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there to him and his heirs. The Cambrays had been tenants of the manor before 1199. A family of the name early held land at Church Stretton.

THE SHEET, Ludford.—This manor of two hides was in 1086 held by Ralph de Mortimer under the King, and Ingelran held under him. Its Saxon owner Levenot held it with one berewick (hamlet), and it was worth 5s. annually. Later its value fell to 2s., but in 1086 it had risen to 10s. There was land for four ox-teams. In demesne there were two, and four herdmen and two villeins had half a team. The Sheet was later held under the Mortimers by the family of Le Savage, who in 1255 seem to have been represented here by William de Bosco. In 1304 a knight's fee here was held under Edmund Mortimer by Adam de la Sete, possibly the father of Roger de la Sete of the Subsidy Roll.]

	s	d		s	d
Joh'e de la Broke	ij		Will'o fil' p'po'iti		x
Walt'o Bercar'	ij		Rog' de la Sete...	ij	
Pet <sup>o</sup> de Greote	ij		Simonele Fremon	ij	ob'q <sup>u</sup>
Joh'e Robyns	ij		Thom' fil' Ric'i...	ij	
Hug' Water	...	xij	Regin' Robyns	ij	iiij
Joh'e Cambrey	...	xv	S'b't'	Will'o	
Adam atte Style	vij			Godefrey	xij
Ad' Colete	ij		ibid'm	Will'o	
Thom' le Messager	ij			p'po'ito	xij
				p' Sm <sup>a</sup> xxvj <sup>s</sup>	ob'q <sup>u</sup>

#### BOREWARTON<sup>29</sup>.

[BURWARTON.<sup>29</sup>—This was held in 1086 under Earl Roger by Ralph de Mortimer as a manor of half a hide geldable. Helgot, the baron of Castle Holgate, held it under him. Its Saxon lord was Azor, but the manor was waste when it came to the hands of Ralph. There was arable land for three teams, and two villeins had one team there. The annual value of the manor in 1086 was 2s. The Mortimers continued to hold the overlordship for three centuries, but Helgot's holding passed to the family of De Girros. In the 13th century, Robert de Girros, lord of Burwarton, and several other Shropshire estates occurs frequently in matters connected with the country. He apparently conveyed his interest in Burwarton to his sister Isabella, wife of Thomas de Constantine, whose son Thomas was lord of Burwarton in 1255. He left an only child, Isabella, second wife of Adam de Montgomery, whose son Robert in 1290 was the heir of Burwarton. He seems to have died comparatively young, for in 1304 Walter de Hopton had inherited the manor. Walter died in 1305, leaving a son of the same name, the Walter de Hopton of the Subsidy Roll. The line of the Hoptons ended with an heiress, who in the 15th century took the Hopton estates to her husband, Sir Roger Corbet of Moreton Corbet.]

	s	d		s	d
Walt'o de Hopton'	iiij		Thom' le Rede	...	xiiij
Thom' de Hopton'	ij	vj	Henr' Catel	...	xx
Marg' le Rede	...	vij	Rog' Pollard	...	xx

<sup>29</sup> Fyton iii. 31.

## OU'TONE.

[OVERTON,<sup>30</sup> Stottesden.—This manor of two hides was held in 1086, like the Sheet, by Ingelran under Ralph de Mortimer. Its Saxon holder had been Edric Sylvaticus, but it apparently had not suffered during his resistance to the Norman rule, as its value of 20s. annually had not changed during the troubles. There was one ox-team in demesne, and two neat-herds, three villeins, and two bordars had one other. Overton passed like the Sheet to the family of Le Savage, and at the close of the 12th century was held by Richard de Overton, who apparently was connected with the Savages by marriage. In 1193, Richard de Overton was a *Visor* of the works at the Castle of Brug (i.e., Bridgnorth). In 1221, Geoffrey de Overton was a Knight and Grand Juror, and in 1235 he was one of the *Visors* of the Shropshire Forests. A Geoffrey de Overton was lord of Overton under Roger de Mortimer in 1255. He may have been a second of the name. This Geoffrey had two sons, William and Nicholas. William, his successor, was dead in 1290, and apparently succeeded by a Geoffrey de Overton, who occurs in 1310. The Peter de Overton of the Subsidy Roll occurs in 1325 as lord of Overton, and he appears as witness of a deed in 1316. Peter lived till 1342, and was succeeded by his son John, whose daughter Johanna took the estates to the Worthyn family, from whom they passed through the Bruyns to the Ottleys of Pitchford.]

	s	d		s	d
Petro de Ou'ton'	... ij	iiij	Henr' fil' p'po'iti	... xvij	
Henr' Breotonn	... xx	Will'o de Neuton		xiiij	

EUDON<sup>31</sup>.

[EUDON GEORGE,<sup>31</sup>—This had been an estate of Edric Sylvaticus, whom the *Domesday* record calls here simply Edric, a free man, but unlike Overton it was waste when it passed to Ralph de Mortimer, who held it in 1086, under Earl Roger. Its annual value in Saxon times was 25s., but in 1086 it had only reached 15s. There were two hides geldable, with land for five teams. There were two teams in demesne, and six serfs, one villein and two bordars had two teams. Eudon passed later to the family of Le Savage, whom some have thought, but without evidence, to have been descendants of Edric. In 1221, the last Le Savage of Eudon was dead, and his six sisters were his heirs. The families of De Eudon, De Overton, De St. George, and De Bosco hence had all a share in the Savage estates. In 1255, Eudon was held by William St. George, Robert Corbet and Geoffrey de Overton. William held by service of seven and a half days' ward at Wigmore Castle, Robert by five days' ward, and Geoffrey by seven days. William was succeeded by Adam St. George, and he by John St. George, who in 1316 had made way to the Henry St. George of the Subsidy Roll, whose descendants held the manor for some generations.]

	s	d		s	d
Henr' de S'co Georg'	ij	vj	Ric'o le Duc	... xvij	

## NEEN SAUAGES.

[NEEN SAVAGE,<sup>32</sup>—This manor of Ralph de Mortimer is simply called Nene in *Domesday*. It was held by Ingelrannus as a manor of four hides with land for five teams. Huni, a franklin, had held it in Saxon times. There was one team in demesne, and four serfs, three villeins, and three bordars had one team. There was a Mill worth 2s. annually. Neen passed to the family of Le Savage, from whom it took its name. It passed to the six sisters of the last Adam le Savage, and in 1255, William de St. George held three parts of the manor, and

<sup>30</sup> Eyton iv. 269.

<sup>31</sup> Eyton iii. 48.

<sup>32</sup> Eyton iv. 2 32.

Geoffrey de Overton and his son Nicolas the fourth part. The whole was computed at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hides, and was held by service of doing ward at Roger de Mortimer's castle of Wigmore for 15 days in time of war between England and Wales. The advowson of the church had been granted as early as 1179 to the Abbey of Wigmore by Hugh de Mortimer. In 1256, William de St. George had conceded the manor to the Queen of Henry III, but in 1304 it was held by John St. George, who held Eudon George and Neen Savage as a knight's fee, and it continued with his descendants for many years. Richard Ketley of Stepple, in the parish of Neen Savage, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of William St. George, some time in the early 16th century.

Richard de Eldecote took his name from Elcott, a neighbouring hamlet, and William atte Lowe, from the Low, which in 1086 was held by Ralph de Mortimer as a separate manor of two hides. In Saxon times it had belonged to the Church of St. Peter in Shrewsbury, and was worth 5s. annually. During the troubles of the Norman Conquest it became waste, but in 1086, when it was held by a tenant, Richard, it was worth 1s. It had land for two teams, and there was one team in demesne, and two villeins and a bordar had one team. Richard's successors took their name from the manor. In 1251, Ralph de la Lowe held the manor by service of 40 days ward at Wigmore Castle in war time. Ralph had a son William, who occurs in 1263, but the William of the Subsidy Roll must belong to a later generation. Possibly he was a son of the Ralph de la Lowe who held the manor in 1316. In 1350, the Abbot of Wigmore acquired the manor, and it remained with that Abbey till the Dissolution. In 1350, the King's jurors found that the land of the Low was "cold," and apparently not of great value.]

	s	d		s	d
Joh'o de Fylilode	ij	vj	Will'o de		
Will'o Bot'el	...	xvij	Euenefeld	... ij	vij
Galfr'o de North'- groue	...	xvj	Ric'o le Palmer'	... xx	
Joh'e Mylet	...	xiiijq <sup>u</sup>	Rog'de Westwode	xvij	
Will'o Mol	...	xiiijq <sup>u</sup>	S'b't' { Joh'o ibid'm { Daney's	xvj	
Ric'o de Edlecote	xv		Adam		
Will'o atte Lowe	ij	ij	Catel	xv	
Will'o Frer'	...	vij			
Will'o le Strongge	xvij		pb' Sum <sup>a</sup> .	xliij <sup>s</sup>	ix <sup>do</sup> b'

## HYNTES.

[HINTES,<sup>33</sup> Coreley.—This was probably held with Cainham in 1086. In 1255 it was in possession, under Roger de Mortimer, of three co-parceners, Roger de Foxcote, Nicolas de Hintes, and the infant son of William de Hintes. Nicholas was succeeded by a son of the same name, who held land also at Coreley.]

	s	d		s	d
Rog' fil' Ric'i	... iij		Will'mo le Whyte...	ij	
Rog' le Tayllour	...	xvij	Ric'o fil' Ric'i	... ij	

## CORNILEYE.

[CORELEY.<sup>34</sup>—This was originally in the Hundred of Overs. It was held by Ralph de Mortimer in 1086 under the King. Its Saxon lord, Siward, a franklin,

<sup>33</sup> Eyton iv. 366,

<sup>34</sup> Eyton iv. 357,

had held it as two manors, and it was then worth 48s. annually. When Mortimer received it, it was worth 3s., and in 1086 was worth 10s. It was assessed as two hides, and there was plough land for four teams. In demesne there was one, and four serfs, one villein, two bordars, and one radman had half a team.

Coreley seems to have been held later by the Le Savage family, and in 1240 it was in the hands of Geoffrey de Overton, who held one hide himself, while Nicholas de Hints held the other as his tenant. After the Battle of Evesham in 1265, this manor and that of Hints were among those taken by Roger Mortimer from the Hundred of Overs and annexed to his Honour of Cleobury.

The Church of Coreley is mentioned in 1261, when a robber took Sanctuary there, and having confessed to many larcenies, formally abjured the Realm.

Coreley seems to have passed with Overton to the Bruyn family.]

	s	d		s	d
Ric'o de Plom'ton ...	ij		Will'o Hammud	ij	vj
Joh'e de Shebbedone	ij				

#### HOPE.

[HOPE BAGOT.<sup>35</sup>—This was a member of the *Domesday* Manor of Cainham, and probably formed part of three hides held under Ralph de Mortimer by Robert Vesci, or was the one hide held by a tenant, Walter. In the 13th century it was held by the family of Bagard, from whom it took its present name. In 1255, Robert Bagard held Hope under Sir Roger de Mortimer as one hide, and in 1265 it was among the places withdrawn from the Hundred of Overs and added to the franchise of Cleobury Mortimer. In 1292, however, there is a mention of it in the business of the Hundred, and a deodand of 7s. was said to be due on two wheels and a millstone in the Mill of Hope; the inner wheel having dragged down Valentine the Miller, whereby he died. In 1305, Robert Bagard held the manor, but in 1398 it seems to have passed from the Bagards to the hands of William de Hulle.]

	s	d		s	d
Henr' Rondulfe	...	xvij	Rog' le P'sones	...	ix
Will'o Bagard	...	xij			
Cecil' Text'ie	...	xij	S'bt'	Ric'o de Hyntes ...	xij
Adam Meynagh'	...	vj	ibid'm		
Will'o de la Bolde...	...	vj		Will'o	
Joh'e le Fader	...	vij		Euerard	xij
Joh'e fil' Joh'is	...	xij		pb' Sm <sup>a</sup>	xxij <sup>s</sup> jd
Marg' Baret	...	vj			

#### KAYNH<sup>AM</sup>.

[CAINHAM.<sup>36</sup>—This large manor of Overs Hundred was held in 1086 by Ralph de Mortimer under Earl Roger. There were eight hides geldable, of which four were in demesne, on which there were two ox-teams. Two serfs, ten villeins, and five bordars had four teams, but there was land for 19 teams. Robert de Vesci held three hides under Ralph and Walter one hide. They had two teams in demesne and seven serfs; and there were four villeins and four bordars with one team only. The manor had belonged to Earl Morcar, and in the time of King Edward it was worth £8 annually. Afterwards it was worth £3, and in

<sup>35</sup> Eyton iv. 366.

<sup>36</sup> Eyton iv. 360.

1086 the part held by Ralph de Mortimer was worth 40s., and that held by his knights 38s. Two horse loads of salt from Witch were yearly due to the manor. There was a Mill, and a wood capable of fattening 200 swine, in which were three hayes.

About 1180, Hugh de Mortimer gave his part of Caynham to his newly founded Abbey of Wigmore, but Roger his successor for some time kept back Snytton as a convenient halting-place between Wigmore and Cleobury, and otherwise oppressed the Canons. On one of their journeys, however, his wife, Isabella de Ferrars, was taken suddenly ill at Snytton, and nearly lost her life as well as that of their child, and regarding this as a judgment Isabella persuaded him to give up the vill of Snytton to the Abbey. In 1255, the Abbot was lord of Caynham, and seems to have had a tenant there of knightly rank. In 1265, the Abbot withdrew the manor from Overs Hundred, and assumed the privilege of having his own gallows within the manor. The Canons of Wigmore retained Caynham till the Dissolution, when they received for it over £50 a year, equivalent to a large sum according to our modern value of money.

Caynham was probably originally in the parish of Bitterley, as Snytton is to this day, but the Richard, parson of Bitterley, of the Subsidy Roll, possibly had some private interest here. His name was Richard Dobyn, and he was presented to Bitterley in 1316 while yet only an acolyte, and had a license for non-residence that same year.

Probably the existence of a strong camp above the village caused the Saxon earls and the first barons Mortimer to keep the manor in demesne, and then to grant it to a religious foundation.

William Mop, Chaplain, may have been one of the Canons of Wigmore, or possibly one of the unattached clergy common in mediaeval days.

After the Dissolution the manor passed to the Adams family, and from Charles Adams in 1584 to Charles Fox.]

	s	d		s	d
Alb'te de Wyggemor'	iij	iiij	Thom' le Crompe ...		x
Joh'e de Potenhull'		viiij	Regin' de Stoke ...		x
Ric'o p'sona de			Will'o Mop Capll'o		x
But'ley ...	...	x			
Will'o Molendinar'		ix	S'b't' <span style="float: right;">Ric'o de la</span>		
Ric'o Bronnes	...	xj	ibid'm <span style="float: right;">Hethe ...</span>		x
Rog' Peny ...	...	ix			
Joh'e le Hunte	...	x	Joh'e de		
Alic' Prat ...	...	viiij	Cogeshal'	viiij	
Will'o de Affecote...		x			
				p' Sm <sup>a</sup>	xij <sup>s</sup>
				vij <sup>d</sup>	

### NEUTONE 'T SUDBUR'.

[NEENTON and SIDBURY.<sup>37</sup>—NEENTON, a manor of half a hide, was held by Ralph de Mortimer under Earl Roger, and a tenant, Roger, held under Ralph. Its Saxon lord had been a franklin, Azor. There were two ox-teams in demesne, and two serfs, two villeins and two bordars had one team, and there was land sufficient to employ two more. The annual value in Saxon times had been 17s., and it was the same in 1086. Azor seems to have also held Burwarton and other estates. The tithes of Neenton, or rather two thirds of them, were granted about 1138 to the Abbey of Shrewsbury, or to its dependent cell at Morville. Before the middle of the 13th century, Neenton and Sidbury had devolved together to Joan, wife of Ralph d' Arraz, and the manors were held for several generations by a succession of Ralphs.

<sup>37</sup> Eyton iii. 55 and 60.

**SIDBURY.**—This manor was south of some more important places, and Middleton lay between. Possibly the Manor of Chetton gave it its name, or it may have been the “bury” south of the castle of Aelhelfeda, the Lady of Mercia. In 1086 it was held by Ralph de Mortimer under Earl Roger as one hide. There were two ox-teams in demesne, and six serfs, six villeins, and three bordars with two teams, and there was land for two teams more. Under Wiga, a franklin, its Saxon lord, it had been worth 20s. annually, afterwards it was waste, but in 1086 was worth 18s. A Sir Hugh de Sudberi occurs in 1200, who probably took his name from Sidbury. In 1203 he accused Robert de Girros, the then lord of Burwarton, of unjustly seizing his bounds, but withdrew the cause. Before 1240 Sidbury became the property of Ralph d’Arraz, who in 1255 held it as a hide and half of land. He also held Neenton as half a hide. Sir Ralph constantly occurs on matters of business connected with the county till about 1279. In 1292 it was probably a second Ralph who appears a juror, and who was summoned to attend at London on July 7, 1297, with horse and arms for foreign service. In 1316, Ralph d’Arraz is given as lord of Sidbury, but Neenton is not mentioned. In 1321, Adam d’Arraz was patron of the Church of Neenton, and he appears among the followers of Roger Mortimer that year. He was living in 1348, when he and his wife Andrea occur. Robert d’Arraz occurs in connection with Sidbury and Neenton in 1424, but the Furslow family are said to have been seated at Sidbury at the close of the 14th century, and they held the estate till the middle of the 17th century, when it passed by marriage to the Cresswells.

The Manor of Neenton was held in 1453 by John, Earl of Shrewsbury, and later by one of the Hill family.

Hugh, son of Warin, occurs in a deed of 1328 relating to lands at Neenton. Gregory and William de Hokeswode took their name from a place near Stottesden. In 1303, Hugh de Mou of Hokewood had a grant of land at Chorley bounded by the mill of Sidbury, and the lands of Baldwin and John de Baskerville and others.]

	s	d		s	d
Adam de Arraz	...	ij	Ph'o le Tayllour	...	x
Gregor' de			Ric'o fil' Joh'is	...	x
Hokeswode	...	xij	Will'o de		
Nich'o atte Grene	...	ix	S'bt'	Hokeswode	x
Will'o fil' Henr'	...	xij	ib'd'm	Hug' fil'	
Regin' fil' Alani	...	xij		Warini	vij
Hent' Wyllies	...	vij			
Will'o Mylsand	...	xij	pb' Sm <sup>a</sup>	xij <sup>s</sup>	j <sup>a</sup>
Rob'to Hobalt	...	x			
Joh'o Shakel	...	vij			

### RUGGE.

[**RIDGE,**<sup>38</sup> Parish of Pattingham, co. Stafford.—This manor was held in Saxon times by Edric Sylvaticus under Leofric, Earl of Mercia. In 1086 it was held by Ralph de Mortimer under Earl Roger. It was a manor of five hides, with arable land for seven ox-teams. In demesne there was one team and one serf, and three villeins and four bordars had two teams. It had been worth 60s. annually, but its value had fallen to 40s. The Mortimers continued to hold Rudge for many generations, and their tenants here early took their name from the manor. In 1194, William de Rudge occurs, apparently as a knight, and in

1210 he was a benefactor to Haughmond Abbey. In 1257, Nicholas de Rudge is mentioned. He was dead in 1272, leaving a young son, William, in ward to Roger de Mortimer of Wigmore.

Rudge was at one time *extra-hundredal*, and belonged to the King's Court at Claverley, in Brimstree Hundred. Roger de Mortimer annexed it to his Honour of Cleobury, but in 1316 it was returned as being in the Hundred of Stottesden.

In 1288, the Prioress of St. Leonard of Brewood (Whiteladies) had a dispute with William de Rudge as to a right of common pasture in Rudge belonging to her tenement there. In 1292 the quarrel was still unsettled, but judgment was given in favour of the prioress, Sarra. The nuns retained their property here till the Dissolution.]

	s	d		s	d
Will'o de Rugge ...	ij	vjq <sup>u</sup>	Will'o in le Putte	xijj	
Hug' Barre ...	xijq <sup>u</sup>		Joh'e p'po'ito ...	xijob'	
Joh'e Godmo' ...	xx		Walt'o de Cap'll'a	x	

#### SHYPLEYE.

[**SHIPLEY**,<sup>39</sup> Parish of Claverley.—This manor was possibly one of those bequeathed by Wulfric Spott to his abbey at Burton-on-Trent, but if so, the Abbey retained no interest here after the Conquest. In 1086, some 80 years later, Shipley was held by Ralph de Mortimer under Earl Roger. The *Domesday* record says: "The same Radulfus holds of the Earl one hide in Schiplei. There is land for three ox-teams. Here are two villeins, and there is one quarantine of oaks, in length and in breadth. The manor is worth 5s. (per annum). Also held it freely in time of King Edward." Shipley seems to have been held for a time by the Savage family, one of whom is said to have granted it to Adam Mauveisin of Mavesyn Ridware in Staffordshire. Adam was holding it in 1240, but in 1255, William de Mortimer was lord of Shipley. Later we find it again held by Mauveisins, and in 1292, Henry Mauveisin, lord of Shipley, was equally concerned with William, lord of Rudge, in the enquiry as to the withdrawal of their respective manors from the Hundred Court. In 1316, John Mauveisin held Shipley. In 1323, John Mauveisin of Berwick Mauveisin died while constable of the Castle of Oswestry. If he were the lord of Shipley the Richard de Shipley of the Subsidy Roll may represent his heir, but perhaps is more probably his tenant.]

	s	d		s	d
Ric'o de Shypleye	ij		Will'o Nicholes ..	xx	
Joh'e Sherewynte	ij		Will'o Reygnald... ij		
Rog' Reygnald' ...	xvijo'		Thom' le Kyng ...	vijq <sup>u</sup>	

#### SHEYNTON<sup>40</sup>.

[**SHEINTON**,<sup>40</sup>—The *Domesday* record has two entries relating to Sheinton. The one states that Ralph de Mortimer held the manor under Earl Roger, and that Helgot held it under him. The second entry classes Sheinton among the manors held by Ralph under the King. It was a manor of two hides, which had been held by three Saxon franklins, Azor, Elgar, and Saul. In demesne was an ox-team and a half; and two serfs and one Frenchman with nine bordars had two teams, and there was land for another team. There was a Mill of 10s. annual value, and a wood that would fatten 100 swine. In Saxon times the manor was valued at 17s. annually, and in 1086 at 20s. Sheinton had a very similar history to Burwarton, passing from Helgot's successors to the De

<sup>39</sup> Eyton iii. 209.

<sup>40</sup> Eyton vi. 214.

Girros family, but it was held under them by a family of De Sheinton, who were men of importance. The De Sheintons for many generations used the name of Hugh. The first mentioned occurs about 1150, as witness of a deed relating to Posenhall. In 1197 another Hugh de Sheinton paid for permission to cultivate an assart from the forest land. Probably this Hugh was the one who died between 1217 and 1221 while serving the office of Coroner for Shropshire. This Hugh took the Royalist side in the Barons' War of 1215-6, though his over-lord Robert de Girros had taken the other side. The lord of Sheinton in 1240 and in 1255 was Hugh de Sheinton, who in the latter year was a knight, and in 1260 was one of the Verderers of Shropshire. In 1272 complaint was made of the withdrawal of Sheinton from the Hundred of Condover, which was apparently owing to Roger de Mortimer, as in the case of Rudge and Shipley. In 1284, a Hugh de Sheinton not a knight, was empanelled for the Perambulation between Pulverbatch and Longden. He may be the Hugh of the Subsidy Roll, or perhaps his father, as a Hugh de Sheinton held the manor in 1345. In 1303, inquiry was made as to the property of two outlaws for felony, Bernard and Adam de Sheinton, and it was found to be held under Hugh, lord of Sheinton, who had the land in hand except the messuage of Adam, which was held by William de Rudge and Petronilla his wife. Possibly this is the Petronilla de Sheynton of the Subsidy Roll. The De Girros were in 1326 represented by the Constantines, to which family possibly John Constantyn of the Roll belonged.

In 1349, the patron of Sheinton was William, lord of Sheinton, and rector of Edgmond, and in 1373 the manor was in the hands of co-parceners, one of whom was Richard de Harnage, whose descendants acquired the greater part of the manor.]

	s	d		s	d
Hug' de Sheynton	iiij				
Pet' nill' de			S'bt'	Ric'o le	
Sheynt'	...      xvij		ibid'm	Fremon	xij
Will'o Watier	...      xij			Joh'e de	
Joh'o Constantyn	vij			la Bolde	xij
			pb' Sm <sup>a</sup>	xxvj <sup>s</sup>	ij <sup>d</sup> o'q <sup>u</sup>
			pb' Sm <sup>a</sup>	tot' Hundr'.	xxxij <sup>l</sup> v <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup> q <sup>u</sup>

SIR RICHARD DE SANDFORD, OF SANDFORD,  
KNIGHT, 1306—1347.

BY THE REV. W. G. D. FLETCHER, M.A., F.S.A.

IN a recent volume of the *Transactions*, I gave some account of the Shropshire-men who took part in the French Wars of 1346-7, and especially at the battle of Crecy and the siege of Calais.<sup>1</sup> Twelve Earls, and about eighty Barons and Bannerets, displayed their banners in this expedition, and possibly a thousand knights and esquires were with the army in France. Only three of those who displayed banners have left descendants in the male line who are living to-day, namely, Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, and West, Earl de la Warr. Fifty-six only of the thousand knights and esquires have left descendants in the male line, who are still numbered amongst the peers or landed gentry of England and Ireland,—and amongst these are the families of Sandford, Lingen (now Burton), Corbet, Harley, and Wingfield,—but most of these fifty-six families represent younger branches of the warriors of Crecy and Calais.<sup>2</sup>

There are, however, only fifteen families existing now who actually still hold the lands for which their ancestors performed service at Crecy. These are West (Earl de la Warr), Clavering, Bagot, Burdet, Corbet, Farnham, Howard, Lingen (now Burton), Baskerville, Selby, Sandford, Wrottesley, Berney, Hesketh, and de Hoghton. The Shropshire Sandfords are one of these fifteen families.

Amongst the distinguished Shropshire-men who served throughout the French Wars was Sir Richard de Sandford, Knight, a warrior of great prowess, and the ancestor of the families seated at Sandford and at the Isle of Rossall. In

<sup>1</sup> Shropshire Arch. *Trans.*, 3rd Series, V., 141.

<sup>2</sup> For these facts I am indebted to Major-General Wrottesley's researches. See the Wm. Salt *Collections for Staffordshire*, vol. xviii., part ii.

this paper I have endeavoured to put together what facts I have been able to glean about him, as well from original documents preserved at the Public Record Office, as from early family deeds still preserved at Sandford,<sup>1</sup> which I have been enabled to peruse and copy through the kindness of Mrs. Sandford of Sandford Hall.

The family of Sandford is of the highest antiquity in Shropshire. The name occurs in the Battle Abbey Roll thus:—"Saunzauer et Saundford." The Heralds' Pedigree, which is said to have been drawn up or revised by Francis Sandford the Herald, commences with "Thomas de Sandford, came in with the Conqueror." Sir Bernard Burke, in the earlier editions of his *Landed Gentry*, tells us that "The ancient family of Sandford of Sandford came into England with the Conqueror, and the name of the gallant Norman, by whom it was founded, is written on the Roll of Battle Abbey. The pedigree begins with the soldier of the Conquest, Thomas de Sandford, who obtained, as a part of the spoliation, the lands of Sandford in Shropshire." There is, however, an historical difficulty here. It is perfectly clear from Domesday Book, that Thomas de Sandford did not hold Sandford at the time of the Domesday Survey. Sandford was then holden in demesne by Gerard de Tornai under Earl Roger de Montgomery. Gerard de Tornai also held the manor of Ruthall, in the parish of Prior's Ditton, under Earl Roger, one Gerelmus holding it under him at Domesday. Gerard had an only daughter Sibil, who became the wife of Hamo Peveril, lord of High Ercall. The manors of Sandford and Ruthall both passed to the Sandfords, as tenants in capite; and Eyton's opinion is that they were enfeoffed of these manors by Hamo Peveril in the reign of Henry I.<sup>2</sup> He thinks too that the Arms borne by the Sandfords indicate an alliance with, or a descent from, the great House of Fitz Warin. Eyton has very carefully worked out from original records the early pedigree of the Sandfords, and he commences it with Richard de Sandford, who was amerced half a mark

<sup>1</sup> There are a large number of deeds and evidences at Sandford Hall, from which it would be quite possible to write a full history of the ancient Sandford family.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton's *Antiquities*, ix. 222; iv. 48.

in 1167, by Adam de Nevill, a Justice of the Forest, who renders account of the debt on the Pipe-Roll of 1169.<sup>1</sup> From this date the pedigree as given by Eyton seems to be perfectly clear and accurate, though it differs somewhat from the Heralds' pedigree. It is possible that there may have been a Thomas de Sandford living at the time of the Conquest, as the *Heralds' Visitation* asserts, but there is no documentary evidence extant of his existence, or of any member of the family before Richard who was living a hundred years later.

Sir Richard de Sandford, the fourth of this name, and sixth in direct lineal descent from the Richard before referred to as living in 1167, was son of Richard de Sandford of Sandford by his wife Agnes, sister of Robert de Say of Moreton Say, and was born on 26 January, 1306. His father died in February, 1327, directly after Richard attained his majority, seised of the villate of Sandford, and the hamlet of Ruthall, in capite, by the service of one man-at-arms with an unbarbed horse in guard of Montgomery Castle for forty days in case of war at his own cost. The capital messuage at Sandford was then in a ruinous condition, and valued at 40d. per annum; and two carucates held in demesne were valued only at 54s. 4d., because the land was sandy.<sup>2</sup> On succeeding to his father's estate in 1327, Richard de Sandford was charged with a relief of 50s., which he paid by instalments, the last instalment of 13s. 4d. being acknowledged by a Writ of the Sheriff of Shropshire dated April, 1340. In 1327 he was assessed 2s. to the Subsidy granted by the Parliament to meet the expenses of the Scotch War.<sup>3</sup> By an Inquisition held at Sandford on 4 September, 1335, in pursuance of a Writ dated 6 December, 1330, it was found that it would not injure the Crown, if Richard de Sandford were to enlarge a stank at Sandford, by turning the King's highway from Chester to Newport into another and equally direct course

<sup>1</sup> Eyton ix. 222 and 236.

<sup>2</sup> Inq. p.m. 1 Edw. III., no. 76. Eyton ix. 235. Sandford derived its name from the sandy nature of the soil, and from a ford across the stream where the present bridge stands.

<sup>3</sup> Exch. Lay Subs. 166-1, 1 Edw. III., Salop. "SONDF". Ric'o de Sondford ij." Richard's uncle, Nicholas de Sondford, was at the time assessed 2s. 6d. under Style (Steele); and William de Sondford, presumably another uncle, was assessed 18d. under Hodnet. See *Transactions*, 2 S., i. 141, 145, 154.

through the vill of Sandford.<sup>1</sup> In 4 Edward III. (1330), Richard, lord of Sonfort, demised to Adam Purdie two acres of his waste land in the bosc of Sonfort. Witnesses: Nicholas de Sonfort, Ralph Heth, and others.<sup>2</sup>

By their Deed-Poll dated at Sontford on Thursday, the morrow of the Nativity of St. John Baptist 6 Edward III. [25 June, 1332], Richard de Pres, clerk, and Alice his wife, gave granted and confirmed to Richard, lord of Sontford, two messuages and one carucate of land in the town of Santford, together with the reversion of all the lands and tenements which Petronilla, widow of William, son of Richard de Sontford, holds in the name of dower in the same town, of the inheritance of the said William formerly her husband, To hold to the said Richard Lord of Sontford his heirs and assigns, freely quietly well and in peace, for ever. These being witnesses: John de Waranne, Laurence de Calverhalle, Nicholas de Sontford, William de Wotenhill, John de Hethe, and others.<sup>3</sup>

On 2 May, 1333, Richard lord of Sontford granted to Ralph de Sontford and Matilda his wife one assart in Wickeshall, which is called Baelibrucht, and lies at the head of the vivary of Wickeshall. Dated at Prees on Sunday the morrow of the feast of the Apostles Philip and James anno 7 Edward III.<sup>4</sup>

By his Deed-Poll dated at Sontford on Saturday, the feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, 9 Edward III. [24 June, 1335], Richard, Lord of Sontford, gave granted and confirmed to Sir Stephen, Rector of the Church of Weston, that messuage and all those lands and tenements which he had in the town of Sontford of the gift of Richard the Clerk, To hold to the said Stephen and his heirs and assigns. These being witnesses: Sir Thomas de Hauekeston, Robert de Say, John de Wilaston, Roger de Wilaston, William de Wottenhill, and others.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Eyton ix. 235.

<sup>2</sup> Harleian Society, *Visitation of Salop*, page 430.

<sup>3</sup> Charter at Sandford.

<sup>4</sup> Harl. Soc. *Vis. of Shropshire* 1623, p. 430. This Deed had a Seal of Richard de Sandford's arms attached.

<sup>5</sup> Charter at Sandford.

Two days later, Stephen, Rector of the Church of Weston, gave, granted and confirmed to Richard de Sontford and Isabella his wife, that messuage and all those lands which he had in the town of Sontfcrd of the gift of the said Richard, and which the said Richard had of the gift of Richard, clerk of Prees. To hold to the said Richard and Isabella his wife, and to the heirs of the said Richard. These being witnesses: Sir Thomas de Hauekeston, Robert de Say, John de Warenne, John de Wilaston, Roger de Wilaston, and others. Dated at Sontford on Monday next after the feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist 9 Edward III. [26 June, 1335.]<sup>1</sup>

By his deed, dated at Sontford on Friday next after the Ascension of our Lord 13 Edward III. [7 May, 1339], Richard, son of Richard, clerk of Prees, remised released and quitclaimed to Richard lord of Sontford and his heirs, all his right and claim in one acre of king's land [*terre regali*] in Sontford, which he had of the gift and feoffment of the said Richard his father. These being witnesses: Robert de Say, Nicholas de Sontford, William de Wottenhul, and others.<sup>2</sup>

On Wednesday after the Annunciation of Blessed Mary 14 Edward III. [29 March, 1340], Isabella, daughter of Richard de Sontford, acknowledges that she has received of Richard her brother, six marks, in part payment of twenty marks, in which the said Richard was bound to her by a certain writing obligatory.<sup>3</sup>

On Friday after the Nativity of Blessed Mary 18 Edward III. [10 September, 1344], Edith, daughter of Richard lord of Sontford, acknowledges that she has received of Richard her brother, thirty shillings sterling in divers portions, in part payment of that debt in which the said Richard her brother was bound to her.<sup>4</sup>

By An Agreement dated at Sontford on Friday, the feast of St. Cedde Bishop, 15 Edward III. [2 March, 1341], between Richard lord of Sontford of the one part and Adam Purdieu of Blecchiley of the other part, the said Richard leased from the feast of St. Margaret next to the same feast divers mills at Sontford, Astford, Acheley, and Blecchiley,

<sup>1</sup> Charter at Sandford. Seal of yellow wax, device and legend hardly legible.

<sup>2</sup>, <sup>3</sup>, <sup>4</sup> Charters at Sandford.

with their suits, rendering to the said Richard his heirs or assigns, for the mill of Blecchiley ten quarters of corn, eight strikes to each quarter, namely one moiety of rye and the other moiety of wheat, and for the mills of Sontford, Astford and Acheley thirty six quarters, eight strikes to each quarter as aforesaid, namely sixteen quarters of rye and twenty quarters of wheat, for toll, two-thirds to be for the said Richard and his heir and one-third to Agnes his mother. The said Adam to pay the tithes, and to grind the corn and malt of the said Agnes and Richard without toll, and to keep the mills and dams in repair. Richard was to find the timber for repairs, and Adam the mill-stones.<sup>1</sup>

On 6 December, 1346, Griffin son of John le Wareyne acknowledges that he has received £6*i.* and more, in part payment of a debt of £100. due to him from Richard, lord of Sontford.<sup>2</sup>

It must be admitted that the foregoing are an interesting series of Charters relating to Sir Richard de Sandford and his dealings with his property.

We come now to the part which he took in the French Wars of 1346-7. He was not the first soldier of his race; his uncle Sir William Sandford was also a warrior of considerable note. In October, 1320, Sir William de Sontford attended the Parliament held at Westminster, as a Knight of the Shire for Salop. In January, 1322, he was appointed a Commissioner to raise levies in Shropshire, and was ordered to join King Edward II., and on 16 March, 1322, he fought for the King at the battle of Boroughbridge. He also occurs as a witness to several deeds. His military prowess must have stirred the spirit of his nephew, who was then a youth of 16 years of age.

It was on 3 August, 1345, that the knights and esquires were bidden to prepare to set out for Gascony and Brittany. It was not, however, until the month of April, 1346, that the army was collected at Portsmouth. On 12 July following they arrived at La Hogue in Normandy. It was probably shortly after this that Richard de Sandford, then forty years old, was knighted by the King.

<sup>1</sup> Charter (in duplicate) at Sandford.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton ix. 238.

Prior to his departure from England, Richard de Sandford had Letters of Protection granted him by the King, on 16 June, 1346:—

“Richard de Sondford, who is about to set out to parts beyond the seas in the retinue of Richard, Earl of Arundel, at the King’s bidding, has the King’s letters of protection with the clause *volumus*, to last to the feast of Christmas next. Witness the King at Porchester the 16th day of June. By the King and his Council, and on the testimony of the said Earl.”<sup>1</sup>

Six weeks after the arrival of the army on French soil, the battle of Crecy was fought 26 August, 1346. The English army was drawn up in three divisions, the first of which was under the nominal command of the Prince of Wales, but was really commanded by the Earls of Warwick and Oxford and Godfrey de Harecourt. Sir Richard de Sandford was one of the Knights who fought in the Prince’s division, which comprised (as Froissart says) “all the flower of the chivalry of England.” The French Knights and Esquires broke through the ranks of the English archers, and reached the English men-at-arms, and “fought valiantly with them, sword in hand, and then there took place many great achievements and feats of arms, for on the side of the English there were many good Knights.”<sup>2</sup> The story of the Prince being hotly pressed and for a while in danger, and the King’s reply to those who sought his aid, “Let them not send to me again for help whilst my son lives, let him win his spurs,” is too well known to be repeated here. But it shows how sharp was the contest in which the Prince’s division took part. Soon, however, the great French host was wavering in fatal confusion, and the defeat became a rout.

The King now resolved to invest Calais, that he might save English commerce by securing the mastery of the Channel.<sup>3</sup> The siege lasted a year, and it was not till Philip had failed to relieve it that the town was starved into surrender. The English soldiers during the winter of 1346 lived in huts which they had constructed for themselves out-

<sup>1</sup> French Roll, 20 Edward III., pars 1, m. II.

<sup>2</sup> Froissart’s *Chronicles*.

