Brit. p. 223. Lamb. Peramb. p. 486. Rapin's Hist. of Eng. vol. i. p. 33.

266

feat, that they entirely abandoned this country, and fled with great fear towards London.

There are now to be seen, as well on the heaths near Crayford, as in the fields hereabout, many artificial caves or holes in the earth, some being ten, fif-

teen, and others twenty fathoms deep. At the mouth, and thence downward, they are narrow, like the tunnel of a chimney, or passage of a well, but at the bottom they are large and of great compass, insomuch that some of them have several rooms or partitions, one within another, strongly vaulted, and supported with pillars of chalk. In the opinion of the neighbouring inhabitants, they were formerly dug, as well for the use of the chalk, towards building, as for the mending of their lands; but it is most probable that some of them were made for a farther use by the Saxons, our ancestors, who used them as secret hiding places for their wives, children, and goods, as well in times of civil wars as of foreign invasions.

For Tacitus, treating of the manners of the old Germans, the ancestors of these Saxons, says, they used to dig certain caves under the ground, that when the enemy came and spoiled all that was abroad, then such things as were thus hidden, either lay unknown, or by this very means deceived him who sought after them./g

If such as these have not been found in other places, it must be imputed to the soil, which in chalk only is suited to this workmanship. Many beasts have tumbled into these pits, and the hunters continually miss their dogs, which have fallen into them; and Mr. Lambarde says, in his time, a then late noble person, in following his hawk, happened, to the great hazard of his life, to fall into one of them, which was at least twelve fathoms deep./h

/g Tacitus de Moribus Germ. p. 630. Edit. Not. varior.

/h Lamb. Peramb. p. 488.

267

The Roman road is plainly visible on Bexley heath, directing its course south-south east, and so on towards Crayford, which adds some strength to the conjectures of those who place the first station on it from London, antiently called Noviomagus, at or about Crayford. Among these are Somner, Burton, bishop Stillingfleet, and of later times Dr. Thorpe./i And although there never have been hitherto any foundations, tiles, urns, or other marks of antiquity, found about this place to confirm its having been a Roman station, yet it has one corroborating circumstance of no small force in the similitude of its present name. The manor of Crayford being at this day called Crayford, alias Newbery, which last signifies in English exactly the same as Noviomagus in Latin, viz. the new fortress or station. However, in placing this station here there have been made by some two principal objections: first, the improbability of the marshes at and about Deptford, being easily passable in the time of the Romans, which, if they were not, would direct the course of the road more to the southward towards Keston. And secondly, that the Watling-street road, on which this station is supposed to have been, passed through the middle of this county, whereas this, by Crayford on to Rochester, and so on to Canterbury, directs its course near the northern boundary of it; to obviate this, Mr. Robert Talbot, who wrote a comment on the Itinerary of Antonine, tells us, that the

Romans had two sorts of highways; the one, farthest about indeed, but through places better inhabited, more level, and altogether more fit for the conducting of the army; the other more direct and commodious, of which latter sort most probably was this Roman road through Crayford./k

/i Burton, p. 175. Somner, p. 13. Reg. Roff. Præf. p. iii.  
/k Burt. Anton. p. 177.

268

THIS PLACE, in the time of the Saxons, was possessed by one Elfege, a powerful man, who by his will, made in the presence of archbishop Dunstan, about the year 970, gave a third part of his estates in Erhede, and elsewhere, to Christ church, in Canterbury; notwithstanding which, Leofsune, who had married his nephew's widow, entered on them; but they were recovered from him, in a solemn trial, held here by the archbishop for this purpose. After which, on the division, Erhede seems to have been part of the share which was allotted to Christ church,/l and it remained in the hands of the archbishop of Canterbury, at the time the general survey of Domesday was taken, in which it is thus entered:

In Litelai hundred the archbishop himself holds Erhede. It was taxed at 4 sulings. The arable land is 8 carucates. In demesne there are two, and 27 villeins, with two borderers having 8 carucates. There is a church, and three mills, of 50 shillings and sixpence. There are 5 servants, and 10 acres of meadow; wood for the panage of 40 hogs. In the whole, in the reign of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 12 pounds, and as much when he received it, now 6 pounds, and yet it pays 21 pounds.

At the latter end of king Richard I.'s, and in king John's reigns, the MANOR of EARDE, alias CRAYFORD, was held of the archbishop by Adam de Port, the great-grandson of Hugh de Port, a great baron in the reign of William the Conqueror, who was possessed of Basing, in Hampshire, which he made the head of his barony./m

Adam de Port married Mabell, grandchild and heir to Roger de St. John. After which, his descendants,

/l The famous trial for the recovery of the lands given to the churches of Canterbury and Rochester is related in the *Textus Roffensis* at large. See *Observations on the above*, in Hicke's *Thes. vol. i. Dissertatio Epist. p. 60.*

/m Dugd. Bar. p. 463, et seq.

269

quitting the surname of Port, assumed that of St. John. John de St. John, of Basing, his great grandson, a man much employed and entrusted by king Edward I. died in the 30th year of that reign, being then possessed of the manor of Eard.

John, his son and heir, was summoned to parliament in the 28th of king Edward I. his father then living, by the name of John de St. John, junior, and was in that, and the next reign, much employed in the Scottish wars. He died in the 12th year of king Edward II. leaving by Isabel his wife, daughter of

Hugh de Courtney, a son named Hugh, being then possessed of this manor, with the advowson of the church of Earde. Hugh de St. John, died in the 11th year of king Edward III. being then possessed of sixteen knights fees in Kent, among which was included this manor and advowson.

In the Book of Aid, in the 20th year of the above reign, his descendant, Robert de St. John, answered for one knight's fee in Earde, held of the archbishop, about which time this manor acquired the name of the manor of Earde, alias Newbery, the latter being the name of the mansion belonging to it.

Most probably he was guardian, and some near relation to Edmund, son of Hugh above mentioned, who died in his minority next year;/n upon which Margaret, the wife of John de St. Philibert, and Isabel, the wife of Henry de Burshersh, his sisters, became his heirs; and on a partition of the lands of their inheritance, Isabel had for her share, among other premises, ten pounds yearly rent, issuing out of this manor,/o and the reversion of it, with the advowson of the church of Earde, after the death of Elizabeth, wife of Edmund, who then held the same in dowry, and was remarried to Gerard de l'Isle./p

/n Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

/o Dugdale says 40l. per annum. Bar. vol. ii. p. 36.

/p Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 465.

270

This Isabel, after the decease of Henry de Burshersh, married Lucas de Poynings, a younger brother of Michael lord Poynings, eldest son to the first Thomas lord Poynings, by which he became possessed of the lands of her inheritance, and by the death of her sister Margaret, and of John her son without issue, in the 35th year of king Edward III. to her part of it also; and the said Lucas de Poynings, having issue by his wife, had possession granted of her whole inheritance, and among it of this manor./q

Archbishop Courtney, in the 20th year of king Richard II. procured the grant of a market for this manor, to be held on a Tuesday; and a fair on the vigil, the day of our Lady's nativity, and four days after./r

Lucas de Poynings had summons to parliament in the 42d and 47th years of king Edward III./s His son, Sir Thomas de Poynings, succeeded him in this estate, and bore the title of lord St. John; and in the beginning of king Henry VI.'s reign, sold this manor to John Kingston, whose descendant, Thomas Kingston, died in the 21st year of king Henry VII. possessed of the manor of Newbery, otherwise called Crayford, held of the archbishop by knights service, as it was then found by inquisition, and that John Kingston was his kinsman and next heir./t

From this family it went, in the reign of king Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Lisley, and from him again to William Gorfyn, esq. who, in the 35th year of that reign, sold to the king, in consideration of lands in Berkshire, Sussex, and Southampton, among other premises, his manor of Newbery, with the advowson of the parish church of Earde, alias Crayford,

with all tenements, royalties, &c. in Newbery, and Earde, alias Crayford, of the yearly value of 38l. 10d.

/q Duggd. Bar. vol. i. p. 465.  
/r Rot. Pat. ejus an. No. 5.  
/s Cott. Records, p. 104, 115.  
/t Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

271

excepting the next avoidance of the church, and eight shillings payable out of the manor to the lord of the manor of Otford; which indenture was inrolled next year in the court of augmentation./u

This manor seems to have continued in the crown till the reign of king Philip and queen Mary; who, in their 5th and 6th year, granted it to Thomas and John White, and others, to hold in capite by knights service./w Queen Elizabeth, in her 7th year, granted it to Henry Partich, who, in the same reign, conveyed it to Henry Apylton, of Marshal's court, in this parish, where this family had been long resident.

These Apyltons, or Appletons, as their name was afterwards spelt, are supposed to be descended from a family of that name, seated at Waddingfield Magna, in Norfolk, where many of them lie buried.

Roger Appleton lived in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. and was auditor to both those kings. He lies buried in this church, as does Agnes his wife; Elizabeth their daughter married Henry Elham, esq. of Elham, in this parish, who was likewise one of the above auditors, and lies buried with her husband here. From him descended, in a direct line, Henry, the eldest son of Sir Roger Appleton, who succeeded his father in his estates in this neighbourhood, and at South Bemfleet, in Essex, and purchased this manor as before mentioned; and William, the second son, who was ancestor of the family of this name, settled at Kettlebaston, in Suffolk./x He died in the 4th year of James I. and Roger his son, who succeeded him in it, and was of South Bemfleet; he was knighted, and afterwards, in 1611, created a baronet. He died in the

/u Aug. off. box D. 23, D. 24. /w Rot. Esch. ejus anni, pt. 3.  
/x Weever, p. 335, 759. Baronetage, 1st edit. vol. i. p. 324.

Morant's Essex, vol. i. p. 263. Most of the monuments and inscriptions belonging to this family, in the church of Crayford, were destroyed by a fire which happened to the fabric.

272

13th year of that reign, leaving by Anne his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Mildmay, of Moulsham, in Essex, knt. one son, Henry, who succeeded him in title; and two daughters; Frances, married to Francis Goldsmith, gent. and Mary to Thomas Stanley, esq. and dying in 1609, lies buried in St. Dionis Backchurch, London./y He gave both the manor of Newbery and Marshal's -court, in this parish, in dowry with his daughter Frances before mentioned, to Francis Goldsmith, gent. who conveyed the former by sale (Marshal's-court being sold by him elsewhere) in the reign of James I. to Robert Draper, esq. of May-place, owner also of Howbery manor and Ellam, and other estates here; on whose death these manors and estates descended to William Draper, esq. his son, who

resided at May-place before mentioned. He married Mary, the fourth and youngest daughter of Richard Cresheld, sergeant at law, and one of the justices of the common-pleas, in the reign of Charles I. by whom he had one son, Cresheld, and two daughters. He died in 1650, possessed of these manors and estates, and lies buried in this church. His son, Colonel Cresheld Draper, succeeded to them, on his father's death, being then in his minority; after whose death, about the year 1694, they were sold by his heirs to Sir Cloutesley Shovel, together with the capital mansion of May-place.

Sir Cloutesley Shovel was born in Suffolk, in 1651, and entered into the service of the royal navy, in which he gradually rose to the command of the Edgar man of war, in which he so ably distinguished himself in the engagement in Bantry-bay,<sup>z</sup> that he had, for his services there the honour of knighthood confirmed on him, in 1689, and was soon after advanced to the post of a flag officer, and then to the chief command

<sup>y</sup> Strype's Stow's Survey, book ii. p. 153.

<sup>z</sup> See Rapin's Hist. of England, Continuation, vol. iv. p. 29, folio. See his life, Biog. Brit. vol. vi. p. 3687.

273

of the English confederate fleet; in all which he shewed himself one of the greatest sea commanders of that or any other age.

Having the command of a fleet of the royal navy, he was unfortunately shipwrecked on the rocks of Scilly, with several others of his squadron, in his voyage from Toulon, on October 22, 1707; and his body being flung on shore, and buried with others in the sand, was soon after taken up, and being carried to London, was interred in Westminster abbey, under a monument erected to his memory by queen Anne.

Sir Cloutesley Shovel, who bore for his arms, Gules, a chevron, ermine, between three crescents, argent, and a fleur de lis in the base, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Hill, esq. commissioner of the navy, who was widow of Sir John Narborough, admiral and commander of the English navy, by whom she had one daughter, Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas D'Aeth, bart. and two sons, both of whom were lost with their brave father-in-law. By her Sir Cloutesley left two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne; the former of whom married first Sir Robert Marsham, bart. afterwards created lord Romney; and secondly, John lord Carmichael, afterwards earl of Hindford. Anne, the second daughter, married first Robert Mansel, eldest son of Thomas lord Mansel; and afterwards, in 1726, John Blackwood, of Charlton, esq. in this county.

On the death of the admiral, lady Shovel, his widow, resided at May-place, and possessed that seat, and the manors of Newbery and Howbery, with marshal's-court, Ellam, and other estates in this parish. She died possessed of them in 1732, and was buried in this church; on which these manors and estates became vested in Elizabeth, then widow of Robert lord Romney, who afterwards married John lord Carmichael, and Anne, the wife of John Blackwood, esq. in undivided moieties, as coheirs of their father, the

late Sir Cloutesley Shovel. Soon after which, on a

274

division of their inheritance, the manor of Newbery, the mansion of May-place, and Ellam, were allotted to John lord Carmichael and Elizabeth his wife; and Howbery, Marshal's-place, the iron mills, a farm, called Wantsum, and other lands, were allotted to John Blackwood, esq. and Anne his wife, as their respective shares of the same.

John lord Carmichael was descended of an antient family so called, from the lands of Carmichael, in the county of Lanerk, in Scotland, where they still have their chief seat. One of his ancestors, James Carmichael of Hindford, was created a baronet of Scotland by king Charles I. and being of great service to him in the civil wars, he was, in 1647, created baron of Carmichael, in the county of Lanerk.

John, his grandson, the second baron, being one of the Scots peers, who joined most early in the revolution, was recompensed with several honourable posts; and in 1701, was created by king William, earl of Hyndford in the same county; whose grandson was John lord Carmichael above mentioned, who married Elizabeth, eldest daughter and coheir of Sir Cloutesley Shovel, widow of Robert lord Romney. He was, in 1742, made knight of the Thistle, and went envoy extraordinary to the king of Prussia, and then to the empress of Russia. He bore for his arms, Argent, a fess wreathy, azure and gules./a

In 1737, he succeeded his father as earl of Hyndford. Soon after which he joined with his lady in the sale of this manor of Newbery, the mansion of May-place and Ellam, to Nathaniel Elwick, esq. who reserving to himself a life estate, settled them on his only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, on her marriage in 1745, with Miles Barne, esq. of Sotterly, in Suffolk. She died in 1747, in her father's life time, leaving one son, Miles, and a daughter, Elizabeth Elwick Barne.

/a Scots Compend. p. 359.

275

Nathaniel Elwick, esq. died in 1750, and lies buried in a vault in this church, with his daughter before-mentioned. On his death this manor, with May-place and Ellam, by virtue of the before-mentioned settlement, came to Miles Barne, esq. of Sotterly, whose grandson Miles Barne, esq. of that place, and member of parliament in the last parliament for Dunwich, (the father of Snowden Barne, esq. now member for that borough) is the present possessor of this estate.

The manor house of Newbery has some years ago been modernized, and fitted up as a gentleman's seat, and is now occupied by John Symes, esq.

The mansion of May-place seems built about the time of king James the First. It has a very venerable and majestic appearance, which has however been much lessened by an injudicious attempt made within these few years to modernize it. Lady Fermanagh now resides in it.

A court baron is held for the manor of Newbery,

which extends over the upper or western part of this parish.

MARSHAL'S-COURT is a place in this parish, which, though now almost unknown, was of some note, being in early times the seat of a family, who gave name to it; one of whom, John Marshal, was a good benefactor to the fabric of this church, as he was by his will to the poor of this parish. In the reign of queen Elizabeth it was the property of Henry Apylton, the residence of whose ancestors it had been for some time before./b His descendant, Sir Roger Apylton, bart. gave Marshal's-court, together with the manor of Newbery, in dower with his daughter Frances, to Francis Goldsmith, gent. whose grandfather, Francis Goldsmith, was of this parish, and by Joan, daughter of Clement Newry, of Hadham, in Hertfordshire, had four sons, of whom Francis, the eldest son, was knighted,

/b Philipott, p. 108.

276

and having married Catherine, daughter of Edward Oundley, esq. of Catsby, in Northamptonshire, left by her two sons and three daughters. He lies buried in this church. Of these, Francis, the eldest son, possessed this estate as before-mentioned, and died in 1634, leaving a son of the same name, who left an only daughter, Catherine, married to Sir Henry Dacre, of Hertsfordshire./c They bore for their arms, Gules, a chevron between three birds argent, on a chief or, a lion passant gules./d But before his death Francis Goldsmith (who had married Frances Appleton as before-mentioned) passed away Marshal's-court, with other lands in this and the adjoining parish of Bexley, by sale, in the 12th year of king James I. to Richard Pix, gent. a younger son of William Pix, of Hawkurst, in this county, who bore for his arms, Azure, a fess or, between three cross-croslets fitchee argent./e He resided at Marshal's-court, which, at his death, descended to Edward Pix, his eldest son, who married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Leventhorpe Frank, of Albury-hall, in Essex. He sold these estates to Mrs. Mary Towse, of London, daughter of Charles Hoskins, of Surry, and widow of John Towse, of London, grocer, fourth son of Brian Towse, of Barton, in Yorkshire, who bore for his arms, within a bordure argent, two swords in saltier, or, their points downwards, a mullet in chief for difference./f She settled them in marriage on her daughter Mary, with colonel Wood, of Kingston, upon Thames; who conveyed them by sale to Sir Clodesley Shovel, on whose unfortunate death, they came into the possession of his widow, the lady Elizabeth Shovel; and on her decease, they became vested in her two daughters and coheirs, in undivided moieties. Soon after which, on a division of their inheritance, Marshal's-court, with other estates as before-mentioned in this parish and Bexley, were al-

/c Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 193. /d Vistn. co. Kent, 1619.  
/e Ibid. /f Vistn. of London by St. George, 1687.

277

lotted to Anne, the youngest daughter, married to John Blackwood, esq. as her share of it, and he in her right became entitled to them for his life. He died

in 1777, possessed of Marshal's-court, and was succeeded by his son Shovel Blackwood, esq. who continues the present possessor of the scite of this antient seat, which has been some years since pulled down.

HOWBERY is a manor in the north-west part of this parish, near the marshes, the mansion of which has a moat yet remaining round it. This manor is described in antient deeds by the name of Hoobery, alias Little Hoo. In the reign of William the Conqueror it was in the possession of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is recorded in the survey of Domesday as follows:

Ansgotus holds Hou of the bishop (of Baieux) which was taxed at one suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 5 villeins with 1 carucate and an half, and 1 mill of 10 shillings. There are 2 cottagers and 1 servant, and 12 acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of 3 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth 60 shillings, as much when he received it, and now 4 pounds. Anschil held it of king Edward.

After this it became part of the possessions of the family of Auberville. William de Auberville owned this manor in king Henry III's reign; at the latter end of which, and in the beginning of the next of king Edward I. it was, as appears by antient court-rolls, and other evidences, the patrimony of the antient family of Northwood; one of whom died possessed of it in the 13th year of king Edward I./g His descendant, Sir John Northwood, paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III. as one quarter of a knight's fee, which Henry Northwood held in Littlehoo, as a member of the manor of Stockbery, held in capite, to which

/g Rot. Esch. ejus anni.

278

this of Hoobery, alias Littlehoo, was afterwards annexed and esteemed but as one entire manor. It continued in the descendants of Sir John Norwood in the reign of king Richard II. but in that of Henry IV. it was become the possession of Nicholas Carew, of Surry, and John Cornwallis, of London, who joined, in the 5th year of king Henry V. in the sale of it to Richard Bryan; and he, in the 1st year of Henry VI. passed it away to Roger Arpilton, one of the auditors to that prince, as he had been to his father, king Henry V. and Agnes his wife, widow of Thomas Covele, commonly called Cowley, and the reversion in fee to her son, Thomas Covele; to whom, after her decease, this place accordingly descended. His grandson John, son of William Cowley, for so he then wrote himself, conveyed Howbery, in the 19th year of king Henry VIII. to John Judd; whose widow, Elizabeth, was in possession of this place at the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, particularly in the 35th, as appears by several records and court rolls. Her daughter, Mabilla, carried it into the family of Fane, from whence it was passed by sale, in the 22nd year of king James I. to Robert Draper, esq./h after the death of whose grandson, Col. Cresheld Draper, about the year 1694, this manor, with other lands in this parish, was

sold by his heirs to Sir Cloudesly Shovel, whose youngest daughter Anne, carried it in marriage to her second husband, John Blackwood, esq. as has been already related, under Newbery and Marshal's-court, whose son, Shovel Blackwood, esq. on his father's death in 1777, succeeded to it, and having next year procured an act of parliament for this purpose, alienated it with the Iron-Mills farm in this parish, to Harman Berens, esq. of Kevington, whose son Joseph Berens, esq. of that place, is the present owner of both these estates.

/h Philipott, p. 107.

279

It appears by the antient court rolls, that many lands in Crayford were held of this manor, the court baron of which was formerly regularly kept, though it has been a long time disused. The mansion of the manor is now made use of only as a farm house.

On June 7, in the 13th year of king Charles I. it was ordered by the commissioners of sewers, that Howbery marsh, Wash marsh, and the Brooks, should be taken into the commission, in which they have continued ever since.

ELLAM is a place in this parish, though now sunk into obscurity, the house itself having been long since pulled down, was once the seat of a family, who took their name from it, and for many descents before they parted with the possession of it, were esteemed in the rank of gentlemen, and bore for their arms, Argent, a sword in bend dexter sable, the point upwards. Henry Ellam died in the reign of king Henry VI. and lies buried in this church, as does his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Apylton. He was one of the king's auditors, as was also John Ellam, who was buried here likewise; whose inscriptions were destroyed by a fire which happened to this church. The last of this name, who was possessed of this place, was John Ellam, who, in the 16th year of king Henry VII. alienated it to Henry Harman, then clerk of the crown, and bore for his arms, Argent, a chevron between three scalps sable./i He likewise purchased an estate called May-street here, of Cowley and Bulbeck, of Bulbeck-street in this parish, in the 20th year of Edward IV. from whom it descended to his grandson, Thomas Harman, esq. who among others, procured his lands in this county to be disgavelled, by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI.

He married Millicent, one of the daughters of Nicholas Leigh, esq. of Addington, in Surry.

/i Philipott, p. 108.

280

His descendant, William Harman, esq. sold both these places, in the reign of king James I. to Robert Draper, esq. from whom they descended to colonel Cresheld Draper, his grandson, on whose decease, about the year 1694, these, with Newbery, Hoobery, the mansion of May-place, and his other estates in this parish, were sold by his heirs to Sir Cloudesly Shovel, whose eldest daughter and coheir, Elizabeth, then the widow of Robert, lord Romney, on the death of Sir

Cloudesly and his widow, became possessed of an undivided moiety of both Elham and May-street. She married 2dly, John lord Carmichael; soon after which, on the division of their father's inheritance, these estates, by the allotment then made, became the sole property of John, lord Carmichael, and Elizabeth his wife.

In 1737 lord Carmichael succeeded his father as earl of Hindford; soon after which he, with the countess his wife, joined in the sale of both of them to Nathaniel Elwick, esq. Since which this manor has descended in like manner as May-place, Newbery, and his other estates in this parish, to Miles Barne, esq. of Sotterly, in Suffolk, as has been already fully mentioned before, and he is the present possessor of them.

There was a family of the name of Marler, who were possessed of a house and lands in this parish, on which they resided for several generations, with the rank of gentlemen, as appears by the heraldic visitation of this country, where their arms are described to have been, Argent a chevron purpure in the dexter chief, an escalloped <sup>k</sup> Anthony Marler, gent. was of Crayford in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, as was his eldest son George, who dying s. p. was succeeded in the estate he possessed in this parish, in the reign of king Charles I. by his kinsman, Robert Marler, <sup>l</sup> who was living here in the year 1633, as appears by an entry in the books of the commissioners of

<sup>k</sup> Vistn. co. Kent, ped. Marler. <sup>l</sup> Books of Com. of Sewers.

281

sewers; wherein mention is made, that there being a watercourse through Mrs. Picke's yard, into the lands and houses of Mr. George Marler and Edward Goldsmith, for their respective benefits; the commissioners, by their order that year, allowed them two catsheads on a piece of four inches each, and four augures of one inch each on a piece, to be set up by them for that purpose, who sold them in the year 1636 to Edmund Cotton.

#### CHARITIES.

JOHN MARSHALL, owner of a tenement and 13 acres of marsh ground in this parish, built an isle adjoining to the church of Crayford, and afterwards by his will devised 6s. 8d. part of the rent, for the repair of it, and 10s. yearly to the poor to be distributed in bread and cheese, and the remainder for an obit for ever in the church; other lands in this parish were likewise given by divers persons for obits, and for the relief of the poor of it. But most probably these donations were seized on by the king's commissioners in king Henry VIII<sup>th</sup> or king Edward the VI<sup>th</sup>'s reigns, as having been given to superstitious uses, and the parish by that means has been deprived of any benefit from them.

MARY, wife of WILLIAM DRAPER, esq. of Crayford, who died in 1652, and was buried in this church, left by will 100l. to the poor of this parish.

CRAYFORD is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester; it is a peculiar of the archbishop, and as such is within the deanry of Shoreham. The church stands at a small distance north-westward from the village, and is dedicated to St. Paulinus. It is a handsome building, consisting of two isles and a chancel, with a square tower at the west end,

in which are five bells. The altar piece in it was given by Sir Cloudesly Shovel.

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church are the following: – At the west end, are several memorials of the Cooks of Redriff, and of the Brownes. In the north Isle, an elegant mural monument for Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of Miles Barne, esq. of Sotterley, in Suffolk, and only child of Nathaniel Elwick,

/m Memd. in Augtn. off.

282

esq. of May-place, who died in 1750, and is interred within the same vault; she died in 1747, æt. 24. Beneath are these arms, two coats quarterly, 1st and 4th, Barne azure, 3 leopards heads argent, a crescent for difference; second and third, argent, a chevron azure between 3 ravens proper membered gules, impaling Elwick argent on a chevron, 3 fleurs de lis, or. In the great chancel, on the north side, a memorial for Gilbert Crokatt, M. A. minister of this parish 19 years, obt. April 16, 1711, and for William Fownes Crokatt, esq. his eldest son, obt. 1727. Another for Robert Newman, rector of this parish, he died Dec. 9, 1626. On the south side, within the rails, a grave-stone and memorial for Madam Short, wife of Col. James Short, of this parish, obt. 1750, and for Col. James Short, obt. 1752. On the north side a mural monument for Robert Gardener, A. M. descended from Lancashire, rector of Ridley, in this county, obt. Aug. 8, 1688, æt. 40; on the same side is an antient mural monument of alabaster, with the effigies of a woman kneeling at a desk, with a book open before her, and inscription for Mrs. Blanche Marler, descended from the antient family of Bury, and married first to John Abell, and afterwards to George Marler. In the north chancel, inclosed within iron railing, is a fine mural monument, on which lie at full length the figures of a man and woman in the dress of the time, at his head is his son kneeling, and at his feet his daughter; beneath an infant in a winding sheet, resting on a pillow; above, on two tablets, an inscription for William Draper, esq. of Crayford, obt. 1650, and of Mary, his wife, 4th and youngest daughter of Richard Cresheld, serjeant at law, and justice of the common pleas; she had an only son, Cresheld, and two daughters, Mary and another still born; she died in 1652, having bequeathead 50l. to the poor of Erith, and 100l. to the poor of this parish. Over the first tablet, Draper argent on a fess gules, 3 covered cups, or, between 3 amulets of the 2d, a file of 3 lambeaux argent for a difference. Over the second tablet, azure, 3 bezants, each charged with 3 squirrels, seiant gules. On the top of the monument a shield, with the arms of Draper, and 9 other quarterings. In the south chancel, a handsome monument, being an obelisk of black marble under a canopy of white, and inscription for dame Elizabeth, widow of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, rear-admiral of England, &c. At the top are these arms in lozenge, two coats per fess, 1st azure a chief ermine, the other gules a chevron ermine, 2 crescents in chief argent, and a fleur de lis, or, in base impaling gules, a chevron ermine between 3 garbs, or; a handsome mural monument adjoining to the above, for Robert Mansel, eldest son and heir of Thomas, lord Mansel. He married Anne, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir Cloudesley Shovel, by whom he left surviving Thomas, lord Mansel, and died in 1723; on the top of the monument are these arms, two coats quarterly, 1st and 4th, Mansel argent, a chevron sable

283

between 3 maunches of the 2d; 2d and 3d argent, an eagle displayed sable, over it an escutcheon of pretence, gules, a chevron

ermine, 2 crescents in chief argent, and one fleur de lis in base. In a window next the pulpit on the north side, is stained in the glass, Abraham offering up Isaac, and above these arms, gules on a chevron, or a crescent of the 1st between 3 hawks proper jessed and belted, on a chief, or a lion passant gules./n

In this church lie buried likewise several of the Abels, Goldsmiths, Ellams, Harmans, and Drapers. The Appletons, Pix's, and others of note in this parish, whose monuments and memorials have been destroyed by a fire which burnt down a part of the fabric.

This advowson of Earde, alias Crayford, seems to have followed the same tract of ownership, as the manor of Earde, alias Newbery, did, till William Gorfyn, esq. in the 35th of king Henry VIII. conveyed in exchange, the above manor and the advowson of this parish church, to that king, excepting out of the grant the next avoydance of the church.

Queen Elizabeth, in recompence to Matthew, archbishop of Canterbury, by letters patent, in her 3d year, granted to him certain rectories and parsonages appropriate, &c. and having taken into her hands several manors, lands, &c. in lieu of them, she certified it to her treasurer and barons of the exchequer two days after, and that she had united and annexed them to the crown, that they should be within the order of the exchequer as the rest of her lands were. In the list of those which were granted in recompence to the archbishop is the patronage of Earde, alias Crayford; but in the letters patent the value of it is not expressed. However, in a roll remaining in the queen's office it is set down of the value of 32l. 2s. and is said to have been in lieu of the parsonage of Penshurst./o

This exchange was a bargain exceedingly prejudicial to the archbishop, who was forced to give up to the queen several manors and lands, to receive in lieu of

/n Fol. Christ Church, MSS. /o See the monuments and inscriptions at large in Reg. Roff. p. 996.

284

them rents of assize and such like pecuniary munerations, and the tenths of the archbishopric, of the cathedral church, and of the diocese, which were by no means improveable, chargeable to collect, and often but badly paid.

When the patronage of this church was afterwards alienated from the see of Canterbury, I do not find but in the next reign, it was become vested in the family of Fane, from whence it went to Sir Henry Fermor, created a baronet May 4, 1725. He died without lawful issue at Sevenokes in 1734, after which this advowson became vested in the trustees of his will, in pursuance of which it came at length to John Fermor, esq. who sold it not long since to Francis Motley Austen, esq. the present owner of it.

In the 15th year of Edward I. the church of Earde, alias Crayford, was valued at forty marcs./p It is valued in the king's books at 35l. 13s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 3l. 11s. 4d./q

By virtue of a commission of enquiry in 1650, it was returned, that Crayford was a parsonage, which was presentative with cure of souls, and was worth one hundred and forty pounds per annum, whereof the glebe

land was worth thirty pounds per annum, David Claston then incumbent, being put in by the parliament./r

The custom of paying tythes in the marsh land is, when fed; by the head of stock fed on it; but if mowed; by payment of the tenth cock of hay. The glebe land contains about thirty acres of upland, and the like quantity of pasture land.

The parsonage house is a handsome house, with proper conveniences of stabling, coach-house and other offices round it; it is pleasantly situated about a quarter of a mile north westward from the church.

/p Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456. /q Ect. Thes. p. 386.  
/r Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr. vol. xix.

285

#### CHURCH OF CRAYFORD.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Robert Newman, obt. Dec. 9,  
1626./s

Thomas Thorowgood, 1648.  
David Claston, in 1650./t

Gilbert Crockatt, A. M. 1691,  
obt. April 16, 1711./u

Richard Collins, A. B. 1723,  
obt. Dec. 1737./w

Philip Twysden, presented Dec.  
1737, resigned 1747./x

John Fermor, resigned 1758.

Philip Walter, 1758, the present  
rector.

/s He lies buried in this church.

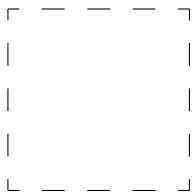
/t Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr. vol.  
xix.

/u He lies buried in this church.

/w He was also vicar of Burham.

/x Third son of Sir William Twys= den, of East Peckham. In 1747 he was made bishop of Raphoe in Ireland.

<286>



#### THE HUNDRED OF DARTFORD AND WILMINGTON

LIES the next eastward from that of Little and Lesnes. This hundred was not in being at the time of the conquest, but has been created long since.

IT CONTAINS THE PARISHES OF

1. DARTFORD,
2. WILMINGTON.

Both which parishes, in the survey of Domesday, are described as lying within the adjoining hundred of Axtane.

---

## DARTFORD

LIES the next parish eastward from Crayford, on the high road from London to Dover, about fifteen miles from the former. It was called in Saxon De-rentford, in Latin Derenti Vadum, signifying the forde or passage over the river Derent./y In Domesday it is written Tarentefort.

/y Lamb. Peramb. p. 489.

287

THIS PARISH takes within its bounds almost the whole both of Dartford-heath and the Brent. It contains about 4300 acres of land. The town has about four hundred houses and about two thousand five hundred inhabitants. The upland parts of the parish are but thin and gravelly, the crops of which are greatly increased by the culture of turnips; the valleys are a fertile and rich loam, the northern part of the parish is marsh land, which reaches to the Thames, containing about eight hundred acres, none of which is ever ploughed. The town of Dartford is situated in a valley, between two hills, which rise suddenly and steep at each end of it. On that at the western extremity are chalk pits, which have been worked underneath to a considerable extent, and have rather a fearful and dangerous appearance to travellers; the opposite hill is a deep sandy loam. Dartford is at present a handsome and wealthy town, still increasing in size and inhabitants, the principal street of which is the great thoroughfare from London to Dover, on which there are built several good inns. From this street southward branches off the high road through Farningham to Sevenoke, in which stands Horseman's-place, now used, with the gardens, by a public gardener; northward from the high street is the Water-lane (so called from the little stream, the Cranford, which rises about a mile and a half southward of the town, at Hawley, which runs through it) and leads to the wharfs at the water side, not far distant from which stands the Place-house, formerly the priory, with the buildings belonging to it, now used as a farm house and offices, adjoining to which is a piece of land, inclosed with a wall, formerly belonging to the priory, exceeding rich, which has been for many years been made use of as a public garden ground. The artichokes growing in it are noted for being the largest and best flavoured of any brought to the London markets, and are called, for distinction sake, the Dartford artichoke.

288

There is a good market for corn and provisions here on a Saturday, weekly; and a fair yearly, on the 2d and 3d of August. The old market house and shambles stood very inconveniently in the middle of the high street, but they were removed some years ago, and the present market place and shambles were built more commodiously elsewhere, by public subscription, to the great embellishment of the town, and the satisfaction of all travellers; at the same time the old uneasy pavement through the town was removed, and

a new road of gravel made in its room, with a hand-some footway of curbed stone on each side; near the east end of it stands the church, almost adjoining to the river Darent, which here crosses the high road under a handsome bridge. In king Edward III.'s reign there appears to have been no bridge here, the passage or ferry over the Darent at this place being valued among the rents of the manor; however, there was one built before the end of king Henry VI.'s reign, but it was one most narrow, steep, and dangerous for travellers, which continued so till not many years since it was altered to its present more commodious state, at the public charge of the county. A little below this bridge, the Darent becomes navigable for barges; and at the distance of about two miles, receiving the Cray into its channel, at a like distance empties itself into the Thames. On this creek there was formerly a considerable fishery, as appears by the records before mentioned; for so late as king James I.'s reign, the royal manor of Dartford received for the fishery six salmons yearly, a kind of fish now unknown here; and the manor of Dartford priory received a yearly rent of fifty pounds for a fishery likewise here at the same time; but no fishery at this time exists, nor has for many years past.

The trade and manufacture carried on by the several mills on the Darent contribute much to the flourishing state this town is in at present; for be-

289

sides the powder-mills, first erected by Sir John Spilman as a paper mill, as before mentioned, situated a quarter of a mile above the town; there is a paper mill at a small distance below it, where there was one so early as 1590, erected by one Geoffry Box of Liege, for the cutting of iron bars into rods, being the first supposed to be erected for this purpose in England, and for the more easy converting of that metal to different uses; lower down, at the east end of the town, are two corn mills, and farther below bridge the ruins of the mill, employed as a cotton manufactory, which was burned down in 1796, and now lies in ruins. It was before made use of as a sawing mill, and before that as a brasel mill, for the slitting of iron bars into rods, nails, &c. being first erected for that purpose by John Browne, soon after the death of king Charles I. Near this is the public wharf, to which hoyes and barges come up from the Thames. To this wharf is brought the produce of the woods in this neighbourhood, which are of considerable extent, and the manufactures, which are here shipped for the London market, as are the goods for the subsistence of the town and vicinity of it from the metropolis.

In the return of the survey, made of the several maritime places, in this county, by order of queen Elizabeth, in her 8th year, Dartford is said to contain houses inhabited, 182; persons lacking habitation, 6; keys or landing places, 4; ships and boats, 7; three of three tons, one of six, two of ten, one of fifteen; persons for carriage from Dartford to London, and so back again, 14; Sir Thomas Walsingham, steward of the town; Mr. Asteley, keeper of the queen's house; John Beer's; the wardens of Rochester-bridge.

In the reign of king Henry III. the archbishop of Cologne was sent hither, with several noblemen, by the emperor Frederick, to demand Isabella, the king's sister, in marriage, which was solemnised by proxy in this town, and she was then delivered to them, to be

290

carried over. In 1331, king Edward III. at his return from France, held a famous tornament in this town. In the 5th year of king Richard II. a great commotion of the common people begun at this place, occasioned by Wat Tyler's having beat out the brains of one of the collectors of the poll tax, on account of his insolent behaviour to his daughter. The people, who were in general discontented, being inflamed by this circumstance, broke out into open rebellion, and he soon found himself at the head of one hundred thousand men./z

Thus attended, he marched directly to London, freeing, in the mean time, the prisoners detained in the public goals; among these was a priest, in the neighbourhood of Maidstone, one John Ball, vulgarly called John Straw, who, by his seditious sermons, had raised the people's fury to the utmost heighth, insomuch that, in conformity to his maxims, they resolved to destroy all the nobility and lawyers in the realm, for he had persuaded them that all men, being the sons of Adam, there ought to be no distinction; and, consequently, it was their duty to reduce the world to a perfect equality; in consequence of which he preached to the people on these rhymes:

When Adam delfe, and Eve span,  
Who was then a gentleman?

The king, hearing they were advanced as far as Blackheath, sent to know their demands, to which, returning a most insolent answer, they immediately marched towards London, and took possession of the borough of Southwark; and the gates of London bridge being thrown open to them by the citizens, they entered the city, where they committed every scene of barbarity that could be expected from such a body, guided solely by their fury. They then seized on the Tower, where they found the archbishop and the lord trea-

/z Lamb. Dict. p. 94. Rushworth, vol. viii, p. 1131.

291

surer, whom they immediately beheaded. Upon this the king, dreading the consequences of so powerful a body, repaired to Smithfield, with some few attendants, and sent a knight to Tyler, to come there and confer with him, which this rebel, with much deliberation, at last complied with. At this conference he behaved with such insolence, that William Walworth, lord mayor of London, who attended the king, without considering the consequences that would attend it, discharged such a blow at the rebel's head with his sword, that he instantly fell dead at his feet. However, contrary to expectation, the multitude were so terrified, that they threw down their arms, and sued for mercy; and were all, in the space of a few minutes, dispersed, without the effusion of any blood,

except of their leader./a

About a mile south-westward from the town is the large plain, called DARTFORD-HEATH, containing about 500 acres of land. It lies high, and on a fine gravelly soil; on it there are a great many of those pits and holes so frequent in these parts. Some of these reach below the gravel as low as the chalk, others no farther than the sand and gravel; many of them have been stopped up of late years, to prevent the frequent accidents which happen of men and cattle falling into them. The occasion of their being first dug has been already explained, under the adjoining parish of Crayford. This heath has been much noted of late, as being the spot chosen by the corps of Toxopbilites, under the appellation of the Royal Kentish Bowmen, for whose use a house has been fitted up at the western side of the heath, not far from Baldwin's, and is now distinguished by the name of the Lodge, being the scene of their exercise and recreation; at which times, on their gala days, butts, apartments, and company, have made the most splen-

/a Rapin, vol. i. p. 457.

292

did and costly appearance. It is as delightful and pleasant a spot as any in these parts.

Less than half a mile eastward from the town, the high road to Rochester crossing it, lies another heath, called DARTFORD-BRENT, vulgarly the BRIMPT. This place is famous for the encampment of the army of Richard Plantagenet, duke of York, in 1452, whilst he waited to obtain a parley with king Henry VI. who then lay encamped on Blackheath. In the year 1648 General Fairfax's army rendevouzed here.

The ROMAN-ROAD shews itself very conspicuously on the south side of the high road between Dartford and the Brent, and when it comes to the latter, it shapes its course more to the south south-east, leaving the high road at a greater distance, on the left-hand, and entering among the inclosures and woods, in its way to a hamlet called Stonewood, it goes on to Wingfield-bank, and thence to Shinglewell, towards Rochester.

At a small distance southward from the Roman-road on the Brent, close to the road to Greensted-green, are three small barrows, which seem to have been plundered of their contents.

The gravel-pit at the entrance of the Brent from Dartford was, whilst the assizes were held in this town, which was frequently, at the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, the place for the public execution of criminals; and in 1772, in digging for gravel here, eight human skeletons were found, lying contiguous to each other; most probably the remains of some of those unhappy convicts. This spot was likewise made use of in the reign of queen Mary, for the execution of those who suffered for religion.

Our HERBALISTS have taken notice of several scarce plants and herbs sound here:

The camæpytis, herb ivy, or ground pine, not only here, but in the adjoining parishes.

Ruta muraria sive salvia vitæ, stone rue, or rue mai= denhair, on the wall of the church-yard.  
 Aphaca, small yellow fetch, in the corn-fields about this place.  
 Buckthorne, in the hedges of this place.  
 The juniper tree grows in plenty on the downs southward of Dartford-brent.  
 Mentastrum, horse mint; valde ramosum flore violaceo rubro.  
 Orchis sive tragorchis max. the greatest goat stones, be= tween Crayford and Dartford.  
 Orchis hermaphroditica, the butterfly satirion; testi= culus vulpinus spegodes, the humble bee orchis; orchis melittias, the bee orchis; orchis myodes, the fly sa= tirion; are found on the downs, southward of Dart= ford-brent.  
 The lizard orchis, has been found in the lane between Dartford and Darent.  
 Several sorts of the orchis ornithophora are found in the meadows adjoining the river Darent, southward of this town.  
 Trifolium stellatum glabrum, smooth starry headed tre= foil, in Dartford salt marshes./b

EDWARD, eldest son of Sir Edward Villiers, was, March 20, in the 3d year of king William and queen Mary, created viscount Villiers of Dartford, and baron Hoo, in this county; and in 1697, earl of Jersey; which titles are now possessed by his great grandson, George Bussy Villiers, earl of Jersey, &c.

There was once a family of the name of Row, seated in Dartford, who bore for their arms, Argent, on a chevron, azure, three bezants, between three trefoils slipt, parted per pale, gules and vert. Of which, William Row, who was of Dartford, had two sons; Reynold, who was of Lyghe, and was ancestor to those

/b Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 128, 527, 1144, 1250, 1336.  
 Merrett's Pinax, p. 77, 88.

of Penshurst, in this county; of Muswell-hill; and of Shakerwell, in Middlesex; and Robert Row, who was ancestor to those of Layton, in Essex.

THIS PLACE, at the time of the Norman conquest, was part of the antient demesne of the crown of Eng= land, and it is according entered under that title in the book of Domesday, as follows:

The king's land, in the half of Sutton lath, in Achestan hundred. — King William holds Tarentefort, which was taxed at 2 sulings and a half. The arable land is 2 ca= rucates. In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 142 vil= leins, with 10 borderers, having 53 carucates. There are 3 servants and 1 mill. Of meadow 22 acres, of pasture 40 acres, of wood there are 8 small dennis and 3 large; there are 2 hiths, that is, havens. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth 60 pounds, and as much when Hamo the sheriff received it.

It is now rated by the English at 60 pounds; but the reve, a Frenchman born, who holds it to ferm, says, that it is worth no more than 20 pounds, and 10 pounds; yet he pays from this manor 70 pounds by weight, and 111

shillings, in pence 20 in ore/c and 7 pounds, and 26 pence, by tale. Besides these the sheriff pays 100 shillings.

The tenants of the hundred affirm, that there are taken away from this manor of the king one meadow, and one alder ground, and one mill, and 20 acres of land, and now so much meadow as belongs to 10 acres of land, all which were in the occupation of king Edward as long as he lived. These were worth 20 shillings; but they say that Osuard, then sheriff, let them to ferm to Alestan, portreeve of London; and now Heltut, the king's steward, and his grandson, hold them.

The above tenants likewise affirm, that Hagelei/d is taken away from this manor; it was taxed at half a suling. The

/c Ora was a nominal money among the Saxons. It is often mentioned in Domesday, as of the value of 20d.

/d Hawley in Sutton at Hone.

295

sheriff held this land, and when he quitted the shrievalty, it remained in the king's occupation, so it remained also after the death of king Edward; now Hugo de Port holds it, with 54 acres of land more. The whole of this is worth 15 pounds. Of this same manor of the king there are now taken away 6 acres of land and a certain wood, which the above named Osuard, the sheriff, set without the manor to pledge for 40 shillings.

The bishop of Rochester holds the church of this manor, and it is worth 60 shillings. Besides this, there are now here three chapels.

In the reign of king Henry II. the sheriff of Kent accounted at the Exchequer for the rent of DARTFORD MANOR, then in the king's hands, as he did likewise in the 1st year of king John; soon after which it was granted to the earl of St. Paul, a Norman lord. In the 3d year of that reign, Hugh earl of St. Paul, then going to the Holy Land, had the king's licence to mortgage his land at Dartford for three years./e King Henry III. in his 14th year, granted to John de Burgo the manor of Dartford, which had been the earl of St. Paul's, and which was then held by Rey mund de Burgo, the king's bailiff, to hold till the king should, by composition, or at his own pleasure, restore it to the earl's right heirs;/f and in his 17th year he again granted it to William de Fortibus, earl of Aibermarle, and his heirs, for their support in the king's service, and until the king should restore it upon treaty or peace to the earl of St. Paul's right heirs; for when Normandy was seized by the king of France, many lands became vested in the crown, by way of escheat, or seizure, for whilst England and Normandy were under the obedience of the king of England, the lands of the English and Normans were common; that is, the English held lands in Normandy by hereditary right, and the Normans did the like in England. But

/e Rot. Pat. ejus an. m. 6. /f Rot. Claus. pt. 2. m. 6.

296

when Normandy was separated from England, the king of France seized the lands which the English held there, and the king of England, in like manner, seized those the Normans held here; and these lands became

vested in the crown by escheat, under the title of Terræ Normannorum. After which the king granted all these lands, under the above conditions, to Englishmen./g

William earl of Albermarle died possessed of this manor, in the 44th year of that reign, holding it of the king in capite./h

King Henry III. in his 47th year, restored it to Guy de Chastilian, earl of St. Paul, on whose death it reverted to the crown, where it staid till Edward I. in his 9th year, granted it to queen Alianor his mother, for her life;/i she died in the 20th year of that reign. King Edward II. in his 13th year, committed to Elias de Tyngewick the custody of this place, during the king's pleasure, in the same manner as Robert de Rydgware, the late bailiff, had the custody of it, and for which he paid 30l. yearly, as for the ferm of the royalty and market of it;/k and in his 15th year, he, by the consent of parliament, granted to Edmund de Woodstock, his half brother, whom he at the same time made earl of Kent, among other estates of great value, the ferme of the royalty and market here, for his life, then valued at thirty pounds, which was confirmed by king Edward III. in his 1st year, it being then held of him as half a knight's fee./l

He died possessed of this estate in the 4th year of king Edward III. when, by inquisition, taken after his death, it appears that this estate then consisted of rents of assize of the tenants of Cransted, Combe, Chesilhurst, Cobham, Dartford, Stannel, and Gilde, the passage of the Darent, tolls, views of frankpledge, and

/g Madox's Excheq. p. 206.

/h Rot. Esch. pt. i. No. 26.

/i Rot. Pat. eor. an.

/k Sandf. Gen. Hist. p. 89.

/l Mag. Rot. de an. 13 Ed. II.

Dug. Bar. vol. ii. p. 94.

297

perquisites of courts, &c. and were altogether of the value of thirty pounds; after which this manor went in the same succession of ownership as that of Chesilhurst, which was a member of it, as has been already fully described before, and to which the reader is referred (excepting that king Richard III. in his first year, granted the reversion of it, being then in the possession of the lord Stanley, to John Brooke, lord Cobham, to hold by knights service;/m but he never came to the possession of it, for king Henry VII. on his obtaining the crown, secured this reversion of it to himself) until Sir Thomas Walsingham became possessed of it in king James I.'s reign, by the description of the manor of Dartford, Cobham, Combe, Chesilhurst, the wharfs, fairs and markets in Dartford, and the profits of the courts of the hundred and of the manor. He, in the 11th year of that reign, for five hundred pounds, conveyed all these premises (excepting the manor of Chesilhurst, with all its appurtenances and courts in that parish, belonging to it) to Sir Robert Darcy of Dartford, in as full a manner as he then held them himself; which deed was afterwards inrolled in chancery, at which time the fairs and markets were valued at twenty pounds; and for

the fishing in the creek, six salmons yearly, worth forty shillings.

Sir Robert Darcy, was descended from Thomas lord Darcy, who was beheaded in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. whose eldest son George was restored to the title of lord Darcy in the 4th and 5th years of Philip and Mary; which line is now extinct. Arthur, the second son, was knighted, and dying in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, left several sons, of whom Thomas, the second son, left Conyers Darcy, who was created and restored to the barony of Darcy; and the third, Sir Edward Darcy, died at the priory

/m Harleian MSS. No. 433-764. Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 282.

298

of Dartford, then called Dartford-place, of which he had a lease for life, in the 70th year of his age, 1612, and was buried in a vault among his ancestors, in the church of St. Botolph Aldgate, London./n By Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Astley, esq. of Rittle, in Essex, he had three sons, the eldest of whom, Sir Robert Darcy, was of Dartford, as above mentioned, and was then possessed of the manor and scite of Dartford priory, and the lands belonging to it, and the manor of Temple's, in this parish, of which an account will be given hereafter./o He left one son and heir, Edward Darcy, esq. of Dartford-place and Newhall, in Derbyshire; to whom, on his death, these estates (excepting the farm, called the Temple farm, which was separated from it, as will be farther mentioned) descended. By his first wife he had no issue; but by his second, the lady Elizabeth, daughter of Philip Stanhope, first earl of Chesterfield, he left three daughters his coheirs – Katharine, married to Erasmus Phillips, bart. of Picton-castle, in Pembrokeshire; Dorothy to Sir ..... Rokesby; and Elizabeth, first to Thomas Milward, esq. of Derbyshire, and secondly to Mr. Barnes.

Upon the death of Elizabeth, her third part of these estates descended to her son, Tho. Milward, esq.

In 1699, dame Catherine Phillips, dame Dorothy Rokesby, and Thomas Milward, esq. conveyed these premises, by the name of the manor of Dartford, alias Dertford, alias Dartford priory; (and from this time the manor of Dartford, alias Richmond lands, and the manor of Dartford priory, seem by unity of possession to have been accounted but as one manor, which at this time is called by the latter name only), to Thomas Gouge, esq. who died in 1707, leaving a widow and three sons, Thomas, Nicholas, and Ed-

/n Strype's Stow's Survey, book ii. p. 16. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 368. /o Fine levied Trinity term, 11 king William III.

299

ward; and a daughter, married to Mynors, of Hertfordshire.

Upon the death of Thomas, the father, a dispute arose between the brothers, touching the descent of these estates, which from the time of the conquest, had been granted to hold in capite by knights service; the two younger brothers insisting, that by the act of the 4th of king James, a new socage tenure was thereby

created, and that the manor and lands ought to descend according to the custom of gavelkind, as other lands of socage tenure had usually done; and the eldest brother, on the contrary, insisting, that a new tenure, created of late years, could not make the lands partake of the nature of gavelkind, which was gained by antient usage and custom.

However, by the interposition of the mother, these disputes subsided; and Thomas, the eldest brother, enjoyed these estates till his death, in 1731; when Nicholas, then becoming the eldest brother, set up, and insisted on the same right his brother Thomas had done before; and upon a trial at bar in the King's bench, in Michaelmas term, 1734, the judges determined – That if lands were subject to gavelkind, nothing can alter the tenure but an act of parliament, expressly for that purpose; and, on the contrary, if not subject to the custom originally, nothing can render them subject to it. That there was nothing in the acts of 4 James I. or 12 Charles II. being the act for abolishing the court of wards and liveries, which does expressly alter the course of descent of lands throughout England; and therefore they did not apprehend that the tenure, being turned into socage, would alter the course of descent; so that the acts before mentioned had not altered the course of descent here; and it seems settled, that land held by military tenure, is not subject to the above custom;/p and a verdict was

/p Robinson's Gavelkind, p. 46, 51, 68, 92.

300

found for the plaintiff, Nicholas, the eldest brother, who enjoyed all these estates till his death, in 1755, being then rector of Gilling, in Yorkshire, and prebendary of York and Lincoln.

He died unmarried, and by his will devised large sums to several public and parochial charities, and these estates to his only surviving brother, Edward, who likewise died unmarried about two years afterwards, upon which they, as well as others in Yorkshire and London, descended to his sister's son, Robert Mynors, as heir at law, who took upon himself the name of Gouge, in pursuance of his uncle, Nicholas's will, for which an act passed in the 29th year of George II. He was before this become possessed of the Temple's farm, a very considerable one in this parish; which had come to him through the name of Priestley, one of which had married a descendant of the Darcy's, by whom, as has been mentioned before, it had been separated from this estate, to which it thus became again united. He died in 1765, without issue, and devised these manors and estates to his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Gouge, who afterwards re-married with Charles Morgan, esq. of Herefordshire, who died possessed of it in 1787, and was succeeded in it by his brother John; and on his death, in 1792, it came by his will to their brother-in-law, Sir Charles Gould, who took on him the name of Morgan, and was, on October 30, that year, created a baronet; but he holds it by the above will, only as trustee, for his nephew of the name of Van, now in his minority, and he continues the present possessor of this manor.

The fee farm, paid for the manor of Dartford to the crown, is 49l. 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The court leet comprehends all the parish of Dartford, except the bishop of Rochester's liberty, and that of Temple's manor, and all the parish of Wilmington. The high constable of the hundred of Dartford and Wilmington, and four petty constables

301

for so many several liberties within this manor; and also an aleconner and leather-sealer for the hundred, are chosen at this leet annually. At it there has been likewise chosen a constable and borsholder for Temples liberty, which takes in the water-side, or Hyth-street, in Dartford, and all the lands from Temple-hill, on the north-east side of the town, down to the river Thames. The tenants of it are all free tenants.

THE MANOR OF TEMPLE in this parish, antiently called the manor of Dartford Temple, was so called from the possessors of it, the knights templars, which order possessed lands in this parish in very early times.

Nicholas, son of Nicholas de Twitham, soon after the reign of king John, gave fifteen shillings rent to them in this parish. King Henry II. gave the knights templars one carucate of land in Dartford, which one Gilbert rented in the 32d year of that reign at twelve marcs. In the 6th year of king Henry III. William, prior of Rochester, granted to Alan Martel, master of the temple, half an acre of land in Dartford, lying by the stream which flowed down from the mill belonging to that brotherhood. In the reign of king Edward II. the wealth and power of the knights templars being thought too great, they were accused of the most atrocious crimes, and were every where imprisoned, and their estates seised; after which the king, in his 5th year, granted the custody of their lands and tenements in Dartford, to Robert de Kendale, to hold them during his pleasure, accounting for the profits of them at his exchequer./q The next year their order was suppressed by Pope Clement V. in a general council held at Vienna.

The estates of the templars in Dartford remained in the hands of the crown till the 17th year of king Edward II. when their possessions here and elsewhere within

/q Dugg. Mon vol. ii. p. 526, 544. Reg. Roff. p. 368. Rym. Fod. vol. iii. p. 288.

302

the realm were given by act of parliament to the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, commonly called the knights hospitallers, who were possessed of a manor and lands in Dartford long before the dissolution of the templars, for Robert Basing, in the reign of king John, gave his manors of Dertfelde, Sutton, and Halgel, to them;/r and it appears by the Testa de Nevil, which was drawn up in the beginning of king Edward I's reign, that the king gave the lands of Robert Bacun, in Dartford, which had escheated to the crown, to the brethren of this order, and in the roll of the 6th of king John, in the tower, entitled De Terris Normannorum, Robert Bacun is said to possess five pound rents in Dertford. In the 14th year of

king Edward II. Thomas le Archer, prior of St. John's granted in ferm to one of the family of Cobham, a term in the manor of Dartford,/s the interest in which descended down to John, son and heir of Henry de Cobham, anno 17 king Edward III. who obtained a charter of free warren, within all his demesne lands within his manor of Dartford./t However, I do not find he was possessed of any land here in fee, so that this manor continued parcel of the possessions of these knights till their general dissolution, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. by an act passed specially for that purpose, in which this order was suppressed in England and Ireland, and all their estates and possessions were given to the king.

The manor did not continue long in the hands of the crown; for I find Sir Maurice Dennis, of St. John's, held the court of this manor, by the name of the manor of Temple Dartford, in his own name, long before, and to the time of his death, in the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, as his widow, dame Elizabeth Dennis, did

/r Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 544. /t Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 66.  
/s Coll. Peer. last edition, vol. vii. p. 363.

303

afterwards./u However, it was again vested in the hands of the crown in the beginning of the reign of king James I. for that king, in his 4th year, granted it to the earl of Salisbury, in exchange for Theobalds, and other lands, as will be more fully mentioned below. Since which it has remained under the same title of ownership that the manor and priory of Dartford has, and is, with them, now in the possession of Sir Charles Morgan, bart. of Herefordshire, in trust as before-mentioned.

THE PRIORY OF DARTFORD was founded by king Edward III./w who seems to have had a different intention at first, in the foundation of this monastery, than that he afterwards put in execution. His first design appears, by his patent in his 36th year, to have placed in it twenty-four sisters and six brothers, to whom he gave two hundred marcs, viz. ten marcs for each, to be received yearly at his exchequer for ever, or until he should otherwise provide for them./x His patent of endowment bears date in his 46th year, in which he granted to Maud, the prioress of the monastery of St. Mary and St. Margaret the Virgins, in Dartford, founded there by him, of the order of St. Augustine, and under the government of the order of Friars Preachers, among other premises in the counties of Suffolk, Surry, Wilts, Hereford, in London, and in Wales, the following in the county of Kent, viz. the monastery and scite of it, (where the prioress and convent then dwelt) the manors of Shipborne and Portebrugge, late Robert Bicknore's; the advowson of the chapel of St. Edmund the Martyr, in Dartford; all those lands and tenements which the prioress and convent lately had, of the grant of John Bronde, chaplain, which were lately William Clapte's, and Joan his wife's, in Dartford, Stone, Wilmington, and Southfleet, and

/u Court rolls of this manor.  
/w Tanner in his Monasticon, says in 1355, p. 225.  
/x Tan. Mon. p. 226.

several other houses, lands and rents, in Dartford and Wilmington, late William de Wilmington's; and others in Dartford, which belonged to the king; and all those which were Alice Perer's, in Wilmington, Stone, Southfleet, and Mersh, in this county; and a plat of ground in Dartford, called the Castel-place; and rent in Dartford, late William Morgaunt's; and the manor of Hecchesham, in the countries of Surry and Kent./y

King Richard II. in his 8th year, gave to this monasteries lands in Norfolk, for the support of a chaplain, to perform divine offices daily in the infirmary chapel, then lately built, for the benefit of the sick brothers and sisters there.

King Edward IV. in his first year, confirmed their possessions to them, and in his 7th year granted them a new patent of incorporation, on account of some imperfection found in their former grants./z It seems they changed the order they were of at first; for at the dissolution they were dominicans, but under the government of black friars, and those of Langley, in Hertfordshire, appear to have had that care.

Ladies of several noble families have been prioresses and religious in this house. Bridget, fourth daughter of king Edward IV. was a nun here; and at the time of the suppression the prioress and the several nuns, as may be seen by their names, were of the best and most antient families in this county. Several women of nobility have been buried here; as the lady Bridget, above-mentioned; the lady Joane, daughter of the lord Scroope, of Bolton; lady Margaret, daughter of the lord Beaumont, both prioresses here; and Catharine, widow of Sir Maurice Berkeley, who was buried in our lady's chapel in this priory, in the 18th year of king Henry VIII./a

/y Reg. Roff. p. 136. Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 357.

/z Pat. 1 K. Edw. IV. p. 7, n. 16. Cart. 7, Ed. IV. n. 1 and 5. Lamb. Per. p. 491. /a See Weever, p. 335.

Though the prioress and convent of Dartford, by their public instrument, dated May 14, anno 26 king Henry VIII. signed to the act of succession, and the king's supremacy, yet that did not save them from the general destruction which soon after fell on these houses; and they were prevailed on to surrender up their house, lands, and possessions into the king's hands.

This priory was valued at the suppression at 380l. 9s. 0<sup>1</sup>d. per annum, according to Dugdale; or 400l. 8s. according to Speed. Joane Fane, alias Vane, the prioress at the time of the surrender, had a pension of 66l. 13s. 4d. per annum; and there were twenty-three nuns, who had pensions from 40s. to 6l. per annum each./b

King Henry VIII. kept the scite of the priory, the buildings belonging to it, and the gardens and orchards adjoining in his own hands, as a house fit for the residence of himself and his successors; and they remained in the possession of the crown till king Edward VI. in his 2d year, in consideration of the surrendry of lands

in Surry, granted to the lady Anne of Cleves, the repudiated wife of king Henry VIII. his manor of Dartford, with its appurtenances, belonging to the late priory; his park, called Washmeade, in Dartford; the scite of the late monastery or priory of Dartford, together with the houses, buildings, gardens and orchards belonging to it, with all waters, fisheries, wears, courts-leet, views of frank-pledge, liberties, warrens, &c. with other premises therein-mentioned, to the late priory belonging to him in Dartford, to hold for her natural life, or so long as she should reside within the realm, at the yearly rent of 18l. 16s. 1½d.

/b Rym. Foed. vol. xiv. p. 490 and 526. Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 1041. Speed, p. 1059. Willis's Mitred Abbes, append. p. 13. Of these the prioress and eighteen nuns remained pensioned in 1553. Ibid. vol. ii. p. 98.

306

The lady Anne of Cleves died possessed of these premises in the 4th of queen Mary; after which they were, next year, granted to the house of the friars preachers at Langley, in Hertfordshire, then restored; but on their dissolution again in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, they once more reverted to the crown, and the queen kept them in her own hands, and rested in her own house here in her return from a progress she had made into Kent, in the 16th year of her reign; in which state they remained till king James I. in his 4th year, granted the manor of Dartford, alias Temples, in Dartford, parcel of the possessions of the late priory of St. John of Jerusalem; the manor of Dartford, sometime parcel of the possessions of the late priory or monastery of Dartford, the scite and mansion of the said late priory, and all the lands in Dartford and Wilmington belonging thereto; and all other the king's lands and possessions in those parishes, among other premises, to Robert Cecil, earl of Salisbury, in exchange for the house and manor of Theobalds, in Hertfordshire, and other lands, to hold of the king, as of his manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only, in free and common socage, and not in chief, or by knight's service; yielding and paying to the king, his heirs and successors, for the manor of Temples, 20l. 14s. 5d. and for the manor, scite, and lands late belonging to Dartford priory, the rents of which at that time were 307l./c per annum; of which the fishery was three pounds per annum, and the toll of the market fifty pounds, by which it should seem that there were two markets then held here, of which this was by far the most considerable rent; the other, belonging to the royal manor of Dartford, as appears before in the account of that manor, during the life of Sir Edward Darcy, nothing, and after his decease, forty-nine pounds and two and twenty-pence

/c Inrolments Augtn. off. Tan. Mon. p. 188. Strype's Annals, vol. ii. p. 314.

307

halfpenny; which exchange was confirmed by act of parliament that year.

By a conveyance, inrolled in the king's bench, anno 10 king James I. the earl of Salisbury, and Sir William Cecil, his son and heir apparent, conveyed these ma-

nors, scite, and other premises to Sir Robert Darcy, by one of whose descendants the Temple's farm, which formed a considerable part of this estate, was separated from it, as has been already mentioned, though it has since again become united to it. Since which these manors and estates have continued under the same title of ownership as the other manor, already fully described, has, and is, with that, now in the possession of Sir Cha. Morgan, bart. for the trust above mentioned.

On Sir Edward Darcy's taking possession of this house, he gave it the name of Dartford-place; by which name, and that of the Place-house, it has been called ever since. The present remains of this priory, or Place-house, are built of brick, of about the time of king Henry VII. They consist of a large gate-house, and a south wing adjoining to it, now used as the farm-house. The rest of the scite of the priory was where the farmer's garden and stack-yard now are. It appears to have been a vast pile of building, and doubtless very noble, as appears by the great number of foundations of cross walls, drains, &c. which have been discovered; and which, with its environs, took up a great extent of land. On the north-east side were large gardens and orchards, encompassed with the antient stone wall still entire, and more than half a mile round, inclosing a piece of ground of twelve acres, which has been for some years occupied by a public gardener. It lies about a quarter of a mile northward of the west end of the town of Dartford, the antient road leading to it was, by the turning out of the London road, a little westward of the town, by the present workhouse, through a field still called King's-field, the street from thence called the water side now leading to it.

