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Cransactions

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AND

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CONTENTS.

OORTHA		PAG) R
The Church Bells of Shropshire. VI. Deanery of By H. B. Walters, M.A., F.S.A. (Continued)	Edgmor 	ıd. 	I
Institutions of Shropshire Incumbents (Continued)	• • •		39
Poynton Chapel. By J. A. Morris	•••	•••	55
Three Early Shropshire Charters		•••	60
Notes on Alberbury. By H. M. Auden, F.R. Hist.S.		•••	63
Notes on Alberbury. By A. Ecclesiastical History of Shropshire. Additional the Rev. J. E. Auden, M.A., Vicar of Tong	Notes.	Ву	77
Notes on Kinlet. By the Rev. J. B. Blakeway, M. Vicar of Kinlet. Edited and Illustrated by M. Childe	га. Б.	S. A	83
MISCELLANEA: I. Haughmond Abbey II. Charles II. and Tong: Additional Notes III. Notes on Chirbury IV. A Letter from Raphe Clyve of Walford to of Shrewsbury, 1571 V. Order concerning Rogues and Vagabonds, VI. Surrender by William Bell, of Land in Rogues and Walford to Manor of Worfield, 1659	o the I July 30 aughton		i iv vii viii ix xii
ILLUSTRATIONS.			٠
Shropshire Bell Founders' Marks:— Fig. 10—Trade Mark of Barwell of Birmingham Fig. 11—Medallion of I. B., bell-founder Plate XXIII.—Figs. 1-8, Stirchley (Johannes de Plate XXIII.—Tong Sanctus; Fig. 10, Stirchley			. 17 Y:
Fig. 17—Medalmost de Plate XXIII.—Figs. 1-8, Stirchley (Johannes de Plate XXIII.—Figs. 1-8, Stirchley (Johannes de Figs. 9, 12, Tong Sanctus; Fig. 10, Stirchley Cross); Fig. 11, Sheriff Hales (Joseph Smit Plate XXIV.—Figs. 1, 4, 5, Tong (Newcombe) (W. Clibury); Fig. 3, Rudhall's Ornamet (W. Clibury); Fig. 3, Rudhall's Ornamet	il) ··	a. Ton	ıg
Chounty 1 Celephler		••	$\begin{array}{ccc} & & 3^2 \\ & & 55 \\ & & 63 \\ \end{array}$
Plan of Alberbury Village		••	7°
Kinlet Church—Interior Ancient Glass and Tiles Exterior, and Oratory	•••	•••	84
Blount Monument	114	•••	108
Old Vicarage House at Kinlet's House at Kinlet i	n 1663	•••	134
Plan of Haughmond Hoory Fitz Alan Tombs at Haughmond	***	***	

CHURCH BELLS OF SHROPSHIRE. VI. THE

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

LICHFIELD. DIOCESE OF

(ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP).

Continued.

DEANERY OF EDGMOND.

BOLAS MAGNA. St. John Baptist. Two bells.

Both quite plain, the diameters 161 in. and 19 in. respectively; the smaller has no inscription-band, and resembles the smaller bell at Preston (p. 11) The Rector (Rev. J. Miller) states that they were re-cast on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee, but they have no appearance of newness, and look more like eighteenth century bells. They are rung by levers.

Belfry dirty and neglected; timbers of frame worn.

[1549]: 'BOLLAS. ij bellis of oone accorde & a sackryng bell.'

4 May, 1553: 'Boolas. Two small bells.' 1740 and 1752: 'Bowlas Magna 2 Bells.'

ST. MICHAEL. CHETWYND.

Six bells.

- 1. PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD 1785 (26 in. CAN (continuous)
- FEAR GOD HONOUR THE KING 1735 (27 in.
- PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH 1785 (28 in. \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$
- WE ARE ALL THE GIFT OF ROBERT PIGOTT OF CHETWYND ESQR:

Below: 1735 GARD (continuous) (29 in. A Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

- 5. WE WERE ALL CAST AT GLOCESTER BY
 A. RUDHALL 1785 文文文文文文文(31 in.
- 6. I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL A R 1785

 $(34\frac{1}{2} in.$

A very light ring (tenor 8 cwt., note A), like several others in the neighbourhood; all have ornamented cannons. Some primitive repairs to wheels and stocks; belfry very dirty, the jackdaw having made it "a house and a nest where she may lay her young," and bells in bad order.

One of the latest rings by Abraham Rudhall, who died Feb. 1735-6. The borders used are: on 1st and 4th, Fig. 2; on 2nd, Fig. 1; on 3rd and 5th, Fig. 5; on the 6th, a bit of Fig. 3 after date.

Robert Pigett (see 4th bell) also gave the renor at Edgmond. [1549]: 'ij bellis of oone accorde to be rogon together.'

4 May 1553: 'Two small bells and a sanctus bell,'
1740: '6 bells the gift of Robt Piggot Esqre.'

1752: '6 bells.'

In the ringing chamber, a set of old rules printed on a card :-

If that to ring you do come here
You must ring well with hand and ear;
And if a bell you overthrow
Sixpence must pay before you go;
And if you ring with spur or hat,
Sixpence also is due for that;
And if you either swear or curse,
Sixpence is due, pull out your purse.
These laws are old, they are not new,
Therefore the Clerk must have his due;
If to these laws you will consent
Then ring a Bell, we are content.

CUSTOMS:

Ringing and chiming at funerals.

Ringing for birthday of Squire and his heir; for weddings occasionally,

Morning bell rung daily (?). [No details given.] Thanks to the late Rector, Rev. C. R. Gordon, D.D.

CHURCH ASTON. ST. ANDREW.

Three bells.

The conditions here are peculiar and exasperating. The old church had three bells in a tower, but in the new one, built in 1867, the tower was dispensed with from motives of economy, and the bells were placed in a *flêche* or spirelet about one-third of the length of the nave from the West end. (One hangs in the upper

part under the spire (as at Jackfield new church), the openings round it being firmly netted round to keep out birds, and below it is a solid leaden floor; it is therefore quite inaccessible. The other two hang below the level of the roof ridge, boxed in above, but with a trap door of very moderate dimensions in the roof of the church. Owing, however, to the exceeding loftiness of the roof, the difficulty of erecting a ladder of 40 or 50 rungs and the danger of the ascent from within are so great that the risk and expense involved hardly seemed justifiable, the more so as the upper bell cannot be seen in any case. There is an exactly parallel difficulty at St Laurence Newland in Essex.

Fortunately we are not in entire ignorance about the bells, thanks to the Rev. E. Williams, who has given the inscriptions in his MSS. (Brit. Mus. Add. 21236) and although he copied them a century ago, I cannot learn that any changes have been made since, at any rate during the incumbency of the late Rector,

Rev. E. Ventris (1863-1905). They are as follows:—

- 1 SACTA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS
- 2 IOHN HATCHET WILLIAM WOOTTON C W
- 3. JESVS BEL

Dr. Williams' copies, experience te'ls me, are almost always to be trusted. It will be seen that two of the bells are medieval, which increases our regret that we cannot obtain further details of them.

[1549]: 'ASTON PARVA iij smale bellis of oone accorde to be

Rogon togethur.'

1752: '3 Bells.'

DONNINGTON WOOD. St. Matthew. One bell.

Bell perfectly plain, without inscription-band, about 18 in. diameter, hanging in an open gable-cot. Church built 1845, according to Mr. Cranage's account, but in the British Museum (Department of MSS., C. vi. 7) there is a document relating to the repair of the church here in 1825. It was then described as ruinous, but it can hardly have been in existence many years.

EDGMOND.

ST. PETER.

Six bells.

- 1. THE FREEHOLDERS OF EDGMOND BENE-FACTORS A R 1721 (29½ in.
- 2. RECAST A.D. 1887. JUBILEE YEAR V.R. ET I.

On the waist (on other side): - (Fig. 6) (31 in.

- 3. GOD BLESS OVR NOBLE BENEFACTORS

 1721 A A R (32 in.
- 5. DRYDEN PIGOTT RECTOR BENEFACTOR 复杂 文文 A A R 文文文文 1721 文文文文文文文 文文文文

A ring of six by Abraham Rudhall, the 2nd recast by Taylor of Loughborough (medallion Fig. 6 on waist). Its predecessor was inscribed:—

PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD 1721 (31 in.

The new 2nd has angular cannons; those of the others have all been removed. Belfry rather untidy; new stocks and wheels by Mears and Stainbank. The bells are said to go very well in ringing.

Weights:

cwt. qrs. lbs.

(1) 5 3 3 (Mears: $4\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., note E).

(2) 5 3 21 (Mears: 5 cwt. D). Old 2nd: 6 cwt. 11 lbs.

(3) ,, 6 cwt. C). (4) ,, $6\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. B

(5) ,, 8 cwt. A

(6) ,, 10 cwt, G

On the frame is cut **THOMAS**: 1729

DAVIS: FECIT

[1549]: 'EGEMONDON iij Bell' of oone accorde.'

1740 and 1752 : '6 Bells.'

See Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21236 (inscriptions on 1st, old 2nd, 3rd and 6th given); Salopian Shreds and Patches, iii. p. 203, viii. p. 124.

Robert Pigott (see tenor) also gave the ring at Chetwynd in 1735.

Customs:

Curfew rung up to the date of the abolition of Church Rates. Pancake Bell at 11 a.m. on Shrove Tuesday.

Bells chimed at funerals (known as the "joy-bells," as at Morville). See Shropshire Folk-Lore, pp. 301, 318, 602.

HINSTOCK.

ST. OSWALD.

Five bells.

- Thomas Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808 $26\frac{1}{2}$ in.
- 2. Thomas Mears & Son of London Fecit 1808 (28 in.
- 3. The same.

 $(29\frac{1}{2} in.$

4. The same.

. (31 in.

5. MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1885.

A very light ring, tenor 7cwt., note A. Hung with new wheels, and in good going order. Belfry rather dark.

The tenor was given by P. Williams, Esq., of Hinstock Hall

3 May, 1553: 'Two great bells; one sanctus bell.'

1752: '3 Bells.'

There appear to be no other records relating to the history of these bells.

KINNERSLEY.

ST. CHAD.

Three bells

- 1. MROPORSMROPORS RSNORSMROPORS (261 in.
- 2. THOMAS HANSON ALIAS HARPER
 WARDEN 1632 THOMAS BAKER

(2nd line):-SIDEMAN

(29½ in

3 Above: Border of arabesques.



Below again :- Running border.

(32in.

1st: By Hugh Watts of Leicester, about 1620; similar bells at Child's Ercall and Norton-in-Hales. The lettering is illustrated on Plate XXII. The S's are all reversed, and the third one is placed lying on its side.

2nd: By William Clibury; initial cross Plate XII., fig. 1.

3rd: By Henry Clibury, type and crosses as at Ditton Priors, etc.; between the initials H C is a small stamp of a bell. The borders are, above, Plate XIV., fig 6; below, Plate XIII., fig. 3.

Pits for four Bells; new stocks and wheels; belfry very dark. Edges of bells much chipped to tune them, especially the second.

[1549]: 'ij bell' of accord.'

4 May 1553: 'KENERASSLEY. Two bells.'

1740 and 1752: '3 Bells.'

Mr. Cranage, in his Shropshire Churches (vii., p. 593), has entered fully into the question of the double bell-cote on the east end of the nave here, and the difficulty of its reconciliation with the dates of the tower and bells. The tower he dates about . 1700, and the bell-cote cannot be of great antiquity, still less an ancient sanctus-bell cot, being double. We know that there were two bells in 1553, and three by 1674; it may be that the two of 1553 (re-cast about 1620 and in 1632) hung in the bell-cote, and the third was added when the tower was built, in 1674; Mr. Cranage tells me he is willing to admit the possibility of so early a date. It is true that the date 1723 is cut on one of the pinnacles, but this may only refer to some repairs. In any case, if the tower was not built until 1723, it is impossible to see how the three bells could have been hung for the fifty years previous. The present 1st and and seem to me rather large bells to have hung in the bell-cote, and it is possible that careful measurement might prove the impossibility. I do not think the problem has yet been satisfactorily solved.1

LILLESHALL. ST. MICHAEL.

(Six bells.

- 3. T. Mears of London Fecit. 1825 (29 in.
- 4. T. Mears, of London Fecit 1825 >
- 5. T. Mears. of. London. Fecit 1825

(34 in.

¹ Mr. William Pearce, F.S.A., who knows Kinnersley well, is strongly of opinion that the bell-cote is original, and of mediaeval date; but I do not see that the question is nearer to solution even if that is the case, because the bell-cote must in any case be older than the tower.

6. WM HENNY JOSEPH BOYCOTT CHURCH WARDENS T MEARS. OF. LONDON. FECIT. 1825 (38 in.

All cannons off; bells re-hung in vertical or H-shaped iron frames in 1887, erected by Messrs. Muirhead, of Newport. The expense was defrayed by the Duke of Sutherland.

Weights and notes:

(1) 4 cwt. F.

(4) 5½ cwt. C.

(2) 4½ cwt. E flat.

7 cwt. B flat. (٢) (6) 9 cwt. A flat.

(3) 5 cwt. D flat.

[1549]: 'LYLLESHYLL. iij bell' of oone accorde.'

4 May, 1553: 'LYLLESOLL.' Three great bells and o Three great bells and one sanctus bell.

1740: '6 Bells, 1721.'

1752: '6 Bells.'

Also mentioned in George Morris' MSS. The previous ring of 1721 was by Abraham Rudhall (cf. Browne Willis' list in Brit. Mus.).

LONGFORD.

ST. MARY.

Two bells.

(con-CAST BY AB: RUDHALL 1737 (21 in. tinuous).

T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1812 💸 $(25\frac{1}{2} in.$

Border on smaller bell, fig 2. [1549]: 'ij bell' of accorde.'

4 May, 1553: 'Two bells.'

1752: 'One bell' (obviously an error).

In 1803 there were three bells, the inscriptions on which were copied by the Rev. E. Williams, and are recorded by him in his MSS. (Brit. Mus. Add. 21236). They were as follows:

NICOLES DE RVGLEYN ME MEIN-ESVS (?)

- 2. Present 1st.
- 3. No inscription.

In the early years of the nineteenth century the church was rebuilt, and at a meeting held 15th September, 1804, it was 'Resolved also that the churchwardens do dispose of the present Bells and procure one Bell, of a size larger than the largest old Bell, to be put up in the new church.' However, the middle bell was preserved, and, presumably, the other two, which must have

been very small, were alone sold, and probably melted down to provide metal for the present second. The disappearance of the old treble, with its interesting if somewhat unintelligible inscription,

is much to be regretted.

The name Nicoles de Rugleyn on the old treble is evidently intended for Nicholas Ruggeley of Hawksheard, Staffordshire; there were two representatives of the name there in the 15th century, one about 1420, the other about 1445; we thus get an approximate date for the bell. See Dugdale's Warwickshire, ii. p. 934 (s.v. Curdworth); also the references given in Marshall's Genealogist's Guide, s.v.

The Churchwardens' Accounts are extant from 1724 to 1754. Mr. Cranage kindly sends me the following extracts from those of

the year 1737:

Paid Mr Abel Rudhall Glour his Ballon of Accot for Casting the Bell .. 111 111 111 Pd for the Carriage of the Bell from Bridgnorth and housage

NEWPORT.

ST. NICHOLAS.

Eight bells.

1. THE REVD CHARLES BUCKERIDGE D.D. GAVE THIS Bell A.D. 1812.

Below: T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT

THE SUBSCRIPTION BELL PROMOTED BY THOS BADDELY A.D. 1812.

Below: T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT (291 in.

- 3. T. Mears of London Fecit 1812 000004 (30½ in.
- 4. The same; pattern slightly longer.

(32½ in.

- C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1856 (34½ in,
- T. Mears of London Fecit 1812 000000 (36½ in.
- THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1812 ひひひひひひひ (39\frac{3}{2} in.
- This Parish recast these 8 Bells A.D. 1812 JOHN COOPER JOHN CHALLENOR CHURCH (2nd line): - WARDENS, T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT $(43\frac{1}{2})$ in.

P

Bells very grimy Weights: cwt. grs. lbs. cwt. qrs. 3 (5) 75 **(1)** 0 5 13 (6) 9(2) 5 1 23 22 (7) II Q. 3 (3)5 16 (8) 13 25 6 [1549]: 'Itm iij grett belleis and to smalle belleys.' 27 July, 1552: 'Ytt iiij grette belles and ij smale belles.'

24 May, 1553 : 'iiij grete and two smalle bellys.'

1752 : '6 bells.'

The former ring was by Rudhall, as may be gathered from extracts given below.

In the Register the following entries occur:

1662 Aug. Memorandum that y' Bels off Newport new made to the gallery this month. T. M.

Jan. This month was the loft built for ringing, or a Belfree. 1663 May. Memorandum that William Adams, citizen of London, 1665 gentle., nephew to the founder, gave the Market House Bell, with the effigy of a man to ringe it, Anno 1665, which was burnt when the Towne was consumed by

fire, May 19, 1665.

"It was ordered by the parish upon 20 of August 1671 that it 1671 be entered into the Parish Booke that five shillings be allowed for ever for ringing upon the 21 of August being Mr. William Adams' (Newport's great Benefactor) his

anniversary, Thos. Murrell psh Clark." May 12th. Memorand that on ye 9th of April last one John Belringer being accidentally killed by ye 2nd Bell, ye said 1701 Bell became forfeited to ye Earle of Bradford; but upon ye parishioners' acknowledgment, his Lordship as freely returned yo bell being thus forfeited as his Grandfather at first gave it when it was founded, and in acknowledgment of ye favour we have hereunto set our Jn. Greenwood, Vicar; Richard ffletcher, Robert Adderly Ch Wardens; Walter Robertson,

Richard Whitall, Overseers The Rev. D H. S. Cranage also kindly sends the following extracts from the Churchwardens' Accounts:

1718 19 Mr. Rudhall's Bill for weighing yo Bells and laying them on yo

... Key at Bridgnorth [They had evident'y been brought up the Severn from Gloucester as far as Bridgnorth.

(Several other payments.) 1728-29 ringing ye sermon bell (also in later years).

¹ Sir Richard Newport, created Baron Newport in 1647, died 1650. Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

1748	5 th bell ser	nt to Bridg	north	(and	so to			
	Glouces	ter ?)	,	`				
1774		r new bell-fra	mes.					
1795	Carriage of c	old bell to B	ridgnoi	rth.				
1797		do, from						
1812	Item for carr	iage of bells		•••	***	16	4	6
	Do,			***		4		0
_	Mr. Mears, I					25	0	0
1813	Do.	do	•••			212	6	2
1814	Payment for	ringing 8 o'c	lock E	Bell.				
1847	\mathbf{Do}	do, 6 o'c	clock 4	do.				
1852	Do.	do. mor	ning o	do.				
There	annear to has				- 2-		4.	

There appear to have been six bells down to 1812, when two trebles were added, one by donation, one by subscription, one re-cast, and the other three, according to tradition, sent to Church Eaton, Staffordshire (Salopian Shreds and Patches, iii., p. 192), but as none of the bells there are by Rudhall, this was probably not the case.

The Rev. C. Buckeridge [see treble] was minister from 1790 to 1827; he was Archdeacon of Coventry and Canon Residentiary of Lichfield, and died at the age of 74.

CUSTOMS:

An Apprentice Bell is rung every morning, from March 25th to September 29th, at 5-30 a.m.; for the rest of the year at 6 a.m., its purpose being to call up apprentices. The tenor is used.

Curfew Bell rung (tenor) at 8 p.m., October 1st to March 24th. Pancake Bell on Shrove Tuesday at 11 a.m., the 4th and 7th bells used (to imitate the sound of the word 'pan-cake).

On Sundays ringing for Services on first in month, chiming on others; a bell at 8 a.m.

Ringing on Christmas Day, Easter Day, New Year's Day; a muffled peal on New Year's Eye.

Ringing at Weddings, when paid for; also on King's Birthday; Agricultural and Flower Show Days; September 1st (William Adams' Anniversary).

Muffled peals on day of Funeral of Church Officials and eminent persons of the nation or neighbourhood, also on the Sunday morning following.

A bell rung for Vestry Meetings at 12 noon. See also *Shropshire Folk-Lore*, pp. 318, 602. Very many thanks to Rev. W. Budgen, Rector.

In Salopian Shreds and Patches, v., p. 134 (14th March, 1883), mention is made of a mortar of bell-metal at Newport, inscribed L. WRIGHT. MADE. ME. 1595. It weighed 1½ cwt., and was ornamented round the middle. Lawrence Wright was a London founder of somewhat invidious reputation.