<sup>3</sup> Green’s *Short History*, 221.

side Calais. It was whilst the army lay before Calais, that the King granted to Sir Richard de Sandford, on account of his good service in the French war, and on condition that he does not quit the King's following without special leave, a general pardon for all homicides, felonies, robberies and trespasses, committed by him in England against the King's peace. This pardon is dated "near Calais," 4 September 20 Edward III. (1346), just nine days after the battle of Crecy. It does not imply that Sir Richard de Sandford had really committed any of these offences enumerated in the pardon, but it was a common thing to give men who had served the King a general pardon in case they might have transgressed. The following is a translation of this pardon:—

Edward by the grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland to all his bailiffs and faithful men to whom these present letters shall come greeting. Know ye that of our special grace, and for the good service which Richard de Sonford [Sandford] has rendered us in our French War, we have pardoned him suit of our peace which pertains to us for homicides, felonies, robberies, and trespasses whatsoever by him committed in our realm of England against our peace, whereby any indictment accusation or summons exists, and also outlawries if any have been promulgated against him for these offences, and we grant him therefore our sure peace. Nevertheless so that he may stand accused in our Court if any man may wish to speak against him concerning homicides felonies robberies and trespasses abovesaid, and that the same Richard shall not quit our following, without our special leave, so long as it happens that we remain in parts beyond the seas on this matter. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness myself near Calais on the fourth day of September in the twentieth year of our reign over England, but our seventh over France. [By the King himself, and on the testimony of John Lestraunge.]<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Original Charter at Sandford. This document has the Great Seal of England; on the obverse, the King seated, holding sceptre and orb, and supported by two lions; on the reverse, the King on horseback. Also Norman Roll, 20 Edward III., m. 13 (Patent Roll 219). This latter alone has the words in parentheses given above. General Wrotesley suggests that the proviso that the receiver of the pardon should not leave the army without the King's permis-

We have seen that on landing in France Sir Richard de Sandford was in the retinue of the Earl of Arundel, probably as Sheriff of Salop. At Crecy, however, he fought under some other banneret. Before Calais he appears in the retinue of John Lord Lestrange of Whitchurch, who himself had been a banneret under the Earls of Northampton and Arundel at Crecy. On 12 July, 1347, Richard de Sondford and nine others of the retinue of John Lestrange of Blaunkmonster [Whitchurch] had letters of protection, dated at Reading.

“Richard de Sondford, who set out for parts across the sea with John Lestrange of Blaunkmonster, in the following of the King, at the King’s command, has the King’s letters of protection with the clause *volumus* to last up to the feast of Michaelmas next to come. Witness the Keeper aforesaid at Redyng the 12th day of July. By the King himself.”<sup>1</sup>

The siege of Calais lasted almost a year. The hardships endured by the soldiers were very great, and dysentery was rife in the camp. The Inquisitions post mortem of the years 1346-7 shew that no less than forty-three Knights and Esquires, who as tenants in capite held their lands of the King, died during the expedition to Normandy and the siege of Calais. The writs show that fourteen other Knights and Esquires died. This represents a very large mortality. Calais surrendered on 4 August, 1347. Sir Richard de Sandford lived to witness this, but he died “in foreign parts,” evidently before Calais, on 26 September, 1347, just two days before the truce that was concluded with the French. Translations of the Writ of *Diem clausit extremum*, dated 17 October, 1347, and of the Inquisition after his death, taken at Newport on 10 November, 1347, follow.<sup>2</sup> The Inquisition shows what lands he held at his decease, and their value.

sion implies that he was a malefactor, and that he served at his own cost in order to earn a pardon. The ordinary pardon does not contain this proviso. A man could not be forced to serve more than 40 days for a knight’s fee. To retain him longer, the King paid him very highly, 2s. a day, a sum equivalent to £5 of our money. Where an Indictment was laid against a man by a local jury, as accessory to some felony, it was less troublesome and costly to sue out a general pardon, than to quash the Indictment. The pardons were entered on the Norman Roll because the Great Seal was in England, and the writs would have to be exchanged for Letters Patent, before they could be produced in a Court of Law. See Wm. Salt, *Collections for Staffordshire*, xviii., 219, 220.

<sup>1</sup> French Roll, 21 Edward III., pars 2, m. 18.

<sup>2</sup> Chancery Inq. p.m., 21 Edward III., First Numbers, 36.

“Edward by the grace of God King of England and France and Lord of Ireland, to his beloved John de Swynnerton, his Escheator in the County of Salop, greeting Whereas Richard de Sondford, who held of us in capite, died [*diem clausit extreum*] as we have heard, We command you that without delay you seize into our hand all the lands and tenements of which the same Richard was seized in his demesne as of fee in your bailiwick on the day on which he died, and that you cause the same to be safely kept until we order you otherwise, and that you diligently enquire, by the oath of tried and lawful men of your bailiwick, by whom the truth of the matter can be better known, what lands the same Richard held as well in demesne as in service of us in capite in your bailiwick on the day on which he died, and how much of others and by what service, and how much those lands are worth per annum in all issues, and on what day the same Richard died, and who is his next heir and of what age he is. And that without delay you send the Inquisition thence distinctly and openly made to us under your seal and the seals of those by whom it shall be made, and this writ. Witness myself at Westminster the seventeenth day of October in the 21st year of our reign over England, but our 8th in France.”

“ Salop.

“Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, Escheator of our lord the King in the County of Salop, at Neuport, on the tenth day of November in the 21st year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the Conquest [1347], namely according to the tenor of a Writ of our lord the King to this Inquisition affixed. By the oath of Richard le Clerk, Robert de Acheslegh, William Parlaben, Hugh de Acheleye, John de Derbaston, Richard Gamel, John de Wotenhull, Roger de Hatton, William le Frenon, John de Pulesdon, John de Hethe, and William son of Ralph. Who say upon their oath that Richard de Sontford deceased held in his demesne as of fee, on the day on which he died, the Hamlet of Sontford with the appurtenances in the County aforesaid, of the King in capite by the service of half a knight's fee. In which said Hamlet is a certain capital messuage, which is worth nothing per annum beyond the sustentation of the houses. And there is there a certain garden which is worth per annum 12d.

And there is there a certain dovecote which is worth per annum 18d. And there is there half a carucate of land, and it is worth per annum 13s. 4d. and no more, because the land is sandy [*sabulosa*]; and moreover each year a third part lies fallow [*ad Warectum*], and in common. And there are two acres of meadow, and they are worth per annum 3s. And there is there a certain pasture, and it is worth per annum 12s. And there is there a certain wood, with no underwood, and the pasturage is worth nothing per annum because it is common. And there are there two-thirds of three water-mills, and it is worth per annum 6s. Agnes, the mother of the said Richard, who still survives, holds the remaining part of the aforesaid mills in the name of dower. And there are there three vivaries, of which the fishery is worth per annum 4d. And the aforesaid Agnes still holds the third part of them in the name of dower. And there are there two rents of free assize of 4s. per annum, at the terms of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary and St. Michael in equal portions. And there is there the farm of a rent of assize of 6s. per annum. And the accustomed perquisites of the Court are worth there per annum 2s. They also say that the aforesaid Richard de Sontford died in the parts beyond the seas, on Tuesday next before the feast of St. Michael the Archangel past [26 September, 1347.] And they say that Nicholas de Sontford, son of the aforesaid Richard, is the next heir of the same Richard, and was thirteen years old at the feast of St. Michael last past. In witness whereof the aforesaid Jurors have affixed their seals to this Inquisition."

As there is no mention of Ruthall in this Inquisition, it would seem as if Richard de Sandford had alienated his interest in that township, which he inherited at his father's death, in his lifetime.

Sir Richard de Sandford, by his wife Isabella, had four sons:—Nicholas his heir, Peter, who was slain in 1366, Richard the warrior, who was slain at Battlefield in 1403, and Stephen. Nicholas, who succeeded to his father's estates, was born 29 September, 1334, was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1385-6, and died 5 May, 1415, leaving three sons: (1) Richard, ancestor of the Sandfords of Sandford, (2) Griffin, and (3) Nicholas, ancestor of the Sandfords of the Isle of Rossall.

His Arms, as appended to a deed of 2 May, 1334, were, Quarterly per fesse indented azure and ermine.<sup>1</sup>

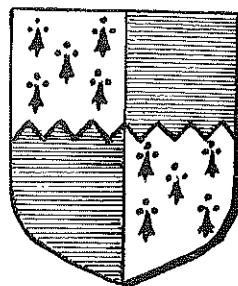
There remains to be noticed yet one more document relating to Sir Richard de Sandford, and it is dated more than ten years after his death! It is a mandate from the King to his Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, that, on account of his good service at Crecy and Calais, Richard is to be exonerated from all demands for supplying men-at-arms, hobelars, or bowmen for the King's service, and from all pecuniary demands. It is dated 11 February, 1357-8. It shows how tardy the officials sometimes were in making out documents; or possibly they had overlooked the fact that he had died before Calais. The following is a translation of this document:—

“ For Richard de Sandford.

“ The King to his Treasurer and the Barons of his Exchequer greeting. Whereas Richard de Sandford, in the twentieth year of our reign over England, at the time of our passage to parts across the seas, when we landed with our army at Hogges in Normandy, set out to follow us to the parts aforesaid in the retinue of our beloved and faithful Richard, Earl of Arundell, and continuously stayed in our train aforesaid in those parts, as well at the siege of our town of Calais, as at the battle of Cressy, and elsewhere in the parts aforesaid until our return to England, as the said Earl has testified to us in our Chancery. We command you that you cause all demands, which the said Richard might have to find for men-at-arms, hobelars or bowmen, for any train of ours, or for any sums of money which he might have to pay to us on any occasion, by summons from our said Exchequer, be superseded, and that you cause him to be exonerated and quit from the said Exchequer. Witness myself at Westminster, the eleventh day of February in the 31st year of our reign in England, but the 18th of our reign in France.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Harl. Soc., *Vis. of Shropshire* 1623, p. 430, and Plate II., fig. 9. The more usual and earlier blazon of the Sandford Arms was, Quarterly per fesse indented ermine and azure, as here depicted.

<sup>2</sup> Memoranda Roll, Q.R., 31 Edward III. (133), Rot. quarto, dors.



## SHROPSHIRE FEET OF FINES, A.D. 1218—1248.

(Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. X., page 330).

THE following Feet of Fines have been transcribed from the originals preserved in the Public Record Office, by Mr. W. K. Boyd for the Society. The Shropshire Feet of Fines for the reigns of Kings Richard I. and John have been printed in the *Transactions*, 2nd Series, Volume X., pages 307—330, and some notes about these Fines will be found on page 307. Those for a portion of the reign of Henry III. are now given. The Fines are amongst the most important series of records for tracing the devolution of landed property. They are practically deeds for transferring land, and very early they became a popular method of conveyance, as a duplicate of each Fine was preserved in the custody of the King's Court. Nominally they are the official memorandum of the "finis" or end of a fictitious judicial action. We get from them the names of the Shropshire landowners nearly 700 years ago, and their dealings with their land. An Index of the places follows, but a few of the places are somewhat difficult to identify.

W. G. D. F.

## FEET OF FINES, SALOP. File 3. 3-32 Henry III.

## I.

At Westminster, on the morrow of All Souls, 3 Henry III.

Between Margery de Chabbenore, plaintiff, by Alexander de Chabbenore put in her place, and Warner de Wililee, tenant of the third part of the whole vill of Kenele, with the appurtenances, and of the third part of a moiety of the vill of Gretinton, with the mill and with other the appurtenances. Which third part the said Margery claimed to be her reasonable dower in respect of the free tenement which belonged to Thomas, son of Otho [Odo], formerly her husband, in the

same vill. Wherefore there was a plea between them in the aforesaid Court.

Margery quitclaimed all right in the said land by reason of dower, and for this Warner gave her 10 marks of silver.

## 2.

At Westminster on the morrow of St. Martin, 4 Henry III.

Between Walter de Dunstanuill, plaintiff, by Henry de Wautham put in his place, and Hugh, abbot of Slopesbyr', deforcliant, by Thomas, his monk, put in his place, of the advowson of the church of Ydeshale. Wherefore the assize of last presentation was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court. The Abbot quitclaimed, for him and his successors, to the said Walter and his heirs, for ever, all right and claim which he had in the said advowson, saving to the said abbot and his successors the ancient and due pension which the same abbot was wont to take in respect of the same church.

## 3.

At Shrewsbury on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between William Gernun, plaintiff, and Adam de Haleton, tenant of half a virgate of land in Haleton. Wherefore the assize of mort dancelot was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

William quitclaimed all right to Adam, and his heirs for ever, and for this Adam granted to the said William 16 acres of land in the same vill, to wit, 2½ acres of land in Thinne-moresich, 2 acres of land on Schetesfurlong, and 2 acres of land by Iungalres, and 8½ acres of land by Vlebot Godwin-sich, and one acre of land by Sundermor; to have and to hold to the said William and his heirs, of the said Adam and his heirs, for ever. Rendering 20<sup>d</sup> therefor yearly at two terms of the year for all service, saving foreign service.

## 4.

At Shrewsbury on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between William Coterel, plaintiff, and Richard de Greneshull, tenant of half a virgate of land in Herthal. Wherefore a recognition of the grand assize was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court. To wit, Richard acknowledged all the said land to be the right of William; to have and to

hold to the said William and his heirs, of the said Richard and his heirs, for ever. Rendering therefor yearly 12<sup>d</sup> at two terms of the year for all service, saving foreign service, and for this William gave to the said Richard 2 marks of silver.

## 5.

At Shrewsbury on the octaves of All Saints, 6 Henry III.

Between Richard, son of Richard Lupus, plaintiff, and Philip de Gretham, tenant of half a virgate of land in Weston, which the same Richard claimed against Richard Pulein; who came and acknowledged that he held that land in villainage, of the said Philip; and wherefore the assize of mort d'ancaster was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

Philip acknowledged all the said land to be the right of the said Richard, son of Richard; to have and to hold to the same Richard and his heirs, of the said Philip and his heirs, for ever. Rendering therefore yearly 5<sup>s</sup> at two terms of the year, for all service, saving foreign service; and for this the same Richard, son of Richard, gave to the said Philip 5 marks of silver.

## 6.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between David, son of Henry, plaintiff, and Robert, son of Sewal, and Emma, his wife, tenants, by the said Richard put in Emma's place, of one virgate of land in Wudehus. Wherefore the recognition of the grand assize was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

David acknowledged all the said land to be the right of Emma, and for this Robert and Emma granted to the said David a fourth part of all the said land; to wit, a moiety of that half virgate of land with a moiety of the messuage, garden, and wood which pertains to the said half virgate, which lies by Schorthull, to wit, towards the east; to have and to hold to the same David and his heirs, of the said Robert and Emma and the heirs of the said Emma, for ever. Rendering therefore 12<sup>d</sup> yearly at two terms of the year, for all service, saving foreign service. And, moreover, the same Robert and Emma gave to the said David one mark of silver.

## 7.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Lecia, who was the wife of Damain de Lecton, plaintiff, and Robert de Wudecot', tenant of the third part of one mill in Lecton; which third part the said Lecia claimed to be her reasonable dower in respect of the free tenement which belonged to the said Damian, and wherefore there was a plea between them in the aforesaid Court.

Robert granted all the said third part to be the dower of the said Lecia; to have and to hold to the said Lecia all her life, of the said Robert and his heirs. Rendering therefor yearly 25<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> d at two terms of the year.

## 8.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Avice, daughter of Wace [Wacius], plaintiff, and Robert de Waubrug' and Alice, his wife, tenants of half a virgate of land in Burton. Wherefore the assize of mort dancester was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

Avice quitclaimed all right to the said Robert and Alice and the heirs of the said Alice, for ever, for which Robert and Alice gave her 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> marks of silver.

## 9.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Hugh de Brocton, plaintiff, and Richard Lugein, tenant of one virgate of land in Brocton. Wherefore the recognition of the grand assize was summoned between them.

Hugh quitclaimed all right to Richard and his heirs, for ever, and for this Richard gave him 20<sup>s</sup> sterling.

## IO.

At Warwick, on the morrow of St. Hilary, 6 Henry III.

Between Ranulf de Lindes, plaintiff, and Matilda, who was the wife of Griffin, son of Yareuord, tenant of one virgate of land in Wykeshull.

Matilda acknowledged all the said land to be the right of Ranulf; to have and to hold to the said Ranulf and his heirs, of the said Matilda and her heirs, for ever. Rendering therefore yearly 12<sup>d</sup> at two terms, for all service and exaction, and for this Ranulf gave her 3 marks of silver.

11.

At Warwick, on the morrow of St. Hilary, 6 Henry III.  
Between Henry Horsnail, plaintiff, and Alan, son of Robert, tenant of one messuage in Bruges.

Henry quitclaimed all right to Alan and his heirs, for ever, and for this Alan gave him 2 marks of silver.

12.

At Warwick, on the morrow of St. Hilary, 6 Henry III.  
Between Audulf de Brascy, plaintiff, and Walter le Poer, tenant of 2 virgates of land in Pulele. Wherefore the assize of mort dancistor was summoned between them.

Audulf acknowledged all the said land to be the right of Walter; to have and to hold to the said Walter and his heirs for ever. That is to say, that the said Walter and his heirs shall hold one of those 2 virgates of the said Audulf and his heirs, to wit, that which Roger, son of Henry, held. Rendering therefor yearly to the said Audulf and his heirs half a pound of cumin or one penny at the feast of St. Michael, and doing foreign service, as much as to that virgate of land pertains, for all service and exaction. And the same Walter and his heirs shall hold the other virgate of William de Cantilupe and his heirs for ever, to wit, that which Peter held. Rendering therefor yearly to the said William and his heirs half a pound of cumin or one penny at the feast of St. Michael, and doing foreign service, as much as to that virgate pertains, for all service and exaction. And this concord was made in the presence of the said William de Cantilupe who granted it.

[Endorsed that William de Cantilupe was present.]

13.

At Shrewsbury, on the octaves of All Saints, 6 Henry III.  
Between William, son of Ralph, plaintiff, and William de Blanc Mustier, tenant of one hide of land in Le. Wherefore the assize of mort dancistor was summoned between them. William, son of Ralph, quitclaimed all right to William de Blanc Mustier and his heirs for ever, and for this William de Blanc Mustier gave him 4 marks of silver.

## 14.

At Shrewsbury, on the octaves of All Saints, 6 Henry III.

Between William, son of Roger, plaintiff, and William Haring' and Alice, his wife, tenants of one virgate of land in Eschford. Wherefore the assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned between them.

William, son of Roger, quitclaimed all right to William Haring and Alice, and to the heirs of the said Alice for ever, and for this William Haring and Alice gave him 28<sup>s</sup> sterling.

## 15.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Warner de Wililega and Petronilla, his wife, plaintiffs, by the said Warner put in the place of Petronilla, and Hugh de Beckbury, tenant of the sixth part of one knight's fee in Golden, to wit, of all the land which was Herbert de Russebury's, in the same vill.

Warner and Petronilla acknowledged all the said land to be the right of the said Hugh, as that which the same Hugh has of the gift of the said Herbert, brother of the said Petronilla, whose heir she is, as she says. To have and to hold to the same Hugh and his heirs, of the said Warner and Petronilla and the heirs of the said Petronilla, for ever. Rendering therefor yearly one pound of pepper at Christmas for all service pertaining to them. And the said Hugh and his heirs will acquit all the aforesaid land against the chief lords of that fee in respect of all services which to that land pertain. And Warner and Petronilla and the heirs of Petronilla will warrant all the said land to the said Hugh and his heirs against all men and women. And for this acknowledgment &c. the said Hugh gave to the said Warner and Petronilla 2 marks of silver.

[Endorsed]. Roger de Buterlega puts in his claim.

## 16.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Goditha Sclauin and Matilda, her sister, plaintiffs, and Hugh, son of Hugh, tenant of half a virgate of land in Prestecote. Wherefore a recognition of the grand assize was summoned between them, Hugh granted to Goditha and

Matilda 16 acres of the said land, to wit, 7 acres in Arildewell, and 5 acres in Chesterfordfeld, and 4 acres in Hinesmere; to have and to hold to the same Goditha and Matilda, and their heirs, of the said Hugh and his heirs for ever, together with 12 acres of land which they formerly held of the same Hugh. Rendering 3<sup>d</sup> therefor yearly at the feast of St. Michael for all service; and for this Goditha and Matilda quitclaimed to the said Hugh and his heirs all right and claim which they had in the surplus of all the said half virgate of land, with the appurtenances.

## 17.

At Shrewsbury, on the octaves of All Saints, 6 Henry III. Between Richard Furet, plaintiff, and Humbert, prior of Wenloc, tenant of 30 acres of land in Wenlok, and of 9 acres of land in Wike. Wherefore the assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned between them.

Richard quitclaimed all right to the said prior and his successors and their church of Wenlok, and for this the prior gave him 5 marks of silver.

## 18.

At Westminster in three weeks from Easter Day, 6 Henry III.

Between Ralph de Combray, plaintiff, and John de Lingene, deforciant, of one virgate of land in Aschford, which the same Ralph demanded against the same John in exchange for one virgate of land in the same vill, which Walter, son of Otho (Odo) had demanded against the said Ralph (and wherefore the same Ralph vouch'd the said John to warrant; who came in the same Court and warranted that land to him), and afterwards, granted the same land to the aforesaid Walter by fine made between them.

John gave and granted to the same Ralph in exchange for the aforesaid virgate of land one virgate of land in Huntiton, to wit, half a virgate of land which Albert Cailoc held, and half a virgate of land which Adam Carles held. To have and hold to the same Ralph and his heirs, of the said John and his heirs, for ever, together with 2 other virgates of land which he formerly held of the said John; doing therefor the service of the seventh part of one knight for all service. And for this

grant, &c., the said John quitclaimed to the said Ralph and his heirs the yearly rent of four geese which he was wont to take for 3 acres of land which the said Ralph held of him in the same vill.

## 19.

At Shrewshury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Edith, daughter of Robert de Wulferton, plaintiff, and Pain Carbunel, tenant of one virgate of land in Wulferton. Wherefore the assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned between them.

Pain granted to Edith two-thirds of the same virgate, to wit, those as they lie everywhere in the fields towards the sun. Except the capital messuage. (Which capital messuage, with the other third part, remains to the said Pain, quit of the said Edith and her heirs for ever.) In exchange for which capital messuage the said Pain gave and granted to the said Edith one messuage in the same vill, to wit, that which Ala, daughter of William, son of Stephen, held. So that the same Edith and her heirs shall have and hold the said two parts of the aforesaid virgate of land and the said messuage, of the said Pain and his heirs, for ever. Rendering 4<sup>s</sup> therefor yearly for all service, saving foreign service.

## 20.

At Salop, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Roger, son of Tropinel, and Alice, his wife, plaintiffs, and Humbert, prior of Wenlok, tenant of the third part of 8½ virgates of land in Mittelington; which third part the said Roger and Alice claimed to be the reasonable dower of the said Alice, of the free tenement which belonged to Richard de Rothal', formerly husband of the same Alice, in the same vill.

Roger and Alice quitclaimed to the said prior and his successors, and to their church of Wenlok, all right and claim which they had in all the said land in the name of dower, and for this the prior gave them half a mark of silver.

## 21.

At Shrewsbury (Salopesbir'), on the morrow of All Souls, 6 Henry III.

Between Roger de Giros, plaintiff, and Vivian de Roshale, tenant of one carucate of land in Vdelindun.

Roger quitclaimed all right to Vivian and his heirs, for ever, and for this Vivian gave him 40<sup>s</sup> sterling.

## 22.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Sibilla de Cleiburi and Dionisia, her sister, plaintiffs, and Gerard le Angeuin and Emelina, his wife, tenants of half a hide of land in Midelton. Wherefore the assize of mort dancistor was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

Sibilla and Dionisia quitclaimed all right to Gerard and Emelina, and the heirs of Emelina, for ever; and for these Gerard and Emelina gave to the said Sibilla and Dionisia 3½ marks of silver.

## 23.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Gilbert, son of Oiuetus, plaintiff, and William de Hanton, tenant of half a virgate of land in Lunehal'. Wherefore the assize of mort dancistor was summoned between them in the said Court.

Gilbert quitclaimed all right to William and his heirs for ever, and for this William gave him half a mark of silver.

## 24.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Seisoc, son of Alured, and Richolda, his wife, plaintiffs, and Hugh de Beckebur', tenant of the third part of half a virgate of land in Golden. Which third part the said Seisoc and Richolda claimed to be the reasonable dower of the said Richolda, of the free tenement which belonged to John de Golden, formerly husband of the said Richolda, in the same vill.

Seisoc and Richolda quitclaimed all right to the said Hugh and his heirs, and for this Hugh gave them one mark of silver.

## 25.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Agnes, daughter of Robert, plaintiff, and Richard,

son of John, and Agnes de Wasten', tenants of half a virgate of land in Ramesleg'.

Agnes, daughter of Robert, quitclaimed all right to Richard and Agnes de Wasten' and the heirs of the said Richard for ever, and for this Richard and Agnes gave her 10<sup>s</sup> sterling.

## 26.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of All Souls, 6 Henry III.

Between Hugh Long (Longus) and Emma, his wife, William de Stokes and Matilda, his wife, plaintiffs, and William de Parva Hales, tenant of the moiety of one mill, with the appurtenances, in Little Hales. Wherefore the assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

The plaintiffs quitclaimed all right to William de Parva Hales and his heirs for ever, and for this William de Parva Hales gave them 20<sup>s</sup> sterling.

## 27.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Richard, son of Richard, plaintiff, and Arnulf, son of William, tenant of one virgate of land in Acton. Wherefore the assize of mort d'ancestor was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

Arnulf acknowledged all the said land to be the right of Richard, and quitclaimed it to the said Richard and his heirs for ever, and for this Richard gave him two marks of silver.

## 28.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Elias de Horton, plaintiff, and Reiner, son of Robert, tenant of half a virgate of land in Albricton. Wherefore a recognition of the grand assize was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

Reiner acknowledged all the said land to be the right of the said Elias, and quitclaimed it to him and his heirs for ever, and for this Elias gave him 40<sup>s</sup> sterling.

## 29.

At Salop, on the octaves of All Saints, 6 Henry III.

Between Robert de Benethal', plaintiff, and Humbert, prior of Wenlok, defendant, of the advowson of the chapel of

Benethal'. Wherefore the assize of last presentation was summoned between them in the aforesaid Court.

Robert quitclaimed all right in the avowson of the said chapel to the said prior and his successors and their church of Wenlok, for ever, and for this the prior gave him 2*s* sterling.

## 30.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Between Robert de Mutteleg' and Felicia, his wife, plaintiffs, and Roger de Iueri, tenant of the manor of Mutteleg', with the appurtenances. Wherefore the assize of mort danc-estor was summoned between them.

Robert and Felicia quitclaimed all right in all the said manor, for themselves and the heirs of Felicia, to Roger and his heirs, for ever, and for this Roger gave them 20*s* sterling.

## 31.

At Shrewsbury, on the morrow of St. Martin, 6 Henry III.

Thomas, son of Roger, plaintiff, and John, prior of Brechinok, deforciant, of the advowson of the church of Northclai-biry, wherefore the said prior vouched to warrant Richard abbot of Battle (Bellus), and concerning which the assize of mort danc-estor was summoned between them.

The prior acknowledged the advowson of the said church to be the right of Thomas, on condition that the said Thomas and his heirs shall deliver to the said prior and his successors a fit clerk whom they shall present to the bishop of the place; and which clerk, when he shall be admitted to the said church, shall render to the said prior and his successors and to the church of Brechinok [Brecknock] yearly the ancient and due pension which the church of Brechinok was wont to take from the said church of Northclabiry; for which Thomas gave the said prior two marks of silver.

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INDEX OF THE PLACES

NAMED IN THE FOREGOING FEET OF FINES.

TEMP. HENRY III.

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	No.		No.
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Bridgnorth	...	11	field ... ... 3
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			Wyke... ... ... 17

<sup>1</sup> Eyton mentions the Assize between William Coterel and Richard de Grenehull, but confesses his inability to identify Herthal. The Grenehulls were of Grindle in Ryton parish. Could Herthal be Hartall in Greete parish?

THE PROVOSTS AND BAILIFFS OF  
SHREWSBURY.

BY THE LATE MR. JOSEPH MORRIS.

*(Continued from 3rd Series, Vol. V., page 140.)*

[p. 3892.]

Anno 1 JOHN GARDNER.

1614. (THOMAS FAWKENER.

John Gardner, as above stated, was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1604. He was the elder brother of Thomas Gardner, Bailiff in 1613.

The family of Fawkener were, for a long period, connected with the trade of Shrewsbury.

William Fawkener of Stokesay, co. Salop, yeoman

William Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker, admitted a Burgess 30th Sept., 1560. Was living in 1606.

Roger Fawkener of Wettle-ton, co. Salop, yeoman.

Francis Fawkener of Salop, mercer, resided in Milk Street, admitted of the Mercers' Company, 20th June, 1603, admitted a Burgess April, 1605. Buried at St. Chad's, 29th March, 1636.

William	Francis	Thomas	
Johanna Thomas Fawkener, Bailiff of Shrewsbury 1614, resided in Mardol. Buried at St. Chad's, 2nd April, 1625.	Humphrey Fawkener admitted of the Mercers Company, Shrewsbury, in 1587. Died prior to 1614.	Margaret dau. of William Piers of Shrewsbury.	Richard Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker, resided in Mardol.
Dorothy bapt. at St. Alkmund's in 1609.	Thomas Fawkener of Shrewsbury, mercer, resided in Mardol.		Magdalene, dau. of William Herring, who was Bailiff of Shrewsbury 1580. Buried (a widow) at St. Chad's, 27 Sept., 1650.

[p. 3893.]

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Richard Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker, bapt. at St. Chad's, 1598.	Ann Smout married at St. Chad's, 29th Dec., 1626. Bur. at Alkmond's in 1651.	Thomas Fawkener married at St. Chad's, 5th Oct., 1651.	Humphrey Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker, resided in Frankwell, Buried at St. Chad's, 12th Jan., 1674.	Margaret Barber. Married at St. Chad's, 1st Jan., 1635. Buried at St. Chad's, 4th March, 1672.
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Thomas Fawkener bapt. at St. Chad's, 6th March, 1641.	Richard Fawkener bapt. at St. Chad's, 7th and buried there 8th March, 1646.	Daniel Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker in 1670, resided in Frankwell (By Court Roll of Manor of Ford) Bapt. at St. Chad's, 23 Dec., 1649, buried there 12th May, 1706.	Hannah, bur. at St. Chad's, 3rd January, 1708.
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Francis Fawkener buried at St. Chad's, 29th June, 1693.	Richard Fawkener bapt. at St. Chad's, 29th July, 1689. Buried there 26 July, 1691.	Margaret bapt. at St. Chad's, 9th and buried there 19 March, 1677.
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Mary, dr. of Mr. Joseph Hinckes, malister, died in 1720. Buried at St. Julian's.	John Fawkener of Shrewsbury, grocer. Sworn a burgess 9 December, 1721. Bapt. at St. Chad's, 18th June, 1680. Buried at St. Julian's in 1732, aged 53.	Sarah, buried at St. Julian's, 1758, aged 91.	Hannah buried at St. Chad's, 31 Jan., 1685.
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Thomas Fawkener bapt. at St. Chad's, 3rd April, 1678. Buried there 8th April, 1678.	Mary bapt. at St. Chad's, 18 April, 1678.	Samuel Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker. Sworn a Burgess 9th Dec., 1721.	Thomas Fawkener bapt. at St. Chad's, 23rd April, 1686. Buried there in 1686.
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John Fawkener of Shrewsbury, baker. Sworn a Burgess 11th Dec., 1753.	Samuel Fawkener of Shrewsbury, grocer. Married at St. Julian's, 23rd Feb., 1754. Sworn a Burgess 11th Dec., 1753. Buried at St. Julian's in 1775, aged 58.	Elizabeth Shaw. Buried at St. Julian's in 1778, aged 57. She married 2ndly at St. Julian's, 1st January, 1777, Richard Bratton of Shrewsbury, grocer, second husband. Mayor in 1800.
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Samuel Fawkener of Shrewsbury, grocer. Sworn a Burgess 27th August, 1779. Buried at St. Julian's in 1784, aged 25.	Lucy Perke, married at St. Julian's, 15th June, 1777.
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John Fawkener buried at St. Julian's, 11th January, 1805, aged 27.	Sarah Mills married at St. Philip's, Birmingham, 16th July, 1799.
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Lucy Faulkener, only child, born 6th June, 1800. Bapt. at  
St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, 1st May, 1801.

Anno { THOMAS JONES. See page 3878.  
1615. { ROGER BLAKEWAY.

The first mention that I have found of the name of Blakeway is in an Inquisition relating to the Lordship of Ludlow, 4 Edward I., n. 109, in which "Robert Blakeway," one of the principal tenants, is Latinized as "Robertus Niger-Oculus" (Robert Black-Eye). The name, however, there can be no doubt, was derived from the hamlet of Blakeway (Black Way), situate at the entrance of the pass [p. 3894.] through Wenlock Edge, which is known by the appropriate name of Blakeway Hollow, a road almost as dark and incommodious now as it was at the period of the Norman conquest.

Nicholas Blakeway and William Blakeway were admitted on the Roll of the Guild Merchant of Shrewsbury in 1344, and from that period to the present, various members of this family are noticed on our municipal records. To Salopians, however, the name is most endeared in the remembrance of their great local historian and antiquary, the Rev. John Brickdale Blakeway. The present Bailiff appears to have left no surviving male issue, and to have been thus connected:—

ARMS: Argent, on a bend engrailed Sable 3 besants.

John Blakeway of Priors Middleton, co. Salop, yeoman, =

Roger Blakeway of Shrewsbury, Apothecary, admitted a Burgess 29th March, 1603, Bailiff in 1615, resided in Mardol. Buried at St. Chad's, 1st June, 1619. Admitted of the Mercers, &c. Co., 16th March, 1598-9.

John Blakeway buried at Mary Anne Elizabeth Thomas Passand of Shrews-  
St. Chad's, 2 Feb., 1618. bury, Apothecary.

See *History of Shrewsbury*, vol. i., p. 408.  
See also page 3948 of this volume.

Anno { JOHN NICHOLS. See page 3889.

1616. { RICHARD WYNNE was a draper in Shrewsbury, and

a man of great wealth. By his Will, dated 15th November, 1620, he left £300 towards the maintenance of a public preacher in the Church of St. Mary, Shrewsbury. He was thus connected:—

ARMS: Argent an escallop Sable.

Nicholas Wynne of the Chapelry of Forden, co. Montgomery, yeoman.

Richard Wynne of Shrewsbury, draper, admitted a Burgess 12th Sept., 1582; admitted of the Drapers' Co. in 1595. Bailiff in 1616.

Damaris mar. Matthew Cradock of London.	Priscilla mar. John Hill, Esq., of Shrewsbury, goldsmith.	Eleanor bapt. at St. Chad's, 20th July, 1616. Married Sir Abraham Reynordson, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London. See <i>Gent. Mag.</i> , 1782.
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Anno { EDWARD DONNE. See page 3886.

1617. } THOMAS WINGFIELD was admitted of the Drapers' Company, Shrewsbury, on the 4th of January, 1608-9, and was admitted a Burgess on the 13th of February then next following. His father, Thomas Wingfield, had been a draper at Loughborough, co. Leicester, but was the son of William Wingfield of Ashley Hey, co. Derby, a scion of the great [p. 3895.]

House of Wingfield, descended from Robert de Wingfield, of Wingfield, co. Sussex, one branch of which is now represented by the Viscount Powerscourt. Thomas Wingfield again served the office of Bailiff in 1623, and was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1640. His descendant, Thomas Wingfield, was Mayor in 1767, and the same office was filled by the respected head of this ancient family, John Wingfield, Esq., in 1833.

Thomas Wingfield, grandson of the present Bailiff, was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1692; and the grandson of this gentleman, Rowland Wingfield, Esq., was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1753. He purchased the mansion and estate of Onslow, near Shrewsbury, both of which have been greatly improved, and the estate considerably augmented by his son, the present possessor, John Wingfield, Esq., who was High Sheriff of Shropshire in 1824, and Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1833-4.

For further particulars as to this distinguished family, see

the Peerages, the Sheriffs of Shropshire, and the pedigree of this branch thereof at page 2298 of this collection.

1618. { ARTHUR KYNASTER. See page 3888.

{ JOHN GARBETT. See page 3890.

{ GEORGE WRIGHT.

1619. { RICHARD GIBBONS. See page 3881.

George Wright, of Shrewsbury, draper, was son of John Wright, of Wlonkeslowe (now called Longslow), in the parish of Market Drayton, yeoman. He was admitted a Burgess on the 22nd October, 1601; and he again served the office of Bailiff in 1632. See page 4185.

Arms.—Or, 3 trefoils slipped vert, on a chief argent 2 pullets gules.

[p. 3896.]

1620. { ROGER POPE. See page 3866.

{ HOWELL VAUGHAN was a draper in Shrewsbury, and was admitted of that company 19th November, 1602. He was admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury on the 20th of April, 1605, and had then two children born, viz., Ales and Stephen. His son, Stephen Vaughan, was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1623. The arms assigned to Howell Vaughan in the list of Bailiffs are—Or, a lion rampant sable; but that is certainly an error, for he was one of the younger sons of Ellis Vaughan, of Gланлlyn, co. Merioneth (as stated in his admission in the Burgess book), which Ellis Vaughan was afterwards of Brynlech, in Llanuwchlllyn, co. Merioneth. The family had been seated at Gланлlyn from a very remote period, and their arms were—Vert, a chevron between three wolves' heads, erased argent.

1621. { SIR WILLIAM OWEN, Knt. See page 3873. M.P.  
for Shrewsbury in 1625.

{ THOMAS JONES. See page 3878.

1622. { ROBERT STEVENS. See page 3887.

{ RICHARD HUNT. See page 3885.

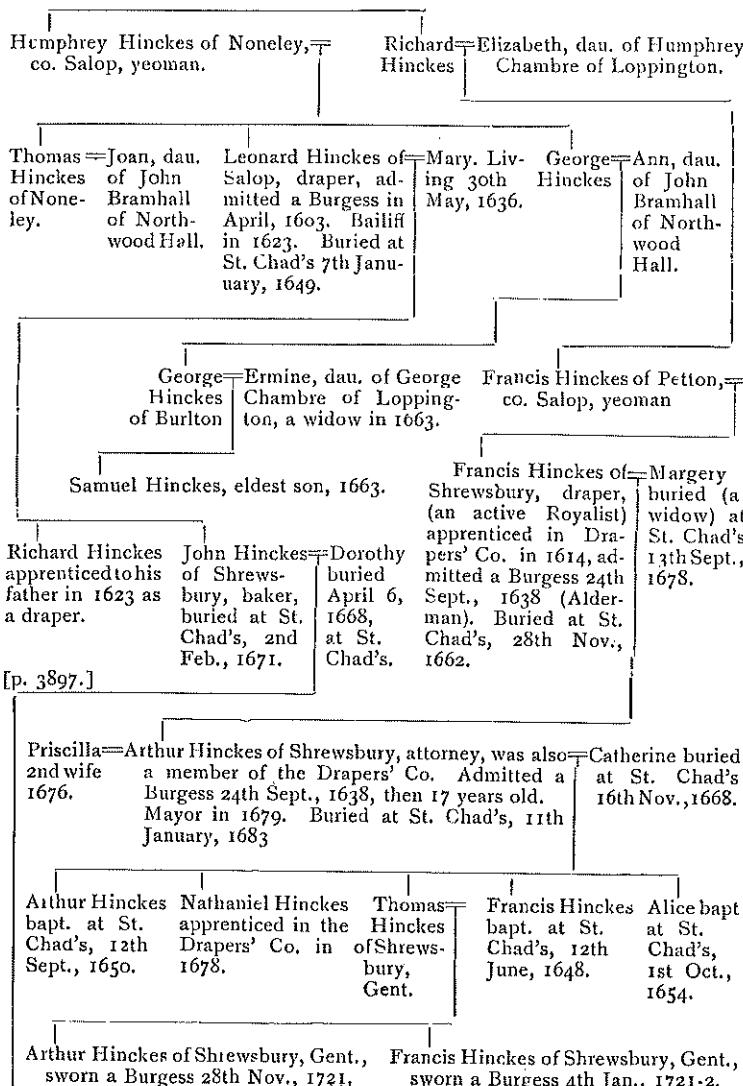
{ THOMAS WINGFIELD. See page 3895.