308

THE MANOR OF PORTBRIDGE, alias BIGNORS, mentioned above to have been given to the priory of Dartford, at its endowment by king Edward III. was, in the earlier part of that reign, in possession of the family of Bicknore./d In the book for levying forty shillings upon every knight's fee, in the 20th year of that reign, John de Bykenore, and his coparceners, answered for one fee, which Peter de Anesham, Roger de Bykenore, John le Clerk, and Reginald le Tanner held in Dartford, of Roger de Lestchequer, and he again of Warren de Montchensie. The above charter of king Edward mentions its having lately belonged to Robert Bicknore. King Henry V. in his first year, confirmed this manor to the priory, with the addition of several liberties, as did king Edward IV./e

In a rental of the lands belonging to the knights of St. John's in this parish, taken in the 1st year of king Henry VIII. the manor of Portbrege, otherwise called Bykenores, was held by the prioress of Dartford, of the manor of Dartford Temple, by the yearly rent of ten shillings.

Elizabeth Cressener, prioress, and the convent here, by their indenture, under their common seal, anno 26 king Henry VIII. let to George Tasser, of Dartford, their manor of Bignours, their two water-mills, called the Wheat-mill, and the Malt-mill, and several other premises to the manor appertaining, in Dartford, at the rent of twelve pounds. This lease, after the dissolu-

tion, came into the hands of William Vaughan, belonging to the king's wardrobe; who had afterwards several renewals of his lease, the last of which was in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth./f Sir John Spilman had soon afterwards a grant of this manor from that queen, and on part of it, being the scite of the

/d With the chapel in Dartford. Rot. Esch. an. 44. K. Edw. III.

/e Rot. Cart. de an. 1 Hen. V. p. 1 ma. N. 3. Ibid. de an. 5, 6, and 7 K. Edw. IV. N. 1.

/f Augtn. off. bundle Kent, 8, 11. Inrolm. ibid. off.

309

mills before-mentioned, erected a paper-mill, probably the first of the kind in England, for the making of writing paper, and died possessed of it in 1607. He was the queen's jeweller, and in the 31st year of her reign, had a licence for the sole gathering for ten years of all rags, &c. necessary for the making of such paper./g He is said to have brought over sea with him in his portmanteau, two lime trees, a tree unseen before in these parts, and planted them here. These trees, which, from their texture, were well worth the observation of the curious, stood near the dwelling-house of the powder-mills, and were cut down within these few years.

The manor of Bignors, with the rights belonging to it, after several intermediate owners, passed into the name of Coote, at which time there was a large manufactory of gunpowder carried on at it, by Mess. Pike and Edsall, the mills for which were built on the scite of the other mills formerly belonging to the priory as before-mentioned. They afterwards purchased the freehold of this manor, and on the death of Mr. Pike, Mr. Edsall became solely possessed of it, and was succeeded in it by his son Mr. Thomas Edsall, who in 1778 becoming a bankrupt, it was sold by his assignees to Mess. Pigou and Andrews, who now possess it, and carry on the above manufacture at it to a very large extent.

CHARLES is a manor in this parish, which was formerly the estate of an antient family from which it took its name; one of whom was Edward Charles, who was captain and admiral of the fleet from the Thames mouth northward, as appears by the patent, anno 34 king Edward I. After they had left the possession of it, which was about the beginning of king Richard II's reign, Nicholas, son of Sir John de Brembre, became proprietor of it; who becoming obnoxious by his attachment to the unwarrantable measures adopted by

/g Harleian, MSS. No. 2269-6 fol. 124.

310

king Richard II. was attainted in the 10th year of that reign, and forfeited both his life and estate. Soon after which this manor was by that king granted to Adam Bamme, esq. of London, goldsmith, who was twice lord-mayor of London, in the 14th and 20th years of that reign. One of his descendants sold it to William Rothele; whose son, Roger, died possessed of it in the 11th year of king Edward IV./h In the beginning of king Edward VI's reign it was come into the possession of William D'Aeth, gent. principal of Staples Inn, and ancestor of the D'Aeths, of Knowlton,

in this county;/i and his grandson, Thomas D'Aeth, in the time of king James, conveyed it by sale to Francis Goldsmith, esq. of Marshals-court, in Crayford, who afterwards sold it to Edmund Tooke, gent. fourth son of George Tooke, esq. of Bere-court, near Dover./k

This Edmund had a son, Edmund, and one daughter, who married Mr. Vernetti, whose arms were, Parted per chevron, in the upper part a mullet, in the lower three trees fesways on a bank proper. By him she had only one daughter, Anna-Margareta, who was the wife of Francis Edwards, esq. Edmund Tooke last mentioned died without issue, about 1706; upon which this manor descended to his sister's daughter, Anna-Margareta, above-mentioned; and her husband Francis Edwards, esq. who bore for his arms, Parted per bend ermine and ermines, over all a lion rampant or, he became in her right possessed of it. By her he had one daughter. On his death it was possessed in jointure by his widow, who survived him many years; and on her death, in 1765, it came into the possession of Gerard-Anne Edwards, esq. the natural son and devisee of her daughter before-mentioned. He

/h Rot. Esch. ejus. anni.

/i Philipott, p. 128, and Vistn. co. Kent, 1619.

/k Vistn. co. Kent, 1619.

311

married the lady Jane Noel, second daughter of Baptist, earl of Gainsborough, and died in 1774, leaving her surviving, and a son, Gerard Noel Edwards, esq. who married the only daughter of Sir Charles Middleton, bart. by whom he has several children. He is knight of the shire for the county of Rutland, and is the present possessor of this manor.

There is a court-baron held, and several small quit-rents are paid to it, amounting in all to about forty-two shillings for houses and lands in Dartford.

The manor-house is now a small mean cottage, occupied by a gardener, and stands a small distance northward from the present mansion-house, which is a handsome antient building, of the time of king James I. situated on the north side of the high-street, about the middle of the town, but it has been lately much disfigured by turning the lower part of it into shops.

HORSEMAN'S-PLACE is a mansion of some note in this parish, situated southward of the highâ€¢street in Lowfield, close to the little stream, called the Cranford. In the 14th year of king Edward II. this house, with the estate belonging to it, was owned by one Thomas de Luda, between whom and Thomas, abbot of Lessnes, there was a composition touching the passage of a current of water here. It next seems to have come into the family of Shardelow; one of whom, Thomas de Shardelow, possessed it about the beginning of king Henry V's reign, and on his death left it to his daughter, Margaret, who carried it in marriage to Thomas Horseman;/i and he, probably, new built the mansion here, and called it after his own name; on his death, in the beginning of king Henry VIth's reign, without issue, Margaret, his widow, became entitled to the pos-

session of it, and held it in her own right of the manor of Temple Dartford, in the 9th year of Henry VI.

/I Philipott, p. 128. Court-rolls of Temples manor.

312

as appears by the court-rolls of that manor. She died in the 19th year of that reign, and bequeathed it to her kinsman, Thomas Brune, alias Brown; whose daughter and sole heir, Katherine, carried it in marriage to Robert Blage, or Blague, one of the barons of the court of exchequer, who left by her Barnabie Blage; and he, in the 33d year of king Henry VIII. conveyed it by sale to Mr. John Byer, who rebuilt the mansion and the gate-house, as appears by the initial letters of his name, and the date, 1551, on the latter. By his will, in 1572, he founded four alms-houses in Lowfield, adjoining to his mansion, endowing them out of certain lands mentioned therein; and devised his manor or mansion, called Horsemans, or Brunes-place, to his eldest son, Henry, in tail-general, with remainder to his second son, Nicholas.

John Byer, who as well as his descendants, were commonly called and written Beer, had by his first wife Alice, only daughter and heir to William Nysell, of Wrotham, three sons and two daughters, Anne, married to Christopher Twisleton, esq. of Barley, in Yorkshire, and Dorothy. Of the sons, the youngest, Nicholas, (his two eldest brothers having died, s. p.) succeeded to this estate, and bore for his arms, Argent, a bear saliant sable, muzzled or, a canton gule quartered with Nisell, three garbs or, a chief ermine./m

After which John Beer, as well as his brother Clement, grandsons of Nicholas above-mentioned, dying without issue, Edward Beer, their uncle, became their heir, and possessed Horsemans-place, which he enjoyed but a small time, and dying without issue about 1627, bequeathed it, together with the rest of his lands in Kent, to his cousin John Twisleton, grandson of Christopher Twisleton, esq. of Barley, by Anne, his aunt, daughter of John Beer. He was of Drax, in Yorkshire, and was uncle and heir of Sir George Twisleton,

/m Vistn. co. Kent, 1619.

313

bart. of Barley, the antient paternal seat of the family, who bore for their arms, Argent, a chevron between 3 moles sable, which coat was confirmed by Segar Norroy in 1602, anno 45 Elizabeth./n His son, John Twisleton, esq. was of Horsemans-place, and had four wives; by the third of whom, Elizabeth, eldest daughter and coheir of James, viscount Say and Seale, who died in 1673, and lies buried in Bunhill-fields burying-ground,/o he left surviving an only daughter, Cecil, who married first, George Twisleton, of Wormesly, in Yorkshire, by whom she had a son and heir; and secondly, Robert Mignon. John Twisleton before-mentioned died in 1682, having bequeathed this manor and seat to his nephew, John, eldest son of his younger brother, Philip, who possessed them at the time of his death in 1721. He died without issue, and by his will devised this estate to his nephew John Twisleton, son of his brother Thomas, in tail male, (who had like-

wise a daughter, Mary, married to the Rev. Josias Cockshutt, who will be further mentioned hereafter) and after divers intermediate remainders, then to Fiennes Twisleton, son of Cecil Mignon, esq. by her first husband, George Twisleton before-mentioned.

John Twisleton, the nephew and devisee before-mentioned, possessed this estate, and died in 1757, without issue, having left his estates in Kent by his will to his nephew, Thomas Cockshutt, of Kegworth, in Leicestershire, clerk. But it being discovered, that Horsemans-place, and other parts of the estate, entailed as above, had not been barred; John Twisleton, esq. of Broughton, the only son and issue in tail of Fiennes Twisleton before-mentioned, (all the intermediate remaining being extinct) laid claim to them, and the issue was tried at Maidstone in 1758, when he was adjudged to be entitled to the premises so entailed,

/n See Guillim, p. 199.

/o Strype's Stow's Survey, book iv. p. 55.

314

among which was this seat of Horseman's-place, and that part of the will which related to them was set aside; but the rest of it was established in favour of Mr. Cockshutt, who afterwards took upon him the name of Twisleton, as will be further noticed hereafter under Wilmington.

John Twisleton, esq. of Broughton, died possessed of Horsemans place, with other estates in Dartford in 1763, and left three sons, John, Thomas, and Francis; the eldest of whom having been killed in Germany the year before, his two brothers became entitled to it, as heirs in gavelkind; and on a partition made of all their father's estates, this at Dartford fell to the share of the next son, Thomas, who was a colonel in the guards, and renewed the claim made by his father in 1733, who had petitioned the house of lords to be admitted to the barony of Say and Sele, as heir general of the body, and likewise heir at law of Sir Richard Fiennes, created Baron Say and Sele by king James the 1st, in his first year, and although his claim was not allowed, yet colonel Twisleton now succeeded in it, and was summoned to parliament as lord Say and Sele, on June 29, 1781, whose grandson, Gregory, is the present lord. But to return to colonel Thomas Twisleton before-mentioned, who in 1768, conveyed Horsemans place, with the rest of his estates in Dartford, to Thomas Williams and Thomas Smith, and they quickly after passed this seat away to Richard Leigh, esq. serjeant-at-law, who died possessed of it in 1772, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, eldest daughter of Prosper Brown, of Dartford, one son, Richard, and a daughter, Elizabeth. He died intestate, and was succeeded in the inheritance of this mansion by his son, Richard Leigh, esq. before-mentioned, now of Wilmington, who is the present owner of it.

BALDWINS is a seat and reputed manor, situated at the extremity of this parish, at the south-west corner of Dartford-heath. This place was antiently in the

315

possession of Sir John Baude, a man of an honorable

family in this kingdom, of whom it acquired the name of Baudiwins, which it keeps at present, the difference of the language of the times only excepted. This place afterwards came into the possession of the abbot and convent of Lesnes, who were possessed of lands in this parish as early as king John's reign;/p they in the 1st year of king Henry VIII. held it with other lands adjoining, of the manor of Temple Dartford, by the yearly rent of 2s. 5d. and suit of court.

In the 16th year of king Henry VIII. on the suppression of this abbey, the revenues of it were granted to cardinal Wolsey, for the better endowment of his college, vulgarly called Cardinal college, in Oxford. But four years afterwards, when the cardinal was cast in a *præmunire*, this, among the other estates of that college, which for want of time had not been firmly settled on it, were forfeited to the king, and became part of the royal revenue, where it did not continue long; for that king, in his 23d year, granted it, by the name of the manor of Baudwyns, and other lands and premises thereto belonging, in exchange for other lands, to Eton college, near Windsor, to which the inheritance of this seat and manor now belongs./q

The Adams's were formerly lesses of this estate under the college, it was afterwards held by Lovelace, and then by Sir Edward Hulse, bart. who being eminently distinguished in his profession, as a physician, was so created in 1739. He was the eldest son of Edward Hulse, M. D. by Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Westrow, esq. and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Levett, lord mayor in 1700, by her he had three sons, Edward, who succeeded him in title, and settled in Hampshire; Westrow, who died before him; and Richard, of whom further mention will be made hereafter; and a daughter Elizabeth, married to John Calvert, esq.

/p See Dugg. Mon. vol. ii. p. 302. /q Tan. Mon. p. 34.

316

of Hertfordshire. Several years before his death he retired to Baldwins, where he died in 1759, and was buried in Wilmington church-yard, bearing for his arms, Argent 3 piles, one issuing from the chief between the others reversed sable, being the arms likewise of the families of this name in Cheshire, Kent and Berkshire. At his death he bequeathed his interest in this estate, with the freehold lands adjoining, to his second son, Richard Hulse, esq. who resided here, and added much to the improvements his father had made to this seat, and the grounds belonging to it, which he inclosed with paling as a paddock in 1768. He served the office of sheriff in 1768, but on his removing to Blackheath in 1783, he sold his interest in it to Arnold Nesbit, esq. who resided here, and in 1791 alienated it to Simon Frazer, esq. a director of the East-India company, who is the present possessor, and resides in it. Mr. Fraser's daughter married Alexander lord Selton, who died here in 1793.

A little more than half a mile north-westward from the town of Dartford lies the hamlet of Stanham, anciently called Stoneham, which formerly was part of the possessions of the priory of Dartford. Elizabeth Cressener, prioress, and the convent of Dartford, anno

25 king Henry VIII. let to Robert Dove, husbandman, their capital messuage here, with the buildings and several pieces of land thereto belonging, at the rent of 20l. 14s. After the suppression the interest in this lease was become vested in William Thynne, esq. who in the 37th year of king Henry VIII. had a further term granted in it.

Queen Elizabeth in her 11th year, granted to Hugh Cartwright her capital messuage, and a house called the Dayern-house, in Stoneham, at the above rent. This estate was lately in the possession of Mr. Smith, a merchant in London, and two Mr. Bucks, of Norfolk, who conveyed it by sale to Mr. Mark Fielder, of Dartford. He died in 1782, and by will, gave it to

317

his nephew, Mr. Mark Callow, the present possessor of it.

John de Fremingham gave and mortized his manor at Dartford, at the Hythe, to the value of one hundred shillings, above all reprises, to the wardens and commonaltie of Rochester bridge. The wharf and some land adjoining, they still possess; but the manor has been long forgotten.

Sir John Stewart and Maltilda his wife, resided in their mansion house at Dartford in the 14th year of king Henry VI. for he then granted to his eldest son Thomas, and his heirs, licence to make use of his swan-mark, a little ragged staff; which mark he took by inheritance after the death of his father, Sir John Stewart, to hold the same by the delivery of one cincture yearly at his house in Dartford; for it seems that none could have a swan-mark but by the king's authority, and who had five marcs freehold estate, above all reprises; and all swans swimming in open and common rivers so marked, became then the property of him whose mark they bore./r

King Henry VI. in his 31st year, granted licence to John Bamburgh, William Rothele, Roger Jones, and Thomas Booth, or the survivor of them, to found here an ALMS-HOUSE, in honour of the Holy Trinity, to be an hospital for five poor persons, to be called the Trinitiees Almes House, in Dartford, of which the vicar and churchwardens of Dartford, and their successors, were to be governors for ever; and a corporate body, with power of acquiring lands and tenements in mortmain, to the value of twenty pounds yearly, beyond reprises, for the support as well of the said five poor persons, as other deeds of charity and piety, according to the direction of the said John Bamburgh, William Rothele, &c. This hospital seems afterwards to have been used as a spital-house for lepers;

/r Coke's Reports, pt. 7, p. 633.

318

for in a rental of the manor of Temple's, anno 1 king Henry VIII. it is called the spytell-house, where the leprous inhabit and dwell./s the street where it was built being still called Spitel-street.

There was an anchorite or hermit at Dartford so early as the 20th year of king Henry III. In the 3d year of king Henry V. Henry lord Scrope left to this an-

chorite by will, 13s. 4d./t These anchorites were a kind of religious beggars, who took their stations at the end of bridges, or other most frequented thoroughfares, to implore the benevolence of the passengers. There was one remaining here so late as the reign of king Henry VI. whose stand was at the foot of the bridge here.

There was one of this sort in almost every city and town in England, to whom charitable people generally left some remembrance in their wills.

#### CHARITIES.

THOMAS AUDITOR, alias BARNARD, gave by will, in 1536, an annuity of 3s. to buy peas, to be distributed among the poor, in the first week in Lent, payable out of four acres of land, called Docklincroft, which bequest has not been paid for many years.

WILLIAM VAUGHAN gave by deed, in 1596, a rent, to be distributed quarterly to the most poor inhabitants of Dartford, out of a house and garden, vested in trustees, and of the annual produce of 13l. 4s.

JEROME WARRAM gave by will, in 1570, for the use of the poor, a house and garden, in the occupation of Mrs. Bugden, of the annual produce of 5s.

MRS. CATHARINE BAMME gave by deed, in 1572, among other charitable bequests, 20s. to the poor of this parish, to be paid out of an messuage and lands in Gillingham, vested in Edward Taylor, of the annual produce of that sum.

JOHN BYER gave by will, in 1572, for the habitation of the poor of this parish, nine alms houses, in Lowfield, adjoining southward to Horseman's-place, and endowed them with a barn and several pieces of land, in the occupation of Mrs. Glover and Mr. Fleet; the former at 17l. the latter at 5l. annual rent, and for the habitation of four poor aged people, and 20d. to be paid quar-

/s Duggd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 479. Willis's Mitred Abbies, p. 98.

/t Rot. Pat. ejus an. Rym. Fœd. vol. ix. p. 275.

319

terly to each of them; now inhabited by paupers; annual produce 1l. 6s. 8d.

JOHN BARTON gave by will, in 1613, the interest of 130l. yearly, to be bestowed on bread, and distributed to the poor by the vicar and churchwardens. N. B. With this money, in 1623, the parish purchased by deed, of Francis Goldsmith and others, thirteen acres of land in Crayford parish, and a house in Dartford, the former vested in William Flint and others, at 12l. per annum rent; the latter in William Nettlefold, at 11l. 10s. per annum; on condition that 20s. should be yearly distributed to the poor on Shrove Sunday, as his gift, out of the rents of the lands purchased of him by Barton's money. He agreed to abate 15l. out of the purchase money; annual produce 1l.

WILLIAM REYNOLDS and WILLIAM HARRISON gave by will, in 1623, the interest of 50l. and 10l. to be laid out in bread, and distributed among the poor every Sunday in the year,

N. B. With these two gifts were purchased a house and piece of land belonging to it, which house has been taken down, and four new houses have been built on the ground, with monies borrowed upon them, which money the rents have discharged. The houses are let to several tenants, at the yearly rent of 5l. each; 2s. worth of bread have been yearly distributed every Sunday, out of the rent of these houses, as was stipulated when they were purchased; the annual produce 20l. per annum.

ROBERT ROGERS gave by deed, in 1629, rent to be distri-

buted among the poor on Easter Monday, payable out of a house and yard, vested in Mrs. Catharine Tasker; annual produce 4l.

JONATHAN BRETT gave by deed, in 1629, for the relief of the poor inhabitants of this parish, four acres of land, vested in Mr. George Hardres, of the annual produce of 9l.

THOMAS COOPER in 1629, gave an annuity, to be distributed to the poor in bread, payable out of woodland in Bexley parish, in the occupation of James Crafter, of the annual produce of 1l.

ANTHONY POULTER gave by will, in 1629, an annuity of 20s. to be distributed by the minister and churchwardens on Easter day, payable out of a house in Dartford, occupied by Mrs. Pettit, of the annual produce of 1l.

JOHN TWISLETON, esq. gave by deed, in 1660, certain rent, to be applied, one-third of it to the alms houses, and the other two-thirds to be given to the poor, issuing out of three acres of land, in the occupation of Edward Rawlins, of the annual produce of 5l. 6s. 3d.

JOHN ROUND, in 1682, gave an annuity, to be distributed among the poor on Christmas day, payable out of the Bell inn, in Dartford, in the occupation of John Elliot, of the annual produce of 1l.

THE REV. CHARLES CHAMBERS gave by will, in 1745, the sum of 50l. vested in the 3 per cents. the interest to be distributed

320

by the minister on Christmas day, among twenty-four poor persons, twenty of whom to be widows, annual produce 1l. 10s.

JOHN RANDALL gave by will, in 1771, 200l. now vested in the 3 per cent. the interest to be distributed among poor house-keepers and widows, at 5s. each; annual produce 7l. 8s. 6d. and he gave 100l. since, vested in like manner, the interest to be laid out in bread, and distributed to the poor on Sundays; annual produce 3l. 14s. 3d.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave three houses for poor parishioners, to dwell in, now inhabited by paupers.

A PIECE OF LAND, on part of which the present workhouse was erected in 1728, by voluntary subscriptions; the other part, used as a garden to it, was given by a person unknown.

This land was let in 1720, for the use of the poor at 1l. per ann.

CHRISTOPHER HEATH gave lands to the next of kin of Ellen Sherrington, on condition that they should pay yearly out of them, to the use of the poor, 1l. 6s. 8d. and to the churchwardens and their successors, to the reparation of the church, 1l. 13s. 4d.

JOHN BEALE, of Swanscombe, devised 40s. per annum, towards the maintenance of a schoolmaster in Dartford, to be paid out of a messuage, called Hamanslay's, in Halsted, formerly occupied by William Watson.

THIS PARISH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the deanry of Dartford, and diocese of Rochester. The church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, stands near the east end of the town, and is a large handsome building, consisting of three isles and two chancels. In 1793, the whole church was repaired and beautified by the parishioners, at the expence of twelve hundred pounds. The pavement within the altar rails, with the painting and gilding over it, was done at the charge of Charles Manning, gent. in 1702. The tower is at the west end of it, in which there is a clock and a good ring of bells; one of which, of the smaller size, used till of late to be constantly rung, as of old custom, at four o'clock every morning, and again at the time of cur-

few at night.

The church yard formerly surrounded it, but some few years ago that part of it, which was on the southern side, was given to the public to make the road more commodious for passengers. There is another

321

burying-ground belonging to this church at some little distance from it, adjoining the high London road at the top of the hill, eastward of the town, of which further mention will be made. It is situated on so high an eminence, that it overlooks even the top of the tower of the church.

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, are the following: In the great chancel, on the north side of the altar is a monument for Sir John Spilman, inclosed with iron railing; on it are his effigies in armour and that of his lady, kneeling at a desk, each with a book open, and over their heads, on a tablet of black marble, with an inscription in German text for both of them; he died in 1607; on the top of the monument his arms, Or, a serpent wreathed in pale azure, crested, gules, on a mount in base, vert, two flaunces, gules, each charged with three lions passant, or; beneath, on the tomb, are two coats, Spilman, as above, impaling argent, a man cloathed sable, with a long cap on, holding in his hand an olive branch proper, and standing on a mount, inverted, gules. On the south side of the chancel, an altar tomb, inclosed with rails, and inscription, for Clement Petit, esq. of Joyes, in this parish, whose paternal seat was at Dentelion, in Thanet, obt. 1717. Before the rails of the altar, on a grave stone, are the figures of a man and woman, in brass, under a canopy, with labels from their mouths; round the verge of the stone is an inscription in brass, in part torn away, for Richard Martyn, of Dartford, who died in 14.... she died in 1402. Near it is another stone, which had the figure of a man, with a label from his mouth, and an inscription round the verge, all in brass, now lost; but an inscription in brass still remains, on a plate, for John Hornley, S. T. B. who died in 1477. On another adjoining, are the figures in brass of a woman and six children, that of the man is lost; beneath on a plate, is an inscription for capt. Arthur Bostocke, gent. who married Francis, second daughter of Francis Rogers, esq. he died in 1612. On a grave stone, before the step of the chancel, is the figure in brass, of a woman, and inscription, for Agnes, daughter of John Appleton, wife of Wm. Hesilt. one of the barons of the exchequer of Henry VI. afterwards of Robert, brother of Sir Tho. Molyngton, baron of Wemme; she died in 1454. On the south side of the chancel, a monument for Wm. Burgess, late citizen and salter of London, obt. 1640; arms, a fess fret between three rooks. On the same side, before the altar rails, a memorial for Nicholas Tooke, gent. of Dartford, obt. 1672, æt. 90; arms, Tooke, argent, on a chevron, sable, three plates of the field between three greyhounds heads erased, sable collared, or; but this is cut here very erroneous. On the north side, a memorial for Mr. Mark Fielder, 1753, æt. 91; on

322

the south side, a memorial for Mr. Wm. Tasker, of this parish, ob. 1732; and for Wm. Tasker, jun. their second son, ob. 1733. In the south chancel, a mural monument for John Twisleton, esq. of Horseman's-place, son and heir of John Twisleton, esq. of Drax, in Yorkshire, who was uncle and heir of Sir Geo. Twisleton, bart. of Barley, in that county, the antient paternal seat of the family. A memorial for John Twisleton, esq. late of Horse-

man's-place, ob. 1721. At the east end an altar tomb, inclosed with wooden rails, and on the south of it an inscription for John Beer, of Dartford, who had Nicholas, Anne, and Dorothy; for Nicholas, who had Clement and Edward, and for Clement Beer, who had John and Clement, who both died, s. p. Edward Beer, their uncle, was their heir, and lived unmarried fifty-nine years, and died in 1627. On the north side, an inscription, shewing, that Christopher Twisleton, esq. of Barley, in Yorkshire, married Anne Beer, by whom he had George Twisleton, who had John Twisleton, and Edward Beer, dying, s. p. gave all his lands in Kent to John Twisleton above mentioned, who erected this monument in 1628. On the west side are two shields, one quarterly, 1st and 4th, quarterly, a canton ermine; 2d and 3d, on a fess, three garbs; the other the same arms, impaling a chevron. A grave stone, having a brass plate for John Beer, esq. of Dartford, and Alice and Joan, his wives, and also for Henry Beer, his son and heir, who married Anne Beer, widow of Rich. Howlett, gent. deceased, and had by her a son, Wm. Beer, deceased, which John Beer died in 1572, and Henry in 1574; above, are two coats in brass, both, a bear rampant, on a canton, five escallop shells. On a grave stone, the figures of a man and his two wives, with children and their shields of arms in brass, all of which are lost, excepting the second wife and four children, and a plate with the inscription, for Wm. Rothele, of Dartford, who died in 1464, and Beatrix and Joane, his wives, and their children. Another on the north side, on which were the figures of a man and woman, in brass, now lost, but part of the inscription remains, for Kathryn Burlton, who died 1496, and Rich. Burlton, jantilman, her husband, who died 15... the rest torn off. A mon/t for Margaret, relict of John Pitt, esq. prent of the S. Sea company at Vera Crux, ob. 1731, æt. 49, arms, Pitt impaling a chevron, ingrailed, betw. three eagles heads erased. In the middle isle, are several memorials of Manning; a grave stone in the south cross isle, having the figures in brass of a man between his two wives, and underneath those of fifteen children, with inscription in black letter, for Wm. Death, gent. principal of Staple's inn, who had two wives, Elizabeth and Anne, by the former he had ten sons and six daughters, ob. 1590, Elizabeth, 1582; above a shield of arms, being death, a griffin passant between three crescents, quartering four other coats./u In the north isle are memorials for the Round's, Woodin,

/u See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 974.

323

Poulter, Dalling, and Chambers, all of this parish. There are many more memorials and tombs of respectable inhabitants of this populous town and parish, as well in the church as the two church yards, but they are by far too numerous for insertion in this place.

In the 7th year of king Edward III. Thomas de Woldham, bishop of Rochester, caused a new window to be made in the chancel of the church.

William the Conqueror confirmed the gift which Hamo his steward had made of the church of Tarentford, in the king's manor, to the church of St. Andrew of Rochester;/w which king Henry I. confirmed, with the churches appendant to it, and the tithes of this parish in corn, pannage, cattle, money, and in all other things, in like manner as St. Austin held the church of Middleton, with the tithes of that parish, in the time of his father,/x and also the tithes of his mills in Darenteford.

Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, who was elected

to that see in the reign of the Conqueror, having recovered the manors and possessions of his church, which had been dissipated and made away with, separated his own maintenance from that of the monks, in which division he allotted this church, among others, to the support of the almonry, belonging to the convent./y The monks did not continue long in the possession of it, for bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, who came to the see in 1185, on pretence that his predecessor had impoverished the see by his too large donations to the priory, divested them of all right to this church, which he restored to the see of Rochester; however, he reserved and confirmed to the monks their antient pension from it./z

/w Ang. Sac. p. 372. ps. 1 ma. Text. Roff. p. 158. Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 30.

/x See the confirmations of king Henry II. Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 4. Reg. Roff. p. 45. of abp. Anselm and of abp. Boniface, in Dugd. vol. iii. p. 2. /y Reg. Roff. p. 35. Dugd. vol. iii. p. 1.

/z Reg. Roff. p. 53, 687. Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 435.

324

Laurence, bishop of Rochester, in 1253, reserving the tithes of sheaves, and of every kind of hay, demised this church, and all the small tithes, oblations, and obventions, and the tithes of sheaves arising in gardens and curtileges not being ploughed, to the convent of Rochester, at the rent of thirty-eight marcs per annum, on condition that they supplied the cure, and they were to deduct their pension of ten marcs, paid by the rector, out of it./a He afterwards obtained pope Innocent IV's leave to appropriate this church, during his life, to the use of his table, which he complained was so slenderly provided for; that he and his family had not at times common necessaries for food; the clear receipts for the bishop's table being but five hundred marcs, which were not more than sufficient for half the expence of it, and the receipts from his manors not exceeding sixty marcs per annum./b This was confirmed to the bishop and his successors by pope Alexander IV. and again by Clement IV. Bishop Laurence, on the appropriation, endowed the vicarage of this church, with the small tithes of it, excepting hay, with two acres of arable, and one of meadow; and also with the tithes of sheaves growing from land dug up with the foot, as well for the support of the vicar, as the discharge of the ordinary burthens of his vicarage, and the payment of the above pension to the monks, the profits of the vicarage being then found by a jury to be worth forty marcs sterling per annum, communibus annis; which endowment being lost, bishop Thomas de Woldham, in 1299, confirmed it; and as the vicar had no house belonging to his vicarage, he granted him one standing on the soil belonging to the church, as a vicarage house for himself and his successors; and further, the tithe of twenty-one acres of meadow, called King's-marsh, in Dartford, heretofore taken by the

/a Reg. Roff. p. 291, 295, 303, 338. /b Ibid. p. 66.

325

bishop and his predecessors, and he decreed, that the

vicar and his successors should keep and maintain the books, vestments, and other ornaments of the church, in a proper state and order, and should sustain and acknowledge all other ordinary burthens of it.

Archbishop Robert Winchelsea further endowed this vicarage with the tithe of hay, to the value of forty shillings, in satisfaction of which the whole tithe of hay, arising from the great salt marsh in Dartford, (excepting to the bishop of Rochester for the time being, the yearly sum of four shillings, due from the Knights Hospitallers to the bishop, as rector of this church) was decreed to the vicar, by the definitive sentence of Walter, archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1315, as an augmentation of his endowment.

Thomas de Woldham, bishop of Rochester, in the above year, granted in mortmain, to Robert Levee, vicar of Dartford, and his successors, a messuage, with its appurtenances, in Overe-street, in Dartford, which the bishop had purchased of Robert de Levee, of Frindsbury./c At the dissolution of the priory of Rochester, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. the above pension of ten marcs, or 6l. 13s. 4d. was, by the king, in his 33d year, granted, among other pre=emises, to his new erected dean and chapter of Ro=chester, who continue possessed of it at this time. The parsonage and advowson of the vicarage still remain part of the possessions of the bishop of Rochester./d

In the antient valuation of the bishop's revenues, this church was valued at 40l. and the bishop's mill and rent here, at 100s. In the 15th year of king Edward I.'s reign, the church was valued at forty-five marcs, and the vicarage at 100s. In the 33d of king Edward III. the church was valued at the like sum./e

/c Reg. Roff. p. 294, 305.

/d In 1613, the parsonage was valued at 160l. per annum, and was then let to Francis Rogers, gent.

/e Reg. Roff. p. 61, 129. Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

326

By virtue of a commission of enquiry, in 1650, it was returned, that Dartford was a vicarage, with a house and glebe, all worth, with the privy tithes, seventy pounds per annum, master Charnock then incumbent./f It is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of 45l. 5s. 10<sup>1</sup><sub>2</sub>d. the yearly tenths of which are 1l. 17s. 1<sup>1</sup><sub>2</sub>d./g

This vicarage was, in 1736, augmented by the go=vernors of queen Anne's bounty; at which time the Rev. Mr. Charles Chambers, vicar of Dartford, con=tributed one hundred pounds for that purpose./h

Bishop Laurence de St. Martin seems to have pur=chased, in the reign of king Henry III. several of the rents which now constitute the greatest part, if not the whole of the MANOR OF DARTFORD RECTORY, from Robert and Richard de Ripa, John Badcock, William de Wilmington, and others./i

This manor extends over both sides of the High=street, in Dartford, from the scite of the old market=place to the church, and southward, in Lowfield, as far as the house of correction; all which is called the Bishop's liberty. At the leet of this manor, a consta=ble and a borholder are annually chosen for the li=

berty. There are several tenants which hold of it in socage, at small quit-rents.

In the 21st year of king Edward I. on a Quo war=ranto, the jury found that the bishop was seised, in right of his church, of view of frank pledge, and as=ize of bread and ale of his tenants in Dartford and Stone; and that the bishops, his predecessors, had been possessed of the same beyond memory.

There were TWO CHANTRIES, founded for divine services, in this parish; that of St. Edmund the Mar=tyr, and of St. Mary, otherwise called Stampit. The former stood in the upper burial ground of this parish,

/f Parl. Surv. Lamb. lib. vol xix.

/g Ecton, Thes. p. xxiii.

/h Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/i Reg. Roff. p. 284, et. seq.

327

which was a cimetary to it, and under this building was a charnel house. This chapel was suppressed at the same time with all other such endowments, and presently fell to ruin; but the cimetary was granted to the parish, as a place of burial for the parishioners, and continues so at this time. The advowson of this chantry was granted to the prioress and convent of Dartford priory, in the 46th year of king Edward III. at their first endowment.

John Bykenore endowed this chapel with five marcs, payable out of lands and tenements in Dart=ford, for the support of the chaplain of it. This chapel was under the jurisdiction of the archdeacon of the diocese.

The latter chantry of the Blessed Virgin St. Mary was subject to the official of the diocese./k It was founded by Thomas de Dertford, alias Att Stampett, vicar of this parish, in 1338, for one chaplain, to celebrate divine offices daily in the parish church of Dartford, in honour of the Blessed Virgin, and for the health of his soul, &c. and he appointed Ralph de Felthorpe the first chaplain of it, and endowed it with several lands and tenements, to the amount of one hundred and twenty acres,/l in Dartford, the chaplain paying twelve pence yearly to the vicar of Dartford and his successors; and he gave the patronage of it, and the nomination of a chaplain to it in future, to the bishop of Rochester and his successors; which was confirmed by the bishop and the prior and chapter of Roches=ter the same year./m In the year 1553, Robert Bacon, incumbent of this chantry, had a pension of six pounds per annum.

CHURCH OF DARTFORD.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

The Prior and Convent of Rochester Peter de Rupibus, in Henry II.'s reign.

/k Reg. Roff. p. 136, 293, 314.

/l Willis's Mitred Abbeys, vol. ii.

p. 104. Rot. Esch. eor. an. pt. 9, 10.

/m Reg. Roff. p. 309.

328

PATRONS, &c.      RECTORS.

The Prior and Convent of Rochester      Ralph de Wingham, obt. 1176./n  
Bishop of Rochester.      Thomas Chewte./o  
Laurence de St. Martin, in 1245./p

VICARS.

Walter, 1299./q  
Robert Levee, 1308./r  
Thomas de Dertford, alias Stan= pit, 1338./s  
Richard Wich./t  
John Hornley, obt. 1477./u  
Richard Turner, 1565./w  
John Browne, in 1587./x  
John Denne, seq. 1642./y  
Vavasour Powel, resigned Jan. 7, 1646./z  
..... Price, 1685.  
Thomas Price, 1718./a  
Charles Chambers, A. M. inst. Sep. 30, 1718, obt. Feb. 22, 1746./b  
John Lewis, A. M. resig. 1755./c  
James Harwood, A. M. 1755, ob. 1778./d  
John Currey, A. M. April 1778.  
Present vicar.

/n On the death of Ralph de Wingham the patronage being disputed between the bishop and the convent, the bishop collated Roger, his nephew, from which the monks appealed; but out of respect to the bishop they presented the same person to the church.

Reg. Roff. p. 2.

/o Reg. Roff. p. 291.

/p Afterwards bishop of Rochester.

/q Reg. Roff. p. 305.

/r Ibid. p. 297.      /s Ibid. p. 309.

/t Afterwards vicar of Hansworth, in Middlesex, and burnt on Tower-hill, June 17, 1440.

/u He lies buried in this church.

/w See Life of Archbishop Parker, by Strype.

/x Custum. Roff. p. 38.

/y White's Century, p. 31.

/z Vavasour's Examen et Purgamen, p. 11.

/a Son of the former.

/b He augmented this vicarage.

/c Afterwards dean of Ossory, in Ireland.

/d In 1755, a dispensation passed for his holding this vicarage with the rectory of Cliff-at-Hoo.

- - -

WILMINGTON

LIES the adjoining parish southward from Dartford. In the *Textus Roffensis* it is written Wilmentuna

and Wilmintune.

329

THIS PARISH may be well said to be aptly situated both for pleasure and health, the quantity of cherry-grounds which encircle the village contribute much to the pleasantness of its appearance, and in the spring, when the trees are in blossom, it seems a continued range of gardens. Though it has much hill and dale in it, yet it is in general high ground, and has pleasing prospects from it over the neighbouring country; the soil of it is dry, and much inclined to gravel mixed with loam. It contains about 1500 acres of land and wood, and 94 houses. It extends eastward beyond the road from Dartford and Farningham, which leads through this part of it, over some meadows to the river Darent, from thence the ground rises westward up the hill, on the summit of which the church stands, near which there is a handsome house, which with the estate adjoining to it, was once part of the possessions of Dartford priory, and at the dissolution of it, became part of the possessions of the crown. King Henry VIII. soon afterwards granted it to John Byer, or Beer, of Horseman's-place, in Dartford; from whom it descended, in the same manner as that seat, to John Twisleton, esq. who died in 1757 without issue, and by his will devised this estate, with other lands in Wilmington, to his nephew, Thomas Cockshutt, of Kegworth, in Leicestershire, son of his sister Mary, by the Rev. Josias Cockshutt. John Twisleton devised the whole of his estates in Dartford, Wilmington, and Sevenoke, to his nephew; but the greatest part of them in the former parish being found to be entailed, the will only took place as to those in the two latter, and one farm in Dartford, as was adjudged at the assizes held at Maidstone in 1759. He took upon him the name of Twisleton, and afterwards passed this estate away by sale to Mr. Thomas Williams, of Dartford, who some few years ago alienated it to Mr. John Tasker, of Dartford, who has improved and made great additions to this house, in which he now resides.

330

At a little distance westward from thence, is the village, in which stands the vicarage, being a neat genteel house, built on a well conducted plan by the present vicar Mr. Denn, who resides in it.

A little to the southward of the village is a hamlet, called BARN END, where there is a good house called Mount Pleasant, built by Mr. Stephen Perry, of London, who, at his death in 1736, devised it with the lands belonging to it, and a capital farm called SHERE-HALL, with the lands belonging to it, to his nephew Stephen Perry. The latter estate in 1724, had belonged to Thomas Bennet, esq. master in chancery, and was then on his marriage with Hannah, daughter of Stephen Martin, afterwards Leake, sen. settled on the issue of that marriage. But anno 12 George I. it was, by act, vested in trustees, who sold it to Stephen Perry, sen. by whom it was devised as before-mentioned, on the death of his nephew Stephen Perry, and afterwards of his widow. In 1765, their son, Mr. John Perry, became entitled to it. He conveyed Shere-hall to

Francis Austen, esq. of Sevenoke, whose son, Francis Mottley Austen, esq. is the present possessor of it; but he died owner of the seat, called Mount Pleasant, soon afterwards without issue, and by his will devised it to be sold, which it accordingly was to Mr. Thurston Ford, who died possessed of it in 1776, without issue, and by his will devised it to his brother, Gilbert Ford, whose son Thurston Ford now owns the inheritance of it, but Duncan Campbell, esq. resides in it, who has greatly enlarged this seat.

About three quarters of a mile from the church westward, adjoining to Dartford-heath, is Wilmington common, on which there stands a good house, which was built in 1743, by Edward Bathurst esq. of this parish, at the same time that he pulled down the antient seat belonging to this estate, situated at Barn-end; the ruins of which still remain there. He was the only son of Mr. William Bathurst, gent. who be-

331

came possessed of this estate, in right of his wife Anne, widow of Lancelot Bathurst of this parish, gent. a younger brother of Sir Edward Bathurst, of Franks. Edward Bathurst, esq. before-mentioned, having removed to Goudhurst, in this county, conveyed this seat to Thomas Motley, esq. of Beckingham, whose daughter carried it in marriage to Mr. Francis Austen, of Sevenoke, and his son, Francis Motley Austen, esq. clerk of the peace for this county, is the present owner of it. Almost adjoining to Wilmington-common westward, is Dartford-heath, a small part of which is within the bounds of this parish; the south-west parts of which rise to very high ground, are a poor chalky soil, and are much covered with coppice wood, among which are the two hamlets of Hook-green and Stanhill.

In Joydens wood, on the western side of this parish is an hollow way, formerly a high road, which has not been made use of for more than an hundred years as such. There are yet remains of its continuance from hence, in a field or two belonging to Ruxley farm, towards the turnpike road from Farningham to Fooths Cray, which it appears to have joined at a very small distance eastward from the gate near Ruxley farm. In the woods hereabout, there have been found quantities of bricks and other materials of buildings, perhaps the remains of depopulation, occasioned by the wars between the houses of York and Lancaster.

The following SCARCE PLANTS plants have been observed by our herbalists in this parish:

Polygonatum, or Solomon's seal./e  
Centaurium luteum, or yellow centory.  
Flos adonis flore rubro, the adonis flower, with red flowers.  
Elleborine minor flore Albo, wild white Hellebore.

/e Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 903. Merrett's Pin. p. 24, 39, 60, 83.

332

Nidus avis sive satyrium abortivum, bird's nest, plentifully all on Rowehill.

THIS PLACE is not mentioned by name in the gene-

ral survey of Domesday, but is included in the account of the antient demesne of the king's manor of Dartford, of which it was an appendage, that manor extending itself over the whole parish of Wilmington at this time, as may be seen more at large in the preceding account of that manor.

THE MANOR OF GRANDISONS, alias WILMINGTON, was the inheritance of the noble and illustrious family of Grandison, written for shortness in old deeds and writings Grauntson. Otho de Grandison, who flourished in the reigns of king Henry III. and king Edward I. possessed this manor; /f on whose death, without issue, William de Grandison, his brother, succeeded to it, to whom, and Sibilla his wife and their heirs, king Edward I. gave a rent issuing out of the manor of Dartford, in exchange for lands in Sussex. He left several sons and daughters, of the latter Agnes, married Sir John de Norwood, who afterwards in her right became intitled to it. /g After which Richard Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel, held it and died possessed of it in the 21st year of king Richard II. /h Richard Nevill, the great earl of Warwick, surnamed the King-maker, held it in the reign of king Henry VI. He was slain at the battle of Barnet, endeavouring to replace king Henry on the throne, in 1471, after whose death the vast inheritance of the Warwick family was taken from his widow, by authority of parliament, as if she had been naturally dead, and much of it was given to her two daughters; but this manor was granted by king Edward IV. to Sir William Stanley, who bore for his arms, Argent, on a bend azure three bucks heads cabosche or, a chief gules, being next brother to Thomas lord

/f Philipott, p. 334. /g Leland. Itin. vol. iii. p. 67.

/h Philipott, p. 334.

333

Stanley, to whom the king had granted the manor of Dartford. It staid with him till he was attainted, and lost his head in the 10th year of that reign, under pretence of his having been engaged in the conspiracy of Perkin Warbeck, /i when it became again vested in the crown, where it remained till king Henry VIII. in his 2d year, granted it to Sir Thomas Howard, afterwards created earl of Surry, and the lady Anne his wife, one of the daughters of king Edward IV. to hold to her in tail male, by knights service. /k She died without issue, on which it came again to the crown, and was presently after granted to Margaret Plantagenet, wife of Sir Richard, son of Sir Jeffry Pole, K. G. This lady, as being only sister and heir of Edward, earl of Warwick and Salisbury, and daughter of Isabel, daughter and heir of Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick and Salisbury, by George Plantagenet, duke of Clarence, and brother to king Edward IV. was, on her petition, restored by parliament in the 5th year of king Henry VIII. to the dignity of countess of Salisbury. But after the king's marriage with Anne Bullen, losing his esteem, she was, on several pretences, attainted in parliament in the 31st year of that reign. In her misfortunes she behaved with great resolution, notwithstanding she was seventy years of age; and though she could not be persuaded to confess any thing prejudicial to herself, yet she had

sentence of death passed upon her, without ever being heard; and two years after, without arrangement or trial, had her head cut off in the tower, in the 33d year of the same reign. She left by Sir Richard Pole four sons, Henry, who in the 21st of king Henry VIII. had been summoned to parliament by the title of lord Mowntague, and was afterwards attainted and beheaded; Jeffry, of whom hereafter; Arthur, who was attainted,

/i In the Visitation of 1619 is a pedigree of Stanley, of Wilmington. /k Augtn. off. Inrolments.

334

and Reginald, who was the cardinal, and afterwards archbishop of Canterbury.

King Henry VIII. in his 35th year, granted this manor of Grandisons, late parcel of her possessions, to Sir Jeffry Pole, her second son before-mentioned, together with other lands in Dartford, Stone, Wilmington, Crayford, Chiselhurst, and Sutton at Hone, to hold in capite by knights service./l Next year he alienated this manor, and the lands before-mentioned, and certain annual rents called Grandisons Rents, issuing from several lands in those parishes, to Sir Thomas Moile;/m who, in the second year of queen Elizabeth, settled this manor in marriage with his youngest daughter and coheir Amy, on Sir Thomas Kempe, of Ollantigh./n

After his death, in the 15th year of queen Elizabeth, Katherine, his eldest daughter and coheir seems to have had some interest in this manor and Grandisons Rents. However that may be, it was soon after conveyed by sale to Sir Christopher Heron, who, in the beginning of king James I's reign, passed it away to George Cole, esq. of the Middle Temple, London, and he, in the 16th year of it conveyed it to Sir Thomas Smith, of Sutton at Hone, second son of Customer Smith, of Westenhanger, who likewise purchased the manor of Rowe-hill, in this parish, and his great grandson, Robert Smythe, esq. died possessed of both these manors in 1695, leaving Katherine his wife surviving; and two sons, Henry and William, to whom these manors descended as heirs in gavelkind.

In the 10th year of king William, the said Katherine, as guardian to her two infant sons, obtained an act of parliament for vesting these manors in trustees to sell them, who accordingly, with her and Henry Smythe, her eldest son, in 1699, conveyed them, with the ma=

/l Sandford's Gen. Hist. p. 416, 417.

/m Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 24. /n Ibid. pt. 9. anno 12 Eliz. John Mabbe was a trustee for this manor for particular uses. See Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 9.

335

nor of Sutton, and other premises in these parts, to Sir John Lethieullier, of London, whose grandson, John Lethieullier, esq. of Sutton-place, died possessed of them in 1760 without issue, and, by his will, devised them to his second wife Anne, who survived him; and after some litigation in the court of chancery, she, with Mary Browne, who had contested her right to these manors, but had compromised the same, by their deed, in 1766, conveyed them to Nathaniel Webb, esq. of Taunton, in Somersetshire, who sold this manor to

John Mumford, esq. of Sutton at Hone, the present owner of it.

THE MANOR OF ROWEHILL, as it is now called, though the proper name of it is Ruehill, was, in the reign of king Edward I. in the possession of the family of Gyse; as eminent for their illustrious extraction, as they were for the largeness of their estates. In the very beginning of the above reign Anselm de Gyse was owner of this manor, who having likewise the manor of Elmore, in Gloucestershire, by the gift of John de Burgh, son of Hubert, chief justice of England and earl of Kent, bore the same coat of arms as that great earl did./o

This Anselme de Gyse had a charter of free warren granted to him and his heirs for his lands in Wilmington and Sutton, near Dartford, in the 22d year of king Edward I./p and died the next year, whose great grandson John Gyse, sold it to Simon Franceys, a wealthy citizen and mercer of London, who was lord-mayor in the 16th year of king Edward III. He died possessed of this manor in the 32d year of that reign./q

The next proprietor of it was Nicholas, son of Sir John de Brembre,/r who becoming obnoxious by his attachment to the arbitrary measures of Richard II.

/o Philipott, p. 366. Atkins's Glouc. p. 325.

/p Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 27. /q Ibid.

/r Philipott, p. 366.

336

was, in the 10th of that reign, attainted, and forfeited both his life and estate. This manor being thus vested in the crown, king Richard II. in his 14th year, granted it to Adam Bamme, esq. of London, goldsmith, in whose posterity it remained several generations, till one of his descendants sold it to Brett; whose successor passed it away by sale to Sir Thomas Smith, of Sutton at Hone before-mentioned. Since which this manor has had the same owners as the adjoining manor of Grandisons, alias Wilmington, being with it sold by Nathaniel Webb, esq. of Taunton, in Somersetshire, to John Mumford, esq. of Sutton at Hone, the present possessor of it.

There is a large conspicuous hill, covered with wood, situated on the south side of Dartford-heath, called Rowehill-wood, part of the demesne of this manor; on the south side of which, at the extremity of it, stood the Court-lodge, a mean farm-house, which being burnt down about thirty-five years ago, has not since been rebuilt.

THE MANOR OF STANHILL, alias WARDENDALE, antiently belonged to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester, the manor-house still bearing the name of the Court-lodge. At the dissolution of the priory, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. this manor came to the crown, and was, next year, granted to the new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, who possess the inheritance of it. The present lessee is William Player, esq. of Greenwich.

King Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted to John Wroth, land in Westbrockall, in Wilmington, together with other lands there, called Estbrockall, near Dartford heath, late parcel of Dartford priory, to hold

in capite by knights service./s They were afterwards sold to Humphry, and thence again in the 2d year of king Edward VI. to Sir Maurice Denys;/t on his death

/s Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 6. /t Ibid.

337

lady Elizabeth Denys, his widow, possessed them, and in Easter term, anno 17 queen Elizabeth, levied a fine of the manor of Estbrockall, which is now wholly unknown both as to its situation and owner.

On her death, Elizabeth, her only daughter and heir, married to Vincent Randyll, then deceased, had that year possession granted of these lands before-mentioned, and three hundred acres of wood in Wilmington, holding them in capite by knights service./u

#### CHARITIES.

The poor have a prescriptive right to 1 bushel of wheat, and 12 bushels of peas, payable yearly out of the parsonage of Sutton and Wilmington, which is distributed at the parsonage barn at Sutton, on St. Thomas's day.

JOHN LAKE, sen. of Stone, by will in 1604, gave 6s. 8d. payable out of a piece of land, called Longacre, in Wilmington, that is one half on All Saints Day, and the same on Good Friday, to be distributed in bread by the churchwardens, to the poor, where most need should be, vested in Francis Motley Austen, esq.

THOMAS ROUND, of Wilmington, by will in 1631, gave 10s. a year, payable out of two messuages, and several parcels of land in this parish, in the possession of several different owners. It is distributed to the poor in bread.

ANTHONY POULTER, of Dartford, by will in 1635, gave 13s. 4d. payable yearly out of a piece of land, called Deane, in Wilmington, to be distributed in bread to the poor on Rogation Sunday, vested in the heirs of John Pettit, esq. and of that annual produce.

Mr. HENRY BLAITHWAITE, and ANNE his wife, by will in 1652, and Mr. LANCELOT BATHURST, by deed in 1670, and different contributions from the most respectable inhabitants of this parish, gave different sums, with which were bought a messuage, barn, and 7 acres of land, now of the annual value of 5l. 10s. of which 2l. 10s. is distributed in bread to the poor, 2l. distributed to them in money on St. Thomas's day, and 20s. is reserved for repairs, vested in the minister and churchwardens.

GEORGE LANGWORTH, of St. Thomas Apostles, gent. by will in 1708, gave 20s. a year, payable out of an estate in Wilmington, which belonged to him, to be distributed to the poor on Christmas day, in money, vested in Mr. Thomas Plummer, of London, woolstapler, of 1l. per annum produce.

/u Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 6.

338

ANTHONY POULTER, of Dartford, by will in 1637, gave 20s. to be paid yearly on Easter-day, out of his lands and tenements in Wilmington, to be distributed to the poor of this parish, but this legacy, for what reasons is unknown, has never been paid, though it seems to be the same person as has been already mentioned before.

SIR THOMAS SMITH, by will in 1621, devised in trust for several charitable uses to the Skinners Company, several different tenements in London, and in the last clause in his will, declared that when by the expiration of the leases, the revenues of them should be increased, it should be distributed among the poor of

the parishes, therein particularly named, or any other in which he should have lands at the time of his decease; Wilmington is one of the parishes particularly named, and from the return of benefactions made to the archdeacon in 1712, it appears that, till the fire of London in 1666, 5l. had been annually given to the poor of this parish by the above company, which has not been paid to it since.

WILMINGTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and consists of one isle and a chancel, having a spire steeple at the west end, which standing on the knoll of the hill, is an object for many miles round. There are three bells in it.

Among other monuments and memorials in this church, are the following: – In the isle, on the south wall, a hatchment, with the arms of Bunce, impaling, or 3 wolves heads erased gules, and inscription for Mary, wife of Mr. James Bunce, of London, son of Sir James Bunce, bart. of this county. In the chancel, are several monuments and inscriptions for the family of Bathurst, of this parish; near which is a grave-stone, on which has been the figure in brass of a man, and a coat of arms above, all which, as well as the inscription are lost, but the stone has been purloined for another purpose, and there is a modern brass plate on it for Oliver Godfrey, esq. obt. 1610, who had 10 children. Besides which there are buried in this church several of the family of Stanley, of this parish, and of West Peckham, in this county./x

In the church yard is a monument for Sir Edward Hulse, bart. M. D. who lies buried, with his lady, &c. in a vault underneath, and another for Edward Fowke, esq. and Hester his wife. There are likewise vaults for the families of Hobbes, Perry, and Neve,

/x See the monuments and inscriptions at large in Reg. Roff. p. 991.

339

and several decayed tombs for the family of Langley, which has been extinct here for many years, one of them was a benefactor to the poor of this parish.

The church was at first only a chapel to the church of Sutton at Hone, the adjoining parish to Wilmington. Henry I. granted the church of Sutton, with the chapels of Wilmington and Kingsdown, to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester; which gift Henry II. confirmed, as did Henry, bishop of Rochester./y

Bishop Gundulph, who was elected to that see in the reign of the Conqueror, having divided the revenues of his church between himself and his priory, allotted the church of Sutton, and these chapels, to the share of the monks./z

Bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, in the reign of king Richard I. on the compromise of the great dispute, which he had with his priory, concerning the gifts which his predecessor, bishop Gundulph, had made to it, in prejudice of his see, granted the church of Sutton, with this chapel of Wilmington, towards the support of the almonry of the convent, and ordained, that Gilbert, then rector of it, should be perpetual vicar of the above mentioned church and chapel, paying to the monks, as parsons of it, an annual pension of four marks, and that the perpetual vicar of Wilmington should have the cure of souls in the said chapel, and,

in the name of a vicarage, should take for his maintenance all the altarage, as well in small tithes as in oblations, and all obventions belonging to the church, with the alms land which then belonged to it, or which any one should give in future to it: and he further ordained, that the cellarer of the priory should sustain all the burthens of these churches, as well in respect to the bishop as the archdeacon, except synodals, which the vicars should pay./a But it does not

/y Reg. Roff. p. 45, 59. /z Text. Roff. p. 153. Reg. Roff. p. 2, 3, 6. /a Dugd. Mon. p. 53.

340

appear that this appropriation ever took place; it was conditional, as may be seen by the decrees of the archbishops Hubert and Richard./b

Bishop Laurence, in the year 1253, appropriated and confirmed to the priory the church of Sutton, with the chapels of Wilmington and Kingsdown, toward the support of the almonry of the convent, saving, in all things, his episcopal right, and that of the archdeacon of Rochester, provided that the cure of souls in the above-mentioned church and chapels should be served, and in no wise neglected, by a proper vicar, who should be from time to time provided by the bishop and his successors in the church of Sutton, and by proper vicars in those chapels, to be presented to him and his successors by the prior and convent. This was confirmed to the priory by John bishop of Rochester, in 1478.

In consequence of the above appropriation, the parishes of Sutton and Wilmington continued one parsonage, with two distinct vicarages, which, at the general dissolution, were surrendered into the hands of the crown, and two years after, anno 33 Henry VIII. were settled on the new erected dean and chapter of Rochester, where the inheritance of them still remains.

Thomas bishop of Rochester, in 1436, confirmed the antient endowment of this vicarage, which was of four quarters of corn, viz. one of wheat, one of rye, one of barley, and one of peas, of the value of sixteen shillings, a pension of two marcs, the altarages and oblations, and the tithes of wool, lambs, pigs, geese, hemp, fruits, honey, wax, cows, calves, milk-meats, wood, mills, and conies, and in other small tithes, and in twelve acres of arable, which in the whole were worth 4l. 8s. 6d. at that time, beyond reprises; and he further augmented it with the annual sum of four marcs and four shillings, to be paid quarterly, out

/b Dugd. Mon. p. 69, 105.

341

of the profits of the parsonage, and two bushels of wheat, to be delivered half yearly at the parsonage barn, or sixteen pence in money, in lieu of the two bushels, at the option of the prior and convent, who he decreed should continue to discharge all burthens, ordinary and extraordinary, belonging to this church, the bread and wine for the use of the altar, and the repair of the vicarage house only excepted./c

By virtue of the commission of enquiry in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Wilming-

ton was a vicarage, and had eleven acres of glebe land, with the composition money of 5l. 1s. 4d. per annum from the parsonage, and was worth, if the tithes were truly paid, 28l. per annum, master John Killey then inbument of it./d

It is valued in the king's books at 6l. 17s. 6d. and the yearly tenths at 13s. 9d./e

The vicar claims all tithes except corn and grain, which belongs to the appropriation; and he still receives the antient pension of 5l. 1s. 4d. together with an augmentation of 10l. per annum soon after the restoration, both paid by the dean and chapter of Rochester.

There is a certain portion of tythes in this parish, called Stanhill and Strodeland tithes, which was granted to the hospital at Strode, by bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, being the decimæ novalium of lands in Dartford and Wilmington, which the canons of Lesnes had then first cultivated, to which Gilbert, then parson of Sutton, consented; which gift was confirmed by Hubert, archbishop of Canterbury, and by king Richard I./f

At the dissolution of the hospital, this portion of tithes was granted to the dean and chapter of Ro-

/c Reg. Roff. p. 138, 654, 689.

/d Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib.

vol. xix.

/e Bacon, Lib. Regis. Lambeth Queries.

/f Reg. Roff. p. 688.

342

chester, who now demise it to Mr. William Mumford, their lessee of the parsonage of Sutton.

#### CHURCH OF WILMINGTON.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Dean and Chapter of Rochester John Wells, obt. 1477./g

Thomas Botelere, in 1557.

William Boyden, inst. 1604.

Martin Watson, A. M. instituted  
1606.

Robert Warburton, inst. 1635.

Jeremiah Clayton, A. M. inst.  
1642.

Robert Hartley, in 1652.

Robert Bedle, B. A. inst. 1661,  
obt. 1695./h

John Percival, A. B. inst. 1695,  
obt. Nov. 1725.

John White, A. M. inst. 1726, ob.  
April 29, 1767./i

Samuel Denne, A. M. inst. May  
12, 1767. Present vicar./k

/g He was buried in the chancel.

Cust. Roff. p. 105.

/h Buried in this church, as was his  
successor.

/i Vicar of Erith. He lies buried in  
this church yard.

/k Second son of Dr. John Denne, archdeacon of Rochester, by the daughter of bishop Bradford; also vicar of Darent, and a good benefactor to this vicarage – a gentleman to whom literature in general, and the editor of these volumes in particular, is highly indebted for his liberal communications.

343

- - -

#### THE HUNDRED OF AXSTANE

LIES next south-eastward from that of Dartford and Wilmington. It is called in the general survey of Domesday, Achestan, and in some antient writings, Clackstone; in the 7th year of king Edward I. it was called by its present name, the king and the arch-bishop being then lords paramount of it.

In the 20th year of king Edward III. this hundred answered for fourteen knights fees and a half, and the fifth and the fortieth part of a knight's fee.

#### IT CONTAINS THE PARISHES OF

1. SUTTON-AT-HONE.
2. DARENT.
3. STONE.
4. SWANSCOMBE.
5. SOUTHFLEET.
6. LONGFIELD.
7. FAWKHAM.
8. HARTLEY.
9. RIDLEY.
10. ASH.
11. KINGSDOWN, excepting  
WOODLAND.
12. HORTON KIRKBY.
13. FARNINGHAM.
14. EYNSFORD, and
15. LULLINGSTONE.

And the churches of these parishes, and part of COWDEN, but not the church, which is in another hundred.

- - -

#### SUTTON-AT-HONE

LIES the next parish south-eastward from Wilmington, and was once so considerable, as to give name to the whole lath. It was called in Latin, Suthtuna, from its situation south of the town of Dartford, and had the addition of At-Hone, from its lying low in the valley.

THIS PARISH contains about 3100 acres of land, of which 250 are wood. It is pleasantly situated as to

344

the eastern part of it in the vale, through which a branch of the river Darent runs at the eastern boundary of it, near which the turnpike road from Dartford to Farningham, and so on to Sevenoke, leads through it, passing through Hawley and the village of Sutton; near it are most of the gentlemen's seats

in it mentioned below, the parsonage, and vicarage. Hence the ground rises westward to the hill, having the church standing at one field's distance from the above road, still higher to Gilton-hill and Swanley, at the western boundary of the parish, at Birchwood corner, adjoining to the high road from Foot's Cray to Farningham. The soil of this parish is in general light, stony, and much inclined to gravel, though there is a good deal of chalk in several different parts of it; and there is some fertile lands in the southern part, adjoining to Horton; the western part, adjoining to the Farningham road, is very poor indeed, and such of it as is not coppice wood is mostly covered with heath and furze, especially about that part called the Warren.

Our HERBALISTS have taken notice of the following SCARCE HERBS and PLANTS in this parish, viz.

*Ocymum sylvestre*, or wild basil, found in plenty near St. John's./l

*Millefolium flare rubro*, red flowered yarrow, in the Hollydeans.

*Ebulus*, sive *sambucus humilis*, dane wort, or dwarf elder, in the grounds near St. John's, and in the Neatherway there.

*Tapsus barbatus*, mullein, or higtaper, grows likewise in plenty near St. John's.

That curious naturalist, Abraham Hill, esq. lord of the manor of St. John's, about the year 1670, planted in an orchard, adjoining to his mansion here,

/l Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 677, 1072, 1426.

345

the most curious fruits from Devonshire and Herefordshire, both apples and pears, used in those countries for making cyder and perry, with the intent of introducing them among the orchards of this county, many of which are still remaining here; among which are many trees of that scarce fruit, called the Kentish pippin.

In the book of Domesday, Levenot de Sudtone is said to have had the privileges of sac and soc within the lath of Sutton.

Robert Basing, in the reign of king John, gave to the Knights Hospitallers the MANORS of SUTTON-AT-HONE and of HALGELL, now HAWLEY, in this parish.