¹ Said to be now in the possession of Mr. Marston, a chemist at Stafford.

OAKENGATES.

HOLY TRINITY.

One bell.

Church built 1855. Bell in a central turret, quite inaccessible; supplied by Charles Carr, of Smethwick, some time since 1885.

PRESTON-ON-THE-WEALD-MOORS.

ST. LAWRENCE.

Two bells.

1. No inscription.

2. PROSPERITY TO THIS PLACE: A: R 🙇 1718

(14 in.

The smaller bell exactly resembles the smaller at Great Bolas; it has angular cannous and three lines round the shoulder.

and by Abraham Rudhall; clapper tied.

New flooring and ladders, but old frames; a ring of six in prospect, for which preparations were being made in the tower in 1905. [1549]: PRESTON-UNDER-WYLDMORE. if smale bellis of oone accorde to be Rogon together.'

4 May, 1553 . 'Two small bells." 1740 : '2 Bells.'

SAMBROOK.

ST. LUKE.

One bell.

1 S. LUKE'S SAMBROOK. OCT. 2 1856.

By John Warner and Sons; note, E; cost £36 1s. 6d. Church built 1886; parish formed out of Chetwynd, Cheswardine and Edgmond.

Thanks to Rev. W. D. Braginton, Vicar.

SHERIFF HALES. St. Mary the Virgin. 6 + 1 bells.

1. JOHN CRITCHLEY WALTER JOHN SHUKER CHURCH-WARDENS

On the waist:—(a) ARTHUR TOMPSON MICHELL VICAR

1894

(25% in.

Above, border of arabesques.

BE IT KNOWNE TO ALL . THAT DOTH ME SEE . THAT IOSEPH SMITH IN .

(2nd line):-EDGBASTON ● MADE ALL THE REST AND ME

1722 • GRADGRAD



(27 in.

3. WILLIAM ● TAYLER ● GF-705GF-705 ● BENEFACTOR

Below, border and trade-mark as on last.

(29 in.

4. • WILLIAM • PLAXSTON • BENEFACTOR • Below, border and trade-mark as No. 3.

(31 in.

- 5. M^R ROBERT FOWLER VICAR THOMAS WHITTLE ANDREW PENSON CHVRCH (2nd line):—WARDENS 1722 (33½ in. Above, row of arabesques.
- 6. THE WRIHT HONORABLE LORD IOHN GOWER BARON OF STEPNY BENEFACTOR 1722 ●

Below, border as before, with coins at intervals.

(37 in.

S. No inscription; unhung.

Sheriff Hales Church was formerly in Staffordshire, but the whole parish was transferred to Shropshire in 1895. The inscriptions on all but the treble were given by Mr. Lynam in his Church Bells of Staffordshire, p 25, and the lettering and stamps illustrated, ibid. plate 113. Up to 1894 there were only five bells, and the treble

(by Barwell, of Birmingham, whose trade-mark¹ appears on the waist), is an addition due to the present Vicar, who has done much to rescue the tower from a condition of neglect. The new treble weighs 3cwt. 3qrs. 16lbs.

The borders on 2—6 are Plate VI., fig. 8 with arabesques, like Plate XIV., fig. 6 on the 2nd; the trade-mark on 2—4 is Plate XXIII, fig. 11; between the words are impressions of coins of the size of a penny.

I cannot trace the John Gower,
Baron of Stepney, who gave the tenor; but he must have been one
of the well-known Gower family.

The sanctus bell lies on the floor of the clock-chamber, with lever attached; it is said to be cracked. It has no band for an inscription, and does not look older than the eighteenth century.



¹ I am indebted to the kindness of Messrs. Barwell for the electro-type of this mark, which is here reproduced.

CUSTOMS :

Tolling at Funerals (chiming formerly).

Bells chimed on Sundays, or rung when possible. A bell at 8 a.m. every Sunday.

Ringing on Christmas eve and morning, and other great Festivals,

also on New Year's eve and morning.

TIBBERTON.

ALL SAINTS.

Five bells.

J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1877

(22½ in.

The same. 2.

(24 in.

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1877 (25 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

The same.

(274 in.

The same 5.

On the waist :- ALL SAINTS TIBBERTON 1877

(29 in.

Angular cannons; clean and in good order. A very light ring, but quite enough for the narrow tower. Warner's Chiming Apparatus.

[1549]: 'TIBBERTON CHAPEL. iij bell' of a Corde and a Sackerynge bell'.'

4 May, 1553: 'Tyberton. Two bells.' 1752 : '3 Bells.'

Nothing appears to be known of the bells previous to 1877 except that Parkes (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21,013), gives a drawing of the church, made in 1819, showing a small turret which could hardly have held more than one bell. The present tower was built in

The customs here are more interesting than usual, several old 1842. ones being still kept up. There is a board in the tower which

orders ringing on the following days:

Christmas Eve: 7-8 p.m. and 11-12 30 a.m.

Christmas Day, Easter, Whit-Sunday, and Harvest Festival: for Early Celebration and other Services.

New Year's Eve: 7-8 and 11 50-12 30. This is still kept up.

New Year's Day and Old Christmas Day: 7-9 p.m. Good Friday: Muffled peals for Services; still kept up.

All Saints' Day and November 5th: 7-9 p.m. Ringing on the

latter day is still kept up. On Sundays the bells are rung or chimed at the ringers' option. On another board in the belfry is painted the following:

On Good Friday 1882 the first muffled peal was rung on these Bells

J, A. Vickers Treble G. Evans 2nd W. Podmore 3rd C. F. Vickers 4th A. Norton Tenor.

WATERS UPTON. ST. MICHAEL.

Two bells.

 $(20\frac{1}{2})$ in.

2. CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1865

On waist:-



(22 in.

Hung in an angular open stone turret, the smaller one above the other. With the aid of three ladders and various members of the late Vicar's family, to whose friendly help and agility I am greatly indebted, the bells were reached and examined without great difficulty. They have no clappers, and are struck by outside hammers only, the larger one being used for the clock,

The smaller bell is an almost exact replica of that at Cardeston, with the addition of the initials I B, which enables us to connect it with the 2nd at Boningale, cast at Wellington in 1699. Were it not for the repetition of the initials R . D C . W at Cardeston, it would naturally be supposed that they indicated a churchwarden, and, indeed, it is still possible that they do, and that the repetition is only a coincidence. It has also been suggested that both were cast for one place and subsequently separated. (See under Cardeston.) For the ornament and date-figures see Plate XVI., figs. 4, 5.

The church was re-built in 1865, when the larger bell was re-cast

[1549]: 'ij smalle bellis of accorde.' 4 May, 1553: 'UPTON P'VA. Two small bells.'

1740 : 'Upton p'ua al's Watrs Upton 2 Bells.'

1752: 'Upton Parva 2 Bells.'

In 1817 the bells hung in a sort of cupola, as may be seen in a drawing in the Parkes MSS. (Brit. Mus. Add, 21, 181.)

Many thanks to the late Vicar, Rev. J. B. Davies, and his family, especially Mr. Arthur Davies, R.N.

WOMBRIDGE. SS. Mary and Leonard.

One bell.

On waist:—(a) WOMBRIDGE. PARISH. CHURCH. 1800.

E. P. CAREW BROWNE, VICAR,

J. B. DICKEN F. T. RETCHFORD CHURCHWARDENS

E. KOARE CLERK

O WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS:

(b) CHARLES CARR LTD.
BELLFOUNDERS
SMETHWICK.

(24 in.

Hung with lever; angular cannons; used for clock. The cost

of this new bell was £,40

The present church dates from 1869; for its previous history see Cranage's Shropshire Churches, Part vii., p. 637. A drawing of the old church, made in 1819, is given by Parkes. (Add. MSS. Brit. Mus., 21,013.)

Thanks to Rev. E. P. Carew Browne, formerly Vicar.

WOODCOTE.

ell.

1. JOSEPH SMITH MADE ME 1723

(131 in.

Below, a band of ornament (Plate VI., fig. 8).

In an open wooden cupola or turret of modern date. Inscription given by Lynam in *Church Bells of Staffordshire*, p. 37.

WROCKWARDINE WOOD HOLY TRINITY. One bell.

Church built 1833, the parish being formed out of Wrockwardine and Eyton-on-the-Weald-Moors. The tower contains one bell, by Taylor, of Loughborough, 1891; diameter 40½in, weight 12cwt. 2qrs. 7lbs.

5. DEANERY OF SHIFNAL.

ALBRIGHTON.

ST. MARY.

Six Bells.

- 1. On the waist:—Thomas Mears & Son of London Fect 1806 (30 in.
- 2. W: TAYLOR OXFORD FEOIT 1849. G: BUCKNALL G: AUSTIN CH: WARDENS. (31 in,

3. On the waist:-- RECAST 1901

J. FORSHAW WARDENS

T. PRIESTLEY-VICAR

BARWELL FOUNDER BIRMINGHAM

(32 in.

4. G. BUCKNALL G. AUSTIN CHURCHWARDENS W. TAYLOR OXFORD FECIT 1849

On the waist, as No. 3, but on the other side from the upper inscription. (34½ in.

5. Lester & Pack of London Fecit 1766

Below, a band of similar ornament all round.

(36½ in.

6. REVD:G:W:WOODHOUSE VICAR G:BUCK-NALL G: AUSTIN CH: WARDENS 1849.

In admirable order; new fittings throughout; all cannons off, and ugly cylindrical caps screwed to the head stocks, all of which

have Barwell's name on them. Room for eight bells.

The old 3rd was inscribed like the present 5th, the old 4th like the present 2nd, as indicated by the reproduced inscription. The Oxford foundry was a predecessor of the well-known one at Loughborough, but did not last long, and has not left many bells. The 2nd is an ugly straight-shouldered bell.

Weights of new bells: (3rd) 7cwt. 10lbs.
(4th) 8cwt 4lbs.

Tenor about 12cwt.

2 June, [1549]: 'Foure bells of accord.'

1740: 'Four bells and a Sts bell.'

1752: '5 Bells.'

The ring appears to have been increased to six by Lester and Pack in 1766, but of these six, only one now remains.

Bells rung or chimed for Sunday Services; one bell at 8 a.m. on

2nd and 4th Sundays.

Ringing on Christmas Day, Easter Day, and New Year's Eve; weekly practice from November to Easter

Weddings and Muffled peals by request.

A good set of Ringers' Rules, but not much regularity about ringing.

A local rhyme (for which I am indebted to the Vicar of Tong),

runs :

"We have much good roast beef, Say the bells of Albrighton; We have none, Say Boningale;

Nor we.

Say Donington."

The number of words in each case corresponds to the number of bells in each tower (Donington only had two down to 1879).

BONINGALE.

St. CHAD.

Three bells.

FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1. J: TAYLOR Có (261 in. 1891

laudate Dominum 1699

On waist

(274 in

SAVE HIS CHVRCH **₩** GOD 1|6|1|1

(30½ in

The 1st is hung above the other two; the words are widely spaced. It replaces a bell inscribed exactly like the present 2nd, with the addition of a fleur-de-lys surrounded by scrolls which followed the date (see Plate XVI., fig. 7). The diameter was 24 inches.

These two bells are by an unknown founder, whose initials are I. B., as the medallion on the waist shews (Fig. 11); he also cast



Fig. 11 (two-thirds of original).

bells for Cardeston, Knockin, Kenley, and Waters Upton (q.v.). That he was working at Wellington is shewn by the Churchwardens' Accounts (see below). The use of black letter with old English capitals at this date is very unusual.

3rd by R. Oldfield; cf. Munslow and Plate XIV., fig 2.

A new frame for the treble and new fittings were supplied in 1891 at a cost of £46.

1740 and 1752: '3 Bells.'

Tolling for funerals.

On Sundays, chiming for services, followed by one bell tolled.

Ringing on New Year's Eve.

Best thanks to Rev. C. P. Isaac. Rector.

In the Churchwardens' Accounts for the year 1699 are the following entries (published in these *Transactions*, Vol. VII., 1884, p. 134):

Paid at William Marsons when the Bellfounder	£	s.	d.
met y ^e parishioners		I	6
Paid for Casting the Bells Paid for Mettle put into the Bells	7	0	0
Paid for Articles and a Road		0	_
Paid for Waying the Palla		7	
For taking and fetching the Bells	0	I	0
Spent at Wellington		2	0

The transcriber of these entries states that the bond alluded to is still in existence. The Rector, however, informs me that he can discover no traces of it among the parish documents. This is much to be regretted, as it would have revealed the name of the founder who, so far, has remained an enigma.

See also under Albrighton and Donington for traditions in connection with these hells

BOSCOBEL.

The Rev, J. E. Auden kindly contributes the following note:

"The ruins of the Church of St. Leonard, belonging to the Convent of White Ladies, are now in the 'extra-parochial' parish of Boscobe! In the inventory taken on its dissolution occurs the entry: 'Bells in the Stepull, Ther Remeyneth unsolde in the Stepul 3 Bells,'"

DAWLEY MAGNA. HOLY TRINITY.

Five bells.

1. WHEN I RING ILE SWEE^TLY SING (25 in

PROSPERITY TO ALL OVR BENEFACTORS (26½ in. ₩ A A R 1716

PEACE_& GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD 3. A 🛕 R 💖 🥨

ABR: RVDHALL BELLFOVNDER 4. $(29\frac{3}{4} in.$ 1716 **CYCY**

WIER **IEFFERY** RALFE LITTLEHALSE & (32½ in. 5. 90 CHVRCHWARDENS 1716

A light ring by Abraham Rudhall; border on 1st, 3rd, and 4th, Fig. 1; on 1st, 2nd, and 5th the ornament Plate XXIV. ng. 3; cabled cannons to all. On the 1st the T of SWEETLY has been omitted, and is incised above the line.

In very good order. [1549]: 'DAVLEY. iij Belles of oone accorde.'

4 May, 1553; 'Three bells.'

1740 and 1752: '5 bells.' Chiming at Funerals; muffled peals occasionally; death-knell tolled when requested.

On Sundays chiming for services.

Ringing at Christmas and Easter, on New Year's Eve and special occasions, and for Weddings.

I was told in 1905 that there was not much ringing, a new band of ringers having been just constituted.

ST. LUKE. DAWLEY PARVA.

One modern bell in a turret; church built 1845.

ST. CUTHBERT. DONINGTON.

Three bells

On the waist, low down: 1

THIS BELL WAS CAST IN 1782 RECAST IN 1848 AT THE EXPENSE OF GEORGE JONES ESQ OF SHACKERLEY and line: __JOHN JELLICORSE JOHN BOULTON CHURCH-WARDENS J SPENCER CASTER BILSTON FOUNDRY (241 in.

MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1882.

(34 in. The same, but no stops.

(2) 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 6 lbs. Note E flat.

B flat. 7 cwt. o qrs. 17 lbs.

The treble has angular cannons, and is a good casting, but poor in tone; there is an inscription-band round the shoulder. It is, so far as I know, the only church bell that has ever been produced by this firm, who were well-known ironfounders in that district of Staffordshire.

The 2nd and 3rd replace two bells destroyed by the fall of the

tower, in 1879.

17 May, 1553. The churchwardens 'do bind o'selves by these p'sentes to save keep unstollen unsold unembeseliyed . . . ij smale bell[s] nowe remaynynge within the church and steple of Donygto' as we will answere therefor.' (Griffith's History of Tong, D. 224.)

1740: 'Donnington 2 bells.'

1752: 'Donnington 5 bells.' (Sic)

Parkes (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS., 21,010-16), gives two bells in 1819.

A bell is rung at Funerals after the service,

There is a tradition that a bell intended for Donington was once intercepted on its way from the foundry by the people of Boningale and (presumably) placed in their steeple.

See also under ALBRIGHTON.

The Churchwardens' Accounts extend from 1629 to 1811, but I cannot gather that they contain anything of interest relating to the

KEMBERTON. SS. JOHN BAPTIST AND ANDREW.

Four bells.

1. WILL WHIISTIONS THO WIIKIS CW 1671



(261 in.

PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD 1735 The second (28 in.

ibesvs be ovr SPEDE

(30 in. GOD +++++++++++ SAVE +++++++++ ****** KING

On the waist: (33 in.

ist: By Thomas Clibury; fleur-de-lys Plate XII., fig 4; foundry shield Plate V., fig. 2.

3rd: From the Nottingham foundry; by Henry Oldfield. Lettering as at Stirchley (see Plate XXIV., figs 6, 7); the cross is that formerly belonging to the Worcester 'Royal Head' founder, as at Bitterley (Plate IX., fig. 1), and the stops before the date are the King and Queen stamps (Plate III., figs. 1. 3), which also came into Oldfield's possession. Note the form of the D, which resembles that used on the Royal Head bell at Bitterley (Plate IX., fig. 4)

4th: By William Clibury; cross Plate XII., fig. 1; borders between words, Plate XIII., fig. 2; on the waist, the large medallion

Plate XI., fig. 1, as at Clumbury.

Belfry rather dirty. The 2nd bell has cabled cannons.

1740 : [MSS. torn]. 1752: '4 bells.'

It is stated that there was formerly a fifth bell, which was exchanged to Sutton Maddock for the clock now at Kemberton, the place for the clock being still visible at Sutton.

CUSTOMS:

'Mattins bell' (i.e. the old Mass Bell), rung at 9 a.m. on Sundays. For services, the tenor is tolled for five minutes, followed by chiming for five minutes, and 'tolling in' on the small bell for the last five.

At Funerals the sex and age of the deceased are indicated by the

method of tolling

Ringing on Easter Day, Whit-Sunday, and Christmas Day; also on New Year's Eve : for Weddings and on secular occasions, for payment.

The tenor is tolled for Vestry Meetings. Thanks to Fev. W. G. Blaby, Vicar.

MALINSLEE. ST. LEONARD.

6 bells.

- GOOD WILL TOWARDS MEN
- GLORIA 2.
- BLESS THEE 3. WE
- GIVE THANKS TO THEE WE
- PRAISE THEE WE 5.
- EARTH PEACE ON

Diam 34gin.

Total weight of ring, $31\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.; tenor, $8\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.; a maiden peal. On a tablet fixed to the bell-frame:

Laus Deo This peal of six bells was erected in the tower of St Leonard's Church,
Malinslee, Dawley
by Charles Carr
of the Woodlands bell-foundry
Smethwick
in the Jubilee Year of
Queen Victoria's reign

June 21st: 887
Rev^d Richard Woods Vicar
F. Howard Davis Churchwardens
George Robinson
Thomas Jones Vicar's Sidesman
Owen H. Harries—Chairman of the bell fund committee

The old bells were given, in 1839, by Mr. W. Botfield, of Decker Hill, Shifnal. The new ring was inaugurated on June 26th, 1887, with services and a peal by the Coalbrookdale ringers. The total cost was £245. (See Church Bells, 1st July, 1887.)

PRIORSLEE.

ST. PETER.

I + I bells.

1. 7473

Clock Bell. No inscription.

A steel bell cast by Naylor, Vickers and Co., of Sheffield, about '1890 (cf. Halford and St. George); very much corroded, and thoroughly in keeping with the church!

The clock-bell is coeval with the church (about 1840).

The old church had a wooden turret (see Parkes' MSS., Brit. Mus. Add. 21,180).

Thanks to Rev. J. P. Stephenson, Vicar.

RYTON.

Dedication Unknown.

Five bells.

- 1. On the waist, low down:

 IMPERATRIX ANNO IVBILARI PERFECTO GRATES

 AGIT SIT GLORIA DEO REGINAR SALVS

 (23\frac{3}{4} in.
- 2. On the waist, low down: HGILLETT DE CROYDON NOS DUAS MINIMAS FECIT
 H IACOBO CLARKE ROBERTS RECTORE ROBERTO BRADLEY GARDIANO MOCCE LXXXVII (25 in.
- 3. **® IESVS BEE OVR SPEED 1620**

4. @ GLORIA DEO IN EXCVLSVS 1620

w ລ

(28 in.

(30½ in. IOHN ADAMS CHVRCH WARDEN 1680

Treble and 2nd by Gillett and Co., of Croydon, Jubilee bells. It will be noted that the inscription on the treble contains a chronogram (MDCCLLLXVIIIIIIIIIII = 1887), indicated by the larger-sized letters. There is a similar chronogram on one of their bells at Folke, Dorset. See Church Bells, 18th November,

3rd and 4th by William Clibury; good sprigged letters; initial

cross Plate XIII., Fig. 3.