1623. { LEONARD HINCKES was of Salop, draper, and was son of Humphrey Hinckes, of Nonely, co. Salop, yeoman. He was admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury in April, 1603. Other members of his family were afterwards connected with Shrewsbury, as will be seen by the following sketch of their descent:—

ARMS: Gules, a lion rampant Argent within an orle of besants.

Francis Hinckes of Shrewsbury, Gent. in 1733, sealed with Argent, a lion rampant Gules within an orle of besants.

Crest, a lion's head erased Gules, gorged with a collar dancette Argent.



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Roger Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 21st April, 1649, buried there April 14, 1651.	John Hinckes bapt. 22 May, 1657, buried 20th Sep. 1657 (St. Chad's).	Thomas Hinckes bapt. 18th Oct., 1663, buried 15th June, 1665 (St. Chad's).	Abraham and Isaac Hinckes (twins) bapt. 1st June, 1666. Abraham was buried 23rd and Isaac 25th June, 1666, at St. Chad's.
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Margaret Morris mar. at St. Chad's, 13th Jan., 1693, buried there 11th Dec., 1703.	James Hinckes of Shrewsbury, mil- ier, bapt. at St. Chad's, 16th Jan., 1691.	Sarah Payne mar. 20th July, 1679, at St. Chad's, bur. there 2nd May, 1692.	Edward Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 15th Jan., 1648.
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William Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 21st June, 1685, bur. there 1st Dec., 1685.	Edward Hinckes of Shrewsbury, tobacco-cutter, sworn a Burgess 29 Nov., 1721.	Elizabeth Hughes mar. at St. Chad's, 21 Sept., 1706.	John Hinckes of Shrewsbury, bricklayer, sworn a Burgess 5th Dec., 1721, bap. at St. Chad's, 12th May, 1715.
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Thomas Hinckes of Shrewsbury, clothworker, sworn a Burgess 17th March, 1721-2.	Elizabeth Hickman mar. at St. Chad's, 11th August, 1715.	James Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 17th March, 1682.	Mary Trevis mar. bapt. at St. Chad's, 20th Feb., 1704.
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John Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 7th Sept., 1707.	Edward Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 5th Aug., 1711.	James Hinckes bapt. at St. Chad's, 14th Feb., 1713.	Samuel Hinckes of Shrewsbury, cloth- worker, sworn a Burgess 3rd Aug., 1753.
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Edward Hinckes of Shrewsbury, white-smith, sworn a Burgess 6th October, 1774.	Thomas Hinckes of Shrewsbury, sherman, sworn a Burgess 10th October, 1774.
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[p. 3898.]

1624. { JOHN STUDLEY.  
THOMAS MATTHEWS.

John Studley was of Shrewsbury, draper, and was admitted of the Drapers' Company the 16th of April, 1593. His father, Thomas Studley, was admitted of the same company in 1572, being the son of Thomas Studley, of Shrewsbury, corvisor, then deceased, whose father, Robert Studley, had married Eleanor, daughter of Thomas Waring, of

Shrewsbury. John Studley was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1642; and the family is still extant in Shrewsbury and its vicinity, as may be seen by their pedigree at page 1515 of this collection.

Thomas Matthews was a mercer, and was admitted of the Mercers, &c., Company, of which guild the Apothecaries formed a portion, on the 4th of October, 1608. His father, Oliver Matthews, then of Bishop Castle, had previously been a member of the same company. He was, it appears, an apothecary, though Messrs. Owen and Blakeway, in their History of Shrewsbury, call him a mercer. His father, Richard Matthews, was of Kinton, in the parish of Chirbury. Oliver Matthews was admitted of the Mercers' Company 19th April, 1560, and was admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury on the 30th of September, in the same year. In 1616 he published an account of Shrewsbury, noticed by Messrs. Owen and Blakeway in their History of Shrewsbury (vol. 1, page 2), when, according to his own statement, he must have been aged 96 years. Edward and Thomas, sons of Thomas Matthews, were drapers in Shrewsbury, as also was Thomas Matthews, son of the last named Thomas, the younger.

Arms.—Ermine, a cross gules. See page 4185.

1625. { THOMAS KNIGHT.  
CHARLES BENYON.

Thomas Benyon, of Salop, draper, was admitted a Burgess on the 14th of August, 1568, and was son of Robert Benyon, [p. 3899.]

then of Shrewsbury, drover. He had several children, and Charles Benyon, the present Bailiff, was a near relative of them. He again served the office in 1634, and was Mayor in 1644 and 1651. Richard Benyon, son of Thomas Benyon, was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1599. Timothy Benyon, another son, was apprenticed in the Mercers' Company in 1598. Thomas Benyon died on the 26th of July, 1587, and was buried at St. Alkmund's; and on the Drapers' Company's book of March, 1588, is an order—"That Robert Beynyon, son of Thomas Beynyon, tanner, and late apprentice to Thomas Beynyon, of Salop, draper, shall be admitted a member of the company on condition that he paid the sum of £10 as a fine, two shillings for wine, and that he married

his mistress, viz., Anne Beynyon, widow, the late wyfe of Thomas Beynyon, his maister." She died on the 15th of June, 1638. Charles Benyon was an active Parliamentarian, and was made one of their justices of the peace 3rd March, 1646.

Arms.—Vaire argent and sable, on a chief or, 3 mullets of the second. Robert Benyon's descent is given at page 3905.

Thomas Knight was a draper in Shrewsbury, and was son of Thomas Knight, of Bewdley, ironmonger. He was admitted a Burgess in 1611; and his son, John Knight, was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1637. Thomas Knight again served the office of Bailiff in 1631, and was Mayor in 1646. See page 4186.

Arms.—Argent, 3 pales gules, within a border engrailed azure, on a canton of the second, a spur with the rowel downwards or, leathered of the field.

Anno { RICHARD PERSHOUSE.

1626. } RICHARD LLEWELLIN.

Richard Pershouse was a draper in Shrewsbury, and was son of Richard Pershouse, of Hurst Hall, co. Stafford. He was admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury the 19th of July, 1595; and his son, John Pershouse, was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1631.

Arms.—Argent, a fess between 3 cross crosslets fitchee sable. Richard Pershouse married Cecilia, daughter of Alexander Wood, of White Abbey, parish of Alberbury, co. Salop. [See Note at p. 198.—ED.]

{p. 3900.]

Richard Llewellyn was a tanner in Shrewsbury, and was of a family that has connected itself with Shrewsbury almost to the present period, as hereunder stated:—

Thomas Llewellyn of Tilstock, near  
Whitchurch, Salop, yeoman.

Richard Llewellyn of Whitchurch  
in Salop.

Richard Llewellyn admitted of the  
Drapers' Company, Shrewsbury, in  
1603.

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Elizabeth buried at St. Julian's 25th March, 1605.	Thomas Llewellyn of Shrewsbury, meicer, admitted a Freeman of the Mercers' Co. 26th October, 1597. Ad- mitted a Burgess 5th October, 1598.	Dorothy Price, widow of Edward Price of Eglwyseg, and dau. of Robert Davies of Gwy- saney, Esq.	Richard Llewellyn of Shrewsbury, tanner, admitted a Burgess in April, 1603, Bailiff in 1626 and 1637, Mayor in 1647. Bur. at St. Chad's, Stapleton, 5th October, 1607.
John Llewellyn bapt. at St. Julian's 12th April, 1604.	Gules 3 chevronels Argent.		Mary bur. at St. Chad's, 23rd June, 1652, aged 82.
		Bell Croft, near Shelton, the in- come of which went to put out poor boys apprentice. Will dated 19th Nov., 1650.	
md. Nicholas Davies.	Thomas Llewellyn osp. vita patris. He was of Shrews- bury, tanner. Bur. at St. Chad's, 13 Feb., 1644.	Elizabeth died un- mar. and bur. at St. Chad's, 25th Feb. 1644-5.	Edward Calloway 1st husb., mar. at St. Chad's, 16 May, 1635.
Elizabeth 1650.	Samuel Davies 1650.		Ann Lle- wellin was liv- ing a wi- dow at Notting- ham, 28 August, 1682.
Hester Calloway 1650		Ann Calloway 1650.	
Samuel Clarke of Chesterfeld, co. Derby, was of London, apothecary, in 1682.		John Clarke, 2nd son, 1682, died unmarried.	Daniel Clarke
Samuel Clarke died unmarried 1754.	Spallman Clarke of Chester- feld in Derby, had one son and two daughters.	Joseph Clarke of Cheapside, London, linen draper.	↓
1 George Llewellyn of Broadway, co. Montgomery, and of Shrewsbury, draper. Bapt. at St. Chad's, 20th Oct., 1617. Admitted of that Company in 1664. Was previously a clothworker or sherman. Buried at St. Chad's, in 1682, 12 Nov. Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1681. Was Sheriff of Montgomeryshire in 1676.	Elizabeth Gough mar. at S. Chad's 20th Sep. 1645.	James Llewellyn bapt. at St. Julian's ian's, 2nd June, 1608.	Katherine bapt. and buried at St. Julian's 4th Sept., 1610.
		a	

<sup>1</sup> George Llewellyn was baptised as "George Fluelling" at St. Chad's in 1617, and was son of John Llewellyn of Salop, sherman, admitted a Burgess on the 6th of January, 1612-13, which John Llewellyn was son of Llewellyn ap Roger of Salop, sherman. John Llewellyn was buried at St. Chad's, 1st January, 1653.

THE PROVOSTS AND BAILIFFS OF SHREWSBURY. 189

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William bapt. at St. Chad's, 6 Sept., 1646.	George Llewellyn of Shrewsbury, draper, admitted of the Drapers' Co. in 1677. Bapt. at St. Chad's, 7th April, 1653. Buried there 16th February, 1688.	Frances	James Llewellyn bapt. at St. Chad's, 18th May, 1663. Apprenticed to his father in the Drapers Co. in 1674.
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Jesse Llewellyn bapt. at St. Chad's, 20th Sept., 1680, was of London, draper.	George Llewellyn bapt. at St. Chad's 7th June, 1683, and buried there 8th June, 1683.	Richard Llewellyn of Shrewsbury, gent. (admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1681), afterwards of Broadway, co. Montgomery, Clerk, Bapt. at St. Chad's, 24th July, 1659, sworn a Burgess of Shrewsbury in 1721. Buried at St. Chad's, in 1729, aged 70. He was Vicar of Condover and Rector of Pulverbatch in 1709.	Hannah, buried in the chancel of Montford Church, 4th Oct., 1690. (See Fitz Register)
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John bap. at St. Chad's, 14 Jan., 1655, bur. there 15 Dec., 1655.	John Llewellyn bap. at St. Chad's, 3rd Nov., 1665, bur. there 25th July, 1666.	Sarah bap. 31 Aug., 1651, mar. at St. July, 1675, Mr. John Willoughby of Bristol.	Mary bap. 13 Dec., 1657. at St. 17th Aug., 1656.	Ales bap. 13 Dec., 1657. at St. 17th Aug., 1656.	Martha Nov., 1660.
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1 Anne=Richard Llewellyn of par. St. Martins Westminster, 23rd June, 1721, afterwards of Shrewsbury, Gent. Bapt. at St. Julian's, 28th October, 1689, sworn a Burgess 3rd July, 1753. Buried at Chad's in 1771, aged 82.	2 Mary Evans, sister of Charles Evans of Todlith and Hurdley, co. Montgomery. Buried at St. Chad's in 1769, aged 66.	Hannah bapt. at Fitz, 4th Oct., 1690.
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George Llewellyn of Broadway, Gent., sworn a Burgess 29th April, 1774. Buried at St. Chad's in 1790, aged 46. Was of Shrewsbury, periuke-maker, prior to his marriage and after.	Elizabeth Price. Married at St. Chad's, 4 Aug., 1768.	Mary, mar. James Donald of Shug Lane, Piccadilly, London, hairdresser.
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Charles Evans Llewellyn=Hannah Mount of Broadway, afterwards druggist, of Shrewsbury, druggist. Sworn a Burgess 28th Sept., 1811. October, 1794, o.s.p.	Thomas Llewellyn born 30th July, 1769, bapt. at St. Alkmund's; sworn a Burgess 18th May, 1796. Died at Forest House, Dalston, Middlesex, 30th Nov., 1856.
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George Llewellyn of Shrewsbury, draper, admitted of that Company 1664, paid a fine of £100 to that Company on his

admission, because he had not served his apprenticeship therein. He had been previously a Clothworker or Shearman, but from the notices of the burials of the members of his family being in the *History of Shrewsbury* recorded along with those of the family of Richard Llewellyn, Mayor of 1647, and their tombs in old St. Chad's having apparently been the same or close together, it has been concluded they were of the same family, and that he was the son of Thomas Llewellyn, Mercer. Not having been able to refer to or to find where the ancient books of the Company of Shermen are deposited, I have not (if they are still in existence) been able to satisfy myself on this point; for there was a John Llewellyn of Salop, Shearman, admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury on the 6th January, 1612-13, and if George Llewellyn was not a son of Thomas Llewellyn, Mercer, he must have been a son of this John, who appears to have been of a different family, being son of Llewellyn ap Roger of Shrewsbury, Shearman. This was so, as I have seen by St. Chad's Register. See note I have attached to the name of George Llewellyn.

[p. 3902.]

Anno 1627. THOMAS JONES. See page 3878.

1627. ROBERT STEVENS. See page 3887.

WILLIAM ROWLEY.

1628. EDWARD DONNE. Died in office. See page 3886.

1628. RICHARD GIBBONS. Elected to complete the year.

See page 3881.

William Rowley was a draper in Shrewsbury, and was son of Roger Rowley, of Rowley, in the parish of Worfield, in Salop, gentleman. He was admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury on the 12th July, 1595. His ancestor, William de Rowlowe, alias Rowley, was seated there in 1330, in which year he died, being the son of William de Rowlowe, alias Rowlowe, who was a member of the Guild Merchant of Salop in 1252, being on the foreigners' roll of that year and of 1268. Roger Rowley, Esq., son of the present Bailiff, was a barrister at law, and is recorded as the first person who kept his coach in Shrewsbury. For further details as to this ancient family, see their pedigree at page 2388 of this collection.

1629. { ROBERT BETTON. See page 3887.  
 DANIEL LEWIS was a draper in Shrewsbury, and third son of Thomas Lewis, Bailiff in 1581. See the pedigree of his family at page 1421 of this collection.

1630. { GEORGE HUNT.  
 SIMON WESTON.

George Hunt was a draper, and was son of George Hunt, of London, haberdasher. He had served his apprenticeship with Mr. Richard Hunt (to whom he was, no doubt, related), the Bailiff of 1622, and had been admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1615.

Arms.—As Hunt of Boreatton.

Simon Weston was also a draper in Shrewsbury. He was son of Ralph Weston, of Rugeley, in Staffordshire, gentleman, and was admitted a Burgess on the 22nd of September, 1619. He again served the office of Bailiff in 1636. See page 4186.

Arms.—Sable a lion rampant argent, collared and chained gules. [See Note at p. 198.—Ed.]

[p. 3903.]

1631. { RICHARD HUNT. See page 3885.  
 THOMAS KNIGHT. See page 3899.

1632. { GEORGE WRIGHT. See page 3895.  
 OWEN GEORGE was a mercer in Shrewsbury, and served the office of Mayor in 1648. His family were connected with the town as understated:—

Arms.—Sable, a goat erect argent attired or, supporting a holly tree on a mount in base, both vert; at its foot an infant proper, vested gules, swaddled argent.

The above are the arms assigned to Owen George in Messrs. Owen and Blakeway's list; but see his descent at page 4183.—J. M.

David George of Uppington, in Montgomery, yeoman—

Owen George of Shrewsbury, mercer, admitted of the Mercers' Company, 25th October, 1614, admitted a Burgess 2nd October, 1615, Bailiff in 1632, Mayor in 1648. He left £2 per annum to the Minister and £1 per annum to the poor of St. Chad's Parish.	Mary Wycherley.	Edward of Upington	Margaret, dau. of John Harris of Stockton, par. Chirbury, in Salop.
	Married at St. Chad's, 22nd Oct., 1616.		

See page 4183.

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a	b
Edward George admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1634, was admitted of the Mercer Company 20th July, 1654.	Stephen George admitted of the Mercers' Co., 9th June, 1645.
	George George bapt. St. Chad's, 30th Oct., 1617.
	See page 4183.

Reginald George admitted of Drapers' Co., Salop, in 1654.	Owen George admitted of the Mercers' Company Salop, 20th June, 1663.	Margery.
Owen George bapt. at St. Chad's 31st January, 1667-8.	Ann bapt. at St. Chad's, 18th Nov., 1669.	Buried there 18th June, 1670.

[p. 3904.]

anno { JOHN POYNER.  
 1633. { ANDREW GRIFFITHS.

John Poyner was of a very ancient family in the county, and was thus connected :—

ARMS : Argent a parrot vert.

John Poyner of Wrockwardine, husbandman	
Robert Poyner admitted of the Mercers' Company, Shrewsbury, 9th Elizabeth. Was admitted a Burgess, 21st April, 1564.	Roger Poyner admitted of the Mercers' Company, Salop, 1567.
John Poyner Bailiff in 1633. Buried at St. Chad's, 4th February, 1637, "then one of the Council of the town."	
John Poyner bapt. at St. Chad's, 18th May, 1618.	

Andrew Griffiths was, I believe, thus connected with the franchise of the borough :—

Arms : Argent, a Cross fleury engrailed between 4 Cornish choughs proper, a chief azure (a crescent for difference) on the chief a boar's head couped Argent tusked Or and langued Gules.

Griffith ap David of Shrewsbury, Sherman	
Abraham Griffiths of Shrewsbury, sherman, admitted a Burgess of Shrewsbury 12th Sept., 1581. Living 13th April, 1626 (Deed of Drapers' Company).	Elizabeth, dau. of William Bowdler of Shrewsbury. (Living 13th April, 1626).

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John Griffiths of Shrewsbury, Sherman, aged 1 year in 1581, was admitted a Burgess in April, 1603, resided in Frankwell.

Andrew Griffiths of Shrewsbury, trowman, Bailiff in 1633, buried at St. Chad's, 6th Nov., 1642.

Sarah buried at St. Chad's, was an 2 May, 1642.

Roger Griffiths senior, was an Alderman of Shrewsbury.

Eleanor dau. of

Abraham Griffiths apprenticed in the Corvisors' Co., 28th April, 1621.

Roger Griffiths of Uley in Gloucestershire, Gentleman, was a Trustee to the Settlement before marriage of Rev. Jas. Atchery and Eleanor Griffiths 9th Dec., 1766.

Andrew Griffiths of Shrewsbury, mercer, admitted of that Co., 18th June, 1632 (son of Andrew, Bailiff in 1633), afterwards of Bristol, Merchant.

Jane Parry of Shrewsbury, mar. at Fitz, 13 Oct., 1663.

John Griffiths admitted of the Drapers' Co. in 1639, buried at St. Chad's, 22nd January, 1651-2.

Mary, buried at St. Chad's, 21 Dec., 1646

Andrew Griffiths of Shrewsbury, grocer, sworn a Burgess 29th Nov., 1721.

Jane.

John Griffiths of Shrewsbury, Gent., mar. at St. Julian's, sworn a Burgess, 3rd Jan., 1685.

Elizabeth Adams

John Griffiths of Mineira, bapt. at St. Chad's, visor, sworn a Burgess 30 Nov., 1721.

Died

John Griffiths of Shrewsbury, Gent., mar. at St. Julian's, sworn a Burgess, 3rd Jan., 1685.

Elizabeth Adams

Eleanor Haynes of Shrewsbury, mar. junior, Alderman, at Fitz, 24th Sep., 1663, then aged 37 in 1671.

Roger Griffiths, man, was Mayor at Fitz, 24th Sep., 1663, then aged 37 in 1671.

Mary, dau. of Thomas Atchery of Marton, senior, buried at St. Chad's 1662 (Oct. 3).

Eleanor married Thomas Atchery, junior, of Marton.

Andrew Griffiths born 22nd Sept., 1654, bapt. St. Chad's, Feb. 4th, 1654-5. Appointed in the Drapers' Co. in 1671, after went to the study of Medicine and was M.D., though admitted of that Company. Buried at St. Chad's, 24th May, 1688.

John Griffiths of Shrewsbury, Esq. Will dated 8th Feb., 1766. Sworn a Burgess 29 Nov. 1701

John Griffiths Dorothy 1695.

Jane bapt. at St. Chad's, 30th Dec., 1659.

Richard Griffiths of Bicton, Gent. Sworn a Burgess 6th October, 1774.

Andrew Griffiths, Catherine, mar. Rev. Samuel Johnson.

Eleanor, mar. Rev. James Atchery at St. Chad's, 15th Dec., 1768.

[p. 3905.]

Anno *CHARLES BENYON.*  
*1634. THOMAS HAYES.*

Some account of Charles Benyon and his family is given at page 3889. Their descent and connexion may be thus further stated:—

(See page 1301.)

Deye ap Eignon of Rowton, par. Alberbury =  
 prior to 30 Henry VI., 1452.

Robert ap Enynon of Rowton 30 Henry VI.,  
 1452, was in that year admitted a Burgess  
 of Shrewsbury. He was a draper; Bailiff  
 in 1475.

Roger ap Enyneon of Eyton, =  
 pr. Alberbury.

Richard ap Enyneon of Shrewsbury, husbandman, = Alice Adam Beyneon  
 afterwards of Munk Meole. Admitted a Burgess, dau. of  
 21 Hen. VIII., 1529. John Syer.

Adam ap Enyneon Alice Owen  
 aged 10 years in 1529.  
 (See page 4202.)

Robert ap Enyneon, alias Robert Benyon of Shrewsbury, drover, aged 8 years in 1529. Admitted a Burgess 4th March, 1551-2, then of Goosehill, husbandman, after of Shrewsbury, drover.

Margaret Warter.

Richard ap Enyneon aged 4 years in 1529, was of Shrewsbury, corvisor, and was admitted a Burgess 4th March, 1551-2.

George Benyon Margaret Brubant

William ap Enyneon aged 6 months when his father was admitted

John Benyon admitted of the Drapers' Co., 24 June, 1558.

Roger Benyon Thomas Benyon  
 aged 11 of years in Shrews  
 bury, draper,  
 aged 7 years, 4th  
 March, 1552, ad-  
 mitted a Burgess  
 14th August, 1568.  
 Died 26 July, 1587.  
 Buried at St. Alk-  
 munds.

Anne Owen = Robert Benyon  
 daughter of Richard of Salop, draper,  
 Owen of Salop (mar-  
 ried at St. Julian's, 11 May, 1574, husband; mar. in  
 to Thomas 1588. Buried at St. Benyon. Alkmund's, 18th Dec., 1631.  
 Alkmund's, 15 June, 1638.

Thomas Benyon of Salop, tanner), 2nd

John Benyon, jun. of Corn Market, Salop, anno 1601.

Joan Eleanor, aged 5  
 in 1629.

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<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>
John Benyon	Jane Damaris Charles Benyon, Esq. = Elizabeth Sher <sup>r</sup> = Ellen Pavier Howell afterwards (son of George and mar. at St. mar. at St. Mary's 3rd married to grandson of Adam), Pryce Bailiff of Shrewsbury Chad's, 25 Dec., 1636; Devereux, in 1625 and 1634, and Sep., 1620; 3rd wife, Gent., 4th Mayor in 1644 and wife, Bur. at St. Bur. at St. Chad's, 1st wife, Bur. 1651, Justice of the at St. Peace 1646. Buried Mary's, 7th April, 1650. Mary's, 16 at St. Mary's, July, 1636. Dec., 15th May, 1662. He 1663. married 1st at St. Mary's, 16 Dec., 1616, Deborah Parkes, who was buried there 9th Dec., 1618.
George Benyon, bapt. at St. Mary's, 9 Dec., 1618. Buried there 26 March, 1619.	Mary Benyon = Richard Clutton. Married at St. Mary's, 19 July, 1639.
	Thomas Clutton, bapt. at St. Mary's, 27 Sept., 1640.
Richard Benyon = Martha bur. admitted of the Drapers' Co., Salop, 1599.	Timothy Benyon ap- prenticed in the Mer- cers' Co., Salop, in 1598.
Daniel Benyon	Mary Knight, mar. at St. Julian's, 6 May, 1637.
	Mary mar. at St. Julian's, 7 Nov. 1639, Thomas Adams.
Daniel Benyon bapt. at St. Julian's, 21 June, 1646.	Sarah bapt. at St. Julian's, 17 Nov., 1640.
	Edward Benyon of Salop, corvisor, 1639.
	Roger Benyon, 1676.

[p. 3906.]

Thomas Hayes was of Shrewsbury, draper, and was admitted a Burgess on the 14th of May, 1622. He was thus connected:—

ARMS: Argent on a chevron, between three wolves' heads erased at the neck Gules, 5 besants.

Silvester Hayes of Wolverhampton, Ironmonger.

Winifred	Thomas Hayes of Shrewsbury, Draper, Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1634, Mayor in 1649. Buried at St. Julian's, 31st March, 1662.	Ann, dau. of Christopher Whichcot, of Stoke, in the Parish of Bursford co. Salop. Bapt. at Bursford, 2nd August, 1608. Married at St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, 2nd February, 1630-1. Buried there 14 December, 1638.
<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	

a		b	
Martha bapt. at St. Julian, 3rd February, 1629.	Sarah mar. at St. Julian's, 22nd May, 1651, Walter Haynes.	Nathaniel Hayes. Bapt. at St. Julian's, 17 Jan., 1627.	Thomas Hayes of Shrewsbury, Gent., bapt. at St. Julian's, 31st August, 1626. Apprenticed to his father 1642.
Thomas Hayes of Shrewsbury, Gent., and Draper. Sworn a Burgess 22nd March, 1725. Apprenticed to his father in 1673.		Elizabeth mar. Edward Harwood, youngest son of John Harwood of Shrewsbury, Esq.	
Rev. Philemore Hayes, Minister of Child's Ercall, co. Salop.	Mary bapt. at St. Julian's, 26th April 1632, married there 4th July, 1659, John Hubbards.	Elizabeth bapt. at St. Julian's, 1st Sept., 1636, married there 7th July, 1663, John Bryan, buried at St. Julian's, 3rd May, 1692.	

Anno { THOMAS JONES. See page 3878.

1635. { JOHN PROWDE was of Salop, draper. His father, William Prowde, of Atcham, was of the family of Prowde, of Sutton, noticed on page 3874. John Prowde was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1608, and he was admitted a Burgess on the 30th October, 1611. He served the office of Mayor in 1650, and was buried at St. Julian's 26th July, 1653, as was also his widow (Dorothy, daughter of Richard Rocke, Esq.), on the 27th of October, 1654.

1636. { THOMAS NICHOLS. See page 3889.

{ SIMON WESTON. See page 3902.

[p. 3907.]

1637. { RICHARD LLEWELLIN. See page 3900.

{ JOHN WIGHTWICK was a draper in Shrewsbury, being the youngest son of Francis Wightwick, of Wightwick, in the parish of Tetenhall, co. Stafford, Esq., whose ancestors had been seated at that place from a very remote period. He was admitted of the Drapers' Company in 1613, and was admitted a Burgess on the 24th of September, 1614, in which year he was married at St. Alkmund's to Mary Johnes, by whom he had one son, Francis, born and buried in 1615. John Wightwick had also a son, Matthew, baptised at St. Alkmund's, in 1619. Mr. John Wightwick was buried at St.

Alkmund's in 1638, having married, secondly, Sarah, daughter of Richard Prowde, of Shrewsbury. See page 4187.

ARMS.—Azure on a chevron argent between 3 pheons points downwards or, as many crosses patee gules.

In the year 1638 a new Charter was granted to the town of Shrewsbury by King Charles the First, under which the town, instead of two Bailiffs, had one Mayor to preside over their municipal affairs, the particulars of which are detailed in Messrs. Owen and Blakeway's *History of Shrewsbury*, vol. i., pp. 406, etc. I therefore now proceed with my details that have reference to the :—

#### MAYORS OF SHREWSBURY.

Anno 1638. THOMAS JONES had been Bailiff six times. See page 3878. He was elected on the Friday next after the Feast of St. Bartholomew, and sworn as Mayor on the first Friday after the Feast of St. Michael, that being the rule laid down by the new Charter as to the office of Mayor, which continued until the Municipal Corporations Act, 1835.

1639. ROBERT BETTON had been Bailiff thrice. See page 3887.

1640. HUGH HARRIS had been Bailiff in 1610. See page 3890. He died on the 16th Jne, 1641, and

THOMAS WINGFIELD was elected to complete the year. This gentleman had been Bailiff in 1617 and 1623. See page 3895.

1641. RICHARD GIBBONS had been Bailiff in 1619 and 1628. See page 3881.

1642. JOHN STUDLEY was Bailiff in 1624. See page 3898.

1643. ROBERT BETTON, junior, son of Robert Betton, Mayor in 1639.

1644. CHARLES BENYON had been Bailiff in 1625 and 1634. See pages 3899 and 3905.

1645. THOMAS NICCOLS, Bailiff in 1636 and Sheriff of Shropshire in 1640. See page 3889.

1646. THOMAS KNIGHT, Bailiff in 1625 and 1631. See page 3899.

[p. 3908.]

1647. RICHARD LLEWELLIN, Bailiff in 1626 and 1637. See page 3900.

1648. OWEN GEORGE, Bailiff in 1632. See page 3903.

Another change in the municipal affairs of Shrewsbury took place in this year, and on the 30th January, 1649, by the murder of their rightful Sovereign, the traitors established what they called a Commonwealth, the first Mayor under which was in the year:—

1649. THOMAS HAYES, Bailiff in 1634. See page 3906.

1650. JOHN PROWDE, Bailiff in 1635. See page 3906.

1651. CHARLES BENYON. Had been Bailiff twice. See pages 3899 and 3905. He was also Mayor in 1644.

## NOTES ON THE FOREGOING ACCOUNT OF THE BAILIFFS.

Page 187.—Richard Persehouse, of Shrewsbury, is stated in the *Visitation of Staffordshire* in 1663 to have been a son of John Persehouse of Sedgley by his second wife Margery, daughter of [Richard] Garbett of Penne, co. Stafford. By his wife Cicelie, daughter of Alexander Wood of Shinewood, Richard Persehouse had issue three sons and two daughters,—Alexander, John, Richard, Margery and Dorothy. Alexander Persehouse had issue,—Edward, William, Cicelie, and Dorothy.

The Arms of Persehouse are not as stated by Morris, but were entered as,—Or, on a pile azure a stag's head cabossed of the field, a crescent for difference. See Pedigree of Persehouse in the *William Salt Historical Collections*, vol. v., part 2, page 238.

Page 191.—The Pedigree of Weston of Rugeley was recorded at the *Visitation of Staffordshire* 1663, and the Arms of Weston were entered as,—Or an eagle displayed regardant sable,—and are not as stated by Morris. See the *William Salt Historical Collections*, vol. v., part 2, page 303.

ED.

## THE COLLEGE OF TONG.

BY THE REV. J. E. AUDEN, M.A., VICAR OF TONG

SIR FULKE PEMBRUGE, Knight, Lord of Tong, died on May 24, 1409, and his widow, Isabel, determined to re-build the church of Tong, and found a college there in his memory. With this intent she gave £50 to Henry IV. for permission to obtain from the Abbot of Shrewsbury the advowson, which had been given to the Abbey by Roger, Earl of Montgomery. With herself she coupled William Mosse<sup>1</sup> and William Shaw. clerks. These three were to have power to convert the church into a college of five chaplains, more or less, one of whom was to be warden, and to assign to it a messuage with appurtenances in the town of Tong. The original endowments consisted of the advowsons of Tong, and St. Mary's, Orlingbury, co. Northampton, some land at Sharnford, co. Leicester, and the reversion of the Manor of Gilmorton, in the same county. The warden and chaplains were to be a Body Coporate, under the name of the College of St. Bartholomew the Apostle at Tong, possessing a common seal. The licence is dated 12 Henry IV. (i.e., 1410).

Sixteen years afterwards Henry V., at his Parliament at Leicester (of which Sir Richard Vernon, of Tong—nephew and heir of Sir Fulke Pembruge, and son-in-law by her first marriage to the foundress—was Speaker), at the request of Lady Isabel, gave and granted to the college, the town, church,

<sup>1</sup> William del Mosse was parson of Langport, co. Somerset, and came from Mees, or Mosse, in the parish of Eccleshall. He had been for several years previously connected with the neighbourhood of Tong. For, in 1403, Sir Fulke Pembruge had levied a fine of 20 acres of land and four of meadow in Weston and Blymhill, and a fifth part of the Manor of Weston and the advowson of the church there, and a fifth part of that of the church of Blymhill, in favour of William Mosse, parson of Langport; Robert Say, parson of Eaton Hastings, co. Berks; and Walter Swan, parson of Aylestone, co. Leicester. Swan and Mosse levied another fine on these lands in 1417 in favour of William Galley, chaplain, William Fitzherberde, and others. Sir Fulke Pembruge had become entitled to these fifth parts in right of his first wife, Margaret Trussell.—(Fletcher Moss, *Pilgrimages to Old Homes*, p. 36; and *Staffordshire Collections*, vol. xv., p. 111, and vol. xi., p. 226.)

and Priory of Lapley, which had been the property of the Abbey of Rheims, but had been seized by the King, owing to his being at war with France. This would be the land which produced the corn found at 'Wheton Aston barne' in 1546, for Wheaton Aston is in Lapley parish. The statutes and ordinances for the government were dated 9 March, 1410-1, and were confirmed by the Bishop of Lichfield 27 March, 1411. They are given in Dugdale's *Monasticon* (vol. viii., p. 1408, et seq.), and Tanner's *Notitia Monastica*, and extracts from the latter in Griffiths' *History of Tong* (p.p. 111-121).

Among the rules were the following :—The college was to consist of five priests, or chaplains, of whom alone the warden might hold another benefice. In that case he was allowed to nominate a vice-warden.

There were to be, as well, two lay clerks for the services of the church ; and also thirteen almsmen—seven too infirm to look after themselves—to be maintained by the college ; the latter to be chosen by the foundress during her lifetime, after her death by the warden, and not to be removed without some good reason. Every one of them, unless prevented by illness, must hear one or two Masses a day ; but if any was too weak to go to the church for this purpose, a chaplain to be appointed to say Mass in the almshouse chapel three times a week.

One of the chaplains, called the parochial chaplain, to have charge of the parish ; another to teach the clerks, the servants of the college, and the children of Tong and the neighbouring towns, reading, singing, and grammar ; a third to be yearly or quarterly appointed steward.

The warden and chaplains to live in a community in the same house, each having his own separate room ; the warden to keep the keys of the outer doors at night. Neither chaplains nor lay-clerks to go hawking or hunting, or keep a dog for sport.

The warden and chaplains to be uniform in their decent habit in the church, according to the use of the Church of Sarum ; and a lamp to be always kept burning before the high altar.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> To ensure this the three circular holes were cut in the door of what is now the vestry, to enable the chaplain in charge of the church to watch the lamp.

The clerks to serve the warden and chaplains at the upper table, and eat at a second table. It was also their duty to see that the harvest was brought in at the proper season, at such hours as they were not required for divine service

The special Masses were :—

Sunday—Mass of the Holy Trinity for founders and benefactors.

Monday—Mass of the Holy Ghost.

Tuesday—Mass for the salvation of all men.

Wednesday—Mass of the Angels.

Thursday—Mass of Christ's body.

Friday—Mass of the holy cross.

Saturday—Mass of rest.

Lady Isabel Pembruge erected in her new church a monument to her husband, bearing his effigy, and measurements show that this tomb was originally built for a single figure. On her death, however, in 1446-7, it was enlarged, in order that she, too, might be represented beside him. This monument stands in the Lady Chapel, which is in the north transept—a rather unusual place. But the statutes show that the Lady Chapel was placed here at the building of the church : “ Dicatur Missa de S. Mariâ in capellâ ex parte boreali dictæ ecclesiæ.”

In 1515 Sir Henry Vernon added to Lady Isabel's building the Chantry Chapel, which now goes under the name of the Golden Chapel.<sup>1</sup> With this exception, the church is structurally the same as in 1410.

The newly-founded college was soon the recipient of gifts from the faithful. Fulke Eyton, god-son of Sir Fulke Pembruge, and brother of the warden of his day, for example, in a will proved 12 December, 1454, declares :—

“ First, I will that my body be laide in Tonge by my god-fadre, Sir Fowke of Pembrege, withinne the Chapell of Oure Lady ; and after that I will that there be take of my best goods for to say v thousand placebos and dirigites, and v thousand Masses, and for every dirigie and Mass iiiij<sup>d</sup> ; and I

<sup>1</sup> On the east wall of this Chantry is a fresco of the Crucifixion, and under it the inscription :—“ Pray for the sowle of Syr Harie Vernon, Knyght, and Dame Anne hys wyfe whych Syr Harie in the year off owe Lord MCCCCCXV made and fflowndyd thys chapell and chauntry.” This, of course, is the ‘Vernons Chantry at Tonge’ of the Inventory.

bequeth to the almeshouse of Tong xli of money for the which money the said almesmen should be charged for to sey at my grave De profundis, thei that canne, and thei that can not a Pater noster, and for my sowle and Thomas of Eiton my fadre, and Katherine my modre's sowles ; and also thei should pay a prest to cast holy water on my grave.

Also I bequeth to the warden and to the prestes of the saide college of Tonge my best basin and eure of silver ; and the saide warden and prestes shall have in charge, every daie when they wasch, to sei a Pater Noster, and Ave, and so to have me in perpetual remembrance.

Also I bequeth to the saide college a bed, called a fedrebed, with the hanging thereto of blue worstede ; wherefore the saide warden and prestes should be charged and bounden for to seie within the same year xv placeboes and dirigees, and v Masses of the Trinitie and v of the Holy Ghost, and v of our Ladye, and while it pleasith him to seie a Mass of Requiem every yere, on that same day that I dide upon.