Elen de Saukevile, daughter of Ralph de Dene, gave all her land of Lageham, in Penshurst, to the manor of Sutton. Ralph de Penshurst gave more lands and rents there to this manor. Nicholas, son of Nicholas de Twytham, gave rents, with their appurtenances, in the parish of Sutton; and Gilbert, son of William Helles, gave more lands and rents to it. In the first year of king Edward, the prior of St. John had a confirmation of his liberties for his lands in Sutton-at-Hone./m &c. This manor seems, by the antient rentals of it, to have been formerly accounted but as an appendage to that possessed by the knights in Dartford, which was constantly stiled, Manerium de Derteford cum Sutton-at-Hone; which, besides the parishes of Dartford and Sutton, extended

into those of Ash, Penshurst, Edenbridge, Chelsfield, and Nockholt, and into Limpsfield, in Surry.

The manor of Sutton continued part of the possessions of the Knights Hospitallers, who had a commandery established here. This was a convenient mansion, of which they had several on their different estates, in which there was a society of these knights

/m Dugg. Mon. vol. iii. p. 544. Tan. Mon. p. 220.

346

placed, who were to take care of their rents and lands in the neighbourhood of it. They were allowed proper maintenance out of the revenues under their care, and the remainder was accounted for to the grand prior at London; in which state it remained till their dissolution, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when by an act, passed specially for that purpose, all their lands and possessions were given to the king; who, that year, granted the office of receiver-general of the revenues of the late dissolved hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, in England, to Sir Maurice Denys, descended of a good family in Gloucestershire, who bore for his arms, Gules, three leopards heads, or, jessant fleurs de lis azure, over all a bend engrailed of the third; and he, from this grant, and having the grant of several of these possessions afterwards, acquired the addition of St. John's to his name. In like manner all other great estates and possessions, as well of the late monasteries as of attainted persons, were sought after by the courtiers and great men, who first begged the offices of bailiffs and receivers of them, to be more certainly acquainted with their value, and then got the grants of them in fee; after which, in his 35th year, he granted to Sir Maurice Denys St. John's, among other premises, this manor of Sutton-at-Hone, alias St. John's, the chapel of Sutton, and other lands and premises belonging to it, to hold in capite, by knights service.

Anno 4 queen Elizabeth, Sir Maurice Denys levied a fine of this manor, and two years after died possessed of it, as appears by the inquisition taken after his death. Lady Elizabeth Denys, his widow, who had been first the wife of Nicholas Stathan, mercer, of London, by whom she had no issue, then became possessed of it, and died in the 19th year of it; and by her will gave this manor to her only daughter,

/n Tan. Mon. p. 28.

347

Elizabeth, the widow of Vincent Randyll, esq. and their two daughters, Catherine and Martha, who, on their mother's death, became possessed of it in undivided moieties. Martha Randyll carried her moiety in marriage to Thomas Cranfield, esq. of London, who bore for his arms, Or, on a pale azure, three fleurs de lis of the first; on whose death it came to their son, Sir Randyll Cranfield, who, in the 7th year of king Charles I. executed a writ of partition of this manor with Sarah countess of Leicester, and her son Sir John Smith, owners of the other moiety of it; and each of them possessing part of the demesnes, as well as part of the services, each moiety became a separate

manor.

That which was allotted to Cranfield retained the name of ST. JOHN'S, alias SUTTON MANOR, and included the antient mansion and chapel of the knights here; and to this manor was allotted the court leet, usually held for it. Sir Randyll Cranfield, by his will, in 1635, gave this manor of St. John's, alias Sutton, to his son, Vincent Cranfield, esq. who, by deed and fine, laid in 1649, conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Hollis, merchant, of London; and he, with Elizabeth his wife, in 1660, passed it away, by deed and fine levied, to Abraham Hill, esq. merchant of London, who did not get possession of it till the year 1667. He afterwards resided at St. John's, where he died in 1721, and was buried in Sutton church. He was descended of a good family, who had been for some generations seated at Shilston, in Devonshire; one of whom, Robert Hill, esq. was sheriff of that county in the 7th year of king Henry VI. and representative in parliament for it in the 26th of that reign, and bore for his arms, Argent, a chevron between three water bougets, sable. One of his descendants, and fifth son of Robert Hill, esq. of Shilston, seated himself at Truro, in Cornwall, whose son Richard was an alderman of the city of London. He died in 1659, and was bu-

348

ried with much pomp in the church of St. Dionis Backchurch, London, leaving by Agnes his wife, a son, Abraham Hill, esq. before mentioned, who was a most ingenious and learned man, one of the first encouragers, and a fellow of the Royal Society, at the first institution of it. By his first wife Anne, daughter of Sir Bulstrode Whitlock, he left a son, Richard, and a daughter, Frances.

Richard Hill, esq. survived his father but a few weeks, and dying without issue, this manor devolved to his sister, Mrs. Frances Hill, who resided here, and died possessed of it, in 1736, unmarried, and lies buried in the south isle of Sutton church, with the rest of her family, having a most remarkable and singular epitaph on her monument and grave stone; she by her will gave it, as well as her other Kentish estates, near Tunbridge, to her kinsman, William Hill, esq. of Carwythinick, in Cornwall, who in the latter end of 1780, sold it to Mr. John Mumford, of Sutton place, who died in 1787, and by his will devised this manor to his eldest son, William Mumford, esq. of this parish, the present owner of it; and the mansion of it to his youngest son John Mumford, esq. who was sheriff in 1796, and now resides in it. Of the mansion the north side only remains, which was formerly the chapel belonging to it: this has long since been converted into the dwelling-house, and was almost rebuilt in the year 1755.

The OTHER MOIETY of the manor of St. John's, alias Sutton-at-Hone, since known by the name of SUTTON MANOR, was carried in marriage, by Catherine, the other daughter of Vincent Randyll, to Robert Wrote, esq. whose son, Francis Wrote, esq. of Gunton, in Suffolk, in the 10th year of king James, conveyed it to Sir William Swan, of Southfleet; and he, in the 14th year of the same reign, passed it away

to George Cole, esq. of the Inner Temple, London, who, two years after, sold this moiety, together with

349

the moiety of the chapel of the late priory of St. John's, with all tithes, oblations, &c. belonging to it, and other lands in Sutton and Wilmington, to Sir Thomas Smith, second son of Customer Smith, of Westenhanger, who was a great navigator, and entrusted in many weighty matters relating to the trade of this kingdom. He had been ambassador to the emperor of Russia, and afterwards resided at Brook-place in this parish, where he died in 1625, as is conjectured, of the plague, which raged greatly here at that time. He bore for his arms, Azure, a chevron engrailed, or, between three lions passant guardant of the second; which he quartered with those of Judd, Chiche, Criol, Creveceur, Averenches, Chichele, and Stafford; having by will left many charitable benefactions to several parishes in this county, and entrusted them to the care of the Skinner's company, who pay them yearly. He lies buried in this church, under a most costly monument, having his effigies at full length recumbent on it. He left by his third wife, Sarah, daughter and heir of William Blount, esq. who was the next year married to Robert Sidney earl of Leicesters; a son, John, afterwards knighted, who, together with his mother, Sarah, countess of Leicester, owners of one moiety of the manor of St. John's, executed their writ of partition of it with Sir Randill Cranfield, owner of the other moiety, in the 7th year of Charles I. as has been already mentioned.

THAT PART, allotted to the countess of Leicester and her son, thus becoming a separate manor, with a court baron appendant to it, acquired the name of the manor of Sutton, and after the countess of Leicesters' death, came, with Brook-place, into Sir John Smith's possession. He died possessed of Sutton manor and Brook-place, with much other land in this county, leaving by the lady Isabella, daughter of the earl of Warwick, one son, Robert, and a daughter, Isabella, married to John lord Robartes, of Truro.

350

Robert Smythe, esq. was of Bounds, in Bidbrough, and of Sutton, and married the lady Dorothy Sidney, relict of Henry earl of Sunderland, by whom he had one son, Robert Smythe, esq. of Sutton-at-Hone, who was governor of Dover castle, and died in 1695, possessed of this manor and Brook-place, leaving Catherine his wife, daughter of William Stafford, of Blatherwick, in Northamptonshire, surviving, and two sons, Henry and William, o to whom this manor and seat descended, as heirs in gavelkind.

In the 10th year of king William, she, as guardian to her two infant sons, obtained an act of parliament for vesting this manor and seat, among others, in this county, in trustees to sell the same, who accordingly, in 1699, conveyed them to Sir John Le Thieullier, of London.

This family of Le Thieullier appears to have been of good account in France, as well as Germany, for some generations before they settled in England, which

is supposed to have been in the reign of queen Elizabeth, when they fled hither, to avoid the persecution in those parts on account of religion. Among the names of such French as fled to Rye, in Sussex, upon the massacre of the Protestants in France, in 1572, are the names of Le Tellier, and Tellier; and in a list of others, in 1576, is that of Gyllam Tulyer.

John de Thieullier was a merchant of London, and died at Lewisham, in 1679, leaving by Jane de la Forterie, his wife, eight children; of whom John le Thieullier, the eldest son, was a wealthy merchant of London, and served the office of sheriff there in 1674, when he was knighted. He was the purchaser of this estate, and dying in 1718, was buried in a vault in Greenwich church-yard, over which there is a monument erected to his memory; on which are his arms, Argent, a chevron, gules, /p between three parrots heads,

/o See Bidborough. /p Strype's Stow's Surv. book v. p. 301.

351

couped vert; having, by his will, been a good benefactor both to Christ's and St. Thomas's hospitals. He left by Anne, his wife, daughter of Sir William Hooker, alderman, and afterwards lord mayor of London, two sons, John Lethieullier, esq. of Aldersbrooke, in Essex; and William Lethieullier, esq. of Beckenham and of Sutton-place, and three daughters. William Lethieullier, the second son, possessed Sutton manor; he left by his first wife, Mary, daughter of Nicholas Manning, a Hamburgh merchant, John, afterwards of Sutton-place; Manning, of Lewisham; Mary, who married Thomas Scrimpsour, gent. and William, who was of London, citizen and grocer. His second wife was Mary Sarkeld, of Cumberland, by whom he had one son, Samuel, of Beckenham; and two daughters, Letitia, married to Tho. Clerke, counsellor at Law; and Leonora to Mr. Holden.

John Lethieullier, esq. the eldest son, on his father's death, in 1733, became possessed of this manor and seat. He married twice, but had issue by neither of his wives; and dying in 1760, gave, by his will, all his estates and effects to his wife, Anne, who survived him; and she, after some litigation in chancery, together with Mary Browne, who had contested her right to these manors and estates, but had compromised the same by their deed, in 1766, conveyed them to Nathaniel Webbe, esq. of Taunton, in Somersetshire; who, the next year, parted with Sutton-place, and other lands belonging to these estates, but the manor of Sutton continued some time longer in his possession, and till it was sold to Mr. John Mumford, of Sutton-place, who died in 1787, and by his will bequeathed it, after his wife's death, to his second son, John Mumford, esq. of St. John's, the present owner of it.

The manor of St. John's, and the manor of Sutton, each pay a yearly fee farm rent of 1l. 7s. 2d. to the crown.

352

SUTTON-PLACE, formerly called Brook-place, was, in the reign of king Henry VIII. the inheritance of

Nicholas Statham, gent. after whose death Elizabeth, his widow, carried it in marriage to Sir Maurice Denys, on whose death, in the 6th year of queen Elizabeth, it came to his brother and heir at law, Sir Walter Denys, of Durham's, in Gloucestershire; who, with Richard Denys, esq. his son, in the 7th year of that reign, sold it to Rowland Hayward, alderman of London, and he passed it away to Martin Bowes, esq. who, in the 13th year of that reign, conveyed it to Anne Haddon, widow of Walter Haddon, esq. principal master of the Queen's court of requests, who afterwards married Sir Henry Brook, alias Cobham, fifth son of George lord Cobham. She sold it to George Cole, esq. of the Inner Temple; who, in the 20th of king James I. sold it by the name of Sutton-place, alias Brook-place, heretofore in the possession of Sir Henry Cobham, and late in the tenure of the countess, widow of George, late earl of Cumberland, together with the moiety of the manor of St. John's, and other lands and premises, to Sir Thomas Smith, who much improved and augmented this magnificent pile of building, which had been first erected by Sir Maurice Denys. The mansion remained in Sir Thomas Smith's descendants, as has been already mentioned, till Catharine, widow of Robert Smythe, esq. and Henry Smythe, their son, in 1699, conveyed it to Sir John le Thieullier, who being informed (for he never saw it) that this mansion was, from its size, too great an incumbrance to the estate belonging to it, ordered part of it to be pulled down, which was done most injudiciously, insomuch that the magnificence and beauty of it was, in great measure, destroyed. From Sir John le Thieullier it passed, in like manner, with Sutton manor, to Anne, widow of his grandson, John Lethieullier, esq. who, with Mary Browne above mentioned, sold it in 1766, to

353

Nathaniel Webb, esq. and he, next year, conveyed Sutton-place, with other lands in Sutton, Darent, &c. to Mr. John Mumford, who having pulled down part of it, modernized the rest, covering it with white stucco; and having thus improved the house, as well as the gardens and grounds belonging to it, he afterwards resided in it. He died in 1787, leaving two sons and three daughters; William, now of Sutton place, who married a daughter of Mr. Fleet, of Woolwich, by whom he has no issue; and John, of St. John's, in this parish, sheriff of this county in 1796; who married first the daughter of Dr. Nash, of Sevenoke; and secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr. Sergeant Leigh, by neither of whom he has had issue. Of the daughters, Mary married to Duncan Campbell, esq. of London; Anne died unmarried; and Elizabeth married Richard Leigh, esq. of Wilmington.

Mr. Mumford, by his will, bequeathed this seat to his widow for her life, who now resides in it, with her eldest son, William Mumford, esq. to whom, after her death, he devised this seat.

HAWLEY is an hamlet, situated in the northern extremity of this parish, adjoining to Wilmington. It was antiently called Hagelei, and was esteemed as

part of the manor of Dartford, the king's antient de=mesne; but before the taking the survey of Domes=day, it had been separated from it, as appears from the description of the manor of Dartford in that re=cord, as follows:

The tenants of the hundred likewise affirm, that Ha=gelei is taken away from this manor (of Dartford). It was taxed at half a suling. The sheriff held this land, and when he quitted the shrievalty, it remained in the king's occupation; so it remained also after the death of King Edward; now Hugh de Port holds it, with 54 acres of land more. The whole of this is worth 15 pounds.

354

Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, had then got it into his possession, as appears by the before mentioned survey; where, among the lands of that prelate, it is in another place thus entered:

In the lath of Sudtone, in Achestan hundred, Hugh de Port holds of the bishop of Baieux Hagelei. It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 14 villeins, with 3 borderers having 4 carucates. There are 3 servants, and 12 acres of meadow, and 1 mill of 20 shillings, and 1 den of wood sufficient for the pannage of 5 hogs. The whole manor is worth now 15 pounds, of 20 pence in an ore. – In this manor one tenant holds 20 acres of arable land, worth 5 shillings per ann. He is called Uluret. He neither belongs to this manor, nor can he have any other lord but the king.

This place, on the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, about four years after taking this survey, most proba=bly reverted to the crown. After which it seems to have come into the possession of Henry de Port, for he, in the year 1108, being the 8th year of king Henry II. with the consent of Hawis his wife, and Hugh his son, gave in perpetual alms, to the church of Rochester, all his tithes of Hagelei, of which that church possessed one moiety before of his gift./q After which it appears to have been owned by the family of Basing; one of whom, Robert Basing, in the reign of king John, gave the manor of Sutton, and this manor of Halgell,/r to the Knights of St. John of Je=rusalem, commonly called the Knights Hospitallers, with whom it continued till their dissolution, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. It has long since been merged in the manor of Sutton-at-Hone, now pos=sessed by John Mumford, esq.

There was a subordinate manor in Hawley, for=merly known by the name of HAW SAWTERS, alias SAPTERS, which, in the reign of king Edward III.

/q Text. Roff. p. 195. /r Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 576.

355

was in the possession of the noble family of Hastings. Laurence de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, died pos=sessed of it in the 22d year of king Edward III./s whose grandson, John de Hastings, was unfortunately killed at a tournament at Woodstock, anno 13 king Richard II. and dying without issue, left Philippa his wife, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, earl of

March, surviving; who, having re-married Richard Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, he had this manor in dowry with her. She survived her last husband some years, and on her death, anno 2 king Henry IV. this manor, by virtue of an entail made by John Hastings, earl of Pembroke, in the 43d year of king Edward III. in case he died without issue, devolved to his cousin, William de Beauchamp, baron of Bergavenny, younger son of Thomas earl of Warwick, by Catharine Mortimer, sister of Agnes his mother. He died in the 12th year of king Henry IV. and was succeeded by Richard Beauchamp, his son and heir, who, in the 8th year of king Henry V. was made earl of Worcester; soon after which he was slain in France, leaving by Isabel his wife, sister and heir of Richard le Despencer, one sole daughter and heir, Elizabeth, afterwards married to Edward Nevill, a younger son of Ralph, earl of Westmoreland, who had possession granted of the lands of her inheritance, and was afterwards, in the 29th year of king Henry VI. summoned to parliament by the title of lord Bergavenny. He survived his wife, and died anno 16 Edward IV. possessed of this manor of Sawters. How long it continued in this family I do not find; but in the 1st of of king Henry VIII. John Poulter was in possession of it; descended of a family originally of Loughborough, in Leicestershire, in the time of king Henry II. and afterwards settled at Hitchin, in Hertfordshire, who bore for his arms, Argent, two bendlets sable, in chief

/s Philipott, p. 334. /t Dug. Bar. vol. p. 576. Rot. Esch.

356

a Cornish chough proper./v His daughter, Anne, carried it in marriage to Thomas Mayo; and his eldest son, Thomas Mayo, was possessed of Hawly with Sawters, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign. From him it descended to his son, Dionise Mayo, whose heirs, in the beginning of king James's reign, sold Hawley-house, with the reputed manor of Sawters, to Edmund Hunt, esq./u and he died possessed of it in 1609. After which it came into the possession of Mr. William Hewson, who died in 1637, and lies buried with his wife in Sutton church. His son, of the same name, soon after the death of king Charles I. transmitted Hawley-house, with the estate belonging to it, for the manor of Sawters, was now quite obliterated, to Edward Badby, esq. son of Benjamin Badby, of London, gent. sixth son of John Badby, gent. of St. Edmund's Bury, in Suffolk./w He died in 1682, and his heirs sold it to the hon. John Stafford Howard, whose estate becoming forfeited for his adherence to king James II. king William, in 1695, granted this seat, with the estate belonging to it, to Sir Francis Leigh, of Tring, in Hertfordshire, who removed hither, and was knight of the shire for this county, in the first parliament of queen Anne. After which, Hawley-house descended at length to his grandson, Francis Leigh, esq. who died possessed of it in 1774, without issue, and by his will bequeathed it, with the lands belonging to it in Hawley, to his fourth and surviving wife, for her life, who now resides in it; but the inheritance of it he gave to his nephew and heir at law, Richard, only

son of his brother, Richard Leigh, esq. serjeant-at-law, deceased, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Mumford, of Sutton-place, by whom he has two sons and one daughter. They bear for their arms, Or, on a chevron sable, three lions rampant argent, with the coats of Olyffe, Lovel, and Gifford, quartered with them./x

/v Chaunc. Herts. /u Sutton court-rolls. /w Heralds Off. D. 18.  
/x See the pedigree of Leigh, under East Wickham.

357

There are two other houses in Hawley of some account, the one nearer Dartford, built by Mr. Holland, whose daughter Hester brought it in marriage to Edward Fowke, esq. who died in 1789, s. p. and devised it to his brother, Mr. Francis Fowke, who now owns it, but Mr. Adam Callow resides in it.

The other seat is nearer Sutton, and was rebuilt by Samuel Percival, esq. on whose decease it became the property of rear-admiral Robert Robinson, esq. of Eltham, who married his only surviving daughter and heir; after which it was sold to Thomas Frazer, esq. who now owns it, but Hussey Fleet, esq. resides in it.

The mill, mentioned in the survey of Domesday, is still in being, and adjoins the gardens of the last-mentioned house, being now used for the manufacture of paper, and the pressing of oil.

HIGHLANDS is a manor in this parish, which lies westward from Hawley, adjoining to Wilmington, and was so called from its high situation.

This manor seems, from the earliest times, to have had the same possessors as the adjoining manor of Rowehill, in Wilmington.

Anselm de Gyse had a charter of free-warren, granted to him and his heirs, for his lands in Wilmington and Sutton, in the 22d year of king Edward I./y and died the next year. His great grandson, in the 8th year of king Edward II. sold it to Simon Franceys, a wealthy citizen of London, and he died possessed of it in the 32d of king Edward III. as appears by the escheat-rolls of that year.

How to find the intermediate owners I know not; but in the reign of king Henry VIII. it was in the possession of Sir Thomas Moyle, who gave it in marriage with his youngest daughter and coheir, Amy, to Sir Thomas Kempe, of Ollantigh, on whose decease it came to his eldest son, Sir Thomas Kempe, and he

/y Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 27.

358

conveyed this manor to his brother, Mr. Reginald Kempe,/z who sold it in the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, to Lancelot Bathurst, alderman of London, and of Franks in this neighbourhood, in whose descendants it continued to Francis Bathurst, esq. of Franks, who died possessed of it in 1738, leaving an only daughter and heir, Beronice, married to Mr. Joseph Fletcher, of London; and their only daughter and heir, Susan, carried it in marriage to John Tasker, esq. who surviving his wife before-mentioned, sold it, in 1766, to John Calcraft, of Ingries, esq. on whose death in 1772, it became by his will, the inheritance of his son, John Calcraft, esq. who sold it to John

Mumford, esq. of this parish, the present owner of it.

This manor is held of the manor of Lewisham.

A court baron is held for it, and several lands in the western part of Sutton are holden of it.

GILDEN-HILL, now called Gilton-hill, lies westward of Sutton-street, and seems formerly to have been accounted a manor, great part of it belonged to the priory of Dartford, and, at the dissolution of it in king Henry VIIth's reign, came into the hands of the crown. After which, that king, in his 32d year, granted to Sir Percival Hart, among other premises, all the manors and lands formerly in the tenure of Henry Humphry, and afterwards of John Waller, in Gilden-hill and Swanley, in Sutton, to hold in capite by knights service:/a on whose death, in the 22d year of queen Elizabeth, they descended to George Hart, esq. his son and heir. In the next year of king James I. Sir Oliver Boteler, of Teston, possessed this farm and lands of Gilden-hill, and his descendant, Sir Philip Boteler, of Teston, bart. died possessed of them in 1772, and by his will devised one moiety of his estates to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, and the other moiety to Elizabeth, viscountess dowager Folke=

/z Philipott, p. 366. /a Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 5.

359

stone, and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor; and on their partition of these estates, this farm and lands at Gilden-hill fell to the share of the lady viscountess dowager Folkestone, who died in 1782, and was succeeded in them by her only son, the Hon. Philip Bouverie, who has since taken the name of Pusey, and he is the present owner of them.

SWANLEY is a considerable hamlet in this parish, lying at the south-west extremity of it, at the northern part of which there is a seat called Hackstaple, but formerly Exstapull in old records.

Roger Rothele, of Dartford, died possessed of this seat in the 11th year of king Edward IV./b Sir John Wiltshire possessed it in the beginning of the reign of king Henry VIII./c It was afterwards owned by the Killingworths, from whom it went, with Elizabeth, sole daughter and heir of George Killingworth, in marriage, to Christopher Eglesfield, gent. about the end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, one of his descendants, Francis Eglesfield, of London, gent. descended from a family who bore for their arms, Or, three eagles displayed gules./d He passed it away by sale soon after the death of king Charles I. to Mr. Christopher Searle, whose descendant of the same name conveyed it, about 1733, to Mr. Charles Egerton, of London; on whose death, in 1747, this seat and estate came to his eldest son, John Egerton, esq. of Hadleigh, whose widow is the present owner of it, but Dr. David Pitcairn now resides in it.

The priory of Bermondsey, otherwise called St. Savour's, in Southwark, possessed certain lands at Gil= den hall, called Bermondesey-lands, Monkyns, or Monkslands, in Sutton, Ferningham, and Eynsford.

CHARITIES.

FOUR ACRES of land were given for the repair of the church.

THOMAS TERREY, yeoman, of Shoreham, in 1628 gave by will, a house and land at Dean in Horton, to the poor, now of the annual produce of 3l. 5s.

/b Rot. Esch. ejus an. /c Sutton Court-rolls. /d Guillim. p. 312.

360

Mrs. KATHERINE WROTE built, and gave to the use of this parish, an alms-house, containing 4 rooms on a floor, with separate gardens. On the front of these houses is this inscription: These alms houses were erected by Kath. Wrote, widow, late wife of Robt. Wrote, esq. A. D. 1597. And these two coats of arms: Three piles azure, on a chief of the 2d, a griffin passant; and, on a saltier azure, 5 swans impaling on a bend 3 birds. And she left by will a house, barn and garden, adjoining the north end of the above houses, for the repair of them, now of the annual produce of 3l. 10s.

SIR THOMAS SMITH gave by will in 1625, the yearly sum of 5l. 10s. for six loaves of good bread, of 4d. each, to be given every Sunday to six of the poorest and most honest inhabiting householders of this parish, to be paid by the Skinners Company.

Mrs. CATHERINE BAMME, of Gillingham, gave by her deed in 1572, 20s. per annum for the use of the poor, to be paid out of a farm, called Darlands, in Gillingham, vested in lord Vere.

The tenant of the parsonage is bound, by his lease from the dean and chapter, to give 20 bushels of peas, and two bushels of wheat yearly to the poor.

ABRAHAM HILL, esq. and his heirs, as lords of the manor of St. John's, on the ground of which the alms-houses before-mentioned were built, have the right of nominating a poor person to the southernmost of them; he having, in 1720, built two more houses on the garden-ground of that house. His daughter, Mrs. Frances Hill, allotted a small field adjoining, for gardens and other uses of those houses.

THOMAS HARRIS, esq. in 1769, by will gave 5l. per annum to the poor, to buy linen cloth for the term of 50 years, vested in the heirs of John Mumford, esq. and now of that annual produce.

SUTTON-AT-HONE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the deanry of Dartford, and diocese of Rochester. The church is a handsome building, consisting of two isles and a chancel, with a tower-steeple at the west end, containing three bells. It is dedicated to St. John Baptist.

It was, on April 27, 1615, burnt down, by a person's firing off a gun in the church at a bird, that had taken shelter in it. From which time till April 21, 1617, all baptisms were solemnized at Darent.

Among other monuments and memorials in this church are the following: – In the chancel, a memorial for Thomas Gifford, M. D. obt. 1669, arms, a lion passant guardant on a chief, three

361

stirrups; under the raised part of it, on which the altar stands, is a vault, in which several of the vicars and their families are buried. At the west end of the south isle, near the door, are memorials for the Staceys of Deptford, buried in a vault underneath, arms, on a fess 3 fleurs de lis between 3 birds. Against the south wall, a monument, with the figure of a woman in white marble, half length, in alto relievo, for Mrs. Frances Hill, daughter of Abraham Hill, esq. great grand daughter of William, lord Willoughby, of Parham, obt. unmarried 1736, æt. 78; arms, Hill. In the small south chancel, at the east end, a mural monument for Abra-

ham Hill, esq. of St. John's, in this parish, the son of Richard Hill, esq. descended out of Devonshire; he was twice married, 1st, to Anne, daughter of Sir Bulstrode Whitlock, by Frances, daughter of William, lord Willoughby, of Parham; 2dly, to Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Pratt, esq. by the former he left Frances and Richard. He died 1721, æt. 88; arms, Hill, impaling azure a chevron ingrailed, between 3 falcons, or, and again impaling Pratt. Another monument for Richard Hill, esq. before-mentioned. He married Frances Eyres, and died in 1722, s. p. and she re-married in 1723, Francis Bathurst, esq. of Franks, in Horton. On the south side is a most stately monument, on which, under an arch richly ornamented, lies the figure of a man at full length in his robes, his head resting on a cushion, the whole finely executed, and over him an inscription for Sir Thomas Smith, of Sutton-place, in this parish, governor of the East-India and other trading companies, treasurer of the Virginian plantation, prime undertaker in 1612, of the discovery of the north-west passage, and some time ambassador to the emperor and great duke of Russia and Muscovy, &c. &c. obt. 1625; at the top, on each side, a celestial and terrestrial globe, and between them a large shield of arms, being Smith, azure a chevron ingrailed between 3 lions passant, guardant, or, quartering 8 other coats. A memorial for Henry Smith, esq. son and heir of Robert Smith, esq. great grandson of Sir Thomas Smith before-mentioned. The said Henry left by Elizabeth, only daughter of Dr. John Lloyd, prebendary of Windsor, an only child, Sydney Stafford Smith. He died in 1706, æt. 29, leaving his widow surviving. Above, the arms of Smith impaling Lloyd, at the entrance to this chancel are 2 small antient folding doors of oak carved with gothic work, on the upper part of which are scrolls, and on each door a full face, carved with a tongue, through a buckle hanging out of the mouth, being an allusion to an antient family in this parish of the name of Puckle Tongue; under the pew in the north isle, belonging to Hawley-house, is a vault, in which lie several of the owners of that seat, especially of the family of Leigh, to the present time. In the church yard is a vault and monument for John Lethieullier, esq. of Sutton-place, and his two wives; he died s. p. in 1760; and on the north side a

362

tomb, and under it a vault for the Percivals, of Hawley, in this parish; and on the south side are vaults for the Saundersons, of Gillingham, and the Searles, of Hackstable./e

King Henry I. granted the church of Sutton, with the chapels of Kingsdown and Wilmington, with the tythes of them in corn, cattle, pannage, mills, and all other things, to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester./f

Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, who was elected to this see in the time of the Conqueror, having divided the revenues of his church between himself and his convent, allotted this church, with the chapels belonging to it, to the share of the monks, which was confirmed by king Henry II. and afterwards by Henry, bishop of Rochester./g

Bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, in the reign of king Richard I. on the compromise of the great dispute, which he had with the priory, concerning the gifts which bishop Gundulph, his predecessor, had made to it, granted this church, with the chapel of Wilmington, to the priory, towards the support of their almonry; and ordained, that Gilbert, then rector, should be perpetual

vicar of it, paying to the monks, as for the tithes of corn, four marcs yearly; and that, after his decease, or resignation, the perpetual vicar of Sutton should have cure of souls, and in the name of his vicarage, take for his maintenance, all the altarage, as well in small tythes as in oblations, and all obventions belonging to it, except the tythe of corn; and further, that he should possess the alms-land then belonging to it, or which any one might in future give to it, excepting the court-lodge, with the buildings and the meadow belonging to the monks there. And he further ordained, that the cellararer of the priory should sustain

/e See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 969.

/f Text. Roff. p. 153.

/g Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. Reg. Roff. p. 6.

363

all the burthens of it, as well in respect to the bishop as the archdeacon, except synodals, which the vicar himself should pay. It appears by the decrees of archbishop Hubert and Richard, that this appropriation was merely conditional; and it seems never to have taken place;/h for in the year 1253, Laurence, bishop of Rochester, appropriated and confirmed to the priory this church, with the chapels of Kingsdown and Wilmington, towards the support of the almonry, in recompence for their giving up their right in the churches of Frindsbury and Dartford, which he got appropriated to his own see,/i provided that the cure of souls in the said church and chapel should be served, and in no wise neglected, by a proper vicar, who should be from time to time provided by the bishop, and his successors, in the church of Sutton; and to proper vicars in the said chapels, to be presented to him and his successors, by the prior and convent. This appropriation was confirmed by John, bishop of Rochester, in 1478./k

In consequence of the above appropriation, the parishes of Sutton and Wilmington continued one parsonage, with two distinct vicarages; which were, at the general dissolution, surrendered, together with the other possessions of the priory of Rochester, into the hands of the crown, and were two years afterwards, anno 33 king Henry VIII. settled, by that king on the new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, part of whose possessions they still remain.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Sutton was valued at thirty-five marcs, and the vicarage at one hundred shillings./l

Walter, prior, and the convent of Rochester, in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. demised for the term of eighty-five years, to Nicholas Statham, gent. this

/h Reg. Roff. p. 53, 69, 105. /i Ang. Sacra, vol. i. p. 350.

/k Reg. Roff. p. 138, 654. /l Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

364

parsonage, with the presentation to the vicarage, at the yearly rent of 13l. 6s. 8d. and three bushels of wheat, at Ladytide, to the poor of Sutton and Wilmington; the said Nicholas to repair the premises, and to find straw for thatching the churches of Sutton and Wil-

mington.

By the survey taken by order of the state in December 1649, of the manor and rectory of Sutton, parcel of the then late dean and chapter of Rochester, it appears, that it then consisted of the scite, containing two large barns, a small granary, and barn-yard of two roods of land; all which were estimated at two pounds per annum, and the tythes belonging to it at seventy-eight pounds per annum. All which were let, by the dean and chapter, anno 14 king Charles I. to the trustees of Ambrose Beale, for twenty-one years, at 13l. 11s. 8d. The lessee was bound to repair the chancel, and to make the usual payment to the vicar of Sutton, of twenty bushels of peas annually, and two bushels of wheat; to the vicar of Wilmington, of wheat, rye, barley, peas, one quarter each, and twenty shillings and eight-pence in money; the vicarages of the churches being excepted out of the lease.

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Sutton at-Hone was a vicarage, worth sixty pounds per annum; master Robert Hazelwood then enjoying it./m

This vicarage was augmented by the dean and chapter, soon after the restoration, with the annual sum of ten pounds, besides which the vicar receives an old pension of four nobles, and four quarters of grain, viz. of wheat, rye, barley, and peas, one quarter of each, out of the parsonage; and two shillings annually from Sir Thomas Smith's charity.

/m Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr. vol. xiv. xix.

365

The demesne lands belonging to the manor of St. John's, claim an exemption from tythes when in the owner's occupation, as having part of the revenues of the knights hospitallers, concerning which exemption a decree was made confirming it, anno 10 Elizabeth./n

There are twenty-four acres and a half of glebe land, widely dispersed in small pieces, belonging to this vicarage. It is valued in the king's books at ten pounds, and the yearly tenths at one pound./o The present value of the parsonage is near four hundred pounds per annum, and the yearly out-goings about fifty pounds. Thomas Harris, lessee of this parsonage, who died in 1769, built near the yard, on part of the glebe, a small but neat parsonage-house, in which Mr. William Mumford, the present lessee of it, till lately resided.

The court antiently held for the manor of this rectory, has been disused for a number of years.

There was an agreement concerning tythes entered into between the monks of Rochester, and the brotherhood of the knights of St. John's, in 1217; after much altercation, and an appeal to the pope, by which it was settled, that the monks should take the tythes of sheaves in the demesne lands, which the brotherhood possessed in Sutton, who were allowed a right to take all other tythes whatsoever arising therefrom./p

CHURCH OF SUTTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Prior and convent of Rochester William de Litchfield, last rector,  
in 1253./q

VICARS.

John at Chapele, Jan. 8, 1326,  
obt. 1338.

John Billock, deprived July 7,  
1347./r

/n See Dyer's Reports, p. 278.

/o Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/p Reg. Roff. p. 655.

/q Ang. Sacr. vol. i. p. 351.

/r Convict fornicatione.

366

PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Prior and Convent of Rochester Robert Warham, alias Bringham=  
don, resigned 1400./s

John Fysher, 1403.

Roland Baxter, 1508, resigned  
1510.

Ralph Smaller, 1510, obt.  
1518./t

Robert Whittingham, 1518, re=  
signed 1520.

William Statham, 1530, obt.  
1536.

Maurice Griffith, 1536, resigned  
1543./u

Dean and Chapter of Rochester Robert Styddyl, S. T. P. 1543,  
resigned 1553.

Richard Bee, 1553, obt. 1553.

William Fanower, 1559.

Nicholas Bennet, 1566, deprived  
1570.

Ralph Sheers, inducted May 27,  
1581, obt. 1610./w

William Harris, 1610, obt.  
1610.

Ralph Hatfield, 1610.

Francis Dee, S. T. P. 1620, re=  
signed 1622.

Robert Hazlewood, 1622, obt.  
1665.

William Hopkins, 1665, resigned  
1665./x

George Stradling, S. T. P. 1666,  
resigned 1670./y

William Hopkins, 1670, obt.  
1685./z

John Chadwick, 1685, obt.  
1705./a

/s He was vicar before of Eastchcurh.

/t Sept. 4, 1518, cæmiterium recon=  
ciliat. ob. sang. effus.

/u Afterwards bishop of Rochester.

/w He seems to have held it by se=  
questration till this time. He lies  
buried in Sutton chancel, as does his  
successor.

/x And rector of Swanscombe. He lies buried in Sutton chancel.

/y Prebendary of Westminster, dean of Chichester, and also rector of Cliffe.

/z The same as before, being again presented to it. He built the present vicarage-house in a better situation than the old one.

/a And vicar of Darent, and afterwards rector of Longfield. He lies buried in Sutton chancel.

367

PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Dean and Chapter of Rochester Edmund Barrell, A. M. 1705,  
resigned 1762./b

Edmund Faunce, A. M. 1762,  
obt. July 1787./c

Robert Fountaine, A. M. Jan.  
1787, the present vicar./d

/b This reverend worthy divine, whose most amiable character endeared him to all who knew him, was a younger son of Francis Barrell, esq. of Rochester, and was first made prebendary of Norwich in 1702, which he resigned for the like preferment in the church of Rochester, three years afterwards. He was next year presented to this vicarage, and in 1720 to that of Boxley. He resided at his vicarage house here with the most liberal hospitality till his death, which happened in 1765. He was buried in Rochester cathedral.

/c Grandson of the former.

/d He resigned the vicarage of Frindsbury for this of Sutton.

- - -

DARENT.

EASTWARD from Sutton lies Darent, sometimes spelt Darenth, and usually called Darne.

The name of this parish is spelt, in some antient writings, Darente and Deorwent; and in Domesday, and some others, Tarent. It takes its name from the river Darent, which runs through it. This place was sometimes called North Darent, to distinguish it from the neighbouring parish or hamlet of South Darent.

This parish, as to its soil, is not very fertile; great part of it is light and chalky, and much covered with flint stones, and it may be said to be more healthy than it is pleasant. The river Darent takes its course in its antient and proper channel, along the western boundaries of it, but great part of the waters of it having been turned, for the sake of private interest, along another stream, through the adjoining parish of Sutton, the old river has been neglected, and at the passage across it here, is not only in a most filthy state, but is frequently dangerous to travellers. Near the eastern banks of it is situated the village of Da-

rent; at the northern part of which is a house, which was for some time possessed and inhabited by the family of Taylor, but it has been for some years occupied calico printers; a little higher up, on the side of a hill, having the church opposite to it, is a seat, which was rebuilt by William Lee, esq. surveyor of the navy in queen Anne's reign. He resided here, and having married Catharine, daughter of William Johnson, esq. died, s. p. in 1757; he devised this seat to his kinsman, rear admiral Ward, of Greenwich, whose daughter, some years ago, sold it to Edward Fowke, esq. and he sold it to Mr. Nathaniel Hodges, in whose assignees it is at present vested. Behind the church, southward, stands the court lodge, being a good old timbered farm house, occupied by the lessee of the manor. Hence, towards the east, the hill rises, extending quite across the parish; on it, southward, is the manor house of St. Margaret's, with the ruins of the chapel belonging to it. In the valley, on the opposite side of the hill, is a long common, called Green-street green, of more than a mile in length, having houses interspersed along the whole of it, especially at the south end, where they form a hamlet, in which there is a mansion, commonly called the CLOCK-HOUSE, which, at the latter end of the last century, was the property and residence of Edmund Davenport, esq. who kept his shrievalty for the county here, in 1694, and was a good benefactor to the church of Darent, where he lies buried. He was succeeded here by a family of the name of Bedford, the last of whom, Joseph Bedford, esq. sold it to Sir Timothy Waldo, of London, since deceased; whose daughter married George Medley, esq. and his heirs are now intitled to it.

A little to the northward of the Clock-house, on the green, are the remains of several small barrows or tumuli, and near them the remains of several breast-works thrown up. Perhaps this might be the place

where the battle was fought, near the banks of the Darent, by Vortimer and his Britons with his Saxon enemies; and there is a fortification thrown up, in the wood, about three quarters of a mile eastward from this place, where it is probable the Saxons lay, expecting this encounter.

At the opposite or northern end of the green, towards Dartford brent, stands a house, called THE GORE, formerly a gentleman's residence, once belonging to William Lee, esq. above mentioned, who left it to rear admiral Ward, and it is now the property of his son, Edward Vernon Ward, esq. A little beyond is Trundle-down, or, more properly, Tyrling-down, which was formerly the estate of the Cobhams, as appears by the Escheat rolls of the 38th year of king Edward III./e

There was a younger branch of the family of Dixon of Hilden, in Tunbridge, for some generations, settled in this parish, as appears by the Heraldic Visitation, anno 1619; they held lands of St. Margaret's manor.

ATHELSTANE, king of England, gave the perpetual inheritance of Darent to duke Eadulf, who, in the year 940, with the king's consent, gave it to Christ church, Canterbury, in the presence of archbishop Wifelm, free from all secular service and regal tribute, excepting the trinoda necessitas, of repelling invasions, and the repair of castles and highways./f Soon after this, whilst Ælfstane was bishop of Rochester, who came to the see in 945, and died in 984, one Birtrick, a rich and potent man, who then resided at Meophum, devised his land at Darent, with the consent of Ælfswithe his wife, by his will and testament (a most curious record of the customs of those times,) to one Byrware, for his life, and afterwards to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester, for the good of

/e Rot. Esch. m. 12. /f Dec. Script. p. 2220.

370

himself and his ancestors. This estate seems to have been wrested from the church of Rochester, in the troublesome times which followed soon after./g But the manor of Darent remained, according to duke Eadulf's gift, among the possessions of Christ church at the consecration of archbishop Lanfranc, in the 4th year of the Conqueror's reign; who, among many other regulations which he made, after the custom of foreign churches, for the benefit of his monastery, separated the manors of his church (for before this, the archbishop and his monks lived together, as one family, and had their revenues in common) allotting one part for himself and his successors in the archbishopric, and the other to the monks, for their subsistence, cloathing, and other necessary uses of the monastery.

In this partition, Darent fell to the share of the archbishop, and it is accordingly thus entered in the record of Domesday, under the title of, Terra Archiepi Cantuariensis, i. e. land of the archbishop of Canterbury.

In Achestan hundred the archbishop of Canterbury holds Tarent in demesne. It was taxed at two sulings. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is one carucate, and 22 villeins, with 7 cottagers, having 7 carucates. There are six servants, and two mills of 50 shillings. To this manor belong five burgesses in Rochester, paying six shillings and eight-pence. There are eight acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of 20 hogs. In the whole value, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth 14 pounds, when he received it, 10 pounds, now 15 pounds, and 10 shillings, nevertheless, he that holds this manor pays 18 pounds.

Archbishop Hubert, in the year 1195, anno 7th king Richard I. with that king's consent, and for the mutual benefit of the churches of Canterbury and Rochester, exchanged, for the manor of Lambeth,

/g See the will. under Meopham.

371

with its appurtenances there, in Southwark and in London, then belonging to the monks of St. Andrew's priory, in Rochester, his manor of Darent, with the church and the chapel of Helles, with all

liberties and free customs, and all other things belonging to the manor, saving to the archbishop, and his successors, all spiritual jurisdiction in the church of Darent, until he or they should, of their mere bounty, grant it to the bishop of Rochester, so that the monks should possess it to the use of their rectory, in the same manner as they before had the manor and church of Lambeth, saving to the bishop of Rochester, in this exchange, the right he before had within the manor of Lambeth. And it was declared, that the manor of Lambeth should continue unalienable from the archbishopric, as well as the manor of Darent, and other premises so exchanged, from the church of Rochester./h

The manor of Darent after this appears to have been part of the possessions of the priory of Rochester; but bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, who came to the see in 1185, disputing with his monks for the recovery of several manors and possessions, formerly belonging to the see of Rochester, which bishop Gundulp, his predecessor, had given them, claimed this manor and church, with its appurtenances, as having been given in exchange for Lambeth; notwithstanding which, the prior and convent still continued in possession of them.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this manor was valued at 16l. 8s. In the 21st year of king Edward I. a Quo warranto was brought against the prior, on account of certain liberties which he claimed, when he

/h Rym. Fod. vol. i. p. 89, 90. This exchange was confirmed the same year by king Richard I. Reg. Roff. p. 271. And by king John, in his 1st and 2d years. Tan. Mon. p. 202. Prynne's Records, p. 3.

372

was allowed to have, in this manor, view of frank pledge, and all of right belonging to it; infangthefe; and in consequence of that, gallows, chattels of condemned persons and fugitives, and amerciaments of his tenants, a fair and toll, and weif, as appurtenances to it; he also claimed to have free warren here, but the jury did not allow it him.

King Edward I. in his 23d year, granted them free warren in their demesne lands of this manor, among others./i

The manor continued part of the possessions of the priory and convent of Rochester, till the dissolution of the priory, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered into the king's hands, and was two years afterwards settled by that king on his new erected dean and chapter of Rochester, part of whose possessions it remains at this time.

A court leet and court baron is held yearly for this manor.

In 1649, there was a survey taken, by order of the state of the manor of Darent, with the rectory or parsonage appendant to it, belonging to the late dean and chapter; which latter, with the scite and demesnes of the manor, had been let, anno 16 king Charles I. by the dean and chapter, to Elizabeth and Helen Harvey, daughters of William lord Harvey, at the yearly rent of 20l. 8s. but were returned to be worth

together, over and above that rent, 169l. 13s. 6d. per annum./k They continued many years in the family of Harvey, till George earl of Bristol, about thirty-five years ago, sold his interest in them to the occupier, Mr. William Farrant, since the death of whose son of the same name in 1788, Mr. Christopher Chapman is become the present lessee of them.

/i Reg. Roff. p. 53, 108, 110, 275, 388. Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 7. Customs of this manor, in Custumal. Roff. p. 5. /k Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib. vol. xiv.

373

Jeffry Haddenham, about the year 1300, bought lands in Darent, and gave the rents of them to the use of the altar of St. Edmund in Criptis, which he had lately made in the church of Rochester./l

ABOUT a mile south-eastward from Darent church is the HAMLET of Helles St. Margaret, commonly called ST. MARGARET HILLS. This appears by the court-rolls of it, to have been once a parish of itself, to which belonged the hamlets of Gills, Greensted-green, and South Darent. How it came to be annexed to Darent, will be mentioned in the ecclesiastical state of this parish. St. Margaret's, with the above mentioned hamlets appendant to it, are thus described in the general survey of Domesday, under the title of the lands of the bishop of Baieux, who was at that time owner of them.

Anschil de Ros holds Tarent of the bishop (of Baieux). It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is one carucate and a half. In demesne there is one, and four villeins, with four borderers having one carucate. There are three acres of meadow, and two mills of 18 shillings. Wood for the pannage of three hogs. The king has from this manor, lately given him by the bishop, as much as is worth 10d. The whole manor was, and is worth 100 shillings. Aluric held it of king Edward.

And a little farther, in the same record, under the like title:

In the same parish, the same A. (viz. Anschitill de Ros) holds one manor of the bishop (of Baieux). It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is one carucate and an half. There are 5 villeins, and 5 borderers, and one mill of 20 shillings. There are 3 acres of meadow, and 1 servant. The whole manor was worth 60 shillings, and now 70. Osier held it of king Edward the Confessor.

This manor afterwards came into the possession of a family called Hells, who had much land besides at

/l Reg. Roff. p. 125.

374

Dartford and Ash, near Sandwich; and from them this place acquired the additional name of Hells, or more vulgarly called Hilles. One of these, Thomas de Hells, had a charter of free warren granted to him and his heirs, for his lands here, and at Dartford, in the 17th year of king Edward I./m One of his descendants, Richard Hills,/n for so the name was then spelt, about the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, was possessed of this manor. He left one sole daughter

and heir, Anne, who carried it in marriage to Henry Melhard, and he left two daughters and coheirs, Alice and Joane, who divided it between them.

These moieties having afterwards continued separated in the hands of different owners, for some length of time, became at last united in the person of Mr. Thomas Rolt, who was become possessed of the entire manor a few years before the restoration of king Charles II. He married Catharine, daughter of Thomas Perye, gent. and died in 1661, leaving her surviving, who sold the manor of St. Margaret's to George Gifford, of Fawkham, esq. on whose death, in 1704, it came to his son, Thomas Gifford, esq. whose three daughters and coheirs, viz. Margaret, married to Thomas Petley, esq. Mary to John Selby, esq. and Jane married first to Finch Umfrey, gent. and afterwards to Francis Leigh, esq. of Hawley, possessed this manor in undivided thirds, till 1718, when they agreed to a partition of this estate. About the year 1722, Francis Leigh and Jane his wife joined in the conveyance of their interest in it, in which was included the mansion house, to John Hayward, esq. of Woolwich, who next year purchased a second third part of Thomas Petley, and Ralph his only son.

In 1725, John Hayward, who was then possessed of two-thirds of this manor, and John Selby, and Mary his wife, who were the possessors of the other third

/m Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 3. /n Evidences of this manor.

375

part of it, joined in the conveyance of the whole of it to John Lane, leatherseller, of London, who resided here for several years; he left two sons, John and Richard, and a daughter, married to Richard Hamman, and at his death devised this manor, with the mansion and part of the demesne lands, to his two sons, and a small portion of the latter to his daughter and her husband; the former part became again divided, so that three fourths of it became vested in Mr. Richard Lane, son of Richard above mentioned, who in 1788, alienated his interest in it to Mr. Christopher Chapman, who having purchased the other fourth part, now possesses the whole of it, and resides in the manor house.

A court baron is held for this manor, and several lands in the hamlets of Hills, Greensted, Gills, and South Darent, are held of it. The manor is held of the manor of Darent, by the yearly rent of 1l. 18s.

There is an estate in Darent, which, though now of little account, was once reputed a manor, called CLEYNDON; which, in early times, had proprietors of its own name, but in the reign of Edward III. o was owned by the family of Hastings. John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, died possessed of it in the 49th of that reign, and was succeeded by John de Hastings, his son, who was unfortunately killed at a tournament at Woodstock, in the 13th of king Richard II. On his death, without issue, his wife, Philippa, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, possessed Cleyndon, as she did at the time of her decease, which happened in the 2d year of king Henry IV. In the 11th year of king Edward IV. Roger Rothele, of

Dartford, owned this estate;/p who sold it to Thomas Crephedge, in the 22d year of that reign; and his grandson, John Crephege, conveyed it by sale to Sir Robert Blage, one of the barons of the exchequer;

/o Custumal Roff. p. 5, 7. /p From St. Margaret's court rolls.

376

his widow carried it again in marriage to Sir Richard Walden; at her death, in the 35th of Henry VIII. her son, by her former husband, Robert Blage, esq. possessed it, as he did land in Darent and Dartford, late parcel of the chantry of Stampitts, and late in the tenure of John Rogers, of Dartford, holding it of the king, in capite, by knights service./q On his death, in the 5th year of king Edward VI. his son, Henry Blage, possessed both these estates, and sold them, in the 24th year of queen Elizabeth, to Richard Burden, yeoman; who, the next year, parted with the land, late belonging to Stampitt's chantry, to Thomas and Andrew Ashley, and afterwards conveyed Cleydon to Robert Filmer, esq. who left it at his death, in 1585, to his son, Sir Edward Filmer, and he gave it to his second son, Edward Filmer, who possessed it in the reign of king Charles I. His heirs sold it to Mr. Leigh,/r who was the owner of it in 1691; but I can find nothing of it since, who owns it, or where it is situated.

#### CHARITIES.

SIR THOMAS SMITH, by will, in 1621, gave 4l. 6s. 8d. per annum, payable out of several tenements in London, devised to the Skinners company for divers charitable uses, to be distributed weekly in bread, by the minister and churchwardens, unto five poor resident housekeepers, and in the last clause of his will, he directed, that on the expiration of the leases and the increase of the revenues, the distribution among the poor should be increased likewise among the poor of those parishes so named, or of any other parish wherein he should have lands at the time of his death. Darent is one of those parishes expressly named in it.

..... Ellis gave by will 12s. per annum to the poor; and BERNARD ELLIS, esq. by his will, in 1713, confirmed his father's gift above mentioned, to be paid out of a messuage, called the Cock, in Dartford, and he added to it a further gift of 12s. to be annually paid to the vicar and churchwardens, for the benefit of the poor of this parish, in like manner as his father had directed his gift to be paid; the above messuage having since been converted into three private tenements belongs to the heirs of John Mumford, esq. who distribute in bread yearly both the above sums.

/q Rot. Esch. an. 5 Edw. VI. /r Ibid. and St. Margaret's court rolls.

377

DARENT is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS= DITION of the diocese of Rochester. It is a peculiar, of the archbishop of Canterbury, and as such is in the deanry of Shoreham.

The church, which is a small building, is dedicated to St. Margaret. It consists of two isles and a chancel, both which seem very antient, especially the latter, which terminates with three small lancet windows, and is with respect to its construction perhaps unique in this diocese. The steeple, which is pointed, stands at the west end of the south isle; there are three bells in it.

The chancel is divided into two parts of different widths, by steps, the upper one is vaulted, and is paved with black marble of the gift of Mr. Edmund Davenport, in 1680, who gave some silver plate likewise for the altar. The lower chancel is not, but the two isles are ceiled, the church was new pewed in 1737. The font bears high marks of antiquity, it is a single stone rounded and excavated, composed of eight compartments, with columns alternately circular and angular, and semicircular arches, the figures and objects on the compartments are in high relief, and are rudely carved; some of the figures appear to be chimerical, and others symbols of the sacraments and other religious offices./s

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, are the following: On the south side, a monument and inscription, shewing, that in a vault underneath, lies Catherine, late wife of John Elliston, of London, merchant, obt. 1729; arms, per pale gules and azure, an eagle displayed argent, impaling gules, three salmons naiant, argent. In the chancel, on the south side, a small monument and inscription, shewing that in the church yard lies John Weaver, esq. of North Luffenham, in Rutlandshire, obt. 1728; on the north side, a mural monument for Catharine, wife of Wm. Lee, esq. ob. 1746, she was daughter of Wm. Johnson, esq. M. P. for Aldborough, in Suffolk; above the arms of Lee, Gules, a cross or, between four unicorns heads, erased of the se=

/s See a more particular account of this parish and church, with the chapel of St. Margaret Hilles, and views of the east end of the church, the font and Margaret's chapel, in the Custumale Roff. p. 90, and seq.

378

cond, impaling Johnson or, a water bouget sable, on a chief sable three torteauxes or. A memorial for Humphry Taylor, rector of Ifield and Nutsted, son of the Rev. Rich. Taylor, vicar of this parish, obt. Dec. 12, 1732, and for others of this family. A memorial for Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, one of the daughters of Wm. Johnson, esq. M. P. obt. 1763, æt. 78. Another for Mrs. Catharine Lee, for whom the monument mentioned above is erected; another for Wm. Lee, esq. of this parish, husband to Catharine above mentioned, surveyor of the navy, in the reign of queen Anne, ob. 1757, æt. 87, s. p. A stone within the rails for Rich. Taylor, vicar of this parish, obt. Aug. 29, 1712, æt. 57. On the upper stone step, next the rails, before the altar, which, together with the pavement, was the gift of Mr. Davenport, are these words, Ex dono Edmund Davenport, 1680. On the south wall is a brass plate and inscription for Mary, the wife of Andrew Bridges, parson of Nutsted fifteen years; sometime the wife of Henry Farbrace, vicar of Farmingham, and parson of Halsted, and first parson of Ightham, daughter of Simon Clarke, sometime parson of Murston, and one of the six preachers of the church of Canterbury, obt. 1617; another very antient brass plate, placed in the south isle against the wall, but formerly over the remains of John Crepehege, and Jane his wife, of this parish, who lived in the reign of king Edward III./t

The church of Darent was exchanged with the manor, as has been mentioned before, by Hubert, archbishop of Canterbury, with the monks of Rochester, for the manor of Lambeth, in 1195. and was soon afterwards, by the archbishop, appropriated to their use, Nicholas, then parson of it, resigning it into the archbishop's hands for that purpose.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Darent was valued at ten marcs, and in the reign of king Richard II. at the same.

The prior and convent of Rochester, in the year 1290, augmented this vicarage by the donation of half an acre of land, called Muriel Land, formerly belonging to John, son of Edward le Bedle; eighteen days work of land, formerly Ancell de Snodland's; one rood of land, formerly Stacy the cook's; and five days work

/t See the monuments and inscriptions at large in Reg. Roff. p. 987. And see Custumale Roffen. p. 101.

379

of land, called Cottland, which had escheated to the prior and convent on the death of Bartholomew Fitz Eastrilde, lying according to the bounds described in the instrument. After a long dispute between Elias, vicar of this church, and the prior and convent, concerning the portions with which this vicarage was endowed, and the burthens to be borne by it, both parties agreed to leave the decision of it to John Peckham, archbishop of Canterbury; who, in 1292, decreed, that the prior and convent should take for the future the tythe of all sheaves, as well of land dug with the spade, as ploughed, within this parish, and also the tythe of hay as their portion, and the tythe of lambs, pigs, calves, geese, pigeons, mills, fisheries, rushes, herbage, cheese, milk, flax, hemp, and all other tythes whatsoever, great and small, arising from their own demesne lands, because they had possessed peaceably, and without interruption, all tythes of this kind in their demesnes in Derenth, and elsewhere, where they had lands in demesne for sixty years and more, as had legally been made to appear by the diligent enquiries of credible persons, examined for that purpose, in the archbishop's visitations.

The archbishop decreed likewise, that the burthen of procurations due to the dean of Shoreham, and also the finding of ornaments, vestments, and books, which were not found by the parish, and the reparation of them, if it exceeded in one year the sum of two shillings, and the building and repairing of the chancel of the church, when necessary, should belong to the said religious, and that the tythes of lambs, calves, pigs, geese, pigeons, fisheries, mills, rushes, herbage, cheese, milk, flax, hemp, and all other small tythes, except in the demesnes of the religious, the oblations and obventions belonging, or accruing in any kind whatsoever, to the said church, and not assigned as above to the religious, should belong to the vicar and his successors in future, and he decreed, that the small pieces of land,

380

and the mansion, which then or before had been assigned by the religious to the use of the vicarage, and the whole burthen of the repair and maintenance of the houses and mansion of the vicarage, and of the books, vestments, and ornaments, to be maintained by the religious, so far as the repairing and maintaining them did not exceed the sum of two shillings, and also the providing bread and wine, and other necessaries for divine rites, such as were not provided by the parishioners of

the church, or mentioned before, should belong to the vicar and his successors, and that the vicar for the time being should find two chaplains to celebrate, one in the church of Darent, and the other in the chapel of Helles,

In this state the church and vicarage of Darent continued, till the general dissolution of monasteries, in the reign of king Henry VIII. in the 32d year of which the priory of Rochester, and the possessions of it, were surrendered into the king's hands; who, two years after, settled the church with the vicarage of Darent on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, whose inheritance it now remains.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth, the dean and chapter of Rochester, having refused the payment of the old accustomed stipend payable yearly by them to the vicar of this parish, he commenced a suit against them in the archbishop's consistorial court, in 1564, and had a decree pronounced in his favor. The dean and chapter made a pretence of appealing from this sentence, but did not prosecute it; on which the decree was confirmed two years afterwards, with 8l. 10s. costs, and the archbishop granted his letters testimonial of the same./u

The survey of this parsonage, by order of the state in 1649, has been already mentioned in the account of the manor of Darent. There was one made likewise

/u Reg. Roff. p. 272 to 278, 108, 455.

381

of the vicarage, by virtue of the commission of enquiry, in 1650, out of chancery, in which it was returned, that Darent was a vicarage, having an old house, and two acres of glebe land, worth thirty pounds per annum; that master Cockett then enjoyed it, who preached and taught every Lord's day, but to little edification./w

Darent is a discharged living, of the clear yearly value, as returned, of forty-five pounds. The yearly tenths were 19s. 10<sup>3</sup>d./x

THE HAMLET OF ST. MARGARET HILLES seems, from several antient evidences and court rolls, as to its temporal jurisdiction, to have been once a parish of itself, distinct from that of Darent, having, within its bounds, the several hamlets of Hilles, Grensted, South Darent, and Gills. However, as to its ecclesiastical jurisdiction, it was always accounted but as a chapel to Darent, having the above hamlets within its precinct./y

By the decree of archbishop Peckham, mentioned before, the vicar of Darent was to find one chaplain to celebrate divine offices in this chapel of Helles. In the reign of king Henry VIII. there was a composition entered into between the vicar of Darent, and the inhabitants of the precinct of this chapel, which was confirmed by archbishop Warham in 1522, in which it was decreed, that the vicar of Darent should celebrate divine offices, either himself or by substitute in it, at certain times, and in manner as is therein mentioned, the inhabitants nevertheless resorting to the parish church of Darent on certain days therein specified; that he should administer extreme unction, and the holy sacrament if desired, to the sick inhabitants of this pre-

cinct within it; that he should bury the bodies of the  
/w Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr. vol. xix.  
/x Bacon's Lib. Regis.  
/y See the exchange made by apb. Hubert, before-mentioned.  
The chapel of Hilles antiently paid 4d. chrism.-rent to the  
mother church. Text. Roff. p. 231.

382

deceased inhabitants either in this chapel, or the yard  
belonging to it, and baptize the children, and church  
the mothers of them within the chapel, and to prevent  
the inconveniencies that might arise from carrying the  
sacrament so far to the sick, the archbishop decreed,  
that it should be kept for the future in a decent pyx, to  
be provided by the inhabitants for that purpose in this  
chapel; who should bear and sustain all the burthens of  
the chapel; and also the payment of the reparation and  
maintenance of the parish church of Darent, and all  
other burthens, ordinary and extraordinary, in common  
with the rest of the parishioners of Darent, according  
to their abilities; and lastly, that all the inhabitants of  
the precinct of this chapel should pay yearly to the  
vicar of Darent, for the time being, all tythes accruing,  
and howsoever arising, within the precinct of it, as well  
real as personal, and all oblations whatsoever due of  
right or of custom, and should acknowledge the parish  
church of Darent as their own parish church./z

Notwithstanding this decree, the chapel of St. Margaret soon afterwards became neglected, and fell to decay; insomuch, that cardinal Pole, archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1557, united the precinct of St. Margaret to the parish of Darent. And the chapel of it being thus desecrated, fell into immediate ruin, the only remains of it at this time being part of the tower of the steeple, which stands amidst a large heap of rubbish and stones, on an eminence in a field a small distance south-westward from the mansion of the manor: in the remains of this building there are many Roman bricks, and part of an arch is turned entirely with them.

/z Reg. Roff. p. 276.

383

#### CHURCH OF DARENT.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

The Prior and Convent of Rochester      Nicholas, last rector in 1197./a

#### VICARS.

Elias, in 1292./b  
Richard Staple, in 1522./c  
Dean and Chapter of Rochester      Richard Fanne, in 1564./d  
Richard Buckley, A. M. ind.  
1605, 1608./e  
John Basinthaite, ind. 1608,  
obt. 1627.  
Robert Warburton, ind. 1627,  
1643./f  
John Larken, A. M. ind. 1643.  
John Cacot, A. M. ind. 1645,  
1661.

John Davis, 1661, obt. 1669.  
John Chadwick, A. M. instit.  
1669, resigned 1685./g  
Richard Taylor, ind. 1685, obt.  
Aug. 29, 1712.  
Robert Hodges, B. D. ind. 1713,  
resig. 1714./h  
John Taylor, ind. 1714, obt.  
1758./i  
Thomas Thompson, A. M. induct.  
1758, resig. July 1759./k  
Thomas Frank, A. M. L. L. B.  
ind. 1759, resign. 1766./l  
Samuel Denne, A. M. ind. 1766.  
Present vicar./m  
/a Reg. Roff. p. 272.  
/b Ibid.  
/c Ibid. p. 276.  
/d Ibid. p. 278.  
/e Before vicar of Kemsing and  
Seale.  
/f And vicar of Wilmington.  
/g He resigned this vicarage for Sut=  
ton-at-Hone.  
/h Afterwards rector of St. Mary  
Hoo.  
/i Son of the former vicar.  
/k He resigned this for Hoo vicarage.  
/l He resigned this for Stockbury vi=  
carage.  
/m And vicar of Wilmington.

384

- - -

#### STONE NEAR DARTFORD.

NORTH eastward from Darent lies Stone, which takes its name from the stony situation of it; Stane in Saxon signifying a stone. It is called in the *Textus Roffensis*, Stantune and Stanes; and in the survey of Domesday, Estanes.

This parish contains about 2700 acres of land, of which 250 are wood, and about 320 marshland. It is about se=venteen miles from London, and two from Dartford; the high London road crosses it. At a small distance northward from which is the village, situated, as well as the church, on the side of a hill, which rises from the bank of the Thames; westward from hence, about a half a mile, is the parsonage, and below it the marshes, bounded by the river. The parish consists of conti=nued hill and dale, the views of the Thames, and the opposite county of Essex, are beautiful as you pass the high road, where is the hamlet of Horns-cross. The soil is a gravel, and not far from hence, on the nor=thern side of it, is a great range of chalk pits, and wharfs on the bank of the river for the exportation of it. Hence the ground rises, having Stone castle about two fields from it, the prospects from which over the river are beautiful; behind which it stretches over hill and dale a long way southward, over a good strong soil of land in general. The great tract of wood=land which reaches almost to Greenstreet-green, ad=

joining to Darent, along the northern boundary of these woods, runs the antient Roman road to Rochester, and not far from it the two small hamlets of Bean and Stonewood. On the hill above Greenstreet-green, among the woods, are the remains of a camp and fortifications, thrown up in antient times, but now so overgrown with wood and rubbish, as to be impenetrable.