Tenor by Thomas Roberts (see under Badger); a coarselymoulded and ugly bell, with heavy mouldings on the rim; inscription placed lower down than usual on the waist. For date figures, cf. Plate V., Fig. 8.

All in good order; clock with quarter-chimes.

The two smallest bells are new; there were only three previous to 1887. Browne Willis (1740) says: '3 Bells, tenor Rudhall.' It is not often that he is guilty of an inaccuracy.

The Churchwardens' Accounts only begin in 1692, and would, therefore, throw no light on the history of the bells. There appear

to be no Edwardian Inventories.

1740: 'Ryton al's Ruyton by Brocton 3 Bells.'

1752: '5 bells' (sic).

Chiming at funerals; the passing-bell has fallen into disuse.

On Sundays bells rung or chimed for 15 minutes, followed by tolling on one bell.

Ringing early on Great Festivals and for Harvest Thanksgiving and on New Year's Eve.

Thanks to Rev. H. P. Fraser, Rector.

ST. GEORGE.

One bell.

1 No inscription.

A steel bell like those at Knowbury and Priorslee, hanging (without cannons) in the upper part of the incomplete tower; metal much corroded and honey-combed.

Church first built 1806; also known as Painslane Chapel.

SHIFNAL.

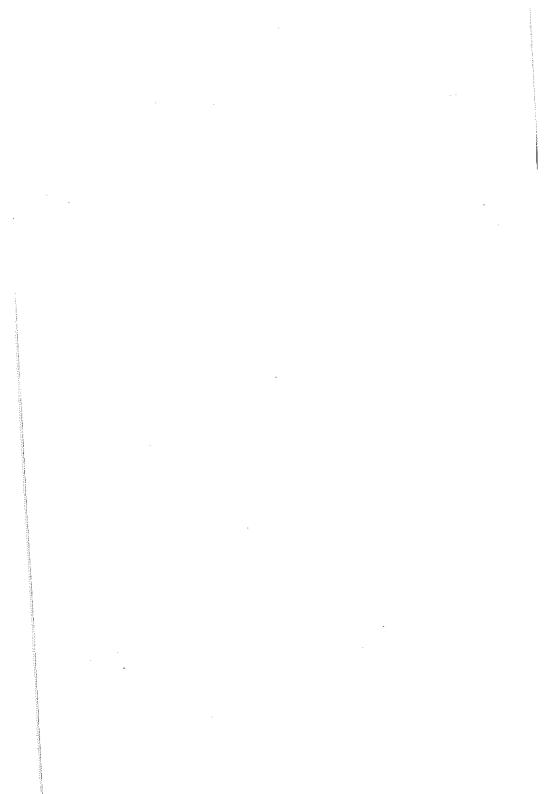
ST. ANDREW.

Eight bells.

1. LAUDATE DEUM SANCTUM OMNIPOTENTEM 1770

PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT

- LAUDATE **D**OMINUM SECUNDUM AMPLITUDINEM EGUS 1770 PACK, etc. (as No. 1). (29½ in. LAUDATE DEUM CLANGORE BUCCINÆ PACK CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1770 004 (32 in. LAUDATE DEUM NABLIO ET CITHARA PACK etc. (as No. 3). 5. Laudate Deum Tympano et Tibia allc & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1770 6. LAUDATE DEUM HYDRAULIS ET ORGANO. PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1770 ******* 7. LAUDATE DEUM CYMBALIS ET CAMPANIS CAST IN THE YEAR 1770 BY PACK & CHAPMAN OF London >0000000 (44 in. SINGULI SONENT LAUDATIONEM DEL JNO BROOKE VICAR R SLANEY H BROOKE CH: WARDENS 1770 PACK etc. (as on No. 1). Below, loop-pattern as before all round. (48 in. All in excellent order; re-hung by Carr, of Smethwick. A model ringing chamber. Chiming Apparatus used. The inscriptions are adapted from the Vulgate of Ps. 150; NABLIO corresponds to the A.V. 'psaltery.' Note Egus for Eius on the 2nd; also the use of a singular verb FECIT with the plural name of the firm. The Rev. John Brooke (tenor) was Vicar 1754-1772. Mr. E. Weatherby, of Market Drayton, has kindly supplied the weights (as also a list of the peal-boards in the ringing-chamber): (1) 5 : 2 : 3 (5) 8 : I $(2) \cdot 5 : 3 : 20$ $(3) \cdot 6 : 1 : 10$ (6) 10 : 0 : 4 (7) 13 : 0 (4) 7 : 1 : 2I (8) 18 ; 9 Note E flat. No Inventories.
- 1740: 'Shiffnall 5 bells.' 1752: 'Idsall 6 bells.' See also Transactions, i., p. 450; Salopian Shreds and Patches, ix., p. 230; Church Bells, 6th February, 1875.





Figs. 1-8. STIRCHLEY (JOHANNES DE COLSALE, 1410).
Figs. 9, 12. TONG SANCTUS. Fig. 10. STIRCHLEY (NOTTINGHAM CROSS).
Fig. 11. SHERRIFF HALES (JOSEPH SMITT)

Customs:

Tolling at Funerals.

Ringing for Services on Sundays; at Christmas, Easter, and after midnight on New Year's Eve; also for Confirmations, Weddings, and on Sovereign's Birthday.

Curfew, formerly at 11 pm., from November to Candlemas (ie., while fires were necessary); also Matins bell at 5 a.m. (Shropshire Folk-Lore, p. 602).

Many thanks to Mr. W. Bradney, Head Ringer.

There are some half-dozen peal-boards in the ringing-chamber, recording some thirty peals rung between 1774 and 1845. One states that the first peal of Stedman's rung outside London was achieved here. Others which may be noted are:

30 April, 1774 and 30 April, 1783: 5,040 Grandsire Triples. 23 April, 1785: Quarter-peal of Bob Major, 10,080 in 6hrs. 30min.

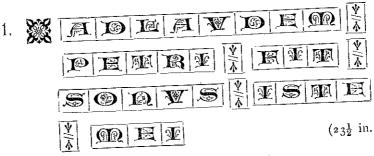
1786: 6,608 Double Bob Major. 23 July, 1787: 6,016 New Treble Bob. 24 Feb.

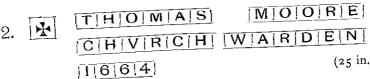
23 March, 1790: 6,272 Oxford Treble Bob.

STIRCHLEY.

ST. JAMES.

Three bells.





spede 1594 OVR IDESVS B€ (28 in.

1st : By Johannes de Colsale (perhaps Cossall, near Nottingham), about 1410; for cross, stop, and lettering, see Plate XXIII., Figs. 1-8; cf. a bell at Kellington, Yorkshire (Yorkshire Arch. Journal, 1900, pl. 8). D

Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

2nd: By Thomas Clibury; for the cross, cf. Astley Abbotts and Stockton (Plate V., Fig. 3).

3rd: By Henry Oldfield, of Nottingham; cf. Kemberton, and for the cross and lettering Plate XXIII., Fig. 10, Plate XXIV., Figs. 6, 7.

Belfry very dark.

[1549]: 'STYRSCHELEY ij bells of oone accorde.'

1752 : '3 Bells.'

See also Hare, p. 260.

Customs:

Ringing formerly on 5th November.

Tolling for one hour at Funerals, if paid for.

Bells on Sundays for half-an-hour before Services (use not specified).

A bell rung for Vestry Meetings.

Best thanks to Rev. W. H. Painter, Rector.

STOCKTON.

ST. CHAD.

Six bells.

- 1. D + D + THOMAS WHITMORE ARMIG AN. DOM 1808

 ÆT SVÆ VICES PRIMO SOSSE

 Below:—Motto Tho Least I Lead The Pleasing

 Sound That Joy Bespeaks to some Around
 THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT (33 in.
- 2. DANIELL BLACKSHAWE THOMAS NOCK WARDENS 1685 (34 in.
- 3. I. RUDHALL FECT [the rest filed away] (36 in.
- 4. Thomas Mears of London Fecit 1812 > (39 in.
- 5. THIS 负负 IS 负负 THE 负负负 GIFTER 负负负 OF 负负 SVR WIL-LIAM 负负负 WHITMORE 1687 (41 in.
- 6. H GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO PATRI ET FILIO ET SPIRITVI SANTO IOHN LEE THO FARMER WAR 1651

On sound-bow: GVLIELMVS WHITMORE
MILES HVIVS ECCLESIAE PATRONVS ET
INSTAVRATOR +++++++

IPSE IN ECCLESIAM TRIVMPHANTEM
ADSCITUS ME ECCLESIAM MILITANTIS AD

VSVM VOVIT ET DESIGNAVIT (45 in.

2nd: A rough casting; by Ellis Hughes of Shrewsbury; similar bells at Shipton, Tugford, and Kinnersley. See *Bye-Gones*, 8 Jan., 1908.

3rd: Type as at Chetton and Sutton Maddock.

5th: By William Clibury; cross Plate XII., Fig. 1; borders

Plate V., Fig. 5; the 4 of the date is reversed.

6th: A beautiful bell and beautiful inscription, remarkable at this date, and also of historical interest as throwing light on the date of the church (see Cranage's Shropshire Churches, pt. 1, p. 39). The initial cross is Plate V., Fig. 3; the border, Plate XIII., Fig. 2; the lettering like that at Acton Burnell, but thinner and smaller.

1740: '5 bells c. 1585' (sic); 1752: '5 bells.'

The Churchwardens' Accounts cover the period 1598—1677, but those for the years 1634 and 1651 are, unfortunately, missing; though of great interest, they do not appear to have much relating to the bells.

Sir William Whitmore, whose memory is so gracefully perpetuated on the tenor bell, was born in 1572, and died December, 1648. He purchased Apley Park, and was High Sheriff of the County in 1620.

His descendant Thomas Whitmore, who gave the treble, was born in 1782, and owner of Apley 1796—1846. He was M.P. for Bridgnorth, and High Sheriff in 1805. He died in 1846, and his son, the Rev. George Whitmore, was Rector of Stockton for many years previous to his death in 1900.

At APLEY PARK, which is in this parish, there was formerly a dinner-bell, inscribed COME AWAY MAKE NO DELAY A R, weighing 8olbs. Being cracked, it was removed some thirty years ago. (Salopian Shreds and Patches, iii., p. 158.)

¹ The reading here is uncertain, as it is just where the clock hammer strikes, and inaccessible for rubbing. The word may be IN or AD, or there may be no preposition at all.

SUTTON MADDOCK. St. MARY.

Five bells.

- 1. · · · IOHN RUDHALL GLOCESTER FEC^T 1910
- 2. The same.

(29 in.

- 3. A: R 1700 (followed by border composed of the ornament Plate XXIV., Fig. 3, repeated all round). (311 in.
- 4. Above the inscription, Fig. 2 all round.

HVMPHREY GRENOWS G^T A: R 1700 (continuous pattern as on 3rd.) (33 in.

5. DANIEL BAYLY VICAR (***) (continuous).

(2nd line):—FRANCIS RODEN W DUNCALFE

CHVRCHWARDENS A: R (36 in.)

Originally all five by Abraham Rudhall; on the three larger bells the bell stamp is of the archaic form (Plate XXI., Fig. 12). Borders; on 1st and 2nd, Fig. 1; on 3rd, a continuous row of bits of pattern as at Dawley (Plate XXIV., Fig. 3; cf. Fig. 3); on 4th, the same and Fig. 2; on 5th, Fig. 2 and one bit of pattern as before. Type on 1st and 2nd as on Stockton 3rd.

Belfry dirty; new head-stocks; cannons off 3rd. Bells hung

N						
	8	4				
w		5	E			
"		1	-			
		2				
		S				

1740; '5 bells 1700.'

1750; '5 bells.'

At funerals the bells are chimed as the procession approaches. On Sundays before the services the bells are chimed for ten

minutes, followed by 'tolling in' for five,
See also under Kemberton for tradition of an exchange

See also under Kemberton for tradition of an exchange of bells and clock.

Thanks to Rev. W. G. R. Blaby, Vicar.

TONG. ST. BARTHOLOMEW. 6+2 bells. 1. PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD 哭哭 英某某 A ▲ R 1719 英某某某某 2. 团 GLORIA & & & IN & & & & EXCEL-\$V\$ & & & DEO & & & & 1636 (31 in * PRAISE THE LORD 1593 (33 in 4. I sweetly | toling | men | do | call talte on meate that feeds foole 1605 (35 in. 5. X GLORIA SAKO IN SAKO EX-CELSVS SAKE DEO SAKE 1623 w**Å**c (38 in. 6. Thos Means of London Fecit 1810 (43 in, (14 in.

GREAT BELL.

HENRICVS VERNON MILES ISTAM CAMPANAM FIERI FEUIT 1518 AD LAVDEM DEI OMNIPOTENTIS BEATÆ MARIÆ & STI BARTHOLOMÆI

Below: fleur-de-lys border like Fig. 5.

On waist:—(a) EANDEM VETUSTATE IAM FATISCENTEM
DENUO

CONFLANDAM ET REPONENDAM CURAVIT
ORLANDO

GEORGIUS CAROLUS COMES DE BRADFORD VICARIO JOANNE COURTNEY CLARKE MDCGCXCII.

(b) JOHN TAYLOR AND CO. BELLFOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH

On sound-bow: Above, running scroll-pattern, with bell at intervals.

Below:—QVAM PERDVELLIONVM RABIE FRACTAM SVMPTI-BVS PAROCHIÆ REFVDIT ABR: RVDHALL GLOGESTER: ANNO 1720 L: PIETIER MIN: T. WOODSHAW T: PEYNTON ÆDITVIS

(Border like Fig. 3 for several inches).

(5ft. 21in.

Bells hung 1895), but not 2 1 5 4; in good order (re-hung by Barwell, easy to ring; cannons off treble.

Sanctus hung on one of the uprights; rung with lever.

Great bell hung in the lower storey of the tower in iron frame, with wheel; no cannons; clapper tied for safety's sake. Weight, 2 tons 10 cwt.; that of its predecessor is variously given as 2 tons 1 cwt. 2 qrs. and 2 tons 8 cwt.

Treble: By Abraham Rudhall; borders. Fig. 3.

2nd and 5th; By William Clibury; cross on 2nd, Plate XII., Fig. 2; on 5th, Fig. 7 (as at Stokesay); borders on 2nd, Plate 5, Fig. 5; on 5th, Plate XIII., Fig. 1; shield on 5th, Plate XXIV., Fig. 2 (also found at Blymhill, Staffordshire).

3rd: By Robert Newcombe, of Leicester; cross Plate XXIV., Fig. 1; quasi-Gothic letters, as on the 7th bell at Bushbury, Staf-

fordshire (Lynam, Plate 42a); see Plate XXIV., Figs. 4, 5.

4th: By Henry Oldfield, of Nottingham (cf. Adderley 3rd); initial letter Plate XXI., Fig. 13; founder's stamp Plate XXI., Fig.

Sanctus: By one of the Newcombes, of Leicester; cross Plate XXIII., Fig. 12 (occurring also at Upton Magna); fleur-de-lys, Plate XXIII., Fig. 9. Date about 1600; the bell at Upton Magna is dated 1605, and there is a bell with similar marks at Kingscliffe, Northants, dated 1592.

A torn fragment of a newspaper article in the church chest has (probably quoting from some history of Shropshire): "Tong, There are six bells in the tower. The old sixth bore the inscription. Virgo regina coelorum funde preces ad filium pro salutate fidelium William Fitzherbert." This old tenor was sold in 1810 for the present bell. A William Fitzherbert was a benefactor to the church in 1451-2, but his will, dated January 26th of that year, and proved May 12th, 1452, makes no mention of the bell. If he was the donor, it must have been during his lifetime.

In the Inventory of [1549] we read, 'Three bells of accord.' In that of 25 May, 1553 :- Tongge. This byll Indentyd made the xxvth of Maie in the vijth yere of the reygne of oure moste dreade soveraygne lorde kyng Edward the syxte betwyxt Andrewe Corbett Rychard Cornewaylle and Rychard Newport on thone partyee And Robert Foster Roger Wysstone and Henrye Harryson on thother partyee Wytnessythe that wee the seyde Robert Roger and Henrye do by theese presentes confesse and bynd oureselvys to saive and keepe unstollen unsolde and unembesellyd three bellys att these presens remeyninge wythin the steeple of Tongge and in wytnes hereoff wee have putte oure handes the yeere and day above seyd.

In 1740 and 1752; '6 bells.'

The Great Bell, tradition tells us, was originally given by Sir Harry Vernon of Tong Castle, governor to Arthur, Prince of Wales, who was once benighted in Brewood Forest, lost his way, and only recovered it by hearing and following the sound of the bell for evensong at Tong Church. In gratitude he presented the great bell and assigned a rent out of his manor of Norton for tolling it when any Vernon came to Tong. Again following tradition we are told,—"This old bell lost its voice in the Civil Wars, it being then cracked by the Cromwellian artillery, that left such tell-tale traces on the Church's outer walls" (sic). re-cast at Gloucester in 1720, and continued to hang, sound and whole, though rung only on rare and special occasions, until 1848, when once again it was cracked [see below]. In 1892 it was again re-cast by Taylor of Loughborough, and now occupies its old place in the tower.

The Vicar, Rev. J. E. Auden, adds-"But when the Vernons ceased to own Tong, and the rent was lost, the rule for ringing was altered to "whenever Royalty or Vernon came to Tong" (see below), and subsequently it was rung at other times for service, as in 1848, on Ash Wednesday, when it was broken in consequence of a defective clapper striking the rim too near the edge.

The inscription on the present bell is practically a reproduction of those on its two predecessors, as we learn from several sources. In Elias Ashmole's Collections (Ashmole MS. 854, p. 109; a copy

¹ Possibly from Salopian Shreds and Patches, vol. ii. (see references given below).

in Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 30331, fol. 134) the original bell is described as follows:—"A bell in Tonge church weighing aboue 4200lb. The diameter a Yard \(\frac{3}{4}." \) Then follows a drawing of the bell; on the sound-bow is seen:

henricus vernon

AD LAVDEM DEF PATRES

ONNEROTEMENTS DETERMENTS

FINANCE ET BANCES

REALDACOURSER

"Underneath this Inscrip', in the same character"-

DETARGOS VERMON 103= LES 3STAM CAUDANAM 13ER3 FEC3T · 10UNDERS BELL 1518.

The same is given by Parkes (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21012, fol. 60) in black letter.

The inscription on Rudhall's re-casting, as shown in a rubbing preserved in Mr. North's collection, is as follows:—

HENRICVS VERNON MILES ISTAM CAMPANAM FIERI FECIT 1518 AD LAVDEM DEI OMNIPOTENTIS BEATÆ MARIÆ & BARTHOLOMÆI SANCTI. [Border Fig. 2.]

Below-Border Fig. 5 all round.

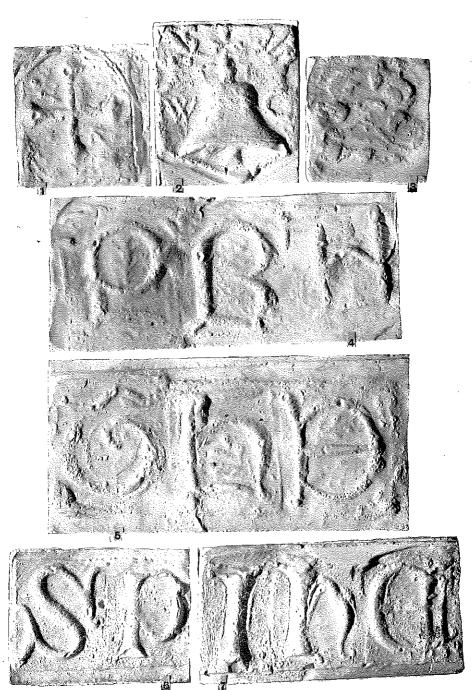
On the sound-bow:—QUAM PERDVELLIONVM RABIE FRACTAM SVMPTIBVS PAROCHIÆ REFVDIT ABR: RVDHALL GLOVCEST^R ANNO 1720 L PIETIER MIN: T: WOODSHAW & T: PEYNTON ÆDITVIS [Border, Fig. 3.]

Mr. Auden has pointed out to me that the inscription of 1720 and its successor contain two probable inaccuracies. In the first place, Sir H. Vernon died in 1515,2 so that he could not have given

2 His Will was proved on May 5 in that year; it contains no mention of the

bell or any provision of money for it.

¹ The rubbing is incomplete, but I have fortunately been able to fill in the gap from a copy of the inscription made by the late Mr. C. A. Edgell of Shrewsbury in 1890.