Also I bequeth to a prest to syng v yere as my executor may accorde with him for my fadre's sowle, and my modere's and myn, and I charge you that he be a clene man of his body.

Also I bequeth to the Chapell of our Lady of Tonge my Masse boke and chalice, and my blew vestiment of damaske of my armes.

I make myn executors Sir Richard Eiton, prest, my brother, warden of the college of Tonge, and Sir Roger the Vicar of Welyngton, and Isabella Englefield."

The will of Sir Arthur Vernon, Rector of Whitchurch, and son of Sir Henry Vernon, Knight, founder of the Golden Chapel, is dated Sept. 30, 1516, and is witnessed by Maister Henry Bullock, Sir Thomas Rawson, subsequently wardens of Tong, and Sir Roger Lyne, Maister Harry and Maister Browne. Among its clauses are these :—

" I bequeth my body to be buried in the same p'isshe church when I dye, and to have a stone what myn executors thinke best for me, and my picture drawen therupon, and for making of my stone I bequeth xxxs.

And for asmoche as with good prayers and almes dedes the sowle is delivered fro' everlasting deth and payne, therfor I

will that at the day of my burying I may have a trentall songe for my soule my fadre soule my moder soule and for all my brethern and sustern soules and for all Xten soules yf it may be.

Item to ev'ry preest that comyth to my burying and saith mass for my soule and the soules afore rehersed shall have iiijd., ev'ry clerk id.

Item I will that at my moneth mynd there be songe a trentall for my soule and the soules afore rehersed.”<sup>1</sup>

The will of William Fitzherberd, dated January 26, 1451, also contains gifts to the college:—

“Inprimis I bequeath my soule to Almighty God, the blessed Mary, his Mother, and all his Saints, and my body to be buried in the collegiate church of St. Bartholomew's of Tong.

It. Eight pounds of wax to be burnt about my body on the day of my burial.

It. To every chaplain of the said church for saying my burial service     ...     ...     ...     ...     iij<sup>s</sup>     iv<sup>d</sup>

It. To William Robynettes, clerk     ...     ...     vj<sup>s</sup>     viij<sup>d</sup>

It. To Thomas Smyth, clerk     ...     ...     ...     iij<sup>s</sup>     iv<sup>d</sup>

It. To the clerks there     ...     ...     ...     ij<sup>s</sup> —

It. I wish to have one prest to celebrate for mine sowl, and for the sowls of all mine benefactors, and of all faithful persons deceased and I bequeath to the same for one yere c<sup>s</sup>.

It. to the chaplain of the parish for praying for my sowle in the pulpit, viz. for fower yeres, every yere viij<sup>d</sup>.

It. To Sir Roger a spatula embroidered with silver.

It. To Sir William a dalmatic.

It. To the saide church of Tonge a gowne for makeing vestments.

It. To the new sepulchre of the church of Tonge iij<sup>s</sup> iv<sup>d</sup>.

It. For the repaire of the bridge of the same towne vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>.

The residue of all my goods not above bequeathed, I leave at the disposal of Master Richard Eyton, warden of Tonge,

<sup>1</sup> Sir Arthur Vernon died at Tong, and on the floor of the Golden Chapel may be still seen his “stone” with his “picture drawen therupon” in brass.

The wills of Fulke Eyton and Arthur Vernon are given in full in Griffiths's *History of Tong*, pp. 216 and 223.

and of Agnes Hereward, and I ordain and appoint them my executors, that they may henceforth order and dispose them in the best way they know for my sowles helth and for the sowles of all faithful persons deceased.

Given in the college of the said church of Tonge.<sup>1</sup>

On December 21, 1499, Sir William Smyth, priest of the college of Tonge, witnessed the will of John Mytton, Lord of Weston, which gave ij<sup>s</sup> vj<sup>d</sup> to the 'forming of the church of Tonge.'

These wills have been quoted as showing the services of the church which were performed by the chaplains, one of the sources of income of the college, and gifts for its use. Possibly some of the latter might be among the "owlde goodes" mentioned in the inventory.

The only memorial in the church to one connected with the college is a brass on the south wall, with the inscription: "Hic jacet Radulph' Elcock cel're cōfrat' isti' collegii qui natus fuit in villa Stopfordie infra comitatu cestrie qui obiit in festo sce Katherine Virginis et Marter Anno d'ni millmo ecccc desimo."

In 1535 the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII. gave the annual value of the college as £22 8s. 1d.

Tong College was one of the few religious foundations which fell under the Chantries Act of 37 Henry VIII. (1545-6). "The only instances known—and very likely there are no more—of entry under the Act, besides S. Edmund's, College, Salisbury, are the Colleges of Tong, Shropshire; Pleshy, [Essex]; Hastings; the Hospital of S. Bartholomew the Great; and Chantries at Aldwinckle and Lufwick, Northants; and Bakewell, Derbyshire. These were not taken till the last three months of 1546. They appear among the *Miscellaneous Rolls of Chancery* (Bundle xiii., File 5").<sup>2</sup>

On its seizure the whole of its possessions were granted to Sir Richard Manners for the sum of £486 4s. 2d. This sale was confirmed to him by Edward VI. in 1547, to hold to him and his heirs of the King in capite by the service of the 40th part of a knight's fee, and an annual rent of

<sup>1</sup> *Transactions*, 3rd series, vol. i., 1901, page 403.

<sup>2</sup> Leach, *English Schools at the Reformation*, 1546-8, i., p. 64.

£5 4s. 0*½*d., with a further annual rent of 12s. 1*½*d. for Vernons chantry in the church of Tong.

Manners sold the college premises at Tong for £200 to James Woolrich, in whose family they remained till the death of Thomas Woolrich,<sup>1</sup> in 1648, when his heirs sold them to the Hon. William Pierrepont, of Tong Castle, and so they were merged into the Tong estate.

With regard to its position, the Rev. William Cole, the antiquary, who visited Tong in July, 1757, writes:—"The college is on the south side of the churchyard, and is quite compleat, being a square, and has only changed its leaden roof for a thatched one, the building being of stone, and in good repair. At the west end of the churchyard, and along the street stands some very old almshouses, also in good repair; and seems to have a chapel of its own. I think the inhabitants of Tong have more to boast of than most country places . . . . for having its original college and hospital still standing and in good repair, notwithstanding the general havock and destruction of such sort of buildings throughout the kingdom."<sup>2</sup>

A six years' interval, however, seems to have brought "havock" also to Tong college, for in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1763 we may read how "the ancient college where the clergy lived is mostly demolished, and what remains is partly inhabited by some poor people and partly converted into a stable. At the west end of the church there are almshouses for six poor widows who have 40s., with a shift and gown, per annum."<sup>3</sup>

At the beginning of the 19th century Mr. George Durant, the owner of the Tong estate, entirely razed the college buildings, though in a dry summer it is still possible to trace the lines of their foundations. He also removed the almshouses to another place, leaving only one old outside wall standing, and this is now the sole remnant to be seen of the once extensive college. "The architectural detail of these remains shews the work to be of the 15th century."<sup>4</sup> There is, how-

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Wooleich, Gent., buried March 8, 1647-8. -- (Register of Tong.)

<sup>2</sup> British Museum, add. MS., 5830.

<sup>3</sup> *Gentleman's Magazine*, April, 1763, p. 163.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. D. H. S. Cianage's *Churches of Shropshire*, pt. i., p. 54.

ever, one other trace left in the parish of the warden and his colleagues, for the road from Tong to Tong Norton is still called the "Friars' Lane."

The charges imposed by Edward VI. on Sir Richard Manners continued to be paid for many years; e.g., in the outgoings of the Tong estate for 1731 occur:—

To the King's Audit per Mr. Lucas one year's Fee  
 Farm Rent, (tenth) for land in Tong, Parcel of  
 Vernons Chantry ... ... ... ... ... 3<sup>s</sup> 10<sup>d</sup>  
 To Sir Thomas Bidolph, as Lord of the Manor of  
 Lapley, one year's Rent (tenth) out of Tong  
 College ... ... ... ... ... 15<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>  
 And these lands were not enfranchised till about 50 years  
 ago.

#### LIST OF THE WARDENS.<sup>1</sup>

##### Date of Institution

March 20, 1410-1. Sir William Galley, chaplain, instit. ad  
 magistratum et custodiam eccle. collegiate S. Bartholomei de Tonge, jam  
 de novo in eccl'am collegiat. erecte.  
 Resigned 1413.  
 Patrons Isabella que fuit ux. Ful-  
 con. de Penbrugg mil., William  
 Mosse, and Walter Swan, clerks.

July 3, 1413. Sir William Mosse, chapl.  
 D'na. Isabella que fuit ux. F. de  
 Penbrugg mil.

Feb. 18, 1417-8. Sir William Admondeston, custos of the  
 College of Tong. Resigned 1423.  
 The same.

May 7, 1423. Sir Walter Batell, priest, admitted  
 custos. Died 1437.  
 Dame Isabell, the foundress, relict  
 of Sir Fulke de Pembrugge.

Oct. 23, 1437. Sir Richard Eyton. Died 1479.  
 The same Lady Isabell.

June 21, 1479. Sir Thos. Hynkeley, priest.  
 Ven. Vir Henry Vernon, adm.

— — Sir John Bryton. Resigned 1493.

<sup>1</sup> Blakeway MS., vol. ii., fol. 92.

## Date of Institution.

June 22, 1493. Sir Thomas Brown, priest.  
 Sir Henry Vernon, Knt.

Nov. 28, 1496. Sir John Lygh.  
 Sir Henry Vernon, Knight.

— — Sir Thomas Forster. Resigned 1515.

— — Master Henry Bullock, S.T.P., Warden of Tong. Died 1526.

Aug. 30, 1526. Sir Thomas Rawson, chapl., instit. ad officium gardianatus.  
 Master Wm. Coffyn in right and title of Margaret his wife, true patron.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Rawson was Warden in 1534, for the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* enters 'Thomas Rawson, 1st Chantry Priest of Bakewell, resident at Tong,' and also in 1546 (vide infra).

Of the above several seem to have taken advantage of the rule allowing the wardens to hold other preferment, for William Mosse, as has been already noticed, was vicar of Langport, co. Somerset; John Lygh was vicar of Shifnal—1470-1515 (his death); and Thomas Forster, vicar of the same 1515 to his death in 1526, and also Prior of Wombridge, though he did not hold Shifnal with Tong, but with Wombridge.<sup>2</sup>

Sir William Admondeston, rector of Llangoyte Maure (Llangoedmore), in the diocese of St. David, had been, on June 23, 1401, appointed by the Abbot of Salop to the Rectory of Tong. On its conversion into a collegiate church, he resigned in favour of William Galley, but was appointed warden after an interval of seven years.

The following inventory of the goods belonging to the college of Tong, in 1546 (prior to its dissolution), was tran-

<sup>1</sup> Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Dymmok, Knight, and widow of Richard Vernon, Lord of Tong, who had died 9 Aug., 1517, leaving an only son born 1508. She had married again, but in the minority of her boy was Lady of the Manor and Patroness of the College.

<sup>2</sup> His monument in Shifnal Church bears the following inscription:—Here lieth the body of Thomas Forster, sometime Prior of Wombridge, Warden of Tongue, and Vicar of Shifnal, 1526.

scribed for the Society by Mr. W. K. Boyd from the original return preserved in the Public Record Office.

Of the three who assisted the Commissioners by 'preasing the goodes and cattelles,' William Skeffington and Robert Forster were local gentlemen. The former was buried at Tong, where, on the north wall of the chancel, is a brass with the inscription :—

"Here under lyeth interred the bodye of William Skeffington late of the White Ladies Esquire sonne and heire of Sir John Skeffington sometyme of Londo' Knighte.

"Obiit An'o. do'm. 1550.

An esquier he was righte hardye to the fealde

And faithfull to his Prynce in quiet tyme of peace  
But when his course on earthe he had fulfilde

The Lord of Worldly woes did him release  
And to his kingdome then his soule did call

His bodye to dust returned from whence yt came  
Which rayse agayne he will to Joy celestiall

Where bodye and soule shall ever prayse his name."

Robert Foster was of Tong Norton, where persons bearing his sur-name were freeholders till the beginning of the 18th century, though as Roman Catholics they are not found in the registers. His will is dated July 31, 1558.

Sir Richard Manners had instructions to keep up the almshouses for the poor men of the college. At some subsequent date there was a change in the sex of the occupants. Apparently, too, the old endowment was lost when he sold the property, for a deed of the Duke of Kingston, of August 14, 1725, which refers to an earlier one of October 23, 1697, says: "For the providing an habitation for the 6 poor widows to be placed in the almshouses, the Duke of Kingston grants all that almshouse or ancient chapel situated in Tong, endowed with the annuity of £12 by Gervas, Lord Pierrepont [in 1697]; and also the garden or gardens belonging to the same to be held by the 6 poor widows, provided always as any vacancy shall happen, they be nominated by the Lord or Owner of the Manor of Tong as long as it shall be in the family of the Duke of Kingston."

The "one chales wayng xvij oz. delyuered to the

churche" was, no doubt, that described in the return of 1553:—"Tonge. A chalice of copper and p'cell gilt."

What became of this chalice is unknown, for that now in the church is an Elizabethan silver one.

In the churchwardens' accounts is the following memorandum of 1630, shewing that in after years attempts were made to remedy the loss occasioned by the robbery of 1546:—

"A note of the ornamenteis and goodes apptayning to this our Church of Tonge hereafter severally named; lyinge most part of them in a chest repayred by Roger Austans church warden in anno do'm. 1630.

Memorandum. That these ornaments first nominated are the free guift of the hono<sup>able</sup> Dame Ellinor Harres Lady to Sir Thomas Harres Barronett.

Impr. A Comunion Cup of goulde and christall, a yewer and plate of siluer, a cloth for the Comunion table of diaper; the Pulpitt: a clothe and cushion of veluet workt with siluer for the Pulpitt: a Pulpitt clothe of black onely for funereall sarmonts: a black clothe to couer the biere at all burialls.

These underwritten p'vyded at the charge of the p'yshe.

A Communion cupp and couer to it; A couer of silke for the Com'union table; Fower Towells; A Surplus."

The Chantry of Our Lady in Bakewell Church was founded in the 15th century by one of the Vernons of Tong and Haddon, but the exact date has not yet been discovered. The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535 (as has been already stated) mentions that Thomas Rawson was the first chantry priest there, and adds that its value was computed at £4 per annum. The chantry roll, drawn up eleven years later, says:—"The Chauntry of Our Lady, founded by the ancestors of George Vernon Esq<sup>re</sup> to celebrate Mass and other dyvyne service, iijli. vjs. jd., besides ixs. ijd. for rente resolute: Thomas Rawson Chauntry Prieste."

The following extract from this chantry roll of Henry VIII. seems to point to the fact that a relation of Thomas Rawson was at Haddon Hall:—"Haddon, the Service of S. Nicholas in the chapell at Haddon: The incumbent Sir Rychard Rawson was put in by the executors of Sir Henry Vernon: clere vjli. xvijs. ijd. It hathe a chambre in the manor-place of Haddon by the sufferance of Geo. Vernon Esq.

He occupieth a chales and other necessaries of the said George Vernon."

The owner of Haddon and Tong at this time was George Vernon, known as 'the King of the Peak,' who had inherited them when only nine years old on the death of his father, William, in 1517; and on the west end of William Vernon's tomb in Tong Church is a figure of this only son and heir representing him as a boy in the dress of the period. He must have been knighted very shortly after the inventory was taken, for he is much better known by the title by which he is described on his tomb in Bakewell church, "Sir George Vernon." He died in 1565, aged 57.

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INVENTORY OF GOODS BELONGING TO TONG  
COLLEGE, 38 HENRY VIII., 1546.

[*Q.R., Church Goods, Salop, Box 10, No. 41.*]

The order & use accustomed in the Almes house in Tonge to be folowed & kepte by sir Ric. Maners knyght.

In primis euery weke ij stryke of Rye or mon corne.  
Item ij strykes of malt wekly & a halffe.  
Item ij Fat kye to ther larder yerly.  
Item viij Fat Swyne to the larder yerly.  
Item vjd wekely in Freshe mete.  
Item xij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> in chese yerly.  
Item iiij<sup>e</sup> & di. of herynges for Lent.  
Item iij Cowple of saltfesshe for Lent.  
Item iiij Cowple of Stocfesshe for Lent.  
Item ij strykes of grene peyce for Lent.  
Item a stryke of grey peyce for Lent.  
Item iiij<sup>e</sup> & di. of Eggis betwext Estere & Wyedsontyde.  
Item one stryke of wheat at Chrystemaus. One stryke at Ester one stryke at Wytsontyde one stryke at Alholotyde.  
Item to have ther kychen amended vjd at yeuery of thes Festes at the Feste of Ester at the Feaste of Wytsontyde at the Feaste of seinte Bartylmewe at the Feaste of all Holowes & at the Feaste of Chrystemaus.  
Item to have ij Kye to gyeff them melke.

Item to have lx lode of wood & Fagottes yerly.

Item to have apparell to ther bodyes & beddes necessary.

Item to have a servant woman.

George Blount. Thomas Gyfford.

Fraunces Cave.

Monye paid to servanttes for wages behynde from the Feaste  
of thannunciation of our Lady tyll Mychmas by sir  
Rychard Maners knyght at the requeste of the Com-  
myssioners ther :—

In primis to Harry Blackmeyre	...	...	xij <sup>s</sup>	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item to Roger Felton	...	...	xij <sup>s</sup>	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item to Wylliam Pepstocke	...	...	x <sup>s</sup>	—
Item to John Wedowes	...	...	ix <sup>s</sup>	—
Item to Thomas Browne	...	...	ix <sup>s</sup>	—
Summa—	iiij <sup>li</sup>	vij <sup>s</sup>		

Item to Wylliam Pady...	...	...	ix <sup>s</sup>	—
Item to John Wynterbotham...	...	...	vj <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item to Elisabethe Brodbend...	...	...	vij <sup>s</sup>	—
Item to Margret Brodbend	...	...	vj <sup>s</sup>	—
Item to Ales Nocke	...	...	vj <sup>s</sup>	—

Fraunces Cave.

Certen small dettes paid to pore men as Folowynge :—

Item to John Wydowes for money that he dyd

lend to bye stuf for the howse ... ... xx<sup>s</sup> —

Item to Wylliam Pyxstor for a quarter of malt ..	...	...	xij <sup>s</sup>	—
---	-----	-----	------------------	---

Item to Thomas More for gaythering the tythe corne ...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	—
---	-----	-----	-----------------	---

Summa—xlvij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>

Item to Alexander Harres for gaythering of tythe corne ...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	—
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Item to Thomas More for Fawling of wood...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>
--	-----	-----	-----------------	------------------

Item to Roger Barber for workyng & shaving the almes men ...	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>	—
---	-----	-----	-------------------	---

Item to Wylliam Elkye smythe for workyng	—	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>	
--	---	---	------------------	--

Item to Fraunces Mylward for beff ...	...	...	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	---	------------------

Item to John Smythe for keping shepe ...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	—
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Summa totalis—vj<sup>li</sup> xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiiij<sup>d</sup>

George Blount. Thomas Gyfford.

Fraunces Cave.

An Inventorye Indented made at Tonge the xxvij<sup>th</sup> daye of September in the xxxvij<sup>th</sup> yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne Lorde Kyng Henry the Eight by George Blount knyght, George Vernon, Thomas Gyfford & Fraunces Cave Esquyers commyssioners ther of all the goodes & cattelles belongyng to the College of Tonge founde ther by the said commyssioners the daye above wrytten & preased by Wylliam Skevyngton Esquier, Nycles Agar & Robert Foster gent, & delyuered ouer by the said comyssioners to syr Ryc. Maners knyght by vertue of Mr. Chauncellers letters directed to the said Commyssioners.

In primis iij chaleses weing by estimation ... xxxijij ownces.  
Item one cope of Red damaske imbrothered,

pryce	...	...	...	...	...	...	xl <sup>s</sup>	—
Item ij copus of tawnye Fustyan yenapeis,								
pryce	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>
Item ij owlde blew vestmentes of velvet in brothered, price	...	...	...	...	...	...	vj <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item ij vestementes of Red sylke, pryce	...	...	...	...	...	...	v <sup>s</sup>	—
Item one sute of vestementtes of blacke worsted, pryce	...	...	...	...	...	...	iiij <sup>s</sup>	—
Item iij pellowes of grene selke owld, pryce...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	xij <sup>d</sup>
Item one hanging of blewe selke for the hye alter, pryce ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	xij <sup>d</sup>
Item one hanging for our Ladys alter of saten Fugared—pryce	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	vj <sup>d</sup>
Item one cope of blacke Fustyan yenapus— pryce	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>
						Summa—iij <sup>ii</sup> iij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>		

Parcelles delyuered to the churche :—

Item one chales wayng	...	...	...	...	—	xvj oz.
Item one cope of blew velvet.						
Item one cope of blacke worsted.						
Item an owld vestment of blew velvet.						
Item one owld vestment of Red selke.						

The beding.

Item iiij owld Fetherbeddes iiij bolstars and one pyllowe—pryce	...	...	...	...	xij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Item viij owld courlettes	...	...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>

Item vij blanckettes owld & warne	...	...	—	xij <sup>d</sup>
Item iij flaxen shettes owld	...	...	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>
Item one matres one couerlet & a twyllschete			—	xvj <sup>d</sup>
Item iiij hempen sheets	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	—
Summa—xxj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>				

## The buttre.

Item vij seluer spones waing	...	...	—	—
Item one owld bason & euer of pewter—pryce			—	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Item iiij candylsteckes	...	...	—	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Item iiij table clothes & vj napkyns	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	vj <sup>d</sup>
Item viij ale lomes & ij coffers...	...	...	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>

## The Kechen.

Item iiij brase pottes & one brase panne—pryce			v <sup>s</sup>	—
Item iij kettelles & iij iron broches	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Item xij pewter dysshes & iij porengers	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item viij sawcers & viij counterfet dysshes	...	...	—	xij <sup>d</sup>
Item one payre of cobe irunes of Iron	...	...	—	vj <sup>d</sup>
Item one Frying panne & a cresset	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item a gred Iron & a chavyng dyshe...	...	...	—	ij <sup>i</sup>
Item Rackes & hokes to hang Pottes on	...	...	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>
Summa—xiiijs viij <sup>d</sup>				

## The back Howse.

Item a Furnes of leade & one brase panne	...	...	vj <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item worte leades & ij brase pannes	...	...	x <sup>s</sup>	—
Item a wetting vessell & a bruing vessell	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item one yelyng vessell...	...	...	—	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item iiij sacks & bagges & a wenoshete & a heyre clothe	...	...	—	vj <sup>d</sup>
Summa—xvij <sup>s</sup>				

## The wheat &amp; Rye in the barnes.

Item Wheat & Rye by Estimation	...	...	ijj <sup>i</sup>	x <sup>s</sup>	—
Item in pece	...	...	...	x <sup>s</sup>	—
Item a canche of drege	...	...	...	xxxvj <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item one canche of heye	...	...	...	vj <sup>s</sup>	vij <sup>d</sup>

## At Wheton Aston barne.

Item a canche of wheat	...	...	...	xx <sup>s</sup>	—
Item a canche of muncorne	...	...	...	xx <sup>s</sup>	—
Item a canche of barley & drege	...	...	...	xx <sup>s</sup>	—
Item in ottes	...	...	...	ijj <sup>s</sup>	iiij <sup>d</sup>

Item in pece	...	...	...	...	xx <sup>s</sup>	—
	Summa—	iiij <sup>h</sup>	iijs	iijd		
	Wayne & Plowgh.					
Item one owld wayne bownde with Iron	iiij					
teames a peare of cleves & iiij hokes	...	...	...	vij <sup>s</sup>	—	
Item one Plowgh & a colter	...	...	...	—	iijd	
Item an owld dong carte	...	...	...	—	x <sup>d</sup>	
Item ij harowes	...	...	...	—	ij <sup>d</sup>	
	Summa—	ix <sup>s</sup>	iijd			

## The cattell of the said Colage.

Item ij oxen at xvjs viij <sup>d</sup> the oxe	...	...	v <sup>h</sup>	—	—	—
Item ij Kye at xij <sup>s</sup> iijd the cowe	...	...	xxvj <sup>s</sup>	—	vij <sup>d</sup>	
Item xxxvj shepe at xx <sup>d</sup> the pece	...	...	iijh	—	—	
Item vij swyne at xx <sup>d</sup> the pece	...	...	xjs	—	iijd	
Item iiij pegges at x <sup>d</sup> the pece	...	...	iijs	—	iijd	
Item xij duckes	...	...	...	—	xij <sup>d</sup>	
Item vj ghese	...	...	...	ij <sup>s</sup>	—	
	Summa—	x <sup>h</sup>	iijs	vd		

## An inventory of the ornamenttes of Vernons Chantry at Tonge:—

In primis one owlde westment of blew welvet	ij <sup>s</sup>	iijd	
Item one vestment o cremon velvet	... vjs	vij <sup>d</sup>	
Item iiij alter clothes a coueryng of lynen for			
the alter ij cruyttes ij paynted clothes	... —	xij <sup>d</sup>	
	Summa—xjs		

The Inventory of the goodes & cattelles belonging to the chauntry of our blessed Ladye In Bakwell takyn by George Vernon and Fraunces Cave commyssioners ther the xxix day of September in the xxxvij<sup>th</sup> yere of the Reigne of our soueraigne Lord Kyng Henry the eight:—

In primis one chales—xvjoz	...	...	iijh	iijs	—
Item ij owld whyte vestmenttes & one					
aube	...	...	—	—	xvj <sup>d</sup>
Item one cheste	...	...	—	—	iijd <sup>d</sup>
Item one masse boke & a sacaryng bell...	—	—	—	ij <sup>d</sup>	
	Summa—	iijh	v <sup>s</sup>	x <sup>d</sup>	

Fraunces Cave.

Stuff in the Hawle & Kechen in the Almes Howse in Tonge  
leste to thuse & occupation of the pore men :—

In primis vj pottes veray owld...	...	...	iiijs <sup>s</sup>	—
Item one owld Furnes ...	...	...	—	xij <sup>d</sup>
Item one owld Postnet...	...	...	—	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item vj owld pannes ...	...	...	—	ij <sup>s</sup>
Item one owld Wetyng Fatt ...	...	...	—	iiijs <sup>d</sup>
Item one owld bruing Fat ...	...	...	—	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item vj lomes ...	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item a peyre of pot hanginges & a Fyer Forke	—	—	—	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item iij troves ...	...	...	—	iiij <sup>d</sup>
Item one owld yeldyng Fatt ...	—	—	—	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item one bolting vessell	...	...	—	j <sup>d</sup>
Item iiiij bokes ...	...	...	—	ij <sup>d</sup>
Item one Folden borde...	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item a brandard & ij Aund Irons	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>

In the Kychen.

Item one Furme	...	...	—	j <sup>d</sup>
Item iij pewter dysshess	...	...	—	vij <sup>d</sup>
Item ij Kye—pryce	...	...	—	xxiiij <sup>s</sup>

George Blount. Thomas Gyfford.

Fraunces Cave.

[Endorsed]

The Inventory of the college of Tonge  
in com. Salopie.

GLOSSARY.

*Stryke*, a dry measure holding a bushel; also the land sown with that amount of seed. "The Glebe consists of eighteen strike." (Shrawardine Terrier, 1693).  
*Stockfesshe* (stockfish), fish dried hard without salt, in contradistinction to *salfish*.

*Grene peyce*, *grey peyce*, garden and field peas. The former were considered the better, and more fit for human consumption, the latter for that of animals.

*Damask*, silk interwoven with raised figures of flowers, fruit, &c., which were generally of a red hue like a damask rose.

*Cope*, an ecclesiastical vestment worn at all services except Mass, resembling a large cloak, fastened in front with a clasp.

*Fustyan*, woven with linen warp, and cotton thread; so called from Fustat, a suburb of Cairo.

*Fustyan genapeis*, fine fustian, imitation velvet. (A word connected with nap and napery). Cf. "A payr of vestements of fustean anapes." (Worcester Invent. of 6 Ed. VI.). "Fustian of napulz." (Rolls of Parliament, 1465).

*Vestmentes*, chasubles, the outer garments of priests during Mass.

*Worsted*, cloth made of wool drawn out into long filaments by passing it when oiled through heated combs; from Worsted, a town in Norfolk.

*Twilly*, woven in diagonal ribs, from A.S. *twia*, two. *Twill sheets* would be warmer, though coarser than *hempen* and *flaxen*, the last of which would be the finest and best of the three.

*Ale-jomes* (looms), wide-mouthed drinking vessels, as mugs, beakers and tankards.

*Broches* (broaches), spits, and large skewers.

*Counterfet*, "de electro counterfet" (Compotus Roll temp. Ed. IV.). Probably an alloy of tin; cf. modern Britannia metal and German silver.

*Counterfet dysshes*, cups and small basins. Cf. "Porryngers, saweers, and counterfet dyshes for pottage." (Worcester Invent. of 6 Ed. VI.).

*Cob-irons*, loose bars with a knob at one end to prevent their slipping from the *andirons*, and at the other end meeting on the middle of the hearth, thus forming a cradle for the logs. *Andirons*, iron uprights at each end of the open hearth, which acted as rests for the cob-irons, and in which the ends of the spit (*broach*) often turned.

*Cresset*, a brazier, a portable fire-grate.

*Grad-iron*, an iron utensil of open bars for broiling meat or fish over a fire.

*Chavyng dyshe* (chafing dish), a vessel for holding live coal. The will of John Peyton, of Tong Norton, in 1579 says: "I bequeth to my yongest sonne my best washinge basyn and my best chaffinge dyshe."

*Furnes*, a boiler, still used in this sense in Shropshire.

*Worte leades*, vessels into which new beer was poured for fermentation; so called from having been usually made of that metal.

*Yellyng or yeldyng vessell*, (?) for rendering down fat into lard, to yeld being still used in this sense in Shropshire, an active form, no doubt, of yield, making the bacon "leaf" yield its lard; "the yeld" being the result of the process.

*Wenoshele* (winnowing sheet), the cloth used in winnowing corn by hand.

*Heyre-cloth*, a sieve, a strainer.

*Canche*, out of doors a small rick; in a barn a crop stacked separately, or in a separate division of the building.

*Drege*, oats and barley grown together.

*Muncorn*, wheat and rye grown together.

*Teames*, chain traces by which oxen were fastened to waggon or plough.

*Cleves*, the couplings of a plough to the draught bar. "My best pair of clevis, my best plowe." (Will of 1529).

*Swyne, pegges*, breeding sows, and fattening or sucking pigs.

*Cruytyes* (cruets), small phials or flagons for holding the wine and water at a Celebration of the Mass.

*Paynted clothes*, coloured, or painted, as opposed to *embroidered*. Cf. "Payd for the peynting of clothys iij. vjd." (Cheswardine Churchwardens' Accounts 1554).

*Sacaryng bell*, a small handbell rung inside the church, especially before the Elevation of the Host.

*Aube* (ailb), an ecclesiastical vestment longer than a surplice, with tight sleeves.

*Potnel*, an iron pot, usually with a handle and three short feet.

*Wetyng fatt*, a mash tub; *bruyn fatt*, probably a "cooler."

*Troves*, troughs.

*Bolting vessell* for sifting bran from flour.

*Bokes*, buckets. Bouk is still frequently used in Shropshire, especially for a milking pail.

*Folden borde*, a folding table. Borde is found in this sense in Piers Plowman and Chaucer.

*Brandard* (brandiron), a trivet or support for pots over or before an open fire.

THE ESCAPADES OF RICHARD PESHALL,  
OF CHETWYND.

By THE REV. W. G. D. FLETCHER, M.A., F.S.A.

THE early part of the fifteenth century was a lawless age, not least so in Shropshire, Staffordshire, and the midlands. The Plea Rolls preserved in the Public Record Office are stimulating reading. They show us that murders, thefts, robberies, rapes, and other deeds of rapine and violence were very prevalent; and that the perpetrators of these flagrant acts, were not so much the poorer classes as knights, esquires, gentlemen, landowners, and even ecclesiastical dignitaries.<sup>1</sup> And very often, after perpetrating some dastardly outrage, or even series of outrages, and being in consequence apprehended by the sheriff and taken before the king's courts, the malefactor would produce a general pardon from the King, and get off scot-free.

One of these lively young Shropshire men was Richard de Peshall, of Chetwynd, a man of ancient lineage, and the ancestor of many gentlemen of the highest standing in the county of Salop and elsewhere now living; but whose misdeeds could scarcely be matched, and would be thought incredible if narrated in any work of fiction. Richard de Peshall was by descent a Swynnerton, one of the oldest and most important of Staffordshire knightly families, two or three of whose members were Bannerets in the Scotch and French wars, and one attained Baronial rank, having been summoned by writ to the House of Peers by Edward III. His ancestor, Richard de Peshall, was a younger son of Sir John de Swynnerton, knight, lord of Parva Sugnall, Peshall and Swynnerton, and assumed the name of Peshall on

<sup>1</sup> John Hobelle, the Archdeacon of Salop, was indicted in 1414, for having in January, 1405, feloniously abducted one Joan, a girl of 13 years of age, the daughter of Juliana Saundar, from Trentham. As he did not appear, the Sheriff was ordered to arrest him, and produce him before the King on 3rd November, 1415.

obtaining from his father, temp. Henry III., the manor and lands of Peshall, a township in Eccleshall parish. His father was Sir Thomas de Peshall, knight, a great-grandson of the above Richard de Peshall, the progenitor of a family of the name which rose to great eminence and esteem in Staffordshire and Shropshire. One of Sir Thomas's descendants, Sir John Peshall, of Horsley, knight, was created a Baronet 25th November, 1614: the title, however, seems to have become extinct on the death of Sir Thomas Peshall, the third baronet, in 1712.

As several bearing the name Richard occur in this paper, it is absolutely necessary here to give a short pedigree of the Peshall family, to show the relationship of the various individuals. It will serve also to show the great antiquity of the Swynnertons and Peshalls. For this pedigree I am largely indebted to the Visitation of Staffordshire in 1614, and to the pedigrees of Swynnerton printed in the William Salt *Historical Collections for Staffordshire*, Volumes VII. and N. S. III. The pedigree of Peshall given in N. S. II., 98, somewhat differs from this in the earlier parts.

PEDIGREE OF SWYNNEKTON AND PESHALL.

Alen, held Swynnerton under Robert de Stafford, 1086—

Robert fitz Alen, lord of Swynnerton, 1122-54—

Robert fitz-Alen, lord of Swynnerton, 1158-89—

Robert de Swynnerton, lord of Swynnerton ; died 1245. — Mabel, his wife, died 1248. — John de Swynnerton, lord of Parva Sugnell, died 1255. — Petronilla, coheiress of Little Sugnell, &c., died 1199.

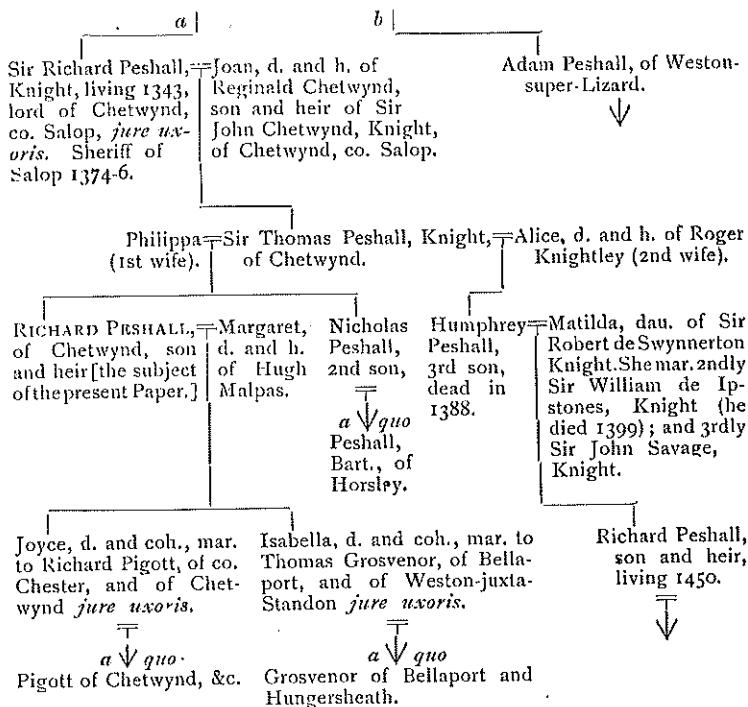
Robert de Swynner-ton, died s.p. 1245. — Margery, sister and heir, died 1255 (2nd wife). — John de Swynnerton, lord of Parva Sugnell, Peshall, and Swynnerton ; died 1254. — Eleanor de Peshall, (1st wife).

John, d.s.p. died 1248. — Stephen, died 1276. — Robert, died 1272. — Richard de Peshall, living 1270. — Margery, dau. and heir of Hugh Knighton, lord of Knighton.

Agnes, d. and h. of John Caverswell, — Adam Peshall, lord of Peshall. — . . . d. and h. of John Weston, lord of Weston. — Richard Peshall, super-Lizard.

a

b



In 1388 a curious event took place at Chetwynd, in connection with Matilda, the widow of Humphrey Peshall, Richard's half-brother. At that time the Lady Joan Peshall, widow of Sir Richard Peshall, Knight, who had lately died, was residing at Chetwynd (it was she who brought the Chetwynd estate to the Peshalls). Matilda was herself a Swynnerton; she was the only child of Sir Robert de Swynnerton,<sup>1</sup> Knight, by his first wife, Elizabeth, the daughter and heiress of Sir Nicholas Beck, knight, lord of Tene and Hopton, in Staffordshire, and on her mother's death she succeeded to her large estates. Humphrey Peshall, Matilda's husband, died whilst she was under age, and she, with her young child Richard, was sent to Chetwynd, and put in charge of the Lady Joan Peshall, her deceased husband's grandmother.

<sup>1</sup> Sir Robert de Swynnerton, who died about 1385, was fourth in descent from Stephen de Swynnerton, one of the sons of John de Swynnerton (died 1254) and Eleanor de Peshall. Matilda and her husband were, therefore, cousins. See the pedigree above.