385

Near the south-east boundary of this parish, at half a mile up the road leading from Greenstreet-green to Betsham, on the left hand side of the short hill there, is Cockleshell-bank, so called from the great number of those shells there observable; just before you come to the pond on the same side, about three feet below the top of the bank, they appear very visible, lying close and thick together, of a pure white, and for the most part whole, forming a stratum of a foot in depth. As they are washed down the banks by rains and frosts, they become rotten and discoloured by the earth, which is a kind of reddish loam, and crumble into small pieces. The stratum appears to have extended to the opposite bank by the fragments of shells, likewise on that side, although not so visible by the deep road intersecting it. These bivalve shells are in depth about three-fourths of an inch, and the same in breadth, with rays running transversely very small and close, contrary to those of the common cockle, which are longitudinal and deep surrowed. In the Custumale Roff.

p. 254, is inserted a letter from Dr. John Latham, F. R. S. author of the General Synopsis of Birds, and other curious subjects, concerning these shells, and another stratum of the turbinated kind, at a small distance from the other. A specimen of the latter from his museum is inserted in the above book.

Strata of shells appear to run at some distance from the places before mentioned, and to extend towards Greenhithe, for in the fields, behind the large farmhouse in this parish, on the north side of Greenstreet-green, belonging to Sir John Dyke, according to information, the plough turns up a great quantity of their fragments. In the back yard belonging to a house on the south side of the green, was a large mass of stone of some hundred weight, full of shells, which was brought from a field above that house, and was made use of as a bridge, or stepway in the yard. Strata of these marine exuviae, have been observed in several

386

other places, as in some ground belonging to the manor of Baldwins, in Dartford, and at Bexley, in digging a well at Mr. Cope's seat at Bridgen, where, at the depth of twenty feet, they came to a stratum of shells, chiefly of the turbinated kind, which continued about two feet in depth, and then disappeared, before they got to the springs; specimens too of the like kind have been frequently met with down Park-hill, by the woodside, towards Gadbridge./n

There is a fair held in the village of Stone on Ascension-day, for pedlary, &c. Matthew Paris, in his History of England, p. 725, relates a strange story of a miracle which happened in this parish in 1252, of

a boy, named William Crul, who, at two years old, cured all diseases, by making the sign of the cross upon the patients who flocked to him on this account, from all the neighbouring parts, not long after which he died.

ETHELRED, king of England, in the year 995, gave Stantune and Littlebroc to the church of St. Andrew, and Godwyn then bishop of Rochester./o

After the conquest, this place, as well as many other possessions belonging to the church of Rochester, were seized on by Odo, bishop of Baieux, the king's half-brother; but he did not enjoy them long, for archbishop Lanfranc recovered them again in a solemn assembly of the whole county, held on this occasion, by the king's command, in 1076, at Pinenden-heath.

The archbishop having thus recovered this place, with the church belonging to it, and Littlebroc, out of Odo's hands, immediately restored them to bishop Gundulph, and the church of St. Andrew; which gift was confirmed by archbishop Anselm, in 1101, as it was afterwards by several of his successors./p

/n Custumale Roffense, p. 254.

/o Text. Roff. p. 153. Reg. Roff. p. 5.

/p See Eadm. by Seld. p. 197. Reg. Roff. p. 442.

387

In the record of Domesday, Stone is thus described, under the title of the land of the bishop of Rochester:

The bishop of Rochester holds Estanes. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was taxed at 6 sulings, and now at 4 sulings. The arable land is 11 carucates. In demesne there are 2, and 20 villeins, with 12 borderers, having 11 carucates. There is a church, and 4 servants, and 72 acres of meadow, and one mill of 6 shillings and 8 pence, and 1 fishery of 3 shillings and 4 pence. Wood for the pannage of 60 hogs. In the time of king Edward, and afterwards, it was worth 13 pounds, and now 16 pounds, and yet it pays 20 pounds and 1 ounce of gold and 1 marc. Richard de Tunbridge holds of this manor as much wood as is worth 15 shillings.

In the same book, Eduuard de Estan is said to have the liberties of sac and soc in the laths of Sutton and Aylesford.

In an antient valuation made of the manors of the bishop of Rochester, by inquisition in the reign of king Henry III. the manor of Stone was estimated to contain two hundred and thirty-six acres of arable land, each worth three-pence; fourteen acres in the marsh, worth six-pence an acre; the mill there ten shillings per annum; and the annual rents to amount to 20l. 12s./q And in another, taken at the latter end of that reign, on the oaths of Thomas de Mepeham, sacrist of the church of Rochester, and others, concerning the manors appropriated to the bishop of Rochester's table, it appeared, that there were two ploughs in this manor, though there were not in reality two plough lands in it;/r for though they were generally estimated as such, yet there was not so much arable land within the manor, as each carucate, or plough-land ought to contain, ac=

/q Reg. Roff. p. 63.

/r In orig. Carucæ. Ibid. Carucatæ.

388

cording to the custom of this part of the country; one hundred and eighty acres. That they were worth, with the marsh and pasture, sixty-six shillings and eight-pence yearly; that the annual rent, in money, and in hens, eggs, plough-shares, wood, and in the stream, was worth 26l. 13s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and that there was one mill there, which paid forty shillings per annum.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this manor, with the hamlet here, was taxed at 33l. 6s. 8d. and in the 33d of king Henry III. at the same./s

The bishops of Rochester frequently rested here on their journeys to and from London. Bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, who came to the see in 1185, rebuilt the house and buildings, which had been burnt down. Bishop Hamo de Heth, when he was here in 1333, gave orders for the building a new wall against the Thames; and in 1337, he repaired the buildings of this manor, at a great expence./t In their successors, bishops of Rochester, this manor has continued ever since, being at this time part of the possessions of the right reverend the bishop of this diocese./u

The manor-house is situated near the church-yard. It has long been inhabited by the farmer of the demesne lands, the only remains of the antient mansion, which seems never to have been dignified with the name of a palace, is the great chimney in the centre of the present building; lord Romney is the present possessor of it.

LITTLEBROOKE is a manor and hamlet in this parish, which, in antient charters, is stiled Littlebroc, and Lytanbroce. It was once an appendage to the manor of Stone, as has been mentioned above, and different lands were given in it, at times, to the church of Rochester./w

/s Reg. Roff. p. 65. Stev. Mon. v. i. p. 454. Reg. Roff. p. 129.

/t Reg. Roff. p. 11. Ang. Sacr. vol. i. p. 372, 374.

/u Sir John Young was tenant for three lives to the bishop of Rochester in Stone, anno 1660.

/w Text. Roff. p. 124, in orig. Mansa.

389

King Ethelred's gift to that church seems to have consisted of one carucate or Hyde of land.

In the time of archbishop Dunstan, who came to the see of Canterbury in 959, one Ælfege, a rich man, gave two-thirds of his lands in Littlebroc, and other places, in the presence of the archbishop, to the churches of Canterbury and Rochester, which was afterwards withheld by one Leofsune, who had married the widow of Eadric, Ælfege's nephew; but the archbishop recovered it to the churches of Christ and St. Andrew, in a solemn trial held at Erhede, now Crayford, in this county./x

The manor of Littlebrooke, in the reign of king Edward III. was held of the bishop by Laurence Brooke, who died possessed of it in the 3d year of king Edward I. Roger Northwood was owner of it at his decease, in the 13th year of that reign; Sir John de Northwood died possessed of it anno 38 king Edward III./y In the 3d year of king Henry IV. John Loff=

wyke owned this manor;/z soon after which it came into the possession of the Apyltons.

Thomas Apylton was possessed of it in the reign of king Henry VII. His grandson, Henry, was of this county, and of South Bemfleet, in Essex, and died possessed of it in the 38th year of king Henry VIII. holding it of the bishop of Rochester, by knights service. In whose descendants, seated at South Bemfleet, in Essex, this manor continued down to Sir Henry Appleton, bart. for so the name was now spelt, who, on his father Sir William's death, became entitled to the inheritance of Littlebrooke, and died in 1709, as did lady Appleton his mother in 1719. This branch of the family seated in this county and Essex, bore for their arms, Argent, a fess engrailed (originally plain)

/x Text. Roff. p. 118. See Crayford, p. 268, where the whole form of trial is set forth.

/y Rot. Esch. eor. ann.

/z Court-rolls of Dartford cum Sutton manor.

390

sable, between three apples, leafed and slipped proper. Those seated in Norfolk bore, Three apples gules, the leaves and stalks vert. And those in the west of England, Or, a fess between three apples vert. Soon after which this manor was conveyed by sale to Stone, who ended in two daughters and coheirs, Mary, who married William Lownds, whose son William, afterwards by act, anno 27 and 28 George II. took the name of Stone; and Anne, who married Thomas, second son of archbishop Potter; the latter of whom, in his wife's right, became possessed of Littlebrooke. He had by her two daughters, and died in 1758, leaving his widow surviving, who afterwards possessed this manor; since whose decease, as well as of her two daughters, s. p. it came into the possession of Thomas Potter, esq. of Bedfordshire, who now owns it. This estate was for more than a century occupied by a wealthy family, named Ward. Mr. John Ward used it during the troublesome times after the death of king Charles I. and being a stedfast loyalist, his stock, which at that time amounted to five thousand pounds, was seized on and sequestered for the use of the state. His descendant, Mr. Thomas Ward, is now lessee of it.

STONE-CASTLE is an antient castellated seat in this parish, standing on an eminence, a small distance southward from the high road from London to Dover. The square tower at the east end of it is the only part that bears the appearance of its ever having been a fortress. It had once the reputation of a manor, as appears by the book of aid in the 20th year of king Edward III. when Sir John de Northwood answered for the manor of Stone-castle as half a knight's fee, which Henry de Northwood before held in Stone of the bishop of Rochester.

It afterwards came to a family of the name of Bonevant, or Bontfant, one of whom, Richard Bontfant, mercer of London, was possessed of it in the reign of king Henry VI. and died owner of it anno 37 king

391

Henry VI. Nicholas Bonevant, died in 1516, and

lies buried, with Agnes his wife, in Swanscombe church./a From this name this seat passed into that of Chambley, and thence again, in the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. to Robert Chapman, of London, merchant-adventurer, who died possessed of it in 1574, and was buried in this church. His second wife, Ellen, by whom he had no issue, survived him, and held this seat for her life; and being afterwards remarried to John Preston, he, in her right, became possessed of it, but on her death it devolved to Anne, daughter and sole heir of Thomas Chapman, of London, eldest son of Robert, by his first wife Winifred, who was married to William Carew, esq. of London, and he, in her right, became possessed of it; whose arms, Three lions passant in pale, points him out to have been descended of the antient and noble family of the Carews, of Devonshire; as does his epitaph, which says he was an esquire, descended by birth and blood./b He died in 1588, and his grandson, Mr. Henry Carew, continued owner of it in 1656. From this name it soon after passed to Atkins, and thence to Dr. Thomas Plume, archdeacon of Rochester, who died in 1704, and was buried in Longfield church-yard. He devised by his will about eighteen thousand pounds, to be laid out in lands, for the maintenance of a professor of astronomy and experimental philosophy, in Cambridge; which money was accordingly laid out,/c and he bequeathed Stone-castle, with the estate belonging to it, and a farm at Tudeley, in this county, to certain charitable uses, in the feoffees of which it now remains. The present lessee of Stone-castle is John Talbot, esq. who resides in it.

This charitable devise of Dr. Plume did not take place till some years after his death, owing to a suit in

/a Weever, p. 333. /b Philipott, p. 323.

/c See Harl. MSS. No. 2263-35.

392

chancery, carried on by the trustees with his executor and heir at law, which was heard in 1710, when this charity, by the decree then given, was put under proper regulations, and the trustees as appointed in the doctor's will (twenty clergymen of the diocese of Rochester) were made perpetual feoffees. The first feoffment was dated in 1722, by which the trust of this charity was vested in the twenty trustees by name, and the several uses of it declared, but many difficulties still arising, nothing further was done in it till 1734.

The uses of this trust were, for the preaching of twenty-six sermons, in the summer half year, every Wednesday, alternately at Dartford and Gravesend, the expence of which, together with other necessary costs and charges, incidental to the estate, being deducted out of the annual profits of it, the remainder of the rents and profits was directed to be laid out by the trustees towards the augmentation of such poor parsonages and vicarages within the diocese of Rochester, as were under sixty pounds per annum, to be paid to such incumbents of them as the trustees should see best to deserve, and have most need of it; but it was provided, that no living should have above ten pounds in one year, and that Town Malling should always

be one.

COTTON is a manor here, which was once in the possession of a family of the same name. John atte Coten possessed it in the reign of king Edward I./d Jeffry de Cotton, son of Hugh, and his coparceners, were owners of it in the 20th year of king Edward III. at which time they paid aid for it, in the book of which they are charged for one fourth part of a knight's fee, which John de Cotton, of Stone, held in Stone of the bishop of Rochester. These Cottons bore for their arms, A chevron between three griffins heads erased, which is the same coat as is borne by

/d See Reg. Roff. p. 630.

393

the antient family of that name, of Lanwade, in Cambridgeshire, and makes it probable they were descended of the same ancestors.

About the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. this manor was become the estate of the Killingworths; one of whom conveyed it to Sir John Wiltshire, comptroller of the town and marches of Caerlais. He died in 1526, and lies buried with Margaret his wife in this church, bearing for his arms, Party per chevron azure and argent, on the former eight crosses formee or. He left one only daughter and heir, Bridget, who carried it in marriage to Sir Richard Wingfield, K. G. the 12th son of Sir John Wingfield, of Letheringham, in Suffolk, where his ancestors were seated in the reign of king Edward II. in the church of which parish, as well as in Donington, many of them lie buried, with their shields of arms over them, being, Argent on a bend gules, between two cotizes sable, three pair of wings joined in lewer of the first. He was nobly descended from the lords Montfitchet and Bovile, Glanvile earl of Suffolk, and the lord Scales./e He was chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and of the bedchamber to king Henry VIII. who gave him Kimbolton castle, where he afterwards resided, made him of his privy council, and sent him ambassador to Spain, where he died, and was buried at Toledo.

The manor of Cotton was demised anno 5 queen Elizabeth, but by whom I do not find, for the term of one thousand years, to William Cecil lord Burleigh, and Sir Thomas Walsingham, who parted with their interest in it to Heron, as he did again to Harrington,/f who conveyed his title to it to Edward Carson and Thomas Woodward; and they, in the 8th year of king James I. sold it to John Manning, citi=

/e Weever, p. 755 and 759. Cooke's Bar. MSS.

/f Philipott, p. 323.

394

zen and skinner, of London. His son, John Manning, esq. was of Warbleton, in Sussex, and died without issue; on which his two sisters became his coheirs; Anne, married to Sir Thomas Lawley, bart. and Elizabeth, first to Robert Cæsar, esq. and secondly to Francis, second son of Thomas lord Coventry, lord keeper of the Great seal; and they, in right of their wives, possessed this manor in undivided moie=

ties. Sir Thomas Lawley was succeeded by Sir Francis Lawley, bart. his eldest son, who in 1685, sold his moiety to Francis Coventry, esq. (son and heir of Francis, and Elizabeth his wife, above mentioned) who then possessed the whole of it, and died unmarried in 1686; upon which it descended to his sister, Elizabeth, married to Sir Wm. Keyt, bart. of Ebrington, in Gloucestershire, who was succeeded by his grandson William, eldest son of his son William, who died in his life time. He conveyed the manor of Cotton, in 1716, to Lancelot Tolson, gent. of the Middle Temple, London, who devised it by his will to John Simpson, esq. of Canterbury, who died in 1748, and was buried in the cathedral there. These Simpsons bore for their arms, Per bend sinister or and sable, a lion rampant gules, double tailed and counterchanged. He gave it by his will to his wife, Mrs. Mary Simpson, of Canterbury, who died in 1777; and this estate is now in possession of the heir of her devisee, Baptist Simpson, esq.

STONE-PLACE is an estate here, which for many generations was the residence of families of good account. It was in antient times possessed by the family of Norwood, owners likewise of Stone castle and Littlebrooke, in this parish. It afterwards came into the possession of Sir John Wiltshire, who rebuilt the mansion of it. His only daughter and heir, Bridget, carried it in marriage, with the manor of Cotton, in this parish, to Sir Richard Wingfield, as has been already mentioned.

395

It afterwards came into the possession of the Dudleys, who resided here; by an only daughter and heir of which name, it went in marriage to Henry Parker, gent. of Northfleet, descended from Edward Parker, of Whitchurch, in Cheshire, who bore for his arms, Ermine, a buck's head caboshed, gules.

From this name it passed to Evans, and thence, by the heir general of it, to Massingbeard, one of which antient family owned it in 1656; from these it went next to Maniford, one of whom ending in a sole daughter and heir Martha; she carried it in marriage to Mr. William Howe, who sold it to Malines, and his widow marrying with Mr. John Sedgwick; he possessed it in her right. Soon after which it was sold to Thomas Tryon, esq. of Chesilhurst, after the death of whose widow, her assignees sold it to Mr. Wm. Tuckey, of Greenhithe, the present owner of it.

The gate-house to this seat is still standing; the buildings appear to have been large and stately; the ceilings of several of the rooms are well finished with oak wainscot. Over the gate house, and on a stone chimney-piece in the parlour, are carved the arms of Wingfield, as above mentioned.

#### CHARITIES.

JOHN BOKLAND gave 13s. 4d. payable yearly out of certain marsh land, to the poor of this parish for ever./g

JOHN LAKE gave by will, in 1657, to be distributed among day labourers, housekeepers, and poor people, inhabitants, a rent charge, out of lands in this parish, lately vested in John Amherst, esq. of the annual produce of 5l.

Dr. THOMAS PLUME gave by will, in 1704, to be distributed among the poor of this parish, a rent charge out of lands in it, vested in the trustees of the Stone castle charity estate, of the annual produce of 5l.

ANNE BOSSE gave by will, in 1740, to the like purpose, a rent charge, out of lands, in Swanscombe, vested in the heirs of Bonham Hayes, esq. of the annual produce of 1l.

/g Custum. Roff. p. 42.

396

STONE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a beautiful structure, consisting of a nave, with two side isles and a chancel; it is spacious and lofty, the windows large and regular, and for symmetry and proportion, it may justly be esteemed the finest piece of Gothic architecture in the diocese. It has a large square tower at the west end of it, in which hang five bells. It had formerly a spire steeple on it, which was so far damaged by lightning, in 1638, that it was taken down. The chancel has a double roof, and though now of great height, seems once to have been still higher; it is ornamented on both sides with antient stalls, curiously carved, and is adorned, as well as the church, with pilasters of brown marble. The whole has been lately, at a great expence, new ciel'd, and the different parts of it repaired and ornamented. At the east end of the north side was once a handsome vestry, which has been long since in ruins. The north door is curiously wrought with zig-zag ornaments and mouldings. Adjoining to the church was a beautiful chapel, built by Sir John Wiltshire, of Stone-place, which has lain in ruins for upwards of seventy years; about which time, a large passage was broke, through the midst of the pavement, into the vault underneath, wherein were the remains of the coffins of Sir John Wiltshire and his lady, with the bones scattered about. Their monument, which was most costly and curious, was erected against the north wall of it, near the east end.

In this church, among other monuments and inscriptions, are the following: In the chancel, a mural monument for Rob. Talbot, A. M. rector of this parish, and Anne his wife, daughter of John Lynch, esq. of Groves, in this county, and Mary their daughter; Robert Talbot died May 12, 1754, æt. 59; arms, gules, a lion rampant or, impaling Lynch. On a grave stone, a brass plate, and inscription in black letter, for Wm. Carew, esq. free of the Drapers company; he had eight children by Anne his wife, obt.

397

1588; at the corners of the stone were four shields of arms, in brass, the 1st is lost, which was Carew, three lions passant in pale; the 2d Chapman, parted per chevron, argent and gules, a crescent counterchanged. On a gravestone in the middle, before the steps, is a brass plate of curious work, representing a cross flory, mounted on four steps, in the centre of the flower is the figure of a priest, with a label in his mouth, and inscription round the bordure of the flower, on the body of the cross and steps, an inscription for John Lumbarde, rector of Stone, obt. March 12th, 1408; on each side was a shield of arms, now lost. On a grave stone, next the former, on the north side, is a brass plate, with

the figure of a priest, as large as life, at half length; above him, two shields with a lion rampant; the inscription gone, but Weever has recorded it for John Sorewell, rector of this church, who died Dec. 30, 1439. On another, adjoining, is a brass plate, and inscription, for Anne Carew, widow, late of Stone castle, obt. 1599; above is a shield of arms, Carew in chief, a martlet charged with another, as a difference, for a fourth brother of the fourth house, impaling Chapman. Over the door of the chapel, on the north side, is a mural monument, with the figures of a man and his wife, kneeling at double desks, with books open, behind him are two sons, behind her are eight daughters, and beneath an inscription for Robert Chapman, esq. of London, merchant adventurer, and free of the Drapers company; he died at Stone castle, 1574, æt. 65; he married first dame Wynifred, and had by her ten children; and 2dly dame Ellyn; above are the arms of Chapman as above, Chapman impaling quarterly, 1st and 4th, on a bend ingrailed three . . . . . 2d and 3d, a moor's head couped, between three fleurs de lis; 3d as the former, in a lozenge; the colours of them are gone. On a grave stone, near the door of the chapel, is a brass plate, and inscription in black letter, for Rob. Chapman, esq. owner of Stone castle above mentioned, who died in 1574; at the corners of the stone are four shields, 1st Chapman, 2d arms of the merchant adventurers, 3d the Drapers company, 4th Chapman, impaling quarterly, as on the monument. On a grave stone is an inscription for William Carew, gent. eldest son of William Carew, esq. obt. 1625, being owner of Stone castle; above, the arms of Carew. In Weever's time were the following memorials, on brass plates, but since destroyed. One for Rich. Bontfant, mercer of London, owner of Stone castle, obt. 1459; another for Matilda, wife of Wm. Laken, sergeant-at-law, obt. 1408, and Joane her daughter, who died the same year; and another for Roger Payname, obt. 14.... another for Wm. Banknot and Anne his wife, ann. 1400. In the chapel, now in ruins, as mentioned above, there still remains against the north side, the fine altar tomb of the founder of it, under an arch of stone, richly adorned with Gothic work, on the front of which are three shields of arms, 1st parted per chevron, eight crosses formee, 2d

398

as before, impaling a bend between two mullets of six points, within a bordure nebulee; third as the impaled coat; on the tomb was a brass plate, with the figure of a man, with a label in his mouth, now lost, as well as the inscription, which, as Weever has preserved it, was for Sir John Wiltshire, and Margaret his wife; he died 1526./h. Thomas, sixth son of Thomas lord Berkeley, anno 26 Henry VIII. lies buried in this church./i

This church, being an appendage to the manor, it was given, as has been mentioned above, in 925, to bishop Godwin, and the church of Rochester, since which it has remained to this time part of the possessions of that see.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Stone was valued at thirty marcs, and the vicarage at seven marcs./k

By virtue of a commission of enquiry, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Stone was a parsonage, having a good house, and eight acres of glebe land, worth in the whole 170l. per annum; that one master Thomas Martyn enjoyed it, as a sequestration of Mr. Richard Chase, clerk./l It is valued in the king's books at 26l. 10s. and the yearly tenths at 2l. 13s./m

John Boulman, by his will, devised his lands, called Chaundlers, containing eleven acres and a half, and the profits of it, to the parish church of Stone for ever.

CHURCH OF STONE.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Bishop of Rochester John Lombard, obt. May 1408./n  
John Sorewell, obt. Decem. 30,

1439./o

Nath. Gifford, A. M. in 1607./p

/h See the monuments and inscriptions at large in Reg. Roff. p. 1052.

/i Atkins's Glouc. p. 139.

/k Stev. Mon. vol. 1, p. 456.

/l Parl. Surv. Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

/m Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/n He lies buried in this church. See Weever, p. 333.

/o He lies buried in this church.

/p Collect. J. Lewis.

399

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Bishop of Rochester Richard Tillesley, B. D. 1613./q  
Charles Lemitary, A. M.

Richard Chase, in 1650, sequestered./r

William Pierce, 1654, 1657.

Henry Price, 1657, ejected 1662./s

William Thornton, A. M. 1702,  
obt. Sep. 25, 1707.

Tho. Spratt, ob. June 12, 1720./t

William Savage, D. D. Oct. 13,  
1720.

Robert Talbot, M. A. ind. Oct. 1,  
1736, obt. May 12, 1754.

Edmund Lewin, D. D. 1754, ob.  
Aug. 1771./u

Thomas Heathcote, 1772. Present  
rector./v

/q He was also rector of Cookstone,  
prebendary and archdeacon of Rochester, and died in 1621, and was buried in Rochester cathedral.

/r Parliamen. Surveys, Lambeth lib.  
vol. xix.

/s Walk. Suff. Clergy, pt. 2. p. 219.  
See also Calamy's Life of Baxter, p. 287.

/t He was also vicar of Boxley, and prebendary of Winchester, Westminister, and Rochester, of which last he was archdeacon. He was son of the bishop of Rochester.

/u Chancellor of the diocese of Rochester.

/v Second son of Sir Thomas Heathcote, bart.

---

### SWANSCOMBE.

EASTWARD from Stone lies Swanscombe, so called from the camp of Swane, king of Denmark, who having sailed up the Thames, landed at Greenhithe; and marching from thence, encamped at this place; Combe and Compe in Saxon, being derived from campus in Latin, signifying a camp./w

It is written in some records Swegenscomp, Swanes= kampe,/x and in Domesday Suinescamp.

/w Camb. Brit. vol. i. p. 224. Lamb. Peramb. p. 472.  
/x Text. Roff. p. 230.

400

The high road from London to Dover crosses the northern part of this parish, which reaches up higher a long way to the southward, among a large tract of woodland. It contains in the whole 2300 acres of land, of which 600 are wood, and 250 marsh land. On the north side of the above road there is a large range of chalk pits, and lower down the hamlet of Greenhithe, (called in the Textus Roffensis, Gretenersce/y) close to the shore of the river Thames. Here there are several wharfs for the landing and shipping of corn, wood, coals, and other commodities, but the greatest traffic arises from the chalk and lime, from the above chalk pits, the range of which continues with small intermission from Stone to Gravesend, within a very small distance of the shore. Hence not only the city of London, but the adjacent counties, and even those of Suffolk and Norfolk, are supplied with this commodity. There is a ferry here across the Thames into Essex, for horses and cattle only, which antiently belonged to the priory of Dartford; at the suppression of which, in king Henry the VIIIth's reign, it was granted to John Bere for a term of years,/z and afterwards by queen Elizabeth in her 2d year, with the manor of Swanscombe to Anthony Weldon, in fee, since which it has continued with the possessors of the manor to the present time.

There was a chapel formerly in this hamlet, founded by John Lucas, of Greenhithe, who, in the 19th year of king Edward the IIId. obtained the king's licence to assign over a piece of ground here, and twenty acres of pasture in this parish, to a chaplain, to celebrate divine offices daily in the chapel, to be erected on it here, in honor of the blessed Virgin Mary. This chapel was suppressed with others of the same sort in king Edward the VIth's reign, some of the walls of it are re=

/y Text. Roff. page 230. /z Augtn. off. Inrolm.

401

maining, but being converted into a tenement, there is scarce any outward appearance of it left.

At the east end of this hamlet is the seat of Ingress, situated close under the chalk cliffs, on the bank of the Thames, along which it has a most pleasing view, the extensive pleasure grounds of it are for the most part formed over the remains of a range of old neglected chalk pits, which form an inequality of ground for the purpose, beyond what any art or present expence could

perhaps easily attain to. Above the London road, on the southern side, is a neat modern house, called Knockholt, built by one of the family of Hayes, of Cobham, the last of whom Mr. Bonham Hayes left it by will to Mr. Butler, of Deal, who now owns it; near it are two small hamlets, called Milton-street and Weston-cross.

From the above road the ground rises southward to the village of Swanscombe, at the west end of which is the mansion of the manor, much of which has within these few years been pulled down, and it is now used as a farm house; and a little further the parsonage and church. Round the village there is some tolerable good land, though rather inclined to gravel, and some orchard ground; even so early as the 36th year of king Henry VIII. mention is made in a grant of it of an orchard here, called the cherry-garden, belonging to the mansion of the manor. Above the village the ground rises still higher, being covered with a large tract of woodland, the soil of which is a stiff cold clay. These woods stop the current of the air, and occasion the fogs and noisome vapours arising from the marshes to hang among them, and then to descend on the village and low lands again, which renders this parish exceedingly unhealthy. Part of these woods within the bounds of this parish is known by the name of Swanscombe park, in which and other parts near it there are several mounts of earth thrown up, seemingly the works of very antient times. They all lie very high, some of them have a hollow at the top, and none of

402

them are above thirty or forty yards over. The old Roman road runs along the southern part of this wood. Dr. Thorpe supposed that Swanscombe was the *vagniacæ* of the Romans, and that their station here was at the head of the fleet, which parts this parish and Northfleet, on which subject the reader will find further hereafter under Southfleet. A few years ago a copper coin of Nero was grubbed up out of a hedge-row in this parish, and another of Severus was turned up by the plough; a sufficient corroboration that the Romans had intercourse in or near this place.

William the Conqueror, as is commonly reported, was met in his way through this county, immediately after the battle of Hastings, by the Kentishmen at Swanscombe, headed by archbishop Stigand, and Egel-sine, the abbot of St. Augustines, each man having a bough in his hand; so that the whole multitude seemed at first a moving forest; when throwing down their boughs, at the sound of the trumpet, they appeared with their arms prepared for battle. This at first somewhat alarmed the duke, but his surprize ceased, when he found it was the people of Kent, who, as he was told, by the archbishop and abbot, were come to assure him of the submission of the county, and withal to demand the confirmation of their antient laws and privileges. The duke received them very graciously, and not so willingly, as wisely, granted their request.

This tale is repeated by William Thorne, monk of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, from a MSS. history of that abbey, drawn up by Thomas Sprot, and others, chroniclers there, who in all probability invented it, to

magnify the valour of their archbishop and abbot, and of their countrymen. All our writers, except Mr. Lambarde, who seems loth to give it up, have looked upon this story as a mere fiction. Mr. Somner, in particular, calls it a commentitious fable; he says, it is mentioned only by Sprot, who lived in the reign of

403

king Edward I. and such others as of latter times have written after his copy; for before him, and in that interim of more than two hundred years, between the conquest and the time he wrote, no published story, no chronicle, no record of any kind, Kentish or other, is found to warrant the relation; and yet, a matter so remarkable as this, was not likely to escape all our historians pens that were before him, especially those about the time of the conquest. Among which the silence of Ingulphus is the more strange, since he is so particular and punctual in relating and recording the Conqueror's oppugners and their proceedings. These reasons, with others, he offers to the more literate and judicious only, for the story being so universally swallowed by the generality of people, he dares not enter into a dispute with them about it, as despairing of success in disengaging them from the belief of it, though he was to use the most convincing arguments for that purpose./a

Our herbalists have taken notice of the following SCARCE HERBS and PLANTS to be found within this parish:

*Ischæmon vulgare*, cocksfoot grass, which Johnson says was most probably *gramen dactiloides radice repente*, cocksfoot grass with creeping roots; Gerarde found it near Greenhithe.

*Palma Christi*, mas. & fæmina, the male and female satyron royal; in Swanscombe wood.

*Rheseda Plinii*, Italian rocket; upon the upgrounds above Greenhithe.

*Cynocrambe*, dogs mercury; about Greenhithe and Swanscombe.

*Virga aurea*, the golden rod; in Swanscombe wood.

*Pneumonanthe*, Calathian violet; upon the chalk cliffs near Greenhithe.

/a Lamb. Dict. p. 329. Somner's Gavelkind, p. 62 et seq.

404

*Speculum veneris minus*, coddled corn violet; in the corn-fields near Greenhithe.

*Trachelium majus*, blue Canterbury bells, *Trachelium minus*, small Canterbury bells, are both found not only in this parish, but in many other places in this county.

*Centaurium parvum luteum lobellii*, yellow centorie; upon the chalky cliffs about Greenhithe.

*Lathyrus major latifolius*, everlasting pea; in Swanscombe wood./b

I have myself also found on the waste upground above Greenhithe the butterfly and the fly satyron, the humble-bee and the bee-orchis.

In the reign of king William the Conqueror, Swanscombe was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, the king's half brother, and it is accordingly

entered, under the general title of his lands, in the survey of Domesday, as follows:

Helto holds Suinescamp of the bishop (of Baieux.) It was taxed at 10 sulings. The arable land is 14 carucates. There are 3 in demesne, and 33 villeins, with 3 borderers, having 13 carucates. There is 1 knight, and 10 servants, and 40 acres of meadow, wood for three hogs, and 5 fisheries of 30 pence, and a sixth which belongs to the hall, and 1 hith of 5 shillings and 4 pence; of the wood of this manor, Richard (de Tunbridge) holds in his lowy as much as is worth 4 shilling.

The whole manor was worth 20 pounds . . . . and it is now worth 32 pounds.

On the disgrace of bishop Odo, in 1084, his possessions were confiscated to the king's use, and this manor as part of them. After which the manor of Swanscombe came into the possession of the family of Montchensie, called in Latin De Monte Canisio.

William, son of William de Montchensie, who died in the 6th year of king John, owned this manor. It

/b Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 28, 220, 277, 334, 429, 439, 449, 450, 547, 1229.

405

appears that he lived but a few years afterwards; for Warine de Montchensie (probably his uncle) in the 15th year of that reign, for a fine of two thousand marcs, had possession granted of his whole inheritance. He married Joane, the second daughter of William Marshal, earl of Pembroke; and in the 7th year of king Henry III. being in the expedition then made into Wales, he had scutage of all his tenants by military service in Kent, and other counties. He died anno 38 king Henry III. being then reputed one of the most noble, prudent, and wealthy men in the kingdom, his inventory amounting to two thousand marcs. He bore for his arms, Or, three escutcheons vairy, argent and azure, two bars gules; which coat is among the quarterings of the present earl of Shrewsbury. He left William, his son and heir, and a daughter Joane, who had married, by the king's appointment, William de Valence, the king's half brother. Valence bore for his arms, Barry of ten, argent and azure; eight martlets gules, three, two, and three, though sometimes they were placed in orle. His arms are in Woodnesborough church, as quartered by Hastings, and they are on the roof of the cloysters of Canterbury cathedral. These arms were quartered by the late Marchioness de Grey, and the earl of Shrewsbury.

William de Montchensie, two years after, as son and heir to his father, had possession granted of all his lands lying in Kent, and other counties. Not long after which he took part with the discontented barons, and, in the 48th year of king Henry III. was one of the chief commanders on their part, in the battle of Lewes, where the king was made prisoner; and next year, when they summoned a parliament in the king's name, he was one of the chief of those barons that sat in it./c After being taken at Kenilworth, in the surprise made by the forces of prince Edward, a little before the

/c Dugd. Bar. vol. i, p. 561.

battle of Evesham, his lands, and among them this manor, were seized, and given to William de Valence, before-mentioned. However, he had soon after such favor shewn him for his sister's sake, that William Valence freely restored them to him again. After which, in the 6th year of king Edward I. he obtained a full pardon, with other favours granted to him, and in the 8th year he had restored and granted in fee, view of frank pledge, and the courts belonging to it in all his lands./d But in the 17th year of that reign, marching with the earl of Cornwall (then governor of the realm in the king's absence) into Wales against Rees ap Griffith, then in the castle of Drosselan, and endeavouring to demolish it by undermining it, he was, with many others, overwhelmed in the fall of it./e He left one daughter and sole heir, Dionisia. Notwithstanding which next year William de Valence, and Joane his wife, asserted their claim in parliament to the inheritance of her father's lands, pretending, that this Dionisia was a bastard; but after much dispute, it being proved that William de Montchensie acknowledged her, whilst he lived, as his lawful daughter publicly, and because the bishop of Worcester, in whose diocese she was born, had given sentence therein accordingly, she was allowed to be legitimate./f She was shortly afterwards married, through the king's means, to Hugh de Vere, third son of Robert, earl of Oxford, who in the 25th year of the same reign, in consideration of his services in the wars of France, had possession granted of the lands of her inheritance./g

In the 1st year of king Edward II. he was summoned to the king's coronation, as was Dionisia his wife, by whom it seems he had no issue; for on her death, in the 7th year of that reign, it was found, that

/d Pat. Rolls, anno 8 Edw. I.

/e Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 562.

/f Ibid. 776. Prynne, p. 403.

/g Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 562.

she died possessed among others, of this manor of Swanscombe, which she held in capite, by homage and service, and that Adomar de Valence, son of Joan and William de Valence before-mentioned, was her next heir,/h who afterwards succeeded in the earldom of Pembroke, whose three sisters were Anne, first married to Maurice Fitzgerald, and next to Hugh Baliol, and lastly to John de Avenues; Isabel to John de Hastings, of Bergavenny; and Joane to John Comyn, of Badenagh. Adomar, or Aymer de Valence before-mentioned, on his two brothers death without issue, became earl of Pembroke. But in the 17th year of that reign, attending the queen into France, was murdered there, in revenge, as it is said, for the death of the earl of Lancaster, being one of those who had given sentence of death upon him at Pontefract two years before, and his body being brought into England was buried in the abbey church of Westminster, at the head of Edmund, earl of Lancaster./i He left no issue, though he was thrice married, upon which John, son of John de Hastings, by Isabel his wife, the earl's sister, and John,

son of John Comyn, of Badenagh, by Joan, the other sister of the earl, were found to be his coheirs, and next of kin./k

John de Hastings, the son, died without issue next year, leaving Joane, wife of David de Strabolgi, earl of Athol, and Elizabeth Comyn, her sister, his cousins, and next heirs.

Elizabeth Comyn, being likewise one of the cousins and heirs of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke before-mentioned, on the partition of his estates, had for her share, among others, the manors of Swanscombe and Milton, in this county; but being seized on by Hugh le Despencer, earl of Winchester, Hugh his

/h Collins's Coll. p. 226. Rot. Esch. ejus an. No. 51.

/i Duggd. Bar. vol. i. p. 778.

/k Ibid. vol. i. p. 576, and 686.

408

son, and others, at Kenynton in Surry, she was kept a prisoner by them for more than a year; during which she was compelled, through fear of being put to death, to pass away many manors and lands of her inheritance to him, among which the manor of Swanscombe seems to have been one; for the king, in his 18th year, confirmed it to Hugh le Despencer, earl of Winchester, and his son Hugh, in fee. The former of whom, in the 19th year of that reign, on the queen's coming to Bristol from abroad, with a powerful force, was brought before the prince, and those barons then attending him, though at that time ninety years of age, and received judgment of death; first to be drawn, afterwards to be beheaded, and then hanged on a gibbet; all which was accordingly executed, on which Hugh Despencer, the younger, immediately fled, but being taken prisoner not long afterwards in Wales, was brought in the most ignominious manner to Hereford, where he was condemned to a cruel and shameful death, which was accordingly executed on him, the gallows being fifty feet high, on St. Andrew's Eve, in the 20th year of king Edward II. and being then quartered, his limbs were sent to four different places, and his head to London-bridge. Upon this the manor of Swanscombe escheated to the crown, where it remained till the 1st year of king Edward III. when, in consideration of the good services performed by Edmund of Woodstock, earl of Kent, and partly in satisfaction of the deficiency of lands which his father king Edward had appointed him to have, the king granted to him several manors, which by the forfeitures of Hugh Despencer, earl of Winchester, the father, and of Hugh the son, had escheated to the crown, among which was this manor./l

This Edmund married Margaret, widow of John Comyn, of Badenagh, and in the 3d year of king Edward III. had possession granted of her dowry.

/l Duggd. Bar. vol. i. p. 93. vol. ii. p. 93, 94.

409

Being accused of treason, he was arrested at a council held at Winchester, in the 4th year of that reign, upon which he submitted to mercy; but by the malice of queen Isabel, he was adjudged to suffer death for high treason, in plotting the delivery of the late king.

Which sentence was accordingly executed on him. He died possessed of this manor with the church belonging to it, among others in this county; holding it, as appears by the inquisition taken after his death, in fee-tail of the king in capite, as of the honor of Rochester-castle, by the service of paying yearly to the castle, at the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, 4l. 4s. and at the king's exchequer 8s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for all service. After the earl's death, this manor seems to have reverted to its right owner again, in Elizabeth, sister and coheiress of John Comyn, of Badenagh, cousin and heir of Aymer, earl of Pembroke, then married to Richard Talbot, of Goderich-castle, in Herefordshire, who was ancestor of Talbot, viscount Lisle, Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury, and the Talbots of Grafton and Longford, Richard Talbot's great-grandfather, who died anno 2 king Edward I. bore for his arms, Bendy of ten pieces argent and gules, being the paternal coat of Talbot. He married the daughter and heir of Rhese Ap-Griffith, prince of Wales; and their descendants discontinued the bearing of their paternal coat, according to the custom of those times, in respect to her, and took the arms of the said Rhese and his ancestors, princes of Wales, viz. Gules, a lion rampant or, within a bordure engrailed of the second. He paid aid for this manor as half a knight's fee, in the 20th year of that reign. He was a man of experienced valour, much entrusted and employed by the king in his wars, especially in Scotland; and having been summoned to parliament from the 4th to the 29th years of the same reign inclusive, he died in the 30th year of it, being then possessed of this manor, held in capite./m

/m Rot. Esch. anno 31 king Edward III.

410

It appears that he held this manor only for life; for on his death, it came into the possession of Roger, lord Mortimer, who was owner of it at his death, which happened in France, anno 34 king Edward III. holding it of the honor of Rochester-castle, by the service before-mentioned./n

From him it descended to his great grandson, Edmund Mortimer; on whose death without issue, in the 3d year of king Henry VI. Richard, duke of York, son of Anne his sister, was by inquisition, found to be his cousin and next heir.

Being, both by his father's and mother's side, descended from king Edward III. he aspired to the crown; but in the 37th year of king Henry VI. the army, which he and his friends had raised for this purpose, having, upon the king's proclamation of pardon deserted him, he fled to Ireland, and the king causing a parliament to meet at Coventry, this duke, his son Edmund, earl of March, and all their adherents, were attainted in it; upon which this manor became forfeited to the crown, and was that year granted to Sir Thomas Browne, of Beechworth-castle, in Surry, treasurer of the king's household, who had then a grant of a fair to be held at this place yearly, on the Tuesday in the week of Pentecost./o However, it seems, as if on the turn of fortune, which happened soon afterwards to the duke of York, that he regained the possession of this manor, of which he died possessed, as appears by the

inquisition taken after his death, in the 3d year of king Edward IV. After which his widow, Cecilie, duchess of York, the king's mother, continued in possession of it to the time of her death, in the 10th year of king Henry VII./p, when it reverted to the crown, where it staid till king Henry VIII. settled it on his queen, Jane Seymour; on whose death, in the 29th year of that

/n Rot. Esch. No. 52, ps. 1 ma.  
/o Rot. Cart. ejus an. /p Philipott, p. 307, errata.

411

reign, it came again into the king's hands, where it remained till queen Elizabeth, in her 2d year, granted it in fee, with the scite of it, the cherry-garden, and the ferry of Greenhithe, to Anthony Weldon, esq. who had a lease of it, both from king Henry VIII. and Edward VI. for a term of years, to hold of her in capite by knights service. He was descended from Bertram de Weltdone, who was of the retinue of Walther, earl of Northumberland and bishop of Durham, at the time of the conquest. His descendant, Robert de Weltden, was lord of Weltden, in Northumberland, in the reign of king Richard I. whose descendant, Simon Weltden, was of Weltden, and flourished in the time of king Henry VI. He had by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Denton, esq. of Denton, in Northumberland, two sons; Christopher, who succeeded his father at Weltden, and was ancestor of the branch of this family who settled there; and Hugh Weltden, who was sewer to king Henry VII. and left four sons, Hugh Weltden, who was ancestor to the Weltdens, of Shottesbrooke, in Berkshire; Edward Weltden, the second son, whose descendants settled in Kent, bearing for their arms, Argent a cinquefoil pierced gules, on a chief of the second, a demi lion rampant of the field; Thomas Weltden, the third son, who was cofferer to king Edward VI. and queen Elizabeth, whose descendants remained at Cookham, in Berkshire; and William Weltden, the fourth son, whose descendants settled at Thornby, in Northamptonshire.

But to return to Edward, the second son, who was servant to king Henry VII. and master of the household to king Henry VIII. He was of Swanscombe, and left by his wife, daughter of Roo, Anthony Weldon, esq. before-mentioned, clerk of the spicer, and afterwards promoted to the board of green-cloth, to whom queen Elizabeth, in her 2d year, granted this manor of Swanscombe in fee. He died in the 16th year of

412

that reign,/q being then clerk of the green cloth to that princess.

Ralph Weldon, his eldest son, had possession granted of this manor, the ferry, and other lands before-mentioned, that year, holding them in capite by knights service./r He was knighted, and was clerk of the kitchen to queen Elizabeth, afterwards clerk comptroller to king James, and died clerk of the board of green cloth. He died in 1609, leaving, by Elizabeth, daughter of Leven Bufkin, esq. four sons, Anthony, clerk of the kitchen to king James, Henry, Levin, and

Ralph, and several daughters.

Anthony Weldon, esq. the eldest son, succeeded him in this manor, was afterwards knighted, and in the 10th year of king James, obtained a grant of the castle of Rochester, with all its services annexed. He married Elinor, daughter of George Wilmer, esq. by whom he had several children, of whom Ralph Weldon, the eldest son, on his father's death inherited this manor and the castle. His son was Anthony Weldon, esq. of Swanscombe, whose son, Walker Weldon, esq. died possessed of these estates in 1731, presently after whose death, his heirs conveyed them by sale to Thomas Blechynden, esq. who died owner of them in 1740, leaving, by Lydia his wife, two sons, his coheirs, whose trustees, under the direction of the court of chancery, conveyed them to Samuel Child, esq. of Osterly park, an eminent banker in London, and he died possessed of them in 1752, leaving two sons, Francis and Robert, of whom the eldest, succeeded his father in these estates; but dying without issue in 1763, this manor, with the scite of Rochester-castle, as well as his other estates, devolved to his brother and heir at law, Robert Child, esq. late of Osterly-park, and a banker in London, who married the eldest daughter of Gilbert Jodrell, esq. of Ankerwyke, and died in 1782, and his

/q Rot. Esch. ejus an. /r Ibid.

413

widow Mrs. Child, with the other trustees under her husband's will, then became possessed of them, and she, in 1791, carried her interest in them, in marriage to Francis, lord Ducie. She died in 1793, since which they have again become vested in the trustees of her first husband's will, and remain so at this time.

The manor of Swanscombe, as well as that of Combe in this parish, holden of Rochester-castle, owed service towards the defence of it, the owner of Swanscombe being, as it were, one of the principal captains to whom that charge was antiently committed, and there were subject to this manor several knights fees, as petty or subordinate captains, bound to serve under his banner there./s

These services have been long since turned into annual rents of money. The following is a list of those manors and lands which held by castle-guard, and now pay rents in lieu of it:

Luddesdown manor.  
Ryarsh manor.  
Delce Magna.  
Addington manor.  
Norton manor.  
Cobham Eastcourt, and  
Aldington Eastcourt.  
Stockbury manor.  
Little Delce.  
Hamwold-court manor.  
Farnborough-court manor.  
Boughton Monchelsea manor.  
Midley and Little Caldecott.  
Goddington manor.  
Padlesworth manor.  
Bicknor manor.

Fraxingham manor.  
Wootton manor.  
Eccles manor.  
Part of ditto.  
Holden manor in Surry.  
Lands in Westborough farm,  
in Surry.  
Dairy farm, in Higham.  
Mickleham manor, in Surry.  
Barrow-hall manor, in ditto.  
Ingrast, Harringfield, East Harringfield, and West Horden,  
in Essex.  
Great and Little Borstable  
manors.  
Widford manor, in Essex.  
Alchardin, alias Combes manor,  
and part of  
North-court.

These rents are paid on St. Andrew's day, old style,  
and the custom has been held, that if the rent is not

/s Lamb. Peramb. p. 530.

414

then paid, it is liable to be doubled, on the return  
of every tide in the Medway, during the time it re= mains unpaid. This custom was very near being brought to a legal decision some years ago; for Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. owner of Farnborough-court manor, and Thomas Best, esq. owner of Eccles ma= nor, having made default in the payment of their castle-guard rents, Mr. Child, owner of Swanscombe manor, and the castle, required the penalty of their being doubled; which dispute was carried so far, that ejectments were served on the estates, and a special jury was struck, to try the matter. But by the in= terposition of friends, the dispute was compromised, and a small composition was accepted, in lieu of the penalty, though it was entered in the court-rolls of Swanscombe manor, with the consent of all parties, in such a manner, that the custom of this payment might not be lessened in future by it.

The MANOR of COMBES, called likewise Al= kerdyn, alias Combes, in the reign of Edward III. was in the possession of Sir Richard Talbot, who, in the 20th year of that reign, paid aid for it, holding it as the 10th part of a knight's fee, which Hugh de Vere held before of the king.

This place afterwards gave name to a family, who possessed it for many generations, called from it At- Cumbe, and Combe. One of these, John de Combe, held it as the fifth part of a knight's fee of the earl of March, lord of the manor of Swanscombe. From this family it went, in the next reign of Edward IV. to Swan of Hook-house, in Southfleet, whose de= scendant, Mr. Thomas Swan, died possessed of it, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, holding it of the queen, as of her manor of Swanscombe, by knight's service; /t his son and heir, William Swan, sold it to Lovelace; and he, not long after, passed it away to

/t Rot. Esch. ejus an.

Carter, who alienated it to Hardres; from whom, at the latter end of that reign, it was sold to Fagg, and he conveyed it to Hudson, whose descendant, in the reign of king Charles I. conveyed it to Mr. Richard Head, of Rochester, who was advanced to the dignity of baronet in 1676; his great grandson, Sir Francis Head, bart. died possessed of this manor in 1768, leaving three daughters, Mary Wilhelmina, married to the Hon. Harry Roper, eldest son of Henry lord Teynham; Anne Gabriel, married first to Moses Mendes, esq. and 2dly to the Hon. John Roper, second son of Henry lord Teynham above mentioned; and Elizabeth Campbell, married to the Rev. Dr. Lill, of the kingdom of Ireland.

On Sir Francis Head's death this manor came to the Honorable Harry Roper, by virtue of the settlement made by Sir Francis on his marriage; he afterwards succeeded to the title of lord Teynham, and died possessed of it, but without issue, on which it devolved, by the above settlement, to his other two daughters and coheirs. Soon after which it was sold to Mr. William Levett, who conveyed it to Mr. Bonham Hayes, who died in 1794, and his heirs sold it to David Powell, esq. of London, merchant, the present owner of it.

INGRESS is a seat, built on the bank of the Thames, adjoining to the hamlet of Greenhithe. It was once accounted a manor, and formerly belonged to the priory of Dartford, and was possessed by it at the suppression of that house in the reign of Henry VIII. by which means this estate, among their other possessions, came into the hands of the crown; at which time Robert Meriel, of Swanscombe, husbandman, had a lease from the prioress and convent, at the yearly rent of ten pounds, of their farm, called Ingress, late in the tenure of Richard Grove, and all their chalk

/u Philipott, p. 308.

cliffs, called Downe cliffs; which lease Martin Meriel, his son, afterwards had renewed, from Edward VI. in his 5th year./w

The fee of this estate remained in the crown till queen Elizabeth, in her 5th year, granted it to Edward Derbyshire and John Bere, who not long after conveyed it to Jones; who, in the latter end of king James I.'s reign, alienated it to Whaley, and he settled it on his kinsman, Mr. Thomas Holloway, who conveyed it to Shires;/x whose wife Mary survived him, and with her two sons, Edward and Robert Shires, esqrs. of the Inner Temple, in 1649, conveyed the mansion-house, manor, and farm, called Ingress, and the several lands belonging to it, chalk cliffs, lime-kiln, wharf, salt and fresh marsh, to Capt. Edward Brent, of Southwark, who by his will, in 1676, gave this estate to Christian his wife, for her life, with remainder to Edward Brent, esq. their son, who became possessed of Ingress at his mother's decease, and resided at it; and in the year 1689, conveyed it, with the lands belonging to it, in Swanscombe, among other premises, by way of mortgage, to John Smith,

esq. of Camberwell, Surry, who by his will, in 1698, gave his interest in it to his two sons, Nathaniel and Jonathan Smith, who, in 1710, purchased the fee of this estate of the heirs of Brent. Nathaniel and Jonathan Smith above mentioned, both resided here; but in 1719, Capt. Nathaniel Smith conveyed his share in Ingress to his brother-in-law, Jonathan, sheriff in 1721, who bore for his arms, Argent, on a fess vert three bezants, between three demi griffins sable. In the year 1737, he alienated it to John Carmichael, earl of Hyndford, afterwards made a knight of the Thistle, and appointed envoy extraordinary to Prussia and Russia; and he, in the year 1748, alienated Ingress, with the grounds belonging to it, to William

/w Augment. Off. Inrol. /x Philipott, p. 308.

417

viscount Duncannon; who, in 1758, on his father's death, succeeded him as earl of Besborough, in Ireland, and baron Ponsonby, of Sysonby, in this kingdom. He greatly improved this seat and the grounds belonging to it, with much elegance and taste, and resided here, with his lady (Carolina, eldest daughter of William duke of Devonshire) and family till her death, which happened in 1760, but losing several of his children here likewise, he became so disgusted with the place, that he immediately sold it to John Calcraft, esq. late an agent for the army, who purchased several estates, at different times, contiguous to Ingress, into which he extended the plantations and gardens, which lord Besborough had begun, and continued making such additions to it, that, had he lived, Ingress would, most probably, have been one of the greatest ornaments of this county. He died in 1772, being then M. P. for Rochester, and devised this, among his other estates, to his eldest son, John Calcraft, esq. and he sold it in 1788, to John Disney Roebuck, esq. who resided here, and died possessed of it in 1796; and his son, Henry Roebuck, esq. now possesses it.

#### CHARITIES.

MARTIN MERIEL, of Greenhithe, by his will in 1563, devised 20s. yearly, to be paid out of his house and lands, called Daniel's, in Swanscombe, to be applied, 18s. towards the relief of the poor of this parish, on Good Friday, and 2s. to the churchwardens, in consideration of their pains.

JOHN BERE, gent. in the reign of queen Elizabeth, by will, appointed that James Vaughan and others, and their heirs, enfeoffed by him by deed, in three tenements and gardens, situated in Greenhithe, should stand seised of them, for the purpose, that three aged poor men or women should for ever be placed in them, by the clergymen and churchwardens, they being inhabitants, and to enjoy the same gratis during their lives.

ANTHONY POULTER, as is supposed, gave by will, in 1635, 20s. yearly, to be distributed by the churchwardens to the poor, at Christmas, which money is paid by Mrs. A. Pettit, of Dartford.

LADY SWAN gave, by will, in 1721, three messuages in Greenhithe, to the churchwardens and overseers, the yearly rents of them, to be distributed among the poorest inhabitants of this parish as they should think fit, or to permit so many such to dwell

418

in them gratis, the same now vested in the churchwardens; a part of the premises was let to the late Mr. Richard Forrest, for ninety-nine years, and occupied by him at 3l. per annum; another small part is in the occupation of James King, at 5s. per annum, and the remainder is turned into a workhouse.

ONE PIECE of land, called the Poor Acre, and other lands belonging to B. Hayes, esq. pays 1l. 5s. to the churchwardens, for the use of the poor of the parish yearly, the donor unknown.

SWANSCOMBE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. This church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, consists of two isles and two chancels, having a spire steeple at the west end.

In this church, among other monuments and inscriptions, are the following. In the isle, are several gravestones, with memorials, for the Tuckeys, Acortes, Wallis's, and other inhabitants, of this parish. A mural monument, on the north isle, for Mr. John Sloman, obt. 1706, æt. 21, only surviving son of Mr. Anthony Sloman, of London; he left his fortune to his sole executor, Mr. Jonathan Smith, younger son of John Smith, esq. (his grandfather by his mother's side) by a second marriage. In the great chancel, a memorial for the wife of Anthony Weldon, esq. obt. 1759; above these arms, a cinquefoil, on a chief a demi lion. Another within the rails, for the Rev. John Watts, obt. Jan. 12, 1670. A memorial for John Taylor, clerk, B. D. rector of this parish, obt. Sep. 2, 1757, æt. 60, arms, ermine on a chief indented, three escallop shells, impaling a chevron ermine between three garles. Another for Martin Barnes, B. D. rector of this parish, ob. Sep. 27, 1759, æt. 59. On the south side a mural monument, with the figure of a woman finely executed, and kneeling at a desk, with a book open before her, and an inscription for dame Ellinor Weldon, daughter of George Wilmer, esq. and wife of Sir Anthony Weldon, by whom he had six sons and four daughters living, obt. 1622. On the south side of the rails, a mural monument, with a like figure of a man, kneeling at a desk, with a book open before him, and inscription, for Anthony Weldon, who died, clerk of the greencloth to queen Elizabeth, and brother of Sir Ralph Weldon, who died in the same office to king James I. himself being clerk of the kitchen both to queen Elizabeth and king James I. who resigned the same place to his nephew, Anthony Weldon, then clerk of the kitchen, in the 2d year of that king's reign, obt. 1613, arms, Weldon. In the south chancel, a monument for Elianor, relict of Wm. Say, esq. ob. 1678; above, a shield with three chevrons, impaling Weldon. Another for Elizabeth, relict of Wm. Hart, esq. obt. 1677; above, these arms, a lozenge, Hart, impaling Weldon; another for Anne,

419

relict of Sir Percival Hart, of Lullingstone, obt. 1712. A memorial, at the east end of the south chancel, for Thomas Blechingdon, esq. lord of this manor, obt. 1740, æt. 31, and for his widow, Mrs. Lidia Blechingdon, obt. 1743, æt. 31; above are these arms, quarterly, 1st and 4th, a fess nebulee between three lions heads erased; 2d and 3d, a chevron between three eagles heads erased, impaling a fess ermine between three cinquefoils. At the upper end of the south side, a stately monument of alabaster, on which are the figures of a knight in armour and his lady, at large, resting on pillows, at his feet a son cumbent, and at her's, a daughter; and in front, under two tablets, are three sons and five daughters, kneeling, in the dress of the age; between them is a desk, with a book open on each side, being for Sir Ralph Weldon, erected by his wife, lady Elizabeth Weldon; he was chief

clerk of the kitchen to queen Elizabeth, afterwards clerk comp= troller to king James, and died clerk of the green cloth, an. 1609, having had by the said Elizabeth, daughter of Leven Buffkin, esq. four sons; Anthony, clerk of the kitchen to king James, Henry, Lever, and Ralph; and six daughters. On another tab= let, an inscription, shewing that his grandfather, Edw. Weldon, served king Henry VII. and was master of the household to king Henry VIII. whom likewise Thomas Weldon, his uncle, served, and was cofferer to king Edward VI. and queen Elizabeth; An= thony Weldon, his father, served queen Elizabeth, and died clerk of the Greencloth; on the top, these arms, quarterly, 1st and 4th, Weldon; 2d, ermine, a lion rampant, his tail forked azure, crowned or; 3d, argent, on a chevron azure, three besants be= tween three trefoils, parted per pale gules and vert; on the left side a shield, being Weldon, impaling on a bend ermine, three boars heads couped, between two bendlets or; on the right, Wel= don, impaling Buffkin. In the upper window of the south chan= cel are these arms, very antient, in coloured glass, 1st quarterly, 1st and 4th, argent, a chevron between three rooks proper; 2d and 3d, per pale indented, quarterly and azure, a lion rampant or, impaling chequy or and azure, a fess gules./y

This church, in former times, was much resorted to by a com= pany of pilgrims, who came hither for St. Hildeferth's help, who by his picture, which was in the upper window of the south side, appears to have been a bishop, to whom such as were dis= tracted came to be cured of their insanity./z

From the earliest account of time it was esteemed an appendage to the manor of Swanscombe; al= though, in the reign of king Henry III. there arose a dispute between the prior and convent of St. Mary's,

/y See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 1002. /z Lamb. Peramb. p. 530.

420

in Southwark, and Warine de Monchensie, concern= ing the advowson and right of presentation to it; but the prior and convent allowed it to belong to Warine de Monchensie, saving to the prior and his successors, the annual sum of five marcs sterling, to be paid by the rector of it./a

The church continued appendant to the manor till Edward VI. Dec. 4, in his 6th year, granted the ad= vowson of the rectory of it, with other premises, in exchange, to Edward lord Clinton and Say, and Henry Herdson./b

In king James I.'s reign, the advowson belonged to Mr. George Gardiner. In 1650, it was the pro= perty of the Rev. Mr. Betts, who was likewise rector of this church. It has been, for many years past, part of the possessions of the master and fellows of Sidney college in Cambridge, the present proprietors of it.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the rectory of Swanscombe was valued at thirty marcs./c

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, it was returned, that Swanscombe was a parsonage, with a house, and about twenty acres of glebe land, all worth 120l. per annum, master Betts enjoying the same, who had the advow= son./d About which time there was a suit between the lord of the manor and the rector of this parish, relating to tithes, which was determined in the ex= chequer in favour of the latter, of which there is a

curious memorandum inserted in the Register.

It is valued in the king's books at 25l. 13s. 4d.  
and the yearly tenths at 2l. 11s. 4d./e

/a Reg. Roff. p. 657.

/b Augmentation Off. Inrol=  
ments, box H. 2.

/c Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/d Parl. Surveys, Lambeth lib.  
vol. xix.

/e Bacon's Lib. Regis.

421

#### CHURCH OF SWANSCOMBE.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

The King. Edm. de London, presented 1331,  
obt. 1332./f

Reginald Thomas, LLB. obt.  
1494./g

The Queen. Ambrose Lancaster, A. M. Nov.  
8, 1566./h

James Iken, A. M. in 1627.

..... Betts, in 1650./i

William Hopkins, in 1661, obt.  
1685.

Henry Boyce, in 1695.

..... Hope, obt. 1708.

..... Boyce, in 1718.

Master and Fellows of Sidney col=  
lege Cambridge John Taylor, B. D. obt. Sept. 2,  
1757./k

Martin Barnes, B. D. 1757, obt.  
Sep. 27, 1759./l

John Lawson, 1760, B. D. Nov.  
1779./m

Edward Oliver, 1781. Present  
rector.

/f He had the king's licence May  
18, 1331, to exchange the church of  
Halstow, in Lincoln diocese, with W.  
Cres for this church. He was like=  
wise archdeacon of Bedford, and pre=  
bendary of Brightling. Newc. Rep.  
vol. ii. p. 598.

/g He lies buried in this church.

/h Rym. Fœd. vol. xv. p. 666.

/i And vicar of Sutton-at-Hone.

/k They both lie buried in this

/l church.

/m He was buried at Chesilhurst, of  
which parish he was curate.

---

#### SOUTHFLEET.

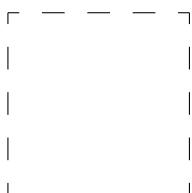
ADJOINING to Swanscombe southward, lies  
Southfleet, called in Domesday, Suthfleta, and so  
named to distinguish it from Northfleet. It is called  
in the Textus Roffensis, Fletis and Fleetis,/n which name  
it acquired from its situation close to the fleet, or arm  
of the Thames, which now flows under Northfleet

bridge, and formerly came up as high as this parish, and was probably then navigable a great way up. These parishes taking their names from it, at least shews it to have been a water of no small consequence.

THIS PARISH is rather an unfrequented place, nor is it much known, there being no public thoroughfare or high road through it; and the gentlemens' seats in it, of which there were several, having been greatly neglected, and suffered to run to ruin, some of them have been pulled down, and the remaining ones being inhabited only by the occupiers of the lands, the roads in it have been likewise neglected, and there are none to it now, but for waggons and carts of husbandry; otherwise it is situated very pleasant and rural, the air is very healthy, and the lands more level and fertile, and less covered with flints, than those of the neighbouring parishes. The village is situated nearly in the middle of the parish; in the centre of it is a space called Hook-green, having Hook-place on it, now used as a farm-house, and the church and free school on the north-west side of it, and the parsonage at a small distance southward. The antient seat of Scadbury stands at a small distance northward from it, being now converted into a farm house, and excepting the rector, there is not a gentleman residing in the parish, though the farmers in it are very respectable and opulent. About a mile north-west from the village is the hamlet of Betsham, formerly called Bedesham, through which the roads lead from Greensted-green to Wingfield-bank, where it meets the antient Watling-street or Roman highway, which having passed through Swanscombe-park wood, runs with the present road along the northern side of this parish, towards Shinglewell, and thence on to Cobham-park and Rochester.

On the remains of this road, about half a mile westward of Wingfield-bank, near adjoining to Spring-head, in the land now called Barkfields, in this parish,

some years ago, a stone was discovered, which, when dug up, was judged to be a Roman milliare, or mile stone. It stood nearly upright, the top of it about six or seven inches below the surface of the ground, so that it has been much surrowed by the passing of the plough over it. It measured two feet and a half long, two of its sides were sixteen inches, the other two fourteen. The corners of it were chiselled, but its faces were rustic; on one side there was a cross or figure of tin, deeply cut, which was undoubtedly to shew that it stood that distance from some particular station.



Somner and some others have placed the station of

the Romans, called VAGNIACÆ, at Northfleet, not far distant, but the objection to this is, that the valley between Northfleet-hill, leading to the bridge, and the opposite hill westward from it, was at that time a broad fleet of water, the Thames then flowing up to near Southfleet, as it would now, was it not hindered by the obstruction formed by the main road and the bank along side of it; therefore it is reasonable to suppose, that to avoid this water, the Romans shaped their course more to the southward, towards Southfleet, where it was more narrow, and where they had the benefit of a fine spring, which rises there, still known by the name of Spring-head, near which the

424

stone above mentioned was discovered, and a great number of their coins, some of silver, and many of copper, have at times been turned up by the plough, one was of the empress Faustina, very fair, and among these there has been found parched corn, such as wheat, and other grain./o Dr. Thorpe conjectured, that hereabouts was the above mentioned station, this spot answering to the numeral cross on the mile stone, being about ten Italian miles from the Medway at Rochester.