Figs. 1, 4, 5. TONG (NEWCOMBE). Fig. 2. TONG (W. CLIBURY). Fig. 3. RUDHALL'S ORNAMENT. Figs. 6, 7. KEMBERTON & STIRCHLEY.



the bell in his lifetime if its date was 1518. I think a possible explanation may be, that the date, if in Arabic numerals, was really 1514, the old form of 4. or 8, being used, and that this was misread as 1518.1 Secondly, there appears to be no evidence that the "rabies perduellionum" did any harm to the bell; and if, as Mr. Auden thinks, the entry in the Churchwardens' Accounts for 1635 (see below) implies that the bell was broken in that year, any such iconoclastic efforts on the Parliamentarians' part would have been a work of supererogation. In any case, there is nothing but vague tradition in favour of the story.

The Rev. Lewis Pietier was Minister of Tong 1695 to 1745, and the Rev. John Henry Courtney Clarke was Vicar 1890 to 1896. The original bill for the re-casting in 1720 (see below) is in the Shrewsbury Free Library, and a copy of it was given by the late

Archdeacon Lloyd to the present Vicar.

The "bibliography" of Tong bells in general, and of the great bell in particular, is somewhat extensive. Besides the authorities already referred to, the latter is mentioned as early as 1600 by Camden: "The inhabitants (of Tong) boast of nothing more than a great bell, famous in those parts for its bigness." See his Britannia (Gough's 1789 edn.) ii., p. 398, and Magna Britannia (1727), iv., p. 642. The Universal British Traveller (1779) says: in the tower six bells with a small one to call the people together to worship, and a very large one, seldom rung, which weighs 4800 lbs." The Gentleman's Magazine for 1763, p. 162, gives the weight as 48 cwt., the diameter as 72 in. (see also ibid. 1800, pt. 2, p. 934; Elliot Stock's Reprint, vol. x., pp. 20, 152, 154).

See also Transactions, v. (1882), p. 332, viii. (1885), p. 88; Shropshire Folk-Lore, p. 602; Shropshire Notes and Queries, i. p. 54, ii. p. 67; Salopian Shreds and Patches, i. p. 15, ii. p. 103 (great bell); ii. pp. 107, 129, 160 (old tenor, belfry rules, etc.); v. p. 216 (inscriptions); viii. p. 74; Hare, p. 267; Lukis, Church Bells, p. 33; Notes on Tong Church, p. 6; J. Jones, The Story of the Bell of Tong (1897); and Griffiths' Guide to Tong, 2nd edn., p. 99ff., in which the strange statement is alluded to that there was

a bell at Tong with a Greek inscription!

Customs:

At Funerals the tenor is tolled; chiming previously was formerly customary, but is now rarely asked for, and only by oldfashioned people; the ringers are paid sixpence an hour apiece. A muffled peal is rung after a ringer's funeral.

On Sundays the tenor is tolled at 8 a.m., but the sanctus bell is used where there is Holy Communion. On the first in the

¹ On the other hand, Ashmole's copy, which seems to have been made by Dugdale about 1663, clearly says 1518, and neither of these was likely to have made such an error.

Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

month the bells are rung for Morning and Evening services (practising on the previous Friday); at other times they are The Sanctus is used as a "ting-tang" for the last five minutes.

Ringing also on Christmas Day (6 30 a.m.), Easter Day, Whit-Sunday, St. Bartholomew's Day (Patronal Festival; see below, rules for ringing Great Beli); on New Year's Eve the old year is tolled out on the Great Bell, the new one rung in on the other six. Ringing for Weddings by request.

Sanctus bell rung for Vestry meetings; treble to call ringers together on practice nights.

The bells are rung from the floor of the church; there are six ringers and two probationers, the latter to be elected by the ringers and approved by the Vicar, being promoted by seniority on the occurrence of a vacancy. About forty years ago there was a set of ringers all named John (as were the then Vicar and Clerk), who had a great reputation.

Until 45 years ago the Churchwardens always paid 5s. per annum to the Ringers for ringing on November 5. Then one was appointed who refused, and it has never been done since, ringing on that occasion having also ceased.

In the statutes of Tong College, drawn up 9 March, 1410-11, there are references to the ringing of the bells to this effect:-

(1) Each of the two clerks shall swear to ring for mass as often as

required and at other times to be appointed by the warden.

(2) Every day just after sunrise (a bell) shall be rung for matins, single or double (simpliciler vel dupliciler, sc. one or two bells?) according to the custom of the College, and then by tolling (pulsationibus) according to local custom and as is appropriate to the solemnity of the day.

(3) Similar regulations for ringing at Vespers and Compline. It would appear that there were only two ringers who were in

minor orders (prima tonsura).

The following set of Ringers' Rules is now hung at the bottom of the belfry stairs (placed there by order of Bishop Lonsdale):-

If that to Ring you doe come here You must ring well with hand and eare.

Keep stroak of time and goe not out; Or else you forfeit out of doubt.

Our law is so concluded here; For every fault a jugg of beer,

If that you Ring with Spurr or Hat a jugg of beer must pay for that. If that you take a Rope in hand,

These forfeits you must understand. Or if that you a Bell ov'r-throw It must cost Sixpence e're you goe. If in this place you sweare or curse; Sixpence to pay, pull out your purse.

Come pay the Clerk it is his fee: For one (that Swears) shall not goe free. These laws are Old, and are not new; Therefore the Clerk must have his due.

Geo. Harrison, 1694.

It will be seen that, though the general tenour is the same, these lines vary considerably from others already given.

I'he Rules for ringing the great bell are as follows:-

THE GREAT BELL.

The Great Bell shall be Rung on the following occasions-On Christmas Day, Easter Day, Whit-Sunday, St. Bartholomew's Day.

On the birth of a child to the Sovereign.

On the birth of an heir to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

On the birth of an heir to the Earl of Bradford.

Whenever a member of the Royal Family visits Tong.

Whenever the head of the Vernon family visits Tong. On the institution of a new Vicar.

The Bell shall be Tolled

On Good Friday, New Year's Eve.

On the Death of the Sovereign, Heir Apparent, or any child of the Sovereign or Prince of Wales.

On the Death of the Earl or Countess of Bradford, Viscount Newport or his heir, the Bishop of the Diocese, or the Vicar of Tong.

J. H. COURTNEY CLARKE Vicar. THOS. W. TIMMIS Churchwardens.

1802.

The old rule was merely a rhymed couplet: "the Great Bel. shall be rung when Royalty or Vernon comes to Tong'; Henry Vernon's traditional direction even more brief: "when any Vernon comes to Tong."

The Churchwardens' Accounts extend from 1630-1690, and from 1810 onwards. I am greatly indebted to the Vicar, Rev. J. E. Auden, for the following extracts:-

	Paid for casting a bell brasse & putting it in & a plate	iiij ^s	iid
	Paid for a tugge 1 for the greate Bell Paid to the Ringers on the Kinges holye Day 2	iiij ^s	-,
1631,	Payd for a bell roape	iij ^e	

¹ Probably = the modern "sally." ² An annual entry, except that the sum rises to 5s. It is "5 Nov." during the Commonwealth, and "Gunpowder Plot" after the Restoration. [J. E. A.]

1635	Paid for a rope for the greate bell Paid Whitmore for hanging the greate bell a new Paid for mendinge a bell clapper and the Clocke Receaued for a peese of mettle web was broken		4 ⁸ 15 2	
	of the greate bell ¹	Ĭ	I 2	8
1637.	Paid to the Ringers at Joane Sutton's buriall			_
	10 the Kingers at Blakemores wifes buriall		2	0
1638,	For beare for the Ringers when my Lord Richard		2	0
	came to longe			6
1639.	raid for from and workmanship for the greate bell			٠,
	& Claper		5	0
.6	raid for incliding the bells		2	6
1040.	Taid for a rope for the fift hell		2	6
	Paid the Ropier of Upton for peecing the bell			
	Paid the Clarke for Ringing Curffew & day bell			6
	in pite			
1641.	in p'te		5	0
, .	greate bell			
	OUCIII III DESTE SE ING come tima		Í	0
	Paid Thomas Meare for Ringing curffew & day			6
	peli		_	
	raid for mending the greate hell Rope		5	0
1644.	Paid to the Cananeere 2 for the redeeming of the litle bell			3
1645.	Paid for a rope for the litle bell		6	0
1647.	Paid for a Tugg for a bell rope		T	6
1650	Paid for a rope for the least bell			4
1651.	For 2 brases for ye Sance bell			10
	For mending y* third & forth bel			6
1652.	Pd. for mending ve forth Dall whatle		1	
1655.	Payd for a rope for the little hall		2	2
00				6
	Payd for peesing 3 bell rops		2	8
1656.	To Willia: Sterrington for ringing			8 6
-	For two new bell ropes & mending the ropes twice		6	0
-	2 O volvos tittee		U	U

¹ This implies that the bell was not broken rabie perduellionum, as stated in the inscription; it is, of course, possible that "greate bell" here only means (as so often elsewhere) the tenor, but in that case, we have no mention of its re-casting, which would have been indispensable. Mr. Auden also points out that such a pre-Reformation inscription as we know was on the old tenor till 1810 would not have been reproduced in 1635, in which year the patron was a strong Puritan, who would not have tolerated anything "Popish."

² Canoneer. By the laws of war, the bells of any place captured after the refusal of a summons were forfeited to the Master of Artiliery. But the Churchwardens and parishioners were permitted to redeem them. Such a claim was made at the siege of Copenhagen in 1807 (see Harl. MSS. 6842). I owe this

note to the Rev. J. E. Auden.

	- 1-
THE CHURCH BELLS OF SHROPSHIRE.	37
1657. Pide for making A belrope for the ffifte bell	3 0
Pide for making A betrope for the line in six plaseayes Pide for pisesing the bell ropes in six plaseayes Pide for pisesing the bell rope for the therd bell	I O
Pide for pisesing the bell ropes in six planty	3 0
Pide for pisesing A rope for the therd bell Pide for making A rope for the pissing of thrice Ropes	0 4
Pide for making A rope for the there Ropes Pide to the Ropier for the pissing of thrice Ropes Pide to the Ropier for the 4th bell	2 0
C.o. For mending the Clapp of was 4	4 0
For worke about the bells	5 0
The Done for the gleat our and the	1 0
1660. Paid for a kope for the little bell	
1002. Pald for a lope	- "
1663. For a 5 belroape For the treble belroape	2 4
For the treoic serioup.	6
For peeceing 4 belroapes	8
For a tugge for a belroape	1 0
For a roape for the Snts beil	0 6,
For a roape for the Shts bell 1664. Win Blakeman for a locker for the fift bell	₂ 6
Arden for a bell rope & peecing a rope Arden for a new bel rope and peeceing 4 with newe 1665. For a new bel rope and peeceing 4 with newe	
1665. For a new bel tope and peccents 4	8 0
	6
1666. For mending one of yo bells	4 0
More to John Badeley for mending yo other bells More to John Badeley for mending yo other bells	38
For a New roape for ye fift bell	7 7
	í 6
More to John Battery ye Roapes For New tugging & pec: ye Roapes	6 υ
For New tugging & pec: y Roapes 1667. To Dosi: Twigg for mending two bell wheeles	3 0
For two new bell ropes for y two lest bells	2 8
1668. For a Rope for the greate peease 2	- 8
1668. For a Rope for the greate picture of the bell ropes 1669. Payd William Arden for mending the bell wheele	3 0
1669. Payd Winam Attest to the lift wheele 1674. For mending the trebbell bell wheele	3 -
For a Bell rope for the fift Bell and mending the	3 4
other belropes	
other belropes 1675. John Baddeley for a plate & neales for the forth	r 6
bell wheele	1 6 6 8
c.e Proble Bell	•
1679. ffor stocking of ye Treble Bell	5 0
for mending y° Tenor Bell stock ffor Iron work for y° Trebel Bell	2 11
	I IO
1691. For a rope for y's first Bell	vinal in the
Bill for re-casting Sir Henry Vernon's Bell 1720 (ons	5,11111 111
Shrawshilly Floo Proventy:	MACHS OF Y
Mr Tho: Woodshaw & Mr. 1110. Abr. Rudhall Jur	nr the 30 of
Dorton of This are comment to a 11 after	WHICH LESS
July 1720 for casting 41 Courty pounds 4.4	0.00.00
July 1720 for casting 41° 00° 15° of old metter in May last past, ye sum of forty pounds £4	
ffor 05° 03° 14" 01 110" 120" 3	8 . 07 . os
pr pound y comes to	
ffor yo mettle being four pounds weight and mettle	
ffor you mettle being four pounds weight for what you old mettle each hundred weight for what yound	09.11.04
weighed at fourteen pence pr pound	

Piecing.
2 I.e., "poise" = weight of the clock.

pd. for new working yo clapper pd. for yo balding yo pins staples &c.	•••	•••	oī.	09 . 00
	in all	Fact	89 .	13,00
1810. Dec. 8. Mr. Underhill for the Sold the Old Bell for 166 r. 1813. April 29. Mr Dovey for giving a	4° ou ssistanc	e to	£137	II.o
procure the new Bell in tune order 1814. Oct. 2. Mr. Benjamin Thomas wheels to the bells, &c.	 for four	บอน		I. o
Nov. 4. Paid William Woolley	tor B	rass	10 .	10 , 0
gudgeons 1831. Ale for the ringers (this item occ	urs in o	ther	3	0 0
years) 1892. April 7. Great Bell lowered He 4ft. 6kin. Width at mouth 5f April 26. It was settled to in	 eight of t. 2½in.	 Bell the		12.0
weight of the Great Bell from towt. I qr. to 50 cwt., at M. recommendation.	om 2 f	Ons	•	
1892. June 21. The Earl of Bradford partial Great Bell, iron frame, 1895. July 1. The Churchwardens wrot Messrs. Barwells' tender for the Bells of £84	and gird	lers	230.	0.0

INSTITUTIONS OF SHROPSHIRE INCUMBENTS.

(Continued from 3rd Series, Volume V., page 376).

WE have already printed in the Transactions (3rd Series, Vol. I. 257-266, and Vol. V. 349-376), the Bishop of Lichfield's Certificates of the induction of Incumbents to benefices in his diocese from 1563 to 1634, extracts from the Libri Institutionum for the Diocese of Lichfield from 1615 to 1648, and extracts from the same Libri Institutionum for the Dioceses of Lichfield and Hereford from 1556 to 1680.

We now print the Bishop of Hereford's Certificates of the induction of Incumbents to benefices in the Diocese of Hereford from 1589 to 1634. These Certificates are addressed to the Barons of the Exchequer, and certify the induction of the clergy to benefices, with a view to the First-Fruits, or first year's profits of the benefice after a vacancy, going to the Crown. They have been, as before, extracted by Mr. W. K. Boyd, for the Society, from the originals in the Public Record Office.

W. G. D. F.

BISHOPS' CERTIFICATES. FIRST FRUITS.

HEREFORD.

FILE I. January 1589—April 1595. Co. SALOP.

Deanery of Burford.-Francis Kerry, Master of Arts and priest, 6th May, 1590, was admitted to the first portion in the church of Burford.

Deanery of Clune.-Roger Greene, Master of Arts and priest, 8th Dec., 1590, was admitted to the vicarage of Downton.

34 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Clune.—Thomas Ellis, clerk, 11th Jan., 1590 [-1], was admitted to the church of Bedston.

Vol. VII., 3rd Series.

35 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Burford.—Josias Pope, clerk, Master of Arts, 31st May [1593] was admitted to the Rectory of Coreley.

36 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Pontisbury.—Owen Davies, clerk, Master of Arts, 17th Oct. [1594] was admitted to the second portion in the parish church of Pontisbury.

37 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Ludlowe.—Richard Willcox, clerk, 24th Jan., 1593[-4] was admitted to the rectory of Silvington, otherwise Silkton.

Deanery of Wenlock.—Evan Davies, Master of Arts, on the 27th of Feb., 1593[-4] was admitted to the vicarage of Great Wenlock.

Deanery of Burford.—William Rogers, clerk, on the 1st of June, 1594, was admitted to the rectory of Dowles.

Deanery of Clune.—Thomas Peate, clerk, on the 26th of June, 1594, was admitted to the vicarage of Stowe.

Deanery of Burford.—Francis Kerrie, Master of Arts, 30th June, 1594, was admitted to the second portion in the parish church of Burforde.

Deanery of Clune.—Humphrey Owens, clerk. on the 20th day of Nov., 1594, was admitted to the rectory of Brompton Brian.

Deanery of Ludlowe.—Edmund Alred, clerk, on the 20th of Jan., 1594[-5] was admitted to the rectory of Hopebaggard.

FILE 2. April, 1595—Oct., 1599. 38 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Pontesbury.—Richard Betchefielde, Master of Arts, 12 Sept., 1595, was admitted to the vicarage of Chirbury.

Deanery of Wenlock.—Thomas Dowghtie, clerk, on the 27th day of Sept. [1595] was admitted to the church of Willey.

Deanery of Burford.—John Cleburie, clerk, on the 21st of January [1595-6] was admitted to the church of Coreley.

39 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Clun.—Erasmus Powell, Bachelor of Arts, clerk, on the 19th of June, 1596, was admitted to the vicarage

Deanery of Wenlock.-William Griffithes, clerk, on the of Clun. 28th of July, in the year aforesaid, was admitted to the rectory of Wystanstowe.

Deanery of Pontesbury.—Richard Harrison, Master of Arts, on the 4th day of August, in year abovesaid, was admitted to the rectory of Shrewardin.

Deanery of Ludlowe.-Robert Horne, Master of Arts, on the 17th of Nov., 1596, was admitted to the parish church of

Deanery of Wenlock.—Richard Vaughan, Master of Arts, Ludlowe. on the 30th of Dec., 1596, was admitted to the rectory of Actonscott, otherwise Acton super Montem.

40 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Pontesbury.—Richard Madok, clerk, on the 17th of May, 1597, was admitted to the first portion in the church of Ponsburie.

Deanery of Pontesbury.—Morgan Evans, clerk, on the 6th of August, 1597, was admitted to the rectory of Hanwoode.

Deanery of Ludlowe.-William Reighnaldes, clerk, on the 18th of August, in the year atoresaid, was admitted to the vicarage of Bromfild.

Deanery of Stottesden.—Thomas Acton, Master of Arts, on the 8th of September, in the same year, was admitted to the vicarage of Chelmershe.

40 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Wenlock.—Richard Davies, Bachelor in Arts, on the 28th of September, 1598, was admitted to the rectory of Acton Scot, otherwise Acton super Montem.

41 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Pontesbury.--Moses Powell, Master of Arts, on the 16th of December, 1598, was admitted to the first portion of the parish church of Pontesburie.

Same deanery.—Hugh Morries, Bachelor in Arts, on the 14th of Feb., 1598[-9], was admitted to the vicarage of the parish church of Abberburie.

Deanery of Ludlowe.—Thomas Habberley, Master of Arts, on the 9th of June, 1599, was admitted to the rectory of the parish church of Didleburie.

FILE 3. Oct., 1599—April, 1605.

42 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Stotesden.—On the 23rd of June, 42 Elizabeth [1600] Peter Barret, clerk, was admitted to the rectory of Glaceley cum Deuxhill.

43 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Stottesdon.—Peter Barret, clerk, on the 23rd of June, 1600, was admitted to the rectory of Glaceley cum Dewxhill.

44 Elizabeth.

Deanery of Clun.—Ambrose Cooke, clerk, on the second of October in the same year [1601] was admitted to the vicarage of Bucknoll, otherwise Buckenhill.

Deanery of Wenlock.—Silvanus Griffithes, Master of Arts, clerk, on the 24th of November [1601] was collated to the rectory of Holgate, otherwise Howgate.

45 Elizabeth—1 May, 1 James I.

Deanery of Ludlow.—William Huttchinson, clerk, Bachelor in Arts, on the 16th of March 1602[-3], was admitted to the rectory of Hopebagar, otherwise Hopebagard.

I James I.

Deanery of Ludlowe.—Richard Churchman, clerk, on the 8th of May, 1603, was admitted to the rectory of Onyburie.

Deanery of Stotesden.—Andrew Adney, Bachelor in Arts, on the 29th of May [1603], was admitted to the rectory of Chelton.

Deanery of Wenlock.—William Normcok, Bachelor in Arts, on the 7th of November, in the year abovesaid, was collated to the diaconal portion in the church of Holgat ("Non in decanatu").

Deanery of Pontesburye.—Thomas Higgins, Master of Arts, on the 2nd of March in the same year [1603-4], was admitted to the first portion in the church of Pontesbury e.