Sir John de Ipstones, knight, of Ipstones, whose wife was one of the Shropshire Corbets, thought that this young widow, with her large property, would be a good match for his son; so on the 8th December, 1388, he came with an armed band to Chetwynd, and carried Matilda away by force to his vill of Ipstones, and there he imprisoned her until she consented to convey to him the manor of Hopton, and her lands in Tene, Knighton and Tillington, and also to marry his son, William de Ipstones. Some of the persons who assisted Sir John de Ipstones in this abduction were men of position; they included Sir John Cockayne, knight, Sir Thomas Beck, knight, John Pecke, Thomas Scot, Henry de Orme, Thomas Sutton, William Hunte, and eight others. In due course they were all indicted before Hugh Burnell, and other Justices of the Peace, "for entering Chetwynd Park, armed as for war on the Tuesday before the Feast of St. Lucy, 12 Richard II., and feloniously breaking into a house called Le Mote within the Park, and taking a battle-axe, a bow, and a *primam*, and taking and abducting from the same place Matilda, the late wife of Humfrey Peshale." It is noticeable that one of the abductors was Sir Thomas Beck, presumably a near relative of Matilda's on her mother's side; and I conjecture that he assisted in this outrage from his annoyance at the large Beck estates having passed away from his family. The defendants all surrendered, and they were tried at Shrewsbury Castle, before Robert de Cherlton and John Hulle, two of the King's Judges, on the Saturday after the Feast of St. Margaret, 14 Richard II. [23rd July, 1390], when the jury found they were not guilty.<sup>1</sup> Matilda's relatives not unnaturally looked upon the result of the trial as a miscarriage of justice, and looked out for an opportunity of revenge. Some three years afterwards, Sir John de Ipstones, who was a Knight of the Shire, was on his way to Westminster to attend Parliament, when he was met by Roger de Swynnerton, presumably Matilda's uncle, who waylaid him and slew him, February, 1394. Her husband, Sir William de Ipstones, died in October, 1399, at the early age of 26, leaving two daughters,

<sup>1</sup> Gaol Delivery, 14 Richard II., No. 180, m. 48, Salop.

Christian, aged 6, and Alice, aged 3 years. Matilda afterwards married a third husband, Sir John Savage, knight, of Clifton, and by him had a family of seven children. Her abduction, and the forced feoffment of her lands, led to a good deal of litigation at the Stafford Assizes, 1402-1404, and the jury found a verdict in her favour, with damages.<sup>1</sup> There was also further litigation in 1446.<sup>2</sup>

There was another Richard de Peshale, whose name appears in these pleadings, and it is not at all clear how he was connected with the Peshalls of Chetwynd. Canon Bridgeman thinks that he may have been the father of Humphrey,<sup>3</sup> Matilda's first husband, and a son of Sir Richard Peshall and Joan Chetwynd. Whoever he was, this Richard de Peshale married Sir John de Ipstone's widow<sup>4</sup> after his death, but he was dead in 1401, and his widow forcibly took possession of Matilda's manor of Hopton. The jury, however, at the trial decided in favour of Matilda.<sup>5</sup>

Sir Thomas de Peshall, Richard's father, was himself in prison in 1393, at Shrewsbury Castle, together with Adam and Nicholas, sons of Sir Richard Peshall, and Richard his servant, "for divers felonies," and they had been outlawed. Whilst they were lying in prison, Nicholas de Peshale, the rector of Edgmond, and Robert de Peshale of Knighton, assisted them to escape, for which they were indicted, and appealed to a jury, who on their trial acquitted them. Sir Thomas surrendered at Michaelmas, 1403, and was committed to the Marshalsea; but when he was brought before the Court, he produced Letters Patent from King Richard, dated 5 May, 1398, pardoning him for all felonies, &c., perpetrated before the 31st of January previously, and he begged that he

<sup>1</sup> Assize Rolls, Stafford, 2 Henry IV., m. 1, and 9 Henry IV., m. 6. See also Wm. Salt *Collections for Staffordshire*, vol. IV., part ii., 74-76; vol. VII., part ii., 44-47; and vol. XV., 114-5, 121-2; and *The Chetwynds of Ingestre*, page 40.

<sup>2</sup> Placita de Banco, Mich. 25 Henry VI. Wm. Salt *Collections*, N.S. III., 173-177.

<sup>3</sup> The pedigree in the Vis. Staffs., 1614, which I have followed, makes Humphrey to be the son of Sir Thomas Peshall.

<sup>4</sup> She was Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Corbet, who was the eldest son and heir of Sir Robert Corbet, Knight, of Wattlesborough and Moreton Corbet. See pedigree in Eyton, x., 183.

<sup>5</sup> Assize Roll, Stafford, 2 Henry IV., m. 1.

might be released from custody, and the pardon being inspected he was set free.<sup>1</sup>

We now come to the misdoings of Richard Peshall (Sir Thomas's son and heir). For six years, from 1408 to 1414, he committed a whole series of the most flagrant outrages, until at last he was brought to justice for them.

In 1408, at Knighton, he robbed Roger Knyghton of 13s. 4d.; and at Christmas the same year, he gave liveries<sup>2</sup> of cloth to John Jurdan and five others at Drayton. The object of this was to retain certain people to engage in his quarrels. Men were in the habit of giving liveries to those who were not of their own family for this purpose. This giving of liveries "for maintenance of quarrels" was strictly forbidden by Statutes of Richard II. and Henry IV., under pain of imprisonment and forfeiture to the King.<sup>3</sup> Jurdan was tried for his having received a livery, but produced a pardon from the King, dated 10 February, 1415, and was acquitted.<sup>4</sup>

His next deed of violence took place on 28 August, 1410, when he collected a band of men, "armed in the manner of war," and pulled down the newly-built house of John Wydeford, and robbed him of goods and chattels to the value of £20.

In the following year his outrages were numerous. In January, 1410-11, he went to Wem, and there feloniously assaulted Alice, the wife of John Wallesley, in her husband's presence, his brother Nicholas Peshall, John Bocard of Salop, and many other of his retainers aiding him.

In the October following, he maltreated Margaret Smyth, widow, in her own house at Cheswardine, throwing her down, wounding her in the belly with a dagger, and so assaulting her that she afterwards died. The same year, on Easter Monday, he killed a man in the fields at Longford. And in July, 1411, he collected 400 Welshmen and others, in the fields of Wenlock, all "arrayed in the manner of war," and

<sup>1</sup> Gaol Delivery, 19 Richard II., m. 52, Salop; Coram Rege Roll, Mich. 4 Henry IV., m. 15, Rex.

<sup>2</sup> By "livery" is meant a hat, coat, cloak, or gown, which a gentleman gives to his servants.

<sup>3</sup> Statutes 1 Richard II., cap. vii.; 1 Henry IV., cap. vii., and 2 Henry IV., cap. 21.

<sup>4</sup> Coram Rege Roll, Hil. 2 Henry V., m. 12 dorso, Rex.

sent word to the Prior of Wenlock that they intended to enter the town of Wenlock by force and destroy the Prior and all his tenants. The Prior only saved himself by hastily sending to the Sheriff of Salop (Edward Sprenclose) for aid. The Sheriff forthwith raised the *posse* of the county, and so relieved the Prior from his danger.

In August, 1414, Richard Peshall went to Tunstall, and expelled one William Thikeness, clerk, by force of arms, from a messuage and sixty acres of land and six acres of meadow, and robbed him of goods and chattels to the value of £10. And afterwards, on the Monday after the following Michaelmas, he drove him by force out of Shropshire, so that on account of the treatment he had received, William Thikeness died at Checkley in the next March. The same year he gave liveries of cloth to Humfrey de Titteley, of Blore, and to seven other men, at Drayton, in order that they might aid him in his wrong-doings.

In September, 1414, he arrested without any authority, at Drayton, one John Bokard, and threatened him with loss of life or mutilation of his limbs, until Giles de Sheynton, in order to save his life, became surety for him. John Bokard fled into Staffordshire, for fear lest Richard Peshall should kill him, which so enraged Richard, that the surety, Giles de Sheynton, was afraid to leave his house for a fortnight, and had to pay Richard five marks, which he extorted from him. It is no wonder that the feeling against Richard Peshall was "that the said Richard was a common extortioner and oppressor of the people."

The next year, 1415, he robbed one Roger Callerhall, of Tunstall, of 13s. 4d., at Drayton. He seems also to have assisted three Ferrers brothers in an attempt they made to kill Hugh Erdeswyk;<sup>1</sup> and when Erdeswyk was warned of their design, and sent William Hyde, the Vicar of Sandon, in his stead, they carried the Vicar off to Weston-on-Trent as a prisoner, and illtreated him, and robbed him of his horse and harness, which were worth four marks. The quarrel between Erdeswyk and Ferrers led to some litigation in Michaelmas

<sup>1</sup> Petitions to Parliament, 2 Henry V,

1415, in which Richard Peshall and his brother Nicholas appear.<sup>1</sup>

Early in 1414, Henry V. decided to visit in person the Midland Counties. In April he was at Leicester with his new Chief Justice, Sir W. Haukesford; thence he proceeded to Lichfield, where he remained two months, and heard every kind of plaint that was brought into his Court. From Lichfield he proceeded to Shrewsbury, where he obtained presentments from all the Hundreds of the County of Salop, and called for all the Coroners' Rolls of the last year. These presentments are very voluminous, but they are of considerable interest, and they throw much light on the history of Shropshire. At Shrewsbury the young King heard the trial of all kinds of actions, including the Common Assize of novel disseisin, mort d'ancestor, and a Gaol Delivery.<sup>2</sup>

Amongst those who were indicted, and ordered to appear before the King in Trinity Term, 1415, to answer for their transgressions, was Richard Peshall. As, however, he had found bail, and did not appear, the Sheriff was ordered to levy a distress.<sup>3</sup> The King's Chancellor had sent to Thomas Giffard, of Chillington, a commission to arrest Richard Peshall, to answer to the King for divers insurrections and felonies. Accordingly, on the first Friday in January, 1414-15, Thomas Giffard attempted to arrest him at Stafford. Richard, however, "refused rebelliously to submit," and John Jurdan and other malefactors, armed with swords, bows and arrows, rescued Richard Peshall, and would have killed Thomas Giffard had not the constables of Stafford, with other lieges of the King, come to his assistance. Richard Peshall was afterwards pursued and captured, and delivered into the custody of John Bagot, the Sheriff of Stafford.<sup>4</sup> All these his misdeeds were presented to the King, by divers Hundreds of the County of Salop, at Trinity Term, 1415; and Richard was brought up, and put *in exigend*, and committed to the custody of the Marshal. He was afterwards brought before the Court, and questioned, when he produced Letters Patent of the King, dated 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2 Henry V. [1414-15], pardoning him for

<sup>1</sup> *Placita de Banco*, Mich. 2 Henry V., m. 342.

<sup>2</sup> *Wm. Salt Hist. Collections*, xvii., 4, 5.

<sup>3</sup> *Coram Rege Roll*, Trin., 2 Henry V., m. 7, Rex.

<sup>4</sup> *Coram Rege Rolls*, Hil. 2 Henry V., m. 12 dorso, Rex, Stafford,

all his felonies and trespasses, &c., perpetrated by him before the preceding 8<sup>th</sup> December [1414]. He was therefore acquitted, and allowed to depart in peace.<sup>1</sup>

The question naturally suggests itself to us, how could a man guilty of murders, rapes, robberies, and a whole list of flagrant crimes, obtain a pardon, and get off scot-free? Where there was a war being waged, a perpetrator of serious offences might serve in the army, and so gain a pardon by his good service. Where there was no war, he must have obtained his pardon through the intercession of some powerful patron. Probably in this way Richard Peshall obtained his pardon; and he, in his turn, interceded for his follower, John Jurdan, whose pardon is dated only two days later. In the middle ages, when everybody carried arms, there must have been many vulgar brawls and frequent deaths.

Richard Peshall's outrages did not cease with his trial and pardon. Only two years later, in 1416, after having been bound over in a sum of £400 to keep the peace towards all the King's subjects, he went to Standon, in Staffordshire, and there he insulted, beat and ill-treated one Joan Boydell, so that her life was despaired of. For his offence he was summoned by the King's writ to appear at Easter Term, 1417, to answer for his offence, but he did not appear, and so his £400 was forfeited.<sup>2</sup>

Five years later, in 1422, he was indicted for divers felonies. On this occasion he appeared in person, and was bound over in a sum of 500 marks to keep the peace towards all the King's subjects, and especially towards William Hulle, of Newport. Thomas Corbet, John Esthope, Hugh Cresset, and John Leighton of Leighton, all well-known Shropshire men, entered into a recognizance of 100 marks each for the good behaviour of Richard Peshall, Esquire, of Chetwynd. Richard, however, could not keep quiet, for in July, 1427, he was at Mere, near Newport, and there he insulted, beat, and wounded William Lee, John Thikene, John Hancokson, and William Davidson. Proceedings were consequently taken

<sup>1</sup> Coram Rege Rolls, Trin. 3 Henry V., m. 26, Rex. Salop.

<sup>2</sup> Coram Rege Roll, Easter 4 Henry V. Fines and chattels forfeited. London, Salop, Stafford.

at Michaelmas, 1431, to estreat the recognizances of his four sureties, and the Sheriff was ordered to levy the money on their land and chattels.<sup>1</sup>

From a document quoted in Duke's *Antiquities of Salop*, it would appear that he must have been outlawed about 6 Henry VI. [1427-8], when John Bruyn had orders to enquire what lands were held by him "at the time of his outlawry at the suit of the King."<sup>2</sup> After this I have been unable to find any more documents about Richard Peshall.

Richard Peshall married Margaret, the daughter and heiress of Hugh Malpas, and by her had two daughters and co-heirs—(1) Joyce, who married Richard Pigott, of co. Chester, and who took Chetwynd to the Pigott family. From them the Pigotts of Chetwynd, now represented by Corbet of Sundorne, trace lineal descent. (2) Isabella, who married Thomas Grosvenor, of Bellaport, and who took Weston-juxta-Standon to the Grosvenor family. Their great-grandson sold Weston to Francis Roos, of Laxton, Notts, but no trace of the old house at Weston remains.

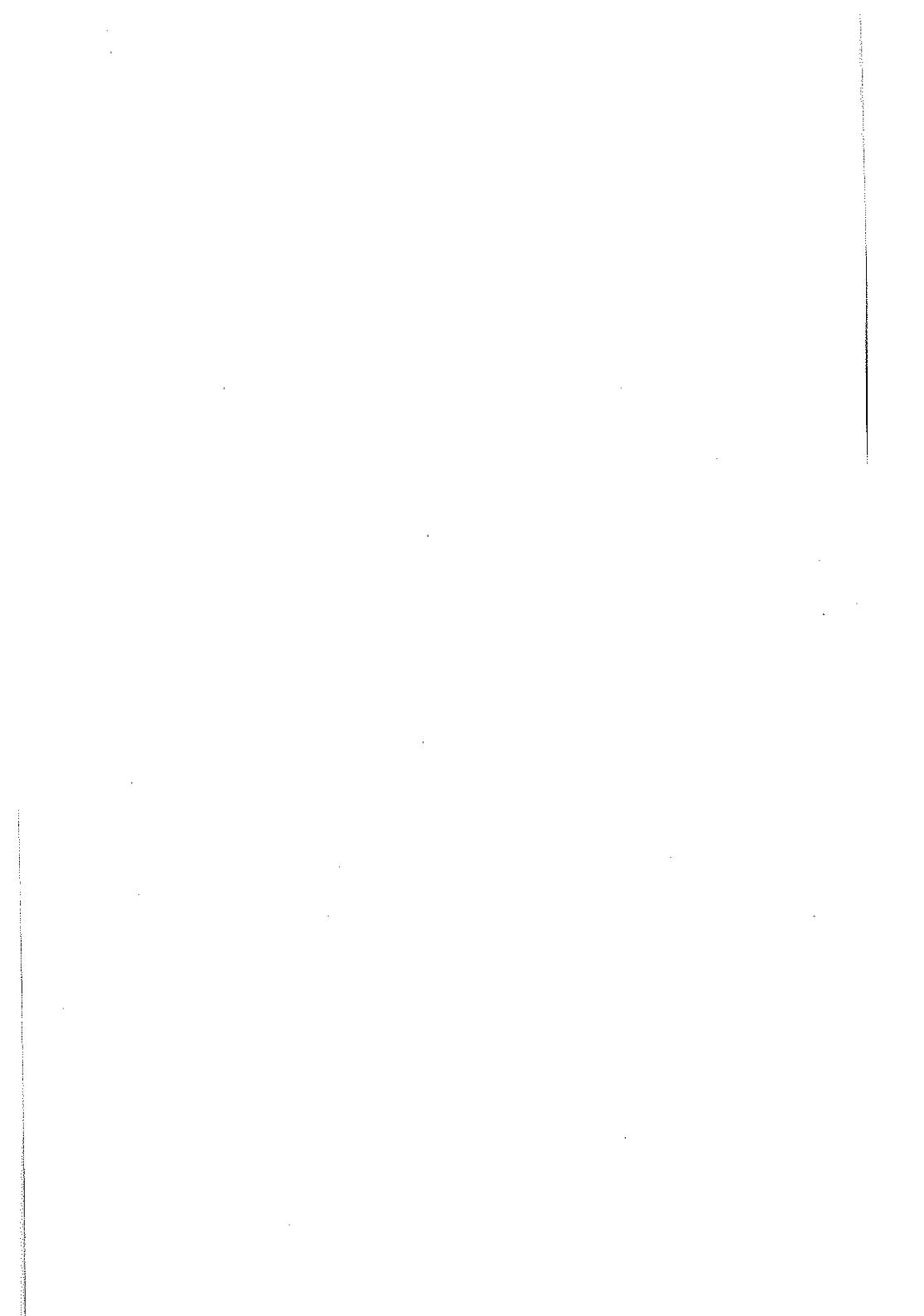
The Arms of Peshall are: Argent, a cross formée flocy sable, a canton gules charged with a wolf's head erased of the field.

The descendants of the Peshalls in the female line are very numerous. Sir Adam de Peshale, Sheriff of Salop in 1398, left two daughters—Joan, the wife of Sir William de Birmingham, and Margaret, the wife of Sir Richard Mytton of Shrewsbury. From the latter the Earls of Dysart and Bradford are descended. Sir Hugh Peshall, who died in 1484, left an only daughter, Catherine, who married John Blount of Kinlet.

It only remains to add that the writer is greatly indebted to numerous abstracts of original *Placita*, contributed by Major-General the Hon. George Wrottesley to many volumes of the William Salt *Historical Collections*, and also to several suggestions kindly made by him. Without these documents to assist him, this paper could not have been written.

<sup>1</sup> Coram Rege Roll, Mich. 10 Henry VI., m. 24 Rex. Salop.

<sup>2</sup> Originalia, 10 Henry VI., rot. 27.





CHIRBURY CHURCH.



MARRINGTON HALL.

## THE HISTORY OF CHIRBURY.

EDITED BY FLORA A. MACLEOD.

[MATERIALS for a History of Chirbury were gathered by the late Mr. William Phillips, ten or twelve years ago. This paper is, therefore, mainly his. But though he had gathered a quantity of information, he had put very little of it together. The compiler of this paper had the privilege of a conversation with Mr. Phillips during the autumn of 1905, and received some valuable assistance in forming his copy into a consecutive story. In the one or two cases where Mr. Phillips had put his notes into shape his words have been scrupulously followed, and all the material which he collected has been marked with his initials.—F. A. M.]

Towards the centre of the Welsh Marches of Shropshire lies the ancient parish of Chirbury, remote from railways or large towns, but at one time of considerable note, with a story written in brooks and stones and hills going back behind any record of pen and ink. It is easy to understand wherein this importance lay, for the village is near the head of one of the large valleys which form the gateways from Wales into Shropshire; and in the days when our Welsh neighbours were dreaded foes, to be held back with all the strength of fear, Chirbury's place was in the van of the encounter. The historian Green<sup>1</sup> has said, in his preface to his *Making of England*, "Archaeological researches on the sites of villas and towns, or along the line of road or dyke, often furnish us with evidence even more trustworthy than that of written chronicles, while the ground itself, where we can read the information it affords, is, whether in the account of the Conquest, or in that of the settlement of Britain, the fullest and the most certain of documents."

<sup>1</sup> Quoted by W. P.

Vol. VI., 3rd. S.

Chirbury has a rich share of these natural records. The parish was formerly of very great extent, comprising the townships<sup>1</sup> of Chirbury, Dudston, Hockleton, Marrington, Marton, Middleton, Priest Weston, Rorrington, Stockton, Timberth, Walcot, Wilmington, Winsbury, and Wotherton. It covers, therefore, a large area, and this of a very diversified nature. We have a wide fertile plain,<sup>2</sup> watered by the Cam-lad, a tributary of the Severn. Into this plain converge several valleys, leading down from the surrounding hills, which even to this day are bleak and uncultivated. Over the hills and in the plain is a wealth of ancient remains. Merely by glancing at the Ordnance map, we cannot fail to be struck by the number of tumuli which are marked, and taking that evidence for what it is worth, we see tumuli marked at Marton, Wilmington, Rorrington, Wotherton, Hockleton, Middleton, one south of Rock Wood, another east of Offa's Dyke another at Brompton. In Chirbury village is noted the site of a castle; close at hand is "the King's Orchard;" a little farther off a camp; and on the hills three stone circles, far away from village or hamlet. And our interest, aroused by the map, is deepened by a consideration of the place-names of the district.

<sup>3</sup> Being situated so near the border, it is natural that many Welsh names should be found in Chirbury. Old names of places have frequently much interest attaching to them, because of the story they often have to tell us of things long past and forgotten. This is especially the case with Welsh names. That of Chirbury is a good example of this—it is "Llan ffynnon gwen," or, "the Church of the White Well." It is well known that wherever, in old times, a monastery was founded, there you are sure to find good land and good water; and when the monks settled at Chirbury they had taken good care to secure both these. All the villagers to this day know well, and are grateful for, the bountiful supply of excellent water, which now goes by the name of "the Spout," or, "the Conduit;" and there is no doubt that it was from this beautiful spring that the place acquired its Welsh name.

<sup>1</sup> Pref. to Chir. Regs. H. M. Auden,

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Phillips' MS.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Phillips' MS.

“‘*Rhyd-y-croes*,’ or, the Ford of the Cross. This name carries us back to the old days, when the river Camlad ran across the road, and the monks of Chirbury used to set down the Great Cross, which was borne at the head of their processions, in order that they might say a prayer before crossing the stream.

“‘*Timberth*,’ a farm on the Montgomeryshire side of the parish, which is a corruption of the Welsh name ‘*Tyn-y-berth*’—i.e., ‘the fair or pleasant place.’”

*Marrington*, south of Chirbury, was, in Welsh, *Havodwen*—the White Summer House.<sup>1</sup> These all make a picture of peace and sunny calm; but there are other names and things which have a sterner tale to tell. Chirbury and Winsbury speak of the *burhs*, built in Saxon times, as places of defence, or centres of aggression; and “the line of ancient British camps confronted by Roman camps, marks an indefinite line—ever altering on the occasion of ever-fresh revolt of the Britons, but more definitely traced in Saxon times by Offa’s great dyke, within two miles of which Chirbury stands. And whatever form of heathenism might be indicated by the stone circles—the Hoar Stones and Mitchell’s Fold—still standing on the bleak and elevated moorland at the base of Corndon, they speak of a time so far remote that we must designate them pre-historic.”<sup>2</sup>

Not all these indications of the past can be fully interpreted, but some have been revealed by careful searchings, and of some we have records, sometimes full, sometimes scanty, but at least sufficient to form the materials for a picture of our fathers’ days. It is the object of this paper to collect such scattered hints into one story, not anticipating that we can make it to be without gaps and silences where we would fain know more and with fuller detail, but hoping that, at least, we may give voice to ancient stones and life to old familiar names.

Following the high road from Shrewsbury to Welshpool, in a south-westerly direction, the traveller to Chirbury passes along the line of a broad and fertile valley, bounded on the

<sup>1</sup> Notes abridged from V. Lloyd.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Phillips’ MS.

north-west by the Long Mountain, and on the south-east by hills at first low and insignificant, but rising as we approach the Welsh border into bleaker and more elevated ranges. Some thirteen miles from Shrewsbury we pass through the large and ancient parish of Worthen, and two miles further on arrive at the borders of Chirbury parish, the township of Marton lying on our right hand, and that of Wilmington on our left. Here the valley has become narrower, the undulating hills sloping down from Corndon having approached the line of the Long Mountain ; but from Hockleton the hills on our left turn in a southerly direction, and at Chirbury village (eighteen miles from Shrewsbury) the plain has become once more some three or four miles broad. From a mile beyond Minsterley the hills have been rising steadily, and taking, with sweep after sweep of their ascent, a more and more inhospitable character. Bromlow Callow, a landmark for many miles round, marks the halting place where the last attempt at cultivation fades away ; and on its south-western side leads to the long sweep of rock-strewn moor, called Stapeley Hill, culminating in the fine mass of Corndon, and attaining there a height of 1,685 feet.

At the foot of Corndon, on Stapeley, lie the stone circles we have already noted on the map. The first, but the least interesting, is the Marshpool circle (also known as the Hoar stones), near the hamlet of Hemford. <sup>1</sup> In 1892 this circle consisted of 27 stones—in 1838 there had been 32 ; but only six or eight are visible above the heather, with a larger stone in the centre. The diameter of this circle is about 75 feet. A mile further along the moor is Mitchell's Fold—a circle of fifteen much larger stones, standing from three to six feet above the ground, the circle measuring about 96 feet from N.W. to S.E., and 86 feet from N.E. to S.W.<sup>2</sup> The traces of two other circles are to be found not far from these ; and near by, at the foot of Corndon, but just outside the county, there was formerly a well-preserved circle of large stones,

<sup>1</sup> Pre-historic Shropshire. R. Lloyd Kenyon, Shr. Arch. *Trans.*, Ser. 2, vol. iv., pp. 264—286.

<sup>2</sup> On the Connection bet. Stone Circles and Adjacent Hills.—A. L. Lewis, Shr. Arch. *Trans.*, Ser. 2, vol. v., pp. 78 et seq. See also *Shropshire Folk-lore*, pp. 39 et seq.

called the Whetstones; but this was dug up, and the stones placed in a row, as a boundary wall, about the year 1870.

Some highly interesting notes were published in the volume of the *Transactions* for 1893, by Mr. A. L. Lewis, with regard to the position of these circles in relation to the surrounding hills, in which he points out that both Mitchell's Fold and the Hoarstones lie towards the point of Stapeley Hill, in precisely the same direction as the Stonehenge circle does towards the outlying stones, known as the Friar's Heel—that is, that the point of Stapeley and the Friar's Heel are N.E. of the circles, the exact position of the sunrise on Midsummer Day; and, supporting his argument with instances of circles upon Dartmoor, he conjectures that this careful arrangement, found in so many places, so far removed from each other, points to their having been used "as observatories for fixing the rising of the sun and stars, and obtaining other astronomical knowledge." This scientific aim would, of course, combine easily with the use of the circles as places of sun, or star, or mountain, or phallic, or ancestor worship. At the time when the Whetstones were removed, remains of human bones were discovered, confirming another popular theory with regard to the circles, namely, that they were places of burial.<sup>1</sup>

On leaving the high ground, and descending to the plain, we come upon the tumuli which are marked in such numbers upon the Ordnance map. These, as well as the British Camps, have already received adequate notice in a paper by Mr. R. Lloyd-Kenyon on "Pre-historic Shropshire," in volume iv. of the *Transactions* (second series), and, with more detail regarding the moated mounds, in the *Transactions of the Powysland Club*, volume x., in a paper entitled "The Moated Mounds of Upper Severn," and need not, therefore, be further considered here.

An interesting feature of the Dudston tumulus, not mentioned in that article, is a line of earth three or four inches deep, of a darker colour than the surrounding soil lying about two feet from the natural level of the ground. This strongly suggests that this mound is a real tumulus, or sepulchral barrow, and not a moated mound like the so-called tumulus

<sup>1</sup> R. Lloyd-Kenyon. *Shrop. Arch. Trans.*, Ser. 2., vol. iv., p. 273

at Winsbury.<sup>1</sup> It may not be out of place to remind our readers that the name of tumulus, roughly conferred on different kinds of artificial mounds in the Ordnance map, covers two, or even three, specific kinds of earthworks; i.e., a barrow, or burying place; and a moated mound used for signalling, an art carried to such perfection that news would travel from Scotland to the south of England in comparatively few hours.<sup>2</sup> The termination *bury* (Saxon *burh*), so frequent in Chirbury place-names, indicates either such a moated mound for signalling, or a Saxon castle for residence and defence, like the castle at Chirbury—the mention of which brings us to the first documents in which we find reference to Chirbury, for we read in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, under the date A.D. 913: “In this year, God granting, Aethelfloed, Lady of the Mercians, went with all the Mercians to Tamworth, and built the burgh there, in the early summer; and before the following Lamas (August 1st) that at Stafford.

“Then, in the year after this, that at Eddsbury, in the early summer; and afterwards, in the same year, toward the end of autumn, that at Warwick.

“Then, in the next year, after mid-winter, that at *Chirbury* and that at Wardbury; and that same year, before mid-winter, that at Runcorn.”<sup>3</sup>

In order clearly to understand the position of affairs at the time when Chirbury *burh* was built, it is necessary to go back for some thirty-seven years, to the date of the Treaty of Wedmore, made between Alfred and the Danes, in A.D. 878.<sup>4</sup> By this Treaty the northern part of Mercia, from the point where Watling Street crosses the head of the river Ouse, was ceded to the Danes, Watling Street forming the boundary as far as the Welsh border. Chirbury, therefore, stood at the extreme apex of the kingdom of Wessex, and was liable to attack from the Danes on the north, and Welsh on the west. The part of Mercia retained by the English was governed by its Alderman Aethelred, and the king’s daughter, Aethelfloeda. But in 894 the Saxon Chronicle describes an attack along the banks

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Phillips’ MS.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Phillips in conversation.

<sup>3</sup> *Anglo-Saxon Chron.*, II., p. 79.—W. P.

<sup>4</sup> J. F. Bright. *Hist. Eng.*, vol. i, pp. 8—9.

of the Severn from the south. "They went up," we read, "along the Thames, until they reached the Severn; then up along the Severn. Then the Aldorman Aethelred, and the Aldorman Aethelm, and the Aldorman Aethelnoth, and the king's thanes, who were then at home in the works, gathered together, from every town east of the Parret, as well west as east of Selwood, as also north of the Thames and west of the Severn, and also some part of the north Welsh race. When they were all gathered together, they followed after the army to Buttington on the bank of the Severn, and there beset them on every side in a fastness. When they had sat there many weeks on the two sides of the river, and the king was west in Devon against the naval force, they were distressed for want of food, and had eaten a great part of their horses, and the others had died of hunger: they then went out to the men who were encamped on the east side of the river and fought against them, and the Christians had the victory. And there was Ordheh, a king's thane, slain, and also many other king's thanes were slain; and of the Danish there was a very great slaughter made; and the part that came away thence was saved by flight."<sup>1</sup>

Two years later (A.D. 896), Alfred inflicted great losses on the Danes by his famous expedient of diverting the course of the river Lea, so that the Danish ships were left aground. They fled overland to Quatbridge on the Severn, where, the Chronicle says, "they wrought a work," and remained there during the ensuing winter.<sup>2</sup> After this there was comparative peace throughout the kingdom of Wessex until Alfred's death (901). He was succeeded by his son Eadward, but not without a struggle, in which Aethelwulf, son of Alfred's elder brother, Aethelred, made alliance<sup>3</sup> with Eohric, the Danish king of East Anglia, and fought a decisive battle at Cricklade on the Thames, in which Eohric was killed and Aethelwulf completely defeated. But, in order to secure himself against further molestation in the future, Edward, in conjunction with his sister, the Lady of the Mercians, set to the task of building numerous castles; and this brings us back to the

<sup>1</sup> *Ang. Sax. Chr.*, II., pp. 71-2.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Phillips gives another quotation *in extenso* from Saxon Chr., p. 73.  
Bright, p. 10.

record in the Saxon Chronicles and the account of the burghs built in Shropshire. "In this year (912) Aethelfloed, the Lady of the Mercians, came to Seergeat on the Holy Eve of the Inventio Sanctae Crucis (May 3rd), and there built the burgh; and in the same year that at Bridgnorth;"<sup>1</sup> and in the years 913—15 we have the notes already quoted of the erection of the burghs at Tamworth, Stafford, Eddesbury, Warwick, Chirbury, and Runcorn.<sup>2</sup>

No remains of the castle at Chirbury<sup>3</sup> are now to be seen above ground, but the site is still clearly marked. It occupies a commanding position in a field now known as the "King's Orchard," on the right hand side of the road leading to Montgomery. The elevated platform on which it stands is of the same height as that on which the church has been built, a small, deep valley dividing the two. The platform is contained between the two heads of a fair-sized brook, which unite below, thus protecting the three northern sides. On the platform are slight, but distinct, remains of a rectangular (and, therefore, Roman), encampment, of which only two sides remain, one having been removed for the deep cutting of the high road and the other eroded by the encroachment of the brook.

The name of the "King's Orchard" bestowed on the site of the burgh indicates a Saxon—i.e., pre-conquest—sovereign. Chirbury was a Royal demesne under Edward the Confessor and had probably descended in this state from Aethelfloeda. Conjectures have been made that the prefix *Chir*, in Chirbury, may denote the name of a Saxon who owned the vill. But its close connection with the Royal estates renders this unlikely; and the more probable derivation is that the burgh took its name from the stream at its foot, "Chir," or "Cher," being a Celtic name of rivers—as, for instance, the *Cher* in France.

After the building of the burgh we hear no more of Chirbury till Domesday, when we find it the head of the ancient

<sup>1</sup> *Sax. Chr.*, p. 78.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Phillips here gives extract referring to the building of Towcester burgh and Wigmore (*Chr.*, p. 81), and of operations against the Danes at Tempsford, Huntingdon, Bedford, and Wicingamere (*Chr.*, p. 82).

<sup>3</sup> MS. notes by Rev. J. Burd and Mr. J. E. Clark.—W.P. Moated Mounds of Upper Severn, Powysland Club, vol. x., pp. 329 et seq.

Hundred of Witentrei, or Witentreu, as it is of the modern Hundred of Chirbury. Two interesting interpretations have been suggested for the name of Witentrei. T. F. Dukes,<sup>1</sup> in his *Antiquities of Shropshire*, suggests that it is derived from the British "guie"—a nook or corner; and "Tre"—a town or place—and refers to the situation of the Hundred in an obtuse angle surrounded by mountains.

Eyton,<sup>2</sup> however, thinks it points to the place where the folk-mote (Witenagemot) of the Hundred met to transact public business, and finds confirmation of this reading in the names of Whittery Wood and Whittery Bridge—still existing less than a mile east of the village.

The Manor of Chirbury,<sup>3</sup> head first of Witentreu and then of Chirbury Hundred, is thus described in Domesday: "Ipse Comes tenet Cireberie. Rex Edwardus tenuit. In dominio sunt iiiii carucae, et xiii villani cum Praeposito habent v carucus. Ibi viii Bovarii. Ibi duae *Æ*cclesiae cum Presbytero, qui habet unam carucam. Huic Manerio pertinet Witetreu Hundred, Tempore Regis Edwardi erat Wastum. Modo valet xl solidos."

There are indications that after Domesday, and before the death of Earl Roger de Montgomery a grant of Chirbury was made by that Earl to Gilbert de Salnerville, of whom nothing further is known. The grounds for this supposition are that in 1120, when Henry I. confirmed the possessions of Shrewsbury Abbey, he included "the tithe of Cireberia which Gislebert de Salnerville had bestowed on the Abbey when Earl Roger, that man of good memory, and that honour to the realm, was buried."<sup>4</sup> But before the time of this confirmation Chirbury had reverted to the Crown; and Shrewsbury Abbey does not at any later period appear with any tithes in the district; hence Eyton has some doubts of the relevancy of the passage.

When Henry I. re-arranged the Hundreds of Shropshire, Chirbury Hundred contained only such places as were originally contained in Witentrei, with the single exception of

<sup>1</sup> Dukes', p. 123.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> W. P.'s note.

<sup>3</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 59.

<sup>4</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 57.—W. P.

Guildendown transferred from the Hundred of Rirlau. On the other hand, Witentrei<sup>1</sup> contained Churchstoke, Leighton, Montgomery, and several members of the Chatellany of Montgomery, which were, in latter days, annexed to different Hundreds in Montgomeryshire; several ancient members of Worthen, now in the Hundred of Ford; and Edenhope, now in the Hundred of Clun. It is, however, probable that these were divorced from Chirbury at a subsequent date, and that Henry I. did, in fact, no more than change the name, but not the area, of the Hundred. The seigneurie of Chirbury Hundred, including all the manors which were at the king's disposal, went to form the Honour of Montgomery, and was bestowed upon Baldwin de Bollers, upon his marriage with Sibil de Paleise, the king's niece, together with other estates in Shropshire and elsewhere.

The Honour of Montgomery did not remain for any long period in the possession of this family, owing to the lack of male heirs; and the Manor of Chirbury, the Manor, the Advowson, and the Castle of Montgomery had been resumed by the Crown before 1223.<sup>2</sup> The Honour was dismembered by Henry III., and Chirbury became a Royal borough; but its importance was always lessened by the neighbourhood of Montgomery.

In state and jurisdiction Chirbury Hundred formed an integral part of the county of Salop, and was governed by English law and custom, saving that some of its members came to be absorbed in the Walcheria of the Corbets of Cause, or the exclusive jurisdiction of the same family at Worthen. Nevertheless, the Hundred owed suit to the county, and was, in general matters, responsible like other Hundreds.<sup>3</sup> It was duly represented at the earliest assizes of which we have any mention—one murder and a breach of the Assize of Wine being reported. The jurors also made complaint against the municipality of Shrewsbury, that the market there had been

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 52.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 52, under heading Witentreu Hun. But under *Chirbury* Hun, he says: "The Manor of Chirbury was probably held by the descendant of Baldwin de Bollers till the Honour of Montgomery was dismembered by Henry III."

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 53.

changed from Sundays to Saturdays, and that the borough had neglected to observe the Assize of Cloth,

In 1233 a dispute seems to have arisen between the civil and military authorities, and a Patent of June 14 in that year enjoins "the men of Chirberi Hundred, on this side Offedich," to obey the Sheriffs of Shropshire in the ordinary jurisdiction of the Hundred; while a second writ forbids the Constable of Montgomery to interfere with their doing so. Three years later the great Manor of Worthen, held by Thomas Corbet, was separated from Chirbury Hundred, after an Eyre held by William de Eboraco and his fellow-justices, in November, 1236. This led to some disputes as to the jurisdiction of out-lying vills, which formed subjects for enquiry in the Inquisition of 1255. It was pleaded that the vill of Legh had been usurped and annexed to the Corbet's jurisdiction of Caus; and complaint is also made that the vill of Aston-Kelmund had become attached to a former bishop of Hereford, and that its dues to the Honour of Montgomery had become obsolete. Prince Edward was at that time Lord both of the Manor and of the Hundred of Chirbury, by the gift of his father. The value of the Hundred is not stated at this Inquest; but the Manor of Chirbury, together with Rhiston and Chirston (Churchstoke), had been assessed five merks for a Royal Tallyage six years earlier; and at the same time the Prior of Chirbury paid four merks to an Aid assessed on the religious houses of Salop. In 1254 the Manor of Montgomery was assessed ten merks, and Chirbury, Rhiston and Churchstoke, six; and the following year Prince Edward's Manor of Chirbury was valued at £13 os. 4d. per annum. At this time the following persons held feoffments in the manor under grants of former lords of Montgomery or of Deputy Stewards of the Honour:—<sup>1</sup>

John fitz Richard of Chirbury, half a virgate, under a grant by Stephen de Bollers. He paid rent 6d. to the lords of Montgomery, and owed suit thrice yearly to the Court there. He was bound to provide an attendant thrice a year for his overlord or his bailiff, and to do one week's castle guard at Montgomery in time of war.