Gerarde, the herbalist, seems to have visited this place very frequently, on account of the aptness of the soil for simpling, which accounts for his observations being so numerous here.

The FOLLOWING PLANTS and HERBS he has taken notice in his Herbal as peculiar to this parish.

Iberis cardamantica sciatica cresses.  
Thlapsi vulgatissimum, mithridate mustard.  
Argemone capitulo torulo, bastard wild poppy.  
Ophrys bifolia, twaiblade.  
Virga aurea, golden rod.  
Helleborine, wild white hellebore.  
Trachelium majus, blue Canterbury bells; and Trachelium majus Belg. sive giganteum, giant throatwort.  
Aster atticus, starwort; and aster Italorum, Italian starwort.  
Chamæpitys, ground pine, several sorts of which grow here and in this neighbourhood.  
Ascyron, St. Peter's wort.  
Ptarmica, sneeze wort.  
Lithospermum majus and minus, great and small gromell.  
Anagallis, pimpernell of several sorts.  
Veronica fæmina fuchsii sive elatine, the female fuellin; and elatine altera, sharp pointed fuellin.  
Tragoriganum, goats marjoram.  
Trichomanes mas. the male maiden hair.

/o Custumale Roff. p. 249.

425

Cannabis spuria tertia, small bastard hemp, here and in general in the road towards Canterbury.  
Lathyrus major latifolius, peas everlasting.  
Helianthemum Anglicum, the English cistus, here, and most part of the way to Dover.  
Colutea minima sive coronilla, the smallest bastard senna, here and towards Dover.

Rhamnus solutivus, the buckthorne.  
Sorbus, the service tree, in great plenty here and in this neighbourhood.  
Lautana sive viburnum, the wayfaring tree.  
Satyrium abortinum sive nidus avis, bird's nest.  
Rheseda plinii, Italian rocket; and reseda maxima, crambling rocket.  
Cynocrambe, dogs mercury.

The MANOR of SOUTHFLEET, with the church, seems to have been given to the church and priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester, by some of the antient Saxon kings, and their estate here was afterwards increased by the gift of one Birtrick, a rich and potent man, who at that time resided at Meopham, and gave, with the consent of Alfswithe, his wife, his land here and in other places to that church and priory; but their whole property here was wrested from them in the troublesome times which soon afterwards followed, and they continued dispossessed of their estate here till the time of the Conqueror, when it was restored to the church of St. Andrew again, by the famous trial of Pinenden. This appears by a confirmation of this manor, among others, to the church of Rochester, by archbishop Boniface, in which it is mentioned, as having been the gift of the antient kings of England, and to have been taken away, and restored as above mentioned; and it continued part of the possessions of the above mentioned church at the time of the taking the survey of Domesday, in the 15th year of the Conqueror's reign, anno 1080,

426

in which it is thus described, under the general title of the lands of the bishop of Rochester.

The bishop of Rochester holds Sudfleta. It was taxed at six sulings. The arable land is 13 carucates. In demesne there is one carucate and 25 villeins, with nine borderers, having 12 carucates. There are seven servants, and 20 acres of meadow; wood for the pannage of 10 hogs. It is now taxed at five sulings. There is a church. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth 11 pounds, now 21 pounds, and yet it pays 24 pounds, and one ounce of gold. — Of this manor there is in (the lowy of) Tunbridge as much wood and land as is rated at 20 sulings.

Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, who was elected to this see, in the reign of the Conqueror, having divided the revenues of his church between himself and his convent, allotted this manor, and the church appendant to it, to the share of the monks, for the use of their refectory./p

King Henry I. king Stephen, and king Henry II. confirmed Southfleet, with its appendages, to the church of Rochester, and the monks there, as did several of the archbishops of Canterbury, from time to time./q

On bishop Gilbert de Glanvill's coming to the see in 1185, there arose a dispute between him and the monks, the bishop claiming several of the possessions given to them by bishop Gundulph, among which was the manor of Southfleet, which he alledged belonged

to the see of Rochester. At last the monks were obliged to submit; but though he restored several manors and churches to his see, yet it appears that he left them in the quiet possession of this manor.

In the 7th year of king Edward I. the bishop claimed certain liberties, by the grant of Henry I. in

/p Ad Victim. See Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 1.

/q Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 29. Reg. Roff. p. 38, 44, 46. Dugd. Bar. vol. iii. p. 4.

427

all his lands and fees, by antient custom, in the lands of the priory of Frendsbury, Stoke, Denystone, Woldham, Southfleet, and in all other lands belonging to his church; he likewise claimed gallows, assize of bread and ale, tumbrell, pillory, chattels of fugitive and condemned persons, with year and waste of those lands, and all amerciaments of the tenants of his church, all which were allowed him by the jury./r

In the 21st year of king Edward I. upon a Quo warranto, the prior of Rochester claimed that he and his predecessors had, in Woldham, Stokes, Frendsbury, Denington, and Southfleet, view of frank pledge, and a fair in Southfleet, from the time beyond memory, and that these liberties had been used without interruption; all which were allowed by the jury.

And as to free warren, he claimed it by the grant of king Henry I. and said, that he and his predecessors had used it in all these parishes, from the time of that grant; but the jury found to the contrary, therefore it was adjudged, that they should remain without that liberty./s

Two years afterwards, king Edward, in his 23d year, granted to the prior and convent free warren in all their demesne lands of Southfleet, Frindsbury, Darent, Woldham, and Stokes, so that no one should enter those lands to hunt in them, or to take any thing which belonged to warren, without the leave of the prior and convent, on penalty of forfeiting to the king the sum of ten pounds./t On a Quo warranto, anno 6 king Edward II. bishop Thomas de Woldham claimed, and was allowed the before mentioned liberties in this manor,/u belonging to the prior of Ro-

/r Reg. Roff. p. 86. Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 2.

/s Dewarrennatæ. Reg. Roff. p. 110.

/t Ibid. p. 388.

/u Ibid. p. 86. See the customs of this manor in Custumale Roff. p. 1.

428

chester, which were confirmed by inspeximus in the 30th year of king Edward III.

In a taxation of the manors, &c. of the prior and convent of Rochester, anno 15 king Edward I. the manor of Southfleet was valued at 16l. 12s. per ann.

In the 5th year of king Henry VIII. it was worth as appeared by the account of William Fressell, the prior, in the whole 40l. 19s. 4d.

At the suppression of the priory of Rochester, this manor came, among the rest of its possessions, into the king's hands, who, two years after, settled it on his new erected dean and chapter of Rochester, where

it did not stay long, for he required it from them again soon afterwards, by way of exchange; in consequence of which the dean and chapter, in the 36th of that reign, granted it to him, with all its rights and appurtenances, and had in lieu of it a grant of the rectory impropriate and advowson of the vicarage of Shorne, in this county./w By which means the original tenth, payable by the dean and chapter, on their foundation, to the king, being 115l. was advanced for, as Shorne was esteemed worth 9l. 6s. more than Southfleet, that sum was added to it, and they now pay 125l. 6s.

The next year the king granted the manor of Southfleet, with its appurtenances, to Sir William Petre, to hold in capite by knights service./x Sir William Petre was a man of great eminence in his time, of approved wisdom, and exquisite learning. He was first taken notice of by king Henry VIII. as a man fit for his purpose, in managing the dissolution of the religious houses, and was put into the commission by Thomas Cromwell, the visitor-general, in order to gather matter sufficient to found their ruin on; in which business he behaved so well to the king's liking, that he ever after employed him in state affairs, and made

/w See Tan. Mon. p. 203. /x Rot. Esch. pt. 2.

429

him chief secretary of state, and of his privy council. Sir William knew so well how to accommodate himself to the humour even of those fickle times, that he found means to continue in favour, and in his office of secretary, during the reigns of king Edward VI. queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth. But in queen Mary's reign, discerning that the restoring the Roman religion would deprive him of those vast grants of abbey lands, which he had so industriously acquired, he got a special dispensation from the pope for retaining them; affirming, that he was ready to employ them to spiritual uses. His only son John, by his second wife, in the 1st year of king James I. was made lord Petre of Writtle, in Essex./y Sir William Petre sold this manor the same year in which it was granted to him to William Gerrard, or Garret, as some called him, citizen and haberdasher of London, and afterwards knighted, and lord-mayor in 1553;/z who was the son of John Gerrard, alias Garret, of Sittingborne, and bore for his arms, Argent on a fess, sable, a lion passant of the field. He died in the 14th year of queen Elizabeth, and was succeeded here by his son and heir, William Gerrard, who was afterwards knighted. He died in the 22d year of that reign. His son, Sir John Gerrard, lord-mayor in 1601, passed it away to Sir William Sedley, of the Friars, in Aylesford,/a created a baronet on May 22, 1611. From him it descended down to his grandson, Sir Charles Sedley, bart. so much noted for his wit and gallantry; who by Catharine, one of the daughters of John earl Rivers, left one only daughter, Catherine, created by king James II. in his first year, countess of Dorchester and baroness of Darling=

/y Collins's Peer. vol. vi. p. 584. Camb. Brit. in Essex: and Hollinshed's Chron. See his Life, in Biog. Brit. vol. v. p. 5340.

/z Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 133. Ib. book ii. p. 175.  
/a Philipott, p. 329.

430

ton for life./b Sir Charles died in 1701, on which the title became extinct, and this estate came by settlement to Sir Charles Sedley, of St. Giles's, who was, next year, created a baronet, and resided at Scadbury, now called Scotbury, the antient seat in this parish belonging to this family. This branch of the family bore for their arms, quarterly five coats, 1. Sedley, azure, a fess wavy argent, between three goats heads erased of the second; 2. Jenks; 3. Grove; 4. Darell; and 5. Savile.

The family of Sedley was possessed of Scadbury so high as the year 1337, as appeared by a pannel of wainscot in the dining room of this house; on which there was carved the arms of the Sedleys, A fess wavy between three goats heads erased, and underneath the letters, W. S. and the above mentioned date./c John Sedley was of Scadbury in the reign of Henry VII. and one of the auditors of the exchequer to that prince. He died in 1500, and left by Elizabeth his wife, daughter and coheir of Roger Jenkes, of London, two sons; William, of whom hereafter; and Martin Sedley, who was of Morley, in Norfolk, from whom descended the Sedleys of that county.

William Sedley, the eldest son, was of Scadbury. He was sheriff of this county in the 1st year of king Edward VI. and married Anne, daughter and heir of Roger Grove, of London, by whom he left three sons and two daughters; of the former, John, the eldest, was of Scadbury, of whom hereafter; Robert was the second son; and Nicholas, the third son, left one son, Isaac Sedley, bart. of Great Chart, the father of Sir John Sedley, bart. of St. Clere's, in Ightham.

/b Visit. co. Kent, anno 1619, with additions. Kimber's Baronage, vol. iii. p. 2. et seq. See his life, Biog. Brit. vol. v. p. 3603, 3661, et seq. /c Philipott, p. 330.

431

John Sedley, of Scadbury, eldest son of William, was sheriff in the 8th year of queen Elizabeth, and having married Anne, daughter of John Culpeper, esq. of Aylesford, died in 1581, leaving three sons; of whom William was of Aylesford, and was created a baronet in 1611, as has been before mentioned in the account of him and his descendants. John died, s. p/d and Richard was of Southfleet, and afterwards of Digonswell, in Hertfordshire. By an ordinary of arms, belonging to the gentry of this county, in 1595, the arms of Sedley, of Southfleet are given, Per pale azure and sable, a fess chequy argent and gules, between three goats heads erased argent, attired or; which, I should imagine were those of this Richard Sedley, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Darell esq. of Calehill, by whom he had William Sedley, esq. who died in 1658, leaving by his second wife, Mary, daughter of Sir John Honywood, of Charing, a son, named Charles, who was knighted in 1688, and died in 1701./e His son Charles, after the death of Sir Charles Sedley, bart. of Aylesford and Southfleet, became possessed

both of the manor of Southfleet and the ancient family seat of Scadbury, and was created a baronet on July 10, 1702, being the 1st year of queen Anne. He died in 1727, leaving by Frances his wife, daughter of Sir Richard Newdigate, bart. one son, Charles, and a daughter, Elizabeth, married in 1739, to Sir Robert Burdet, bart. of Bramcote, in Warwickshire./f

Sir Charles Sedley, bart. the son, married in 1718, Elizabeth, daughter of William Frith, esq. by whom he became possessed of the estate and seat at Nuthall, in Nottinghamshire, where this family afterwards resided. He died in 1730, leaving Sir Charles Sedley, bart. of Nuthall, his only son and heir, who some

/d Visit. co. Kent, an. 1619.

/e Le Neve's Monast. Ang. vol. iii. p. 33.

/f Kimber's Bar. vol. iii. p. 4, et seq.

432

few years ago exchanged the manor of Southfleet, Scadbury, and the estates belonging to them, for other lands, with the Rev. Mr. Thomas Sanderson, of Haslemere, in Surry; and his daughter, Mary Anne, is the present possessor of them.

Among the antient contributory lands, towards the repair of Rochester bridge, is this manor; the owner of which, as well as those of Halling, Trottessclive, Malling, Stone, Pinenden, and Fawkham, and likewise the bishop of Rochester, are bound, when necessity requires, to repair the third pier of that bridge./g

POLE or POOL, is a manor here, which was antiently estimated at one suling or plough-land. It formerly was the inheritance of a family, called Berese; one of whom, Richard de Berese, gave the tithes of his lands/h in Southfleet to the church of Rochester; and they were allotted, by bishop Gundulph, to the share of the monks of his priory. It afterwards gave name to a family who were possessors of it; and it appears by the book of Knights Fees, taken in the reign of king Edward I. and now remaining in the exchequer, that Sarah de Pole was owner of it in that reign, holding it in dower, as two parts of a knight's fee, of the bishop of Rochester. In the reign of king Edward III. this manor was part of the possessions of Sir John, son of Henry de Cobham, of Cobham, the eldest branch of that noble family; who, in the 17th year of that reign, obtained a charter for free warren within this his lordship of Pole among others./i In the 20th year of that reign, he paid aid for it, as two parts of a knight's fee, which Sarah de Pole before held in Southfleet of the bishop of Rochester. Sir John de Cobham died, full of years, in the 9th year of king Henry IV. being then possessed of this manor./k

/g Lamb. Peramb. p. 416, 421.

/h Custumale Roff. p. 12. Reg. Roff. p. 47.

/i Duggd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 66.

/k Rot. Esch. No. 10. Duggd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 66, 67.

433

leaving Joane his grand daughter his next heir, the wife of Sir Nicholas Hawberk. She afterwards mar-

ried Sir John Oldcastle, who, on that account, assumed the title of lord Cobham, and died possessed of this manor in the 5th year of king Henry VI. /l though she is said to have had five husbands; one of whom, John Harpden, died possessed of Pole in his wife's right, in the 12th year of king Henry VI. yet she had issue only by her second husband, Sir Reginald, second son of Sir Gerard Braybrooke, one sole daughter and heir, named Joane, who became the wife of Sir Thomas Brooke, of Somersetshire, who was, in his wife's right, lord Cobham, though he never received summons to parliament. He had by her a numerous offspring, and died anno 17 king Henry VI. /m possessed of this manor, which descended from him to his great grandson, Sir Thomas Brooke, lord Cobham, who gave it in marriage with his third daughter, Elizabeth, to Sir Thomas Wyat, of Allington-castle; who, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. exchanged it, together with all his other lands in Southfleet, with that king, for the monastery of Boxley and other premises; after which it remained in the hands of the crown till queen Mary, in her 2d year, through her bounty, granted it to the lady Jane, the widow of Sir Thomas Wyat, who had been the year before attainted and executed for high treason, to hold in capite by knight's service. /n Their son, George Wyat, was of Boxley-abbey, and was restored in blood in the 13th year of queen Elizabeth, by act of parliament. On his death, in 1624, this manor descended to his eldest son, Sir Francis Wyat, of Boxley-abbey, who died in 1644, leaving Henry his successor in this manor; and Edwin, afterwards made a sergeant-at-

/l Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/m Rot. Esch. His son Edward died seised of it anno 4 king Edward IV. /n Rot Esch No. 4. pt. 6.

434

law; and Elizabeth, married to Thomas Bosvile, esq. of Little Mote, in Eynsford.

Henry Wyat, the eldest son, was of Boxley-abbey, and possessed Pole manor. He left by Jane his wife, an only daughter, Frances, who married Sir Thomas Selyard, bart. and he, in her right, took possession of it; but her father's brother, Mr. Sergeant Wyat, above mentioned, claimed, and soon afterwards recovered at law, the whole of the manor itself, with a moiety of the farm and demesne lands, as his right.

Sir Thomas Selyard died possessed of the farm and demesne lands, after which the lady Selyard, his widow, passed it away by sale to Fisher, by a female heir, of which name it is now by marriage become the property of Mr. John Colyer, who is the present owner of it.

The manor, with the other moiety of the farm and demesne lands, possessed by Mr. Sergeant Wyat, after his death continued some years in his family, till, by the death of the last of that name, it became vested in Robert Marsham, lord Romney, great grandson of Elizabeth, sister of Mr. Sergeant Wyat, who married Thomas Bosvile, esq. above mentioned, and his son, the Rt. Hon. Charles lord Romney, is the present owner of it.

The TITHES of this place were given to the church

of Rochester by the owner of it, Richard de Berese, as above mentioned, and were, by bishop Gundulph, who came to the see in 1076, allotted to the share of the priory there; which donation, bishop Henry de Sandford, in the reign of Henry III. bishop John Russel, in the reign of Edward IV. and others, confirmed.

William, prior of Rochester, and the convent of the same place, in the 7th year of king Henry VI. let to ferm to William Waltham, rector of Southfleet, these tithes, at the yearly rent of 8s. 4d./o This portion of tithes continued part of the possessions of the

/o Reg. Roff. p. 58, 117, 138, 607.

435

priory of Rochester, till the dissolution of it in the reign of king Henry VIII. when being surrendered into the king's hands, it was settled by him in the 33d year of his reign, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, whose inheritance it still remains, the present lessee being the right honourable Charles lord Romney.

HOOK-PLACE is a seat in Southfleet, which was for some centuries the seat of a family named Swan, who, as early as the reign of king Richard II. wrote themselves gentlemen, as appears by their own deeds. Sir William Swan possessed it in the reign of James I. and dying in 1612 lies buried in this church, as does Hester lady Swan, his mother, who died the beginning of that year, his grandson Sir William Swan was likewise of Hook-place, and was created a baronet in 1666. He left Sir William Swan, bart. who conveyed this seat, with the estate belonging to it, to Harrington, who bore for his arms, sable fretty, or, semee of fleurs de lis gules, and Aaron Harrington, esq. died possessed of it in 1739, and lies buried in this church, as does Sarah his sister, who married Mr. Samuel Russel, by whom he had a daughter, Elizabeth, who, as devisee under her uncle Harrington's will, carried it in marriage to Joseph Brooke, esq. late recorder of Rochester, who by his will devised it, after his wife's decease, to the reverend John Kenward Shaw, now of Town-Malling, who has taken the name of Brooke, and is the present owner of it.

CHARITIES.

SIR JOHN SEDLEY, bart. gave by will in 1637, the sum of 500l. to found a free school for the use of this parish, which money is vested in the rector and churchwardens, and MRS. ELIZABETH SEDLEY, his daughter, gave by will in 1639, the sum of 400l. to maintain the school, charged on the manor farm, vested in the same, and of the annual produce of 20l.

SIR CHARLES, son of SIR JOHN SEDLEY before-mentioned, was likewise a benefactor to this school.

436

ROBERT MARSHALL gave by will an annuity of 4l. for the benefit of the poor of this parish, charged on land vested in the minister and churchwardens, and of the above annual product.

This parish is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, is spacious, consisting of three isles and a chancel, it contains some curious brass

plates, monuments, and remains of fine painted glass, in the windows, particularly in the great east window, which is very full, and there were some figures of bishops in the windows of the north isle, but they have been lately destroyed. In the chancel there is an antient tomb or stone coffin, with a cross on it, and at the sides six antient stalls for the use of the monks of Rochester, when they visited this place, and for the clergy in general, who for distinction sake always sat in the chancel. The pavement before the altar, till lately, was laid with small red tiles, ornamented with yellow, on them were these arms, within a bordure ingrailed 7 mascles 3, 3 and 1, two fesses in chief 3 bezants, and old France and England quarterly. These tiles have lately been removed and replaced with plain red ones. The whole chancel was repaired and beautified in 1768 by the then rector. The south chancel belonged to the Sedleys. The font is curious, being an octagon ornamented with carve work in each compartment./p The tower is at the west end, in which is a good peal of six bells.

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church are the following: – In the chancel, a grave-stone, with the figures of a man and woman, and inscription for John Urban, esq. who died in 1420, and Joane his wife, daughter of Sir John Reskymmer, of Cornwall. Another, with the figure of a man, and inscription for John Tubney, rector of this church, archdeacon of St. Asaph, and chaplain of John Lowe, bishop of Rochester. In the south isle, a stone, with an inscription in brass, for Joane Urban before-mentioned, with her little ones, she died in 1414; on an altar monument, east of the former, are the figures of a man and woman with two labels from their mouths, and likewise of three sons and

/p See a description of this font, and an engraving of it in Cust. Roff. p. 113.

437

two daughters, and round the verge of the stone an inscription, all in brass, for John Sedley, one of the auditors of the exchequer, and Elizabeth his wife, he died in 1500; on the same monument a brass plate and inscription for John Sedley, esq. of Southfleet, and Anne his wife, daughter of John Colepeper, esq. of Aylesford, he died in 1581. On the south wall is a large and beautiful monument, with the figure of a man, lying at full length in armour, and an inscription for John Sedley, esq. obt. 1605, æt. 44. Sir William Sedley, knight and baronet, erected it; on it his arms, azure a fess wavy between three goats heads erased argent, a crescent for difference, and two other shields with impalements, and above his banners, crest, &c. a memorial, with the figure of a man, and inscription in brass for Thomas Cowell. In the north isle, a memorial for Hester lady Swan, obt. 1712, and for Sir William Swan, bart. her son, who died a few weeks after her in the same year, arms, azure a chevron ermine between three swans proper, with the arms of Ulster impaling argent a fess ingrailed between three griffins heads, couped sable. A memorial for Cecilie lady Peyton, on a brass plate, fixed to the south wall of the belfry, is an inscription, shewing that master John Swan, William Swan, and Richard Swan, his brothers, and master Thomas and William Swan, his grand-children, gave the biggest bell to this church./q

This church, being an appendage to the manor of Southfleet, was given with it to the church of Rochester, and by bishop Gundulph to the priory there, as has been already mentioned; with whom it stayed till the

time of bishop Gilbert de Glanvill; who, on the promise of the quarrel between him and them, concerning the manors and churches, which bishop Gundulph had given them, decreed, that whenever any of the churches (excepting Wilmington and Sutton-at-Hone) belonging to the church of Rochester, and within the bounds of that bishopric, should become vacant, the bishop, without asking their consent, of his own proper authority, should freely institute a parson to them; saving, nevertheless, to the monks the pensions usually payable to them. By which decree, this church again returned to the see of Rochester; part of the possessions of which it remains at this time.

/q See the monuments and inscriptions at large in Reg. Roff. p. 757.

438

Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, in 1091, granted, with the assent of archbishop Anselm, to the monks of St. Andrew's, that they should have and retain the tythes, arising as well from the food of their cattle, as from their agriculture within their manors, situated within his diocese; viz. in Frendesbury, Denton, and Southfleet, and in others, to the use of their refectory. Which was confirmed by archbishop Theobald, Ralph, prior, and the convent of Canterbury; by Walter and Gilbert, bishops of Rochester, and others.

Henry, bishop of Rochester, confirmed to them the small tythes, together with the other tythes, arising from their manors and demesnes within his diocese; in Frendesbury, Southfleet, and in their other manors, according to former custom before his time; all which was confirmed by Richard, bishop of Rochester, in 1280; who at the same time, at the instance of the prior and convent of Rochester, made a solemn inquiry, in an assembly of both clergy and people of the neighbourhood, whom he had called together; that by them he might be more fully certified concerning the retention of the above tythes, and in what manner the monks used to retain tythes in their manors, and in what manner they used to impart them to the parish churches. These persons, being sworn to the truth, deposed, that in the manor of Southfleet, the parish church took, in the name of tythe, the sixteenth sheaf of wheat and rye, and the fifteenth sheaf of barley, oats, and peas, with vetches only; but of the small tythes, nor of the mills and hay, in this as well as the rest of their said manors, the parish church did not, nor ever used to take any thing. And he decreed, that the parish church should be content with the said sixteenth sheaf of wheat and rye, and the said fifteenth sheaf of barley, oats, and peas, together with vetches only; and that the monks should have and retain for ever, all other tythes, both great and small, by whatever names they were called, in all their manors and places within his diocese, the tythes of sheaves, &c. in each of the same, as particu-

439

larly mentioned in his instrument, only excepted. All which were confirmed to them (as well as the former grants of the bishops Walter, Gilbert, and Henry) by John, archbishop of Canterbury, by his letters of

inspeximus in the year 1281.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at thirty marcs./r It was returned by the commission of enquiry into the value of livings in 1650, is suing out of chancery, that Southfleet was a parsonage, having a house and five acres of land, worth 160l. per annum; Mr. Richard Simons enjoying the same, a sequestration of master Elizeus Burgis, archdeacon of Rochester./s

The parsonage house is one of the most antient edifices of the kind in the diocese. It is built of stone, the windows large with pointed arches, and stone mullions, much resembling those of a church. The porch is with a strong arch, and the whole has a most venerable and ecclesiastical appearance, and had much more so till the front of it was lately plastered over and whitewashed, and the gothic windows altered and sashed, which has taken much from the antient beauty of it. Some of the windows on the south side next the yard still retain their old form./t

It is valued in the king's books at 31l. 15s. and the yearly tenths at 3l. 3s. 6d./u

Henry Stace, in 1442, gave a tenement and four acres of land to the churchwardens for the use of this church for ever.

#### CHURCH OF SOUTHFLEET.

##### PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Bishop of Rochester William Warde, 1425./w  
William Waltham, 1428./x

/r Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/s Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-library,  
vol. xix.

/t Cust. Roff. p. 248 is an engraving  
<of> this house in its former state.

/u Ect. Thes. p. 385.

/w He was also remembrancer of the  
king's exchequer. Reg. Roff. p. 571.  
See more of the names of the antient  
rectors in Reg. Roff. p. 260, 128, 434,  
<1>31, and 528.

/x Reg. Roff. p. 607.

440

##### PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Bishop of Rochester Laurence Horewode, in 1441./y  
John Tubney, June 10, 1453,

obt. 1457./z

Thomas Candour, May 10, 1457.

Elizeus Burgis, S. T. P. in 1628  
and 1650./a

Daniel Hill, in 1720.

William Geekie, S. T. P. July  
1729, obt. 1767./b

John Darby, 1767, obt. Oct. 6,  
1778./c

Thomas Bagshaw, A. M. 1778,  
obt. 1788./d

Peter Rashleigh, A. M. 1788, the  
present rector.

/y He lies buried in this church. He was chaplain to bishop Lowe, and arch-deacon of St. Asaph. Reg. Roff. p. 510.

/z See Custum Roff. p. 236.

/a A dispensation passed June 17, 1628, for his holding St. Nicholas, Rochester, with this rectory. Rym.

Fod. vol. xix. p. 56.

/b He was also prebendary of Canterbury, archdeacon of Gloucester, and rector of Woodchurch.

/c He resigned Norton on being presented to this rectory. He was one of the six preachers of Canterbury cathedral, and was buried at Bromley.

/d And curate of Bromley, where he lies buried.

- - -

#### LONGFIELD.

THE next parish southward is Longfield, called in old writings Langefeld, and in Domesday Langafel.

LONGFIELD is a small parish, long and narrow; there is no coppice wood in it, excepting shaves round the fields; the land in it is but poor, being very hilly; the surface is mostly chalk, and much covered with flint stones. It is an obscure place, the road from Green-street-green to Trosley-hill goes through it, along the valley. At the west end of it, close to the road, is the church, and above it the court lodge. At the east end of it is Longfield-green, where there are some houses, which, with a few others straggling about, are the only ones in the parish.

441

There was in this parish an antient dwelling called Longfield-house, which was the property and residence of the Burrow family as early as queen Elizabeth's reign, ancestors of those of Holwood-hill, and Ster-borough-castle. It has been pulled down about fifty years since.

This place was given, whilst *Ælfstane* was bishop of Rochester, who came to the see in 945, and died in 984, by *Ælfswithe*, wife of Birtrick, of Meopham, who confirmed it by his last testament, to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester, as two plough lands; and being wrested from that church in the troublesome times which soon after followed, by reason of the Danish wars, it was recovered again at the solemn assembly, held at Pinenden, in 1076, and was immediately restored by Lanfranc, archbishop of Canterbury, to bishop Gundulph and the church of St. Andrew; which was confirmed by archbishop Anselm, in 1101, as it was afterwards by several of his successors./f

GERARDE, the herbalist, found the *Clenopodium vulgare*, common basil, growing in great plenty at Longfield downs./g

LONGFIELD seems to have been appropriated to the archdeaconry of Rochester, immediately on its being restored to that church. At the time of the taking the survey of Domesday, anno 1080, it was

in the possession of Anschtill, then archdeacon there. Accordingly it is entered as follows, under the general title of the lands of the bishop of Rochester in that record:

The same bishop (of Rochester) holds Langafel and Anschtill the priest of him. It was taxed at one su-  
ling. The arable land is . . . . . In demesne there is

/e See the will of Birtrick, under Meopham.

/f Reg. Roff. p. 442, et seq. Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 2.

/g Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 677.

442

one carucate and nine villeins, with seven borderers, ha-  
ving two carucates. It was worth 70 shillings, and  
now 100 shillings.

The temporalities of the archdeacon of Rochester, in Longfield, in the 15th year of king Edward I. were valued at 3l./h. After which the manor and court lodge of Longfield, with the lands belonging to it, continued part of the estate belonging to the archdeaconry; and Dr. Manning Griffith, who succeeded to this preferment in 1533, and became afterwards bishop of Rochester, seems to have been the first archdeacon who demised this manor, which he did for eighty years, and before that term was ended, a concurrent lease was granted for sixty years more; and it afterwards continued to be leased out, from time to time, but archdeacon Spratt, who succeeded to this dignity in 1704, suffered the lease of it to expire, for the benefit of his successors, since which it has been held under leases for twenty-one years, at the old accustomed rent, renewable in like manner as other ecclesiastical estates. The Rev. Mr. Samuel Denne, of Wilmington, is the present lessee of it.

The court lodge stands almost adjoining to the church-yard. It is a strong antient building, with arched doors and windows of hewn stone, and was once probably made use of by the archdeacons, as a house of retirement.

#### CHARITY.

DR. PLUME gave by his will, in 1704, the sum of 5l. 8s. yearly to the repairs of his tombstone and the rails in the church yard, the overplus of which is always given among the poor of this parish, vested in the trustees of his will, and of the above annual product.

LONGFIELD is in the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS-  
DICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester.

/h Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 455.

443

The church, which is a small mean building, is de-  
dicated to St. Mary Magdalen. It consists of one  
isle and a chancel, having a low pointed steeple at the  
west end, in which hangs one bell. In it, among other  
monuments and inscriptions, in the north chancel are  
several memorials for the Burrows of Hartley; and,  
adjoining to the south wall of the church, on the out-  
side, is an altar tomb, inclosed with wooden rails, for  
archdeacon Plume, who died Nov. 20, 1704, æt. 74,

as has been already mentioned, as well as his charities, under the description of Stone near Dartford./i This church is of the ancient patronage of the bishopric of Rochester, part of the possessions of which it continues at this time. This rectory is now a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly value, as certified, of 30l. the yearly tenths being 11s. 9d./k

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Longfield was a parsonage, having neither house nor barn; that it had six acres of glebe land, and was worth 30l. per annum, master Thomas Stansall enjoying it, and preaching there./l

This rectory has been twice augmented; the first time by the governors of queen Anne's bounty, by which a small farm in Hoo, consisting of twenty-four acres, was purchased. The second augmentation was from Mrs. Ursula Taylor's legacy, paid by Sir Philip Boteler, to be applied for the augmenting of such small livings as should be named by himself, of which this was one; with the money a few acres of land were purchased in this parish.

/i See an account of Dr. Plume, in Hist. Essex, vol. v. p. 275.

/k Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/l Parl. Surveys, Lambeth library, vol. xix.

444

#### CHURCH OF LONGFIELD.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Bishop of Rochester.      Thomas Stansall, in 1650.  
John Chadwick, in 1669, obt.

1705./m  
Thomas Barnett, inst. Dec. 24,  
1705, obt. Oct. 13, 1731.  
John Lambe, A. M. inst. Jan. 26,  
1731.  
Francis Ireland, 1740, ob. 1774.  
John Derby, A. M. present. Dec.

7, 1774, obt. Oct. 6, 1778./n  
John Currey, A. M. 1779. Pre-  
sent rector./o

/m He was also vicar of Sutton-at-Hone, where he lies buried.

/n And rector of Southfleet.

/o Vicar of Dartford.

---

#### FAWKHAM.

SOUTHWARD from Longfield lies Fawkham, vulgarly called Fakeham. In Domesday it is written Fachesham; in the Textus Roffensis, Falcheham and Falkenham;/p and in Birtwick's will, Fealcanham.

THIS PARISH is a lonely unfrequented place, and contains about one thousand acres of land, of which about two hundred and fifty are wood, having no public high road through it. It lies on high ground, among the hills; the soil is much inclined to chalk, and is very flinty and barren, but though it is poor, yet this, as

well as the neighbouring parishes in a like situation, is in some measure recompensed by being exceedingly healthy. There are two hamlets in it called Fawkham-green and Fawkham-street. The church stands near the northern boundary of it. The seat of Pennis is situated in the middle of the parish, adjoining to a large wood, which extends quite across it.

/p Text. Roff. p. 139, 230.

445

FAWKHAM was part of the possessions of Birtrick, of Meopham; who, whilst *Ælfstane* was bishop of Rochester, who came to the see in 945, and died in 984, devised it, with the consent of *Ælfswithe* his wife, by his last testament, to Byware for his life, and then to St. Andrew's church, in Rochester, for the soul of *Ælfric* and his ancestors./q

This place had been wrested from the church of Rochester during the confusion of the Danish wars, and was given by the Conqueror, at his coming hither, among other possessions of this church, to Odo, bishop of Baieux, his half brother; but archbishop Lanfranc recovered them again in the solemn assembly, held at Pinenden-heath, in 1076, and immediately restored them to bishop Gundulph and the church of St. Andrew, which gift was afterwards confirmed by several of the archbishops of Canterbury./r

In the survey of Domesday, Fawkham is thus described, under the title of the bishop of Rochester's lands:

The same bishop (of Rochester holds Fachesham. It was taxed at two sulings. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is one carucate, and 15 villeins, with three borderers, having four carucates. There is a church, and three servants, and two mills of 15 shillings, and four acres of meadow; wood for the pannage of 30 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards it was worth seven pounds, and now eight pounds.

This place was, soon after the Conqueror's reign, in the possession of a family, who took their name from it, and held it by knight's service of the bishop of Rochester. Robert de Falkeham held it in the reign of king Henry I. as appears by the red book in the exchequer. Walleran de Faukeham held it in the reign of king Henry II. and bore for his arms, Argent,

/q See this will, under Meopham.

/r Text. Roff. p. 142. Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 2. Reg. Roff. p. 442.

446

a fess gules, in chief two torteauxes, as they remain in the windows of this church. Soon after which this estate seems to have been separated into two parts, one of which was held by Rose de Faukeham of the bishop of Rochester, and was stiled the manor of Old Faukeham, alias Ashe Faukeham, and the other was held of the bishop by one William le Clerk, and was called New Faukeham.

In the 8th year of king Edward III. Nicholas Malmesbury held the former, and Gilbert de Kirkby the latter.

In the 20th year of that reign, Otho de Grandison, who had married Beatrix, daughter and coheir of Nicholas Malmain, and the above mentioned Gilbert de Kirkby paid aid for the manor of Old Fawkeham, with New Fawkeham, as one knight's fee and a half, which they held of the bishop of Rochester.

Sir Otho de Grandison died possessed of the MANOR of FAWKEHAM, alias OLD FAWKEHAM, in the 33d year of king Edward III./s. He left Sir Thomas Grandison his son and heir, who, doing his fealty, had possession granted of his father's lands. He died, without issue, possessed of this manor, and others in this neighbourhood, in the 50th year of that reign./t In the 22d year of the reign of king Richard II. this manor was become the inheritance of Philippa, grand daughter and heir of Sir Guy Bryan, and widow of John Devereux, who that year married Sir Henry le Scrope, of Masham. She died anno 8 king Henry IV. being then possessed of this manor, and others in these parts, and leaving Elizabeth, wife of Robert Lovel, her sister and next heir./u

Robert Poynings, younger son of Robert lord Poynings, afterwards possessed it by grant from the crown, and died owner of it anno 9 king Edward IV./w leaving Edward, his son and heir, who was a famous soldier in

/s Rot. Esch. ejus an. No. 41.

/t Ibid. No. 36.

/u Dug. Bar. vol. i. p. 659.

/w Ibid. vol. ii. p. 130.

447

his time; and having been faithful to Henry earl of Richmond, in his distresses, he was, after that earl's attaining the crown, chosen one of his privy council, and made governor of Dover-castle, knight of the Garter, and lord warden of the five ports. He died in the 14th year of king Henry VIII. leaving no legitimate issue; on which his estates escheated to the crown,/x whence this of Fawkham was the next year granted to James Dyggis, esq. who that year settled it on his son, John Dyggis and Mildred his wife, daughter of Sir John Scott, in tail male.

From this name it passed by sale to Thomas Barham, of Barham-court, in Teston, whose sole daughter and heir, Anne, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, carried it in marriage to Sir Oliver Boteler, of Sharnbrook, in Bedfordshire, who removed from thence to his father's seat at Teston above mentioned. His descendant, Sir Philip Boteler, bart. died without issue in 1772, possessed of this manor, and by his will, devised one moiety of his estates to Mrs. Elizabeth Bouverie, of Chart Sutton, and the other moiety to Elizabeth, viscountess dowager Folkestone, and William Bouverie, earl of Radnor; and, on an agreement made between them for the partition of these estates, this manor of Fawkham fell to the share of the lady viscountess dowager Folkestone, who died in 1782, on which it came to her only son, the Hon. Philip Bouverie, who has since taken the name of Pusey, and is the present owner of it.

The foundations of the antient mansion house are yet visible; they take up great part of the garden of

a public house, for the repairs of which the ruins have been, from time to time, pulled down; what remains of the building seems to have been the walls of the chapel./y

/x Dudg. Bar. *ibid.* See Goddington, in Chelsfield.

/y See an engraving and account of it in *Custumal Roff.* p. 116.

448

The other part of this manor, or NEW FAWKHAM, was, after the family of Kirkby was extinct here, part of the possessions of the Rokesles, and after that of the Percys earls of Northumberland, of whom Henry Algernon, fifth earl of Northumberland, was owner of it in the 17th year of Henry VIII. and died the next year possessed of it. Henry the eldest succeeded him in titles, and the 19th year of that reign had possession granted of all the lands which descended to him, as his heir. In the 27th year of that reign, an act passed for assuming to the king and his heirs all the lands and possessions of this earl, in case of failure of heirs of his body; and the earl, by his deed, next year, granted to the king all his manors, castles, lands, &c./z

This manor came afterwards into the possession of White, and his heirs sold it, in queen Elizabeth's reign, to Thomas Walter, gent. who rebuilt the mansion of it, called Pennis, in which he afterwards resided. He left by Alice, daughter of John Kettle, of Darent, several children, of whom John Walter, esq. the eldest son, possessed this estate on his father's death, and resided here. He married Dorcas, eldest daughter of Humphry Michel, esq. of Old Windsor, in Berkshire; but died, s. p. in 1625, and by his will bequeathed some charitable legacies to the poor of this parish, Ash, and Hartley, in which his lands lay. He bore for his arms, Azure, a fess dancette or, between three crowns embattled of the second. His heirs sold this estate to George Gifford, esq. who resided at Pennis, on whose death, in 1704, it came to his son, Thomas Gifford, esq. He, by Anne, his wife, left three daughters and coheirs, and they possessed this estate in undivided thirds till the year 1718, when they agreed to make a partition of their inheritance. In which division this estate, with Pennis, and the lands belonging to it, were allotted to John Selby, in right of Mary his wife, one of the

/z See *North Cray.* p. 153.

449

daughters and coheirs. He left two sons, William, who succeeded him at Ightham; and John, to whom he devised Pennis, with this estate at Fawkham, after the death of Mary his wife. She survived him some time, and at her decease left the possession of it to her son, John Selby, who resided here, and after a few years conveyed it to his elder brother, William, before mentioned; on whose death, in 1773, it came to his only son and heir, Wm. Selby, esq. of Pennis, who died possessed of it in 1777, leaving an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, Borough Selby and his widow surviving, the former died under age, in 1781, and the latter in 1788; on which this, with his other estates, devolved to John Brown, esq. who has since taken the name of Selby, and resides at the Moat in Ightham,

and he is the present owner of it.

#### CHARITIES.

JOHN WALTER, esq. of Pennis, who died in 1625, devised by his will, to two of the poorest men of each of the three parishes of Fawkham, Ash, and Hartley, large coats of russet cloth; and to two of the poorest widows in each of them a gown of the same yearly, on Dec. 25, when they were to repair to his dwelling house in this parish, in the morning, whence they were to proceed to church, where he appointed a sermon, for which he bequeathed to the minister of this church 10s. a year. After sermon they were to return to his house, and receive a plentiful dinner; for the due performance of which, he bound certain lands for ever.

FAWKHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS-DICION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. It is a small building of one isle and a chancel, with a very low pointed steeple, in which is one bell, and appears to be of deep antiquity; over the west door is a curious painted window, ornamented with a rich bordering, within which, in one compartment, is the figure of Wm. de Fawkham, lord of this parish, the donor of the window, habited as a pilgrim, holding in his right hand a Bible, underneath him is his wife, kneeling, her hands conjoined in prayer, the lower part of the figure is lost; to supply which defect there have been placed two shields, with the arms of Grandison, Or, a cross gules charged, with five cotizes of

450

the 1st, between four trefoils slipt, issuing from as many turfs proper; these were in a window on the north side of the body, but through ignorance of the glazier they are here inserted sideways. In the middle compartment are the arms of Fawkham, Argent a fess gules in chief three roundels of the second, which arms are likewise in the north window, but the colour faded; the other figures in this window are those of the Virgin Mary and Jesus, the back ground and other parts of it are richly ornamented. In the body of the church, in a window on the south side was this shield, Azure, six stars of six points, 3, 2, and 1; and in the east window the arms of England./a

Among other monuments and inscriptions in it are the following: In the isle, memorials for John Scudder and his wife; he died 1704; arms above, on a fess three cinquefoils, a chief; a stone, with a brass plate and inscription for Thomas Walter, gent. second son of Thomas Walter, gent. obt. 1601. In the chancel, on the north side, a stone and inscription on brass, for Richard Meredith, esq. clerk of the catry to Q. Elizabeth and K. James, ob. 1607, leaving Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Humphrey Michell, esq. and four sons; above, a shield, being a lion rampant gorged, with a collar and chain affixed to it, reflecting over his back, charged on the shoulder with a mullet. On the south side, within the rails, a stone and brass plate, with inscription, for Dorcas Walter, eldest daughter of Humphrey Michell, esquire, of Old Windsor, widow of John Walter of this parish, obt. 1630. On the south side, a mural monument for Bennet, widow of capt. Ambrose Ward, esq. of Hythe, by whom she had four sons, John, William, Ambrose, and George, and three daughters; she was daughter of Thomas Turney, esq. of Brockwell, in Saltwood, ob. 1641; above, azure a cross patee or, impaling Turney. On the east side, a mural monument, with the figures of a man and woman, in the dress of the time, kneeling at an altar, beneath them

an inscription for John Walter, esq. of this parish, justice of the peace and quorum; he married Dorcas, eldest daughter of Humphry Michell, esq. of Old Windsor; he bequeathed by his will a bountiful legacy to the poor of this parish, Ash, and Hartley, for ever (as mentioned among the charities in those parishes); he died in 1625; above, are these arms, azure a fess dancette or, between three crowns embattled of the 2d, impaling azure, three leopards reversed, jessant fleurs de lis or, a chief crenelle ermine./b

The patronage of the rectory of Fawkham has ever been an appendage to the manor; and as such has

/a See a fine engraving of this window and descrip. of it in Cust. Roff. p. 114.

/b See the monuments and inscrp. in this church in Reg. Roff. p. 992.

451

been presented to alternately by the owners of the manor of Old Fawkham, and those of New Fawkham, or Pennis, as it now called; the last presentation being made by Sir Philip Boteler, bart. in 1738. In the 15th of Edward I. this church was valued at 8 marcs.

It was returned by the commission of enquiry, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, that Fawkham was a parsonage, with a house and one acre of land, all worth 40l. per annum, master Ashboule enjoying it, and preaching there, being put in by the parliament./c It is valued in the king's books at 6l. 9s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and the yearly tenths at 12s. 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ d./d

Sir William de Fawkham, in 1274, founded a chantry in this church, in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and for the good of the souls of himself and his successors; which he endowed with five marcs of yearly rent, in pure and perpetual alms, to be paid out of land in Southfleet and Herthon, and with a house in Fawkham. This was confirmed by John, bishop of Rochester, in 1278. There is mention made in the Registrum Roffense of the chantry of St. Catherine in this church.

#### CHURCH OF FAWKHAM.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Warinus, in 1316./e

Wm. Baker, A. M. 1619.

..... Ashboule, 1650/f

..... Wallis, 1700.

Mr. Gifford's Heirs      Thomas Knipe, pres. 1712, resig.  
1720.

Edmund Barrell, A. M./g

Richard Taylor, obt. 1712.

John Taylor, obt. 1758./h

Sir Philip Boteler, bart.      Edmund Marshall, A. M. pres.  
1758. Present rector./i

/c Parl. Surv. Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

/d Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/e Reg. Roff. p. 113.

/f Parl. Surv. Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

/g He resigned this vicarage for that  
of Boxley. See Sutton-at-Hone.

/h Son of the former, and also vicar  
of Darent.

/i Afterwards presented to Char=  
ing, which he had a dispensation to

hold with this rectory.

452

- - -

#### HARTLEY.

NEXT adjoining south-eastward lies Hartley, called in Domesday, Erclei, in the *Textus Roffensis*, Herdei.

This parish, which is but little known or frequented, contains about twelve hundred acres, part of which is a large wood, called Hartley-wood, containing one hundred and fifty acres, at the northern boundary of it; the soil of it is chalky, light, and much covered with flints. The church stands on the hill, round which there is no village, though here, and at Hartley-green, about a quarter of a mile northward from it, there are several straggling houses. The western part of this parish lies in the valley, called Hartley-bottom, along which the road leads to Wrotham and Trosley.

This place, at the taking the survey of Domesday, was part of the vast possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, and half-brother to the Conqueror; under the general title of whose lands it is thus described there.

Ralph Fitz Turald holds Erclei of the bishop (of Baieux.) It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates and 9 villeins, with 6 cottagers, having 3 carucates. There are 3 servants, and wood for the pannage of 10 hogs. The whole manor was worth 3 pounds, and now 100 shillings; a certain woman held it.

In the same record, a little further on, under the same title of the bishop of Baieux's lands, is this entry:

Ralph Fitz Turald holds Erclei of the bishop (of Baieux.) It was taxed at 1 suling. The arable land is half a carucate, and there are now 30 acres of arable. In demesne there is 1 carucate and 6 villeins, having half

453

a carucate. There are 12 acres of meadow. In the time of king Edward the Confessor and afterwards, it was 40 shillings, now 4 pounds. Hunef, held it of earl Harold.

On the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, which happened about four years after the taking this survey, all his lands and possessions became forfeited to the crown.

THE MANOR OF HARTLEY, soon after the Conqueror's reign, became part of the possessions of the noble family of Montchensie, /k one of whom, Warine de Montchensie, was owner of it in the reign of king John. In the 37th year of king Henry III. he obtained a charter of free-warren for this manor, and died next year, being then reputed one of the most valiant, prudent, and wealthy men in this kingdom. He left a son and heir William, and a daughter Joane, who had married William de Valence, the king's half brother. William de Montchensie, two years after, had possession granted of all his father's lands; not

long after which, he took part with the discontented barons; and when the king was made prisoner at the battle of Lewes, in the 48th year of his reign, and the barons had summoned a parliament in his name, he was one of the chief of those that sat therein./l Notwithstanding, he was afterwards taken at Kenilworth, a little before the battle of Evesham, and his lands seized, yet he had soon after such favor shewn him, for his sister's sake, that they were freely restored to him again; and in the 6th year of king Edward I. he obtained full pardon, with other favors afterwards, among which was that of the view of frank-pledge, and the courts belonging to it in all his lands. He was killed at the siege of Drosselan-castle, in Wales, in the 17th year of that reign, leaving one daughter and sole heir,

/k See more of the Montchensies, under Swanscombe.

/l Philipott, p. 181. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 561.

454

Dionisia, who was shortly afterwards married, through the king's means, to Hugh de Vere, third son of Robert, earl of Oxford, who in the 17th year of it had possession granted of the lands of her inheritance. In the 1st year of king Edward II. he was summoned to the king's coronation, as was Dionisia his wife, by whom it seems he had no issue; for on her death, in the 7th year of that reign, it was found that she died possessed of this manor of Hartley, among others, holding it of the king in capite, and that Adomar de Valence, earl of Pembroke, son of Joane and William de Valence before-mentioned, was her next heir./m

Aymer, earl of Pembroke, was greatly favored and employed both by king Edward I. and II. but in the 17th year of the reign of the latter, attending the queen into France, he was murdered there, in revenge, for the death of the earl of Lancaster, this earl being one of those who had passed sentence of death upon him at Pontefract two years before./n He left no issue, though he had three wives. Upon which John, son of John de Hastings, by Isabel his wife, the earl's sister, and John, son of John Comyn, of Badenagh, by Joane his other sister, were found to be his coheirs and next of kin, but Mary de St. Paul, his widow, surviving him, had next year for her dowry an assignation of this manor, among others. She died possessed of it in the 51st year of king Edward III./o Upon which it came to John de Hastings, great grandson of John de Hastings before-mentioned, who was found to be coheir, and next of kin to Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke.

John de Hastings before-mentioned, was then an infant, and at the coronation of king Richard II. being not quite five years old, claimed to carry the great golden spurs; and shewing sufficient evidence of his right

/m Coll. Hist. Coll. p. 225.  
and Rot. Esch. No. 51.

/n Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 778.  
/o Ibid. Rot. Esch. ejus an.

455

to do that service, it was adjudged to him, and a deputy allowed him for that purpose, by reason of his non-age.

He was afterwards unfortunately killed at a tournament at Woodstock, anno 13 king Richard II./p having married Philippa, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, by whom he left no issue. Upon his death Reginald, lord Grey, of Ruthyn, was found to be his cousin, and next heir of the whole blood, as descended from John de Hastings and Isabel his wife, one of the sisters and heirs of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke.

Philippa, countess of Pembroke, survived her husband; and having afterwards married Richard Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, (to whom she was second wife) he had this manor in dowry with her.

The earl was fined for this marriage four hundred marcs to the king, in consideration of which he was pardoned. Some time after which, observing the dangerous tendency of the times, and the implacable hatred that reigned in the king's breast against him, he retired into the country, having obtained a special dispensation from attending the parliament, or any other public employment. Notwithstanding which, the king fearing him, soon afterwards got him into his power by fair words, and then sent him to prison, and quickly after brought him to his trial; and though he pleaded the king's promises and charter of pardon, he received a most severe sentence, to be drawn, hanged, quartered, &c. The rigour of which was somewhat softened, for he only lost his head at London, the king himself being a spectator of the execution. After his death his widow Philippa still kept possession of this manor, of which she was possessed at the time of her death, in the 2d year of king Henry IV. she then bearing the title of countess of Pembroke./q

/p Duggd. Bar. vol. i. p. 578.

/q Ibid. p. 319. Rot. Esch. ejus 22.

456

On this, Reginald, lord Grey, of Ruthyn, became entitled to it, as next of kin, and heir of Aymer, earl of Pembroke, and as such at the coronation of king Henry IV. he carried the great golden spurs. Great quarrels arising between this Reginald, who had large possessions in Wales, and Owen Glendower, they had recourse to arms, and in the sequel Reginald was taken prisoner by the latter in Wales, and was obliged to give ten thousand marcs for his ransom; to raise which king Henry IV. in his 4th year granted licence to Robert Braybrooke, bishop of London, and others, then feoffees of several of his lordships, to sell the manor of Hertlegh, among others, towards raising that sum./r They sold it to John Urban, of Southfleet, who died possessed of it in the 8th year of king Henry V./s as did his son John in the 4th year of king Henry VI./t on which it came to his sister Emma Penhale, who died next year,/u and left it to her son, and he held it in the 2d year of king Edward IV. as appears by the book of Dover in the exchequer.

In the 13th year of king Henry VII. William Cressel, esq. died possessed of the manor of Hartley, which he held of the king in capite by knight's service./w His son, Richard Cressel, in the beginning of the next reign, sold it to Draper; who passed it away to Bal-

lard; and he conveyed it to William Sedley, esq. of Southfleet, at the latter end of the reign of king Edward VI./x in whose descendants it continued, in the same manner as the manor of Southfleet did, down to Sir Charles Sedley, bart. of Nuthall, in Nottinghamshire, who, in 1770, sold it to William Glanvill Evelyn, esq. of St. Cleres, in Ightham, the present owner of this manor.

/r Dugg. Bar. vol. i. p. 717.

/s Rot. Esch. ejus an. He lies buried in Southfleet.

/t Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/u Philipott, p. 204. Rot. Esc. ejus an.

/w Ibid. p. 181.

/x See more of this family under Southfleet.

457

#### CHARITY.

JOHN WALKER, esq. of Fawkham, who died in 1625, by his will bequeathed a coat, and a gown of good russet cloth, to two of the poorest men, and two of the poorest widows of this parish; to be delivered on Christmas-day yearly to each. After which they were to attend the service in the church of Fawkham, and then return to his mansion-house there, where they were to have a plentiful dinner./y

HARTLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church is dedicated to All Saints. It is a small building, consisting of one isle and a chancel, having a pointed steeple at the west end, in which are two bells.

Among other inscriptions in this church, on the north side is a memorial for James Burrow, gent. of Kingsdown, obt. 1728, æt. 53; and for Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of John Cox, gent. of Stansted, obt. 1729; above, these arms, azure three fleurs de lis ermine impaling sable a chevron argent, between three attires of a stag fixed to the scalp of the second.

It is a rectory, and was formerly of the patronage of the Talbots, earls of Shrewsbury; to whom it came from their ancestor, Gilbert Talbot, who on the death of Mary de St. Paul, widow of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, in the 51st year of king Edward III. was found by inquisition to be her heir, and next of kin. It was lately in the patronage of the earl of Plymouth,/z afterwards of the reverend Thomas Blomfield, and since of his son, Thomas Blomfield, esq. who sold his interest in it to Richard Forrest, esq. who died in 1796. Since which it has been sold by the trustees appointed by his will, to the reverend Mr. Bradley, rector of this parish, who married Mr. Forrest's daughter, and he is now owner of this advowson.

/y See Fawkham, p. 449.

/z Bacon's Lib. Regis.

458

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at twelve marcs. By virtue of the commission of enquiry, issuing out of chancery in 1650, it was re-

turned, that Hartley was a parsonage, with a house, and eight acres of glebe land, all worth sixty pounds per annum; one master Eves enjoying it, and preaching there./a It is valued in the king's books at seven pounds, and the yearly tenths at fourteen shillings. It is now of the value of about two hundred guineas per annum.

#### CHURCH OF HARTLEY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

George Eves, in 1658.  
..... Priest, 1700.  
John Nichols, 1730.  
Samuel Dunster, resig.  
Thomas Blomfield.  
Thomas Blomfield, esq.      Richard Clarke, 1771.  
Richard Forrest, esq.      Thomas Bradley, A. M. 1776,  
the present rector.

/a Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-libr. vol. xix.

- - -

#### RIDLEY.

THE next parish southward from Hartley lies Ridley, written in antient records Redlegh, and in Domesday Redlege.

This parish is situated upon the chalk hills, much like that of Hartley last described, and the soil much the same. There is no village, the church stands in the southern part of it, having the court lodge and parsonage near it. It contains about eight hundred acres, of which nearly one hundred are wood; there are about eight houses and forty inhabitants. The high road from Longfield through Hartley-bottom to Berry's Maple, and so on to Wrotham, and Trosley

459

runs along the valley at the western boundary of this parish, which otherwise is but little known or frequented.

This place, at the taking the survey of Domesday, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, half-brother to William the Conqueror; accordingly it is thus entered under the general title of the bishop's lands:

Adam Fitzhubert holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Redlege. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are two carucates, and 6 villeins, with 5 borderers, having 2 carucates. There are 5 servants, and half an acre of meadow, and 1 den of wood, which Richard de Tonebridge holds. The manor was worth 3 pounds, and now 4 pounds and 10 shillings; Siward held it of king Edward the Confessor.

On the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, about four years after taking the above survey, the king his brother seized on all his lands and possessions, and among them this manor. How long it continued in the crown, I don't find; but Roger de Leyborne, who flourished in the reign of king John, was in the possession of it. He was lord warden of the cinque ports in the next

reign of king Henry III. in the 55th year of which he made a grant of this manor, with its appurtenances, excepting the advowson, to Bartholomew de Watton, to hold of his manor of Leyborne. On what terms this grant was made, does not appear; but William de Leyborne, son and heir of Roger before mentioned, had afterwards some power left over it; for after his father's death, on his founding a chantry in the church of Leyborne, he endowed it, among other rents, with five marcs, to be paid yearly out of this manor, by the hands of Bartholomew de Watton, for the support of one chaplain there, in perpetual alms for ever./b  
After the family of Watton was extinct here, it came

/b Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 14. Reg. Roff. p. 474.

460

into that of Waleys; Augustine Waleys, who was descended from Henry Wallis, or de Galeis, a capital merchant of the city of London, lord mayor several times in the reign of king Edward IV. and bore for his arms, Five bars, and over them a bend./c paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III. as one knight's fee, late Bartholomew de Watton's. He obtained a charter of free-warren for his manor of Ridley in the 22d year of that reign, and died possessed of it in the 28th year of it./d then holding it in capite, and by suit to the king's hundred of Axstane./e

In the reign of king Richard II. it was become the estate of Sir William Rikhill, a justice of the king's bench./f He died in the reign of king Henry IV./g and by his will devised this manor to his eldest son, William Rikhill, esq. who, about the 16th year of king Henry VI. conveyed it by deed to Thomas Engham, esq. of Engham, in Woodchurch, and he again in the 19th year of the same reign passed it away by fine to Robert Savory;/h from which name it was sold not many years after to Fitz; one of whom, Walter Fitz, died possessed of this manor in the 21st year of king Henry VII. holding it of the abbey of Tower-hill, London, as was then found by inquisition. He left his son and heir, John Fitz, a minor; the wardship of whom was granted by the abbot and convent, anno 23 king Henry VII. to Piers Bevil./i He conveyed this manor, in the 27th year of king Henry VIII. to William Sedley, esq. of Southfleet, in whose descendants it continued, in the same manner as Southfleet did, to Sir Charles Sedley, bart. of Nuthall, in Nottinghamshire, who, about the year 1770, sold it to William

/c Strype's Stow's Survey, B.  
v. p. 106, 273.

/d Philipott, p. 280.

/e Inquis. anno 31 king Edward III.

/f Dugd. Orig. p. 54.

/g See Cott. Records, p. 393.  
Coke in his Institutes, pt. i.  
p. 377.

/h Philipott, p. 280.

/i Aug. off. Conventional leases,  
bundle 307.

461

Glanvill Evelyn, esq. who sold it to Multon Lambard, esq. of Sevenoke, the present possessor of it. A court leet and court baron is held for this manor.

RIDLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church, which stands in the southern part of the parish, is dedicated to St. Peter. It is very small, having only one isle and a chancel, but without either tower or steeple, and much overgrown with ivy.

In this church, in the chancel before the altar, is a memorial for John Lambe, obt. April 24, 1740, above a chevron between three holy lambs, with staves and banners.

The patronage of the church of Ridley, as well as the manor, belonged to Roger de Leyborne, who, though he granted away the manor, reserved the advowson to himself, as has been already mentioned. His descendant, Thomas de Leyborne, left an only daughter, Juliana, heir to her grandfather, William de Leyborne, who possessed this advowson among her other inheritance, and not leaving any issue by either of her husbands, her estates, on her death, in the 43d of Edward III. escheated to the crown, there being no one found who could claim them as heir to her. After which this advowson remained in the hands of the crown, till that king, in his 50th year, granted the advowson of this church, with other premises, to the abbey of St. Mary Grace, on Tower-hill, then founded by him; who quickly afterwards demised it to Sir Simon de Burley, for a term of years, which becoming forfeited by his attainder, king Richard II. in his 12th and 22d years, granted and confirmed it to them, in pure and perpetual alms for ever./k

The advowson of the church of Ridley remained with this abbey till the dissolution of it, in the 30th

/k See Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 14. Dugg. Mon. vol. i. p. 943. See more of this foundation under Leyborne.

462

year of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered into the king's hands, who soon afterwards granted it to the archbishop of Canterbury, with whom it stayed but a short time, for the archbishop reganted it again to the king, in the 37th year of that reign, and the king quickly afterwards granted it to Sir Edward North, and he alienated it to Robert Gosnold, gent. who gave it, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, with other premises, held of the queen in capite, to Robert Godden, and he died possessed of it in the 17th year of that reign./l His son and heir Thomas, passed away this advowson by sale to John Sedley, esq. of Southfleet, since which it has passed in the same chain of ownership with the manor, to William Glanvill Evelyn, esq. who sold it to Multon Lambard, esq. the present owner of it.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at nine marcs./m In the return made to the commission of enquiry in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it appeared, that Ridley was a parsonage, with a house and thirty-six acres of glebe land, all worth fifty pounds per annum./n It is valued in the king's books at 3l. 19s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and the yearly tenths at 7s. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d./o It is now of the value of about 120l. per annum.

CHURCH OF RIDLEY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Godfrey de Rainham, in 1353./p  
John Harewold, adm. Mar. 12,  
1354.  
Robert ..... 1433.  
Thomas Maxfield, obt. Sept. 12,  
1605./q  
Family of Sedley      Henry Stacey, A. M. 1627.

/l Rot. Esch. ejus an.  
/m Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.  
/n Parl. Survey's, Lambeth library,  
vol. xix.  
/o Bacon's Lib. Regis.  
/p Mar. 14, 1354, he exchanged  
this church with John Hareswold, for  
that of Moreton, in Essex.  
/q He was also rector of Ash, where  
he lies buried.

463

PATRONS, &c.      VICARS.

Family of Sedley.      Robert Gardiner, A. M. ob. Aug.  
8, 1688./r  
John Ratye, 1714.  
John Lambe, A. M. 1719, obt.  
April 24, 1740./s  
David Lambe, A. M. ob. 1771./t  
William Glanvill Eveylyn, esq.      J. Ward Allen, A. M. 1772.  
Present rector./u  
/r He lies buried in Crayford church.  
/s He lies buried in this church.  
/t Also rector of Lullingstone, which  
he had a dispensation to hold with  
this rectory, in 1748.  
/u Also vicar of Cowdham.

ASH NEAR WROTHAM.

ADJOINING to Ridley, westward, lies Ash,  
called in the *Textus Roffensis*, *Æisce*; and in Domes-  
day, *Eisse*.

ASH is situated on high ground among the hills.  
The soil of it is mostly chalk, and the greatest part  
of it unfertile, and much covered with flints. It con-  
tains about three thousand acres of land, of which  
about six hundred are wood. It has about eighty  
houses and four hundred inhabitants. There are two  
hamlets in it, Hodsoll-street and West Yoke. At the  
north-east boundary of it is Idley farm, belonging to  
Thomas Coventry, esq. of North Cray. It is shaped  
very irregularly, and bounds to no less than nine pa-  
rishes. The church stands by itself, nearly in the  
centre of the parish, and about a mile southward  
from it, the manor and hamlet of South Ash. On  
the eastern side of the parish, on the decline of the  
hill, towards the valley, it is covered with coppice  
wood. It is not much frequented, and has nothing  
farther worth mention in it.

At the time of taking the general survey of Domesday, this place was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, the king's half brother; accord-

464

ingly it is thus entered in that record, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

Hugo de Port holds Eisse of the bishop (of Baieux). It was taxed at three sulings. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is one carucate, and 12 villeins, with eight borderers, having three carucates. There is a certain knight having eight (carucates) among his servants, and maid servants, and arable land sufficient for one plough.

Besides this, Hugo has two tenants holding half a suling, who could, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, remove wherever they pleased, without leave; one land is called Didele, and the other Soninges. The arable land there is sufficient for one plough, and is rated at 20 shillings. The whole manor was rated at seven pounds, and the like now. What Richard held of (his lowy of) Tunbridge is rated at 40 shillings. The king has from thence two pennies, which are taxed at seven shillings. Godric held it of king Edward.