Same deanery.—Ambrose Cooke, clerk, on the same day was admitted to the second portion in the church of Westburye.

2 James I.

Deanery of Stottesden.—5 July, 1604, George Bott was admitted to the rectory of Tasheley.

Deanery of Burford.—25 July [1604] Richard Edgbury, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Greete.

Deanery of Ludlow.—5th December, 1604, James Crowther, Master of Arts, clerk, was admitted to the rectory of Ludlowe.

Deanery of Ludlow.—18th March, 1604[-5], George Jukes was admitted to the rectory of Hope Baggott.

FILE 4. April, 1605-Oct., 1609. 3 James I.

Deanery of Pontesburye.—Lawrence Jones, clerk, 15th January, 1605[-6], was admitted to the vicarage of Chirburye.

4 James I.

Thomas Flaskett, clerk, Master of Arts, instituted to the rectory of Burwarden, co. Salop, 15th May, 1606.

Charles Hall, clerk, instituted to the rectory of Greete, co. Salop, 16th May, 1606.

Nicholas Keysell, clerk, instituted to the rectory of Mynd. towne, co. Salop, 16th July [1606].

Richard Cornewall, Master in Arts, instituted to the first portion of the parish church of Burford, co. Salop, 6th June,

John Barker, clerk, instituted to the rectory of Silvington, 1607. otherwise Silton, co. Salop, 23rd October, 1607.

William Clemson, clerk, instituted to the vicarage of Madeley, co. Salop, 17th December, 1607.

5 James I.

[Admissions of Thomas Flaskett, Charles Hall, and Nicholas Keysell as in 4 James I.]

6 James I.

Edward Froysell, clerk, instituted to the vicarage of Downton, co. Salop, 3rd July, 1608.

George Baxter, Master in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Little Wenlock, co. Salop, 27th August, 1608.

Charlos Hall, clerk, instituted to the vicarage of Cayneham. co. Salop, 6th December, 1608.

7 James I.

Henry Gosden, clerk, was admitted to the rectory of Hopton, co. Salop, deanery of Clunn, 17th March, 1608[-9].

John Tyler, clerk, was admitted to the rectory of Greete,

co. Salop, deanery of Burforde, 1st April, 1609.

Thomas Griffithes, Master in Arts, archdeacon of Hereford, was instituted to the rectory of Hopesaye, co. Salop, deanery of Leompster, 14th June, 1609.

Thomas Heapye, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Riccardes Castell, co. Salop, deanery of Ludlowe, 24th June, 1609.

FILE 5. Oct., 1609—Oct., 1614.

8 James I.

Adam Griffithes, clerk, instituted to the vicarage of Cardington, co. Salop, 15th November, 1610.

William Normecott, clerk, Bachelor in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Olburye, co. Salop, 10th January, 1610.

9 James I.

Nicholas Vescy, clerk, was instituted to the rectory of Sutton, near Shrewsbury, 22nd February, 1610[-11].

William Hughes, clerk, instituted to the rectory of the second portion in the parish church of Burford, co. Salop, 22nd April, 1611.

John Gawen, clerk, was instituted to the second portion of the rectory of the parish church of Burford, co. Salop, 25th April, 1611.

John James, Master in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Broburye, co. Salop, 2nd July, 1611.

10 James I.

Adam Griffithes, Bachelor in Arts, was instituted to the rectory of Bushburie, co. Salop, 9th December, 1212.

John Davies, clerk, instituted to the vicarage of Churburye, co. Salop, 12th December, 1612.

James Crowther, Bachelor of Sacred Theology, instituted to the second portion of the rectory of Westburie, co. Salop, 16th February, 1612[-13].

John James, Master in Arts, instituted to the rectory of

Hollgate, co. Salop, 20th February, 1612[-13].

William Underhill, clerk, Bachelor in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Neenton, co. Salop, 7th April, 1613.

11 James I.

John Freemantell, Master in Arts, instituted to the vicarage of Bucknill, co. Salop, 22nd July, 1613.

Richard Tayler, Bachelor in Arts, instituted to the rectory

of Burwarden, co. Salop, 22nd September, 1613.

Robert Gregorie, Bachelor in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Upton Cresset, 2nd October, 1613.

Adam Griffithes, Master in Arts, instituted to the rectory

of Wistanstowe, co. Salop, 13th November, 1613.

Edward Wotton, Bachelor in Arts, admitted to the vicarage of Cardington, co. Salop, 13th November, 1613.

Jonas Chaloner, Master in Arts, instituted to the vicarage of Great Wenlock, co. Salop, 22nd December, 1613.

FILE 6. Oct., 1614—April, 1619.

12 James I.

Francis Gibbons, Master in Arts, instituted to the first portion in the church of Pontesbury, 28th November, 1614. Patron, Sir Roger Owen, knight.

Richard Luce, Bachelor in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Coreley, co. Salop, 2nd March, 1614[-15]. Patron,

Thomas Otteley, esquire.

Thomas Wilkes, Bachelor in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Neenton, co. Salop, 3rd March, 1614[-15]. Patron, the King by lapse of time.

William Lea, clerk, instituted to the rectory of Shelve, co. Salop, 28th March, 1615. Patron, Edward Lingen, esquire.

William Biggs, Master in Arts, instituted to the rectory of Moore, co. Salop, 4th April, 1615. Patron, Richard Moore, gentleman

13 James 1.

Rectory of the church of Upton Cresset, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop. Francis Smaleman, clerk, was admitted to the said church 25th February in the year abovesaid [1615-16]. Patron, Peter Smaleman, gentleman, by reason of the advowson granted by Edward Cresset.

Vicarage of Chellmarshe, same deanery, &c. Thomas Nicolles, clerk, was admitted to the said vicarage on the 2nd day of March in the year abovesaid. Patron, Thomas Nicolles for this turn by reason of the advowson granted by Rowland Lawe, esquire

Perpetual vicarage of Great Wenlock, co. Salop. George Adeney, clerk, was admitted to the said vicarage on the 14th day of March in the year abovesaid. Patron, Thomas Lawley, gentleman.

14 James I.

Richard Wrednall, clerk, was admitted to the church of Rushebury, deanery of Wenlock, co. Salop, 27th May in the year abovesaid [1616]. Patron, Edward Cresset, esquire.

Luke Whelar, clerk, was admitted to the parish church of Hopton Wafers, deanery of Burford, co. Salop, on the 14th of June in the year abovesaid. Patron, Humphrey Hide, gentleman.

Thomas Swetnam, clerk, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Alberburie, Deanery of Pontesburie, co. Salop, on the 3rd of July in the year abovesaid. Patrons, the Warden and Fellows of All Souls' College, Oxford.

15 James I.

John James, Master of Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Tugford, co. Salop, deanery of Wenlock, on the 18th of August in the year abovesaid.

16 James I.

John Barker, clerk, Bachelor of Arts, was instituted to the vicarage of Stoterton, co. Salop, deanery of Stottesden, on the 26th of March, 1618. "Presentatus per Amicium [] ratione dimissionis per annos aliquot duraturæ."

Deanery of Pontesbury, Co. Salop. Richard Poole, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Moolebrace on the 7th day of May, 1618.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Clun. Edward Smyth, clerk, Bachelor of Sacred Theology, was admitted to the rectory of Hopton, 31st July, 1618.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow. John Barker, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Silvington, otherwise Silton, 8th July, 1618.

FILE 7. April, 1619—April, 1625.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Stotesden. Thomas Jenkes, clerk, admitted to the rectory of Upton Cresset on the 25th day of December, 1620, at the presentation of Edward Cresset,

esquire, patron.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlowe.—John Conney, clerk, Master in Arts, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Stokesay, in the county and deanery aforesaid, on the 10th day of the month of May, 1621, by the presentation of Thomas Hibbins, gentleman, patron.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.—Anthony Hawke, clerk, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Stretton on the 20th of June, 1621. Sir Thomas Thynne, knight, patron.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.—George Littleton, clerk, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the vicarage of Long Staunton on the 23rd of September, 1621. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Hereford.

19 James I.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlocke.—Gilbert Cole, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Huley, otherwise Hughley, on the 23rd of December, 1621.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlocke.—John London, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Bagsor on the 18th of March, 1621[-2].

20 James I.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Pontesbury.—Thomas Swetnam, clerk, was admitted to the first portion in the church of Westbury on the 11th of December, 1621, by the presentation of the Lord the King.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlocke.—Gilbert Cole was admitted to the rectory of Hughly, otherwise Huly, on the 23rd of December, 1621.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.—John London was admitted lo the rectory of Bagsore, 11th March, 1621[-2].

Co. Salop, Deanery of Clun.—Thomas Doughty, clerk, was admitted to the vicarage of Leintwardine by the presentation of Sir Robert Harley, of Brompton Brian, co. Hereford, Knight of the Bath, on the 28th of May, 1622.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Clune.—George Lloyd, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Bedston on the 22nd of September, 1622, by the presentation of Thomas Ireland, esquire.

21 James 1.

Vicarage of Ditton Priors, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop.—Thomas Jenkes, clerk, was admitted on the 17th day of April, 1623. Patron, Arthur Manwaring, of the city of Westminster, esquire.

Vicarage of Stotesden with the chapel of Farlow annexed, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop,—Thomas Amyas, clerk, was admitted on the 15th of June, 1623. Patron, Bonham Norton, esquire.

Rectory of Upton Cresset, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop.—Richard Gregorie, clerk, was admitted on the 25th of July, 1623. Patron, Edward Cresset, esquire.

Rectory of Burford, in the deanery of Burford, co. Salop.— James Rawlins, clerk, was admitted to the third portion of the said rectory on the 6th of December, 1623. Patron, Sir Thomas Cornwall, knight.

Rectory of Hopesay, in the deanery of Clun, co. Salop.—Richard Awnsham, clerk, was admitted on the 9th of December, 1623. Patron, Sir Robert Howard, knight.

Vicarage of Alberburie, in the deanery of Pontesbury, co. Salop.—Thomas Clarke, clerk, was admitted on the 20th of December, 1623. Patrons, the Warden and Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford.

Rectory of Eastop, in the deanery of Wenlocke, co. Salop.—Richard Wrednall, clerk, was admitted on the 5th of March, 1623[-4]. Patron, George Ludlow, of Moorehouse, co. Salop, esquire.

Rectory of Billingestie, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop.—Ralph Hyde, clerk, was admitted on the 19th of March, 1623[-4]. Patron, Bonham Norton, esquire.

22 James I.

Vicarage of Cardington, co. Salop, deanery of Wenlocke.—Robert Browne, clerk, Master of Arts, was admitted on the 19th of May, 1624, as well at the presentation of the Lord the King as of Harcourt Leighton, esquire, "originalis, ut dicitur, patroni."

Vicarage of Stotesden, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop.—Thomas Amias, clerk, Master of Arts, was admitted on the 13th of June, 1624, at the presentation of the Lord

the King.

Rectory of Haberly, in the deanery of Pontesbury, co. Salop.—Richard Norgrove, clerk, was admitted on the 25th of June, 1624, at the presentation of Richard Mitton, esquire, patron.

Rectory of Mindtowne, in the deanery of Clun, co. Salop.—Richard Dicklegge, Master of Arts, clerk, was admitted on the 1st of July, 1624, at the presentation of Edmund Weston, gentleman, by virtue of a grant of George Myn, esquire, patron.

Vicarage of Cleoburie Mortimer, in the deanery of Burford, co. Salop.—John Barker, clerk, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted on the 12th of August, 1624, at the presentation of Sir

Francis Lacon, knight, patron.

Vicarage of Lidbury, in the deanery of Clun, co. Salop.— John Ambler, clerk, Master of Arts, was admitted on the 22nd of October, 1624, at the presentation of Charles Moore, patron.

Rectory of Whethill, in the deanery of Stotesden, co. Salop.—John London, clerk, was admitted on the 21st of

July, 1624, at the presentation of the Lord the King.

22 James I.

Wolstaston Rectory, Deanery of Wenlocke, co. Salop.—William Colebarne, clerk, Bachelor of Arts, was admitted on the 3rd of March, 1624[-5]. Roger Pope, patron.

FILE 8. April, 1625, to Oct., 1629.

I Charles I.

Ludlow Rectory, in the deanery of Ludlow, co. Salop.—Thomas Colbach, Master of Arts, admitted 14th July, 1625. Patron, the King.

Cold Weston Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.—Simon Cotton, clerk, admitted 4th November, 1625, at the presentation of George Hopton, esquire.

Cleoburie North Rectory, Co. Salop, Deanery of Stotes-den.—William Millichop, clerk, was admitted 21st of December, 1625, at the presentation of the King.

Third portion of the Rectory of Burford, co. Salop, Deanery of Burford.—James Herring, clerk, was admitted 16th of March, 1625[-6], at the presentation of Sir Thomas Cornwall, knight.

2 Charles I.

The first or right portion in the church of Westburie, co-Salop, Deanery of Pontesburie.—Ambrose Phillips, Master of Arts, was admitted 20th June, 1626.

Madely Vicarage, Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlocke.—Richard Phillips, clerk, was admitted 28th June, 1626.

Midleton Scriven Rectory, Co. Salop, Deanery of Stotes-den.—William Childe, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted 3rd July, 1626, at the presentation of Richard Barker, patron for this turn.

First portion in the church of Burford, co. Salop, Deanery of Burford.—Thomas Bannister, Master of Arts, was admitted 20th August, 1626.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Stotesden.—Robert Ovington, clerk, Master in Arts, was admitted to the vicarage of Higley, on the last day of January, 1626[-7], at the presentation of Meriel Littleton, of Hagley, co. Worcester, widow, patron.

3 Charles I.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Pontesbury.—Samuel Greaves, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory or third portion in the church of Pontesbury, 18th May, 1627, at the presentation of Sir William Owen, knight.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.—Robert Browne, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Wistanstow 5th October, 1627, by the presentation of Sir William Owen, Baron of Hamsted Marshall.

Co. Salop, and deanery of Pontesbury.—Richard Poole, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Hanwood, 25th October, 1627, by the presentation of Arthur Jeffes, of Edgbold, co. Salop, yeoman.

4 Charles I.

Co, Salop, and deanery of Pontesbury.—Joseph Downing, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Worthin, 11th May, 1628, by the presentation of the Lord the King.

Co. Salop and Deanery of Pontesbury.—Edward Lewes, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the vicarage of Cherbury, 7th October, 1628, by the presentation of the Schoolmaster and Bailiffs of the town of Shrewsbury.

5 Charles I.

Clungunford Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Clun.— Thomas Swift, Master in Arts, was admitted 3rd June, 1629. Sir Henry Wallop, Knight, patron.

Dowles Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Burford.—Nathaniel Eston, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted 7th July, 1629, at the

presentation of Sir Richard Newport, knight, patron.

Bitterly Rectory. co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.—Matthew Clarke, Bachelor of Sacred Theology, was admitted 20th June, 1629, at the presentation of Sir Richard Anderson, knight, patron.

FILE 9. Oct., 1629, to Oct., 1634.

6 Charles I.

Hopton Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Clun.—Luke Sutton, clerk, was admitted to the same 13th Dec., 1629, at the presentation of Sir Henry Wallop, knight, patron.

Bishop's Castle, co. Salop, Deanery of Clun, Vicarage.—Gervase Needham was admitted to the same 29 Dec., 1629, at the presentation of Walter Waring, esquire, patron.

Stoke Milborow Vicarage, co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.— John Malden, clerk, was admitted to the same 5th March. 1629[-30], at the presentation of Jane Dockwra, widow, patron.
Munslow Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.—George
Litleton, clerk, was admitted to the same 5th March, 1629
[-30], at the presentation of Adam Litleton, esquire, patron.

Long Staunton Vicarage, co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlocke.

—Edward James, clerk, was admitted to the same 24th

March, 1629[-30].

Clungunford Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Clun.—Samuel Barkley, clerk, was admitted to the same 13th May, 1630, at the presentation of Francis Barkley, esquire, patron.

Neenesellers and Milson Rectory, co. Salop, Deanery of Burford.—Edward Pitt, clerk, was admitted to the same 20th June, 1630, at the presentation of Fitz William Conyngesby, esquire, patron.

Francis Farmer, clerk, Master in Arts, was admitted to the Rectory of Easthope, Deanery of Wenlocke, co. Salop, 19th Feb., 1630[-1], by the presentation of George Ludlowe, of Moorehowse, co. Salop, esquire.

Ralph Hyde, clerk, Master in Arts, was admitted to the Rectory of Sidburie, co. Salop, 2nd Feb., 1630[-1], by the presentation of John, Earl of Shrewsbury.

7 Charles I.

Richard Detton, clerk, was admitted to the church of Acton Scott, co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlocke, 13th May, 1631, at the presentation of Walter Acton, esquire.

George Peat, clerk, was admitted to the church of Cardeston, co. Salop, and Deanery of Pontesbury, 5th July, 1631.

Peter Mease, clerk, was admitted to the church of Culmington, co. Salop, and Deanery of Ludlow, 9th August, 1631.

Worthen Rectory, in the Deanery of Pontesbury, co. Salop.—Lawrence Seddon, Master in Arts, was admitted to the said rectory 21st October, 1631, at the King's presentation under the seal of his Court of Wards and Liveries.

Kinlet, in the Deanery of Stotesden, and co. Salop.—John Bent, clerk, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Kinlet, 12th Dec., 1631, at the presentation of Joyce Bent, widow.

Stokesay, co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.--Francis Boughey, clerk, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Stokesay, 24th Jan., 1631[-2], at the presentation of Thomas Hibbins, gentleman.

8 Charles I.

Upton Cresset, co. Salop, Deanery of Stotesden.-John Dodd, Master in Arts, was admitted to the rectory or church of Upton aforesaid 2nd May, 1632, at the presentation of Edward Cresset, esquire.

Coldweston, co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlowe.—Thomas Atchelley, Master of Arts, was admitted to the Rectory of Coldweston, 22nd May, 1632, at the presentation of George

Hopton, esquire.

The second or diaconal portion in the church of Holgat, co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.—Edward James, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the said second portion, 25th May, in the year abovesaid at our [the Bishop's] collation.

Clebury North, co. Salop, Deanery of Stotesden.-John Smaleman was admitted to the Rectory of Clebury North, 1st August, in the year abovesaid, at the presentation of

Richard Browne.

Esthope, co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.-John Jones, Master of Arts, was admitted to the Rectory of Esthope, 31st August, in the year abovesaid, at the presentation of Edward Jones, esquire.

10 Charles I.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.—Richard Fletcher, Bachelor in Arts, was admitted to the parish church of Tugford, 18th Dec., 1632, at the collation of the Bishop, and to the diaconal partion in the church of Holgate at the collation of the said Bishop.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Pontesbury.—Thomas Wall was admitted to the left portion of the Rectory of Westbury, 6th March, 1632[-3], at the presentation of Sir William Owen,

knight.

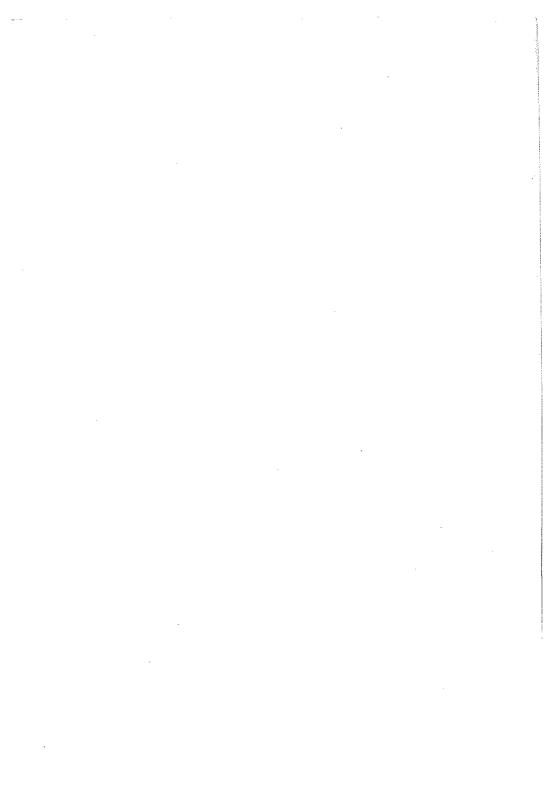
Co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.—Thomas Atchley, Master of Arts, was admitted to the parish church of Coldweston at the presentation of George Hopton, esquire, 22nd March, 1633[-4]

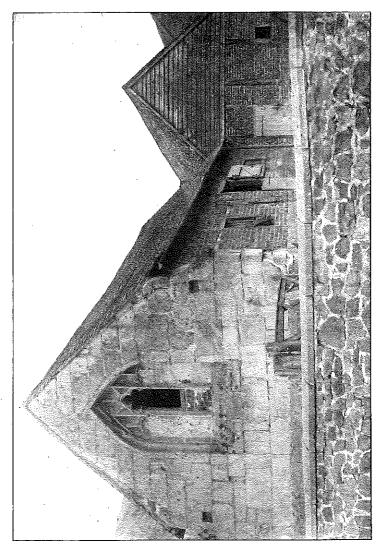
Co. Salop, Deanery of Stotesden.—6th May, 1634, Thomas White, Master of Arts, was admitted to the vicarage of Higley, at the presentation of George Pearson, gentleman. patron.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Stotesden.—29th May, 1634, Richard Detton, Master of Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Aston Botrell at the presentation of Walter Acton, esquire, and Edward Acton, gentleman, patrons.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Wenlock.—23rd August, 1634, Thomas Bayly, Master of Arts, was admitted to the rectory of Holgate at the collation or donation of the Lord Bishop of Hereford, in right of his bishopric.