<sup>1</sup> Eyton vol. xi., p. 58.

William fitz Richard, half a virgate. His rent was 16d., and his duties with regard to castle guard and hunting expeditions were similar to those of John fitz Richard, but his suit-of-court was due to Chirbury Hundred, and he was under obligation to carry writs for the lords of Montgomery to any part of Shropshire.

Hoel ap Adam held a noke (quarter virgate). He owed suits-of-court thrice yearly to Montgomery and thrice to Chirbury Hundred, but was under no other obligation. He is noted as non-attendant at the Inquest of 1255.

Walter fitz Cecily held two messuages, paying a rent of 2d.

There were also twenty-three burgages in Chirbury held by rents of 9d. each, payable to the lords of Montgomery; these tenures had been created while Godescall de Maghelines was bailiff or castellan, 1223-7.

At the Assizes of January, 1256,<sup>1</sup> William de Bedel, Chief Bailiff, and twelve Jurors of the Hundred duly appeared at Shrewsbury. They reported Griffin ap Wenunwen, Prince of Powis, and the Prior of Chirbury, as among the freeholders of their district but not present at that time. In 1272 Eynon Wendut was Chief Bailiff, and among the twelve Jurors the names appear of Richard fitz Elyas, Llewelyn fitz Ygel, Roger Brode and Richard fitz Provost. Mention is also made of a Provost of Chirbury in the lists of 1249 and and 1281. The name of Roger de Budell is found in the list of 1281.

At this time the Hundred was much involved in the struggle of Llewellyn to maintain his independence. Several vills were actually in the occupation of the prince, and all the land between the Camlad and the Severn, comprising a third part of the Barony of Caus, was in his hands. A long list of defaulters at the assizes of 1272 included the names of Richard Riven, Yarworth Vachan, Simon Wauhn, David fitz Simon, Tudor fitz Madok, William Tudor, Richard Gille, William Vireli, Philip ab Yarworth, Yarworth fitz John, Reginald de Warklowe, Henry de Sned, Robert ab Houel, and Wyn Coly, all of whom had probably rallied to the aid of the Prince.

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 56.

In the escheat of 6th Edward I., n. 29 (1278),<sup>1</sup> we find that William Henald died seized of the Hundred, but in 1292 the jurisdiction of the Hundred was deemed an appurtenance of Montgomery Castle, and both were in the Crown, and in the custody of Bogo de Knovil.<sup>2</sup> The jurors for the Hundred of Chirbury found at the Assizes 20th Edward I. (1292), that "Hugh de Woderton held *decem mercatas terræ in villa de Woderton in capite*, and that John, his son, was in ward to Bogo de Knovil, and made his claim to be constable of the castle and the Hundred, *qui vocat inde ad warrantiam dominum regem adjourned to Parliament. Totum istud hundredum Geldabile et extra Wallacheriam. Coton juxta Caux did suit to the Hundred.*"<sup>3</sup>

In 1319 a dispute between Chirbury Hundred and the Manor of Halston with regard to the feudal duties of Brompton and Rushwood was settled in favour of Chirbury, *nec debeant aliq[ue] servitia Wallensibus*. Thirteen years later John Hinkele, Sheriff of Salop and Stafford, complained "that the Hundreds of Chirbury, Pimhill, Purslau, and Bradford, Offelowe, Cuthelstone, Tatemoneslowe, and a moiety of the Hundred of Overs, being granted to divers persons, that the issues of the same still continued as part of the farm of the Counties of Salop and Stafford. The Sheriff, therefore, by the King's precept, was discharged from the issues so granted as part of his farm; and the grantees for the future were to account before the Barons of the Exchequer for the residue."<sup>4</sup>

The possession of the Hundred continued to pass from hand to hand. In 1350 Roger, Earl of March, instituted a lawsuit against the Black Prince for the seizin of the castle of Montgomery and of the Hundred of Chirbury, by virtue of an Act of Parliament restoring to him his honours and estates. This suit was settled in Mortimer's favour in 1354 by a grant in fee simple of the Hundred as annexed to the Castle of Montgomery.<sup>5</sup> His estates passed through his

<sup>1</sup> Dukes', p. 123.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 56.

<sup>3</sup> Dukes', p. 123.—W. P.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., p. 123.—W. P.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.—W. P.

daughter Ann, by her marriage with Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, into that family, and upon the defeat and death of her son, Richard of York, at Wakefield, in 1460, were seized into the king's hands, and Montgomery and Chirbury were given by him to John Sutton, Lord Dudley, for his life.<sup>1</sup> Subsequently the Hundred reverted to the Crown, and was granted to the Prince of Wales. In the reign of Edward VI. it was given to Edward Herbert and his heirs, but in 1627, by leave of the King, it was alienated to William Neye and Thomas Gardiner. It afterwards returned to the Herbert family, and the present Lord of the Manor is the Earl of Powis.

We now pass on to trace the history of Chirbury Priory. Of its buildings very little remains intact, but many interesting fragments are to be found. The Rev. John Burd, the present Vicar, writes<sup>2</sup>:—“We may read something of the old story of Chirbury as we walk about the parish; here and there we may see the old red sandstones built into the walls of houses and farm buildings, every one of which has something to tell of the old Church and Monastery of which they once formed a part. There is no red sandstone quarry to be found within many miles of this place, and every such stone has been taken from the ruins of the Monastery or the Church. The wall by the road side bordering the farm buildings at Blackford affords a good example of this. And then again there are to be seen the remains of the old fishponds in which the monks kept their store of the fish which formed so important a part of their diet. Perhaps the clearest example is that in the field opposite the old turnpike gate, where the ponds themselves, their embankments, the spot at which the dividing dam has been cut through, and the manner in which they were fed by the little stream which comes down from the ‘Fishponds Dingle,’ may be clearly seen.” The Church now standing is only a part of the ancient building, and not the part belonging to the Priory.<sup>3</sup> Before the establishment of that institution a parish church

<sup>1</sup> Dudley had them in 1460; the Prince of Wales in 17th Edward IV.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. J. Burd, *Corndon Mag.*—W. P.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. D. H. S. Cranage quoted in Preface to Chirbury Register.—H. M. Auden.

had already existed for some time, and the Canons took possession of the eastern end for the Church of their Order, extending and beautifying it, while the western part remained as before the Church of the parish. Such a combination, as is well known, is by no means unusual, the Choir of the Religious House being sometimes to the east of the parish church, as here, or sometimes side by side with it, as in the interesting example of St. Helen's Church, Bishopsgate. Some fifty feet east of the present Church there are the remains of a very beautiful pillar with characteristic Early English mouldings, but it lies too much to the north to have been a part of the Church, and was more probably the base of a pillar in the Chapter House. Other interesting remains of the Monastery buildings may still be found in and around Chirbury Hall, which is situated to the north of the Churchyard, particularly some very beautiful thirteenth century tiles now forming the floor of the porch,<sup>1</sup> and a piscina built into the wall of the Hall. Some years ago part of a well executed stone conduit which had evidently been used to supply the Monastery with water, was discovered in the garden, a plan of which has been preserved in the Parish Book.

Some confusion has arisen over the Order to which the Priory belonged. Tanner, in the *Notitia Monastica*, notes it as "a Priory of Black Monks,"<sup>2</sup> and Mr. Dukes says that it was "of the Order of St. Bennett."<sup>3</sup> This is, however, an error; the Community was one of Augustinian Canons, commonly called *Black Canons*, hence, no doubt, the confusion between them and the Black Monks (Benedictines). The Canons of St. Augustine, as well as the other Orders of Regular Canons<sup>4</sup> (i.e., those living under Rule in Community) occupied a position midway between the monks, strictly so called, who were enclosed within their Monastery, and the secular clergy. Many of the Canons were engaged in parochial duties, while they made their home in the Monastery, observing the Rule of their Order, and taking part in the daily recitation in the choir of the Divine Office.

<sup>1</sup> In January, 1906, it was arranged that the tiles should be removed into the Church, by permission of Lord Fowis and Mr. Langford, the tenant of Chirbury Hall.

<sup>2</sup> *Not. Mon.*, p. 191.

<sup>3</sup> Dukes, p. 124. —W. P.

<sup>4</sup> Gasquet, *Dissolution of the Monasteries*, vol. ii., ch. xii.

Yet we find by Statutes issued by Cardinal Wolsey in 1519 to be observed by the Canons Regular of St. Augustine, that it was enjoined as the chief duty of each Canon that he should be present at the Choir service, "especially Matins and the principal Mass."<sup>1</sup> That "especially" appears to point to occasions when other duties might interfere with attendance in the Choir, and there seems to be a certain parallel between the duties of Canons and Monks, and the later distinction between Active and Contemplative Orders.

It was towards the close of the twelfth century,<sup>2</sup> in the reign of Henry II. or Richard I., that a Convent of Augustinian Canons was established by Robert de Bollars, lord of Montgomery, at Snead, a part of Churchstoke, but they speedily removed to Chirbury, and Snead became merely an out-chapel of the Convent. Robert de Bollars was succeeded as lord of Montgomery, first by Baldwin de Bollers, and afterwards by William de Courtenay, and quarrels speedily arose between them and the Prior. Appeal was made in 1224 to Henry III. (then lord of Montgomery) for redress, and his local deputies, Hubert Hose and Godescall de Maghelines reported to Court that "Robert de Brullers had sometime given a virgate and 4 acres in land, in pure alms, to the aforesaid Prior, which land the Prior and Convent had held for the life of the said Robert; and after his death Baldwin, his son and heir,<sup>3</sup> had disseized them; that they had recovered their seizin, and had held the land until their second ejectment by William de Courtenay, since which time they had been excluded therefrom." This suit was decided in favour of the Canons,

The following year was marked by a dispute between the King himself and the Prior with reference to certain lands which the latter had reclaimed, or proposed to reclaim, from the forest at Snead. The Bishops of Salisbury and Chichester investigated the matter at an enquiry at Montgomery, with the result that the Prior was again successful. In fact, the long reign of Henry III. is marked by ever-growing prosperity for the Priory, and Eyton gives many details of gifts bestowed

<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. i., ch. ii.

<sup>2</sup> *Eyton*, vol. xi., p. 58.

<sup>3</sup> *Eyton*, "Query brother," vol. xi., p. 59.

upon them; and we may especially note how in 1254 the Sheriff paid 75s. by Royal Order for the carriage of fifty oak trees from the king's woods in the Bailiwick of Montgomery to Chirbury Priory, pointing, no doubt, to the enlargement of the Conventual buildings. Perhaps temporal prosperity was bringing with it its own penalty of an over-reaching ambition not always too scrupulous in its exactions, for we find (1272) Anian, Bishop of St. Asaph, requesting the Bishop of Hereford to enjoin the Prior to restore the vill of Kilkewyd to the Rectors of Pole (Welshpool), Bettws (Bettws Cedewen), and Aberriw (Berriew), who had formerly held it.

This year is also marked by a change of Priors, and several documents are found among the Calendar of Patent Rolls<sup>1</sup> referring to the election of a new Prior, *vice* Osbert, resigned. The first is a Congé d'élire to the Canons, dated Odiham, 23rd June, 1272. There follows the Assent to the election of Geoffrey de Mendep, Canon of Wormele, as new Prior; and *Significamus* to the Bishop of Hereford or his vicegerent in pursuance. Next, the restitution of temporalities to the Prior-elect, his postulation having been confirmed by Master William de Montfort, Precentor of Hereford, *vice* the Bishop of Hereford then "*extra regnum agens*" and his fealty taken; and the mandate of intendance and respondence in pursuance to the tenants of the Priory. Finally there is the Concurrent mandate of livery in pursuance to Bogo de Knovil or his locum tenens.

Nine years later the name of Roger de Mortimer occurs among the deeds of the Convent. He had been given a grant of the Welsh provinces of Kerry and Cedewen in 1279, and had thus been made, in some fashion, a neighbour of the Canons of Chirbury. In return for the gift of land the Community concede to Roger de Mortimer "a full participation in all the spiritual benefits of their house, and undertake to keep an anniversary of his obit (whenever that shall happen) and to bestow on the said day, towards the pittance of their Convent a sum of 5s. issuing out of their mill near Caldemere on the Severn; or in default to pay 20s. towards the fabric of Hereford Cathedral."

<sup>1</sup> 49th Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, 1888.—  
W. F.

This was the time when, as we have seen, Chirbury and the surrounding district was much disturbed by the Welsh rising under Prince Llewellyn,<sup>1</sup> and it is not surprising to find that the Prior and Convent successfully petitioned the King for leave to return to their original abode at Snead, pleading that they had been many times interrupted during their residence at Chirbury, and that it was "no longer a fitting place for the celebration of the Divine Mysteries." It was agreed that nothing should be diminished of the services due to the souls of those who rested at Chirbury, and the brethren on their part were not to lose any of their rights in that place. The removal, however, was not carried out, the reason for it being, doubtless, overcome upon the pacification of the Borders.

CHAR<sup>TA</sup> Regis Edwardi de Prioratus Chirburensis translationē ad Snede, ubi primum institutis.

Rex omnibus, &c., salutem cum notis in hiis quæ ad cultum divinum pertinent ministros et professores cultus illius ad laudem et honorem omnipotentis Dei in locis congruis ad hoc conferre tenearum et illos præcipere qui sub nostro speculi regimine ad hoc vacaverint ac delicti nobis in Christo prior et conventus de Cirebur qui primo apud Snede suæ professionis et devotionis inchoaverunt originem, ex inde post modum usque Chirisbir, translate ibi locum non invenerint adeo congrunum divino ministerio celebrando ob varia impedimenta quæ eis ibidem occurrunt accipimus. Non ipsorum prioris et conventus tranquilitati in hac parte præpicere volentes ut commodius et liberius contemplatoris divinæ valeant vacare concedimus eisdem quod ad prædictum locum de Snede absque calumpnia et occasione nostri vel hæredum nostrorum, ad vota et professionis suæ debita ibidem complenda regredi et morari valeant, et ea ibidem perpetui consummare, proviso tamen quod animabus illorum qui in prædicto sacro loco de Chiresbir requiescant non minus per prædictos priorem ut conventum in prædicto loco de Snede ministerus divinis super hoc suffragetur imposterum, quam ibidem temporibus retroactis fieri consuevit, ita etiam

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 61; Rd. Lloyd, *Hist. of Wales*, p. 315; Dukes *Antiq.*, p. 124.—W.P.

quod præfatis religiosis nichil juris sui depereat seu decrescat apud Chiresbir occasione translationis suæ prædictæ &c. T.R. apud Westm. xxij die Maii.

A curious and interesting glimpse of the domestic life of the Convent is given about this time in Bishop Swinfield's Roll, 1289-90.<sup>1</sup> The Bishop had made a visitation of the Convent in October, 1285,<sup>2</sup> and on the 26th of that month he writes to the Prior from Bishop's Castle saying that many things which he had observed at his late visit had much displeased him. He forbids such free access of strangers within the House, and insists that all the members of the Community must be Regulars. Apparently this admonition bore little fruit, for in the following year he writes again to the Prior calling upon him sharply to correct the brethren of his Convent. He is not stinting in his language, but declares the Canons to be "vain, litigious, gossiping, and vagabonds upon the face of the earth, neglecting the Rule of their Order, and refusing obedience either to God or their Prior. Hence all the affairs of the House are going to ruin." The Bishop writes with anxiety and surprise; insists upon the Prior amending these scandals, and, should he meet with any opposition, directs him to send him the names of the rebels before the feast of St. Michael ensuing, wherever he may chance to be in his diocese; for that he, having the Lord before his eyes, will take such measures of expulsion as he shall see expedient for the good of their own souls, and the quiet of other folk. "And do not forget," he adds, "that when I visited your Convent I ordered these things and some others to be amended."

A rebuke so sharp as this was not to be neglected, and it appears to have had the desired effect, for when the Bishop came to the neighbourhood in November, 1288, to confer with Anian, Bishop of St. Asaph, with regard to the diocesan boundary, the Priory of Chirbury was selected as the most convenient place for the meeting, and in a grant made confirming the great tithes of the Society, he speaks of their

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Swinfield's Household Roll.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 62.

devotion in high terms. The document is worth quoting *in extenso*<sup>1</sup>:

“Richard, Bishop of Hereford, to his beloved sons in Christ, the religious men, Adam, Prior, and the Canons of Chirbury, of our diocese of the Order of St. Augustin, health with benediction, and the grace of our Saviour. Although the burden of our pontifical office often asks us to be anxious about many things, yet it demands this even more forcibly, that we should bestow support in the best way we can upon those who, before all others, are handed over to the worship of God, and are engaged in works of charity, in order that they may not (which God forbid) be compelled to shrink unwillingly from the performance or praiseworthy contribution, of the works aforesaid for want of help. It is owing to this that since you have been so manifestly oppressed with the burden of poverty; and suffer often very many necessities and deficiencies; in consideration of the devotion which you pay to God, and your duty to your neighbour; seeing that in pursuit of hospitality ye kindly entertain the poor and weak, and bestow on the same charitable support; in order that you may be able to do this for the future more freely, more devoutly, and better; especially as we have seen and inspected a letter of the Right Reverend Father, Lord H., by the grace of God formerly Bishop of Hereford, entire, and signed with his seal, according to the tenor which we have caused to be written below; wishing that the collations which *domino auctore*, have been made to you by him, and by any other of the faithful whatsoever, may remain firm and stedfast, we give, confirm, appropriate and ratify by our pontifical authority, and as far as pertains to us, we confirm to the Church of St. Michael of Chirbury, in our diocese, aforesaid with all rights pertaining, and its chapels, to you and your successors for your proper uses to be held forever. But the

<sup>1</sup> “In the year 1611, the Free School accounts show that a suit was proceeding in the Court of Arches at Hereford relative to the right of the Vicar of Chirbury to the tithes, which suit necessitated a search among the archives of Hereford for the original endowment of the Augustin Priory by Robert de Bullers. The Shrewsbury Corporation have among their Records an instrument from Robert Bishop of Hereford, which states the result of this search.” Note by Mr. Phillips. It has been thought best to insert this document here, as it relates entirely to the Priory.

tenor of the letter of Henry, the Bishop aforesaid, is as follows:—

“To all sons of Holy Mother Church who shall see this present writing, Henry, by divine grace, minister (*sic*) of the Church of Hereford, let your university know that we have inspected the charter of Robert de Bullers, Lord of Montgomery, and patron of the Church of Chirbury; and, moreover, an authentic instrument of W. de Vere, and of Egidius, one of our predecessors; and of Pope Innocent the Third of happy memory, and of H. Archbishop of Canterbury; by which the Church of Chirbury, with all its prebends and appurtenances is described as bestowed and confirmed to his beloved sons the Priors and Canons of Sned, to be held along with their priory at Chirbury, as is contained in the charter of the Lord of the estate. We, therefore, holding as ratified the aforesaid concessions and confirmations, grant to the aforesaid Priors and Canons, the prebend that belonged to Allan de Bullers in the said Church, which was vacant in our time, and other prebends, when they shall have become vacant, for their proper use, for more conveniently carrying out the grace of hospitality, and confirm it by pontifical authority. Therefore, that this concession of ours may remain firm and unshaken in future times, we have corroborated it by the present writing, and affixing of our seal, there being witnesses:—P. and W. Abergavenny and S. de Hornbury, Canons of Hereford, Masters W. de Terlington; and Et de Bukkhull; Gregor and R, Chaplains; N. de Bergeven and Terrico, Clerks; and many others.

“Now these things that are recorded above, to you and your successors, and confirmed as it is permitted; a competent and sufficient portion of the proceeds of the Church of Chirbury, above said, being reserved to John, now vicar, and his successors in the same, assigned to the same under the name of vicarage, or in future times reasonably to be assigned; the right of Jurisdiction being maintained to us and our successors and diocese, and all episcopal rights, and all other things they shall owe to us, our archdeacons, and other ordinaries whatsoever; or that shall be able to belong to any of them by right or custom; the dignity of the church of Hereford, also, being maintained In testimony of all which

we have caused to be affixed to these presents our seal. Given in our Chapter at Hereford the 9th October, A.D. 1289; and seventh year of our ordination.

“But we, the Chapter of Hereford, regarding all the aforesaid acceptable to God as works of piety, ratify by common consent the donations, collations, appropriations, assignations, confirmations, and all other reservations mentioned above, and, as far as pertains to us, confirm them for ever. In witness of which we have caused to be confirmed the present writing with our common seal.

Given in our Chapter of Hereford the 9th November, 1289.”

Reference has been made to the dispute between Bishop Swinfield, whose deed we have just recited, and Anian II., Bishop of St. Asaph. This was, in some sort, an ecclesiastical complement to the political rising of Prince Llewellyn, and as that prince had claimed temporal sovereignty over a portion of the diocese of Hereford, so the Bishop of St. Asaph claimed spiritual jurisdiction over the sphere in dispute. During the escopate of the great bishop, Thomas Cantilupe, of Hereford, the dispute had been referred to Rome, but the decision was still pending when he died, and was at last sent back for local arbitration. The two bishops met for judgment, assisted by commissioners and a jury composed of representatives of both Welsh and English. The award was in favour of Hereford, it being determined that the true and ancient boundary of the diocese ran down the *filum*, or mid-stream, of the Severn, from the ford called Rhyd-wymma, where the river divided the lands of Sir Reginald de Montgomery and those of Sir Peter Corbet, to the ford of Shrawarden. Immediately after the award Swinfield came from Bishop's Castle to Chirbury,<sup>1</sup> and on the following day, being the Feast of St. Catherine (November 25), he entered on horseback the ford of Rhyd-wymma to the middle of the river, and took possession of all places and vills within the bank adjudged to him, with all the offices of visitation, preaching in them, absolving penitents, granting indulgences, and confirming youths of both sexes in great numbers. The clergy of the

<sup>1</sup> Bp. Swinfield's Roll.—W. P.

different parishes tendered their obedience. All this, however, was not sufficient for Anian, who endeavoured to re-open the question with Swinfield. The reply of that prelate bears witness to his firm dignity of character and strong sense of justice, of which the records in the book from which we have been quoting gives so many instances. He rehearses the steps which had already been taken in the matter, and reminds the Bishop of St. Asaph that the award given had been confirmed by his own Chapter, and declares that "He is doing an injury to no one who is exercising a right of his own."

Swinfield again visited this neighbourhood in the spring of 1290, when, at Alberbury, he settled a dispute between the Prior of the Grandimondtensian Convent and the Vicar of the parish church.<sup>1</sup> He also dedicated, that is, consecrated, the parish church. It is impossible to say why consecration should have been necessary in a church which for some time had been in use as a parish church; but, though the importance of consecration was by no means under-rated by the canonists of the time, yet the neglect of the rite during the thirteenth century had become so scandalous that it had provoked the censure of a Papal legate to correct it.

Passing on from Alberbury southwards along the border, the bishop reached Chirbury on the 6th of May, and, after holding a visitation of the church upon the Saturday, the next day dedicated it to the same patron to whom Alberbury had been assigned, namely, St. Michael the Archangel. The Bishop was entertained on both these days by procuracy at the cost of Adam the Prior, and it seems clear that the state of the Convent was now much more satisfactory than it had been four years before, for the official commendation bestowed by the Bishop in his document is confirmed by friendly offices of a private character, and the Prior Adam appears personally grateful to his diocesan, and makes him a present of a colt.

It is with some reluctance that we turn from the living pages of Bishop Swinfield's Itinerary to the drier evidence of legal documents.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Phillips gives full details of the visit of the bishop to Alberbury

The Valor of 1291 enumerates the Prior of Chirbury's possessions and income as follows<sup>1</sup> :—

	£	s.	d.
Chirbury ; a carucate of land netting yearly	...	...	0 13 4
Chirbury ; rents	...	...	0 6 8
Egge ; half a carucate of land netting	...	...	0 6 8
Mokelewyk (Mucklewick) ; assized rents	...	...	0 15 0
Husinton (Hyssington), assized rents	0	6	0
Chirestok (Churchstoke), „ „	0	18	0
Caldemore, in Montgomery parish, 2 carucates	...	...	0 6 8
Little Weston ; assized rents	...	0	7 6
Eccele (Hagley) „ „	...	0	6 0
Annual profits on 9 brood mares	...	0	13 6
 Total (according to the Valor)	<u>£</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>19</u> 4

The true total is £5 18s. 4d.

The next year a process of *quo warranto* was brought against the Prior in respect of his title to the Manor of Snead. It was pleaded on behalf of the Crown that King John had been seized of the Manor. This was denied by the Prior, and the verdict declared that "his present tenure of the Manor was founded on a better title than the King's claim."<sup>2</sup>

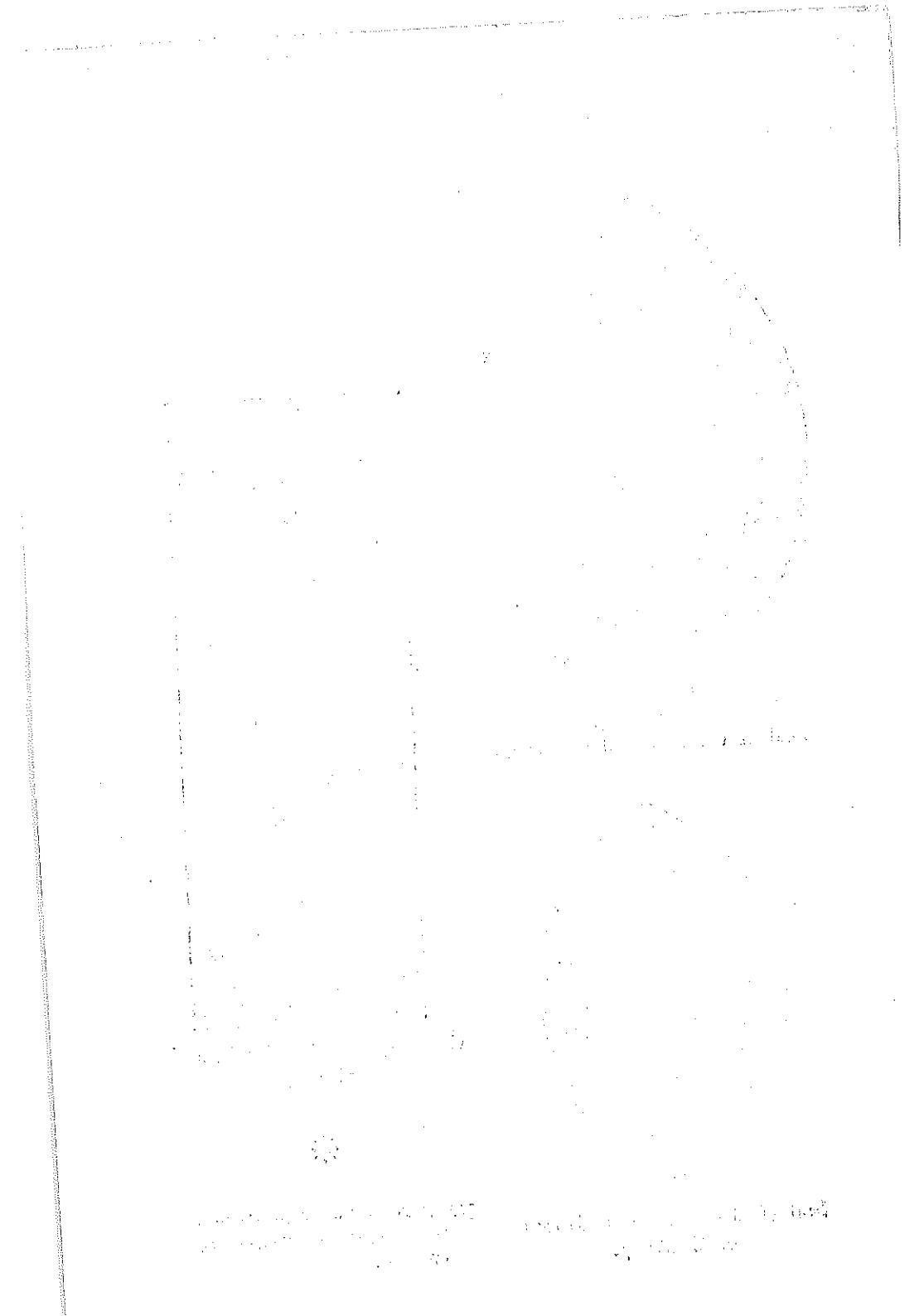
In 1299 Prior Adam, "worn out with age and suffering grievously from ill-health,"<sup>3</sup> resigned his office into the hands of Bishop Swinfield. We cannot but feel that a notable figure passes from the stage of our little history in one who had done all that lay in his power for the good of his community, alike in temporal and spiritual matters; and we may well hope it was with a peaceful *Nunc Dimittis* that he passed onwards to the other world.

The records of the Priory after the death of Prior Adam till the Dissolution—a period of about 230 years—are very

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, vol. i., p. 62.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* p. 63.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*





Seal of the Priors of Chirbury.



Seal of the Prior and Canons of Chirbury.



Chirbury Matrix (Virgin and Child).



[The Seals are from blocks kindly lent by the Proprietors of the Shrewsbury Chronicle.]

scanty. We have an agreement<sup>1</sup> between Thomas de Montgomery, Lord of Lydham, and the Prior and Convent of Chirbury, dated 9th October, 1310, in which the gift of certain mills upon the Severn, granted to the Convent by Adam de Montgomery, the father of Thomas, was confirmed. This gift had been made in consideration of the Convent providing two canons—one to celebrate the Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and one a Réquiem for “the souls of his father and mother, ancestors and successors”—and was renewed upon the death of one of the canons so selected in order that the benefit, and the obligation, might be carried on for ever.

I can only find one other trace of the Convent during the 14th and early 15th centuries. It is a bronze matrix for casting images of the Madonna and Child, which was found in the churchyard by the sexton in 1879.<sup>2</sup> It is  $4\frac{5}{8}$  inches long,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad in the part where the die is cut, which occupies two-thirds of the whole; the remaining third is formed by a short handle.

The matrix was sent by the present Vicar of Chirbury to Mr. Matthew H. Bloxam, of Rugby, the well-known antiquary, who pronounced it to be of the late 14th or early 15th century, *circa* A.D. 1390—1410. Pilgrims' tokens were frequently cast in lead or pewter, and carried away after a visit to a holy place as a memento and a stimulus to devotion. We know that among the sources of income of the Priory were the tithes of the Chapel of St. Mary of the Well (Sanctae Mariae de Fonte); and in the parish of Shelve there is at this time a place called the Ladywell, though the well itself has, I believe, disappeared. The Priory, undoubtedly, held land at Shelve at one period, for there was a dispute with regard to it with Thomas Corbet, Baron of Caus, in 1249. It has been conjectured that this bronze matrix may have been used at a shrine erected at that place, and served by the canons of Chirbury.

Some twelve or fifteen years before the dissolution of the monasteries, Wolsey issued regulations to the canons of St. Augustine, to which passing reference has already been made; and though these do not, of course, refer in any special sense

<sup>1</sup> Shr. Arch. *Trans.*, 2nd ser., vol. x., p. 200.

<sup>2</sup> Shr. Arch. *Trans.*, 2nd ser., vol. vi., p. 174.

to Chirbury, it may, perhaps, be of interest to mention them here, as they throw a very interesting light upon the internal condition of the Order at the time, and in this way show us their life rather than their possessions, with which the local historian is apt to be too much engrossed.<sup>1</sup> These ordinances were promulgated on March 19th, 1519, and were to remain in force until the Feast of the Holy Trinity, 1521. After setting forth the primary principles of monastic life and inveighing against the dangers of slackness and moral disorder, he passes on to more particular details. A general Chapter of the Order was to be held every three years. The heads of the various convents were charged to watch diligently over their subjects, to be constantly at their posts, and to correct by daily Chapter whatever might be amiss. Specially interesting instructions are given with regard to the recitation of the Divine Office, that great work of worship and intercession to which all religious were bound. It was to be said "neither too fast nor too slowly, with due pronunciation of the words, and the accustomed pause in the middle of each verse of the Psalms." And it is especially emphasised that "with all ecclesiastics, and especially religious, that method of singing is deservedly approved which is not intended to gratify the ears of those present by the levity of its rhythm, nor to court the approval of worldlings by the multiplicity of its notes. But that which in plain chant (*plainus cantus*) raises the minds of the singers and the hearts of the hearers to heavenly things." Simple melodies are allowed at Mass and Vespers on feast days, if the canons can do it by themselves, without the aid of boys or laymen, whose co-operation in the canonical singing is strictly forbidden. But on account of the severe physical labour involved in the constant recitation of the office, "so that the voices of the canons are worn out, and their souls, through fatigue, unable to attend to the service of God," the Cardinal encouraged the use of an organ to assist the voice, even if it were necessary to employ a secular priest or a layman to play it.

But the life of the Priory was nearly at an end, and the old order was to change very effectually, carrying with it much

<sup>1</sup> Gasquet, Dissol. of the Monasteries, vol. i., chap. iii.

that was good and useful, and leaving a gap not to be filled at once, even if there were ills which only uprooting could remedy. The last Prior was Oliver Middleton, who rendered an account of the income and expenditure of the house, of which Eyton gives the following abstract<sup>1</sup> :—

*Rents and Farms.*—Snead, £5; Hyssington, £1 1s. od.; Montgomery, £4; Tyretref,<sup>2</sup> 6s. 8d.; Shrewsbury, 1s. 4d.; Priest Weston, 9s.; Marton and Stockton, 2s.; Heychley (Heightley), 8d.; Duddiston, 12d.

*Desmesnes.*—At Snead, £1 14s. 4d.; at Chirbury and elsewhere, £3 18s. 10d.

Sum total of temporalities, £16 14s. 10d.

*Corn and Hay Tithes.*—Marton, £3; Wilmington, £2; Woodeton (Wotherton), £1 13s. 4d.; Stockton, £1; Priest Weston, £1 3s. 4d.; Marrington, 15s.; Hiccalton (Hokelton), £1; Walcot, £1; Chirbury, 10s.; Winsbury and Dudston, £5 10s. 8d.; Timberth, 2s.; Rorrington, 4s.; Middleton, 13s. 4d.

*Oblations* at the several shrines of Saints in the parish churches of the Prior's advowson, £5 12s. 10d.

*Small Tithes*, of wool, lamb, geese, &c., £5.

*Tithes of Chapelries.*—Forden Chapel, £13 6s. 8d.; Hyssington Chapel, £5 13s. 4d.; Snead Chapel, £2; the Chapel of St. Mary's Well, 8s.; Churchstoke Chapel, £20.

Sum total of spiritualities, £70 12s. 6d.

The gross income of the Priory was, therefore, £87 7s. 4d., from which the following permanent outgoings were to be deducted :—

	£	s.	d.
To the King, quitrents on divers lands, including 5s. on lands in Churchstoke	4	11	8
Fee to the Seneschal of Chirbury Hundred	...	...	1 0 0
Fee to the Bailiff and Receiver of the Priory	...	...	2 6 8
Pension to the Vicar of Chirbury	...	9	6 8
Archdeacon's Procurations	...	1	8 2

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 63.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton conjectures Tyretref stands for Tiertref, a manor which then involved the townships of Castlewright and Aston.

Bishop's Triennial Procurations, aver-								
aging p. a. ... ... ... ...	1	15	6 $\frac{1}{2}$					
Pension to the Precentor of Wenlock	0	10	0					
Total ... ...	£	20	18	8 $\frac{1}{2}$				

According to the Valor of 1534-5, the net income of Chirbury Priory shortly before the dissolution was, therefore, £66 8s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per annum.

An estimate of the late Prior's gross income, which differs somewhat from the foregoing, is provided by the ministers' accounts of 28 Henry VIII. (1536-7). The items are arranged differently, and the total amounts to £92 14s. 1d. But the oblations given in the Valor are not included in the ministers' accounts, while, on the other hand, a sum of £1 2s. 8d. produced by lands and tenements at Mykelwyk is omitted from the former, but found in the latter; and the value of the demesne lands is also different. The ministers' accounts are as follows<sup>1</sup> :—

	£	s.	d.
Com. Montgom.—Montgomery redd. mes., &c.	0	2	0
"      maner, &c. ...	2	6	8
"      pens' sive portio	1	10	0
Salop.—Hopton portio Christmas ...	0	8	0
Snede redd. ten. et vol. ...	2	16	8
"      mobil ...	1	10	0
"      firm' un. mes'	0	13	4
Marton redd. terr. ...	0	1	0
Churchstoke redd. ten. et.			
terr. ... ... ...	0	5	0
Brompton redd. in. croft ...	0	2	0
Churchstoke firma mol'	2	0	0
Rishton pastur, &c. ....	0	4	0
Dudston mes. et terr. ...	0	1	0
Stockton terr. et prat. ...	0	1	0
Priest Weston mes. terr., &c.	0	9	0
Mykelwyck terr. et ten. ...	1	2	8
Tyretriff terr. ten., &c. ...	0	6	8

<sup>1</sup> Abstract of Roll, 28th Henry VIII., Augmentation office. Quoted by Dukes.—W. P.

Chirbury scit. et terr. d'ncal	9	15	4
Chirbury rector	...	31	6 10
Churchstoke capella	...	21	10 0
Sneade capella	...	2	8 0

At the dissolution a pension of £8 was granted to the Prior, Oliver (or Hugh) Middleton.<sup>1</sup> The average pension granted to a monk was £6 13s. 4d. The number of canons in the Priory at the time was six; we learn from Abbot Gasquet's book on the Dissolution of Monasteries<sup>2</sup> that between the years 1538 and 1540 fifty-nine houses of Augustinian canons were suppressed, containing 773, the average number per house being, therefore, about thirteen.

The estates of the Priory were bestowed by Henry VIII. upon Edward Hopton and his wife Elizabeth for their life, and subsequently to their heirs.<sup>3</sup> Further details with regard to the property will be given when we come to deal with the families of the parish.

It has been pointed out above that the parish church at Chirbury was already in existence when the Priory migrated thither from Snead. In Domesday, as we have seen, two churches (one, no doubt, was at Churchstoke, with one priest, are mentioned; and it is probable that there was a church on the present site used by the garrison of Aethelfloeda's Castle, which may have had an even earlier foundation.<sup>4</sup>

There are signs to indicate that the Norman Church at Chirbury was aisleless, and that the walls at the end of the arcades—and, possibly, the west wall—date from the 12th century. In the 13th century the north and south aisles were erected. The mouldings are simple, and of a pronounced early English character. Only one window remains intact. The western window of the south aisle consists of two lancets. There is a piscina and aumbry in the usual position in this aisle. In the 14th century the massive western tower was erected, and the present west doorway of the nave inserted. In the Perpendicular period some alterations were made to

<sup>1</sup> W. P.'s note.

<sup>2</sup> Gasquet, vol. ii., chap. viii.

<sup>3</sup> Dukes, p. 123.—W. P.