On the disgrace of bishop Odo, about the year 1084, the king seized on all his lands and possessions, after which this place was granted to Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent./v

In the reign of king Henry III. this parish seems to have been separated into THREE DIFFERENT MANORS, which is in some measure pointed out in the above description in Domesday, one of which, being the most capital, was called the MANOR OF ASH, alias NORTH ASH, and in that reign was in the possession of Henry Pencombe. In the 20th year of king Edward III. the heirs of Robert Pencombe held it, as the 12th part of a knight's fee, of the heirs of William de Eynsford, and he of the heirs of Ralph Fitzbernard, and he of Mabilia de Torpel, and she of Roger de Moubray, and the heirs of the said Robert Pencombe, then paid aid for it./w

/v Robinson's Gavelkind, p. 57. /w Rot. Esch. ejus an.

465

Sir Thomas de Grandison, son of Otho, died possessed of this manor in the 50th year of that reign. In the 22d year of the next reign of king Richard II. it was become the inheritance of Philippa, granddaughter and heir of Sir Guy Brian, and widow of John Devereux, who that year married Sir Henry le Scrope, of Masham. She died in the 8th year of king Henry IV. being then possessed of this manor of Ash, and others in these parts, and leaving Elizabeth, wife of Robert Lovel, her sister and next heir.

James Boteler, earl of Wiltshire, son and heir of James, fourth earl of Ormond, afterwards possessed it. He had been, in consideration of his faithful adherence to the Lancastrians, in the 27th year of king Henry VI. raised to the title of earl of Wiltshire, and afterwards made lord-treasurer and knight of the Garter, being in the battle of Towtonfield, in Yorkshire,

fought on Palm Sunday, anno 2 king Edward IV. wherein the Yorkists obtained the victory, he was taken, and afterwards beheaded at Newcastle; and being attainted in parliament that year with Jasper, earl of Pembroke, and others, for procuring foreign princes to invade the realm, he was adjudged to forfeit all his lands, upon which this manor came to the crown,/x and was granted from thence, by Edward IV. in his 14th year, together with other estates of the earl of Wiltshire attainted, to Henry viscount Bourchier, earl of Essex, in consideration of his services, to hold to him, and Isabel his wife, the king's aunt, and the heirs of their two bodies lawfully begotten. In the 13th year of king Henry VI. he bore the title of earl of Ewe; and in the 25th year he was summoned to parliament by the title of viscount Bourchier; and anno 1 king Edward IV. he was created earl of Essex. He died in the 23d year of that reign,

/x Dugg. Bar. vol. i. p. 659. Ib. vol. ii. p. 235. Cot. Rec. p. 671. Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 129.

466

being then possessed of this manor, as his widow Isabel was at her decease, anno 2 king Richard III./y He left Henry Bourchier, his grandson, his next heir, who, in the 9th year of king Henry VII. had a special possession granted of all the lands which he was heir to, or which of right descended to him./z

He seems to have passed away this manor to Sir Edward Poynings, a famous soldier in his time, who having been faithful to Henry earl of Richmond, in his distresses, was much caressed by him, after he attained the crown by the title of Henry VII. being made of his privy-council, governor of Dover-castle, knight of the Garter, and lord warden of the five ports. He died possessed of it in the 14th year of king Henry VIII. as appears by the inquisition taken that year after his death, when leaving no legitimate issue, his estates escheated to the crown./a King Henry VIII. granted this manor to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, on whose attainder and execution, in the 32d year of that reign, it reverted again to the crown, where it staid but a short time; for that king, in his 36th year, granted it, among other premises, to Sir Martin Bowes, kn. to hold in capite by fealty only./b His lands were disgavelled by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. he died in 1566, and was succeeded by William Bowes, his son and heir, who died without male issue, leaving two daughters and coheirs, of whom Elizabeth married William Buggin, and Anne was the wife of Sir Edmund Fowler,/c who, in right of their respective wives, became joint possessors of this manor; but on a parti-

/y Rot. Esch. and Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 130.

/z Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 130.

/a Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 136, 235.

/b Rot Esch. ejus an. pt. 16. See more of the family of Bowes, under North Cray, vol. i. p. 149.

/c Philipott, p. 54. In the 1st year of queen Anne, an act passed to confirm this partition.

467

tion of their inheritance, in 1634, it became the sole property of Sir Edmund Fowler, whose family was of Islington, of whom Sir Thomas Fowler, by Jane Charlet his wife, had two sons; Sir Thomas Fowler, who was, in 1628, created a baronet; which branch is extinct; and Sir Edmund Fowler above mentioned. Several of this family lie buried in Islington church, where are their arms, Azure on a chevron argent, between three fowls or, as many crosses formee gules. He died in 1645, and by his will, devised it to his only son, Nich. Fowler, esq. whose son, Edmund, leaving an only daughter, she, in 1718, carried it in marriage to Multon Lambard, esq. afterwards knighted.

He died in 1758; without issue, leaving his widow surviving, who possessed this manor for her life, and died in 1780; upon which it became vested in Multon Lambard, esq. of Sevenoke, the present owner of it. There is a court baron held for this manor.

The MANOR OF HALYWELL, alias HODSOLL, took the former of those names from the Benedictine nunnery of Halywell, near Shoreditch; and the latter, most probably, from the family of Hodsoll, once lessees of it under the priory. In the 14th year of king Edward II. the prioress of this nunnery had certain liberties granted for this estate in Ash./d. On the dissolution of this house, in the reign of king Henry VIII. the estates belonging to it came into the king's hands, who granted this manor to Sir Martin Bowes, since which it has had the same owners as the manor of Ash above mentioned, the present possessor of it being Multon Lambard, esq. of Sevenoke. There is a court leet held for this manor.

The MANOR OF SOUTH ASH, the hamlet of which is situated about a mile southward from Ash church, was formerly held by a family who took their name from it. In the 20th year of king Edward III. John

/d Tan. Mon. p. 307. Philipott, p. 55.

468

de Southesshe was owner of it, and then paid aid for it, as two parts of a knight's fee, holding it of the manor of Kemsing and Seal, as that was again of the earl of Leicester.

After this family was extinct here, it came into the possession of the Huddysholes. William Huddyhole, alias Hudsoll, possessed it in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. Mr. John Huddyhole was owner of it in the reign of king Henry VII. and was succeeded in it by his son of the same name, as he was by his son, Mr. William Hodsoll, gent. who died in 1585, and lies buried in this church, as do many of his descendants. The Hodsolls bear for their arms, Azure, a fess wavy, betw. three stone fountains or wells argent, which fess was not borne antiently by them. Philipott supposes that the three wells in their arms allude to the name of Halywell, or Holywell; perhaps they might take it from their being tenants to that priory, for their estate of Halywell in this parish. From Mr. William Hodsoll this manor, as well as Hodsoll-street, in this parish, continued in an uninterrupted succession to his descendant, William Hodsoll, gent. of Dartford and South Ash, who died possessed of it in 1776,

without issue, and by his will devised them (after his widow's decease) to his cousin, Mr. Charles Hodsell, of Ash, who is the present possessor of them./f

There is a court still held for this manor, which is within the liberty of the duchy of Lancaster.

There was antiently another manor in this parish, called the manor of Ash likewise, and in later times, ASH, alias ST. JOHN'S ASH, from its becoming the property of the knight's of St. John of Jerusalem, who united it as an appendage to their manor of St. John's, in Sutton-at-Hone.

This was once the estate of the family of Latimer; one of whom, William de Latimer, senior, obtained

/f See Philipott, p. 55.

469

a grant in the 30th year of king Edward I. of a market on a Thursday at this manor of Ash, and a fair on the feast of the apostles Peter and Paul, and free warren within all his demesne lands of it./g He died possessed of it in the 1st year of king Edward III. His grandson, William de Latimer, held it in the 20th year of that reign, and then paid aid for it, as the fourth part of a knight's fee, held of Roger de Mowbray, who held it again of the king.

This manor came into the name of Cressel, in the reign of king Richard II. soon after which it was given to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem; who, as appears by their rentals, united it as an appendage to their manor of Sutton-at-Hone, in this neighbourhood, after which it seems never to have had a separate court held for it, so that it soon lost all name and distinction of a separate manor. On the dissolution of these knights, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. their lands and possessions became vested in the crown; since which this estate has had the same succession of owners as the manors of St. John and Sutton, mentioned above; in the partition of which, made in the 7th year of king Charles I. between Sir Randill Cranfield and Sarah countess of Leicester (which is said to be of the manors of St. John, alias Sutton-at-Hone, and of Ash juxta Kingsdowne) the quit-rents of it in this parish were divided, as is mentioned therein, between the coparceners; and as such they are now become the property of William and John Mumford, esqrs. lords of the separate moieties of that manor.

SCOTGROVE was very antiently the estate of a family named Torpel, and was once accounted a manor. In the reign of king Henry III. William de Faukeham held this estate of Mabilla, widow of John de Torpel, who had granted it to him and his heirs, in

/g Rot. Pat. ejus an. No. 21. Rot. Esc. Dug. Bar. vol. ii. p. 31.

470

frank fee, to hold by the service of the fourth part of a knight's fee; which service and grant was afterwards confirmed by that king, under his seal. His son and heir, Jeffry de Faukeham held it in like manner by knight's service, and enfeoffed Richard de Gatewyk in it, who left three sons; of whom John, the eldest, died before the 6th year of king Edward II.

There was a remarkable suit commenced before the Kentish judges itinerant in the above year, by Richard and William de Gatewyk, sons of John above mentioned, for their reasonable parts of the inheritance of their father in Ash, against Catherine and her two sisters, upon the plea that no one could change gavelkind (as these lands were before the grant of Mabilla de Torpel) into frankfree, but the king and archbishop of Canterbury; and that only for such lands as were held immediately of them. This suit, from the nicety of the matter, was removed into the common pleas; and, notwithstanding the king directed his writ to the judges, informing them of his prerogative to change the tenure and descent of gavelkind lands, yet there is nothing further appears on the roll, though the continuances were entered for two years or more. However, it is plain, by the time taken to consider of the matter, that the information given by the king's writ, to the court, did by no means satisfy their doubt. Richard de Gatewyk was found to have released his right as to his property; upon which judgment was given against him, and the suit was carried on by his brother William, for his share only of the inheritance./h

In the 20th year of king Edward III. William de Warren paid aid for the manor of Scotgrove (as it is called in the book for collecting it) as one fourth part of a knight's fee, which John de Gatewyk held in Ashe, at Scotgrove, of Roger de Moubray, and he

/h Robinson's Gavelkind, p. 55.

471

of the king. In the reign of king Richard II. the Frankenhams were lords of the fee, who before the end of king Henry V. were extinct here, and it then came into the possession of the Culpepers, in whom it continued till Jocosa, daughter and heir of Nicholas Culpeper, carried this manor, then held of Sir Edward Poynings, as of his manor of Ash, by knights service, in marriage to Walter Lewknor, who was seated at Warbleton, in Sussex, and was the fifth son of Sir Thomas Lewknor, of Goring, in Essex, who bore for his arms, Azure, three chevronels argent. He died possessed of it in the 13th of Henry VIII. and left it to Humphry Lewknor, esq. his son and heir; who conveyed it by sale to Thomas Fane, gent. of London, the third son of John Fane, esq. alias Vane, of Tunbridge, who died in the 24th year of king Henry VIII. and by his will bequeathed his estates in this parish to his son Thomas Fane; from which name it went, after some time, to Walter; and thence to Lambarde, in which family it still continues, the inheritance of it being now vested in Mutton Lambard, esq. of Sevenoke.

There was once a chapel belonging to this estate, the foundations of which are still visible in a wood, called Chapel-wood, in this parish; where there are other foundations of buildings near it, and a well now covered over.

CHARITIES.

JOHN WALTER, esq. of Fawkham, who died in 1625, by his

will bequeathed a coat and a gown, of good russet cloth, to two of the poorest men and two of the poorest widows of this parish, to be delivered to each of them yearly, on Christmas-day, for ever; after which they were to attend the service in the church of Fawkham, and then return to his mansion house there, where they were to have a plentiful dinner.

WILLIAM WARREN gave by will, in 1568, for the poor of this parish, rent issuing out of land, vested in Sarah Upton, of the annual produce of 1s. 8d.

/i Rot. ejus an. Philipott, p. 55. See Custumal Roff. p. 64.

472

RICHARD MILLER gave by will, in 1670, for the use of the poor, a yearly rent, payable out of land, vested in Wm. Goldsmith, of the annual product of 16s.

NICHOLAS COURTNEY gave by will, for the like use, one tenement and half an acre of land.

SAUL ATWOOD, A. M. gave by will, in 1735, a sum of money towards the establishing a free school, for the benefit of the children of the poor of this parish, the same being payable out of land vested in John Frend, of the annual produce of 20l. and for pens, ink, and paper, for the school, a yearly sum, issuing out of land, vested in Richard Gee, and of the annual produce of 1l. and for the entertainment of the trustees, at the annual meeting, a yearly sum, vested in the same, and of the annual product of 10s. and for bread, to be given yearly to the poor on Good Friday, a yearly sum, issuing out of land vested in the same, and of the annual produce of 1l.

THOMAS COMPORT, as antient people affirm, gave a benefaction of 20s. per annum, and the piece of ground, bound for the payment of it, is called Sandy Croft, lying at the upper end of a field, called Whitecroft. It is now vested in the heirs of Joseph Coxe, and land tax deducted, is of the annual produce of 16s.

ASH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It consists of three isles and three chancels, having a spire steeple at the west end, in which are three bells. The altar piece was erected at the cost of the Rev. Mr. Atwood, formerly rector of this parish.

Among the monuments and inscriptions in it, are the following: In the chancel, a grave stone, with the figure of a man in brass, and inscription, for Richard Galon, rector, ob. Feb. 14, 1465. On the south wall, a monument, and under it a grave-stone, and inscription on brass, for Thomas Maxfield, S. T. P. rector of this church and Ridley, obt. Sep. 12, 1605, arms, vert a cross ingrailed ermine; on the north side a stone and like inscription for Joan his wife. In the nave, a stone, and inscription on brass, for Wm. Hodsoll, gent. of South Ash, ob. 1586; arms, three stone fountains; on another, close to it, for Wm. Hodsoll, gent. of South Ash, ob. 1616. In the chancel, belonging to the family of Hodsoll, and lying north of the rector's chancel, among others, a memorial for Wm. Hodsoll, gent. of South Ash; ob. 1663; he married first Hester, daughter of Mr. Henry Sylard, of Ightham; 2dly, Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Grawick, gent. of Sussex; arms, a fess wavy, between three stone fountains, impaling three rondels, each charged with a fret; another

473

for capt. John Hodsoll, of South Ash, ob. 1683; arms, Hodsoll impaling a chevron ermine, between three leopards passant; ano=

ther for Wm. Hodsoll, esq. of South Ash, son of the above, obt. 1699. A memorial for John Hodsoll, gent. eldest son of Wm. Hodsoll, gent. late of South Ash, obt. 1720. In the Fowler's chancel, south of the rectors, on a south wall, is a marble monument and inscription for lady Anne, second wife of Sir Edward Fowler, of this parish, daughter of Sir Edward Brabison, baron of Ardey, sister of William earl of Estmeath, and widow of Samuel Alymer, esq. of Suffolk, by whom she had three sons and two daughters, of whom Anthony Alymer, the third son, married Anne, the daughter of Sir Edmund Fowler aforesaid. Alice, the second daughter, was then the wife of Nicholas Fowler, esq. the only son and heir of the aforesaid Sir Edmund Fowler, who, as well as the lady Anne his wife, died in 1645./k

The church of Ash, from very early times, belonged to the priory of St. John of Jerusalem, the prior and brethren of which received from it an annual pension of ten marcs sterling./l At the dissolution of the priory, in the 32d of king Henry VIII. this church, with other possessions belonging to it, were given to the king; and he, in the 36th year of his reign, granted it, among other premises, to Sir Martin Bowes; since which it has passed, in the same manner as the manor of Ash, to Multon Lambard, esq. of Sevenoke, who is the present patron of it.

King Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted to Jane Wilkinson, widow, among other premises, the above mentioned pension of 6l. 13s. 4d. from the rectory of Ash, late belonging to the priory of St. John of Jerusalem, to hold in capite by knights service. In 1650, this pension belonged to the poor of the parish of Barking, in Essex, who are at this time intitled to it.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at twenty marcs./m

/k See the monuments and inscriptions in this church, at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 779.

/l Reg. Roff. p. 126, 128. Rot. Esch. ejus. an. pt. 20.

/m Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456. Parl. Surv. Lamb. lib. vol. xix.

474

By virtue of a commission of enquiry, issuing out of chancery, by order of the state, in 1650, it was returned, that Ash was a parsonage, with a house, and eleven acres of glebe land, all worth 120l. per annum, one master Thomas Morris enjoying it, and paying out of it 6l. 13s. 4d. per annum to the poor of Barking in Essex. The rectory is valued in the king's books, at 9l. 18s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 19s. 10d./n

#### CHURCH OF ASH.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Gregory, in 1242./o  
Henry Beaufitz, anno 25 Ed. I./p  
Richard Galon, obt. Feb. 14,

1465./q

Thomas Maxfield, D. D. obt.  
Sep. 12, 1605./r  
William Baker, A. M. in 1626.  
Thomas Morris, in 1650./s  
William Noakes, eject. in 1662./t

Edward Christmas, in 1715.  
..... Ratty, resigned.  
..... Clements.  
Samuel Atwood, A. M. ob. 1701.  
Samuel Atwood, A. M. instituted  
March 14, 1701, obt. April  
24, 1735./u  
John Pery, D. D. 1735, obt.  
1768./w  
Lady Lambard. John Pery, M. A. 1768, resigned  
1777./x  
Multon Lambard, esq. William James, ob. Dec. 1779./y  
Charles Whitehead, A. M. 1780./z  
Thomas Lambard, A. M. 1784.  
Present rector.  
/n Bacon's Lib. Regis.  
/o Reg. Roff. p. 344.  
/p See Prynne, p. 709.  
/q He lies buried in this church.  
/r Also rector of Ridley. He was  
buried in the chancel of this church.  
Wood's Ath. vol. i. Fasti, p. 155.  
/s Parl. Surveys, *ibid.*  
/t By the Bartholomew act.  
/u Son of the former. He gave the  
altar-piece now remaining in this  
church.  
/w Also vicar of Farningham.  
/x Son of the former.  
/y He was buried at Lee.  
/z Feb. 1780, dispensation for him  
to hold the rectory of Ath, with East  
Grinsted, in Sussex.

475

---  
KINGSDOWN NEAR WROTHAM.

NEXT to Ash, south-westward, lies Kingsdown,

called in antient records Kingledune, and Kingesdune./a

This parish is near two miles and a half in length, from north to south, and about a mile in width. It lies among the hills, on high ground in general, the soil of it is mostly very thin and poor, consisting either of chalk or a dark red earth, covered with a rotten kind of flint stones; it has in general a very unpleasant and dreary appearance. The village of Kingsdown is situated about twenty-one miles from London, on the high road from London through Farningham, towards Wrotham and Maidstone. The church stands by itself, very remarkably, in the midst of a wood of near eighty acres, about a quarter of a mile from the village, and about half a mile southward from it is the estate of Woodland. At the eastern boundary of the parish is Hever, with a large wood eastward of it, and on the opposite side of the high road, at the foot of the hills, Maplescombe, with the ruins of the chapel.

It appears, by the certificates of knights fees, delivered into the exchequer, in the reign of Henry II. that Reginald de Cornhill, who resided at Minster, in Thanet, and was sheriff of this county during the greatest part of the reign of king John, held one

knight's fee in Kingsdown, of William Fitzhelt, who held it of the king in capite./b

The family of St. John, of Basing, next held this manor, immediately of the king, of whom it was again held by the Fitzbernards. In the reign of Henry III. John Fitzbernard held this manor of Kingsdown, of the king in capite, and died possessed of it in the 55th

/a Text. Roff. p. 153. Reg.

Roff. p. 3, 653, &c.

/b Lib. Rubr. Scacc.

476

year of that reign,/c soon after which this estate seems to have been divided into moieties; and Philipott says, there were two manors, called North-court and South-court, which made up the estate held here by the Fitzbernards; the names of which I never yet met with in any records; though if there were such, it is most probable these were the names given to the separate moieties on this division. However that may be, one of the above moieties descended to Ralph, son of John Fitzbernard before-mentioned, who died possessed of it in the 34th year of king Edward I./d He left a son Thomas, and a daughter Margaret, married to Guncelin de Badlesmere; which Thomas died without issue, in the 6th year of king Edward II. and Bona his wife held it in dower; on whose decease, two years after, it was found that the reversion belonged to Giles, son of Bartholomew, the son of Guncelin de Badlesmere, and Margaret Fitzbernard before-mentioned. He died in the 12th year of Edward III. without issue, leaving his four sisters his heirs; Maud, wife of John de Vere, earl of Oxford; Margery, wife of William lord Roos. Elizabeth, wife of William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, but before of Edmund Mortimer; and Margaret, wife of Sir John Tibetot, or Tiptoft.

But to return to the other moiety, which seems to have continued in the name of Fitzbernard, for Sir John Fitzbernard paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III. as half a knight's fee, which Robert Fitzbernard before held of John de St. John, and he of the king.

Sir John Fitzbernard died possessed of this part of Kingsdown manor, in the 35th year of that reign, without issue,/e on which it devolved to the four sisters

/c Rot. Esch. ejus an. No. 5.

/d Ibid. anno 34, No. 54.

/e Rot. Esch. ejus an.

477

of Giles de Badlesmere, as his heirs, and next of kin, and they then possessed the whole of this manor as one knight's fee.

In the division of it among them, it does not seem that Maud, wife of John, earl of Oxford, had any part of it.

Margery, wife of William lord Roos, became entitled to a fourth part of this manor, held in capite, by knight's service, which her great grandson Thomas, being attainted in the 1st year of king Edward IV. for supporting the cause of the house of Lancaster, forfeited

with his life to the crown./g

This family of Roos bore for their arms, Gules, 3 water bougets argent; which coat remains in many places in and about the cathedral of Canterbury, as well in the windows as stone-work. The Ros's of Horton Kirkby were of a different family, and bore, Or, 3 roses, gules./f

Elizabeth, wife of William Bohun, earl of Northampton, became possessed of two other parts of a moiety of it,/h which continued in her descendants, by Edmund Mortimer, her first husband, down to Anne, only surviving sister of Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, on whose death, s. p./i she intitled her husband Richard, earl of Cambridge, to the possession of his interest in it, whose son Richard, duke of York, father of king Edward IV. who was slain exerting his endeavours to secure the crown, to his posterity, was slain in the battle of Wakefield, in Yorkshire, in the 30th of king Henry VI.

He died possessed of the above two parts of this manor, as was found by the inquisition, which, by reason of the confusion of those times, was not taken till the 3d year of king Edward IV. when the king was found to be his eldest son, and next heir.

/f Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 59.

/g Ibid.

/h Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 186.

/i Ibid. p. 151, Rot. Esch. See more of the Mortimers under Erith.

478

Margaret, the youngest sister and coheir of Giles de Badlesmere, wife of Sir John Tibetot, had for her share the remaining fourth part of this manor. Their son and heir, Sir Thomas Tibetot, died possessed of it anno 46 king Edward III./k leaving three daughters his coheirs; of whom the youngest Elizabeth, married Sir Philip le Despencer,/l and he, in his wife's right, possessed this part of the manor of Kingsdown, for his life, and died in the 2d year of king Henry VI. the inheritance of it then belonging to Margery, their daughter and heir, the wife of Roger Wentworth, esq./m her first husband having been John, lord Roos, of Hamlake, great grandson of Margery, by William lord Roos, before-mentioned. She survived both her husbands, and died in the 18th year of king Edward IV. possessed of this fourth part of this manor, which then escheated to the crown, but by what means, I do not find.

The whole manor of Kingsdown, being again thus united in the hands of the crown, remained there till king Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted it, together with certain woods here, containing one hundred and eighty-six acres, and other premises elsewhere, to Jane Wilkinson, widow, to hold in capite by knights service;/n and she, the next year, alienated this manor, with the other premises in Kingsdown, to Thomas, son of Martin Bowes, to hold of the king in like manner./o He passed it away by sale to colonel Richard Lovelace, of Hever, in this parish, who was afterwards knighted, and was of Lovelace-place, in Betersden. He died in 1658, and was buried in St. Bride's church, Lon-

don. His ancestor Launcelot Lovelace, was of Bay=ford, in Sittingbourne, and purchased the manor of Hever, in this parish. By the daughter and heir of

/k Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 161.

Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/l Dugg. Bar. vol. ii. p. 40.

/m Rot. Esch.

/n Ibid. ejus an. pt. 20.

/o Ibid. pt. 8.

479

Eynsham he left three sons; Sir Richard, of Be=thersden, who was marshal of Calais, and died with=out issue in the 1st year of king Henry VII. William, of whom hereafter; and John, who was ancestor to Sir Richard Lovelace, created by king Charles I. in his 3d year, baron Lovelace, of Hurley, in Berkshire; which branch is now extinct.

William, the second son of Lancelot, died in 1501, leaving two sons; John, whose descendants settled at Bayford, in Sittingbourn; and William, whose son William was a serjeant-at-law, and resided at the White Friars, in Canterbury, who died anno 1576, and was buried in Christ-church, Canterbury, leaving issue Sir William Lovelace, of Betherden, who by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Edward Aucher, esq. of Bishops=borne, had Sir William Lovelace, of Woolwich, who was killed at the Grill. He married Anne, daughter of Sir William Barnes, of Woolwich, by whom he had four sons; Richard, of Hever, in this parish, before=mentioned; Francis, William, and Dudley Posthumus Lovelace. This branch of the family, seated in Kent, bore for their arms, Gules, on a chief indented argent, 3 martlets sable. The lords Lovelace bore the chief sable and the martlets argent./p>

But to return to colonel Richard Lovelace, who left an only daughter and heir Margaret, who carried it, together with Hever, and a moiety of Chipsted, both in this parish, in marriage to Henry Coke, esq. of Thurrlington, in Suffolk, fifth son of the lord chief justice Coke, who was descended from William Coke, of Doddington, in Norfolk, mentioned in a deed dated the 8th year of king John, bearing for his arms, Party per pale gules, and azure, 3 eagles displayed ar=gent. Henry Coke before-mentioned had, by Mar=

/p Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigr. Lovelace. Coll. Peer. edit. 1735, vol. iv. p. 217. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 228. Granger's Biog. Hist. vol. ii. p. 493.

480

garet his wife four sons; of whom only Richard, the eldest, and Ciriaco were married; but from the latter there is no issue remaining.

Richard Coke, esq. was of Thurrlington, and on his father's death possessed these estates in Kingsdown. He married Mary, daughter of Sir John Rous, bart. of Suffolk, by whom he had one son, Robert Coke, esq. who, on the death of John Coke, esq. of Holkham, in Norfolk, (the youngest and only surviving son of John the fourth son of the chief justice) who died unmarried, became possessed of that feat, and the greatest part of the lord chief justice Coke's estate.

His grandson Thomas Coke, esq. the eldest son of Edward, in 1728, was created baron Lovell, of Minster Lovell, in Oxfordshire; and in 1744, viscount Coke, of Holkham, in Norfolk, and earl of Leicester. He married the lady Margaret Tufton, third surviving daughter and coheir of Thomas, earl of Thanet, by her he had an only son, Edward, viscount Coke, who married the lady Mary, youngest daughter and coheir of John, duke of Argyle and Greenwich, but died without issue in his father's life-time in 1753. The earl of Leicester died in 1759, leaving his lady surviving; to whom he by his will bequeathed this manor of Kingsdown, Hever, the moiety of Chipsted and Maplescombe, and his other estates in this parish, for her life. Upon whose death they came, by the earl's will, to his nephew Wenman Roberts Coke, esq. son of colonel Philip Roberts, by Anne his sister. He was M. P. for Norfolk, and died in 1776, leaving two sons, Thomas William, and Edward, and two daughters. He was succeeded accordingly by the earl's entail of these estates, by his eldest son, Thomas William Coke, esq. who in 1784 sold them to Duncan Campbell, esq. of London, merchant, the present owner of them.

THE MANOR OF HEVER was part of the possessions of the antient family of Hever, frequently written in

481

old records Evere, who were of Hever-castle, in this county, from whom this place took its name. William de Hever was owner of it in the 4th year of king Edward III. soon after which he died without male issue, leaving two daughters his coheirs; of whom Joan married Reginald de Cobham, and Margaret was the wife of Sir Oliver Brocas. On the division of their inheritance, Reginald de Cobham became entitled to this estate. He was called of Sterborough, from his residence at that castle in Surry, and was a younger son of the Cobhams, of Cobham, in this county./q He was succeeded here by his son Reginald, who died possessed of Hever in the 35th year of king Edward III. leaving Joan his wife, daughter of Sir Maurice Berkeley, surviving, who likewise died possessed of it in the 43d year of that reign./r One of their descendants sold Hever to John Urban, whose son John possessed it at his death in the 4th year of king Henry VI. on which it came to his sister, Emma Penhale, who died the next year, and left it to her son; and he conveyed it to Mr. Lancelot Lovelace, who by will, anno 1465, gave it to William, his second son, as he did in 1501 to his second son of the same name, whose direct descendant, colonel Richard Lovelace, son of Sir William, who was killed at the Grill, in Holland, leaving an only daughter and heir Margaret, she carried it, with other estates here, in marriage to Henry Coke, esq. of Thurington, in Suffolk, in whose descendants it continued down, with the manor of Kingsdown, and his other estates in this parish, as has been already related, to Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester, who died in 1759. After which it at length descended by his will to his nephew Wenman Roberts Coke, esq. whose son Thomas William Coke, esq. in 1784 sold it, with the rest of the late earl's estates in this parish, to Mr. Duncan

/q See more of them under Chiddigstone.

/r Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 66, 67.

482

Campbell, of London, merchant, the present possessor of it. The arms of Lovelace, together with the several quarterings borne by this family, were in the windows of the antient chapel belonging to this seat, now made use of as a farm-house, which chapel has been pulled down not many years since.

CHEPSTED is another manor here, which in the reign of king Edward I. was held by William de Mowbray and William de Chepsted, as the twentieth part of a knight's fee, of the heirs of Ralph Fitzbernard, who again held it of the king./s In the 20th year of king Edward III. the heirs of John de Chepsted paid aid, for the twentieth part of a knight's fee here, which Isabella, widow of Stephen de Kingsdown, before held, of the manor of Swanscombe. Adam de Chepsted died possessed of this manor, in the 41st year of that reign./t

John Martin, one of the justices of the common pleas, was owner of this manor in the beginning of king Henry VI's reign; his son, John Martin, in the 33d year of that reign, alienated it to Thomas Underdown, of Dartford; who not long after gave it to Mr. Richard Thatcher, of Warbilton, in Sussex; and he, in the 19th year of king Edward IV. sold it to William At-Wode; whose son, Robert Wood, alias At-Wood, in the 13th year of king Henry VIII. demised one moiety of Chepsted to Nicholas Taylor; whose son William passed it away, in the 1st year of queen Mary, to Sir John Champneis, of Bexley. He died possessed of it in the 4th year of that reign. Of whose sons, Justinian, the youngest, became the only survivor./u He conveyed this moiety by sale to colonel Richard Lovelace; whose daughter and sole heir Margaret, carried it in marriage to Henry Coke, esq. of Thurrlington, since which this moiety of Chepsted,

/s Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

/t Rot. Esch. No. 16.

/u See Bexley, p. 174.

483

called for distinction Chepsted Hever, continued with the manor of Kingsdown, Hever, &c. in this parish, as has been already related, in his descendants, to Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester, who died possessed of it in 1759, after which it descended by his will, at length to his nephew Wenman Roberts Coke, esq. whose son Thomas William Coke, esq. before-mentioned, in 1784 sold it to Mr. Duncan Campbell, of London, merchant, the present owner of it.

The other moiety of Chepsted was demised by Robert Wood, alias At-Wood, in the 22d year of king Henry VIII. to Sibill, of Littlemote, in Eynsford, from which name it was carried in marriage by Anne, daughter of Lancelot Sibill, to Mr. John Hope, who, in the reign of king Charles I. passes it away by sale to Mr. William Hodsoll, ancestor of Mr. William Hodsoll, of South-Ash and Dartford, in this county,

who died possessed of one third of it in 1776, and by his will devised his interest in it to his widow for her life, who afterwards enjoyed it; but the property of it, on her death, became by his will, vested in his cousin, Mr. Charles Hodsoll, of Ash. The other two thirds of this moiety are the property of the heirs of the late Mr. Edward Hodsoll, of St. Mary Cray, and of Richard Gee Carew, esq. of Orpington.

MAPLESCOMBE, written in the *Textus Roffensis* Ma=peldreskampe,/w and now called Mapscumbe, is a manor, which was formerly accounted a parish by itself, though it has long been united to Kingsdown. It had apparently a good seat on it, the estate belonging to which lay partly in the parish of Kingsdown, and partly in that of Eynsford.

This place, at the time of taking the general survey of Domesday, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, the Conqueror's half brother. It was then divided into two separate estates, which are thus

/w *Text. Roff.* p. 229.

484

described in that record, under the general title of the bishop of Baieux's lands.

Ansgotus de Rochester holds Mapledescam of the bishop (of Baieux) for half a suling. The arable land is . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, with 1 villein, and 4 borderers, and 4 servants. There is 1 acre of meadow, and wood for the pannage of 8 hogs, and 16 pence more. It was worth 4 pounds . . . and now 110 shillings. Eustan held it of king Edward the Confessor.

And a little further, in the same record, as follows:

Wadard holds Maplescap of the bishop (of Baieux). It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is two carucates. There are . . . with 1 villein, and 4 borderers, and 5 servants, and 1 acre and a half of meadow; wood for the pannage of 8 hogs, and 16 pence. It was worth 3 pounds, and now 6 pounds. Ultan held it of Harold.

After the disgrace of this great man, the king his brother confiscated all his possessions, part of which were afterwards distributed to certain knights for the defence of Dover-castle, under the command of John de Fienes; one of these knights was William de Arsick, whose lands, given to him on this account, made up what was called the barony of Arsick, in which one of these estates before-mentioned was at least included, being held of it as one knight's fee as of the castle of Dover, to which it owed service. In the 32d year of Henry II. Alan de Valoins, then sheriff of this county, was allowed fifty shillings, for eight oxen and two cart-horses, and 18s. 4d. for thirty-seven sheep, with which he had stocked this manor, then in the king's hands./x

In the reign of king Edward I. William de Valoins held of the king in capite a moiety of the manor of Maplescomp, by the service of finding an halfpenny for the king's offering, whenever the king should come

/x *Mad. Excheq.* p. 643.

to hear mass at this place./y In the 18th year of king Edward I's reign, Roger de Mereworth obtained for himself and his heirs free warren in his demesne lands here./z His descendant, John de Mereworth, died in the 39th year of king Edward III. possessed of certain tenements at Maplescombe, together with the advowson of the church of the ville, holding the same of the king as of his castle of Dover, by the service of paying to the guard of Dover-castle, and of making suit to the King's lath of Sutton twice in a year, and of suit to the king's hundred of Greenstreet. He died possessed of them anno 44 of that reign,/a without issue, and John de Malmains, of Malmains, in Pluckley, was found to be his heir, who sold his interest here, two years afterwards, to Nicholas, son of Sir John de Brembre, who becoming obnoxious by his attachment to the unwarrantable measures adopted by Richard II. was attainted of high treason, in the 10th year of that reign, and forfeited both his life and estate./b Soon after which, king Richard, in his 13th year, granted this estate to John Hermensthorpe, who not long after passed it away to Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, lord treasurer and admiral of England; whose son, Thomas Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, dying without issue, in the 4th year of king Henry V. his three sisters became his coheirs, viz. Elizabeth, duchess of Norfolk, then the wife of Sir Gerard Vseflete; Joane, late wife of William Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny; and Margaret, wife of Sir Rowland Lenthal./c

On the division of their inheritance, one moiety of this estate of Maplescombe became the property of Joane, the second of them, late wife of William Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny, on whose death, in the 13th year of king Henry VI. it descended to her son and

/y Blount's Tenures, p. 29.

/z Rot. Cart. ejus an. No. 21.

/a Rot. Esch.

/b Philipott, p. 45.

/c Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 321.

heir, Richard Beauchamp, earl of Worcester, and lord Abergavenny, who possessed it at his decease next year. He left one sole daughter and heir, married afterwards to Edward Nevill, fourth son of Ralph Nevill, earl of Westmoreland; who, doing his homage, had possession granted of the lands of her inheritance, and was afterwards, in the 29th year of Henry VI. summoned to parliament by the title of lord Bergavenny./d He died in the 16th year of Edward IV. and was succeeded here by his eldest surviving son, by his first wife, Sir George Nevill, lord Abergavenny, whose son of the same name and title, conveyed this estate, which then appeared to be the moiety of the manor of Mapescombe, to John Lovelace, esq. the eldest son of William Lovelace, second son of LanceLOT, who purchased the manor of Hever, in Kingsdown, and he being in possession of the other moiety, which he had before purchased of Chicksend, as will be further mentioned hereafter, became owner of the whole manor.

This moiety last-mentioned, appears by the record called *Testa de Nevill*, to have been, in the 20th year of king Henry III. in the possession of William de Chellesfield, from which name it afterwards passed to Adam de Shoveholt, and from him to the family of Rokesle. In the 20th year of king Edward III. Roger, son of Thomas de Rokesle, paid aid for it as one knight's fee, which Adam de Shoveholt before held in Maplescombe of Richard de Ros, and he of the heirs of Robert Arsick, and he of the king.

Joane, wife of Thomas de Rokesle, died possessed of it in the 40th year of that reign, soon after which it came into the possession of Sir John Wisham, who made a feoffment of this estate to John Peche, citizen of London, and Ellen his wife, and the heirs of their bodies. He was afterwards knighted, and died pos-

/d *Dugd. Bar.* vol. i. p. 309, 310.

487

sesed of it in the 4th year of king Richard II. leaving Sir William Peche his son and next heir./e

How long this part of Maplescombe continued in this family I do not find, but it afterwards passed into the name of Chicksend; one of whom, in the latter end of the reign of king Henry VIII. conveyed it by sale to John Lovelace, esq. owner of the other moiety of this place, as before-mentioned, who died possessed of this manor, and five hundred acres of land, in Maplescombe, Farningham, and Eynsford, in the second year of king Edward VI. holding it of the king as of his castle of Dover, by knight's service. Thomas Lovelace being his son and heir,/f who, in Hilary term, in the 4th year of queen Elizabeth, levied a fine of this manor, as he and Leonard Lovelace did again, in Michaelmas term, anno 15th of that reign; soon after which it passed into the younger branch of this family seated at Betersden, in this county, and owners of the manor of Kingsdown, and much other lands adjoining, in which it continued till colonel Richard Lovelace, leaving an only daughter and heir, Margaret, she carried it in marriage to Henry Coke, esq. of Thurrington, in Suffolk, in whose descendants it remained till Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester, dying without issue in 1759, bequeathed it to his widow Margaret, countess of Leicester, for life, and she died possessed of it in 1775, after which it came at length, in manner as before-mentioned, by the earl's will, to Thomas William Coke, esq. who sold it in 1784 to Mr. Duncan Campbell, of London, merchant, the present possessor of it.

The church of Maplescombe has been a long time in ruins. In the 15th year of Edward I. it was valued at 100s. The remains of it are situated in a corn field, in a very deep valley, about half a mile from the ancient seat, now a farm-house, and the nearest dwelling

/e *Inquis. post. mort.* /f *Petit's Fœdary Book of Kent.*

488

to it. In ploughing near the walls, particularly on the south side, where perhaps was the cemetery, human bones are at times turned up; the walls are of a great thickness, and the windows, as appears by the remains,

were turned with semicircular arches, on which, from the inside of the east end of the chancel, part is rounded off. The parish of it was united to Kingsdown in 1638, the following is a list of some rectors of it:

JOHN WYCKHAM, adm. March 17, 1394, resig. an. 1400./g  
JOHN STOCKWOOD, obt. 1610.

RICHARD HARVEY, ind. Nov. 29, 1610./h

The fee-farm now paid to the crown, for the manor of Maplescome is 1l. 1s. 8<sup>3</sup>4d./i

WOODLAND, alias WEEK, is a manor here, which, as to its civil jurisdiction, is part of the parish of Kingsdown, though it was once a separate parish of itself. It lies in the hundred of Codsheath, and the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of it is within the deanry of Shoreham, as having been united to Wrotham, in the 15th year of queen Elizabeth;/k since which the church of it has been in ruins.

Woodland, called in the *Textus Roffensis*, Watlande,/l formerly belonged to the great family of Crevequer, called in Latin, *De Crepito Corde*. Hamon de Crevequer, who flourished in the reigns of king John and king Henry III. died possessed of this place in the 47th year of king Henry III./m

In the 9th year of king Edward III. John, son of John St. Clere, enjoyed it, as appears by inquisition taken after his death./n Thomas St. Clere was possessed of it at his death, in the 4th year of king Henry IV.

/g He exchanged this rectory for the vicarage of Selmenstone, in Sussex.

/h See an engraving of the remains of this church in *Cust. Roff.* p. 122.

/i *Stev. Mon.* vol. i. p. 456.

/k *Lamb. Peramb.* p. 367.

/l *Text. Roff.* p. 229.

/m *Rot. Esch.* No. 33.

/n *Ibid.* No. 48.

489

whose descendant, about the latter end of Henry VII's reign, passed it away to Pett, of Pett-house, in Sevoneoke, whose successor, John Pett, sold it, in the 17th year of queen Elizabeth, to William Rowe, of London, from which name, by a female heir, it was carried in marriage, in the reign of king James I. to Jenny of Norfolk, who, in King Charles I's reign, settled it on his daughter, married to Thomas Norton, esq. of Coventry;/o since which it has passed into the name of Bowles, in which it continued down to Charles Bowles, esq. of North Aston, in Oxfordshire, who died in 1780, on which it came to Oldfield Bowles, esq. the present owner of it.

A court baron is held for this manor, and the tenants of it pay a heriot on every death, &c.

The church of Woodland antiently paid ninepence chrism. rent to the mother church of the diocese./p It stood in a field near the manor-house, after it was desecrated it lay neglected and in ruins, in which state it continued, till a few years ago, when it was totally pulled down, and the stones carried away, but the foundations

are still visible. In the 15th year of king Edward I.  
it was valued at seven marcs./q

The rector and vicar of Wrotham receive all ecclesiastical emoluments within the district of the chapel of Woodland, which they possess only, till a chapel shall be built for the use of the inhabitants of it. There are twenty acres in it possessed by the rector of Wrotham, as part of his glebe.

Reginald, son of Gervas de Cornhill, sheriff of this county, &c. gave one acre of his land in Kingesdune, &c. to the monastery of St. Austin, near Canterbury, and time confirmed to it all the tythes of his land, which king John had granted to him in Kingesdune./r

/o Philipott, p. 205.

/p Text. Roff. p. 229.

/q Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

/r Regist. of St. Austin's Mon.

490

The hospital of St. John, of Jerusalem, was possessed of some demesne lands in this parish, and others held by rent, and suit of court, to their manor of Sutton-at-Hone belonging to that hospital.

KINGSDOWN, excepting the manor of Woodland, is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese and deanry of Rochester. The church, which is dedicated to St. Edmund the King, is a small mean building with a low tower and shingled spire, in which is one bell. It consists of only one isle and a chancel, there is only one grave-stone, which is in the isle near the pulpit, on which were the figures of a man and woman, with their children, all now lost, but the inscription in black letter remains, for John Lovelace, esq. and Mary his wife, he died in 1500. The shield of arms is lost. There are good remains of painted glass; in the second window on the north side is the Virgin, with a crown on her head and a flower in her hand. In the third window is our Saviour sitting on an an altar tomb, with his hands and feet extended, as on the cross; these figures are very antient./s

In the church yard are two yew trees, the least of which is twenty-two feet and a half in girt.

In the windows of Hever-house, in this parish, the arms of Lovelace in coloured glass yet remain, and in the windows of the chapel now pulled down, were originally these arms, Lovelace, gules on a chief indented sable, three martlets argent impaling azure on a saltier, ingrailed argent, five martlets sable; second coat, quarterly of two coats as above, impaling azure three chevrons argent; above the arms, 1548, and on the sides of the shield are these name, Lovelace, Lewknor; third coat, Lovelace impaling Clement, 1549, the names on each side; fourth coat, Lovelace impaling Harman, 1548, the names on each side; fifth coat, Lovelace quarterly; sixth coat, Peckham.

/s See the monuments and inscriptions at large, Reg. Roff p. 1026.

491

This church was antiently esteemed but a chapel to the church of Sutton-at Hone, in this neighbourhood. King Henry I. granted the church of Sutton, with the chapels of Kingsdown and Wilmington, and the

tythes of the same, in corn, cattle, pannage, mills, and in all other things to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester./t

Gundulph, bishop of Rochester, who was elected to that see in the time of the Conqueror, having divided the revenues of his church between himself and his convent, allotted the church of Sutton, with the chapels belonging to it, to the share of the monks./u But bishop Gilbert de Glanvill, in the reign of Richard II. on the compromise concerning the gifts which bishop Gundulph, his predecessor, had made to the priory, greatly to the prejudice of the revenues of his see, decreed, that this church of Kingsdown should be at the disposal of the bishops of Rochester; saving to the monks their accustomed pension of sixteen shillings from thence./w

Benedict, bishop of Rochester, granted and confirmed to the church of St. Andrew, and the monks there, the church of Kingsdown, being a chapel to Sutton, to their own proper uses to the support of their almonry; saving a vicarage for a vicar, to whom he allotted all alterages and obventions, and all the land belonging to the church, except the chief messuage, and its appurtenances, as the same were then parted off by a ditch; which was to remain to the almoner of the priory. He ordained likewise that the vicar should receive yearly two seams of corn at the hands of the almoner, before Christmas; one of wheat, and one of barley; and that the vicar should sustain all the burthens of right belonging to the church, excepting the

/t Text. Roff. p. 153. Reg.

Roff. p. 2.

/u Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 1.

/w Reg. Roff. p. 53, 54.

492

accustomed pension of sixteen shillings, for the use of the dormitory, and of twelve-pence payable yearly to the cellarer, as from the church of Sutton; both which pensions the almoner was to pay.

Before which, there had been much controversy between the priory of Rochester and Ralph Fitzbernard, concerning the right of presentation to this church, which was now accommodated, by the prior and convent's acknowledging the right of it to belong to him; upon which he granted to their church in free and perpetual alms, to the support of the almonry there, his right and title to it.

Bishop Thomas Brown, in 1436, made a new endowment of this vicarage, the former provision for the vicar being too small for his support and maintenance; in which he decreed, that the vicar and his successors should have all tythes, real as well as personal; and all profits and emoluments whatsoever, as well to the church of Kingsdown, as to the vicarage of it, in any wise, then or in future belonging, saving to the prior and convent, 6s. 8d. yearly to be paid to them in the cathedral church there, out of the fruits and profits of the vicarage; which endowment was confirmed by the prior and convent the same year./x

This church, together with the pension before-mentioned, was surrendered into the hands of the

crown, with the rest of its possessions, at the dissolution of the priory in the reign of king Henry VIII. and was two years afterwards, settled by that king on the new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, part of whose possessions the advowson of this church, which has for many years been accounted a rectory, and the above pension, still remain.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at ten marcs./y

/x Reg. Roff. p. 653.

/y Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

493

By virtue of a commission of enquiry in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Kingsdown cum Maplescumbe was a parsonage, with a house and glebe land, all worth ninety pounds per annum, one master Edward Masters enjoying it, put in by the parliament./z

The church of Kingsdown, with Mapescombe annexed, is now valued in the king's books at 9l. 1s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 18s. 2d./a

#### CHURCH OF KINGSDOWN.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Dean and Chapter of Rochester      Francis Inman, A. M. in 1626.  
Edward Masters, interreg.

..... Ashpool, in 1680.

John Wyvil, obt. 1704./b

John Gillman, A. M. obt. Nov.

17, 1710./c

John Grant, D. D. 1710./d

Walter Hodges, D. D. obt. Jan.

1757./e

Erasmus Saunders, D. D. 1757,  
obt. Dec. 30, 1775./f

John Clarke, D. D. 1776, obt.

1781./g

Charles Coldcall, A. M. Dec.

1781, obt. 1793./h

Thomas Willis, D. D. 1793, the  
present rector./i

/z Parl. Surv. Lambeth-lib. v. xix.

/a Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/b He was prebendary of Rochester.

/c He was prebendary of Rochester,  
and lies buried in Rochester cathedral.  
He was also vicar of St. Nicholas, Rochester.

/d Prebendary of Rochester, and provost of Oriel college, Oxford.

/e Prebendary of Rochester.

/f He resigned a canonry of Windsor  
in 1756, for a prebendary of Rochester, and the vicarage of St. Martin in the Fields. In 1757 he had a dispensation to hold this rectory with St. Martin's. He was buried in Bath cathedral.

/g Provost of Oriel college, Oxford.  
He resigned the vicarage of Wood=

nesborough near Sandwich on being presented to Lamberhurst, as he did that for this rectory, which he held with Purley, in Essex.

/h In January, 1781, a dispensation passed for his holding the vicarage of Ashburnham with this rectory.

/i And prebendary of Rochester.

494

- - -

#### HORTON KIRKBY.

NORTHWARD from Kingsdown lies Horton Kirkby.

THIS PARISH contains about three thousand acres of land, of which four hundred are wood. It extends about two miles eastward up to high grounds on the hills, among which, near the boundaries of it, are the two hamlets of Pinden and Dean-bottom. The soil here is much inclined to chalk, and being much covered with flints, is but poor and barren; but lower down, in the valley, near the village, and towards the Darent there are a few fields much more fertile.

The river Darent runs along the eastern side of the parish; on the bank of it stands Horton castle, of which there are large ruins still remaining, and part of it is now sitted up, as the court lodge or farm house of the manor; and near it the church. At about half a mile distance northward lies the hamlet of South Darent, once esteemed as a parish, and of much greater account than it is at present, the parish of Darent being frequently stiled, in antient writings, North Darent, in opposition to it; and in the *Textus Roffensis*, in the list of the parishes in this diocese, mention is made of South Darent, as paying chrism. rent to the mother church of the diocese.

This hamlet lies partly in Darent and partly in Horton; in the latter there are still remaining the flint walls of an antient building, most probably formerly the church or chapel of South Darent, now made use of as a malt house. Near which is a large corn mill, and a little farther a handsome modern house, almost rebuilt, within these few years, by Mr. Thomas Williams, who now resides in it.

At a small distance northward from the church is the village of Horton, close to the banks of the Da-

495

rent, and a little beyond it the venerable mansion of Franks, and the parsonage. At the south end of the village is Kirkby-house; and on the rise of the hill above it Reynold's-place, now principally occupied as a farm house.

THIS PLACE, soon after the conquest, was part of the possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, the Conqueror's half brother, of whom it was held at the time of taking the survey of Domesday, by Anschi-tillus de Ros, who held many estates in these parts of the bishop.

In the above survey Horton is thus entered under the general title of the lands of the bishop of Baieux.

Anschitillus (de Ros) holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Hortone. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is three caruces, and there are four borderers, and one mill of five shillings, and six acres of meadow. There is a church, and wood for the pannage of three hogs. The king has lately given him by the bishop as much wood of this manor as is worth five shillings. The whole manor was worth four pounds, and now six pounds. Godel de Bixi held it, and could turn himself over with his land wherever he would.

The same Anschitillus holds of the bishop in the same manor half a suling. The arable land is one carucate, and there is in demesne . . . . . and eight villeins, with six borderers, having one carucate. There is one mill of 15 shillings, and nine acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of five hogs. The whole manor was worth 40 shillings, and now 60 shillings. Ording held it of the king (Edward the Confessor).

The same Anchitillus holds of the bishop in the same manor one suling. The arable land is three caruces. In demesne there is one carucate, and eight villeins, with two caruces. There is one servant and eight acres of meadow, and half a mill of five shillings, wood for the pannage of fifteen hogs. The whole manor was worth

496

four pounds, and now 100 shillings. Award held it of (king) Herald. These four manors are now as one manor.

To which is added, that the king had all forfeitures of Hamsoca, Gribridge, and Foristel, in Hortune, and that Ordine de Hortune had the privileges of sac and soc for his land within the lath of Suttone.

Upon the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, about the year 1084, the king his brother seized on all his lands and possessions. One knight's fee, part of the bishop's lands in this parish, was afterwards held of the arch-bishop of Canterbury, and another knight's fee and an half, and the fourth part of the fifth of one was held of Simon de Montfort, earl of Leicester, as of the honour of Newberry.

The manor of Horton, notwithstanding the forfeiture of Odo, continued to be held by the family of Ros, called in Latin, Rubitonensis, who bore for their arms, Or, three roses gules, being a different family from those of Hamlake, who bore, Gules, three water bougets argent; one of whom built Horton-castle, the ruins of which remain at this time. A descendant of this family was Alexander de Ros, who was one of the Recognitores Magnæ Assisæ, or justices of the Great Assize, an office of no small eminence at that time. In the first year of king John, William de Ros held one knight's fee in Horton and Lullingstone./k One of his descendants, Richard de Ros, in the reign of Henry III. left an only daughter and heir, Lora, who, from her possessions here, was stiled, The Lady of Horton, who carried her interest in this place, in marriage, about the 20th of king Edward I. to Roger de Kirkby, son of Sir John de Kirby, descended of the family of that name, seat at Kirkby-hall, in Lancashire. They were before possessed of a considerable estate in this parish, called after their own name, the manor of Kirkby-court, where they resided.

/k Philipott, p. 192.

497

Roger de Kirkby, at the inthronization of arch-bishop Robert Winchelsea, in the 23d of Edward I. made claim before Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, high steward and chief butler to the archbishop, to serve him on that day with the cup at his dinner, and to have the cup, as his fee, by reason of the manor of Horton, by Farningham, which he held of the archbishop, and the earl admitted his claim; but as he was not a knight, as he ought to be, who should perform it, therefore the earl, as steward, nominated Sir Gilbert Owen to serve for him, who, after dinner, had the cup, &c./k

He re-edified Horton-castle, and new-built the mansion of Kirkby court; and so considerable was his property become in this place, from the above mentioned match, that the parish itself had the addition of his name to it, having been ever since called Horton Kirkby, as well in regard to him, as to distinguish it from other parishes of the same name in this county. His son, Gilbert de Kirkby, held this estate in the 20th year of king Edward III. and there is a large grave stone in the south cross of this church, with the portrait of a man in long robes, in brass, the inscription torn off; but at the north corner of it these arms remain, Quarterly, first and fourth, Kirkby; second and third, Ros, which is most probably his grave stone; but at the latter end of the next reign of king Richard II. a female heir of this name carried Horton castle, and these manors, which now by unity of possession were become one, together with Kirkby-court, in marriage to Thomas Stonar, of Stonar, in Oxfordshire; in consequence of which the Stonars, as descended from the heir general of the Kirkby's, quartered their arms, being Six lions rampant, on a canton a mullet, with their own./l His grandson, Sir Wil-

/k Somn. Cant. by Batteley, part ii. Append. p. 21.

/l Camd. Rem. p. 214.

498

liam, son of Sir Thomas Stonar, by Anne, one of the daughters, and at length coheir of John Nevill, marquis Montacute,/m held this manor, and the water-mill belonging to it, in the reign of king Henry VII. He had one son, John, who died without issue, and a daughter, married to Sir Adrian Fortescue, by whom he had one daughter and sole heir, Margaret, married to Thomas lord Wentworth; and, by Anne her mother, was heir to her grandfather, Sir William Stonar, and had a special possession granted of all the lands which by her death descended to her./n He died anno 5 king Edward VI. and was buried in Westminster abbey, leaving Thomas lord Wentworth his eldest son, who succeeded him here, and in the next reign of king Philip and queen Mary, conveyed these premises, by fine and recovery, to Robert Rudston and Thomas Walsingham; which last, in the 5th year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed the whole of his interest in Horton-castle and manor to the former, and had the whole property of Kirkby-court

confirmed to himself.

In the reign of king James I. Anne, daughter and sole heir of Isaac Rudstone, o esq. of Boughton Monchelsea, carried the castle and manor of Horton, in marriage, to Samuel Michel, of Old Windsor, who died within a few years, leaving Anne, his wife, surviving, and two sons, John and Humphry. She, after her husband's death, anno 15 king James I. settled this estate on her two sons, successively in tail, and died in 1669, being succeeded in it by her grandson, John, the only son and heir of her eldest son, John Michel, who died in her life time.

He was of Richmond, in Surry; and at his coming of age, in the 35th year of king Charles II. by a

/m Philipott, p. 192. Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 308.

/n Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 320.

/o See more of the Rudstons, under Boughton Monchelsea.

499

fine and recovery, barred the intail created by his grandmother. He died unmarried, and without issue; and, by his last will, in 1736, devised this castle and manor, the manor of Plumsted, and other estates in this county, &c. to the provost and scholars of Queen's college, in Oxford, and their successors for ever, for the purposes therein mentioned, as has already been fully described under the manor of Plumsted; and in them the present possession and inheritance of this castle and manor is now vested.

At the court leet of this manor, a constable and ale-conner is appointed for the parish of Horton Kirkby. Most of the lands within this parish are held of the manor, at small yearly quit rents.

The MANSION of KIRKBY-COURT passed from Sir Thomas Walsingham in the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, to Cuthbert Hacket, alderman of London, grandson of Tho. Hacket, of Dartford, and afterwards knighted, and lord mayor in 1626, who bore for his arms, Three fleurs de lis, between two bendlets, a crescent for difference. He lies buried in St. James's, Garlick-hith./p His heirs passed away this seat, with the lands belonging to it, to Payne, in which family it continued to John Payne the elder, who, together with Rhodee his wife, settled it on Joel Payne, their son, on his marriage with Alice Alingham; and they, in 1681, conveyed it to John Collett, whose daughter, Elizabeth, in 1698, passed it away by sale to John Arnold; and his son, William Arnold, brewer, of Deptford, in 1730, conveyed this estate to Thomas Polhill, esq. on whose death, in 1732, it descended to his three daughters and coheirs, and their heirs, viz. one-third to Mr. Thomas Baldwin, in right of his mother; one-third to Richard, David, and Thomas Collins, in right of thier mother; and one-third to Elizabeth Polhill, in her own right.

/p Strype's Stow's Survey, book iii. p. 10; book v. p. 142.

500

In the year 1738, Richard and Thomas Collins, in whom the sole property of this seat was then vested, conveyed it to Richard Hornsby, esq. sheriff of this county, in 1749, who resided here, and died pos-

sessed of it, leaving his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Hornsby, surviving, and several daughters his coheirs; she afterwards possessed this seat, and died in 1791, the year after which it was sold by her heirs to Mr. Edward Homewood, who now resides in it.

FRANKS is an eminent seat in this parish, situated on the banks of the river Darent, and near the southern bounds of Horton, towards Farningham. In king Henry III.'s time, this seat was in the possession of a family, who came hither out of Yorkshire, and wrote their names, as appears by antient deeds and evidences, Frankish, and bore for their arms, as appears by their seals, A Saltier engrailed.

After this family became extinct here, this seat passed by sale into the family of Martin. John Martin, judge of the common-pleas, died possessed of it in the 15th year of king Henry VI. whose grandson John, by his will, anno 1480, gave it to his second son, William, who was succeeded in it by his only son, Edward, who resided at Franks; and in the beginning of Elizabeth's reign alienated it, with other lands in this neighbourhood, to Lancelot Bathurst, alderman of London, who rebuilt this seat, as it is at present,/q on the opposite side of the river to where it stood before, and died in 1594. He was citizen and grocer of London, and lies buried in the church of St. Mary Bothaw; being the grandson of Laurence Bathurst, citizen of Canterbury, who held lands there, and in Cranbrooke, in this county, and left three sons; of whom Edward, the eldest, was of Staplehurst, and left Lancelot above mentioned, whose descendants

/q By the date, 1596, over the porch at the entrance, it seems he did not live to finish it.

501

will be mentioned hereafter. Robert, the second son, was of Horsemonden, whose descendant, John, became possessed of the manor of Letchlade, in Gloucestershire, where his descendants settled, being baronets; which branch, in 1623, procured an alteration in their arms, Azure two bars or, in chief three crosses formee of the second; crest, on a wreath, a bay horse, standing on a mount vert. Paul, the second son, was of Bathurst-street, in Nordiam, and by Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Edward Horden, became possessed of the manor of Finchcocks, in Goudhurst, where his descendants settled, of whom further mention will be made, under the description of that manor. Robert, above mentioned, by his second wife, left two sons, Timothy and John, from which latter the Bathursts of Richmond, in Yorkshire, are descended.

Lancelot Bathurst, the builder of this seat, had by Judith, his wife, daughter of Bernard Randolph, of London, remarried to Edward Kynaston, several sons and daughters. Randolph, the eldest, was of Franks; Edward resided at Hawley; and George, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Edward Villiers of Howthorpe, in Northamptonshire, had twelve sons and four daughters; of whom Sir Benjamin Bathurst, LL. D. was father of Alan earl Bathurst, whose eldest surviving son was Henry earl Bathurst, chancellor of Great Britain; of Peter Bathurst of Clarendon park, in Wiltshire; and

of Benjamin Bathurst of Lidney, in Gloucestershire.

Randolph Bathurst, esq. the eldest son of Lancelot, the builder of this seat, before mentioned, was of Franks; and bore for his arms, Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Bathurst; sable, two bars ermine, in chief three crosses patee or; second and third, Randolph, gules on a cross humette argent, five mullets pierced of the first; and for his crest, on a wreath, a dexter arm in mail, embowed, and holding a club with spikes, all proper; as are now borne by earl Bathurst, and the other descendants of George Bathurst, fourth son of Lancelot be-

502

fore mentioned. In his descendants it continued down to Francis Bathurst, esq. who was of Franks, and had four wives, but left issue only by the first of them, Susannah Hubert, of the kingdom of France, one sole daughter, Beronice, who, on her father's death, in 1738, became his sole heir, and carried Franks, with his other estates in this neighbourhood, in marriage, to Mr. Joseph Fletcher, of London; whose only daughter and heir, Susan, carried it in marriage to John Tasker, esq. of Dartford; and he, on her death, in 1757, became sole possessor of this seat, in which he resided. He married, secondly, Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Faunce, esq. of Sutton-at-Hone, but had issue by neither of them. He bore for his arms, Per pale argent, and gules, three saltiers counterchanged; and died in 1796, leaving her surviving, who now possesses this seat, and resides in it.

In the windows of this mansion are painted the arms of Bathurst, with their impalements and quarterings; of the Grocers company; the arms of France and England quarterly; and the crest of Bathurst.

REYNOLD'S-PLACE lies a very small distance eastward from Kirkby-court, and was in antient times the seat of a family of the name of Reynolds, in which it continued down to the reign of Edward IV. when it was passed away by sale to Sir John Browne, lord-mayor of London, in 1480, who bore for his arms, Azure, a chevron or, between three escallops of the second, a bordure engrailed gules.

This Sir John Browne, otherwise called John de Werks, mercer, was son of John Browne of Okeham, in Rutlandshire. He died in 1497, and was buried in St. Margaret's church, in Milk-street, London, leaving by Anne his wife, daughter of Belwood, of Lincoln's-inn, one son and heir, William, likewise lord-mayor of London, and knighted in 1547. He

/r Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 124, 175.

503

died in the year of his mayoralty, having, by his will, bequeathed this seat to his second son, John Browne, esq. who was sheriff of this county in the 10th year of queen Elizabeth, and held his shrievalty at this place; and in the windows of this house, among the remains of much painted glass are the arms and crest of Browne very frequent. In his descendants it continued till, at length, it was passed away by sale, in the reign of king Charles I. to Sir John Jacob, who

was eldest surviving son of Abraham Jacob, esq. of Gamlingay, in Cambridgeshire, and Bromley, in Middlesex.

Sir John Jacob, continuing firm to the king during the troubles of those times, had this estate sequestered, and was otherwise a great sufferer, inasmuch that he was obliged to part with much of his property; though after the restoration of Charles II. he was, in 1664, advanced to the dignity of a baronet, which his descendant, Sir Hildebrand Jacob, possesses at this time; he bore for his arms, Argent, a chevron gules, between three tigers heads, erased proper. Among other estates, he passed away this seat, with the estate belonging to it, to Sir Harbottle Grimstone, bart. whose father, Sir Harbottle Grimstone of Bradfield, in Essex, descended of a family long seated in Yorkshire, had been created a baronet in 1612.<sup>t</sup>

King Charles II. had so just a sense of the merits and endeavours of Sir Harbottle Grimstone, the son, to promote the restoration, that at his return to the throne, he made him of his privy-council, and master of the rolls; before which, as one who meant well to the king, he had been elected speaker of the house of commons.

He sold this estate to Sir John Beal of Farningham, who left two daughters, Jane, married to Sir George

<sup>/s</sup> See Kimber's Bar. vol. ii. p. 310.

<sup>/t</sup> Irish. Peerage, vol. iii. p. 268.

504

Hanger, of Driffield, in Gloucestershire; and Elizabeth, married to William Emmerton, esq. of Chipsted; and on the partition of their inheritance, Reynold's-place, fell to the share of the former. He left two sons, William and Gabriel; the former of whom dying without issue, Gabriel his brother succeeded him in it, and in 1761, was created lord Coleraine of the kingdom of Ireland.<sup>u</sup> He died in 1773, and by his will devised this estate, with others in this neighbourhood, to his second son, the Hon. William Hanger, who, in 1774, having procured an act of parliament for that purpose, conveyed it by sale to Mr.

David Powell, of London, the present possessor of it.

This house was built by one of the Browne's, of the same model as Franks, but much larger. It was greatly damaged by the violent storm which happened November 26, 1703; after which Sir Geo. Hanger pulled most of it down, and left only sufficient for a farm house.

PINDEN is a hamlet in this parish, situated about a mile and a half southward from Horton church. It was formerly of much greater account than it is at present; and in the general survey of Domesday it is thus described, under the general title of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux.