Co. Salop, Deanery of Ludlow.—23rd Sept., 1634, Ralph Clayton, Professor of Sacred Theology, was admitted to the vicarage of Staunton Lacy at the presentation of William, Lord Craven, patron.





CHAPEL. POYNTON

By J. A. MORRIS.

ABOUT seven miles from Shrewsbury, and a mile from the main road passing through Roden to High Ercall, is the little township of Poynton, an outlying portion of the 12,000 acres forming the Parish of High Ercall. The old Manor House, the property of Lord Barnard, is now a Farm house, having connected with it a building used as a stable, the gable of which was the east end, and which is all that remains of Poynton Chapel. At least seven Chapels are known to have existed in this parish, owning High Ercall as the Mother Church,1 and of these four have been destroyed the interesting fragment of Poynton Chapel still stands,2 but unlike Bethlehem, which was first a stable and then became a Shrine, Poynton was first a Shrine, and is now a Stable.

The Manor of Poynton seems to have existed in Saxon times, and is described in Domesday as follows:--" Uluiet holds Peventone and Tunestan of the Earl [In Recordine He also held it (in Saxon times) for two Manors. Here is a hide and half. There is arable land for III Oxteams. In demesne are I team and II Serfs. The Manor was worth xis (in Saxon times). Now it is worth xiis."3

The Vill of Tunestan cannot be identified with any modern locality (unless it is Osbaston). The name seems, indeed, to have been lost in the thirteenth century, when Poynton maintained its Domesday hideage, without any declared adjunct.

Uluiet the Saxon appears to have had an interest in at least eight Manors in the Confessor's time; and yet this is the first in which he retained any interest at Domesday. Eyton is of opinion that no descendant of Uluiet held

Eyton's Antiquities, vol. ix., page 113.
Ercall Parish Book: Rev. the Hon. G. H. F. Vane.
Domesday, folio 259, b. 2. Eyton, vol. ix., page 1. Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

Poynton, but that the Manor was probably annexed to the Honour of Montgomery, as early as the reign of Henry I.1

Under the Lords of Montgomery, Poynton was held by a race of feoffees, who took their name from the place; and the Hundred Roll states that the family of de Peninton held Peventon in the time of Henry III., by payment of an annual rent of a pair of gilt spurs. The earliest mentions of the family are as follows:-Roger de Peninton, who attests a deed of the Lord of High Ercall at the very close of the 12th century. Phillip de Peninton is found attesting several local deeds between the years 1200 and 1212. instances Hamo de Peninton (probably his brother) is his fellow witness. Matilda, widow of Roger de Peninton, is found suing Philip de Peninton for her dower, after an interval of at least 15 years from what may be taken to have been the period of her husband's decease; she sued him at the Assizes of November, 1221, for thirds of one carucate and 1½ virgates, 2 gardens and a fishery in Peninton.

Amongst a number of deeds in the possession of the Churchwardens of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, are the following:--

Grant of brotherhood from the Chamberlain, Keeper and Proctor of the Hospital of the Holy Trinity at Rome, to Thomas Peynton, dated 1448.

Release of actions from Thomas Comyng to Thomas Peynton, Chaplain, dated I Edward IV. (1461).

Will of Thomas Peynton of Shrewsbury, Chaplain, dated 1466. There is a reference in the Haughmond Chartulary:— Tit. Peynton. In June, 1327, the Abbot demises these meadows "on the river Roden" to John and Richard, sons of William Brid, for their lives, at a rent of 6s. 8d.2

In a rental of Shrewsbury Abbey (about 1490) the following item refers to Ercall Rectory: -Tithes of Pevynton (farmed apparently by one Collay) 13s. 4d.

The Terrier of Ercall Magna, dated 1612, contains this:-Item, fferington's tenement of Painton-which pays no tithes, only two pence at Easter for every communicant.

Item, The farm of Painton pays yearly five shillings in lieu of all tithes.

² Eyton, vol. ix., p. 3, note 2.

¹ Eyton's Antiquities, vol. ix., page 1.

The early history of Poynton Chapel is confined to the names of a few Incumbents and Patrons, which have been collected by a former Vicar, the Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. Vane.

INCUMBENTS OF POYNTON CHAPEL.

Date of Institution.	Name, &c.	Patron.	Authority.
22 April,	John, Rector, died 7 March, 1328. Richard de Brewood, Chaplain, died about Aug. 10, 1349,	Philip, Lord of Penynton.	Eyton ix. 4. do.
1329 16 Jan., 1350	probably of plague. John de Upton, priest. Roger, Rector, resigned 1370. Hamund de la More, resigned	Philip de Penynton. Dame Isolda, Lady of	do.
29 May, 1370 25 May, 1388	in 1388. John de Byriton, priest. William fforster, died 1468.	Pevynton. Philip de Williley.	do. Lichfield
28 Augus 1468	- Walter Whorton	Abbey of St. Peter, Salop	do.

The Register of High Ercall Parish contains a few refer-

ences to Poynton 1:--Marg., d, of Thos. Garmeston, of 1561, 17 August. Mr. Edmunde Nuport, Mrs. Cath. Peynton, baptized. Nuport, and Mrs. Elinor Macwood, sponsors.

Mrs. Margaret Corbet, of Peinton, sponsor at a 1574.

In 1607, a baptism. In 1590,2 there was a wedding at Poynton.

baptism is recorded.

In 1611, another baptism "in the newe fonte of Poynton Chapple." After this date I do not find any further reference to the use of the Chapel for religious services, although it would probably be used for worship for some years afterwards, by the household of the distinguished families that occupied Poynton Hall in the earlier portion of the 17th century.

In the Register are entries, in 1606 and 1639, relating to-Sir Henrie Wallop of Farleigh-Wallop, Hampshire, whoresided for some years at Poynton Hall. He became con-

2 Parish Book.

¹ Transactions, Vol. VII., p. 309.

nected with Shropshire by his marriage 1 with one of the daughters and co-heirs of Robert Corbet, of Moreton Corbet. He was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1605, and one of the Council the Lords of the Marches of Wales in 1617.

Later on, Poynton was occupied by Humphrey Walcot of Walcot, who was receiver of the County of Salop in 1625, and High Sheriff in 1631. He was greatly distinguished for his loyalty to Charles I., and made many sacrifices in the royal cause. The list of Shropshire Compounders includes2 the name of Humphrey Walcot of Poynton, with an estate valued at £80 per annum, and £500 settled. He was buried at Lydbury North in 1650. A Roll of the Guilds of Shrewsbury contains the name of Thomas Powis, sonne of Richard Powis, of Paynton, Co. Salop, Gent., Apprentice to Richard Plimley, Mercer, for 8 years, date 1669.

There is no further record of the occupation of the Manor house by any family of importance, and it is probable that the Chapel ceasing to be used after the Civil War was allowed to fall into decay and then converted into a farm building, much as it is to-day. The present building, in all likelihood, covers the exact area of the Chapel. Its east gable has a three light window, partly blocked up, of late 15th century detail; on the inner side, and across the width of the building, are sunk quatre-foil panels of the same date, just below the window sill, and above the level of the Altar. Standing at an angle, and adjoining the west end of the stable, is an ancient barn, now used as a cow-house, the roof of which is supported by massive framework of oak, springing from the ground level; each pair of principals, forming a rudely pointed arch, apparently cut from a naturally curved tree, sawn into two pieces. This construction suggests that the building was in existence long before the destruction of the adjoining Chapel.

The Manor House, a timber framed building, dating at least from the 16th century, has been added to in adapting it for its present purpose, and the old windows have been removed, but the great Hall, now divided so as to make a parlour and

¹ Dict. National Biography, vol. lix., p. 156 and 10. Blakeway's Sherifts.
2 Transactions, 3rd Series, Vol. IV., p. 158.
3 Transactions,, 1st Series, Vol. VIII., p. 348.

dairy; and the kitchen, with its broad Ingle fire-place, remain very much as they were built. Leading from the parlour is a small room with a separate doorway into the garden, and over this is a bedroom of the same size; these might have served for the accommodation of the priest serving the Chapel. The parlour and several of the bedrooms are panelled with oak wainscotting of Jacobean date, and in an excellent state of preservation; and the Upper Staircase has steps of solid oak.

I am much indebted to the Rev. W. H. Philpott, Vicar of High Ercall, for the assistance he has given me in examining the documents in his possession, relating to the parish: and for extracts from them, with which he has supplied me.

I have also to thank the tenant, Mr. Morgan, and Miss Morgan, who kindly accompanied me over the house, and gave me much interesting information.

I have been able to do little more than arrange consecutively a series of incidents relating to the history of the Manor House and Chapel; but enough, I hope, to show that the subject is worthy of the attention of more capable and experienced archæologists.

THREE EARLY SHROPSHIRE CHARTERS.

THE following early charters are amongst the documents transcribed by Mr. W. K. Boyd for the Society. The first is preserved in the British Museum, and is a grant by Robert de Budellers (or Bollers),1 lord of Montgomery and founder of the convent of Austin Canons at Snead in Churchstoke, to the canons of Snead of his mill of Churchstoke. The grant is of especial value, as it names so many of his deceased relations. His wife was Hillaria, one of the three sisters and coheirs of Robert Trusbut. He died about 1202-3, and was buried in Lilleshall Abbey. The convent at Snead very soon migrated to Chirbury.2 In 1536-7, among the assets of the late Priory of Chirbury was the "Ferm of a Mill at Churchstoke, £2."3 Robert de Bollers was succeeded by his brother Baldwin, who witnessed this charter, as also did his brother Walter. His mother Mary and brother Walter are not mentioned by Eyton.

The other two charters are preserved amongst the "Ancient Deeds" in the Public Record Office. One is a grant, undated but about 1280, from Alice de Bruges to Nicholas Quarel and Alice his wife of all her land in Bridgnorth, Cheleton, and Pereton. The other is a grant, dated 29 August, 8 Edward II., 1314, from Robert the Chaplain, son of Adam Tandy of Newton, to William the porter, son of Ithel the Clerk, of a messuage in Chirbury which he bought of Robert, son of John de Wittrue. Sir Richard, Vicar of Chirbury, one of the witnesses to this charter, was presented to the Vicarage, March 6, 1308, and died, probably of the pestilence, in 1349. Robert de Wittrue (or Witingtre) occurs as a juror for Chirbury Hundred in 1290, 1301, and 1316.4

W. G. D. F.

T.

GRANT BY ROBERT DE BOLLERS TO THE AUSTIN CANONS OF SNEAD OF THE MILL OF CHURCHSTOKE. (Additional Charters 20,220. British Museum).

See Eyton's Antiquities, xi., 122-123, for notice of Robert de Bollers.
 Transactions, 3rd Series, VI., 242. Eyton xi. 58.
 Dugdale's Monasticon, vi. 580. Eyton xi. 71.

⁴ Eyton xi., 67, 70.

Know all, as well present as to come, that I, Robert de Budellers, for the love of God and for the health of the souls of my ancestors, that is to say, Baldwin de Budellers, Stephen, Aylmer, Ingram, Osbert, William, Margaret de Limesi, Mary, my mother, and of all my other ancestors and successors, living and deceased, have given and granted to God and the Blessed Mary and to St. John the Evangelist, of Esned (del Esned) and to the brethren there serving God, the Mill of Chirstoke with all things pertaining to it, that is to say, both banks, with the pond and all liberties and customs which used to be done to me therefor. And because I will that the aforesaid brethren may hold the aforesaid mill in perpetual alms as I ever more freely and quietly held it, that this my donation may continue firm and stable, I strengthen and confirm it as well by the annotation of my seal as by the attestation of many men. These being witnesses. and Walter, my brothers; Richard de Hidesland; Stephen; Hugh Fitz Robert; Malcolm; Walter de Huechilton; Philip de Stapelton; Roger de Peninton; Frederick; Robert de Merton; Walter Flemming; Roger, my son; Richard [and] Baldwin, sons of Robert Basset; Richard Briton; Mabel, and many others. 11.

GRANT FROM ALICE DE BRUGES TO NICHOLAS QUAREL AND ALICE HIS WIFE OF LAND IN BRUGES (BRIDGNORTH), CHELETON, AND PERETON. CIRCA 1280.

(Ancient Deeds B. 561. P.R.O.

Know present and to come that I, Alice de Bruges, have given, granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed to Nicholas Quarel and Alice, his wife, all my land of Bruges, Cheleton, and Pereton, with all their appurtenances, and all other rights which could fall to me and to my heirs by reason of the said lands or in whatsoever other manner. To have and to hold to the aforesaid Nicholas and Alice, his wife, and to their heirs and assigns freely, quietly, peaceably and entirely, without any withholding, by hereditary right, for ever. Saving the rights of the chief lords. And if the abovesaid Alice shall die without heir begotten by the said Nicholas, the said Nicholas and his heirs, or his assigns, shall possess the aforesaid lands, with all their appurtenances by hereditary right, entirely and peaceably, for ever, without challenge or hindrance of me or of my heirs henceforth to be made in the aforesaid lands. And that this, my gift, grant, and confirmation may remain firm and stable to the aforesaid Nicholas and Alice, and to their heirs and assigns for ever, I have strengthened the present charter with the impression of my seal. These being witnesses. Sir Nicholas de Bolevill, Sir William Everard, William de Engelby, Gellinus de Molendino, John Loue, Nicholas de la Burgh, William de la Lade, Richard Carbec, Henry de la Broke, Geoffrey de Tintehull, Walter Archdeacon (Archid') Thomas Archdeacon, and many others.

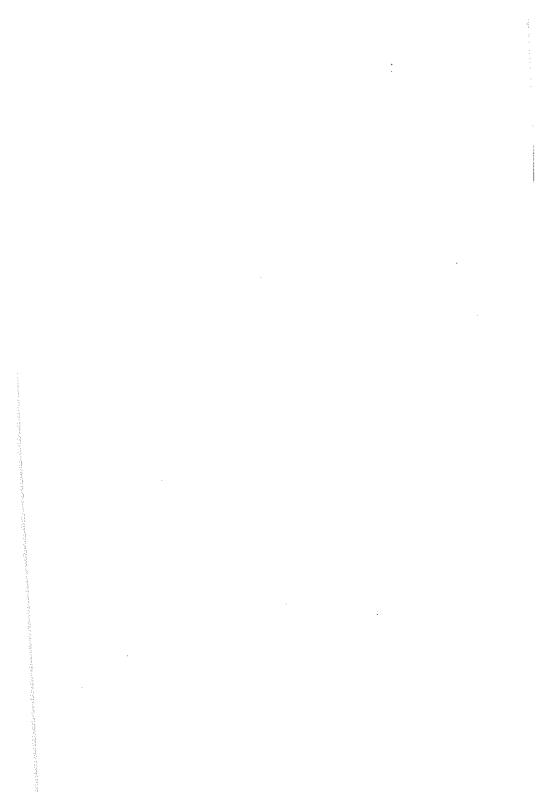
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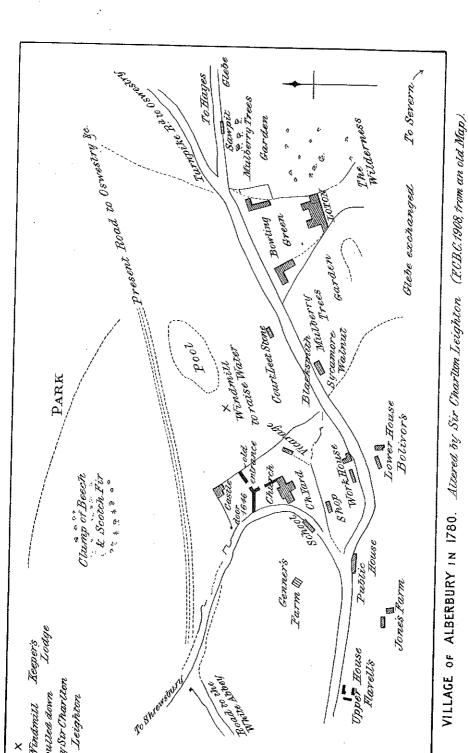
GRANT FROM ROBERT THE CHAPLAIN, SON OF ADAM TANDY OF NEUTON, TO WILLIAM THE PORTER OF CHIRBURY, OF A MESSUAGE IN CHIRBURY, 29 AUGUST, 1314.

(Ancient Deeds B. 929, P.R.O.)

Know present and to come that I, Robert the Chaplain, son of Adam Tandy, of Neuton, have given, granted, and by this my present charter have confirmed to William the Porter (Janitor) of Chirbury, son of Ithel the Clerk (Clericus), and to his heirs or assigns, for a certain sum of money which he gave to me in hand, one messuage in the vill of Chirbury. Which messuage I bought of Robert, son of John de And it lies between the land of Richard Hord on the one side, and the land of John Floc, on the other [side]. And it extends in length from the highway which leads from Montgomery towards Shrewsbury through the middle of the aforesaid vill of Chirbury as far as a certain garden which is called "Kynges Orchard." To have and to hold the aforesaid messuage, with the appurtenances, of the chief lord of the fee aforesaid, to the aforesaid William and his heirs or assigns, freely, quietly, well and in peace, in fee and inheritance. The aforesaid William and his heirs or assigns rendering yearly to the chief lord all the services thereof due and accustomed &c. These being witnesses. Sir Richard then Vicar of Chirbury, Robert de Wittrue, David de Stocton, John of the same, William de Hokelton, and others.

Dated at Chirbury, on Thursday the Feast of the Decollation of St. John the Baptist in the 8th year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward. [Seal.]





NOTES ON ALBERBURY.

By H. M. AUDEN, F.R. HIST, S.

MR. EYTON in his Antiquities of Shropshire speaks of the parish of Alberbury as having a history of surpassing interest. He refers mainly to it in connection with the feudal system, but the history of the district goes back to far earlier times. The old parish was of huge extent, stretching from the Cross Gates, five miles from Shrewsbury, to Middletown, five from Welshpool, and from the Severn at Llandrinio Bridge to the crest of the Long Mountain, taking in nearly the whole of the Breidden group of hills, and extending almost to Yockleton and Westbury. Ford and Cardeston were mediæval chapelries within its area, and Criggion and Great Wollaston remained dependent on Alberbury Church till modern times. In early days much fighting raged on and about the natural stronghold of the Breidden, as is witnessed by the earthworks upon it and the Middletown Hill or the Cefn-y-Castell, to give it a less prosaic name. There is no site among the many camps associated with the name of Caractacus that so well fulfils the description of Tacitus as the stone rampart on the Breidden, and there seems but little doubt that it was there that the great chief made his final stand. The boundary of the parish is older than that of the county, and part of it is in Montgomeryshire. Soon after passing Loton Park the present high road enters Wales, and the conspicuous earthwork of the Belan Bank, near Crew Green, is a reminder of the days when men fought for the possession of the fertile meadows by the river. The moat by the Old Mills near Trewern perhaps recalls the same thought. Heldre and Ucheldre and Brunant all occur in the Alberbury Parish Registers, and Monkfields beyond the Welsh Harp on the Long Mountain is frequently mentioned. boundary takes in Hargrave in Shropshire as well as Upping-Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

ton in Montgomeryshire, and joins the parish of Cardeston on Wattlesborough Heath. The manor of Alberbury has the custom of Borough English, in common with those of Ford, Condover and Edgmond, and perhaps five other Shropshire manors. This custom, by which land, unless otherwise willed, passed to the youngest son, has been very variously interpreted. It may mark the settlements of some particular Saxon tribe, who maintained in their new country the customs of their old, or it may be a trace of specially troublous neighbourhoods where the elder sons went out in turn to fight and the youngest remained to guard the family homestead and the old people. The English part of the parish lies in the present day within the Hundred of Ford. which under Henry I. succeeded the earlier Hundred of Ruesset, of which Alberbury was originally the head. When Ford became a manor of the Norman Earl of Shrewsbury it was probably considered politic to increase its status at the expense of the more remote and perhaps more independent manor, and it was possibly with this aim that Benthall, in Alberbury parish, was made a berewick of Ford. Before the Conquest, when Edwin, Earl of Mercia held Ford, and King Edward the Confessor held Alberbury, the position was reversed.