<sup>4</sup> H. M. Auden.

the tower. The wall at the east end of the nave all disappeared, for in the year 1734 a small brick chancel was erected. The plain vestry, with eastern porch, dates from 1848. The church was in a very dilapidated condition when the present vicar was appointed. In 1872 a restoration was taken in hand, and very carefully carried out. Everything possible was preserved, but it was found necessary to rebuild the south wall of the south aisle, and to put new windows almost throughout the church. Nearly all the fittings are modern, except the font and the very handsome brass and iron chandelier, the history of which is not known.”<sup>1</sup>

The font was described by Mr. Burd in the *Corndon Magazine* for 1895 as “probably the oldest and most interesting relic of the earlier church, which has been preserved to us; it is of very unusual form and design, dating back to very earlier times—probably to Saxon days—and is certainly the old font which was used in the days of the Monastery.”<sup>2</sup> A font of precisely similar dimensions, though of smaller design, is in Snead Church; probably both were made by the same workman and of the same local stone from Wotherton, or Whittre, quarry. The outside circumference of the bowl of the Chirbury font measures 8 feet 8 inches; Snead is 6 feet 6 inches. Neither of the bowls rests on its original base. That at Chirbury is built of an old column found among the ruins of the earlier church; at Snead the pillar is modern.

The church plate consists of five pieces—namely, one flagon, two chalices, and two patens.<sup>3</sup> All are of silver, and some bear the Britannia mark. The flagon—which was presented by Catherine, Lady Herbert, Baroness of Chirbury, in 1716—will be more fully described in Notes on the Herberts of Chirbury, by Miss Florentia Herbert, which will follow at the end of this paper. The first chalice, with paten cover, is dated 1595. The height of the chalice is 9½ inches, weight 14 ozs. The paten measures 5 inches across, and weighs 5 ozs. It is very handsome, and of good design. The second chalice, on the other hand, is of very plain design, and somewhat clumsy workmanship. It is 7½ inches high, and weighs 10½ ozs.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. D. H. S. Cranage, in *Chir. Reg.* preface.

<sup>2</sup> Parish Notes in *Corndon Magazine*, by Rev. Preb. Burd.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

It bears the maker's mark (a bird inside a beaded border), the date is between 1678 and 1693. The other paten is 7 inches across, and weighs 9½ ozs. It is inscribed on the foot—"Chirbury Parish, in the County of Salop." The date appears to be about 1707.

In the Inventory of 1553 mention is made of three bells. These were re-cast during the succeeding century by Clibury, of Wellington, and were given the following inscriptions:—

- (1) CANTATE DOMINO CANTICVM NOVVM,  
1635.
- (2) WILLIM SMITH, THOMAS CARADINE,  
WARDENS, 1647.
- (3) O COME LET VS SINGE VNTO THE  
LORD, 1614.

In 1808 it was determined to re-place the three bells by a new ring of six, and a contract was made with Messrs. Mears, Whitechapel, who undertook to cast the bells for £403 4s., the sum of £194 2s. 8d. being allowed for the old bells. The inscriptions, size and weight of the bells are as follows:—

- (1) Church and King. 13½ in., 5½ cwt.; D sharp.
- (2) Peace and Good Neighbourhood. 32½ in., 6 cwt.; C sharp.
- (3) The Wooden Walls of England. 34 in., 7 cwt.; B.
- (4) May the Single be Married, and the Married be Happy.  
36 in., 8 cwt.; A sharp.
- (5) Rev<sup>d</sup> Thos. Farmer, Vicar; W<sup>m</sup> Jacks, W<sup>m</sup> Gough,  
church wardens. 38 in., 10 cwt.; G sharp.
- (6) I to the Church the people call and to Grave I sum-  
mon all. 41 in., 13 cwt.; F sharp.

An ancient bell at Sneed, dedicated to St. Etheldreda, is supposed to have belonged originally to the Priory.

The following is a list of the incumbents of the vicarage, so far as it is possible to ascertain them:—

A.D.

- 1219. Richard (probably the last of the co-rectors, or por-  
tioners, of Chirbury), occurs between 1219 and  
1227.
- 1289. John, vicar of Chirbury, occurs in 1289, and again on  
October 13, 1295, when Richard le Croon, of

Broughton, and Margaret, his wife, gave him 60 acres in *espes*, with warranty for themselves and the heirs of Margaret. For this, the fine quoted states the vicar to have paid £20.

1308. Richard de Chirbury, priest, was presented to the vicarage on March 6, 1308, by the Prior and Convent of Chirbury. He died, probably of pestilence, on July 21, 1349.

1349. Sir Gervase de Chirstok, priest, was instituted at the presentation of the same patrons.

1379. Sir Philip<sup>1</sup> Okey was instituted December 18, 1379, and occurs as vicar in 1386.

(Thus far from Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*.)

1536. John Middleton, vicar.<sup>2</sup> He occurs, also, in 1553.

1579. Thomas Tomson, incumbent, died 1594. He was presented by Queen Elizabeth, and appears in the accounts of the Bailiff of Shrewsbury School, his stipend being £9 6s. 8d.

1595. Richard Bechfeild (or Betchfield), M.A., was presented 23rd August, 37th Elizabeth (1595); called in School Accounts curator, or stipendarius, of Chirbury.

1606. Lawrence Jones. He was apparently degraded in 1611.

1612. John Davies, resigned 1628.

1628. Edward Lewis, M.A., Oriel College, Oxford; died 31st October, 1677. Presented by the schoolmaster and bailiffs of Shrewsbury.

1678. John Harding; buried 1735. Presented by the Mayor and Corporation of Shrewsbury.

1736. Thomas Edwardes; buried 1756. Presented by the Mayor and Corporation of Shrewsbury.

1756. Richard Morgan. Presented by same.

1762. John Harding. " "

1776. John Harding. " "

1789. John Newling. " "

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas Okey, *Chir. Reg.* pref.—II. M. Auden.

<sup>2</sup> The list is now compared with that given by Miss Auden, and certain details inserted here by Mr Phillips are reserved for future use.

1802. Thomas Farmer.<sup>1</sup>       "       "       "       Buried 1863.  
 1838. James Wilding.       "       "       "       Buried 1863.  
 1863. John Burd, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford, Prebendary  
       of Hereford.

The living is now in the gift of Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart.

The first mention of the church of Chirbury,<sup>2</sup> subsequent to the *Domesday* record, occurs between the years 1219 and 1227, when a dispute arose between William, rector of Montgomery, and Philip, Prior of Chirbury, respecting the rights of the church of Montgomery with regard to the performance in general of the services of the church, and especially of the burial of the dead. An agreement was arranged between the parties, whereby the church of Montgomery was raised to a condition of relative independence, but the rights of baptism and burial were reserved to the church of Chirbury.<sup>3</sup> We shall have occasion to notice later the large extent of the churchyard which resulted from this exclusive right of burial. This agreement was ratified by Hugh Foliot,<sup>4</sup> Bishop of Hereford, and witnessed by Thomas (de Bosberry, 1218—1231), Dean of Hereford; R. (Elias de Radnor, 1218—1231), Treasurer of Hereford; S., Archdeacon of Salop (Simon succeeded Nicholas de Hamton as Archdeacon of Salop between 1219 and 1227); Thomas (Foliot), Precentor of Hereford; Master William Platun; R., a canon; Robert, the bishop's chaplain; and Godefrid, clerk. King Henry III., as patron of Montgomery Church, sanctioned the proceedings by a charter dated July 23, 1227.

At this time three-fourths of the rectory of Chirbury seem to have been appropriated to the Priory, while the remaining quarter was held by "one Richard as parson or co-rector." Eyton points out that such a division indicates the original church to have been collegiate, and that the appropriation of all its portions by the Priory was in process, but not yet complete.<sup>5</sup> But a further stage has clearly been reached in

<sup>1</sup> Farmer was curate from 1768—1802, and vicar from 1802—1838, a period of nearly 70 years.

<sup>2</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 65.

<sup>3</sup> Dukes, p. 124.—W. P.

<sup>4</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 66.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid, p. 65.

1255, when the Jurors of the Hundred valued the church at 40 marks, and said "the Prior had it *in propriis usibus* by gift of Robert de Buler."

The taxation of 1291 places the church of Chirbury in the Deanery of Pontesbury, Archdeaconry of Salop and Diocese of Hereford.<sup>1</sup> Its value—that is the value of the *rectory*—was stated to be £30 per annum. The Precentor of Much Wenlock had a pension of 10s. in the church. A separate value of £5 was assigned to the chapel of Husynton (Hyssington).<sup>2</sup>

In 1341 the Assessors of the Ninth reduced the taxation quoted above to £9 13s. 4d. for that occasion, accounting for the reduction (among several other reasons) by the great poverty of the parish at that time, so that two hundred acres of land had been thrown out of cultivation, and many of the tenants were wandering about begging their bread. The poverty of the labouring classes throughout England during this period was extreme. A popular song, said to have been composed shortly before this date, thus describes their wretchedness:—

"To seche silver to the kung y mi seed soldē,  
Forthi mi lond leye lith ant leorneth to slepe.  
Seththe he mi feire feh fatte y mi folde,  
When y thenk o mi weole wel neh y wepe ;  
Thus bredeth monie beggared bolde.

Ther wakeneth in the world wondred ant wee,  
Ase god is swynden anon as so for to swynke." <sup>3</sup>

(To seek silver for the king I sold my seed, wherefore my land lies fallow and learns to sleep. Since they fetched my fair cattle in my fold, when I think of my old wealth I nearly weep; this breeds many bold beggars. . . . There wakes in the world consternation and woe, as good is it to perish at once as so to labour.)

We find no mention of the Black Death in the parish records, though Eyton suggests that Richard, the vicar, who died in that year, may have fallen a victim to the pestilence;

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, vol. xi., p. 66.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. 67.

<sup>3</sup> Quoted in J. F. Bright's *His. Eng.*, vol. i., p. 269.

but, inasmuch as he had been presented to the vicarage on March 6th, 1308, and had, therefore, held it for forty-one years, it is impossible to feel that his death was either premature or unexpected.

At the time of the dissolution of the Priory the vicarage was held by John Middleton (a brother of the Prior) at a pension of £9 6s. 8d., payable by the Prior, who, as we have seen, owned the rectory. From this income the sum of £1 7s. 10d. had to be deducted for the procurations of the Archdeaconry of Salop.<sup>1</sup>

The inventory made for the Commissioners of Edward VI., in 1553, is as follows<sup>2</sup> :—

Imp'mis. Three bells whiche they boght of the kynge.

Ite'. One sancts bell.

Ite'. On' chales of sylver gylte w'th a patene of the same and one other chales which Olyver Lloyd by vertue of a commissyon toke of the altar and hit w'th him karied awaye.

Ite'. One vestment of red chamlet which the same Olyver at the same tyme had.

Ite'. Iij candelstyks of brasse which the same Olyver had.

Ite'. On' koffer, an alter cloth and a towel which the same Olyver had.

Ite'. Too copes whereof on' of grene sylke and thother of fostaine.

Ite'. Too crosses on' of copper and thother of wood covered w'th silver.

Ite'. Too cruetts of leade.

Ite'. Too towels of lynen clothe.

To the Chapell of Roryngton belongythe

Ite' on' pyxe of copper.

Ite'. On' chales of sylver w'th a patene of the same.

Ite'. On' vestment of red chamlet.

Ite'. On' bell.

The p'ochianers there do say that about ix yeres past they soldē three belles of theires for the some of xii<sup>li</sup>, which xii<sup>li</sup> was delyvered unto oon Sr John Braye clerke for the space of

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, vol. xi.

<sup>2</sup> Chir. Par. Reg. pref., p. 4.

six yeres then next folowynge and he for his service there to have thencrease thereof duringe the said terme & to redelyver the said xii<sup>th</sup> to the p'ochianers there at thende of the said sixe yeres and althoghe he was desyred dyverse times to redelyver the sume as yet he had not so done.

per me Johan' Myddylton vicarium de Chirbury,  
John Bady, Walter Hoculton.

The p'sentors do depose that they have not the form'r Inventory."

This is the only time when any mention is made of a chapel at Rorrington, and there is no tradition of its site. The estate belonged to the Herefordshire Commandery of St. John of Jerusalem, at Dinmore. We shall have occasion to refer to this district later.

In the following year a return was made of the goods retained by each parish. Chirbury was said to have "ij chales of silver, iij belles, a chales p'ayning to a chapell in the sayd p'she;" but on May 9, 7th Edw. VI., Walter Hockleton, John Harys, and John Bady, parishioners, certified that the parish had three bells; one chalice with the paten thereto belonging."

The Priory estate, which was granted to Edward Hopton, passed through various hands till the year 1571, when Queen Elizabeth conferred it on the Grammar School in Shrewsbury, founded by Edward VI. The substance of the Queen's charter which relates to Chirbury, is given in Duke's *Antiquities of Shropshire* as follows:—

"Queen Elizabeth, in the thirteenth year of her reign, by indenture under the Great Seal of England, between Her Majesty of the one part and the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Shrewsbury of the other part, for the better advancement of the Grammar School of Edward VI., in the town of Shrewsbury, and for the better maintenance of Divine Service in the Chapels of Clive and Astley, in the County of Salop, did give and grant to the said Bailiffs and Burgesses and their successors the rectory and parsonage of Chirbury to the late Priory there belonging, with the tithes of corn and hay in Wymington, Wooderton, Stockton, Chirbury, Wynnesbury, Dudstone, Walcot, Hockleton, Priest Weston, Marynton, Tymberth, Rorington, and Middleton, as also the advowson of the vicarage of Chirbury. . . . .

"The Bailiffs and Burgesses, in consideration of this grant, did covenant to pay to the Archdeacon of Salop for synodals and procurations 28s. 2d. yearly going and accustomably paid out of the Church of Chirbury, as also to pay a perpetual pension of £9 6s. 8d. to the Vicar of Chirbury and his successors, as a compensation real out of the parish Church of Chirbury, and also to pay a perpetual pension to the Bishop of Hereford and his successors of 35s. 6½d., wherewith the said rectory hath usually been charged . . . . and after all these respective payments, the residue of the revenue of the said rectory and premises was to be employed for the maintenance of the said school, according to such orders and constitutions as should be appointed by Thomas Ashton, clerk, head schoolmaster of the said school, who likewise was to order the service of ministry in the parish Church of St. Mary."<sup>1</sup>

The fortunes of Chirbury parish were, in this way, closely connected with the great school at Shrewsbury, a tie which lasts to this day. It will be observed that the Vicar's pension received no augmentation, but remained at the same sum as that paid by the Prior. The endowments of the parish seem, in fact, to be of more benefit to those beyond its bounds than within it; and we may well ask why the chapels of Astley and Clive should have been enriched at its expense. We have found no previous connection between these Chapelries and Chirbury.

The Rectory of Chirbury was resigned by Mr. Ashton to the Bailiffs and Burgesses in 1577. The following document, which has never before been printed, is the deed executed at that time:—

"Be it known to all men by these presents that I Thomas Aston, alias Assheton, Clerk, late chief, or head Scholemaster, of the free gram<sup>r</sup> schole of the late kinge Edward the sixt in the towne of Salop, in the countie of Salop, for dyvers good and honest causes and concideracons, me now movinge, Have surrenrid and yelded up, and by these presents, do surrender and yeald up, to the bayliffs and burgesses of the said Towne of Salop, all that the rectory, or parsonage, of the parishe

<sup>1</sup> Dukes, pp. 40-41.

churche of Chirbury in the said countie, belonging and apperteynyng, together, also, with all and all manner of tenthes of corne, and haye, yerelie, and from tyme to tyme, comynge, growinge, renuinge, or encreasinge in the townes, villages, hamletts, or places of Wylmington, Wooderton, Stockton, Chirbury, Wynnesbury, Dudston, Walcott, Hocalton, alias Hockulton, Preseweston, Marton, Tymberth, Rorington, and Myddleton, in the said countie, and, also, all glebe lands, tythes, tenths, oblacons, profetts and other emoluments and comodities whatsoever, to the said rectory or parsonage in anywise belonginge or apperteynyng, or, accepted, reputed, or taken as parte, parcell, or member thereof, with all and singular their appurtenances. And the revercon and revercons, of all and singular the premisses, and of every parte thereof, with the appurtenaunces, and all my estate, right, title, and terme of yeres, which I, the said Thomas Aston alias Asshton, have to com of, in, and to, the same premisses or any parte thereof have of the demyse lease or graunte of the said bailiffs and burgesses. In wytnes whereof I, the said Thomas Aston alias Asshton, to these presents have putt my seale, geoven the eight daye of february, in the twentith yere of the reigne of our sovereigne Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God Quene of England ffraunce, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c.

THOMAS ASHTON.

[Seal broken.]

[On the back]—Sealed and Delivered the xjth Daye of february in the xxth yere of the Quenes mate Reigne within written in the Comon Hall of the Towne of Salop before the Bailiffs Aldermen Comon Counsall and the rest of the Comons there assembled.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This document possesses additional interest from the light it throws upon the date of Ashton's resignation of the headmastership. Alfred Rimmer, in his *History of Shrewsbury School*, says that Ashton “had ceased to have any official connection with the school in 1568;” whereas in a grant made by Queen Elizabeth, dated May 23, 1571, he is mentioned as “now headmaster of the said school,” thus shewing the resignation must have been at least three years later than fixed by Rimmer; it is doubtful, however, how long after this date he continued his connection with the school. This document, though it does not settle that question, shews the date when he resigned the Rectory of Chirbury, which had been conferred on him while he was headmaster of Shrewsbury School.—Note by W. P.

The tithes of Chirbury Rectory were farmed by various persons from the Bailiffs and Burgesses. The first holder of the tithe was Sir Richard Prynce.<sup>1</sup> He agreed to pay to the school the sum of £120 per annum and the Incumbent's stipend of £9 6s. 8d. This arrangement began in 1579. The amount due from the farmer appears to have been very rarely paid in full, and note is made that in 1600 the arrears owing amounted to £142.<sup>1</sup> The farm passed in that year to the executors of William Hopton, by whom it was retained till 1621, when it was given to Thomas Jones, the sum due to the school being raised to £205 per annum. In 1622 there is a note that £71 is unpaid; in 1626 Thomas Jones pays only £185, and in 1627 only £201 13s. 4d. At the end of that year's account a note, referring to the arrear of 1626, states "The £20 unp'd by Mr. Jones is as hee alleaged for that hee cannot receave the mortuaryes weddings cristenings buryalls and such like wch is worth £3 6s. 8d. by yeare." In 1637 the arrears had amounted to £177 6s. 8d. John Newton took over the farm in 1642; and in 1663 it was acquired by the Vicar, Edward Lewis, who that year paid the school £145 1s. 10d. in part payment of £166 1s.

In addition to the difficulty experienced by the school bailiffs in obtaining payment in full of the agreed farm, continual disputes went on as to what land in Chirbury was titheable and what not; and legal proceedings were also taken by the Vicar of Chirbury with the aim of increasing the value of his benefice. A question arose as to the tithe of Rorrington, which was claimed by the school as being a part of the parish of Chirbury, and refused on the ground that the estate had not belonged to the Augustinian Priory, but to the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, at Dinmore, and was, therefore, not a part of the endowments granted to the school by Queen Elizabeth. The following Opinion speaks for itself.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This Sir Rd. Prynce built Whitehall, in Shrewsbury, and the extensive barns behind it, to hold the tithe corn.—Dr. Calvert.

<sup>2</sup> Among Mr. Phillips' papers is a detailed account, extracted from the school papers, by Dr. Calvert, from 1570 to 1663, of the tithe farm. It has been epitomised here for the sake of space.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Phillips' notes.

The Opinion of Richard Barker  
Respecting Tithe of Rorrington, Chirbury Parish.  
4th May (1st James), 1603.

"There being referred to my opinion in lawe by Georg Phillips on behalf of the bayliffs and burgesses of Shrewsbury and of Mrs. Dorothy Hopton, widdow and of the said Georg Phillips ffarmers unto the said bayliffs and burgesses of certen Tythes in the parish of Chirbury in the said county of Salop on th' one part, And by Thomas Kerry, gent, inheritor in tayle of a messuage and divers lands and Tenements in Rorrington in the said parish of Chirbury on th' other parte, whether the said messuage lands and Tenements upon consideration of the state of the case betwene the said parties bee and have ben tythable and to answere Tythes unto the said Bayliffes and burgesses and to their farmers as the said Georg Phillips doth pretend having libelled in the Ecclesiastical courte against the said Tho: Kerry for the same or to be discharged or priviledged from payment of Tythes as the said Tho: Kerry pretendeth having sued forth a wrift of prohibition out of the Kings Mat<sup>tes</sup> bench for that purpose Soe as my opinion be layd downe in writing under my hand and Seal and delivered to either of the said parties desiring the same before the fifth day of this instant moneth of may as by certen articles surrendered (and writings obligatory made for performance hereof) dated the xxvijth day of January last past being under the hands and Seals of the said Georg Phillips on th' one parte and the said Thomas Kerry on th' other parte may appeare.

Upon dew and full consideracon of the evidens prooffe assertions and confession of both the said parties and also of the severall opinions of Thomas Otley esqr. on the behalf of the said Tho: Kerry and of Thomas Harryes esqr on the behalf of the said bayliffs and burgesses and their ffarmers abovenamed and of the severall reasons of their severall opinions being delivered severally unto mee under theire severall hands and Seals within the tyme prefixed by the said articles Indentes I doe conceive the case to bee thys or to this effect following (viz)

That the said Bailiffs and burgesses now bee and at and before this varians for Tythes were seized in fee of the

rectory inappropriate of the parish of Chirbury and of the Tythes thereunto belonging that the Towne of Rorington is within the said parische That the said Georg Phillips who libelled for the said tythes at the time of the substraction of the said tythes was lawfull under-farmer unto the said Bayliffs and burgesses thereof That also the manor of Rorington or messuage and lands there *out of which* the tythes in varians bee claymed at the suppression of the Priory or hospital of St. Johns of Jherusalem (being in d'no 32 H. VIII.) and long before were parcell of the possessions of the said late Priory or hospitall of St. John belonging to the *Comaundery of Dynmore* in the County of Hereford and that the said mannor or lands and Tenements were afterward (viz) in or about 36 H. VIII<sup>th</sup> graunted by letters patents by the said King H. VIII. to one John Warner and his heyres who within few dayes after the said letters patents graunted the same mannor lands and Tenements unto . . . . . Kerry and his heyres from whom the fee simple thereof is lawfully derived unto Georg Kerry esq<sup>r</sup> and his heyres, father of the said Tho. Kerry, which said Georg Kerry in Ano. 35 Eliz. received by ffyne and other lawfull conveyance did assure the said manner of Rorington and other the premisses in Rorington to the use of the said Tho: Kerry, and Mary his wiffe and of the heyres males of the body of the said Tho: lawfully begotten with divers other remainders in tayle and for want of such issue to the use of the right heyres of the said Georg Kerry By force of which conveyance the said Thomas Kerry ever since the making thereof being before the substraction of the Tythes in question hath and still doth use and enjoy in his owne proper manu-rans and occupacon the said mesuage lands and Tene-ments in Rorington out of which the Tythes in question bee challenged or the substance and most parte thereof the said Georg Kerry still living.

Upon which case I thinke and am of opinion that soe  
many of the said manors mesuages lands and Tenements in  
Rorington as was of auntient tyme parcell of the possessions  
of the said Priory of St. John and graunted by King H. viii

to the said Warner and his heyres and from him derived to the said Tho: Kerry of such an estate as is above said for soe longe tyme as the same hath ben or shall continewe in the proper manurans of the said Tho: Kerry or of the heyres males of his body lawfully begotten or of his or their lawfull assignees of the inheritans thereof (by the priviledge *knitt* to St. Johnsland ) is to bee freed and discharged of payment of Tythes albeit he or they bee not *heyeres* but assignees to the king's patentee and estated only in fee tayle and not in fee simple and notwithstanding the said lands did belong to the said Comaudery of Dynmore (there appearing noe proofe that the said Comanduery was incorporatt).

And I doe further conceive that such parte of Mr Kerrys lands in Rorington as cannot bee proved to come unto him by exchange or other purchase or lawfull wayes is to bee counted parcell of the mannor of Rorington and other the lands and Tenements late St Johns lands graunted by the late King H iiiij unto the said Warner and his heyres. Nevertheless forasmuch as the said Tho: Kerry cannot deny but that same quillett of land in Rorington (not being parcell of St Johns land) bee alreadly by exchange or otherwise come unto his hands and occupacon which are of right Tytheable and more hereafter the like may come into his hands ffor preventing of such inconveniens losse and trouble and as may thereby growe in tyme to come unto the said Bayliffs and Burgesses their successors and ffarmers I thinke it very meete some convenient course were taken by Commission to bee joyned in by the said parties or by some other good means for the setting in certenty what lands in Rorington bee parcell of St Johns and what not, and how much of St Johns land is in Mr Kerrys own occupacon and manurans and how much not And how much of that which is in Mr Kerrys manurans is parcell or the demesnes of the said mannor of Rorington and belonging to the Messuage there wherein the said Mr Kerry now dwelleth and how much not In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and Seale the ffourth day of May Anno Regni Regis Jacobi Anglie ffrauncie et Hibernie primo et Scotie Tricesimo Septimo, &c., according to the direc<sup>t</sup>ion of the said articles Indented.

RICHARD BARKER.

Seal, with crest of Barker of Haughmond, viz.: A hawk regardant, arg., wings expanded or., beaked of last."

The Opinion of Mr. Richard Barker did not close the dispute, and in 1610 the following letter was addressed to the Bailiffs by Mrs. Dorothy Hopton<sup>1</sup> :—

“ I salute you in the best sorte worshipfull mr baylyes and the rest of the magistrates w<sup>th</sup> the highe scoull master mr meighen I have sent you my lease of the parsonage and to a good purpose, wher in you shall find that I doe pay you rente for that I have not, wher of I doubt not bie your wisdomes will have I a conceivable consideracion of my great vexacion and charges paste and also to come, in this craftie suete and business the mocion I made unto you for benefette unto my seife yf you looke into it rightely is as juste nothing the forbearing of a halfe yeares rente untill the shute be ended and then you to have it againe. I see noe reasone why you should stacker in this matter but rather I doe asuer you great reasone all thing considered, that out of your good dissposicions you should doe a great dealle more. I doe knowe it will stand withe you createt I doe pay you in yearlye rente 156<sup>li</sup> 4<sup>s</sup> and I receive in rentes upon a trewe acounte taken not soe muche this twoe yeares gone the rentes came but to 145<sup>li</sup>, by this you maye see I payed you more by a 11<sup>li</sup> a yeare than I received the charges I have layed out withe the rentes that ar taken awaye doeth come to about 200 markes as I will at more lessuer truly and plainlye sett downe and be sowren to it, this leuing to make any further relacion but looking for answer to my expectacion I cease your trouble and comitt you to God resting ever

your louing friend

to her littell power

DOROTHEY HOPTON.

Chirbury,

Octo. 15, 1610.

To the worshipfull mr bayly Jonnes and  
mr bayly haries in Shrosbury geve this.”

<sup>1</sup> Copied from the original, now among the Corporation Records, “ Deeds and Papers concerning the Royal Free Grammar School.” Box lxxii., 2609.

While the Grammar School was thus engaged in securing payment of the revenues granted to it by Queen Elizabeth's charter, the parishioners of Chirbury occupied themselves in efforts to secure the benefit of the parish. A series of letters in the Corporation Records deals with these matters. Earliest in date is a letter commanding one Lewis Thomas to succeed Thomas Tomson.<sup>1</sup>

"After our very harty comendacons, forasmuche as yt hath pleased god to visite our vicare w<sup>th</sup> some sicknes so as he canot do those servics and duetyes, as be requisite and suche as he usually did accomplish during the tyme of his health, both to good lyking of the parishe; and according to her ma<sup>ts</sup> Iniuictions In respecte wherof wee have thought it very necessary (during the tyme of gods visitacon; and of the poore mans inhability) to provide some other mynister to supply that place sufficient for bearing, honest for behavior, and sound and zealous for religion. And finding the bearer hereof M<sup>r</sup> Lewis Thomas our neighbor, and entred into that function, a graduat of the University of Oxford, being lykwise a qualified preacher wee be the rather willing to accepte of him, yea the rather earnest to request your good lyking also; that he maye presently suplye that necessity; not in anye sorte to dispossesse the vicare, neither to diminishe his lyving, being but poore, and having no other meanes. And yf it do please thalmighty to call awaye the said poore man in this visitacon, then that this bearer both in respecte of his paines & hability maye succede the same vicare according to the desier of the Parishe. And the rather because he is a preacher, which the Parishe and her ma<sup>ts</sup> subiects have long wanted. Thus nothing doubting of your good accomplishment in this our reasonable request wee comitt you to God. Mariton [Marrington] this viij<sup>th</sup> of July 1595.

Your very loving frends

To the worl<sup>th</sup> or very good  
frends the Baylifs and  
Principall Scholem<sup>r</sup> of  
the Towne of Salop."

Rych: Lloyd.  
John Hockleton.  
George Harries.

The illness of Thomas Tomson proved fatal, but the request of the parishioners was not granted, the living being given to Richard Betchfield, or Bechfield. He was succeeded in 1606 by Lawrence Jones, who appears to have been degraded in 1611. There is no record of the reason for so serious a penalty. In 1612 mention is made in the School Accounts of a sum of money taken out for removing the Vicar, and he is referred to in the same year as "nuper vicar de Chirburia." In the Churchwardens' Accounts of the year before (1611) occur the following items:—

Item Mr Lloyd th' elder for his charges to Here-

Item to preacher one (sic) Alsaints day ... iijs iiid  
And in the following year, 10th Jac. 1612, 26th January:—

"M. That v<sup>b</sup> is taken out to paye such as have served at Chirbury sythence the tyme that the late Vicker was denounced to be degraded of the mynistry, &c., &c."

"29th May, Jac. II. M. Taken out and delivered to School Bailiff viii for prosecutinge & defending of matter of suyte conc'ninge Lawrence Jones, late Vicar of Chirbury."<sup>1</sup>

The next vicar was John Davies. During his incumbency strong efforts were made to increase the value of the benefice. The letters which follow have been newly copied from papers among the Corporation Records.<sup>2</sup>

## "Right Wor<sup>ll</sup>

Wee have synce mychelmas attended with patience the issue of the conference, betwixt your town and Mr Baron Bromley,<sup>3</sup> concerning the good of our poore Church, but with little success as yet, now if it may please you to remember, it is a full yeare, come Easter terms next, synce wee were before my Lords Grace of Canterbury, attending his pleasure concerning our church, at wch tyme we were

<sup>1</sup> W. P.'s MS.

<sup>2</sup> Deeds and Papers concerning the Royal Free Grammar School, Box lxxii, No. 2609.

3 Edward Bromley, second son of Sir George Bromley, baptised at Worfield, Salop, Oct. 15, 1563. Entered Shrewsbury School 1577. Admitted student of Inner Temple 1580. Called to the Bar 1590. Recorder of Much Wenlock 1607, also Recorder of Shrewsbury. Knighted 1609, Baron of the Exchequer 1610. Died 1620. M.P. for Bridgnorth 1586, 1588, 1592, 1601, and 1603-4. *Annals of Shrewsbury School*, Geo. W. Fisher, chap. iii.

agayn honorably and gratisly invited to returne at michell-mas following if we were not satisfyed before, now if it may please you according to your promises, then, and sythens, to take some speedy courses without delayes to stopp any furthere complayning purposes, of ours, you shall doe the church of god a fauour, wch will begett a blesyng eternall for you, and yours, and you shall do great ease to your

Louing ffryndes

Chybery this 22nd	Ric: Lloyd	Geo: Harries.
of June	Pria: Lloyd	Richard Harryes.
1618		John Newton.

To the right wor<sup>ll</sup> mr Kynaston  
and mr Garbett Bayliffs of the town of Salop."

" Right wor<sup>ll</sup> and the rest of your worthy Corporation.

My Lords Grace of Canterbury having written to you concerning a preacher to bee placed in Churbury, I shall not need to extende myself upon that Argument, as well that the singular Piety, and even Necessity of the works (where such godly persons are interrested) does sufficiently commend it selfe as that I am confident his Grace hath omitted no Motive wch may conduce to the effecting thereof, when perchance any Refractaries should be found in so great a number; That wch I would say therefore is in my owne name, and out of the unfained respect wch I beare generally unto your Towne, wch I professe to Honor and esteeme, as it becomes mee, and therefore must intreat you, to believe, that no desire to obtaine anythinge against your will, or to diminishe the requisite maintenance of your worthy free-schoole, hath made me to appeare in this Business, but only a Christian Duty wch belongs to mee, as hauing the right of Chirbury invested in mee; and therefore could do no lesse then concurre with them, in this action, and the rather that I understand your revenues do abundantly suffice both for the charges of the Schoole and the pension wch is desired for an able Preacher; so desiringe you to hold me in your good favour, I shall omitt no occasion to shew myselfe

your faithfull loving friend

27 of June 1617. to serve you

To the right wor<sup>ll</sup> E. Herbert.  
the Bayliffs of Shrewsbury."

"Right wot"

Wee the p'ishioners of Chirbury by our selves and others have bynne long and tedijs suitors to diuerse former magistrates your p'decessors to allow mayntenance for a lerned preacher to reside among vs, to instruct vs in the true knowledge and feare of God, the many written l'res by my Lo: Grace of Canterbury and the Lo: Bushop of Couentry and Lichfield to that end, w<sup>th</sup> the great paynes taken by Mr Baron Bromley, in our behalf witness as mutch, but neyther the gratius or charitable l'res of the Lo: Bushops; nor the ernest sollicitcon of the Baron have effected any thing for our good as yet: wch we can ascribe to nothing more than the greatnes of our own synes, and some oppositions among ourselves together with the malice of Sathan, and some agents of his, whoe catch at opportunityes to oppose euery intendement that might be auayable or helpfull to the church of god, but these crosses and comfortles delayes shall neuer vtterly discourage some of us, for his sake whose cause it is. The former request of our whole p'ish to your town in generall was for a lerned preaching minister to reside among vs, to instruct vs in the wayes of pyetye (though many now among vs be contented w<sup>th</sup> ye garlick and unions of Egypt) yet we are bould to resume our former suite, for a lerned preacher and fitt and competent mayntenance for hym; ther was neuer soe great need of one, neuer less care for one. Good mr Bayliffs consider of it, and cast your eyes on that great portion of teyth that flowes from vs yeerly into your exchecquer vnder the pretext of a free schoole, consider the soules among vs for whom Christ Jesus shed his pretius blood, oh doe not take hould of our lukwarmnes in this our owne so wayghty a cause, oh doe not thrust vs off wth an answere fetched out of the seuere and strict Lynes of the Common Lawe, but let your eyes reflect vpon that statute of Loue and Charity made in the p'liament of heauen. heere we will end, commanding you and our despised church into the p'tection of the allmighty god who blesse you wth all happiness and give you harts to loue his church.

Your louing ffrinds of Chirbury

Hugh Spake Churchwarden.

John Thomas

Edm. Penne

Richard Harryes

John Evans (?)	Edmund Lloyd	Richard Middelton
John Edward	Alexander Lloyd	Peeter Middelton
Rowland Middelton	Roger Marton	William Deyos
Geo. Harries	Morgan Hanmer	George Lloyd
	William . . . ?	Edw. . . . . ?

(Decayed)

To the right wor<sup>ll</sup>  
 mr Thomas Knyght and  
 mr Charles Benion  
 Bayliffs of the town  
 of Salop."

"I received a petition from the p'ishioners of Churbury within my Dioces and understand by the same that their church is slenderly provided of mentenance of theire Vicar wch I could wishe to be redressed both in regard to his paines in p'ching and greatness of ye charge wherunto ye said vicarage is liable ye revenues (yf it please you to give waye) may affoord better allowance, and ye schole p'vided notwithstanding with competent and sufficient maintenance Yt seemes you dealt hardlie to abridge him this year of that small pension wch yr p'decessors have byne pleased to allow him for sixe yeares without contradiction. Now let me request you to continue the payment of that smale portion untill a more competent exhibition be concluded for him and his successors ye vicars of ye said p'age: And you shall doe a very charitable action tendinge to ye glorie of god and ye p'petuall good of his churche yf in y<sup>or</sup> tyme ye same be effected. So w<sup>th</sup> my salutacione I leave you to god Januarie the 20th 1625.

Yor very loving friend

FRA: HEREFORD

To the wor<sup>full</sup> the Bayliffs  
 of the towne of Shroesbury  
 and to ye chief schole m<sup>r</sup>  
 of ye free grammar schole  
 therin be these

D.D."

" Mr Bayliffes.

Lett yt plese you to know that mr John Davies our minister and bearer hereof having for the space of 8 [sic] yeers last past preached within our parish of Cherburie accordinge to the best abilitie wherw<sup>th</sup> God hath inabled hym; for wych good endevor your p<sup>r</sup>decessors men of good note whose names are subscribed have for many yeaeres provided him w<sup>th</sup> the allowance of 7<sup>li</sup> per an<sup>m</sup> or thereabouts w<sup>th</sup> ye approbation of mr John meighen; further Because your towne do receive for thee tithes of our parische 200<sup>li</sup> and 5<sup>li</sup> per an<sup>m</sup> or thereabouts and our minister hath only the littel some of 9<sup>li</sup> vi<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> and that he doth pay tenthes and subsidies and other dutie wch deduction maketh his means less than a littell consideringe his charge of wife and children and the mentayninge of that port wch is both semely and requisite in a minister, we whose names are subscribed doo intreete your wor<sup>th</sup> mr John meighen, untill better times may come to alow to our minister what you p<sup>r</sup>decessor hath done, and it shall be thankfully taken by your louing frendes who thinke ye labourier worthie of his hire

Cherburie ye

26th of October 1626.

Rowland Dunn	John Newton
William Calcot	Pria : Lloyd
Jhn. Prichard	William Draper
John Robarte	Edward Davyes
William Hughes	John ap Richard
Adam Penbury	Rich : Watkins
Hughe Whalley	Wm. Botforde
Edward Evans	Humphrey (? Henry)
	Oliver

These are the Bayliffs' names :—

Mr Wright & Mr Gibbon	Mr Steevens & Mr Hunt
Mr Pope & Mr Vaughen	Mr Wynfield & Mr Hincks
S <sup>r</sup> William Owen & Mr Jones	Mr Studley & Mr Matthew
To the worshipp <sup>th</sup> Bayliffs of the Towne of Sallop and to mr John Meighen ye chif scoolma <sup>r</sup> of the free Grammar Scoole there theese deliver	

D.D."

“ Salutem in Christo Jesu.