The same Malgerius (de Rokesle) holds in Pinnedene half a suling of the bishop (of Baieux). The arable land is seven oxgangs. There is one plough, with six villeins, and six acres of meadow. It was, and is now worth 16 shillings. Aluret held it of king Edward the Confessor, and could turn himself over wherever he would.

This place has long since been separated into many different estates, insomuch that the continuing a series of the owners of them would afford no entertainment to the reader. After bishop Odo's disgrace, in the reign of the Conqueror, the bishop of Rochester

/u See more of this family under Farningham.

505

seems to have had some property in this estate; for among the lands, contributary towards the repair of Rochester-bridge, the bishop is bound to repair and make the third pier of that bridge, as holding Pinendene, among other lands in these parts./w

#### CHARITIES.

ANTHONY ROPER, esq. gave by will, about the year 1594, to the poor of this parish, at the discretion of his trustees, the rents of certain houses and lands in East Greenwich, vested in the same, the average value of which, for twelve years, has been of the annual produce of 6l. 18s.

ANNE BURREL gave by will, in 1611, to the poor of this parish, a rent charge, issuing out of lands in this parish, vested in Isaac Parry, gent. of Deptford, and of the annual produce of 1l.

THOMAS TERRY of Shoreham, gave by will, in 1628, to the poor belonging to this parish, who do not receive the common alms, a house, barn, garden, outlet, and six acres of land, vested in the vicar and churchwardens, and of the annual produce of 6l.

WM. TURNER of Erith, gave by will, in 1729, to be distributed in bread, to such poor as most usually frequent divine service, and do not receive common alms, a rent charge, out of lands in this parish, vested in the heirs of John Tasker, esq. of the annual product of 2l.

HORTON KIRBY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the deanry of Dartford, and diocese of Rochester. The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is built in the form of a cross, with a spire steeple in the centre of it, in which hangs a peal of five bells.

Among other monuments and inscriptions, in this church, in the chancel are several for the Bathurst family of Franks, in this parish; among them one for Sir Thomas Bathurst, son of Sir Edward, obt. 1688. In the nave, a memorial, with the figures of a man and woman in brass, and these arms, a chevron between three escallops within a bordure engrailed, impaling Bathurst, for John Brown, esq. ob. 1595, æt. 28; on another these arms, two bars lancette, and a chief, the inscrip. lost. In the high chancel is an arched recess in the wall, ornamented with Gothic carved work, and underneath it a tomb, most probably for one of the Ros's, lords of this place, and patrons of this church; most likely if not the

/w Lamb. Peramb. p. 416.

506

founder, yet a good benefactor to it. On the gallery, under the steeple, are the arms of Bathurst and Browne carved in wood; in the south cross were some remains of painted glass, but on the repairing the windows, some years ago, it was wholly removed./x – In the church yard are values for the Taskers and Lanes.

Sir John de Cobham, with the consent of Simon Sudbury, archbishop of Canterbury, in the 1st year of king Richard II. gave the church of Horton to the

master and chaplains of the chantry of Cobham, founded by him, and their successors, /y and procured the appropriation of it to them. The bull of pope Gregory XI. for this purpose, bears date that year, in the 6th year of his pontificate; and this was confirmed by Thomas bishop of Rochester, in 1378, who, by his decree, then endowed the vicarage of this church, saving to himself and his successors, the accustomed pension of one marc per annum due from it, as follows:

That the vicar of it, for the time being, should have of the profits of the church, a competent habitation, in the name of a portion, to be assigned by the bishop; viz. that which the vicars there were accustomed of old to inhabit, with all its rights whatsoever; and that he should have all oblations, made in the church or elsewhere, within the parish, and the obventions and offerings that should be made at the altar of the church; and that the tithes of flax, hemp, milk, butter, cheese, cattle, calves, wool, lambs, geese, ducks, pigs, eggs, wax, honey, apples, pears, pigeons, fisheries of ponds, rivers, lakes, fowling, merchandizing, trade, herbage, pasture and feedings, silva cædua, mills, all the herbage of the church-yard, and all other small tithes whatever, arising within the parish, of whatever sort they be, entirely and wholly, for his, and his vicarage's entire and whole portion

/x See the monuments and inscriptions in this church at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 786.

/y Reg. Roff. p. 431. 3 Rich. II. Tan. Mon. p. 227.

507

for ever, without any deduction or diminution, all which he then taxed at seven marcs. And that the vicar should sustain the burthens, entirely at his own proper costs and expences, of the procurations of the archdeacon, bread, wine, and the necessary repair of the buildings of his vicarage, and all other burthens, ordinary and extraordinary, whatsoever, which the vicars of the church for the time being had been before that time accustomed to undergo and take upon themselves, and which might happen to the church in future, of what sort soever they might be, excepting the reparation of the chancel, and the parsonage of this church, whenever there should be occasion for the same./x

In this state the church of Horton remained till the 31st year of king Henry VIII. when the college of Cobham was dissolved, by the act then passed for the suppression of all abbeys, religious houses, and hospitals, and for giving their lands and possessions to the king; but there was a proviso in it, that nothing contained in it should be prejudicial to George lord Cobham, and his heirs, to whom the king had given licence by his word, to purchase and receive, to him and his heirs for ever, of the late master and brethren of the college or chantry of Cobham, all their hereditaments and possessions. Upon which this church, thus coming into the hands of the lord Cobham, in the 32d year of that reign, he granted to the king the parsonage of Horton, subject to the yearly payments of 13s. 4d. to the bishop of Rochester, and 9s. 6d.

to the archdeacon, together with the church and advowson of it. How long it staid in the crown I know not; but in the reign of queen Elizabeth it was part of the possessions of Lancelot Bathurst, esq. of Franks; after which it continued in the same owners as Franks

/x Reg. Roff. p. 432. Reg. Fisher, fol. 79. Reg. Subd. fol. 12.  
MSS. Lamb. Augm. Off. Box A. 41.

508

till John Tasker, esq. possessor of the parsonage, sold the advowson of this church some years ago to Mr. Thomas Williams of Dartford, and he is the present owner of it; but Mr. Tasker died possessed of the parsonage in 1796, and his widow is now possessed of it.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Horton was valued at thirty marcs, and the vicarage at seven marcs./z

By virtue of the Commission of enquiry, taken in 1650, it was returned, that Horton was a vicarage, with a house, and four acres of glebe land, worth twenty pounds per annum, Mr. Weller Collins enjoying it, and preaching there./a

Horton is a discharged living, in the king's books, of the clear yearly value, as certified, of 39l. 1s. 3d. the yearly tenths being 10s. 9d.

The vicarage has been augmented by the governors of queen Anne's bounty; in consequence of which an estate at Brockhull, in this parish, has been purchased for the benefit of it.

There was a PERPETUAL CHANTRY founded in the parish church of Horton, which was surrendered and given up to the king by the acts of the 37th of king Henry VIII. and the 1st of king Edward VI. By the survey of this chantry, now in the augmentation-office, it appears, that the clear yearly revenues of it were 62s. 8½d. the whole being a yearly annuity of 3l. 6s. 8d. payable from the late monastery of Boxley, which had been paid ever since the dissolution of that house; that there was a rent out of it, payable yearly to the lord of Horton manor, of 3s. 11½d. that the founder of the chantry was not known, but the profits and annuity above mentioned had been employed to find a priest, to celebrate divine

/z Stev. Mon. vol. p. 456.

/a Parl. Surveys, Lamb. lib. vol. xix. Bacon's Lib. Regis.

509

service in the parish church of Horton for ever. This rent was sold by Sir Walter Mildmay, one of the general surveyors of the court of augmentation; and Robert Kelway, esq. by virtue of a commission under the great seal, anno 2 king Edward VI. to Thomas Frend./b

CHURCH OF HORTON KIRKBY.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented.      VICARS.

Baldwin de Caundell, anno 25th  
Edward I./c  
John Alchin, in 1589./d

John Gerry, in 1557./e  
Christonher Dale, B. D. Feb. 15,  
1627./f  
Francis Cornwall, February 19,  
1627./h  
Weller Collins, 1650.  
Thomas Grei, 1690./i  
John Goheir, 1691./k  
Francis Bathurst, esq. William Hopkins, 1698, ob. Oct.  
1, 1742/l.  
Lord Bathurst./m Vincent Hotchkys, induct. April  
15, 1743, Obt. Nov. 1763./n  
John Tasker, esq. Edmund Faunce, A. M. induct.  
Mar. 16, 1764, resig. 1770./o  
Mr. Thomas Williams. Richard Williams, 1770. Pre=  
sent vicar.  
/b Augm. Off. Surv. of Chantries.  
/c Prynne, p. 710.  
/d And rector of Nutsted. Custom.  
Roff. p. 38.  
/e Reg. Roff. p. 588.  
/f Rym. Fœd. vol. xvii. p. 998.  
There are only three days between  
the dates of this and the following  
presentation, which are both alike,  
are said to belong to the king, for that  
turn, by lapse.  
/h He was rector of High Halstow,  
and on Aug. 30, 1628, a dispensation  
passed for his holding Hoo with it.  
/i Horton Register.  
/k Ibid.  
/l He lies buried in this church-  
yard.  
/m He purchased this turn of pre=  
sentation.  
/n He lies buried in this church.  
/o Also vicar of Sutton at-Hone.

510

---

#### FARNINGHAM

LIES the next parish southward from Horton.  
It is called in Domesday, Ferlingeham and Ferninge=  
ham; and afterwards, in antient deeds and writings,  
Fremingham; which signifies a village near the running  
stream.

The high road from London through Footscray, to=  
wards Wrotham and Maidstone, crosses this parish east=  
ward, along which it extends near five miles, the average  
breadth is about a mile and a quarter; the river Da=  
rent meanders its silver stream across the parish north=  
ward, in the midst of a valley of fertile meadows, whence  
the hills rise both towards the east and west. As you  
approach it from these hills on either side, it forms  
the most beautiful and picturesque landscape that can be  
imagined. The village of Farningham is situated on  
each side of the above road, in the midst of the valley  
close to the Darent, over which here is a handsome  
brick bridge of four arches, built within these few  
years at the public charge of the county; the former

one being found insufficient for so large a thoroughfare. Near it the river turns a corn mill, built on a most expensive mechanical construction; not far from it stands the mansion, now belonging to Mr. Fuller, and a little beyond it the church and vicarage, with other genteel houses interspersed throughout it, and two capital inns, forming altogether a situation remarkably healthy and pleasant, and exceedingly convenient for its accommodations in every respect. On the western hill, adjoining the high road, is Petham place, and on the opposite on the house of Chartons and Chimbhams farm; on the same hill to the northward is Eglantine, and on the hill opposite to it the estate called the Folly. The parish of Eynsford to the southward comes up very near the back of the village. There are about four

511

thousand acres of land in this parish, of which one hundred and forty are wood; eighty acres very fertile meadow, and the rest arable. The soil is chiefly chalk, excepting near Kingsdown, where it is a strong heavy tillage land, of which kind is the land of Petham-place farm likewise, only not so much covered with flint stones.

The liberty of the duchy of Lancaster claims over this parish./p

In the year 1728 there was a slight shock of an earthquake felt in these parts, at which time a piece of ground in a meadow in Farningham fell in, so as to leave a pit eight or ten feet over, and near as deep, and being on a level with the river it was soon filled with water, within three or four feet of the top. This piece of ground was so sound before as to bear carriages over it./q

GERARDE says, *perfoliata vulgaris*, or common throw waxe, grows so plentifully in the fields, on the top of the hills here, as to become a nuisance to the cultivation of them, and that *Rhamnus solutivus*, or Buckthorne, grows much on the waste grounds about this place./r

ARCHBISHOP ALPHEGE, in the year 1010, gave Farningham to Christ-church, in Canterbury, for the cloathing of the monks there; and endowed it with the same liberties and privileges as their manor of Middleton was endowed with, which is expressed by the letters L. S. M. *Libere Sicut Middleton*; though in *Dugdale*, vol. i. p. 21, it is L. S. A. *Libere Sicut Adisham*, which was the most usual expression in grants to Christ-church within this county./s

In the reign of William the Conqueror, *Ansgotus de Ros* held this estate of the archbishop by knights

/p *Kilb. Surv.* p. 360.

/q *Phil. Trans.* vol. xxxv.

No. 399.

/r *Johnson's Gerarde's Herb.*

p. 526, 1337.

/s *Somn. Cant. appen.* p. 39.

512

service, and the monks of Christ-church received only an annual ferm of four pounds out of it, towards their cloathing.

Accordingly it is thus entered in Domesday, under the title of Terra Militum Archiepi; that is, lands held by knights service of the archbishop:

Ansgotus (de Ros) holds of the archbishop Ferninge=ham. It was taxed at 1 suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there are 2 carucates, and 13 vil=leins, with 5 borderers, having 3 carucates and an half. There are 6 acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of 20 hogs, and Richard de Tonebrige has as much of the said wood in his lowy. In the time of king Edward the Confessor this manor was worth 7 pounds, and now 11 pounds; of these the monks of Canterbury have 4 pounds, towards their cloathing.

Besides the before-mentioned estate, Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, was possessed of considerable ones in this parish; which are entered in the survey of Domesday, under the general title of his lands, as follows:

Malgerius (de Rokesle) holds (of the bishop of Baieux) 2 yoke of land in Ferlingeham. The arable land is 3 oxgangs. There are 2 oxen, with 1 borderer, and 2 acres of meadow. It was, and is now worth 15 shil=lings. Brunesune held it, and could turn himself over, with his land, where he pleased.

And soon after thus:

Wadard holds of the bishop (of Baieux) half a suling in Ferningham. The arable land is three carucates. In demesne there are 2 carucates, with 1 villein, and 2 cottagers, and 5 servants. There is the half of a mill of 5 shillings value, 4 acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of 5 hogs. Besides this half suling, Wadard holds half a yoke in the same parish, which was never taxed to the king. In the whole it was worth 4 pounds, and now 6 pounds. Estan held it of king Edward the Confessor, and could turn himself over wherever he pleased.

513

And afterwards, under the same title,

Ernulf de Hesding holds Ferningham. It was taxed for three yoke. The arable land is 2 carucates. There are now 6 oxgangs, with 2 villeins, and 3 borderers. There is 1 mill of 10 shillings value, and 8 acres of meadow. Pasture for 100 sheep, wood for the pannage of 10 hogs, and 14 pence. The king has of the wood of this manor as much as is worth 8 shillings. The whole manor was worth 3 pounds, and now 40 shillings. Dering held it, and could turn himself over wherever he pleased.

The estate before-mentioned held of the archbishop by Ansgotus de Ros, seems to have been that which is now called Chartons, and the others held of the bishop of Baieux that which was afterwards stiled

THE MANOR OF FARNINGHAM, which on the disgrace of the bishop of Baieux, was by king William confiscated with the rest of his possessions; after which great part of them in this parish, as will be seen hereafter, were granted to William de Arsick, and together with others made up the barony of Arsick, being held as of the castle of Dover in capite, by barony. Of him those before-mentioned

in this parish were again held under the notion of one knight's fee, by the family of Ros; one of whom, Jordan de Ros, anno 2 king John, gave forty marcs to the king, to have seisin of the land of Lullingston and Farningham, of which he was evicted by his nephew, whose father never had been possessed of it, but died before his eldest brother, who had seisin, and to whom Jordan succeeded in his inheritance. In the next reign of king Edward I. Alicia de Ros held three quarters of one knight's fee, in Farningham, in dower of Richard de Ros, and he of the heirs of Robert Ar-sick, and he of the king; and William de Ros then held one quarter of a fee here of the said Alicia, and she of the heirs of Robert de Arsic as aforesaid./t

/t Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

514

Of the Ros's this estate, which seems then to have been esteemed as a moiety of the manor of Farningham, was again held by a family called De Ifield, as it was soon afterwards by another, who took the name of De Fremingham, from their possession of this place. Ralph de Fremingham obtained a weekly market on a Tuesday, and a fair yearly, to continue for four days, the vigil, the day of St. Peter, and two days after; and the grant of free warren to this manor, in the 55th year of king Henry III. He left a son John, and a daughter Joane, married to Roger Isley; which John de Fremingham held it in the reign of king Edward II. in which he was sheriff of this country several times. His son, by Agnes Stafford his wife, was Sir Ralph de Fremingham, who held this manor in the 20th year of king Edward III. when he paid aid for it as three parts of one knight's fee, which John de Ifield before held in Farningham, at which time he paid a further aid for one-fourth part of one knight's fee, which he likewise held in this place. He was sheriff of Kent in the 32d year of king Edward III. and died next year. His son, John de Fremingham, was of Lose, in this county, and was sheriff in the 2d and 17th years of king Richard II. He had the grant of this manor made to his ancestor confirmed in the 7th and 18th years of that reign./u He was sheriff of London anno 3 king Henry IV. and bore for his arms, Argent, a fess gules, between 3 Cornish choughs proper,/w which arms are still remaining on the roof of the cloysters at Canterbury. He died in the 13th year of king Henry IV. and left by his will lands, to find two chaplains to celebrate at the altar of St. Stephen, in the monastery of Boxley; before which altar John Fremingham, of Lose, was afterwards buried; and where Alice his wife, Sir Ralph his fa-ther, and the lady Katherine his mother, then lay buried. Leaving no issue by Alice his wife, this ma=

/u Philipott, p. 151.

/w Strype's Stow's Survey, Book v. p. 116.

515

nor came to Roger Isley, of Sundridge, whose de-scendant, Thomas Isley, of that place, died possessed of it in anno 11 king Henry VIII./x when it was found to be held of Dover-castle, by castle-guard rent, and was esteemed as one knight's fee. He was succeeded

in the possession of it by his son, Sir Henry Isley, who, by the act of the 2d and 3d of king Edward VI. procured his lands in this county to be disgavelled.

Being concerned in the rebellion raised by Sir Thomas Wyatt, in the first year of queen Mary, he was then attainted, and executed at Sevenoke, and his lands were confiscated to the crown./y Queen Mary, by her letters patent, anno 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, for one thousand pounds granted to William Isley, esq. and his heirs, all the manors and lands then remaining in her hands, and which came to her by the attainer of his father, Sir Henry Isley, among which premises were Freningham Upper and Lower Court, and the moiety of the manor of the Charton in Freningham,/z and he, by deed enrolled in chancery, passed away the above-mentioned estates, in exchange, to William Roper, esq. of Eltham, who bequeathed them, with Petham-place, and other lands in these parts, to his younger son, Sir Anthony Roper, of Farningham. He married Anne, daughter of Sir John Cotton, of Lanwade, in Cambridgeshire, and dying in 1597, was buried in this church.

It appears that a very singular complaint was exhibited in the Star Chamber anno 1636, 10 Charles I. by John Philipott, esq. against this Sir Anthony Roper, for, that he being possessed in fee of several farm-houses here, whereto a great store of land was commonly used in village, and several ploughs kept and maintained thereon, took all the said farms into his own occupation, and converted all the lands into pasture, and de=

/x Rot. Esch. See more of the Isleys under Sundridge.

/y Philipott, p. 151.

/z MSS. penes Dom. Dacre.

516

populated and pulled down three of the farm houses, and suffered the other two to run to ruin, and lie uninhabited, although he might have had as great, and greater rents for them, than he had before; and that he had pulled down, and suffered to go to decay, and be uninhabited, a water corn-mill here, which before used to grind store of corn weekly; in all which he had had respect merely to his own interest, without any regard to the good of his king and country; as from each of the said farms fifty quarters of wheat, besides other grain, used yearly to be sent to London; many poor men and women used to be employed; twenty men fit for the king's service; several carts for the carrying of timber for the royal navy, &c. That one of the farms, Petham-place, was a great defence and succour for travellers, who passed that way; which, since the above, had been a harbour for thieves, and many robberies had been there committed. Which depopulation being clearly proved, their lordships told him he was a great offender, and fit to be severely punished; for that it was a growing evil, and had already spread itself into many parts of the kingdom, which, if not prevented, might grow very prejudicial and dangerous to the state and commonwealth. They therefore sentenced him to pay a fine of four thousand pounds to the king, and stand committed to the Fleet; that he

should acknowledge his offence in open court at the next assizes for the county; and the decree to be there publicly read, as a forewarning to others. That he should pay one hundred pounds to the prosecutor, whom they much commended for his care and diligence in this affair, besides his costs of suit. To the minister of Farningham one hundred pounds, and the like sum to the poor there, in recompence of what they must have suffered by the above; and lastly, he was ordered, within two years, to repair and build again all the farm-houses, with their out-house, and the corn-mill, and make them fit for habitation and

517

use, as formerly; and to restore the lands formerly used with them, being upwards of six hundred acres of land, to the said farm-houses, and let the same at such reasonable rents as the county would afford./a

But to return, Sir Anthony Roper was succeeded by Anthony, his eldest son, who was afterwards knighted at the coronation of king James I. He devised his estates in Farningham, by his will, to Sir John Cotton, of Lanwade, in trust, to be sold for the payment of his debts, and other uses, though Mr. Henry Roper, (the only surviving brother of Sir Anthony) commenced a suit at law with Sir John Cotton, for the possession of them; but on a trial, the jury gave their verdict in favour of the latter. Sir John Cotton passed away Farningham manor, in which Upper and Nether Court, which latter stood on the scite where Mr. William Hanger built his new house, on the north side the road, opposite the present seat, late Fullertons, were included, to Sir John Beale, who had been created a baronet in 1660, and had been sheriff of this county in 1665. He bore for his arms, Sable, on a chevron or, between three griffins heads erased argent, three stars of six points gules. He was of a merchant's family in London, and had first settled at Maidstone, whence he removed hither, and dying in 1684, lies buried here, leaving, by Jane his wife, two daughters and coheirs; of whom Jane married Sir George Hanger, of Driffield, in Gloucestershire; and Elizabeth married William Emmerton, esq. of Chipsted, and on the partition of their inheritance, this manor fell to the share of the former.

His son, William Hanger, new built the manor-house on the old scite, which was burnt down in 1740, before it was quite finished, and it has not since been rebuilt. Upon which he purchased, of John Fullerton, esq. the seat opposite to it, on the south side of

/a See Rushw. Coll. vol. ii. p. 270, vol. iii. append. p. 106.

518

the road, for his residence, and died without issue and intestate, whereby this seat and estate came to his brother, Gabriel Hanger, esq. of Driffield, in Gloucestershire, who, in 1761, was created baron of Colraine, in the kingdom of Ireland. He died in 1773, leaving by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Richard Bond, of Hereford, several children.

He devised his estates in this county to his second son, the Hon. William Hanger, with divers remain-

ders over; who, in 1774, having procured an act of parliament for that purpose, sold Upper Court, with a parcel of the demesne lands lying eastward of the scite of Nether Court, called Court Gardens, as he soon afterwards did the seat before-mentioned, with the reputed manor of Farningham, (there having been no court held for a great number of years past) to Mr. Thomas Fuller, who is the present possessor of them.

Sir John Hinde Cotton, bart. a direct descendant of Sir John Cotton, who was trustee for Roper, some years ago, on the pretence that the manor itself was not conveyed by his ancestor to Hanger, claimed the royalty and pound of Farningham; but on its being left to the arbitration of council, they determined it in favor of Hanger; whose heirs and assigns have ever since enjoyed the reputation of it.

CHARTONS is a reputed manor in this parish, which was antiently called Farningham parva, and seems to have been once esteemed as a moiety of the manor of Farningham.

This estate was held, at the time of the survey of Domesday, by Ansgotus de Ros, of the archbishop of Canterbury. From this family it went into the name of Ceriton, alias Charton, who probably might fix their own name on it. In the 20th year of king Edward III. Waleran de Ceriton held one knight's fee in Farningham, of the archbishop, and accordingly paid aid for it as such that year, soon after which this manor seems to have been separated into moieties, one of

519

which, called Chartons, alias Farningham Parva, being possessed by the Freminghams, was given, by the will of John de Fremingham, who died anno 13 king Henry IV. to Roger Isley, who left two sons, John, who died without issue, and William, who succeeded to the possession of this moiety of Chartons, of which he died possessed in the 4th year of king Edward IV. as appears by the inquisition taken that year, when it was found, that he held this moiety of Chartons, which was worth five marcs beyond all reprises, of the prior of Christ-church, in Canterbury, by service and rent in lieu of all services. From him this moiety descended in the same tract of ownership that Farningham manor did, to Sir Anthony Roper, the son; who, by his last will, gave it, with his other estates in Farningham, to Sir John Cotton, of Cambridgeshire, in trust for the payment of his debts, and other uses. He conveyed this estate to Mr. Benjamin Cracker, whose two sons, Benjamin and Joseph, parted this moiety of Chartons between them.

Benjamin had allotted to him the mansion-house of Chartons, which stands on the hill about a quarter of a mile eastward from the village of Farningham, with half the land nearest to it; and Joseph had for his share the farm called Eglantine, and that part of the land lying in the village near the river.

Joseph Cracker, on his decease, was succeeded in this seat and estate belonging to it, by his eldest son, Mr. Benjamin Cracker, attorney-at-law, who died possessed of it in 1770; upon which it came, by virtue of a family settlement, to his nephew, Mr. Cabbinell, whose son in 1784 alienated it to Mr. Joseph Coxe, of

this parish, yeoman, whose widow is the present owner of it.

As to the other half of this moiety, Mr. Benjamin Cracker, brother of Joseph, soon after the above division, built on part of it a good seat in the village of Farningham, adjoining to the bridge there, which he

520

afterwards sold, together with Eglantine, and the rest of his lands in this parish, to John Fullerton, esq. who about 1742 alienated the seat, with the land adjoining to it, to William Hanger, esq. The trustees of whose nephew the honourable William Hanger, in 1774, conveyed it with his other estates in this parish in manner as before-mentioned, to Mr. Thomas Fuller, the present owner of it. Charles Milner, esq. who married Harriet, the youngest daughter of Sir John Dyke, bart. is the present occupier of this seat.

The remaining part of this estate, consisting of Eglantine farm, the Folly, and other lands adjoining to it, together with the lease of the parsonage, was sold by John Fullerton, in 1756, to Bourchier Cleeve, esq. of Fooths Cray-place, who died possessed of it in 1760, leaving an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married to Sir George Yonge, bart. late of Escott, in Devonshire, whose trustees are at present possessed of these estates.

As to the other moiety of the manor of Chartons, alias Farningham Parva, much of the land belonging to which seems to lie to the north of Farningham, between Eglantine-farm and Franks. I find, by the register of Christ-church, Canterbury, that Henry de Scheneholt was bound to the prior of Christ-church in an annual rent, for a moiety of the manor of Freningham Parva, which was once Sir Walter de Ceritone's; which moiety was, sometime afterwards, held by Robert, son of Sir Robert de Scotho. After which this estate came into the possession of the family of Groveherst; one of whom, Richard Groveherst, dying in the reign of king Henry IV. without male issue, his three daughters, married to Richard Hextall, Richard Tickhill, and John Petit, became his heirs; and they, in right of their respective wives, became entitled to it; and in the beginning of king Henry VI's reign, conveyed their moiety to John Martin; whose descendant, Edward Martin, sold it, with Franks, in Horton Kirk=

521

by, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, to Lancelot Bathurst, alderman of London. Since which it has had the same owners that Franks has, and as such, became the property of John Tasker, esq. of Franks, b. who died in 1796, and his widow is now possessed of it.

PETHAM, or PEDHAM-PLACE, as it is sometimes spelt, is situated about half a mile westward from Farningham, on the south side of the high road leading from thence to London. It was once the estate of a family of that name; one of whom, William Petham, died in 1517, possessed of this place, and Petham-court, which, though in Eynsford parish, lies adjoining to it. It afterwards came into the possession of the Isleys; from whom it passed by sale to the Ropers; and thence again, by the will of Sir Anthony Roper,

to Sir John Cotton; who conveyed it to Sir Edward Bathurst, of Franks, in Horton Kirkby. After which it descended, in the same manner as that seat, to John Tasker, esq. who, in 1766, conveyed this, with other estates in this neighbourhood, to John Calcraft, esq. of Ingress, who at his death, in 1772, devised it, by his will, to his son, John Calcraft, who sold it to Sir John Dyke, bart. the present owner of it.

CHIMBHAMS, vulgarly called Chimmans, is another manor, situated at the eastern bounds of this parish, next to Kingsdown. It antiently gave name to a family, who were owners of it in the reign of Henry III. John de Chymbeham held this place of Alexander de Easthall; and his descendant, Laurence de Chymbeham, paid aid for it, in the 20th year of Edward III. After which it came into the possession of the Freminghams; from whom it passed to Isley, in the same manner as their other estates in this parish did. In which family this manor remained, till the reign of king Henry VII./c when Thomas Isley, esq. passed it away by sale to Thomas Sibill, esq. who died possessed of it

/b See Franks, p. 500. /c Philipott, p. 151.

522

in 1519, and lies buried in this church. His descendant, Nicholas Sibell, died possessed of it in the 1st year of King Edward VI. holding it of the king, as of the honour of Otford, by knights service, Thomas Sibell being his son and heir./d From this name the manor of Chimbhams went, by a female heir in marriage, to Hide; who in King Charles I's reign, sold it to Mr. James Bunce, alderman of London, afterwards knighted by King Charles II. and his direct descendant, James Bunce, esq. of Kemsing, in this county, sold it a few years ago to Mr. Whitaker, of Wrotham, who left it to his nephew John Cooper, of Riverhead, whose widow is the present possessor of it.

William Fitzhelt, in 1143, anno 9 King Stephen, gave to the monks of St. Saviour's, in Bermondsey, the mill of Frenynham; which was afterwards, in 1224, let to John Scot, for ever, at the yearly rent of forty shillings and six-pence./e This corn mill is now the property of Mr. Henry Colyer, who occupies it himself.

#### CHARITIES.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave certain lands and tenements in East Greenwich and Eynsford, the rents to be distributed among the poor of this parish, who do not receive alms regularly of it; these in the former parish consist of marsh land and a moiety of seven houses, being of 19*l.* clear yearly produce upon an average of twelve years, that in the latter being a mark yearly, payable out of an estate belonging to Sir John Dyke, bart, annual produce 13*s.* 4*d.*

HENRY FAREBRACE, vicar of this parish gave by his will, in 1601, to the poor of it, 10*s.* yearly for ever.

FARNINGHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and being a peculiar of the archbishop, it is as such in the deanry of Shoreham. The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, consists of one isle and a chancel, with a tower at the west end, in which there is a good

/d Rot. Esch. ejus an.  
/e Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 640.

523

ring of five bells. Near the west end stands an antient octagon stone font, with emblematical figures carved in each copartment; seven of these seem to represent the seven sacraments of the church of Rome; but the whole has been lately so daubed over with thick paint, that the beauty of it is entirely ruined./

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, in the chancel is a grave stone, with the figure of a man and inscription in brass, for Sir William Gylborne, vicar, ob. July 15, 1451; another like for Henry Farebrace, A. M. rector of Itham, and vicar of Farningham, a benefactor by his will to the poor of both parishes, obt. Feb. 21, 1601. A gravestone for John Pendleberry, thirty-five years vicar here, obt. Dec. 19, 1719, æt. 66. A memorial for Elizabeth, daughter of William Emmerton, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir John Beale, bart. obt. 1689; above, on a bend, three lions passant; another for lady Jane Beale, obt. 1676; another for Sir John Beale, bart. obt. 1684. On the north wall are the figures of a man, his wife, three sons, and two daughters; over him a shield, parted per fess azure and argent, a pale counterchanged, three roebucks heads erased or; over her, sable a chevron, between three griffins heads erased argent; then others with different quarterings of Roper, for Anthony Roper; on this monument has been another inscription, but now wholly defaced, and there are yet remainning the arms and quarterings of Cotton, but so high and small that they are not perceptible. In the nave, a stone with the figure of a woman, in brass, for Alice Taillon, obt. 1514; another with the figures of a man and woman, in brass, and an inscription, the four shields of arms are gone, for T. Sibill, esq. and Agnes his wife; he died in 1519; another with the figure of a man (that of the woman is lost) and inscription in brass for William Petham and Alice his wife; he died in 1517. In the north window, next the pulpit, is the following imperfect inscription, *Orate pro animabus ..... Sybbely, uxoris ejus.* In the church yard is a costly mausoleum, erected by Thomas Nash, esq. merchant and citizen of London, who died at Paris in 1778, and whose remains are, with others of his family, deposited in it.

This church seems to have been given, in 1010, to the church of Canterbury, by archbishop Elphege.

In the year 1185, anno 32 king Henry II. pope Urban III. confirmed six pounds rent out of Farning-

/f See an engraving and particular description of this font in Custumal. Roff. p. 110.

524

ham, and the tythes of the manor to Christ-church, Canterbury./g Stephen Langton, archbishop in 1225, confirmed and appropriated this church to the almonry of that priory,/h by a decree, in consequence, of a dispute which had arisen, whether the church of Farningham was a chapel of the church of Eynsford, or not?

By this decree, which was made with the consent of all parties, the archbishop ordained, that the rector of Eynsford, and his successors, should possess the church of Eynsford entirely, with all its tythes, great and small, &c. as he did before; and that the almoner of Christ-

church, and not the monks, (who affirmed, that by a decree of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, the third part of the great tythes of the church of Farningham, of allowed right, belonged to them, as this church was a chapel to the church of Eynsford), should have and possess, to the use of their almonry, the chapel of Farningham, exception the vicarage, which consisted of all the small tythes of the chapel, as well as of oblations, lands, rents, and all other things belonging to it; but that the monks should only have the tythes of corn, and of the other produce of the fields, and the messuage in the east part of the garden, which contained six days works and a half of land, from which, however, they were to pay the vicar one hundred shillings yearly; and that the rector of Eynsford should, on a vacancy, present to the vicarage of that church, and that further than this, neither should intermeddle, or claim a further right in the above premises. This decree was the next year confirmed by pope Gregory IX. in the first year of his pontificate.

After which, there were several compositions entered into between the prior and the vicar of this parish, and

/g Regist. of Christ-church,  
Canterbury.

/h Somn. Cant. append. p. 41.

525

the portion assigned to the latter was ratified by John archbishop of Canterbury in 1348./i

The church of Farningham continued appropriated to the almonry of Christ-church till the dissolution of that priory, in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was, together with the vicarage of it, among the rest of the possessions of the priory, surrendered into the king's hands, and he, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, settled this church and vicarage on his new-erected dean and chapter there, part of whose possessions the rectory still remains; but the advowson came soon afterwards into the possession of the archbishop of Canterbury, in whose patronage it now continues.

In the year 1384, anno 8 king Richard II. this church was valued at ten pounds, and the vicarage at 66s. 8d. In 1622 there was a decree of the court of exchequer in favour of the dean and chapter against Sir Anthony Roper, for a pension of twelve pounds per annum, issuing out of the manor of Chartons./k

In the survey of the possessions of the late dean and chapter of Canterbury, in 1650, it was re-turned, that in Farningham there was a parsonage, or rectory, consisting of a small dwelling-house, a large barn, and other out offices, a little orchard, and two closes of arable, containing seven acres; which, with the tythe of corn and other profits, was worth one hundred pounds coibs annis. All which were let by the dean and chapter, anno 16 king Charles I. for twenty-one years, to Richard Bailey, at the rent of two pounds to the dean and chapter, and of five marcs, or 3l. 6s. 8d. one quarter of wheat, and one quarter of barley, to the vicar; and the lessee was likewise bounds to provide

/i Archives of the dean and  
chapter of Canterbury among  
which is a schedule of the

boundaries between the parishes of Eynesford and Farningham. See Ducarel's Rep. edit. ii. p. 179.

/k A copy of it is among the charters miscellaneous in Lamb. libr. vol. vi.

526

entertainment for the dean and his officers for one day, or pay twenty shillings yearly. The lease of this rectory, or parsonage, was some time ago, in the possession of Robert Thorpe, who died in 1730, and lies buried in a vault in the chancel of this church. It afterwards came into the hands of John Fullerton, esq. who, in 1756, sold his interest in it, with lands in this parish, to Bourchier Cleeve, esq. whose only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, carried it in marriage to Sir George Yonge, bart. late of Escott, in Devonshire, whose trustees are now in the possession of it.

By virtue of the commission of enquiry, made in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Farningham was a vicarage, with a house, and nine acres of glebe land, worth forty pounds per annum, master Browne enjoying it, and preaching here./l

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 9l. 5s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 18s. 7d./m

#### CHURCH OF FARNINGHAM.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Wm. Gilborne, ob. July 15, 1451./n  
Prior and Convent of Christ-church ..... presented in 1464.  
Archbishop of Canterbury Henry Farebrace, A. M. obt.

Feb. 21, 1601./o  
Thomas Browne, 1684.  
John Pendleberry, 1684, obt.  
Dec. 9, 1719./p  
..... Fuller, 1723, ob. Jan. 1738.  
John Andrews, A. M. 1744.  
John Perry, D. D. 1754, obt.  
1768./q  
John Saunders, 1768. Present  
vicar./r

/l Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-library,  
vol. xix.

/m Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/n He lies buried in the chancel of  
this church.

/o He lies buried in the chancel. He  
was before rector of Ightham; to the  
poor of which parish, as well as of  
Farningham, he was a benefactor. He  
resigned Ightham for Halsted.

/p He lies buried in the chancel of  
this church.

/q Also rector of Ash near Wrotham.

/r Also vicar of Newington by Sitingborne; and a six preacher of  
Canterbury cathedral.

527

---

EYNSFORD.

SOUTHWARD from Farningham lies Eynsford, sometimes written Aynsford, so named from a noted ford here over the river Darent.

THIS PARISH extends about four miles from east to west, and about three miles from north to south; on the north side it reaches almost up to the village of Farningham, near to which stood the antient mansion of Sibell's; and towards the west, over the hills, by Wested-farm and the obscure and little known hamlet of Crockenhill, both within its bounds, among a quantity of woodlands. The soil is in general chalky, except towards the west, where there is some strong heavy land. The village of Eynsford, through the eastern part of which the high road leads from Dartford through Farningham, and hence towards Sevenoke, is situated near the south-west bounds of the parish, in the valley on the banks of the Darent; over it there is a bridge here, repaired at the public charge of the county. At the north end of the village, near the river, are the remains of Eynsford castle,<sup>/s</sup> and at the south end of it the church; beyond which this parish extends southward, on the chalk hills, a mile and an half; where, near the boundaries of it, is Aston lodge.

THIS PLACE was given to Christ church, in. Canterbury, in the time of archbishop Dunstan, who came to the see in 950, by a certain rich man, named *Ælphege*; after whose death one Leofsune, who had married the widow of Eadric, Elphege's nephew, retained this land as his own, notwithstanding this devise of it. Upon which the trial of it was appointed

<sup>/s</sup> See an engraving of the remains of this castle, in Custumale Roffense.

528

at *Ærhede*, before Uulsi, the priest scir-man, or judge of the county, in presence of archbishop Dunstan, the parties themselves, the bishops of London and Ro-chester, and a multitude of lay people; and there, in the presence of the whole assembly, the archbishop ta-king the cross in his hand, made his oath upon the book of the ecclesiastical laws to the scir-man, who then took it to the king's use, as Leofsune himself refused to receive it, that the right use of these lands was to Christ church; and as a farther confirmation of it to future times, it had the ratification of a thousand of the choicest men out of Suthex, Westsex, Middlesex, and Eastsex, who took their oaths also on the cross to the truth of it after him.<sup>/t</sup>

At the time of taking the general survey of Domes-day, Eynesford was held of the archbishop of Canterbury, by knight's service, and accordingly it is thus entered, under the general title of *Terra Militum Ar-chiepi*, in that record.

Ralph Fitz Unspac holds Ensford of the archbishop. It was taxed at six suling. The arable land is . . . . . In demesne there are five carucates and 29 villeins, with nine borders, having 15 carucates. There are 2 churches and nine servants, and two mills of 43 shillings, and 29

acres of meadow; wood for the pannage of 20 hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth 16 pounds, and now it is worth 20 pounds. — Of this manor Richard de Tonebridge holds as much wood as 20 hogs may go out from, and one mill of five shillings, and one fishery in this lowy.

In the reign of king Henry II. a family of the name of Eynsford was in the possession of this place, one of whom, William de Eynesford, was sheriff of London in that reign./u They bore for their arms, A

/t See Crayford, p. 268.

/u In the reign of king Henry II. William de Eynesford was sheriff of London. Strype's Stow's Survey, b. v. p. 369.

529

fretty ermine, which coat is carved on the roof of the cloisters, at Canterbury. William de Eynesford, whether the same as above mentioned does not appear, held the MANOR and CASTLE of Eynsford of the archbishop, at which time archbishop Becket, having given the church of Eynsford to one Laurence, William de Eynesford dispossessed him of it, for which he was excommunicated by the archbishop, which offended the king exceedingly;/w another of the same name possessed this manor and castle in the 12th and 13th years of king John./x In the reign of king Edward I. this estate was become the property of the family of Criol, in the 21st year of which, as appears by the Tower records, John de Criol and Ralph de Sandwich claimed the privileges of a manor here; Nicholas de Criol, a descendant of this John, died possessed of it, anno 3 king Richard II./y after which it passed by sale to the Zouches, of Harringworth. William Zouche died possessed of it in the 5th year of that reign, and left three sons, Sir William le Zouche of Braunfield, Edmund, and Thomas; which last had this castle and manor, of which he was possessed at his death, anno 6 king Henry IV./z After which it passed into the name of Chaworth; and Elizabeth, wife of William Chaworth, was found to die possessed of it in the 17th year of king Henry VII. Soon after which, it was conveyed by sale to Sir Percival Hart, of the body of Henry VIII. His son, Sir George Hart, died anno 22 queen Elizabeth possessed of this castle and manor, with the mill, called Garsmill, holding them of the king, as of his manor of Otford, by knights service;/a since which they have descended in the same manner that Lullingstone has, to Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. the present possessor of them.

/w Dec. Script. col. 711.

/x Lib. Rub. Scacc.

/y Rot. Esch.

/z Ib. and Dugd. Bar. vol. i.

p. 691.

/a Rot. Esch. ejus an.

530

There are large ruins still remaining of Eynsford castle. The walls, which are built of squared flint, are near four feet thick, being entire for near forty feet in height. The circuit of these walls are of a very

irregular form, and contain about three quarters of an acre of ground, in the middle of them is a strong keep or dungeon. It stands at a small distance eastward from the river Darent, between which and the castle, as well as for the same space about it, there is much rubbish and foundations of buildings, and there are remains of a broad moat round it, now quite dry.

Many lands in Eynsford are held of this manor by annual quit rents. A constable is chosen at the court leet, held for it, for the liberty of Eynsford, which extends over the parish of Eynsford, and great part of the south side of Farningham-street.

SOUTH-COURT is a manor here, which was anti-ently part of the estate of the family of Eynesford, al-ready mentioned, and was formerly parcel of Eyns-ford-castle. John de St. Clere possessed this manor in the 20th year of king Edward III. at which time he paid aid for it. In the reign of king Henry VII. it was come into the name of Dinham; and John Dinham died possessed of the manor of South-court, with its appurtenances, in Eynsford, which he held of the archibishop, as of his manor of Otford, by knights service, in the 17th of king Henry VIII./b From Dinham it passed by sale to Sir Thomas Wyatt of Allington-castle, from which family it was sold to Hart; and Sir John Hart, son and heir of Sir Per-cival Hart, knight of the body to king Henry VIII./c died possessed of it in the 22d year of queen Eliza-beth, holding it of the queen, as of her manor of Ot-ford, by knight service.

Since this unity of possession, the style of these ma-nors has been, the castle and manor of Eynsford cum

/b Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 691. /c Rot. Esch. ejus. an.

531

Southcourt; by which title they have descended, in the same manor as Lullingstone, to Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. the present possessor of them.

The MANOR of ORKESDEN, the mansion of which is now called, by corruption, ASTON-LODGE, was antiently possessed by a family, who took their sur-name from their residence here. William de Orkes-den, in the 12th and 13th years of king John's reign held half a knight's fee in Eynsford, by knight's ser-vice of the archbishop. He was one of the Recogni-tores Magnæ Assisæ, or justices of the Great Assize./d

In the reign of king Edward III. Reginald de Cob-ham was become possessed of this manor; in the 14th year of which he obtained a charter of free warren in all the demesne lands within his lordship of Orkes-den; and in the next year he obtained licence to cas-tellate his house here. He was son of Reginald de Cobham, who was son of John de Cobham of Cob-ham, by his second wife, Joane, daughter of Hugh de Nevill./e

This Reginald de Cobham was a great warrior; and in the 18th year of king Edward III. was con-stituted admiral of the king's fleet, from the Thames mouth westward. In the 20th of king Edward III. he paid aid for one quarter of a fee in Orkesden, which he held of William de Eynesford, as of his manor of Eynsford. He died of the pestilence in the 35th year

of that reign possessed of this manor, leaving Reginald his son and heir, and Joane his wife, daughter of Sir Maurice de Berkeley surviving, who possessed this manor at her death, anno 43 King Edward III./f Her son, Reginald, was lord of Sterborough castle, in Surry, from whence this branch of the Cobhams was henceforward called, Cobhams of Sterborough-castle./g

/d Lib. Rubr. Philip. p. 45.

/e Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 67.

MSS. pedigree of Cobham.

/f Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/g See more of these Cobhams under Chidington.

532

His grandson, Sir Thomas Cobham, left a sole daughter and heir, Anne, who carried this manor in marriage to Sir Edward Borough, who survived him, and died possessed of it in the 20th year of King Henry VIII. then holding it of the lord Zouche, as of his manor of Eynsford, by knights service./h

Thomas, their son and heir, was summoned to parliament, as lord borough, anno 21 Henry VIII. He left Thomas his son and heir, who bequeathed this manor of Orkesden to his youngest son, Sir William Borough; and he, in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign, passed it away by sale to Francis Sandbach, esq. who sold it to John Lennard, esq. custos brevium of the court of common-pleas, who purchased it for his second son, Samuel Lennard, who was afterwards knighted, and was of West Wickham, in this county. On his death, in 1618, he was succeeded here by his son, Sir Stephen Lennard, who was created a baronet in 1642; he sold it to Richard Duke, esq. from whom it passed to Nathaniel Tench, esq. who died in 1710, and was buried at Low Leyton, in Essex. His only surviving son, Fisher Tench, was created a baronet in 1715,/i and died possessed of Orkesden manor in 1736; soon after which it was conveyed by sale to Percival Hart, esq. of Lullingstone, whose grandson, Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. is the present owner of it.

Many lands in Eynsford, Lullingstone, and Sevenoke, are held of this manor by small annual quit rents.

On the western side of this parish, next to St. Mary Cray, lies the HAMLET of CROCKENHILL, which, as appears by a writ, Ad quod damnum, brought against the prioress of Dartford, in the 11th year of King Edward IV. was in the possession of that prioress and convent; with whom it staid till their suppression, in the reign of King Henry VIII. when their lands and

/h Rot. Esch. ejus an. /i Morant's Essex, vol. i. p. 25.

533

revenues were surrendered into the king's hands; all which were confirmed to him and his successors by the general words of the act of the 31st of his reign, the year after which the king granted to Percival Hart, esq. among other premises, the manor of Crenhill, alias Crokenhill, with its appurtenances, to hold of him in capite by knights service./k His son, Sir George Hart, of Lullingstone, died possessed of it,

being then stiled Crokenhill, alias Court-hawe, in the 22d year of queen Elizabeth, holding it by the above tenure. Since which it has descended, in the same manner as the rest of his estates in this parish, to Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. the present possessor of it.

This manor pays a yearly fee-farm rent to the crown of eleven shillings and five-pence.

LITTLE-MOTE and PETHAM-COURT are two manors, situated at the two opposite sides of this parish; the former being at the north east corner of it, near Farningham; and the latter at the north-west corner of it, near adjoining to Crokenhill and St. Mary Cray. These manors were, for many generations, part of the possessions of the family of Sibell, who resided at a mansion, called after them Sibell's, situated in Little or Lower Mote, and bore for their arms, Argent, a tiger gules, viewing himself in a glass or mirror, azure. Their estate here was much increased in the reign of king Henry VIII. by one of them marrying the female heir of Cowdale. These Cowdales bore for their arms, Argent, a chevron gules between three cows heads caboshed sable; which coat, both impaled and quartered with Sybill, Philipott says was remaining in the mansion here, both in painted glass and carved work, in his time./l

One of this family, John Sibell, died in the 17th year of queen Elizabeth, possessed of these estates, and also of the demesne lands of the manor of Hiltess-

/k Rot. Esch. an. 32 Henry VIII. pt. 5. /l Philipott, p. 46.

534

bury; all which were held of the manor of Eynsford. He left an only daughter and heir, Elizabeth, and Jane his wife surviving, who held these estates for her life, and afterwards married Francis Hart, esq.

Elizabeth Sibell, the daughter, in the 24th year of queen Elizabeth, married Robert Bosevile, esq. afterwards knighted, the younger brother of Henry Bosevile of Bradborne, and son of Ralph Bosevile, of that place, clerk of the court of wards; and he, on her mother's death, became, in her right, possessed of Sibell's, with the manors of Littlemote and Petham. His descendant, Sir Thomas Bosevile, was of Littlemote, and had been a colonel in the king's army, and knighted by king Charles I. at Durham, in May 1642. He died the next year, and was buried in St. Mary's church, Oxford./m By Sarah, his wife, who afterwards married Col. Richard Crimes, he had a son, Thomas, who possessed these manors and Sibell's on his father's death. He married Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir Francis Wyat, of Boxley-abbey, and died in 1660, leaving an only daughter and heir, Margaretta, who carried the manor of Petham-court in marriage to Sir Robert Marsham, bart. of Bushey-hall, in Hertfordshire; and his great grandson, the Right Hon. Charles Marsham, lord Romney, is the present possessor of it.

But the manor of Littlemote, with Sibell's, became the property of Sir Henry Bosevile, who died in 1702,/n without issue, and devised this manor and estate to his kinsman, Robert Bosevile, esq. of Staffordshire, whose family was originally of Ardesley, in

Yorkshire, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, a younger branch of them settled in Kent, at Bradborne, in Sevenoke, and here at Eynsford; and a younger branch of these again in Staffordshire; they bore for

/m See Wood's Ath. vol. ii. Fasti, p. 7.

/n The Boseviles all lie buried in the S. chancel of this church.

535

their arms, Argent, a fess lozengy gules, in chief three bears heads erased sable.

His son of the same name, in the year 1755, sold it, in several parcels, to different persons, since which it has been of no consequence worth mentioning, and the old mansion of Sibell's has been pulled down some years ago, and two tenements have been erected on the scite of it.

#### CHARITIES.

PERCIVAL HART, esq. gave by will, for the benefit of the poor, an annuity out of lands, vested in Sir John Dyke, bart. and of the annual produce of 2l.

AN UNKNOWN PERSON gave for the like use, a house, let by the parish to Philip Weller, and of the annual value of 4l.

SIR ANTHONY ROPER and ..... HATCLIFF, esq. (as is supposed) gave for the benefit of the same, lands and houses in Greenwich, the rents to be divided, to the parish of Farningham three-fifths, to Horton Kirkby one-fifth, and to this parish of Eynsford one-fifth, the annual produce being to this parish, on an average, 7l.

EYNSFORD is in the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and being a peculiar of the archbishop, it is as such in the deanry of Shoreham. The church, which is dedicated to St.

Martin, is situated at the south-east end of the village.

It seems from the form of it to be one of our early Norman structures, and coeval with the castle. It is built in the form of a cross, with two large wings or side chancels; that on the south side belonged to the Sibell's, and afterwards to the Bosevile's, many of whom lie buried in it, several of whose gravestones and inscriptions are now so covered with filth and rubbish that they are illegible; and the place itself, through continued neglect, is hastening to a total ruin. The north chancel is kept in good repair, and is filled with pews and a neat vestry room. In this chancel, according to Weever, was a stone, on which was engraved, in wondrous antique characters, Ici gis ..... la femme de la Roberg de Eckisford, perhaps it may have been

536

so spelt for Einesford, or one of his mistakes for it, and if so, this chancel might belong to the Eynesfords, lords of this manor and castle; the stone is now hid by the wooden flooring over it. At the west end of the church is a spire steeple, underneath which is a curious circular door way of Saxon or very early Norman architecture./o

Among other monuments and inscriptions in this church, in the chancel, a gravestone, arms, a lion passant guardant, in chief three stirrups, for George Gifford, esq. obt. 1704, æt. 85; another for Thomas Gifford, esq. obt. 1705, æt. 59. In the chancel,

on the south side of the church, a gravestone for lady Sarah Bosevile, wife of Col. Richard Crimes, obt. 1660; another for Tho. Bosevile, esq. of Littlemote, in Eynsford, only son of Sir Thomas Bosevile; he married Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir Francis Wiat of Boxley-abbey, by whom he left Margaretta, his sole daughter and heir, obt. 1660; another, arms, five lozenges in fess, in chief three bears heads erased, impaling two bends engrailed, and a canton, for Sir Henry Bosevile, of Littlemote, and dame Mary his wife; she died 1693, he died 1702. On the south wall, a monument with the above arms, for Mrs. Margaret Bosevile, only daughter and heir of Sir Henry Bosevile, of Littlemote, ob. 1682, æt. 26./p>

William de Eynesford, lord of this parish, gave the church of Eynsford to the monks o Christ-church, in Canterbury, when he became a monk there; which was confirmed by William de Enysford, his grand=son./q Archbishop Richard, in the reign of king Henry II. appropriated this church to the almonry of Christ church./r In the time of Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, there was a dispute, whe=ther the church of Farningham was a chapel to the church of Eynsford or not?

/o See Custum. Roff. p. 94, 106, where there are engravings of the east end of the church, and of this door way.

/p See the monuments and inscriptions at large, in Reg. Roff. p. 784.

/q Registr. of Christ church, Canterbury, Cart. 1372.

/r Somner's Canterbury, p. 112.

537

In consequence of which, the archbishop, by his decree, made with the consent of all parties in 1225, ordained, that the rector of Eynsford and his succe=sors, should possess entirely the whole church of Eyns=ford, with all its tythes, as well great as small, houses, lands, gardens, and all other things belonging to it, which the rector of it was wont to have before; and that the almoner of Christ-church, and not the monks, should possess, to the use of the almonry, the chapel of Farningham, with its appurtenances, &c. belonging to it, as is therein mentioned; and that the rector of this church of Eynsford should, on a vacancy, present to the vicarage of this church; and that further than this, neither should intermeddle, or claim a right in the above premises./s

Thus this rectory became a sine cure, the parson of this church from that time having presented to the vi=carage, the incumbent of which has had the cure of souls, in which situation the rectory still remains, being esteemed as a donative of the patronage of the archbi=shop of Canterbury.

In the 15th year of king Edward I. this church was valued at thirty marcs./t In 1575, Henry Withers, clerk, parson of the parish church and benefice of Eyns=ford, leased this rectory to Thomas Dunmoll, yeoman, at 12l. 6s. 8d. per annum. In 1633, John Gifford, D. D. rector, let the same to Thomas Gifford, his son, at forty pounds per annum rent.

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Eynsford was a donative, with a house, and one hundred acres of glebe, and the great

tythes, worth altogether one hundred and ten pounds per annum, then in the possession of George Gifford, esq. that the vicarage had a house, but no glebe land,

/s Regist. Christ Church, Cant. Cart. 155.

/t Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 456.

538

and was worth thirty-five pounds per annum, one master Heriot enjoying it, and preaching there./u

Francis Porter, rector in 1674, let to George Gifford, esq. of Pennis, this rectory, or parsonage of forty pounds per annum, and of twenty pounds to the vicar, Edward Tilson, which last sum is mentioned to be an augmentation made in pursuance of the king's letters recommendatory, which lease was confirmed in 1707, in pursuance of like letters of queen Anne.

George Gifford, esq. of Pennis, continued lessee till his death, in 1704, when his interest in it devolved to his son, Thomas Gifford, who died the next year, and left three daughters and coheirs, viz. Margaret, married to Thomas Petley; Mary to John Selby, and Jane to Finch Umfrey; this parsonage being let by them at one hundred and forty-five pounds per annum.

The interest of this lease passed by sale from them to Percival Hart, esq. of Lullingstone, whose grandson, Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. a few years ago, suffered the lease to expire.

The rectory of Eynsford is valued in the king's books at 12l. 16s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 5s. 8d. the vicarage at twelve pounds, and the tenths at 1l. 4s./w

#### CHURCH OF EYNSFORD.

##### PATRONS,

Or by whom presented.      RECTORS.

Laurence, about 1165./x

Henry, in 1225./y

Archbishop of Canterbury      John Lynton, col. 1391./z

Henry Withers, in 1575.

John Bowles, D. D. vacat. 1629./a

John Gifford, D. D. Feb. 18,

1629./b

/u Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-library,  
vol. xix.

/w Bacon's Lib. Regis.

/x Decim. Script. col. 711.

/y Regist. Christ-church, Canterb.  
Cart. 155.

/z He was then rector of Tunstall.

More's Hist. of Tunstall, p. 53.

/a Made bishop of Rochester in 1629.

/b Presented by the lord-keeper.

Rym. Fœd. vol. xix. p. 146.

539

##### PATRONS, &c.      VICARS.

Archbishop of Canterbury      Francis Porter, in 1677.

Paul Colomeiz, 1691.

Peter Tascher, 1699.

John Lynch, D. D. Oct. 1731,

obt. 1760./c

George Secker, D. D. 1760, re=

signed 1763./d

John Fowel, D. D. 1763. Pre=

sent rector./e

VICARS.

Rectors of Eynsford ..... Heriot, in 1650./f

John Bedle, in 1661.

Edward Tilson, in 1674./g

Edward Tilson, 1726, obt.

1748./h

..... Herring, presented  
in 1748.

Benjamin Longley, presented  
1750, obt. 1783./i

Thomas Verrier Alkin, April,  
1780, obt. Jan. 20, 1784./k

James Andrew, LL. D. 1784, ob.  
March 7, 1791./l

H. M. Davis, 1791. Present  
vicar.

/c Afterwards dean of Canterbury,  
&c. &c.

/d And prebendary of Canterbury;  
both which he resigned on being made  
residuary of St. Paul's.

/e Rector of Chatham and Bishops=

borne.

/f Parl. Surveys, Lambeth-library,

vol. xix.

/g Rector of Lullingstone.

/h Ibid. Son of the former.

/i Curate of Ash, near Sandwich, and  
vicar of Tong.

/k He had been before vicar of Len=

ham, which he resigned.

/l Formerly prebendary of Rochester,  
and vicar of Ashford.

- - -

ULLINGSTONE.

ADJOINING to Eynsford southward lies Lul=

lingstone, called in the *Textus Roffensis*, Lullingston,

and in *Domesday*, Lolingestone.

540

This parish is but small, it has no village, there being but two houses in it besides Lullingstone-house. Nearly the whole of it is the property of Sir John Dyke; this seat stands in the valley at the eastern boundary of the park, on the western bank of the river Darent, a situa=

tion too low and damp to be either pleasant or healthy; almost adjoining to it on the north side is the church, hence the chalk hills immediately rise, both to the east

and west, where, though more barren, it yet becomes

more healthy. Through this park, close by the an=

cient gateway to Lullingstone-house, is a public and

acknowledged road leading from Eynsford to

Shoreham.

THIS PLACE, at the time of taking the survey of

*Domesday*, was part of the vast estate of Odo, bishop

of Baieux, half-brother to William the Conqueror;

and it is accordingly thus described in it, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

Godfrey de Ros holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Lollingstone. It was taxed at 1 suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 4 villeins, with 1 cottager, having 2 carucates. There are 7 servants and 6 acres of pasture; wood for the pannage of 20 hogs. When he received it, it was worth 60 shillings, now 100 shillings. The king has in his hand what is worth 10 shillings. Brixi Cilt held it of king Edward the Confessor.

Malgerius holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Lollingstone. It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 3 villeins, with 1 borderer, having 1 carucate. There are 5 acres of meadow.

And a little afterwards:

Osbern Peyforer holds Lollingstone of the bishop (of Baieux) for half a suling. The arable land is . . . . In demesne there is 1 carucate, and 3 villeins, with 1 borderer, and 1 servant, having 1 carucate. There are 5 acres of meadow, wood for the pannage of 5 hogs,

541

and 1 mill of 15 shillings, and 150 eels. The king has a wood of a late gift of the bishop, and it is worth 3 shillings. The whole manor was worth 60 shillings, now 77 shillings. Sewart Sot held it of king Edward the Confessor, and could turn himself over with his land whenever he would.

The former of these estates being thus held by the family of Ros, acquired from them the name of the manor of Lullingstone Ros, as the latter did from being owned by that of Peyforer, the name of Lullingstone Peyforer. In the beginning of the reign of king Edward I. they were both in the possession of the family of Rokesle. Gregory de Rokesle held them in the 7th year of king Edward I. being then lord-mayor of London; and that year he obtained a grant to himself and his heirs of free-warren for his lands in Lullingstone./m In the 20th year of king Edward III. his grandson, John de Rokesle, rector of the church of Chelsfield, paid aid for it as one knight's fee, viz. the manors of Lullingstone Rosse, Fokysparfrere, and Cokerhurst,/n which William de Rokesle before held in Lullingstone of Margery de Rivers. John de Rokesle died in 1361, and lies buried in this church. His arms, as on his grave-stone, were, A cross, in the dexter quarter a rook. His feoffees conveyed all his estates in this parish to Sir John Peche, descended from Gilbert de Peche, who was summoned to parliament in the 13th year of king Edward II./o He had two sons, Sir William Peche and Sir Robert Peche, who both accompanied king Edward I. in his victorious expedition into Scotland, in the 28th year of his reign, and assisted at the siege of Carlaverock in that kingdom, for which service they, with their company, received the honour of knighthood.

/m Philipott, p. 227. Rot. Car. ejus an. No. 2.

/n Cokerhurst is situated just without the pales on the south

side of Lullingstone park. /o Cott. Rec. p. 5.

542

Sir John Peche, the same year that he bought Lullingstone, obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands here, which was the next year again confirmed to him./p He died in the 4th year of king Richard II. possessed of Lullingstone, when it was also found, by inquisition, that he was then possessed jointly with Mary his wife, of a messuage, with divers lands, woods, and rents of assize, in Lullingstone and Peyfrere, of the feoffment of John Constantyn, Edmund de Cleye, and Richard Peche, which premises were held of the king as of the honor of Ledes, as the fourth part of one knight's fee, by the service of one pair of gilt spurs, of the price of six-pence./q He was succeeded in his estates here by his son, Sir William Peche, whose widow, the lady Joan, died possessed of them in the 11th year of king Henry IV. and lies buried in St. Mary Woolnoth church, in London./r Their son was Sir John Peche, sheriff of Kent, anno 8 Henry VI. whose figure habited in his surcoat of arms, and kneeling on a cushion, with his hands joined in a praying posture, and his head uncovered, was formerly pictured in one of the windows of Ashford church. He left a son, Sir William Peche, sheriff of this county in the 2d and 3d years of king Edward IV. who at his death in 1487, was found to die possessed of the manor of Lullingstone Rosse, and Lullingstone, Payfrere, and Cokerhurst, with their appurtenances, which were held of the king as of his duchy of Lancaster./s He left a son, Sir John Peche, and a daughter Elizabeth, who married John Hart, esq.

Sir John Peche was a man of great reputation at that time, being created a knight banneret, and made lord deputy of Calais. He was sheriff in the 10th year of king Henry VII. in which year, when the lord Audley

/p Philipott, p. 227.

/q Rot. Esch.

/r Ibid. Inquis. post mort.

/s Augt. Off. Among the conventional leases there.

543

and the Cornish men, who had risen in support of Perkin Warbeck, would have collected provisions and men in this county, he with other gentry of it, opposed them, and obliged them to turn towards London; soon after which they were vanquished on Blackheath. During his life-time he paid five hundred pounds into the hands of the wardens and masters of the Grocers company in London, of which he was free, for the performing of certain almsdeeds, and works of piety for his soul's health, as will be further mentioned hereafter. He died possessed of Lullingstone manor, leaving his wife, the lady Elizabeth surviving to whom king Henry VIII. of his special favour, in his 31st year, granted an annuity of ten marcs during her life.

On his death without issue, Elizabeth, his sister, was found to be his heir; upon which her husband, John Hart, esq. of the Middle Temple, counsellor at law in her right became entitled to this estate.

This family of Hart was originally of Westmill, in Hertfordshire, where Stephen Hart resided in the reign of king Edward III. His son, Hanekin Hart, left a son William, who removed from Westmill, to Abbotsbury, and thence to Papworth, in Cambridgeshire; his son and heir, William Hart, returned into Hertfordshire. His descendant, William Hart, died in the 9th year of king Henry VII. leaving by Alice his wife, widow of Robert Sutton, of London, one son, John Hart, who was of the Middle Temple, and married Elizabeth, sister and heir of Sir John Peche, knight-banneret, as above mentioned. He left, by Elizabeth his wife, who survived him, and afterwards married George Cobham, brother of the lord Cobham, and dying in 1543, lies buried in St. Mary Cray church, a son, Sir Percival Hart, who was chief sewer and knight harbinger to king Henry VIII. King Edward VI. queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth, whose lands were disgavelled by the act of the 31st of the for-

544

mer of those reigns. On his mother's death in 1543, he became possessed of this manor of Lullingstone; for at this time the two manors before-mentioned seem to have been accounted but as one; when he quitted his seat, afterwards called Barkhart, in Orpington, and removed hither to Lullingstone-house, where he kept his shrievalty for this county in the 37th year of king Henry VIII. He died in 1580, and lies buried in this church, having had by Frediswide, his wife, one of the sisters and coheirs of John, lord Bray, twelve children. Of whom Henry, the eldest son, married Cicely, daughter of Sir Martin Bowes, and died without issue; and Sir George, the second son, and at length heir to his father, on his brother's death, was of Lullingstone, and was sheriff of this county, anno 25th Elizabeth; by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Bowes, esq. of Elford, in Staffordshire, he left several children, and died in 1587. His eldest son, Sir Percival Hart, resided at Lullingstone-house, and was twice married; first, to Anne, daughter of Sir Roger Manwood, chief baron of the exchequer, by whom he had one son, William; his second wife was Jane, daughter of Sir Edward Stanhope, of Grimston, by whom he had Sir Henry Hart, K. B. who died in his father's lifetime, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Burdet, and widow of Sir Simon Norwich, by whom he left Percival Hart, and several other children.