The hamlet of Eyton, in Alberbury parish, was an independent manor, as were also Great Wollaston, Benthall. Rowton, Amaston, Winnington, Bausley, Loton, and perhaps Little Shrawardine, but of this last there is no history. If only we could learn the story of its past, we should possibly find that the look-out mound at Little Shrawardine was the predecessor of the castle at Great Shrawardine, and that the connection between the two caused the latter parish to be, like Alberbury, in the Diocese of Hereford, instead of that of The Montgomeryshire portion of Alberbury parish was part of the lordship of Caus. Hargrave, Bulthey, Winnington and Trefnant undoubtedly were members of that manor. In the 13th century there was a dispute between Alberbury and Pool (i.e., Welshpool) as to the parish and diocese to which belonged Bausley (with Stanford and Shotton), Bragginton, Berley, Wilmington, Hargrave, Trefnant, Whitfield, Criggion, and seven other vills. They were

adjudged finally to belong to Alberbury and the Diocese of Hereford, in which they remain to this day.

We know nothing of the Saxon Alberic, who left his name to the parish, nor of the founder of the Church. This last was one of the Saxon collegiate foundations, charged with the care of a wide district. There were at least two Prebends there when Ralph the Fat in the reign of King Stephen gave the advowson to Shrewsbury Abbey, and they were still there in the time of Henry II. when the Abbey gave up the Church to Fulk fitz Warin II. Soon after the Conquest came the building of the stronghold of Wattlesborough Castle, which was held under the Corbets, Barons of Caus, by a younger branch of that family. Wattlesborourgh is in the parish of Cardeston, but the Corbets also possessed the manor of Loton and the Hayes, which like Wattlesborough, was a distinct manor in Norman times, and thus were nearly connected with Alberbury itself, though even in the 19th century the Hayes was accounted as in the parish of Cardeston. border fortress at Alberbury probably dates from much the same period as Wattlesborough. It was held under the Barons of Caus by the Fitz Warins, who were among the most notable men of their day.

One of them, Fulk fitz Warin III., founded the Priory of the monks of Grandmont, which we now call the White Abbey, at the beginning of the 13th century, and endowed it with land at Pecknall and Bausley and rights of pasture at Alberbury and Whittington. Bausley is mentioned as a separate manor in Domesday book, but it was held by the Fitz-Warins till they gave it up, probably by sale, to the Corbets of Wattlesborough. The manors of Rowton, Amaston, and half that of Eyton were made by Henry I. part of the honour of Montgomery, and were held by service at Montgomery In the 13th century, Bishop Burnell held part of Rowton by the service of providing two archers at Montgomery in time of war. After the conquest of Wales the border castles became of less importance, and the interest of the Barons of Caus (which had passed to the Lords Stafford) over their once wide territory became little more than nominal. The Fitz-Warin family ended with an heiress, who married into the family of Eyton, who lived in the neigh-

bouring hamlet of Eyton, till John, the son of William Eyton, and grandson of Fulk fitz Warin, married Alice Marsh, the heiress of the estate of March, near Westbury. John and Alice Eyton left their lands to three daughters, one of whom married John Purslow of Sidbury, near Bridgnorth, and another William Acton of Acton Scott, while the eldest married Roger Cleyton and inherited the March. Their heiress took Eyton and the March to the family of Gough, who were related to another family in the parish, the Williamses of Wollaston. The Corbets of Wattlesborough and Loton also ended in an heiress, who married John, lord of Dinas Mawddwy, and their daughter took the estates to Sir Hugh Burgh, whose four grand-daughters in turn became great They married into the Lingen, Newport, Mytton and Leighton families, Loton and Wattlesborough falling to the share of Anchoret, wife of John Leighton of Stretton-inthe-Dale, who was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1468. Their son Thomas, who was Sheriff in 1425, lived at Wattlesborough, which continued the family house till the beginning of the 18th century, when Edward Leighton moved to Loton, which seems to have been the home of younger members of the Leighton family.

The parish still bears marks of other changes that came in the 15th century. The black monks of Grandmont were dispossessed during the wars with France, as a foreign order, and in 1441, Alberbury Priory was granted by King Henry VI. at the request of Archbishop Chichele, to his foundation of All Souls' College, Oxford, which still holds it and the advowson of the Church of Alberbury. The College was required to maintain a priest for service in the chapel of the White Abbey, and to yearly distribute 10s. among the poor on All Souls' Day. In the 16th century the family of Wood of Sheinwood held the White Abbey under the College. Alexander Wood was living there in 1575. His wife's brother, William Jennins of Wallibourne in Pontesbury parish, had married Cecilia, daughter of John Leighton of Wattlesborough, so possibly a family connection brought him into the neighbourhood. His descendants continued at the White Abbey (or Black Abbey as it is often called) till the beginning of the 18th century,

when Basil Wood moved to Shrewsbury, but his body was brought to Alberbury for burial in 1714. He had a very large family by his wife Abigail, daughter of Robert Leighton of Wattlesborough, but none settled near their old home. Mr. John Griffiths was living at the "Black Abbey" in 1672, and was there for some years.

The Lister family of Rowton came there in the 15th century, when William Lister bought that estate.

He is said to have been of a Derbyshire family, but in 1451 he became a burgess of Shrewsbury. Tradition says that the influence of Sir John Burgh brought him to Shropshire, and it was probably his marriage with Elizabeth Leighton of Stretton, Sir John's grand-daughter, that led him to choose Rowton. The Listers had a house in Shrewsbury, and spent a considerable portion of their time there. In the troubles of the Civil War, they took the Royalist side, and Rowton Castle is said to have been besieged by the Parliamentarian forces under General Mytton, and held successfully by Lady Lister in the absence of her husband, Sir Thomas, who had been taken prisoner at Shrewsbury. The estate passed by inheritance to the Corry family after the death in 1889 of Lady Charlotte the widow of Henry Lyster, who died in 1863—the last at Rowton of a family that has given several notable men to Shropshire.

The pleasant house of Benthall, between Rowton and Alberbury, was the home at the end of the 17th century of the family of Biggs. Henry Biggs, born in 1673, the son of Henry Biggs of Benthall and Sarah his wife, was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1703. He left two daughters, Lucy married to Richard Oakeley of Oakeley, and Sarah wife of George Smythe of North Nibley in Gloucestershire. The second son of George and Sarah Smythe (who bore the name of an uncle Nicholas Biggs, who had died young) married Anna Maria, daughter of Sir Charlton Leighton and grand-daughter of Letitia, daughter and heiress of Roger Owen of Condover, and became in right of his wife, owner of Condover Hall. In 1660 Thomas Griffithes, gentleman, of Benthall, and in 1677 Henry Griffithes, gentleman, of the same place, were buried at Alberbury, but no clue is furnished by the registers as to any relationship to the Biggs family. The house was inhabited in the 18th century by members of the Jellico family of Albrighton, one of whom, William, married Julia Susanna Dyke in 1790 at Alberbury.

Braggington Hall, like Benthall, seems to have remained for only a few generations with the family of its builder. is said to have been built by Leighton, son of Robert Owen of Shrewsbury by his wife Mary Leighton of Wattlesborough. Tradition says that the site passed from the Leightons to the Owens in payment of a sporting debt, but circumstances seem to show this to have been unlikely. Leighton Owen was a Puritan, who took the side of the Parliament, and who. in 1648, was approved as a member of the "classis" formed for their plan of Church government. He was then of Braggington, which renders it probable that the house there is older than the porch with its date of 1675. His daughter and co-heir married in 1682 Edward Griffiths of Old Marton. and their son Leighton Griffiths seems to have lived at Dinthill, near Ford, but his sons James and John were buried in Alberbury in 1729, and Thomas, another son, in 1738. The Alberbury register records the burial in 1745 of Anne, wife of Leighton Owen Griffiths of Dinthill, and in 1748, of Leighton Owen Griffiths himself, also from Dinthill, where he was succeeded by his son Samuel, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1759.

Mrs. Elizabeth Owen, widow, of Braggington, was buried at Alberbury in 1702, when her daughter Martha and her husband were living at Old Marton; but when Mrs. Martha Griffiths was buried in 1730, she is called "late of Braginton." In 1708, Henry Jones, "an ancient servant at Braginton," was buried, and some years before, in 1696, "Martha Davies of Braginton, old servant," occurs, both apparently old retainers of the Owen family.

The Montgomeryshire part of the parish was the home of several families of note, foremost among them perhaps the Williamses of Wollaston (or Willaston, as the older records call it), three of whom were Sheriffs of Montgomeryshire in the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth. The family is said to have come to Wollaston by marriage with an heiress of one of the Pigot family, from whom Aston Pigot, in Worthen parish, takes its name, and Reginald Williams, Sheriff of Montgomeryshire in 1544, according to a copy of the Heralds'

Visitation of 1584, married a daughter of John Leighton, and according to that of 1623, a daughter of Thomas Newport of High Ercall. He was also related to the Goughs of March, near Westbury, already mentioned.

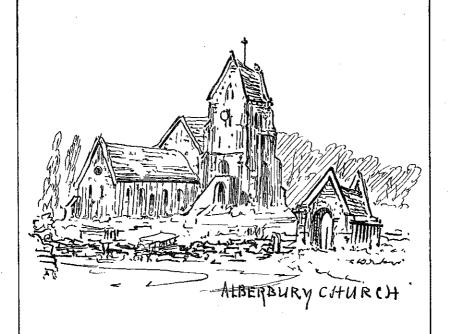
Thomas Williams, the eldest son of Reginald, was Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, and in 1582 Sheriff of Shropshire. Reginald's second son, Robert, was of Winnington. He married Margery, a daughter of Thomas Jennyns of Wallibourne, of a family much connected by marriage with the neighbourhood. According to the Heralds' Visitation, Margery's mother was an Oteley of Pitchford; her oldest brother married to a Leighton of Wattlesborough; her sisters—Elizabeth to Alexander Wood of the White Abbey; Margaret to Francis Clough of Minsterley; and Katherine to Simon Kemsey, whose father Stephen in 1500 gave land at Drayton, near Shifnal, to the Earl of Shrewsbury in exchange for the manor of Alberbury; while Jane, either her sister or her aunt, was the wife of Richard Lister of Rowton.

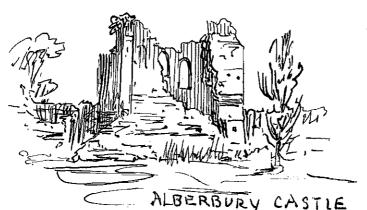
Thomas Williams, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1582, was father of Reginald, Sheriff of Montgomery in 1593, who had a family of seven sons and two daughters, of whom Blanche married John Forester of Rodington, and Elizabeth Sir Richard Hussey. Leighton, son of John Forester, gentleman, of Willaston Magna, was baptised at Alberbury in 1609, and Sir Richard Hussey held a pew in the church there in 1626. He was of Criggion and of Albright Hussey. He had three daughters by his first wife, Elizabeth Williams, and two sons and several daughters by his second, Mary, daughter of Sir Vincent Corbet of Moreton Corbet.

The Williams family, like the Eytons, were connected by marriage with the Purslowes of Sidbury, near Bridgnorth, and John Purslowe, gentleman, of Uppington, buried at Alberbury in 1622 may have been either a Purslowe of the Sidbury or of the Hogstow branch. They were also connected with the Corbets of Halston, near Pontesbury, and thus perhaps with the Corbetts of Winnington, who frequently occur in the Alberbury registers during the 17th century, and are styled Mr. or "generosus." John Williams, gentleman, was of Winnington from 1665 to 1672, and in 1674 he was of Wollaston Hall,

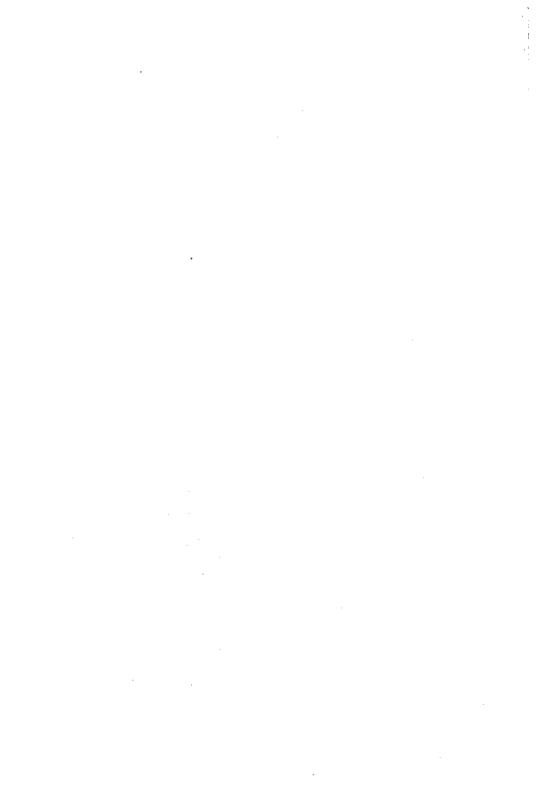
The name of Hussey occurs first in the register in 1611, when Reginald Hussey of Criggion had a child baptised and buried at Alberbury, but the name is given without any title, and possibly he was of a poorer family of the name, just as at Ford there were contemporary families of Amler, one a chief landowner, and the other the village shoemaker. Elizabeth Hussey of Criggion, gentlewoman, was buried in 1642, and it seems to show some connection between the families, that Robert Lee, Esq., of Criggion (who seems to first occur in 1649, and who was fined for loyalty under the Commonwealth) had a son Hussey Lee, buried at Alberbury in 1668. as well as a son Andrew, buried in 1672. In 1662 and onwards till his death in 1682, we find mention of Thomas Winne of Criggion, called sometimes gentleman and sometimes Esquire. Possibly he was a son of Richard Winne of Criggion, who married a daughter of Reginald Williams. Then in 1671, we have the burial of John Blodwell of Criggion, Esq., and Mrs. Mary Blodwell in 1680. In 1683, Philip Eyton, Esq., was living at Criggion, when his son Thomas was baptised, but ten years later, when his boy was buried, he is called Mr. Philip Eyton, and his place of abode is not given. William Eyton, Esq., was buried in 1743, and in 1753 Mrs. Elizabeth Eyton, widow, married the Rev. John Floyd. Later still Mr. John Griffiths was living at Criggion Hall. He was buried from there in 1777, and others of the family in 1787.

Nearly all the hamlets seem in the 17th century to have possessed inhabitants of some standing. Beyond those already mentioned, we have in the registers Walter Heynes of Amaston, gentleman, who came from Berrington, and married Cislie Pickstock in 1612, and left her a widow with a young family in 1634. At Bausley, we find Lionel Leighton in 1621, Richard Higgins, gentleman, in 1635, and Mr. Thomas Colfox in 1656. (This last is said to be of Crewegreene in 1653 and 1665). Later members of the Colfox family were connected with Betton, and were brought from there to Alberbury for burial. In 1682 and onwards Mr. Richard Winfield was of Bausley, and William Perse, gentleman, buried in 1711, was of Bausley. His wife Elizabeth was buried in 1686, but he is not called of Bausley till 1706.





FCBC. from old beautings about 1777



Bulthey is less often mentioned. In 1683, Robert Williams, gentleman, of Bulthey, was buried, and 1708, Mrs. Judith Gough, widow, of the same place occurs.

Middletown had a family of Bowdler, of whom Thomas, gentleman, was buried in 1744, and Mr. John Bowdler in 1741. John Bowdler, Esq., and Elinor his wife occur in 1696, but his place of residence is not given. Mrs. Elinor Bowdler, widow, was buried in 1729.

Eyton, though playing a considerable part in parochial history in mediaeval times, passed later almost out of notice. Mr. Henry Gough of Eyton occurs in 1682, when his wife was buried. He is accorded no prefix in 1704 in the entry of his own funeral, though he came of one of the oldest families

in the parish.

The families of Asterley of Stanford, and Barrett of the Pentre attain to the prefix of Mr. in the 18th century, though for a century before they had held some position. Mr. Peter Barrett of the Pentre occurs frequently between 1701 and his death in 1710, and Mr. John Asterley of Stanford had a son baptised in 1717, who in turn was buried as Mr. Richard Asterley in 1755. As early as 1575 James Edwards, vicar of Alberbury, married Elizabeth Asterley.

Mr. Richard Baggott of Hargrave also appears sometimes with a prefix and sometimes without. He died in 1672, leaving daughters as coheirs. He was apparently identical with Richard Bagot, Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1661, who was dispossessed in that year as a Parliamentarian, though he accepted the Royal pardon in 1660. He was son of Walter Bagot of Blythfield, co. Staffs., and brother of Sir Hervey Bagot. One of his sisters, Lettice, was the second wife of Sir William Owen of Condover, and another sister, Mary, married John Cotes of Woodcote. Richard Jenkins, gentleman, of Charlton Hill, in 1668 married Mary Baggott of Alberbury, who took the Hargrave property to her husband. A century later, in 1768, Mr. Samuel Jacks of Hargrave had a child buried, but he is only once given any title, though he is frequently mentioned.

Leonard Lister, gentleman, of Little Wollaston, was buried in 1617. He was a son of John Lister of Rowton by his second wife, Katherine Bromley. One of his sisters married

a Colfox. Crewgreen is given as the home of some of the Colfox family in 1665 and other years, and in 1670, Mr. Bennet Lloyd of Crewgreene was buried, two months after his wife, Margaret.

Winnington after being held by generations of Williamses and Corbets, was the home in 1675 of Mr. John Thomas, who was buried from there in 1684. John Thomas, Esq., was buried in 1736, but his place of abode is not given.

Plas-y-Court, in spite of its stately name, has generally no prefix given to its inhabitants. In 1623 a family of Crump lived there, who were followed by Richard Raphes, who was there from 1633 to 1666, but who seems to have died in 1674 at Eyton, having made way at Plas-y-Court to Edward Dunne, Esq., whose daughter Jane was baptised at Alberbury in 1673. His name is generally spelt Donne, and an Edward Donne in 1629 left benefactions to the poor of Shrewsbury, as did also Edward Donne of "Place-a-Court," as it was spelt. A son apparently of this latter Edward was LL.B. of Cambridge, and took Holy Orders. He became a prebendary of Canterbury, and died aged 59, in 1745. He seems to have been living in Shrewsbury in 1715, and at that time Robert Poole was living at Plas-y-Court.

In 1668, Mr. Morris Jones married Cassandria Welles at Alberbury, and they lived at the Hayes, where their children were born. In 1681, Morris Jones, gentleman, was of Loton, and in 1684 of Bausley. He seems finally to have retired to Shrewsbury, where his wife Cassandria died in 1720. In 1767, Mr. Thomas Price was of Hayes.

Another family of children all baptised at Alberbury is that of Nathaniel George of Uppington, who in 1655 married Martha Ambler of Norbury, near Wentnor. He lost his first wife in 1664, but married again. His son Nathaniel occurs later as Mr. Nathaniel George of the Heldre.

In 1626, Mr. George Browne of Edge had a sitting in Alberbury Church, as had also Thomas Juckes, Esq., but the reason of their claim does not appear. Mr. Tipton, who also occurs on the same list, was possibly the first husband of Joyce Lister, who afterwards married William Pytts.

Mrs. Sarah Brown of Trevenant was buried in 1709, but there is nothing to connect her with Edge. George Browne held land in Ford in the early 17th century. There are many names given connected with Ford, but those belong to the history of that parish.

There is a note in 1675 that a baptism was the first in Criggion Chapel "where it now stands," and in 1749, a baptism is recorded as taking place in Wollaston Chapel.

In addition to the names already mentioned we have a considerable number of others, written "gen.", especially during the 17th century. The number lessens in the 18th and becomes almost nil in the 19th, except for the inhabitants of Loton and Rowton Castle.