Sirs

I have received yo<sup>r</sup> Lett<sup>rs</sup> in the name of ye rest of ye Corporation desiring my ioynt assistance vnto the Letters of my Lord ArchB<sup>pp</sup> of Canterbury his Grace, touching a convenient stipend to bee allowed out of yo<sup>r</sup> Schoole revenues towards the mayntenance of a Preacher in Cherbury whervnto their can bee expected noe other answere from mee than that w<sup>ch</sup> I have given alreadie vnto my Lorde Gr : himself w<sup>ch</sup> was to this effect. that as I did most heartilye affect the edification of the soules of the peóple of Chirbury, by means of a competent Stipend, soe I could not but desire the p<sup>r</sup>eservation of the soules of such p<sup>t</sup>ies in Shrewsbury who by oath are tyed vnto the Littorall observation of the fundam<sup>tal</sup>l statutes of the said Schoole soe farr as concerneth the disposing of any p<sup>t</sup>e of the revenue thereof in w<sup>ch</sup> case of so great p<sup>plexititie</sup> I see noe better remedie for alteration of Statutes of soe Royall a foundation than by the way of Parliament. As you have occasioned this my Answere to your Letters, soe you wilbee pleased to give me the libtie to put you (Mr Baylives) in mynd of one thing much conc'ning you in the same behalfe. namely that in as much as it is p<sup>r</sup>ovided by the Statutes of that Schoole for the better p<sup>r</sup>eservation of the Revenues thereof the p<sup>t</sup>ies that are to intermeddle there w<sup>th</sup> are to take an oath to p<sup>r</sup>iform all thinge according to the same ordinance, that theirfore it will concerne you to forbeare to dispose of any pte of the said revenues untill you have taken an oath in that behalfe. The zeale w<sup>ch</sup> I have to the good of that Schoole, w<sup>ch</sup> by yo<sup>r</sup> Lett<sup>rs</sup> you seeme soe much to tender hath drawne from mee this much w<sup>ch</sup> I p<sup>r</sup>esume y<sup>ee</sup> will take w<sup>th</sup> the right hand. And thus referring the more competent answere vnto the Lett<sup>rs</sup> of my Lord ArchB<sup>pp</sup> of Canterbury his Grace; vnto yo<sup>r</sup> better wisdome and commanding you to the p<sup>t</sup>ection of the Almighty I rest

Yo<sup>r</sup> Loving friend

Lichfield Palace

ye 6th of Septemb. 1627.

To the right Wor<sup>ll</sup>

his Loving friendes

Baylives of Shrewsbury

These”

THO: COUN: ET LICHF.

In 1628 the Rev. John Davies resigned the living, the "long and tedious" suit still proceeding. The following letter was copied from the Borough Records by Mr. Phillips:—

"Right Worl"

May it please you to be advertised that upon our Last Saboth day being the eyght of June about or betwixt the houres of 9 or 10 of the clocke in the morning an instrument under the seale of the right Reverend father in god the Lo: Bishop of Hereford, was fixed uppon the doore of our church of Chirbury by an apparitor wch continued there all most the space of an houre or therabouts during the best p'te of our morning service and the said instrument under the seal was taken away agayn by the s'd apparitor, and a copy of the s'd instrument left fixed upon the s'd doore in the roome theroff, w'ch continued there likewise till after service, and till the s'd apparitor and all or most parte of the congrega-c'on were departed. and understanding by the tenor therof, that it was an intimation to the patrons that Mr Davies our late vickor had resigned his place and vickeredge and that our churche was now become destitute of a vicker we being the present churchwardens, thought it some p'te of our dutyes to send the s'd inclosed copy *to your worshipps* (and the rather, for that wee are informed that the advowson of our Church is conferred under the greate Seale of England upon your Worships the Bayliffs and burgesses of the towne of Salop) to take such further course therin as to your wisdomes will be thought meete, thus commanding to the protection of the almighty wee remayne your

very redye poore ffrindes

*George Dray Lough Halle,*

*Churc' warden*

Chirbury the 9<sup>th</sup> of  
June 1628."

On August 7th of the same year the Bailiffs presented Thomas Mall to the Bishop of Hereford to be inducted to the living. Thomas Mall (Maul, Maule), appears on the Register of Shrewsbury School in November, 1609, in the third school, as having paid viij<sup>d</sup> not being the son of a burgess, but being born within the county. He matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford, on 15th October, 1619, aged nineteen, and proceeded B.A. 17th October, 1621. The living was, however, given to the Rev. Edward Lewis, who held it for forty-eight years, in troublous times, and proved a great benefactor to the parish. His first task was to bring the long dispute with regard to the endowment to a conclusion. "In the parish book<sup>1</sup> we find the copy of a letter which was directed unto Mr. Edward Lewis, vicar of Chirbury, and to the churchwardens and parishioners of the parish of Chirbury, from Richard Hunt and Thomas Knight, gent, then Bailiffs of the town of Shrewsbury, which letter we received the 22nd day of April, Anno Dom. 1632.

Gentlemen

After our hearty commendations we lately received a letter from the Right Honble the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England and the Lord Bishop of Winchester together with a copy of a Petition to the King's Most excellent Majesty with a Subscription of Reference thereupon to the said Lord Keeper and Lord Bishop concerning the Setting of Yearly Maintenance upon the Minister or Vicar of Chirbury and his Successors for ever and the copy's of which Letters Petition and Subscription we have here inclosed Sent unto You wishing that the same with this our Letter be read openly in the Parish Church of Chirbury the next Sabbath Day and that the Vicar and Churchwardens with others Such as You shall think fit authorised by Your Letters directed unto Us may speedily come hither to treat of the said, Benefice and so we bid you heartily farewell and rest

Your loving friends

Salop 20 of April

1632

Rich<sup>d</sup> Hunt      Thomas Knight      } Bailiffs

The foresaid Letter was openly read in the Parish Church of Chirbury the next Sabbath after the Receipt thereof And the

<sup>1</sup> W. P.'s MS.

aforesaid Mr Edward Lewis Vicar and David Lloyd and John Hotchkiss Churchwardens were sent to the Bailiffs in the name of the rest of the Parishioners to conclude and End all Differences which they did accordingly in Manner and form following

28 April 1632

The Agreement betwixt the Parishioners of Chirbury and the Bailiffs of Shrewsbury and others Committees chosen in the Behalf of the said Town of Salop to treat about an End of the Suit betwixt the said Parishioners and the said Bailiffs upon Receiving the Letters of the Right honourable the Lords Committees to whom it was referred by his Majesty followeth in the Presence of and with the consent of Richard Hunt and Thomas Knight Gentlemen Bailiffs Edward Jones and Thomas Jones Esq<sup>rs</sup> Thomas Wingfield—Charles Benion and William Rowley Gentlemen Committees—in the Behalf of the said Town. And for the said Parish there were present Edward Lewis Clerk Vicar of Chirbury David Lloyd and John Hotchkiss Churchwardens Richard Harris Gentleman and others Parishioners in the Behalf of the said Parish.

First. It was agreed that all Suits should cease betwixt the Town and the said Parishioners.

Secondly. That the Vicar of Chirbury should have a 3<sup>d</sup> Part of the Tythes of the Parish of Chirbury towards the better maintenance of the said Vicaridge for ever deducting forty Eight Pounds Yearly wherewith the said Rectory is charged as the said Committees alledged.

Thirdly. That the said Vicar and his Successors should have fourteen Days Warning to be present at their Audit Days when the said Tythes should be rented to the Intent that the said Vicar and his ffriends might offer for the said Tythes that so there might be no Combination or Practice to let or Sett the said Tythes at an under Value to the Prejudice or Hinderance of the said Vicar.

Fourthly. It was agreed between the said Parties that if the said Bailiffs should alter their Ordination for the good of the said Vicaridge only that then the said Parishioners should bear and sustain the Charge of the said alteration.

Fifthly. It was agreed that the said Parishioners should release to the said Bailiffs and Commitfees as much as in

them lay the Rebuilding and Repairing of the Chancell of the Church of Chirbury with which Reparations they being the Rectors are by Law charged and chargeable.

Sixthly and Lastly. This proviso was inserted in the said agreement by the Vicar and Churchwardens of Chirbury (*viz*<sup>l</sup>) that if the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lords Committees should not approve and allow of the said Agreement in every Particular that then the said Parishioners should for their Part be freed from the Performance thereof.

This Agreement was made the Day aforesaid by Us whose Names are subscribed.

Edward Lewis, Vicar.

John Hotchkis, Churchwarden.<sup>1</sup>

Notwithstanding these repeated negotiations a complete settlement does not seem to have been reached until 1636, when we find an Order of the Corporation dated 27th January, 1636, to the effect that

“27 January, 1636,

“They are agreed at this assembly that, whereas Sir Nathaniell Brente, Knight, visitor to the Archbischopp of Canterbury, hath confirmed an order hertofore made by the Bishop of Hereford whereby the Tithes of Winsbury and all the small Tiethes of the Parishe of Cherbury are added for a further increase of the Viccarage of Cherbury to Edward Lewys, Clarke, now Vicar of the said Parishe, that Mr Bayliffs shall advise with the Councell Learned of the Towne or any other Councell what may safely bee done that the state of the Schoole bee [not ?] Prejudiced.”

The above is an order of the Corporation, from which it would appear that the increase of the Vicar’s salary of Chirbury originated with the Bishop of Hereford, and that this increase was accomplished in 1636, and it was not “left without redress till 1638,” as stated by Rimmer in his *History of Shrewsbury School*, p. 103.<sup>2</sup>

The value of the benefice was raised at this time from £9 6s. 8d. to £50 per annum, thus restoring some part of

<sup>1</sup> John Hotchkis of Ridge was grandfather to Leonard Hotchkis of Ridge, now chief Schoolmaster. Mr. Harding, son of an Alderman of Shrewsbury, succeeded Mr. Lewis.—W. P.

<sup>2</sup> W. P.’s MS.

Liberavit etiam eidem xijij galeas<sup>3</sup> parvi valoris, xxvij capellos ferri<sup>3</sup> parvi valoris, xx. balistas<sup>4</sup> lessas et x. milia quarellorum<sup>5</sup> pro balistis unius pedis, et j. miliare quarellorum pro balistis duorum pedum, iij bandrellos<sup>6</sup> pro balistis duorum pedum, et ij. viceas<sup>7</sup> pro balistis extendendis. Item liberavit eidem iij. balistas<sup>8</sup> cornuas ad viceas, integras et unam lesam, et iij. balistas cornuas ad ij. pedes, et duas ad unam pedem de dono domini Bogonis ad opus Principis.<sup>9</sup> Item xij. targias<sup>10</sup> et iij. scuta<sup>11</sup> parvi valoris, et unum incudem<sup>12</sup> et j. martellum<sup>13</sup> et ij. suffletos<sup>12</sup> parvi valoris. Item liberavit eidem iij. par cooptorum ferri<sup>14</sup> et ij. testeras<sup>15</sup> ferri et v. loricas<sup>16</sup> cum capite et v. sine capite de veteri opere cum pluribus defectibus. Item j. molam ad manum sine hoper,<sup>17</sup> j. ollam eneam,<sup>18</sup> et j. craticulam,<sup>19</sup> xvij. par firgearum<sup>20</sup> et iij. Cathenas ad pontes trahendas.<sup>21</sup> Item de ornamentiis Capelle liberavit eidem unum par vestimentorum<sup>22</sup> integrum cum corporale,<sup>23</sup> iij. manutergia debilia<sup>24</sup> et tertiam partem uoiius antiphonalis<sup>25</sup> et tertiam partem unius gradalis<sup>26</sup> et unum cofrum predictis ornamentiis imponendis, et ij. cruettos<sup>27</sup> et unam pixidem<sup>28</sup> et unam campanam pendentem in capella, et iiiij<sup>29</sup> cistas cum coopturis et iij. sine coopturis et liij. dolia vacua.<sup>29</sup>

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Transcript of an indenture between lord W. de Leyburn receiver and lord Bogo de Knoville deliverer of the Castle of Montgomery.

Be it remembered that on Monday next after the festival of Saint Luke the Evangelist in the 29th year of the reign of our Lord King Edward, Bogo de Knoville delivered to Lord William of Leyburn the Castle of Montgomery with all things contained in the same, to wit with three prisoners of Scotland previously sent there by our Lord the King. He also delivered to him 13 helmets of little value, 28 iron scull caps of little value, 20 cross bows damaged and 10,000 quarells for cross bows, of one foot long, and 1,000 quarells for crossbows, of 2 feet long, 3 bandrells for crossbows of 2 feet and two winches, for stretching the crossbows. Also he delivered to the same 3 horn crossbows not damaged with winches and 1 damaged and 3 horn crossbows for 2 feet (quarells) and 2 for one foot (quarells) of the gift of Lord Bogo for the use of the Prince. Also 12 small shields (targes) and 3 shields of little value and 1 anvil and 1 hammer and 2 pair of bellows of little value. Also he delivered to the same 3 pairs of iron coverings and 2 iron pavises and 5 hauberks with headpiece, and 5 without headpiece of old pattern with many deficiencies. Also 1 handmill without a hopper, one brass pot and one gridiron, 16 pair of tongs (?) and 3 chains for drawbridges.

Also of chapel ornaments he delivered to the same one whole pair of vestments with a corporal, 3 towels worn and the third part of an antiphonal and the third part of a gradual, and one chest for the reception of these ornaments, and two cruets and one pix and

one bell hanging in the chapel and 4 chests with covers and 3 without covers and 52 empty casks. [Oct. 23rd, 1301.]

On the whole neither the munitions of war nor the furniture of the chapel appear adequate to such an important fortress as the Castle of Montgomery was at that time and for long afterwards. Possibly there had been a long spell of peace on the borders and the weapons of offence and defence had not been renewed, and religion had fallen to a very low ebb.

#### NOTES.

<sup>1</sup> *Prisonis de Scotia*.—Either hostages of some rank or prisoners held to ransom.

<sup>2</sup> *Guleas*.—Helmets, so many styles at this period, it is difficult to identify the pattern.

<sup>3</sup> *Capellos ferri*—Said to be “conical skull caps worn under the helmet to diminish the pressure on the head,” but this cannot be right, for these were of iron.

<sup>4</sup> *Balistas Iesus*—Damaged cross-bows; from what follows it seems that there were two sizes, one for quarells of one foot in length, and the other for those of two feet.

<sup>5</sup> *Quarellos*.—Short arrows with a pyramidal head.

<sup>6</sup> *Bandrellos*.—Winches, the difference between these and the next is not apparent.

<sup>7</sup> *Viceas*.—Some instrument for bending cross-bows.

<sup>8</sup> *Balistas cornuas*.—Some of the bows were made of horn instead of steel.

<sup>9</sup> *Principis*.—This was Edward P. of Wales, afterwards Edw. II., now aged about 17 years.

<sup>10</sup> *Turgias*.—Small shields used by foot soldiers.

<sup>11</sup> *Scuta*.—Large shields used by horse soldiers.

<sup>12</sup> *Incudem*.—Anvil for the armourer's shop. *Suffletos*, bellows.

<sup>13</sup> *Martellum*.—Hammer for the same, other tools were carried by the soldiers

<sup>14</sup> *Cooptorum ferri*. Coverings of iron, but of what kind is not evident.

<sup>15</sup> *Testeras*.—Mantlets or pavises. Very large shields to protect cross-bowmen and archers. In the Ordinances made by John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, in the reign of Henry VI.: “For Pavises Also that every ij yomen make them a good pavise of bordes or of p<sup>ap</sup> in the best manner they can devise that on may hold it whiles that other dothe shete upon the Payne &c.” (p<sup>ap</sup> ? ?).

<sup>16</sup> *Loricas*.—Hauberks, a tunic of mail with long sleeves covering the body and arms.

<sup>17</sup> *Molam ad manum*.—A large handmill as having a hopper. The Castle corn was ground free by royal charter at a mill on the stream between Montgomery and Dudington.

<sup>18</sup> *Ollam eneam*.—A brazen pot, no doubt a large and valuable one.

<sup>19</sup> *Craticulam*.—A gridiron (also a portcullis).

<sup>20</sup> *Firgearum* (xvj par).—A word not found, possibly tongs or stakes of iron.

<sup>21</sup> *Cathenae ad pontes trahendas*.—Chains in reserve in case of injury or accident.

<sup>22</sup> *Vestimentorum* (unum par).—Surplice and alb.

<sup>23</sup> *Corporale*.—A linen napkin, placed under and over the consecrated elements.

<sup>24</sup> *Manutergia*.—Towels for use in the service of the mass.

<sup>25</sup> *Antiphonal*, or antiphonary, a service book containing the invitatories, responsions, collects and all said or sung in the choir, except the Lessons.

<sup>26</sup> *Graduale*, or gradual or grail, a book of hymns and prayers.

<sup>27</sup> *Cruetos*.—Closed vessels for the wine and water used in the service of the mass.

<sup>28</sup> *Pixidem*—A small box for the consecrated host.

<sup>29</sup> *Dolia vacua*.—Surely 52 empty casks were not parts of chapel ornaments.

C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

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## V.

### THE CHAPEL OF WESTHOPE IN THE PARISH OF DIDDLEBURY.

The estate of Westhope possesses a private Chapel which is now served by the Vicar of Diddlebury. It stands in the middle of the estate surrounded by an orchard. The building is of brick from three feet above the ground upon the old stone foundations. The porch is of wood and stone. The nave and chancel are continuous, and contains some good modern glass and brasses to the Swinnerton Dyer family. The roof and pews are of pine. The reredos is of various Italian marbles. The re-table made from the oak of the carved pews. The credence table dates from 1600.

In the vestry is a 17th century chest and chair. About two years ago the earth at the north side of the Chapel was opened, and it was found the foundations were 11 feet below the ground.

It has been stated that there is an underground passage which leads to the house close by, since pulled down. This was bricked up in 1891. The first mention of this Chapel which has yet been discovered, is the time of Edward III. (1314). Deanery of Wenlock, "Capella de Westhope, taxata ad vj marcas." (*Inquisitio Nonarum.*)

The Certificates of Colleges, 1 Edward VI. states "the Chappell of Westhope within the parish of Diddlebury, value " xid. plate 7 ounces, goods 2s., no incumbent."

The certificates of Colleges, Diddlebury, 2 Edward VI. "The Chappell de Westhope in the sayd parische of Duddlebury, value xid. payment nil, to the pore nil, goods ijs."

In the third year of Edward VI. "The Capel de Westhope within the parish of Duddlebury. Rent of the aforesaid Chappell with parcel adjacent, called the Chappell Yarde, in the tenure of William Wall vjd. at 23 years purchase 22s. There are no other lands to the said Chappel belonging as yt is presented, there be no woods growing on it. The purchaser to be bounde for the Wooddes. The leade belles and avousons excepted." The word *avousons* which is in the plural proves that the patronage of the Chapel and Diddlebury were different.

The Chapel is mentioned twice again in the same reign "as of the value of 13d having goods worth 11s." and that "John Cowper and Richard Trevor purchased amongst other things rents in Diddleberie given for the support of a light, and a lampe in the parish, and the rent of the Chappell of Westhope with lands pertaining to it."

The Patent Rolls Elizabeth mention "The Chappell of Westhope within the parish of Duddleberie this was spoliated by Act of Parliament 1 Edward VI." Up to the year 1590 the estate of Westhope belonged to the Earls of Arundel.

Two deeds 1650 and 1707 mention "The Chappell and Chappell Meadow."

In the will of Mrs. Elizabeth Fleming in 1728, is the following bequest:—

"If my son Richard Fleming rebuilds the Chapel of Westhope, and fits it up for the service of God within four years, then I give to endow it £100, but if the Lord of the Manor of Westhope should be remiss in having it supplied with 12 sermons yearly, then the profits shall go to the parish of Acton Scott."

There is no record of any money being received in the parish of Acton Scott, so it is evident the Chapel was rebuilt.

In 1754 Edward Fleming was patron of the living. In 1792 the Westhope estate came to the Swinnerton Dyer family. A paper amongst the Diddlebury Deeds says "The Proprietor gives £5 a year to the Vicar of Diddlebury to give his or her tenants twelve evening services."

The Baroness von Zandt, widow of Sir Thomas Richard Swinnerton Dyer, in 1844 gave the Bible, Prayer book and Office book.

"The Baron von Zandt gave a new pulpit, the old one being decayed, he promised a new surplice, but died suddenly."

In 1891, the late Colonel Swinnerton Dyer restored the Chapel, and it has since been much beautified, and is now complete with all altar furniture, altar cloths, and communion plate. Of the old glass only two pieces remain with the dates 1764 and 1870,

the piece of glass with the date 1640 has, unfortunately, been lost.

Two marriages have taken place there, one in 1866 and another in 1873.

EVELYN H. MARTIN.

The Cottage, Westhope.

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VI.

BOY BISHOPS.

The Will of Walter Morton, of Ludlow, Clothier, who was Bailiff of Ludlow on four occasions, and who died in 1510, contains the following bequest:—

“I give my short skarlett gowne to the use of the Bishop which shall be ordeyned yerely at Seynt Nicholas daye in the Churche of Ludlowe to make a robe thereof to do hym honor yerely that daye.”

This refers, I have little doubt, to the custom of the Choir boys in some Cathedrals and Collegiate Churches, of electing on the Feast of Saint Nicholas, the patron Saint of children (December 9) one of their number, who from that day till the Holy Innocents' Day wore the vestments carried the crosier, and bore the title and rank of a Bishop. According to Strutt's *Sports and Pastimes of the People of England*, this Boy Bishop exacted a ceremonial obedience from his fellows, who acted as his prebendaries and performed all the offices which might have been celebrated by a Bishop, even in some cases the Mass itself. After the performance of divine service the Boy Bishop went to different parts of the town and collected money. This curious custom was abrogated in 1542 by a royal proclamation, and though it was revived by Queen Mary, it was wholly discontinued after her death.

It is curious to find that this pageantry was performed in the Collegiate Church of Ludlow, and so far as I know, this is the only reference of its observance there, neither am I aware that the custom was observed elsewhere in Shropshire.

HENRY T. WEYMAN, F.S.A

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VII.

WORTHEN COMMUNION PLATE.

The first volume of the Worthen Register contains a transcript of a Deed of Gift to the Minister, Churchwardens, and Parishioners, by which they became possessed of some absolutely necessary articles for the decent celebration of the Holy Communion. We may not doubt that both vessels and linen had been in use long before the time of the Commonwealth, 1659, when this Deed is dated. The Inventory of Plate, Jewels, Ornaments, &c.,

in the Hundred of Chirbury (see *Transactions*, 2nd S., Vol. XII., p. 113), mentions as existing in the time of Edward VI. a goodly array of Church Furniture, including *inter alia* "ohe chales, vj auer clothis, ij cruetts," as well as "a chales delyvered to John Mynton for the use of the said p'ishe iij yeres before the date hereof." (It is not quite plain whether there were two chalices or one). But the century preceding the date of Richard Lingham's gift had been a period of spoliation, little of any value was left anywhere for the reverent administration of the mysteries of religion. This state of things had touched the heart of a son of Worthen, one Richard Lingham, who had prospered as a merchant in the far off city of London, and he determined to made good all the deficiencies by a gift, which evidences his reverence for holy things, as well as his gratitude, love, and affection for his native place.

Die Dominica, 17<sup>th</sup> Julij, Anno Dni 1659.

To all Christian People of whom this present Writinge shall be scene; Richard Lingham of London marchant sendeth greetinge know yee that I for the singular Love and good affection w<sup>th</sup> I Beare to this parish of Worthen where I was Borne and Bread vp in my Tender yeares And had my Education and more Especially thatt the True Xtian protestant Religion may still more And more Increesse and florish heere Amongst you. And thatt the Holy Sacrament of the Lords Supper may Bee Reverently administered to the Inhabitance thereof And for Divers other good Cawses and Consideracions me there vnto Especially movinge Haue given granted And Delivered And do by theis presents give grant and Delyver the Day and yeare aboue said vnto the minister Church wardens Sidemen and Inhabitance of the said parish on Communion Cupp and Cover belonginge to the said Cupp of Sterlinge Silver wayinge Twenty & two ownces fourtene peny Troy waights accordinge to the Standart in the Tower of London w<sup>th</sup> this Inscriptiōn Ingraven abowtt the Body of the said Cupp (vizt) The gift of Richard Lingham of London marchant to this parish of Worthin 1659, and vpon the Heed of the Cover thereof This Inscriptiōn or Marke (R.L. 1659.) Twogether also with on Case of Reed Velvyt parcell guilt to keepe the said Cupp and Cover in att all times And Two fflagons of pewter wayinge six pownd a peece (in the wholle Twelve pownds Avordupoyse), with this Like Inscriptiōn abowtt them as is abowtt the Body of the Communion Cupp, w<sup>th</sup> a whitte Box of deale To keepe them In also; And on Communion Table Cloth of Diaper of hollands makinge, three yards Longe & two yards Broad, and a Napkin of the same of Diaper to Cover the Bread for the Communion w<sup>th</sup> these Marks Imbroded in the midds of Both (vizt, R.L. 1659) All which Cupp and Cover & the Case there vnto Belonginge, Twogether also w<sup>th</sup> the Two fflagons & Box, table cloth, and napkin as aforesaid I do ffreely voluntaryly and absoluttely give grant and Delyver vnto the

said minister Church wardens Side men & Jnhabitance as a foresaid and to their Successors for the vse & Behouffe of the said parish ffor ever. Neverthelesse vpon This Trust and confidence, That they the said minister Churchwardens and Sidemen and their Successors for the time Beinge shall Cawse the abouesaid premisses To be Employed and vsed att the selebration of Every Sacrament of the Lords Supper thatt shall be administred in the aforesaid Church of Worthin as often as need shall require accrodinge to their ancient Lawdable Custome and for no other vse or vsees, service or services, in any other kind whattsoever And I do Ernestly Desire, and in the presents of all mighty god Require that the said minister Church wardens and Jnhabitance of the parish a ffor said that they will not permit nor suffer the said premisses nor any parte of them at any time or times heereafter to be alienated, imbeseled, sould, pawned, or misimployed contrary to the firme Intent for which J gave them, butt thatt The kepinge of them may allwaies be in the Custody of the churchwardens or on of them or such Sufficient parishianers as they and the Rest of the parish shall appoynt w<sup>th</sup> the approbation of my kinsmen Richard asterley of medentowne & John asterley of Worthin And J humbly Request theis gentillmen & the Rest of my ffrends hereafter named whom J do nominate and appoynt overseers to see this my guift putt to the Right vse & Jmployment vizt—Henry Powell of Worthin Esquire, Thomas Kerry, Robert Corbett, William Draper, Thomas Draper, Esquires, Thomas Clough, Layton Scarlett, Alexander Gittins, Edward Bradley, Somersett Draper gent<sup>le</sup>, Richard Asterley, John Asterley, Richard Meredith (Rob<sup>t</sup> Clarke, Richard Bradley the present Church wardens), Roger Callcott, John Bady, David ffoulkes, Richard Wotherton, Rowland Wotherton, Thos. Cleaton, Wm. Boles, Richard Brian, Wm. Cartwright, Humphrey Ollivers, Randall Brasner, Richard Draper, Wm. Northwood, Richard Price, Richard Williams, John fflowke, Wm. Downes, Wm. Nicolls, Richard Downes, Wm. Cleaton, & all parishianers of the foresaid parish of Worthin, who all of them J hope will Take care & their posterities after them that my desires herein may be performed,  
by me Richard Lingham.

Agreed the day & yeare aboue said by the generallyty of the said parish, no man dissentinge that this present Instrument shall be entered into their new Register booke when ytt is . . . (cctera desunt).

The present Rector informs me that this Deed of Gift was duly entered in the new Register Book (that is, Vol. II.), as well as in the old Register (Vol. I.), from which I have copied it, and is there seen as a beautiful piece of penmanship; and he tells me further that the Chalice and cover are both in existence and in use, probably ever since 1659. They are in good condition, and the cover, once slightly injured, has been neatly repaired without destroying its antique appearance, the hallmarks are very distinct

and the inscriptions in perfect order. The "velvyt case," however, has disappeared. One of the pewter flagons is also preserved, but not used now; the other is missing, but was in existence 50 years ago. The whitte deale box and the diaper cloths are not now in existence. To complete the *furniture* (for which Richard Lingham uses the strange word *premises*) several additions have been made since 1659.

1. A Chalice with the inscription "Phillip Scarlett, William Davis, Churchwardens, 1698." This is of Britannia silver, duly marked.

2. A Paten also marked as Britannia silver. There is no inscription. However, in the Table of Benefactions to the Parish of Worthen in the Vestry dated 1722 is this entry:—Mrs. Susan of Worthen gave in her lifetime one silver salver, one table cloth and Scarlett gave in her lifetime one silver salver, one table cloth and two napkins for the use of the Communion table. The Rector also says:—"I find under year 1711 (Feb., 1712), this entry in Vol. II. of the Registers:—"SEPULTA, Susana Scarlett, vidua. sept. fuit vicesimo nono dec." As the hallmarks show that the Paten was made between 1697 and 1715-16, it may be inferred that the Paten was given before 1711. Of these two pieces the Chalice is poor and light, but the Paten is a good piece."

3. A Paten, silver, with inscription, "the gift of Charles Awdry, Rector, 1862."

4. A flagon, silver, with inscription as above, but date 1865. Both these are solid and substantial, but the Flagon has been roughly used.

We see from the above that the munificence of the 17th century has been not without result in the 19th century. Worthen is well supplied, other wealthy persons in less fortunate places may be counselled "Vade et tu fac similiter."

C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

### VIII.

GRANT OF ARMS AND CREST TO THOMAS BAKER OF SWANEY, CO. SALOP, ESQ., 14 OCTOBER, 1649.

(From the Ashmole MS. 858, fos. 136, 137, in Bodleian Library.

To all and singuler unto whome these presentes shall come William Ryley Esqr., Norroy King of Armes sendeth greeting. Whereas Thomas Baker of Swaney in the County of Salop Esqr., high Sheriff and Justice of Peace in that County, hath requested me to declare what Armes he may lawfully beare. And whereas I have received credible testimony that he is originally descended of an auncient family of the Bakers in that County of Kent. I doe by these p'ntes signifie and declare that the said Thomas Baker may beare the Armes and Crest

hereafter menconed (vizt.) Azure on a Cheveron or, three cinquefoyles Gules, between as many Swans neckes erased of the second, And for his Crest, on a Healme and wreath of his Colours, an Arme and Hand proper yssuing out of a Wreath of Laurell holding a Swans neck erased or, mantled gules, doubled argent, as in ye Margent more lively is depicted, wch Coate and Crest I the Said Norroy doe by these p'sentes allow and confirme unto the said Thomas Baker and the heires of his body lawfully begotten to be borne by them with their due differences for ever. In wittnes whereof I have hereunto affixed the Seale of myne office and subscribed my name the 14th day of Octob., Anno D'ni 1649.

WILLIAM RYLEY Norroy King of Arms.

Thomas Barker, the grantee of the above Coat of Arms and Crest, was of Sweeney, co. Salop (a township two miles south of Oswestry), being the son of Thomas Baker who purchased Sweeney from Andrew Chambre in 1623, and died in 1639. He was born about 1608, and was an active adherent of the Parliamentary party during the Civil Wars. Gough, in his quaint *History of Myddle*, gives some very interesting particulars about Thomas Baker. He tells us that his wife was "Elizabeth Fenwicke, descended of a good family and well educated," a sister to the wife of Judge Mackworth. "He erected a new fair house in Sweeney, a handsome pile of buildings, in sixteen weeks." Mr. Baker "was made a justice of the peace in the Parliament time, and so continued till the Restoration of Charles II., and wrote himself esquire. He was made High Sheriff of the County (1649), and kept a very noble Sheriff's house, he behaved himself among the gentlemen of the County with much commendation and even to admiration. He was a great patron and benefactor to all *independent* preachers, . . . . kept good hospitality, and was very charitable to the poor." "And now I come to the apex of Mr. Baker's dignity. He was chosen by the Protector to be a Parliament man." Some of his preachers would pray and preach for four hours together in the dining room at Sweeney; "and when the people departed, they had every one a quarter of a two penny bun or cake and about half a pint glass of beer." Mr. Baker was also a member of the Parliamentary Commission for propagating the gospel in Wales. He died without issue 19 March, 1675, aged 68 years, and was buried in a private graveyard in his own garden, where is a stone thus inscribed,—"Thomas Baker, Esq., deceased March 19, 1675, aged 68." In the same private graveyard are also inscriptions to Mrs. Abigail Chetwode, daughter to Sir Richard Chetwode, died 1 May, 1658, and to Jane, wife of Ambrose Mostyn, died 26 July, 1551. Thomas Baker entered his pedigree at Dugdales Visitation of Shropshire

in 1663, but *n. p.* (*nulla probatio*) is added, as the College of Arms after the Restoration refused to recognize the validity of Ryley's Grants of Arms. Excepting the pillars of the entrance gates, and a little oak panelling, nothing now remains of Baker's "new fair house" at Sweeney, which he built in 1640. He devised his estates to one Thomas Browne, a distant relative.

W. G. D. FLETCHER, F.S.A.

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## IX.

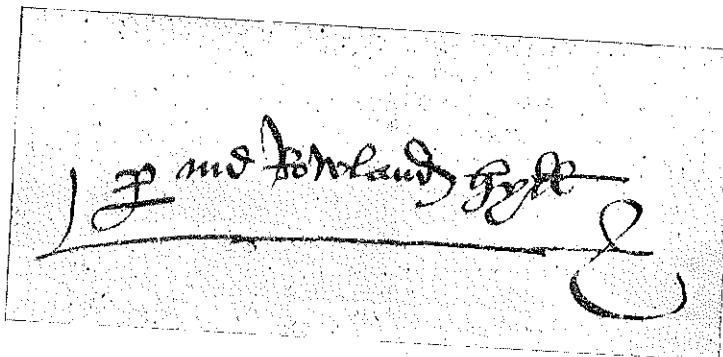
### SIR ROWLAND HILL'S SETTLEMENT OF THE HAUGHMOND ESTATE, 26 JULY, 1548, ON THE MARRIAGE OF HIS NEPHEW JAMES BARKER WITH DOROTHY CLYVE.

Two Deeds of the year 1548 recently purchased by Mr. Herbert Southam, and presented by him to the Shrewsbury Free Library, throw much light on the acquisition by the Barkers of the Haughmond estate. At the dissolution of the Abbey the Haughmond demesne was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Littleton of Pillaton Hall, who in November 1542 conveyed it to Sir Rowland Hill.

Sir Rowland Hill, Knight, Citizen and Alderman of London, by Indenture dated 26 July, 2 Edward VI. [1548], and made between himself on the one part and Richard Clyve of Stuyche esquire on the other part, in consideration of a marriage to be solemnized between James Barkar gent., nephew to Sir Rowland, and Dorothy Clyve daughter of the said Richard Clyve, and of £100 to be paid by said Richard Clyve to said James Barkar,—covenanted that he would assure to said James Barkar, "The Manor of Haughmonde with its members and appurtenances, that is to say, Downeton, Uffington, Pymley Millne, Sunderne, The Rectorie parsonage and Tythes of the said Towne of Uffington, with also the patronage and advowson of the churche of the Towne of Upton, with also one yerely rent or pencon of ffourtie shillinges perteyning unto the said advowson and patronage going oute of the Rectorie and parsonage of the churche of Upton aforesaid," (The capital messuage of Holme Barne and lands pertaining thereto, lands in Haughton, and one meadow in Walcott, only excepted). To hold from and after the death of Sir Rowland Hill and Dame Alice his wife to the said James Barkar and the heirs of his body, the remainder to the right heirs of the said Sir Rowland Hill. All which Manor and hereditaments were of the yearly

value of £62 8s. 4d. And Sir Rowland Hill covenanted that he would assure Holme Barne and lands in Haughton, which were of the yearly value of £9 6s. 6d., to certain persons for the jointure of said Dorothy Clive. And that the said James Barker and Dorothy shall after their marriage occupy and dwell in the said capital messuage and manor place of Haugmonde, then in the holding of Thomas Rode esquire, paying such rents as Thomas Rode then paid. And Sir Rowland Hill will grant to James Barker all his household stuff and implements at Haugmonde, to remain as heirlooms there. [Signed "per me Rychardum Clyve," and Seal.]

By his Deed Poll indented, dated 30 July, 2 Edward VI. [1548], Sir Rowland Hill granted to William Hill clerk, John Gratewoode, John Maynwaring of Drayton, and Robert Clyve, gentlemen, his Capital messuage or tenement called le Holme barne with all lands &c to the same pertaining, and also all his lands and tenements in Haughton, of the annual value of £9 6s. 6d. To hold to them and their heirs, to the uses contained in the Indenure of 26 July, 2 Edward VI., touching the jointure of the said Dorothy Clyve.



[The above Signature and Seal.]

The counterpart is signed by John Gratwood and John Maynwaring. A memorandum is endorsed: "Md, that the tythe in namyd Jamys Barker and Dothery Clyve wer maryed in the Churche of Morton Seye the xix day of August the yere above wryton."

In Michaelmes Term 5 Edward VI. [1551], Sir Rowland Hill levied a Fine of the manor of Haugmond, Uffington, &c., to the use of himself for his life, with remainder to the use of James Barker and his heirs. And the same year he obtained a license to alienate the Haugmond estate. It afterwards passed to the Kynastons, and from them to the Corbets who still possess it.

## X.

## DISCOVERY OF CINERARY URNS.

I should like to find a place in the pages of *Miscellanea* for a short account of an archaeological discovery in my parish which took place a year ago, but has not so far been put on permanent record. In May of last year, two new cottages were erected at Little Ryton, in the parish of Condover, in a level field similar in all respects to those round it. In digging a hole, however, for the erection of a small post the workmen about 2 ft. 6 in. below the surface came on what was supposed to be a stone. This proved to be an urn containing human ashes. The fragments were taken out carefully and brought to me. The pottery is rude, but has on it a pattern made by means of a stick or similar instrument, and the mouth appears to have been about 8 inches in diameter. Three days after, in digging another hole about 3 ft. from the first, the workmen found another, which they endeavoured, without success, to take out unbroken. This was in an inverted position with the mouth downwards, but was also full of human remains. This second urn was clearly of the same date, but of rather smaller size, the diameter of the mouth being about 6 inches. It has no pattern on it. They will both be deposited in the Shrewsbury Museum. The urns belong to prehistoric times, and probably date from the later period of the Iron Age, but there are no features in the immediate neighbourhood of the field to suggest early occupation. On the high ground, however, within half a mile or so, there is a site on which occur two or three Celtic names, otherwise unknown in the district, and near to which a few flints have been found. There is therefore little doubt that this high ground had on it an early settlement, and the spot on which the urns were found may have been a burying place from this settlement.

THOMAS AUDEN, M.A., F.S.A.

## XI.

## POSSIBLE ROMAN VILLA.

Beyond Evenwood Farm, on the way from Acton Burnell to Kenley, the road crosses a brook which flows down past the Hopyard Cottages. On the right hand side of the road, before crossing the brook, a field track for Ruckley leads past some old farm buildings. The ploughed field beyond these buildings is in its south-west corner (where there is a distinct depression) sprinkled with fragments of Roman pottery, to which my attention was called by Mr. T. R. Horton. The site is one eminently suited for a Roman villa, sheltered from the cold winds by the high ground of what is now Acton Burnell Park, on a sunny slope looking south, with a supply of water near at hand. The fragments were of various descriptions, some with a greenish glaze, and much unglazed, some

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