William Hart, esq. the only son of Sir Percyval, by his first wife, succeeded his father in the possession of this place, and died in 1671. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Anthony Weldon, of Swanscombe, who died in 1677, and lies buried there, by whom he had no issue. Upon which this estate descended to Percyval Hart, esq. eldest son of Sir Henry Hart, eldest son of Sir Percyval Hart, by his second wife, as before-mentioned. He was afterwards knighted, and left by Anne his wife, one son, Percival Hart, esq. who was of Lullingstone, and was sheriff in 1707, and

545

served in parliament for this county in the 9th and 12th years of queen Anne's reign. He died in 1738, and

was buried, as were his several ancestors before-mentioned, in this church. This family of Hart bore for their arms, Per chevron azure and gules, three harts tripping or. Over the monument of Percyval Hart, esq. last-mentioned, are forty-four different shields of arms, which he quartered in his own and his wife's right. He left by Sarah his wife, youngest daughter of Edward Dixon, esq. of Hilden, an only daughter and heir, Anne, then married to her second husband, Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. of Horeham, in Sussex.

Sir Thomas Dyke was descended of a good family, who had been sometime seated in Sussex; of whom Thomas Dyke, second son of Sir Thomas Dyke, by Catharine his wife, one of the daughters of Sir John Bramstone, of Skreenes, in Essex, was created a baronet March 3, 1676, anno 29 king Charles II. He resided at Horeham, in Sussex, and served in parliament for that county in 1685, and for East Grinstead several times. He married Philadelphia, the eldest daughter and coheir of Thomas Nutt, of Selmiston, in Sussex, and died in 1706, having had by her Philadelphia, who married Lewis Stephens, D. D. Elizabeth married to John Cockman, M. D. and Thomas, who was his only surviving son, who married Anne, daughter and sole heir of Percyval Hart, as before-mentioned. The family of Dyke bear for their arms, Or, three cinquefoils sable.

He quitted his family seat at Horeham, and entirely resided at Lullingstone-house, which he first dignified with the name of Lullingstone-castle, by which name it has been called ever since. For as to Lullingstone-castle, the reader will find an account of it under the parish of Shoreham; it being evident, from all records and antient writings, that it was the same as is now known by the name of Shoreham-castle, the ruins of which appear near the river, at a small distance from the

546

south gate of Lullingstone-park. Sir Thomas Dyke died in 1756, and lies buried here, having had by Anne his wife, one daughter, Philadelphia, married to William Lee, esq. of Totteridge, son of the lord chief justice Lee, and three sons; Thomas Hart, who died unmarried; John Dixon, the present baronet; and Percyval, who died in 1740, unmarried. He left his wife, lady Anne Dyke, surviving, who possessed this manor and seat during her life, and dying in 1763, lies buried in this church; on which Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. her only surviving son, became entitled to them, by virtue of his father's will in tail male. He married, in 1756, Philadelphia Payne Horne, only daughter and heir of George Horne, esq. late of London, by whom he has three sons, Thomas, Percival, and George Hart; and two daughters, the eldest of whom was married in 1790, to Beaumont Hotham, esq. and the youngest, Harriot, in 1791, to Charles Milman, esq. now of Farningham.

Sir John Dixon Dyke now resides here, and has been for several years improving this seat, and the park and grounds about it.

Lambarde mentions a park at Lullingstone, in the reign of queen Elizabeth; /t after which there seems to have been none used as such for many years. In the

time of the late Mr. Percyval Hart, it was used as a warren for conies, and Sir Thomas Dyke restored it to its present state as a park again.

LULLINGSTANE was formerly a parish of itself, though it is now united to Lullingstone. It is situated at the north-east corner of Lullingstone-park, between that and Eynsford. This place was held in the reign of king Edward I. by Simon de Echingham, of Richard de Rokesle, as half a knight's fee; soon after which, it came into the possession of the family of Cobham, a younger branch of which owned it in the reign of king Edward III.

/t Lamb. Peramb. p. 57.

547

Sir Reginald de Cobham paid his respective aid for this manor of Lullingstane, as half a knight's fee, in the 20th year of that reign, which Simon de Echingham before held here of Richard de Rokesle, and he of the king, as of his honor of Ledes. He died in the 35th year of the above reign, possessed of it at his death./u His son Reginald was lord of Sterborough-castle, in Surry./w

His grandson, Sir Thomas Cobham, left a sole daughter and heir, Anne, who carried this estate in marriage to Sir Edward Borough. Their son and heir, Thomas, was summoned to parliament as lord Borough, anno 21 king Henry VIII. and left Thomas, his son and heir, who bequeathed it to his youngest son, Sir William Borough, and he in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, conveyed it by sale to Percyval Hart, since which it has descended in the same way that Lullingstone manor has, to Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart. who is the present owner of it.

This parish was united to that of Lullingstone, by Richard, bishop of Rochester, in the year 1412, as will be more fully mentioned hereafter in the ecclesiastical account of it.

The church of Lullingstane, after its being united to Lullingstone, became neglected and fell to ruin. It stood in a field by the road side, on the west side leading from Eynsford to Lullingstone, a few rods from the gate, and about a quarter of a mile from the park-gate. The remains are obscured with briars and nettles; from the smallness of the building it should seem to be of Saxon architecture, and built with flints and Roman bricks, the west end being chiefly of the latter, several of which have been dug up near these ruins, and in digging a hole for the third post of the paling, from the park gate, part of a tessellated pavement was

/u Rot. Esch. ejus an.

/w See more of this branch of Cobham, under Chidingstone.

548

discovered, and Roman coins and instruments have at times been found near these ruins./x

CHARITY.

SIR JOHN PEACHE, knight banneret, in king Henry the VIth's time, gave by deed 500l. to the Grocers Company, to be paid from land in this parish, for the keeping of the solemn OBIT on the 1st of January yearly in this church, and for the payment of

53s. 4d. yearly to the parson of the parish, and his successors, in consequence of which the above-mentioned Company pay 9l. 4s. to this parish yearly.

THE PARISH OF LULLINGSTONE is within the EC-CLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Dartford. The church is dedicated to St. Botolph. It consists of one isle and two chancels, having a low pointed steeple at the west end.

This church, to the credit of the patrons of it, who for a long succession of time have resided in the family seat almost adjoining to it, is remarkable for the neat and decent state in which it is kept. It is paved with white and black marble, the pews are regularly wainscoted, the windows adorned with coloured glass, and the ceiling ornamented with stucco. The antient screen which separates the nave from the chancel, yet remains entire. It is of oak, and a most beautiful piece of gothic work, with a balustrade at top. The several monuments, which are fine, are in excellent order and preservation, insomuch, that it resembles a nobleman's costly chapel, more than a parochial country church, and affords an example worthy of the imitation of the patrons of other churches.

In the chancel, among others, is a grave-stone for Galfridus, once rector of this parish; another, with a brass plate, for John de Rokesle, once lord of Lullingstone, obt. 1361; arms, a cross, a rook in the dexter quarter; another, with the figure of a man armed, and a lion at his feet in brass, inscription in black letter,

/x See an engraving of the ruins of this chapel in Cust. Roff. p. 126.

549

for Sir William Peche, obt. 1487, at the corner of the stone are four shields of brass, containing those of Peche, being azure, a lion rampant ermine, crowned, or double queued furchee, with its quarterings and impalements. On the south side of the altar is a most sumptuous and lofty monument, and under the roof of it, which is richly adorned with gilt roses, &c. a sarcophagus, on which lies the figure of a man in armour, with his crest at his head and feet, being a lion ermine crowned, or, beside him is his lady, and above an inscription for Sir Percyval Hart, heir to the Peche, who lived in the service of four princes, under the first of whom he was knighted, and chief sewer and knight harbinger under all; he matched into the family of the lord Bray, and had by his lady twelve children, he died æt. 84; above the inscription are the arms of Hart and Peche quarterly; on each side, Hart and other quarterings. On the north side is a most magnificent monument of stone, which separates the two chancels, it is enriched with great variety of gothic work; at the bottom, under an altar table of stone, supported by small pillars, lies the figure of a knight in armour, with his head resting on his crest, being a demi lion rampant ermine crowned, with a gorget of flowers round the neck, and his feet against a lion couchant crowned, on his tabard, the arms of Peche as above, and the motto, *Prest a faire*; in different places about the monument, are shields of Peche, with its impalements and quarterings, and the arms and supporters of the Grocers Company. This pile of excellent sculpture for that age, is in memory of Sir John Peche, knight-banneret, who in king Henry the VIIIth's reign, was constable of Dover-castle, lord deputy of Calais, &c. He founded the alms-houses at Lullingstone, and gave 500l. to

other pious uses, to be performed by the Grocers Company, of which he was free.

Under the window at the east end is a noble tomb of alabaster, on which lie the figures of a man in armour and his lady, in the dress of the time, with their hands conjoined, at their heads is a lion couchant ermine, crowned, or; at their feet a garb of arrows argent, being for Sir George Hart, second son of Sir Percyval Hart, and two daughters, obt. 1587, æt. 55, on it the arms of Hart and of Bowes; a grave-stone for William Hart, esq. eldest son of Sir Percival Hart, obt. 1671, æt. 77; arms, Hart and Peche quarterly. On the west side of the chancel, which it entirely covers, is a beautiful monument executed in the gothic taste in stucco, in the form of a screen, and ornamented with a great number of shields of arms. In the centre, on white marble, arched in the form of an entrance or door-way, which reaches to the pavement, is an inscription for Percyval Hart, esq. the munificent repairer and beautifier of this church, representative in parliament for this country in the two last parliaments of queen Anne, obt. 1738, æt. 70; the shields of arms on the

550

monument are numerous, being forty-four different ones of Peche and Hart, with their impalements and quarterings. On the north side is a very elegant mural monument, with a profile head of a lady encircled with figures and ornamental sculpture; on each side are two fine urns of brown marble, in memory of dame Anne Dyke, who died in 1763, æt. 71, only child of Percival Hart, esq. of this place; she was twice married, first, to John Bluet, esq. of Holcomb-court, in Devonshire, and afterwards to Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. of Horeham; Mr. Bluet died in 1728, æt. 29, and was buried here. Sir Thomas Dyke died in 1756, æt. 58, and lies buried in this chancel; above, in a lozenge, are the arms of Hart, impaling on the right Bluet; on the left, Dyke. The several windows are filled with painted glass, in compleat preservation, much of them of scripture history, intermixed with shields of arms, belonging to the above families of Peche, Hart and Dyke, erected at different times, one by Sir Thomas Dyke so late as 1754./y

In the 15th year of king Edward I. the church of Lullingstone was valued at twelve marcs./z Richard, bishop of Rochester, in the year 1412, united the parish and church of Lullingstane to this of Lullingstone, with the consent of Sir Reginald de Cobham, lord and patron of the former; and of John Peche, lord and patron of the latter, and all others interested in them; by reason that the parishioners of Lullingstane had decreased to two families only; and that the income and revenue of the church was become so small, as not to afford a decent support to the rectors of it; and the bishop, by his decree, added the parishioners of the parish church of Lullingstane to that of Lullingstone, together with the cure of souls, and families, with oblations, and all and singular the tythes, excepting those of sheaves, hay, wood, and underwood,/a whatsoever, which he decreed should remain as before to the church of Lullingstane, and that they should continue to be parishioners of the church of Lullingstone, until new parishioners should return, and again increase in

/y See the monuments and inscriptions, with the arms and painted glass in the windows of this church at large, Reg. Roff. p. 1042.

/z Stev. Mon. p. 456. /a Bosci & sylvæ cæduæ.

the parish of Lullingstane; and further, that notwithstanding the above decree, the rector of the church of Lullingstane should sustain entirely, as he had before been wont to do, all the burthens belonging to it, as well relating to divine service as otherwise, excepting what has been before-mentioned, and which belonged to the parishioners to sustain./b

By virtue of the commission of enquiry into the value of church livings, in 1650, issuing out of chancery, it was returned, that Lullingstone was a parsonage, with a house, without glebe land, and worth thirty-eight pounds per annum, if Lullingstane was laid to it, which was eight pounds per annum.

And again, that Lullingstane was a parsonage, the church fallen down; one master Cockerell enjoying it, but performed no duty./c

In the year 1712, Percyval Hart, esq. patron of the parish church of Lullingstone, and also of the vicarage of Lullingstane, and Edward Tilson, clerk, rector of Lullingstone, presented their petition to Thomas Sprat, then bishop of Rochester, setting forth, that the true value of that rectory, as certified into the queen's court of exchequer, amounted to the value of 39l. 1s. 3d. yearly, and no more; and that the true value of that vicarage, then vacant, amounted to ten pounds yearly, and no more; which vicarage was without cure of souls, having neither church nor chapel belonging to it, nor inhabitant dwelling within it, and that it was not valued in the queen's books of the first fruits and tenths; and that the rectory above-mentioned was not distant from it a quarter of a mile, and humbly prayings, that the rectory and vicarage might be united and consolidated for ever. In consequence of which, the bishop united and consolidated them for ever. And he further granted licence to

/b Reg. Roff. p. 477. Bib. Cot. Faustina, c. v. f. 116.

/c Parl. Surveys, Lambeth libr. vol. xix.

the rector of the before-mentioned church and his successors, to take actual possession of the vicarage then vacant, and to take and receive the rents, profits, oblations, tythes, and other revenues whatsoever of it, and to convert and apply the same to the use and commodity of the rector of the church of Lullingstone, for the time being, who should be subject to and discharge all burthens whatsoever of the vicarage, ordinary and extraordinary, which the vicars of it were bound and accustomed to be subject to and discharge, before the union of this rectory and vicarage./d

The rectory of Lullingstone is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of 39l. 1s. 3d. the yearly tenths being fifteen shillings and eight-pence./e It was in 1734 augmented by the governors of queen Anne's bounty, at which time the reverend doctor Henchman contributed one hundred pounds for the like purpose./f

The churches of Lullingstone and Lullingstane were always appendages to those manors, and as such they are now of the patronage of Sir John Dixon Dyke, bart.

CHURCH OF LULLINGSTONE.

PATRONS,  
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Family of Peche. Galfridus./g  
Richard White,, in 1412./h  
Family of Hart. Edward Tilson, obt. 1726./i  
Edward Tilson, instit. Jan. 27,  
1726, obt. 1748./k  
Sir Thomas Dyke, bart. David Lambe, 1748, ob-. 1771./l  
Sir John D. Dyke, bart. Marmaduke Lewis, 1772. Pre=  
sent rector.  
/d Reg. Roff. p. 478.  
/e Bacon's Lib. Regis.  
/f Ect. Thes. p. 23.  
/g He lies buried in this church.  
/h Reg. Roff. p. 477.  
/i Also vicar of Eynsford.  
/k Ibid. and son of the former.  
/l Also rector of Ridley.

553

- - -

APPENDIX:  
CONTAINING  
ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS  
TO THE  
FIRST AND SECOND VOLUMES.

- - -

TO VOLUME I.

ERRATA.

Page 39, 1. 6. for Saxonica read Saxonici.  
.... 64, 1. 16. for were read was.  
.... 76, 1. 21. for Wired read Widred.  
.... 137, 1. 3. for Poictu read Poictou.  
.... 154, 1. 7. Read the line thus – EDMUND (his  
brother, the last mentioned earl, dy=  
ing without issue) succeeded him, &c.  
.... 213. Add to the list of Sheriffs –  
1797. GEORGE GROTE, esq. of Beckenham.

DEPTFORD.

PAGE 340.

THE parish of St. Nicholas is but of small extent; the  
land not built upon does not exceed at most three acres, but  
the houses are about eleven hundred. The parish of St. Paul  
contains about two thousand four hundred houses, and eigh=  
teen hundred acres of land, of which about five hundred are  
arable, about the same quantity is occupied by market gar=  
deners, the remainder marsh and pasture. The soil on the  
hills, towards Brockley, is clay, in other parts sand and gra=  
vel. At Lomepit-hole there is a large chalk pit, in which are  
found various kinds of extraneous fossils.

554

PAGE 341. It appears that the population of this town  
and parish has increased within the space of two centuries in  
the proportion of twenty to one. In 1665, three hundred  
and seventy-four persons died of the plague here, and the

next year five hundred and twenty-two.

PAGE 341. There are several meeting houses in St. Paul's parish – of the Quakers one, the Independents two, of the Anabaptists one, which has an endowment, and two belonging to the Methodists.

PAGE 342. Near the victualling-office is Deadman's dock-yard, the property of Sir Frederick Evelyn. Men of war of seventy four guns are sometimes built here.

The dock yard, mentioned by Stow, to have been projected by Stanton and others, afterwards was carried forward by Sir Nicholas Crispe, but being referred by king Charles II. to the crown surveyor, his report was by no means favourable to it, and the design seems to have been laid aside.

PAGE 346. For Sinum read Sium, and Garyophillis read Caryophillis.

PAGE 357. Upper Brockley farm was about the time of the Restoration vested in Sir John Cutler, bart. who, in 1692, settled it on Edmund Boulter, esq. who, in 1707, left it to his brother, William, from whom it passed to his grand son, Richard Wilkinson, and afterwards to William Wickham, esq. and Mary his wife, the said Richard's sister, by which means it came into the family of Wickham.

PAGE 360. The ancient place at Deptford, where the meetings of the corporation of the Trinity house were formerly held, was pulled down in the year 1787, and an elegant building was erected in the room of it for that purpose in London, near the Tower. The arms of the corporation are, Argent a cross gules between four ships of three masts, in full sail proper.

The old hospital, which adjoins to the church yard, was built in King Henry, VIII.'s reign; it consisted originally of twenty-one apartments, but being pulled down and rebuilt, in 1788, the number was increased to twenty-five. The other, which is in Church-street, was built at the latter end of the last century; it consists of fifty-six apartments, forming a spacious quadrangle, in the centre of which is placed a statue of Capt. Maples. On the east side, opposite the entrance, is a plain building, which serves both for a chapel and a hall, where the brethren meet annually on Trinity Monday. The pensioners in both hospitals consist of decayed pilots or masters of ships, or their widows; the single men and widows receive about 18*l.* per annum, the married men about 28*l.*

555

An extensive manufacture of earthen ware, known by the name of Deptford ware, is carried on at this place.

PAGE 364. Edmund Boulter, esq. by will, in 1707, gave to the parish of Deptford, a right of presenting one pensioner to a certain alms-house, which he directed to be built near Oxford. It was not built till 1780. This belongs exclusively to St. Paul's parish.

PAGE 367. THE CHURCH of St. Nicholas now consists of a chancel, nave, and two isles; when the church was rebuilt, in 1697, upon a larger scale, the work was so badly performed, that in 1716, a thorough repair was necessary to it, at the expence of four hundred pounds.

The rectory of St. Nicholas' parish comprehends the great tithes of that parish and of St. Paul's, except the manor of Hatcham, which belongs to the Camberwell impropriation.

GREENWICH.

PAGE 373. GREENWICH PARISH contains about eleven hundred and seventy acres of cultivated land, of which about

one hundred and forty are arable, one hundred and sixty occupied by market gardeners, about five hundred and fifty marsh and lowland meadow, and about three hundred and twenty upland meadow and pasture, including Greenwich-park, which contains one hundred and eighty-eight acres. It was walled round in James I.'s reign, and laid out in that of Charles II. under the direction of Le Notre, being planted with elms and Spanish chesnuts, some of which are of a very large size. The profits of the market were given to the hospital by Henry earl of Romeny, in 1700.

PAGE 408. Greenwich hospital, in its present state, consists of four distinct piles of building, between is a grand square, and in front, by the river side, a terrace of considerable length. The view from the north gate, which opens to the terrace, in the midway between the two buildings, presents an assemblage of objects uncommonly grand and striking; beyond the square, are seen the hall and chapel, with their beautiful domes and the two colonades, which from a kind of avenue, terminated by the ranger's lodge, in the park, on an eminence of which appears the royal observatory, amidst a grove of trees. In the centre of the great square is a statue of king George II. King Charles II.'s building stands on the west side of the great square, the eastern part of it, which is of Portland stone, was erected, in 1664, by Webb, after a design of his father-in-law, Inigo Jones. In this range of buildings is the council-room, and in which, and the anti-chamber to it, are se=

556

veral portraits and sea pieces. The north part of king Charles's building, towards the river, contains the apartments of the governor and lieutenant governor. This and the south front have each two pavilions, similar to those in the east front. The west side of this buildings comprehending the north west and south west pavilions, was originally all of brick. It was the first addition to king Charles's palace, being called, The bass building. The foundation was laid in 1696, and was nearly completed in two years. The whole of what is now called king Charles's building contains fourteen wards, in which are three hundred and one beds. Queen Anne's building, on the east side of the great square, nearly corresponds with king Charles's on the opposite side. The foundation of it was laid in 1698, and the greater part of it was raised and covered in before 1728. In this building are several of the officers apartments, and twenty-four wards, in which are four hundred and thirty-seven beds.

King William's building is to the south-west of the great square. It contains the great hall, vestibule, and dome, designed and erected by Sir Christopher Wren between 1698 and 1703, to the east of which joins the colonade. The painting of this hall was undertaken by Sir James Thornhill, and cost 6685l. The west front of king William's building, which is of brick, was finished by Sir John Vanbrugh, about 1726. It contains eleven wards, in which are five hundred and fifty-one beds.

The foundation of the eastern colonade (which is similar to that on the west side) was laid in 1699, but the chapel and other parts of queen Mary's building, which adjoin to it, were not finished till 1752. This building, which corresponds to that called king William's, contains thirteen wards and one thousand and ninety-two beds.

On January 2, 1779, a dreadful fire happened in this building, which destroyed the chapel with its dome, part of the colonade, and as many of the adjoining wards as contained five

hundred beds. The whole has been since rebuilt. The present chapel was designed by the late Mr. Stuart, well known for his Antiquities of Athens. The two pavilions at the extremities of the terrace were erected in 1778.

In 1763, an infirmary was erected without the walls of the hospital for the sick pensioners, after the design of Mr. Stuart. It contains sixty-four rooms, each formed so as to accommodate four patients; here is also a chapel, hall, and kitchen, and apartments for a physician, apothecary, surgeon, &c. and within the walls are hot and cold baths. In 1783, a school-house, with a dormitory for the boys, was built from a design

557

of Mr. Stuart, without the walls of the hospital; the wards, which the boys occupied, being appropriated to an additional number of pensioners. The school-room, being one hundred feet in length, is capable of containing two hundred boys; in the upper stories are two dormitories of the same length, furnished with hammocks. About fifteen thousand four hundred pensioners, and six hundred and forty nurses, the widows of seamen, have been admitted into this hospital since its first establishment. The present number of out pensioners is about twelve hundred.

The boys educated in this hospital, who must be seamen's sons, between eleven and thirteen years of age, objects of charity, are cloathed, lodged, and maintained for three years, during which time they are instructed in the principles of religion, in writing, arithmetic, navigation, and drawing, and are afterwards bound out for seven years to the sea service. An excellent branch of the charity, which answers the double purpose of providing for the sons of poor seamen, and of making them in the end useful to their country. About two thousand seven hundred boys have been educated since the first establishment of this institution to the present time.

PAGE 373. Near the water side, adjoining to Norfolk college, is the spacious iron wharf of Millington and Co. formerly belonging to the Crawleys, being used for a supply of such goods as are wanted in greater haste than could be forwarded from their great manufactory in the north.

The antient mansion, now belonging to the earl of Ashburnham, in the occupation of Mr. Millington, was for some time the residence of the family of Crawley.

PAGE 373. The Roman Catholics have a chapel in Greenwich; there is one meeting house belonging to the Anabaptists, and two belonging to the Methodists.

PAGE 386. After the Restoration, a lease for ninety-nine years was granted of it by the crown in 1676, to Sir William Boreman, of whose heirs Sir John Morden purchased the remainder of the term, and afterwards obtained a grant of the perpetuity of it.

PAGE 389. East Combe. At the Restoration the fee of this estate, which had been before, from time to time, held by lease, reverted to the crown, James, son of Peter Fortree, had a new lease in 1663, which in 1665, he assigned to James Hayes, esq. whose heirs made an assignment of it to Ralph Sanderson, esq. in whose family the lease of it was several times afterwards renewed. Lady Sanderson had a renewal of it in 1772, for nine years, to commence in 1793; and she left by will her interest in it to Mr. Montague, who assigned it to the late John

558

Campbell Lord lion king of arms in Scotland, in whose representatives it is now vested.

PAGE 392. Westcombe-park was granted by Sir Gregory Page, on a long lease, to Capt. Galfridus Walpole, (younger brother of Sir Robert) who built the present house. This lease afterwards came into the possession of Charles duke of Bolton, who resided here; he died in 1754, as did his duchess in 1760, when her interest in it came to her son, the Rev. Mr. Powlett, in whom the remainder of the lease, which expires in 1824, is now vested.

Woodlands is a modern seat, situated between East and Westcombe; the grounds here were laid out and the house was built about 1772, by the present proprietor, John Julius An-gerstein, esq. and occupies a situation uncommonly beautiful.

PAGE 410. Since the foundation of Mr. Lambarde's hospital there have been several benefactions, which have greatly increased the income of it, for the pensioners are now allowed fifteen shillings per month, and a chaldron and an half of coals yearly. This hospital is situated to the south west of the town, where the roads branch off to London and Lewisham.

The pensioners in Norfolk college have eight shillings a week for commons, the warden sixteen shillings, besides cloaths, lodging, and salaries, variable at the discretion of the company; the present annual revenue of the college, which is in a very flourishing condition, is eleven hundred pounds. This college stands by the river side, at the east end of the town. It is a brick structure, forming a quadrangle.

PAGE 419. To the list of vicars add –

Ralph Skerrett, S. T. P. ind. 1720, obt. 1751.

Samuel Squire, in 1751, S. T. P. who was in 1760, made dean of Bristol, and next year bishop of St. David's; he held this vicarage in commendam till his death, in 1766, and was succeeded by Dr. Hinchcliffe.

#### CHARLTON.

PAGE 420. THIS PARISH is of no great extent; it has about ninety acres of woodland, and a considerable quantity of waste ground, including a part of Blackheath, and one hundred and forty-five acres of marsh. The soil is various, gravel, loam, sand, and chalk. The number of houses in it is ninety-five.

The house, mentioned as near the church-yard, was built by Sir Richard Raynes, who died in 1710, possessed of a considerable estate in this parish; his son, Dr. Raynes, be-

559

queathed this house and estate to Joseph Kirke, esq. who devised them to the Rev. Mr. Harris, of Cheveley, in Cambridgeshire, with remainder to Mr. Browne, of the kingdom of Ireland, as there mentioned.

Line 11. After lately, add two; and for were read was.

PAGE 421. Hanging-wood belongs to the lord of the manor, through which there is a very pleasant walk to Woolwich. The wood, the variety of uneven ground, and the occasional views of the river, contribute to make this parish remarkably picturesque.

At the farther end of the above wood is a very large and deep sand-pit, in which there is a stratum of marle, six or eight feet thick, in which are found great numbers of exaneous fossils, which lie so numerous and close, that, as Dr. Woodward observes, the mass is wholly composed of them, there being but very little marle interspersed. These shells consist of a great variety of univalves and bivalves (conchæ, ostreæ, buccinæ, &c.) They are very brittle, and for the most

part resemble those found at Tours, in France, and at Hordwell-cliff, in Hampshire; some of them are impregnated with mundic. Below the church there is a chalk-pit, in which echini and other extraneous fossils are found.

The other house, late the residence of Mr. Lambton, and before of Mrs. Fitzherbert, is about to be taken for the summer residence of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales; it was formerly the rectory, and was exchanged by Dr. Warren for the present one, now occupied by Mrs. Chamberlain, widow of the late rector; whose daughter, in 1796, married the Rev. Mr. Roper, the present rector.

PAGE 422. Line 14, for Pumaria read Fumaria; and line 17, for corciata read cruciata.

PAGE 425. Lady Wilson is now the proprietor of this seat, of which an engraving is given in Lyson's Environs, vol. iv. p. 327; where there is a particular description of this mansion. In 1742, it was in the occupation of the earl of Egmont, in whose family it continued many years; after which it was rented by the earl of Ancram, afterwards marquis of Lothian; and was afterwards the residence of Sir Thomas S. Wilson, the proprietor of it.

PAGE 429. John Cator, esq. in 1787, sold the materials of the house by auction, in lots, to be taken away; a great part of it has not been yet removed, and it now stands in ruins, a melancholy monument of its former grandeur. That part of the premises, which lies between the scite of the mansion and Blackheath, has been let on building leases.

560

A farm, called the Cherry-garden farm, in this parish, is said to have been built by Inigo Jones, for his own use.

PAGE 433. The church is built of brick, consisting of two chancels, a nave, and north isle; the tower stands at the west end, and is embattled.

In the north isle or chancel, is a monument for Robert Dingley, esq. F. R. S. of Lamaby, in Bexley, one of the principal promoters of the Magdalen charity, obt. 1781; and for his two wives.

The monuments and gravestones in this church, for persons of distinguished rank, are numerous, much more so than this work will admit the mention of. Sir William Langhorn left one thousand pounds, to purchase lands for the augmentation of this rectory.

#### WOOLWICH.

PAGE 441. THIS PARISH lies about nine miles from London; it contains about seven hundred acres of land, of which three hundred and eighty are marsh, on the Essex side of the Thames, bounded by Barking and Barking-creek, which separates it from East Ham. Fifty acres are marsh on the Kentish side of the river, about forty arable, ten occupied by market gardeners, fifty waste, about fifty upland pasture, and fifty acres were leased, a few years ago, to government. The soil, except in the marshes, is principally gravel; at the east end of the town is a chalk-pit, which has a stratum, abounding with the same extraneous fossils as that at Charlton. The market-place here was changed within the present century. The Gun wharf formerly occupied the spot where the present market is now held.

PAGE 442. The present number of houses in this parish is about twelve hundred. The great increase of population, which has been in proportion of near five to one, within the last century, is to be attributed to the proportionate increase

of the dock-yard and Warren, and the augmentation of the artillery, who have their head quarters at this place.

PAGE 444. The land, mentioned p. 450, to have been purchased by king Henry VIII. in his 37th year, of Sir Edward Boughton, then proprietor of Southall manor, called Bowton's docks, &c. is supposed to be for the use of the royal dock, which has been considerably increased from time to time by the addition of several pieces of marsh land, held by government, under lease from the Bowater family, being parcel of the manor of Southall, for which an annual rent of four hundred pounds is paid by government. The present dock-yard consists of a narrow slip of land by the river

561

side of five furlongs and eighteen yards in length, contains two dry docks, two mast-pounds (another of large dimensions is now making upon twelve acres of additional ground, taken into the dock-yard about the year 1786) besides forges, store-houses, workshops, &c. for the different working artificers, and houses for the officers of the yard.

PAGE 445. The academy above mentioned is in the Warren, which is the head quarters of the regiment of artillery, but since the great increase of that regiment, the Warren, which contains between fifty and sixty acres, has been found very insufficient for that purpose; on which account a piece of ground, containing about fifty acres, was taken on lease by government of Mr. Bowater, about twenty years ago, and spacious barracks were built for the accommodation of the officers and privates of that corps, for whom there was not room in the Warren.

Two hulks are stationed in the river at Woolwich, for the reception of convicts, who are employed in the most laborious offices at the dock-yard and Warren, having proper persons to superintend them, and take an account of their labour.

PAGE 449. The manor of Southall, alias Woolwich, was purchased of the Boughtons by the Heywoods or Haywoods, as their name was afterwards spelt (not Heydons). Sir Edward Boughton sold it in 1555, to Richard Haywoode, whose descendant, Christopher Haywoode, in 1580, alienated it to Richard Patrick; soon after which it was sold to Sir Nicholas Gilbourne; his descendant, Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Gilbourne, married St. Leger Scroope, esq. who sold this manor, in 1692, to Richard Bowater the elder, and Richard Bowater the younger. It is now the property of John Bowater, esq. and the manor house is in the occupation of his brother, Capt. Edward Bowater.

PAGE 453. The glebe land consists of about twenty acres of pasture, lying within a ring fence.

PAGE 454. The church consists of a nave, two isles, and a chancel; there are galleries in it on the north, south, and west sides.

There are a great number of tombs and memorials in the church-yard, principally for the officers of the dock-yard, royal artillery, and their families.

ELTHAM.

PAGE 455. THIS PARISH contains about two thousand eight hundred and eighty acres of land, of which about three hundred and sixty are wood land, and about sixty waste. The soil near the town is principally gravel; in the more distant

562

parts, towards Shooter's-hill, and towards Chesilhurst, it is

clay. The present number of houses is about two hundred and forty.

PAGE 457. On Shooter's-hill, the earl of Shrewsbury has lately built a small, but elegant house, for his residence.

PAGE 459. Dr. Sherard died at Eltham, in 1739. His house is now in the tenure of John Dorrington, esq. some of Dr. Sherard's exotics still remain, among which is a fine cedar of Libanus, close to the house, the girth of which, at three feet from the ground, is nine feet.

PAGE 463. The lease of the manor of Eltham was again renewed to Sir John Gregory Shaw for eight years, from April 1796; and again for seven years, from 1804.

PAGE 466. King James was at Eltham, in 1612; after which it does not seem to have been visited by any of the royal family.

The great hall, now used as a barn, and some of the offices, are all that are remaining of it. The hall is one hundred feet in length, thirty-six in breadth, and fifty-five in height; it has a wooden roof, wrought with Gothic ornaments.

PAGE 477. Sir William James, bart. died in December 1783, as did his only son, Sir Edward William James, bart. in 1792, æt. 18; they were both buried here.

PAGE 478. Robert Nassau was second son of the Hon. Richard Savage Nassau, brother to the earl of Rochford; I am since informed that this seat of the Wythens was sold by George Nassau, esq. to Joseph Warner, esq. the present proprietor, who resides here.

PAGE 481. Since earl Bathurst's death, Fairy-hill has been in the successive occupations of Henry Hoare, esq. Gen. Morrison, and John Randall, esq. after which it was sold to Mr. Naylor, who died in 1796.

PAGE 485. The church consists of a chancel, nave, and two isles, having a tall spire steeple at the west end. The north isle was built in 1667, by Sir John Shaw, bart. who had a faculty for the purpose. Whilst the vault was digging under this isle, the roof of the isle fell in; after which it was rebuilt, new pewed, and a new pulpit was given, all at Sir John Shaw's expence.

PAGE 487. The lease of the rectory was purchased of the Nassaus by Mr. John Green, who is the present lessee of it.

LEE.

PAGE 492. THIS PARISH contains about one thousand and sixty acres of land, of which about five hundred and twenty are arable, about four hundred and sixty meadow and

563

pasture, and about eighty woodland; there is no waste land. The soil in the upper part, towards Bromley, is a stiff clay; in other parts gravel. The present number of houses is about fifty.

Lady Dacre's seat was inherited by her from her father, Sir Thomas Fluyder. There is a handsome seat in the village, which was built by Thomas Lucas, esq. who resided in it till his death, in 1784; his widow marrying John Julius Angerstein, esq. entitled him to it, and he now owns it, but it is in the occupation of Sir John Call, bart.

PAGE 497. There were two estates, called Little Banker's and Great Hatchfield, partly in this parish, and partly in Lewisham, which have for many years passed with the manor of Catford, in Lewisham.

PAGE 499. The church consists of a nave and chancel;

at the west end is a low tower, the upper part of which has been rebuilt with brick, and is roofed with common red tiles. At the later end of the last century it was in agitation to rebuild this church, which was then represented to be in a state too ruinous to admit of repair; this measure has been again purposed during the incumbency of the present rector, but no steps have been yet taken towards it.

In the church is a monument for Trevor Charles Roper, lord Dacre, who married Mary Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Fluyder knt. (who died in 1769, and lies buried here) by Mary his wife, daughter of Sir George Champion; he died in 1794, æt. 49.

William Parsons, the late celebrated comedian, was buried here in 1795; over whom is this epitaph –

HERE PARSONS LIES, OFT ON LIFE'S BUSY STAGE,  
WITH NATURE, READER, HAST THOU SEEN HIM VIE;  
HE SCIENCE KNEW, KNEW MANNERS, KNEW THE AGE,  
RESPECTED KNEW TO LIVE – RESPECTED DIE.

PAGE 502. The present rector, Dr. Courtenay, bishop of Bristol, was in Feb. 1797. translated to the see of Exeter.

#### LEWISHAM.

PAGE 503. THE CHURCH, which is about the centre of the village, is not far from the sixth mile stone from London. The parish is bounded towards Surry by Lambeth, Camberwell, and the hamlet of Penge: two-thirds of the cultivated lands are arable, two hundred acres are wood, and the waste lands on Sydenham common, Blackheath, &c. nearly one thousand acres. Mr. Russell, who has one of the

564

most extensive concerns of the kind in the kingdom, occupies about fifty acres of nursery ground, and there are about forty cultivated by market gardeners. The whole number of houses in this parish is five hundred and thirty; of which, in the hamlet of Sydenham, there are about eighty.

PAGE 504. The manor of Sydenham, the antient scite of which lies within the bounds of this parish, was given by John Besville to the prior and convent of St. Andrew, Rochester; and at the dissolution of it, in king Henry VIII.'s reign, passed with the other possessions of it into the hands of the crown. The mansion of it, called the Place-house, and sometimes from its size, the Great House, stood about a mile northward from the village of Sydenham, near the western side of the river. It became, with a small parcel of the demesne lands round it, some years ago separated in moieties, one of which was purchased by Mr. Jonathan Sabine, the present proprietor, who has pulled down his moiety of the house. The eastern moiety, which is now standing, was inherited, with the lands belonging to it, by the niece of Rich. Brooke, esq. widow of John Secker, esq. who is the present owner of it.

The mill, at Southend, formerly used by Mr. Ephraim How, is now a mustard mill. At the village or town of Lewisham is a mill for making cloth without weaving.

The large mansion, near the church, late Mr. Sclater's, was built by Sir John Lethieullier, in 1680; it is now the property of Mr. Richard Wright, and is occupied as a school.

PAGE 505. Between Lewisham and Brockley is a well, of the same quality as those of Tunbridge. The spring is the property of lord Dartmouth; a woman attends to serve the water, which is delivered gratis to the inhabitants of this

parish. At the Well-house are held the meetings of the St. George's Bowmen, a society of archers, established in 1789.

PAGE 512. The old manor house, which was probably the scite of the priory, stood to the south of the church, where is now the manor farm.

PAGE 515. The manor of Billingham, after the Dissolution, came into the hands of the crown, and was granted by queen Mary, in 1554, to Richard Whately, whose daughter and heir, Phillipa, married John Rochester, and he levied a fine of it in 1575; his son and heir, Emery, sold it in 1584, to John Leigh, who in 1598, alienated it to James Altham, by a female heir of which name it passed in marriage to Stidolfe. Sir Richard Stidolfe, by his will, in 1676, gave his estates between his two daughters, Margaret, wife of James Tryon, esq. and Frances, married to Jacob lord Astley. Fran-

565

ces lady Astley left her estates to her nephew, Charles Tryon, esq. in whom the entire fee of this manor being vested, he sold it in 1724, to Thomas Inwen, esq. whose daughter, Sarah viscountess Falkland, afterwards inherited it.

PAGE 524. The present structure of the church, which is of stone, consists of an oblong square, with a small circular recess, at the east end, for the altar; on the south side is a portico. At the west end stands an antient square tower, the upper part of which has been rebuilt. The inside is neatly fitted up; at the west end is an organ, given by Mr. Spencer, whose arms are on the front; on each side are monuments for the Petrie family, the one executed in Italy, the other by Mr. Banks.

In the vault, under the new church, are placed the several monuments which had been in the old church.

The church-yard has a great number of tomb-stones in it; among them is one for the Rev. William Lowth, the late vicar, who died in 1795.

Mrs. Susan Graham, widow, who died in 1698, built a chapel on Blackheath, and endowed it with twenty pounds per annum for a reader; two pounds for ringing the bell, and three pounds for repairs, charged on the great tithes. There is another chapel also on Blackheath, within this parish, built in 1791, and licensed as a chapel of ease. At Sydenham is another chapel, which was formerly a meeting-house for Presbyterian dissenters. It is now licensed as a chapel of ease for the parish of Lewisham. The number of houses, in and near Blackheath, within this parish, are about one hundred.

PAGE 525. Line penult: read John Glynn, ob. 1568.

#### BECKENHAM.

PAGE 528. THIS PARISH reaches to the confines of Surry, where it is bounded by that of Croydon, a small portion of Camberwell, and Penge, a detached hamlet of Battersea. It contains three thousand one hundred and seventy acres of land, of which, in 1793, about eighteen hundred and fifty were arable, ten hundred and eighty meadow and pasture, and about two hundred and forty woods and orchards, but a considerable quantity has since been laid down in grass, the waste lands do not exceed thirty or forty acres; the number of houses are one hundred and forty.

Beckenham-place is an elegant mansion, standing on an eminence, and commands a beautiful, though not an extensive prospect. Kent-house is now occupied as a farm house.

Among other houses in this parish, the residence of gentlemen, is that of lord Auckland, near Elmer's-end, purchased of J. A. Rucker, esq. of Joseph Cator, esq. formerly Sir Piercy Brett's; of R. H. A. Bennet, esq. about half a mile south east of Beckenham-street; and of Mrs. Hoare, widow of Henry Hoare, esq. opposite the church; which two last are the property of lord Gwydir and of Edward King, esq. F. R. S. and F. S. A. Author of the Dissertation on antient Castles, Morsels of Criticism, and other learned works.

PAGE 538. Sir Merrick Burrell died in 1787.

Line 5. For James read Jones Raymond.

PAGE 545. Correct the time of Mrs. Amy Burrell's death: she died in 1789, æt. 89. It was the widow of her son, Peter Burrell, Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Lewis, of Hackney, who died in 1794.

PAGE 549. The following is an extract from a more correct list of rectors, communicated by the Rev. Mr. Denne, of Wilmington.

Robert Leigh      Robert Cosyn, A. M. inst. 1548.

John Calverley, LL. D. ins. 1561,  
obt. July 31, 1576.

Thomas Lloyd, 1576.

Thomas Anyam, S. T. B. induct.

1613.

..... Dalton, esq.      William Skinner, L. B. 1616,  
ob. 1647.

Robert Clissold, A. M. 1661, ob.  
1676.

William Asheton, S. T. P. inst.  
1676. obt. 1711.

Honourable St. John, bart.      Thomas Clarke, A. B. inst. 1711.  
William Furigneau, A. M. 1765,  
obt. 1778.

Mr. Rose.      William Rose, A. M. 1778. The  
present rector.

Dr. Epiphanus Holland was never rector; he served the curacy, and was buried in this church in 1730.

#### BROMLEY.

PAGE 550. BROMLEY PARISH is bounded by no less than eight others. It contains about three thousand acres of land, of which three hundred and fifty are coppice wood, and two hundred and fifty waste; formerly there was much more woodland, which has been grubbed up, and converted into tillage, near a third of the parish having been so about

the middle of the last century. There are two meeting-houses in this parish belonging to the Methodists. Southborough is a hamlet in Bromley, in which there are several farm houses, and two larger ones; Mr. Newnham, brother of alderman Newnham, occupies one, and Mr. Reynolds the other.

PAGE 562. Simpson's is now occupied as a farm house. Freeland's is a seat in this parish, the freehold of which belongs to Mrs. Asheton; but the residue of a term, granted many years since, is now vested in Thomas Raikes, esq. deputy-governor of the Bank, who resides in it.

Bromley-college is under the management of fourteen trustees, seven of whom are – the archbishop of Canterbury, the bishops

of London and Rochester, the archdeacon and chancellor of the diocese, the dean of St. Paul's, and dean of the arches for the time being; the others are elective. In Lyson's Environs, p. 320, is a beautiful engraving of the founder, bishop Warner.

PAGE 566. The church is a spacious structure, consisting of a nave and two isles, and a chancel; at the west end is a square embattled tower, with a cupola at the top. The north isle was rebuilt in 1792, to which bishop Thomas contributed the sum of five hundred pounds.

PAGE 568. George Norman, esq. of Bromley common, is the present lessee of the parsonage of Bromley, whose father married the daughter of Mr. John Innocent, the former lessee of it. The curate, who is appointed by the bishop, receiving twenty pounds per annum out of the great tithes. John Hawksworth, LL. D. well known from his various elegant publications, resided in this parish, and was buried here on November 22, 1773.

There is a charity school established at Bromley, in which thirteen boys, and the same number of girls, are cloathed and educated. It was established before the year 1718, and is supported by the interest of 1000l. 3 per cents. given by different persons, an annual subscription, and the collections made at a charity sermon. In addition to the charities, Mrs. Eleanor Emmett, in 1739, gave a rent charge of 40s. per ann.

568

---  
ADDITIONS, &C.  
TO VOLUME II.

---  
CHESILHURST.

PAGE 2.

CHESILHURST is sometimes spelt Chislehurst. It contains about twenty-five hundred acres, the cultivated land is almost wholly arable; there are about two hundred acres of waste land in it. There are upwards of one hundred houses in it, and more are now building.

PAGE 13. Camden-place is now occupied by William Lushington, esq. M. P. for the city of London.

PAGE 15. Town-court farm was sold by the executors of Nathaniel Roffey, esq. to Mr. Edward Hodsell, whose son of the same name died possessed of it in 1794.

PAGE 16. The seat of the Farringtons was built in the reign of king James I. by Thomas Farrington, esq. of Lancashire.

HAYES.

PAGE 22. Is about twelve miles from London. It contains about one thousand acres of cultivated land, which are divided in equal portions of arable and pasture, but the latter has been for some years gradually increasing; there are between two and three hundred acres of waste. There are sixty-two houses in it.

PAGE 23. Baston-court became the property of the Woods, Richard and Anthony Wood being coheirs in gavelkind, alienated it in 1762, to John Luxford, esq of whom it was purchased in 1795, by James Randall, jun. esq. the present proprietor.

The manor of Pickhurst, alias Heaver, lies near the bounds

of this parish, next to Beckenham. In 1693, it was the property of Matthias Wallraven, whose grandson, Peter, in 1757, alienated it to William Cowley, and he sold it in 1765, to Mariabella Eliot, sister of Mr. J. Eliot, the present proprietor. The mansion of it is occupied by John Bowdler, esq.

PAGE 26. A school house was erected in 1791, and a master and mistress appointed, to teach all the poor children in the parish to read, and the girls to work, the expence of

569

which, except from the aid of Mrs. Lloyd's and Mrs. Harison's benefactions, have been defrayed by voluntary subscriptions.

Sir Samuel Lennard, anno 1617, gave forty shillings per annum, to be distributed on the anniversary of the Popish plot, among such forty poor persons as should be present at a sermon, to be preached on that occasion at West Wickham church, ten of the said poor persons to be of this parish of Hayes.

An acre and an half of land was given to this parish, but by whom unknown.

PAGE 29. John Till, the present rector, is LL. B.

#### WEST WICKHAM.

PAGE 29. THIS PARISH is bounded towards Surry by that of Addington. There are about twenty acres of waste land in it. On that part of what is usually called Hayes-common within this parish, is the intrenchment, mentioned page 41, to have been thrown up by Sir Christopher, in the reign of queen Elizabeth. The present number of houses is about seventy.

PAGE 30. The house, now occupied by Mr. Whitmore, and the property of Mr. Waller, was before that the property and residence of that amiable writer, Gilbert West, esq. who died in 1756, and was buried in this church.

PAGE 34. In Lyson's Environs, vol. iv. page 552, is an engraving of West Wickham-court.

PAGE 35. In the nave of this church is a memorial for Sir Thomas Wilson, in 1775; and for Elizabeth his wife, in 1779.

#### KESTON.

PAGE 38. THE ROAD from Keston Mark to Leaves-green, as now altered, is by the bath, whence it winds round the west side of Holwood. The road formerly from the bath to the eastward, is now a private road to Mr. Pitt's house; all that part of the hill from the new road being inclosed.

#### CHELSFIELD.

PAGE 84. THE HAMLET of Greenstreet-green is within this parish, almost adjoining to the boundary of Orpington.

#### ORPINGTON.

PAGE 97. THE VILLAGE of Orpington is situated about a mile from the southern, and half that distance from the northern boundary of it. The Crofton woods are, for the

570

most part, in the parish, and its western boundary runs through them, and in continuation, divides the farm house of Town-court, which is partly in this parish, and partly in Chesilhurst, and is at present possessed by Mrs. Hodsoll, mother of Miss

Matilda Hodsell. The soil is in general light, some sandy, and some gravelly; but about Crofton it is a cold clay and swampy. The parish contains about sixteen hundred acres. There are two farms of some account here – Patten-grove, belonging to Sir John Dixon Dyke; and Perry-hall, to Sir Richard Glode.

PAGE 112. In the list of the vicars of Orpington, correct thus –

James Whitehouse, inducted 1732, obt. 1755.  
Francis Fawkes, A. M. inducted 1755, resigned 1794.  
John Till, A. M. inducted 1774, resigned 1778.  
J. Pratt, inducted 1778. Present vicar.

#### ST. MARY CRAY.

PAGE 112. THE VILLAGE of St. Mary Cray extends from the northern almost to the southern boundary of the parish, which is somewhat more than half a mile; there is however some interval between it and the hamlet, called Reynold Smith's, where the parishes of Orpington and St. Mary Cray join, consisting of about thirteen or fourteen houses. It is said to contain about seventeen hundred acres; the soil is light and free from chalk.

PAGE 119. Mr. Berens is now out of the direction of both these companies.

PAGE 122. There is no glebe land belonging either to the vicar or rector. See the augmentation to this chapel above, page 112.

#### FOOT'S CRAY.

PAGE 135. TWO THIRDS of this parish are arable. The present number of houses in this parish is only twenty-three, which may be accounted for from a considerable part of this village, situated on the road leading from the high London road to Chesilhurst being in that parish, the inhabitants of which being at a great distance from their own, generally christen their children in this church.

Notwithstanding the general soil of this parish is gravelly and light, yet it bears tolerable good crops of corn, being for the most part arable. The parish is small, containing only about seven hundred and fifty acres, and bounds irregularly with that of Chesilhurst, towards the south and south-west. There is a good modern sashed house in that part of the village which turns off to Chesilhurst, it was the property of

571

Mrs. Manning, widow, who sold it to Richard Wright, esq. who now resides in it.

PAGE 137. Line 23. For Cleve read Cleeve.

PAGE 138. Mr. Harenc married the daughter of Salisbury Cade, esq. of Greenwich, by whom he has a son and daughter.

PAGE 139. There are two bells in the steeple of this church, the north isle is a kind of chancel, formerly belonging to the Walsingham's. In a vault underneath it were buried Bourchier Cleeve, esq. and his wife of Footscray-place, but there is no monument or even memorial over them. There are about ten acres of glebe contiguous to the parsonage house, and about thirteen more in the parish of Chesilhurst, purchased by the governors of Queen Anne's bounty, to which two hundred pounds was added by private donation for the augmentation of this rectory.

PAGE 141. In the list of the rectors of Foot's Cray read thus:

John Rowland, A. M. ind. June  
1660, obt. 1680.  
Isaac Hunt, clerk, 1690.  
John Hancock, clerk, presented  
1691, obt. 1700.  
John Whittell, 1720, obt. 1726.  
Richard Lucas, inst. July 26,  
1725, obt. 1747.  
William Smith, 1747, obt. 1765.  
Benjamin Skinner, 1765, obt.  
1766.  
William Gwyn, June 1766, re=  
sig. 1768.  
Thomas Moore, A. M. 1768, the  
present rector.

#### NORTH CRAY.

PAGE 142. THE SOIL of this parish is rather a light sandy loam, except in the brooks, which are moorish with a sharp burning gravel underneath, the uplands towards the woods are a stiff clay. The parish is about a mile and a half in length, and contains about one thousand acres of arable and pasture land, besides the woods.

PAGE 156. Mr. Madocks purchased Mount Mascal in 1781, and Vale Mascal in 1782. He was buried at Wrexham, in Denbighshire.

Line 14. Shovel Blackwood, esq. now resides at Camberwell, in Surry.

PAGE 158. In the south-east part of the church-yard is a vault, in which lie Jeffry Hetherington, esq. and the reverend William Hetherington his brother, both owners of North Cray manor as before-mentioned, over it is a handsome marble monument.

PAGE 161. The present parsonage-house was built by the reverend Mr. Moore, the present rector, but chiefly at the expence of the Hetherington family, to the amount of

572

seven hundred pounds, the reverend Mr. Hetherington giving besides two acres of land for this purpose.

There are in North Cray and Ruxley about forty acres of glebe.

In the steeple of the church there are two bells.

Page 162, line 4. Mr. Hotham was only curate of this parish.

#### BEXLEY.

PAGE 172. General James Pattison purchased Blendon-hall of Mr. Scott, and is the present owner of it, and resides in it.

PAGE 176. Mount Pleasant is now inhabited by Francis Dashwood, esq. the owner of it. Beyond which, almost adjoining to Crayford-street, but in this parish, is a handsome sashed house, built not many years since; it belongs to Shovel Blackwood, esq. but is occupied by James Templar, esq. The house and buildings of the farm called Wantsum, is situated within this parish at the north east boundary of it, next to Crayford, (see p. 265), though part of the lands belonging to it are likewise in that parish and Dartford, it belongs to Shovel Blackwood, esq.

#### ERITH.

PAGE 227. THE PARISH is in length about four miles,

and in breadth two and a half.

PAGE 246. Mr. Wheatley has issue by Margaret his wife five sons and two daughters.

PAGE 255. The following is the account of Lesnes abbey, by Dr. Stukeley, as printed in the *Archæologiae*, vol. i. p. 44. It stands on a pleasing prominence, half way down the hill towards the marsh; above is a very large and beautiful wood of oak. The major part of the original house or seat of the founder is now left, being the present farm-house. The buildings of the religious are towards the south, but very little remaining. There were two grand gateways into the first court, one to the west, another to the east, but both long since destroyed.

The building of the mansion-house is according to the style of that time, very good, stone below, timber stud work above; a noble large hall, with a curious roof of chesnut; near the upper end is a very old fashioned stair-case of much timber, but grand; this leads up to the chantry and lodging rooms of the founder, and his successors, the priors. Beyond the hall is a parlour, on the right hand of it the kitchen and offices. South of the dwelling is the church, built of

573

stone, only the north wall is remaining, and that ruinous, but enough to give one a just notion of the whole in its original state. There were cloisters on the south side of the church, the outward wall thereof only now remaining. There seems to have been a vault under the west end of the church: south of the cloisters was the refectory or hall of the canons. The lodgings, kitchen, offices, and I suppose the sub priors apartment, only the outward walls remaining. The whole area of the church cloisters, lodgings, &c. is now a kitchen garden. They told us they had dug up from time to time the foundations of the buildings, with many coffins of stone, corpse and monuments. A tomb stone still remains on the east side by the wall. These were of the canons, who were always buried along the cloisters. Doubtless many fine brasses and monuments of great persons buried in this church are now no more.

Most of the north side of the church is standing. In this abbey the founder died the year after he entered into Religion on July 14, 1179. He was interred on the right side of the altar in the choir.

#### CRAYFORD.

PAGE 264. The circumference of the parish is about nine miles. There are about four hundred acres of waste on Bexley and Northumberland heaths within it, six hundred acres of marsh, and one hundred and fifty acres of wood, the rest arable, which bears tolerable good crops.

Line 25. For Howbury, read Howbery.

PAGE 265. It is allowed that there is a peculiar excellence in the water here for the bleaching of linen cloth.

PAGE 275. The present Miles Barne, esq. is the son, (not the grandson) of Miles Barne, who married Miss Elwick. Lady Mary Verney Fermanagh has taken a long lease of May-place, and has laid out 7000l. in the enlarging and modernizing of it, the lawns round it are laid out with great taste, and the prospects from it are very beautiful and extensive.

PAGE 277. Mr. Blackwood knows nothing even of the name of Marshal's-court, or place, was I to hazard a conjecture, it would be that the Old-place-house lately pulled

down near the bridge was once so called, the scite of which still belongs to Mr. Blackwood.

PAGE 278. I have been misinformed in relation to Mr. Blackwood's having sold Howbery, &c. under an act of parliament, the act wholly related to his estates elsewhere. He bears for his arms, Argent, saltier sable, on a chief gules, three trefoils slipt of the field.

574

PAGE 278. Line 9. For Arpilton, read Appylton.

PAGE 281. In Crayford church there are three chancels, the middle one belongs to the rector, the side ones to the owners of Newbery and Howbery manors respectively, who repair them. In the year 1700 the church and chancel, then much ruined and decayed, was repaired at the sole charge of Sir Clodesley Shovel.

DARTFORD.

PAGE 287. THE VALLIES in this parish are more fertile than the uplands, being more inclined to loam; behind Baldwins, and towards Stanhill there is some land, a stiff clay, and part of the priory farm bordering on the marshes is a good mould, but the amount of both is not much.

PAGE 287. Of the marsh land one hundred and forty acres lie on the western, or other side of the creek, next to Crayford, and there are about one hundred acres of meadow on the sides of the river; above the town there are about three hundred acres of wood, five hundred acres of waste on Dartford-heath, and fifty on the Brent.

PAGE 288. The fish at present caught in Dartford creek, are trout, roach, dace, gudgeons, eels, and remarkable fine flounders; the fishery belongs to Sir Charles Morgan, but no notice is taken of its being private property, every one fishing at his pleasure in it.

At the entrance of the town from London is an old seat, which formerly belonged to the family of Faussett, and afterwards to the Bucks, two female coheirs of which name sold it to Mr. John Tasker, of Dartford, the present owner of it, but it is at present occupied as a boarding school for young ladies.

PAGE 293, line 8. For Mentestrum, read Menthestrum.

PAGE 316. Mr. Fielder, at his death in 1782, by his will gave his estate at Stanham to his sister Mrs. Mary Henley, of Dartford, who now owns it.

PAGE 325. The bishops lessee of the parsonage was Basil Francis, esq. lately dead, the lease is now held in trust for his children.

PAGE 326. The vicar is entitled to the tythe of wood, stock, turnips, after pasture, the tythe of Dartford salt-marsh, containing four hundred and forty-four acres, and other usual small tythes.

WILMINGTON.

PAGE 330. ON THE SOUTH of the mansion of the Ba-thurst's, at Barn-end, was situated the house inhabited by the Langworth family, who were benefactors to the poor of

575

this parish, much of the garden wall of these premises is standing; the estate belongs to Mr. Thomas Plummer, late of the Strand, in London.

PAGE 331, line 10. Add, but Richard Leigh, esq. re-sides in it.

PAGE 338. From the remains of arches in the south wall of the present isle, it is plain there was one southward of it, that extended the whole length of it, the east end is remaining, and is made use of as a vestry room. In the north wall of the chancel, as may be seen in the church-yard. There was antiently a door, which seems to have communicated with stairs leading to a rood loft, of which a beam, which now marks the separation between the nave and the chancel, was probably a part.

In the church-yard, on the south side is a vault, and tomb over it, for the family of Hobbes; another like for the family of Perry, of this parish. On the north side a vault, and monument over it, for Edward Fowke, esq. of Hawley, obt. 1789, and his wife, Esther, daughter of Holland, &c. At a small distance another vault, for the family of Neve, of London. Near the west bounds of the church-yard, a larger vault, over which is raised a monument, similar in its design to that erected in Chelsea church-yard, for Sir Hans Sloane, being a marble urn entwined by a serpent, and a covering over it, the inscription for Sir Edward Hulse, bart. first physician to king George II. obt. 1759, æt. 77, and for his lady, obt. 1741. It was made about 1746, when her remains were brought from Essex, and interred here; several others of the family are deposited here likewise. In the east end of the church-yard are four altar tombs for the family of Langworth, one of whom was a benefactor to this parish, and against the east wall of the chancel is affixed a monument with an urn over it, for one of this family.

#### SUTTON.

PAGE 357, line 11. For Frazer, read Fraser.

#### DARENT.

PAGE 367. There seems to be a vein of chalk which runs across this parish, along the hill from St. Margaret's northward, as far as Blackdale.

There are between eleven and twelve hundred acres of land in this parish, besides the woodland, which is two hundred acres.

576

PAGE 368. Line 10. Admiral Ward bequeathed his house here to his daughter, Elizabeth, who, soon after she became of age, sold it to Mr. Fowke.

Line 13. This house, with the estate belonging to it, was sold by the assignees in February, 1797, when it was bought by one of them, Mr. Atkinson, a hemp merchant.

There is a hamlet called GILLS, in the southern part of this parish, amongst the hills, the proprty of which, though formerly of some account, is now split into so many parcels, as not to be of any consequence worth mentioning.

PAGE 380. The glebe belonging to the vicarage does not amount to four acres, of which two are contiguous to the ruins of St. Margaret's chapel.

#### STONE.

PAGE 394. Cotton manor, at Mrs. Simpson's death, in 1777, came to Mr. Richard Simpson, who died in 1796, when it came to Baptist Simpson, esq. the present owner of it.

#### SWANSCOMBE.

PAGE 414. The manor of Combes, alias Alkerdyn, is now usually known by the latter name.

PAGE 415, line 20. The above mentioned manor de-  
volved, on lord Teynham's death, to the other two sisters of  
Mary Wilhelmina his wife, the surviving daughters and co-  
heirs of Sir Francis Head, soon after which it was sold to  
Mr. William Levett, of Northfleet, as he did to Mr. Bow-  
ham Hayes of this parish, who sold it to Mr John Bayley,  
who died in 1794, leaving a large family, and they conveyed  
it by sale, in 1795, to David Powell, esq. the present owner.

PAGE 416. Ingress, as it is now both called and spelt,  
was formerly written Ingries. Mr. Calcraft, who was like,  
wise lord of the manor of Northfleet, agreed to sell Ingress  
free from all manorial rights over it. These rights he after-  
wards laid claim to, which Mr. Rorbus resisted, and on a  
trial had at the assizes at Maidstone, was confirmed in them.

PAGE 418. The church has three isles; there are six bells.

#### SOUTHFLEET.

PAGE 422, line 17. The lands in this parish, approach-  
ing near Longfield, are very hilly, and much covered with  
flint stones.

PAGE 425, line 11. For Lautana read Lantana.

Line 12. For abortinum read abortivum.

Line 13. For Rheseda read Reseda.

577

PAGE 435. Joseph Brooke died in 1792; his widow in  
1796.

PAGE 436. There are six bells.

PAGE 439. The present rector, Mr. Rashleigh, has laid  
out a considerable sum in modernizing and making the par-  
sonage house more commodious, however he may have spoiled  
the antient venerable form of it.

#### LONGFIELD.

PAGE 441, line 21. For Clenopodium read Clinopodium.  
Line 22. As to Longfield-downs – there are no open unin-  
closed downs here now, though there are several fields, in-  
closed since Gerarde's time, which bear that name.

#### HARTLEY.

PAGE 452. Hartley-bottom is on the eastern side of this  
parish, not the western.

PAGE 457, line 2. For Walker read Walter.

#### RIDLEY.

PAGE 458. The soil of this parish is various, for though  
it abounds with chalk, yet there are some stiff clays inter-  
mixed likewise with many flints. It is nearly surrounded by  
the parish of Ash, except on the north east, where it joins to  
Meopham.

PAGE 461. The church is neat; there has been lately a  
small pointed turret, built on the west end of the body of the  
church.

#### ASH.

PAGE 463. The hamlet of Westyoke lies more than a  
mile to the north-west of the church; that of Hodsoll-street,  
two miles east of the church, contains the greatest number  
of its inhabitants.

This parish, in its irregular shape, is much intersected by the  
parish of Stansted towards the south; it surrounds three sides  
of that of Ridley to the north east, and bounds to Meopham  
in two places.

PAGE 472. The church is neat and plain within, and has been new paved and pewed within these six years. There are six bells.

KINGSDOWN.

PAGE 475. This parish is more than four miles long, and two and a half broad; it is much covered with coppice woods, having full seven hundred acres in it; much of the land in this parish is a strong heavy tillage land.

578

The church is situated in the wood, about a mile westward of the village, and a little to the eastward of Hever.

FARNINGHAM.

PAGE 510. This parish is on an average about five miles long, and about a mile and a quarter in width. There is a handsome house (white and sashed) near the corner of the road, leading to Sutton; it was built some few years ago by Mr. Harris, a surgeon, whose daughter now owns it, but the Rev. Mr. Marmaduke Lewis resides in it.

PAGE 523. Mr. Nash's mausoleum, in Farningham church-yard, was not finished till after his death, by his executors, in 1785; besides Mr. Nash, the remains of his brother, Dr. John Nash of Sevenoake, Mrs. Allen their sister, and the wife of John Allen, her son, are deposited in it.

EYNSFORD.

PAGE 527. This parish contains about two thousand five hundred and fifty acres of land, of which the woodland, pasture and meadow are not more than four acres. The soil of it is but thin and poor.

PAGE 535. The church has six bells.

ULLINGSTONE.

PAGE 540. The parish of Lullingstone contains upwards of one thousand acres; of which six hundred and ninety are park, three hundred and seventy arable, twenty woodland, and the rest meadow. Some part of the arable is stiff strong land, the rest of the upland is chalk. There are only three houses in the parish.

Lullingstane contains three hundred and forty acres of arable and nine of wood; there is no house in the parish, the soil is almost the whole chalk. The remains of the chapel were pulled down some few years ago.

END OF VOL. II.