In the 17th century we have in 1622, Mary Chambres, gentlewoman and widow, bur. (She was widow of Michael Chambres, Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1583, and mother of Mary, wife of Richard Lister). In 1626, Mary Dicher of Shawbury, gen.; and the same year, Elizabeth Ridge, gen., who was daughter of Thomas Williams of Wollaston and wife of John Ridge of Wilmington. In 1649, Cislie Perks, vidow and gentlewoman (by which seems intended Cicely, daughter of Alexander Wood, and wife of Richard Persehowse, Bailiff of Salop in 1626). In 1620, Jude Throgmorton, gen., had a son buried at Alberbury, but he was apparently of Ford. In 1650, Mary, wife of John Herbert, gentleman, was buried, but we know nothing of her, unless it be a mistake for "Corbett." Simon Lloyd, gentleman, whose wife Mary was buried in 1656, may have been connected with the Kemsey family. Peter Yonge, gentleman, who the same year married Mistress Ann Aston at Alberbury, was son of Richard Yonge, gen., of Bishop's Castle, who in 1626 married Mary Wood, gentlewoman, a daughter of Peter Wood of the White Abbey. In Jan., 1658, Charles, son of Thomas Rocke1 of Shrewsbury, Esq., was buried at Alberbury, and Thomas Sandys, Esq., of Alberbury, was in March, and Mrs. Susan Stephens of Wattlesborough in April. In 1665 we have the baptism of Margaret, daughter of Mr. Edward Morris, and in 1677 occur Mr. Thomas Holliard of Shrawardine, and Mr. Stedman of Wattlesborough; in 1683, Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes of Shrewsbury; in 1705, Margaret, wife of William Sommer-

¹ The Rocke family were connected with the parish at the beginning of the Commonwealth, when Thomas Rocke of Origgion was fined for loyalty to the King in 1648.

field, chirurgeon of Salop; and in 1707, Mrs. Mary Dacken of Alberbury. In 1710, Mrs. Mary Littleford, wife of Mr. Thomas Littleford, a stranger, was buried, and their baby daughter baptised. In 1714 we have the burial of Roger, son of Mr. Humphrey Kynaston, and of Edward Gethin, gentleman. Mrs. Margaret Mason was buried in 1720, and Samuel, son of Mr. Roberts in 1721, and Mrs. Mary Roberts, widow, was buried in 1732. Mrs. Margaret Hotchkis, widow, buried in 1724, was the widow of Thomas Hotchkis, Vicar of Alberbury, who was buried at Aston Boterell in 1714. Mrs. Dorothy Nichols, buried in 1724, may also have been connected with Richard Nichols, minister in the parish of Cardeston, buried in 1675.

In 1740, Mrs. Elizabeth Pritchard of Shrewsbury was buried; in 1745, Mrs. Susanna Jones of St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, widow. In 1752 was buried Mrs. Elinor Gwynne of Shrewsbury, and her husband, Mr. Richard Gwynne, followed her a few months later.

John, son of Mr. John Rohds (which perhaps should be read "Roberts"), was baptised in 1733, and Mr. Edward Williams buried in 1741. In 1769, was buried "Mr. John Henry, Butler and Steward for Sir Charlton Leighton, Bart.", a description which calls up a vision of an important personage in his village world! In 1748, the Rev. Mr. Willis and Miss Stephens were married at Alberbury; and in 1775, Mr. Thomas Gough and Mrs. Ann Cureton. In 1792, Miss Martha Thornes, a daughter of the then Vicar, was married to Joseph Wilmott of Dublin, Esq.; and in 1802, the Rev. Thomas Wright of Alveley married Mary Dovey at Alberbury, though it could hardly have been her home, if she were of the family of Dovey of Chelmarsh.

There are several clergy mentioned in the registers who were not vicars of the parish, beside the rectors of Cardeston and incumbents of Ford. We have Thomas Meredith, parson of "Hope Sollers," inducting Thomas Clarke as vicar of Alberbury in 1614; Henry Cunde, vicar of Monford, married to Margaret Pickstock, widow, in 1617; Edward Brompton, clerk, of Hope Bowdler, and Sarah Daws of Venington, married in 1649; Isaac Sodin, clerk, and Sarah, daughter of Daniel Brigdale of Shrewsbury, in 1653. Edward Bowen,

clark, of Balsley, was buried in 1618, and William Hayle, clark, of Bragginton, had a son Richard baptised in 1616. Joseph Speeke, clerk, was of Alberbury in 1625, when Thomas Clarke was vicar, and in 1642, the name of the vicar, Thomas Clarke, is followed by that of Edward Wall, minister, who later became Vicar of Alberbury himself, and was buried as Vicar in 1677.

In 1629, we have the burial of Joan, wife of John Salter, clerk, of Willaston Magna, and that of Robert Elkes, clerk, of Criggion, while the following year comes the baptism of Edward, son of Edward Evans, clerk, of the parish of Buttington. In January, 1585-6, John, son of Thomas Salter, of Aiberbury, clerk, married Joan, daughter of Hugh Pitt of Donington, at Donington. In 1616, Thomas Swetnam was inducted as Vicar of Alberbury by Thomas Foorde, Rector of Cardeston, and William Hayle, clerk, is among the witnesses to his having publicly read the 39 articles.

Several rectors of Cardeston occur in the registers, and Thomas Smith, minister of Ford, was buried at Alberbury in 1631-2, and Edward Allen, of Ford, clerk, in 1667-8, while the Rev. Thomas Gough, Rector of Cardeston, was buried in

1775 from Ford, where he lived.

Judging from the entries of the Leighton family in the 17th century, they did not live at Loton, unless Francis Leighton, "gen.", who is called of Alberbury at his burial in 1632, and Humphrey Leighton of Alberbury in 1649, resided there. In 1669, Edward Leighton of Melverley, "armiger," was buried. A younger Edward Leighton in 1677 married at Alberbury, Dorothy, daughter of Sir Job Charlton of Ludford, and in 1682 they were living at Criggion, while Robert and Gertrude Leighton were of Wattlesburgh, and John and Mary Leighton were of Ford, where John died four months before the birth of his son John. In January, 1683-4, Edward and Dorothy are called "of Wattlesburgh," and in 1686-7 " of Loughton," where Dorothy died in 1688. Robert Leighton, Esq., of Wattlesburgh, was buried in 1689, and in 1691 comes the first mention of "Sir" Edward Leighton, when his daughter Jane was buried. He married a second wife at Alberbury in 1693, and the entry of the register calls him of Wattlesburgh, as does the entry of his funeral in 1711, but in 1713, the second Sir Edward is called "of Loughton" at the baptism of his son Forester.

In addition to the families mentioned, there are several to whom the maker of the register entries has awarded no prefix, but which from generation to generation occupied the same houses, such as the Briscoes of the Bretchel, and the Lloyds of Middletown and others equally respected by their neighbours.

It is not possible in these brief notes to do justice to the subject, but perhaps enough is recorded here to incite some more able pen to take up the story (or rather stories) of the wide and interesting parish of Alberbury.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF SHROPSHIRE, 1640-1662.

ADDITIONAL NOTES.

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

In the former paper ¹ 16 reference was made to the extreme care taken by the Presbyterian Classes in their choice of men for the Ministry. It was only when the Classical system fell into abeyance owing to the rise of Independency or Sectarianism that the ex-soldier, butler, skinner and tailor were able to obtain permanent possession of parish pulpits. Most writers on the Ecclesiastical History of these times seem unaware that the men appointed to parishes, say 1646–53, were generally University graduates, and had passed a most searching examination as to their life and learning before they were ordained.² It was not till the decay of Presbyterianism and the rise of Congregationalism that the ministerial standard was lowered; for the Independents and Anabaptists objected to any Church system at all, whether Presbyterian

¹ Printed in Transactions, 3rd Series, VII., 241-310.

² By the "Ordinance of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament for the Ordination of Ministers of the Classicall Presbyters within their respective Bounds for the Severall Congregations in the Kingdom of England," passed Aug. 28, 1646, every Candidate for the Ministry must be 24 years of age, must bring certificates of having signed the Solemn League and Covenant, and testimonials of his degrees at the University, and of his life and conversation. He must also pass an examination in "reading the Hebrew and Greek Testaments," and in "rendering some portion of them into Latine," and answer questions in "Logick, Philosophy, and other learning." He must also state what authors in Divinity he had studied, and show a satisfactory knowledge of Ecclesiastical History and the Chronology of Scripture. Then he must prove his ability to defend orthodoxy against error, his skill in the exposition of the Scriptures, and his "judgment in Cases of Conscience." This ordeal safely over, he had to preach before the Presbytery on a given text, and to frame a Latin Thesis on some controversial topic of Theology, fixed upon by the Presbytery, and be prepared to maintain his position in a dispute. Supposing, however, he had been already ordained "according to the forme of Ordination which hath been held in the Church of England," he was to be tested as to his preaching power, and, if necessary, by further examination, but need not be re-ordained, if his testimonials were satisfactory.

or Episcopal, and, looking upon each parish as a small republic, insisted on the right of each separate congregation to appoint its own minister, and to decide for itself all questions of government and worship.

Unfortunately no Minute Book of any of the six Shropshire Classes has been preserved. But in the dearth of such a document the following extracts from that of the Worksworth Classis of Derbyshire are quoted; for they relate to the ordination of a man born in Shrewsbury, educated at Shrewsbury School, and a resident and preacher in Shrewsbury after his retirement from Derby¹ in 1662, and give a picture of what would be done by each of the Shropshire Classes whose accounts are lost.

Wirksworth Classis in the County of Derby June 15, 1652.

These Pn'te at the Classical Meeting the said fifteenth day of May Anno Dni 1652.

Ministers.

Mr Coates Mod'atr

,, Shelmerdine

" Watkinson

,, Wiersdale

" Martin Topham

,, Porter

,, Pole

" Otefield

" Miles

" Coke, scribe.

Others.

William Storer

Edward Allen

Richard Buxton, an Elder of

Bradbourne Henrie Buxton John Rudiard

Mr Peter Coats pastor of the Church at Southwingfield (having first preached orthodoxly and seasonably) being moderator began with prayer.

This day appeared Mr Samuel Beresford Bachelr of Artes of Queenes College in Cambridge to be ordained as an Assistant to Mr Blake, pastor of the Church at Tamworth, who produced a Certificate from his neighbouring Ministers concerning his ministeriall abilities and godly conversation,

¹ Samuel Beresford was appointed to St. Werburgh's, Derby, on May 21, 1657; in 1670 was a donor of books to the Library of his old School; and died October, 1697.

which Certificate was approved by the Classis, and he ordered to preach before the Classical Presbytery at their next Meeting; and likewise then to bring with him a Certificate of his age and Tytle &c.

Voted that Mr Robert Porter preach the next Ordination Sermon.

Voted that Mr Peter Watkinson Pastor of the Church at Kirke Ireton manage the business of examination of the aforesaid Mr Samuel Beresford the next Classicall meeting, and likewise voted to moderate next Classical meeting.

After Mr Peter Coats being moderatr ended with prayer.

Worksworth Classis in the County of Derby July 20th 1652.

These present at the Classicall Meeting the said Twentieth day of July 1652, viz^t

Ministers.

Mr Peter Watkinson, moderator

., Shelmerdine

" Topham of Wirksworth

., Wiersdale

" Otefield

" Myles

" Coke, scribe

Others.

Mr Henrie Buxton Edward Allen

Gilbert Wallis Germane Buxton

John Rudiard

Mr Peter Watkinson Pastor of Kirke Ireton being this day moderatr began with Prayer.

Mr Samuel Berisford this day preached his approbacon sermon, and his paines were well approved. After he p'duced two certificates One from Mr Blake Pastor of the Church at Tamworth, signifying that the said Mr Blake hath made choice of the said Mr Berisford for his Assistant in the worke of the Ministrie: the other from the Bailiffes & Capitall Burgesses of the said Towne of Tamworth certifying that they do approve of the said choyce Both which certificates were approved by the Classis.

He also gave Testimonie of the Grace of God in him, of his inward call to & right ende in undertaking the Ministrie, of his competent skill in the originall Tongues & Artes: and likewise in Divinitie: All which being well approved by the Classis, he was ordered to exhibit his Thesis given him the last sitting of the Classis to be brought in this day which was An Ministerium Anglicanum sit vere Evangelicum, which being perused and approved he also maintained a dispute upon the aforesaid Question, and expounded some text of Scripture p'posed by some members of the Classis wherein he gave good satisfaction, which was voted accordingly by the Classis; and therefore resolved (according to former votes) to proceed to the Ordination of him to-morrow in Wirkesworth Church.

Voted that Mr Peter Watkinson Pastor of the Church at Kirk Ireton be continued Moderator, and he this day moderating ended with prayer.

Wirksworth Classis July 21, 1652.

These being present at the Classicall meeting for the Ordinacon of the Aforementioned Mr Samuel Berrisford the said 21st day of July, 1652, vizt

Ministers.

Others.

Mr	Watkinson, Moderator	Mr Henrie Buxton
	Shelmerdine	M ^r John Sclater
	Wiersdale	William Storer
	Porter	Edward Allen
	Martin Topham	Germane Buxton
	Pole	John Rudiard
	Otefield	John Heapie
	Myles	Henry Buxton of the Mill-house
	Coke, scribe	•

Mr Robert Porter Pastor of the Church at Pentridge preached this day ye Ordination Sermon; which ended Mr Peter Watkinson demanded the Questions of the said Mr Samuel Berisford required to be demanded of him by the Ordinance for the Ordinacon of Ministers of the 28th of August, 1646, who publicklie answered everie the said Question & gave good satisfaction thereby; whereupon he was ordained by prayer and imposition of hands.

The said Mr Watkinson made the exhortation and concluded with prayer and the blessing.

After the Congregation was dismissed the L'res of Ordinacon were signed by the Ordainers & delivered to him the said Mr Samuel Berisford by the scribe. The severall papers of his Testimonials & Thesis are remaining in the custodie of the Scribe.

It is perhaps worth pointing out how the making of Chapelries into separate parishes, an arrangement reversed at the Restoration, was a farseeing anticipation of what was considered necessary and right in the Nineteenth Century. Cressage, for instance, was in 1648, separated from Cound and made into an independent parish, to which Samuel Smith, late pastor of both, was then appointed, James Cressett going to Cound. After 1660 Cound and Cressage were re-united, and the latter remained a Chapelry of Cound till 1841. Woore, now in Shropshire, was till 1842 a Chapelry of Muckleston, in Staffordshire, and Tilstock till 1844 a Chapelry of Whitchurch, but both in the Seventeenth Century were considered distinct parishes.

Of the Clergy mentioned in the former paper the following were educated at Shrewsbury School (see Dr. Calvert's Regestum Scholarium, 1562—1635), and no doubt others whose names I have overlooked:—Peter Studley, James Betton, Ambrose Phillips, Richard Heylin, Richard Milward, Edward Woolley, Michael Thomas, George Berkeley, Samuel Berkeley, George Adeney, Richard Piper, Nathaniel Prowde, Richard Wicksteed, Peter Nichols, John Adams, Rowland Nevet, Charles Vaughan, Samuel Greaves, Oliver Thomas, and William Rocke. Titus Thomas also entered in 1647.

ADDENDA.

Page 258.—Andrew Bailey was appointed to Shifnal, 22 Nov., 1636.

Page 278.—On March 11, 1651, the fine of Richard Owen of Shrewsbury, was ordered to be reduced from £150 10s. to £50 10s. if he settled the tithes of Pulley, worth £10 a year, on the Minister of St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, by June 24, 1651.

Page 285.—Richard Piper, late of Bobbington, was appointed to Pitchford, 21 June, 1661.

¹ Calamy mentions Thomas Bowyer as ejected from "Oare, a chappel either in Staffordshire or Cheshire, I know not which."

Page 285.—Clungunford. Samuel Berkeley was Canon of Hereford Cathedral (app. 1632), and lost his Cathedral preferment, as Bisby, of Edstaston, did, but like him, retained his benefice. As Berkeley was both a Minister of the Presbyterian Classes of 1647, and an Assistant to the Independent Commissioners of 1654, he can hardly be included in the number of Suffering Clergy.

Page 287.—Atcham. "No entry from the end of the year 1644 to 1656." (Memorandum on Cover of Register).

Page 293.—Mr. Bruce "had a wife and several small children He was for some time Chaplain to Sir Anthony Irby, but at length went into Scotland, which was his native country."

Page 295.—Tong. A Robert Hilton, of B.N.C. Oxon. (B.A. 1630), was app. to Lapley, co. Stafford, in 1638, and, according to Walker, was ejected from there. If identical with the Curate of Tong, he must have turned Independent.

Page 296.—The Rev. J. B. Blakeway (*Transactions*, 3rd Series, VII., p. 345), says Titus Thomas was Minister of Church Aston, a chapelry of Edgmond.

Page 302.—Wrockwardine. William Cope was appointed 6 Feb., 1662-3.

Page 305, note.—Dr. George Long, M.A., had been Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. He took his M.D. at the University of Leyden, and was ejected from Newcastle-under-Lyme, co. Stafford. He died at Bristol, Dec. 26, 1712.

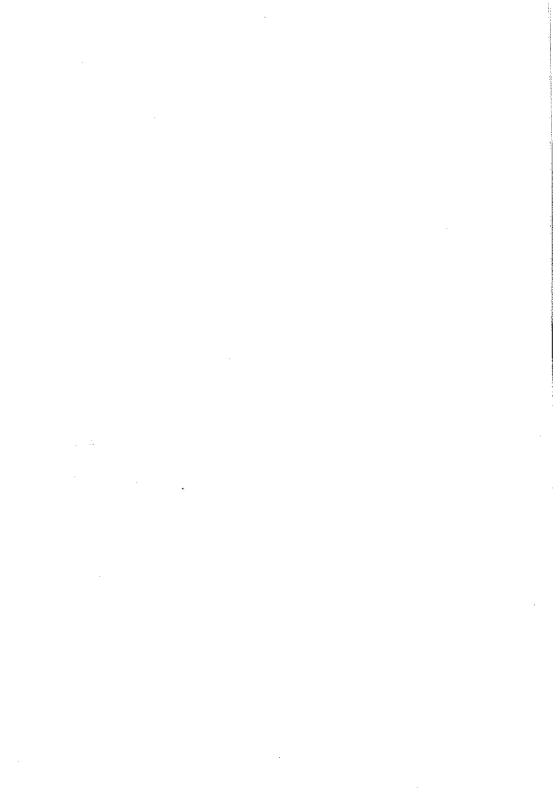
Page 306.—The Mr York mentioned by Philip Henry was, no doubt, the Mr. Richard York who, Calamy says, was ejected from Rushall, co. Stafford. He was "a religious active man and a lively preacher, and died young of a consumption."

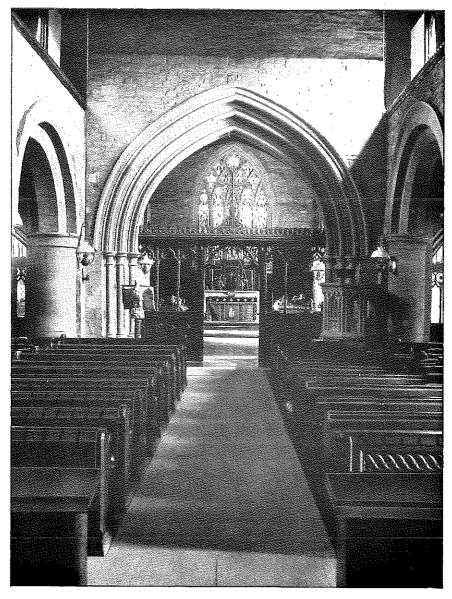
CORRIGENDA.

Page 247, last line, pro 1836 lege 1638.

, " 257, line 18, pro 1675 lege 1664.

,, 310, dele Weston Lullingfield.





H. H. Hughes, Photo.

KINLET CHURCH (INTERIOR).

(The Screen, Pulpit, Lectern and Seats were added in 1892-3).

NOTES ON KINLET.

By THE

REV. J. B. BLAKEWAY, M.A., F.S.A., VICAR OF KINLET.

EDITED AND ILLUSTRATED BY MRS. BALDWYN CHILDE.

PREFACE.

THE Rev. John Brickdale Blakeway was Vicar of Kinlet from 1800 to 1816. He was born in 1765, the son of Joshua Blakeway, Esq., of Shrewsbury, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Matthew Brickdale, M.P. for Bristol. He was called to the Bar in 1789, went the Oxford Circuit, and was ordained in 1793. Besides being Vicar of Kinlet, he was Vicar of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, and Official of the Peculiar; Vicar of Neen Savage and Rector of Felton. He died at the Council House in Shrewsbury, 1826.

The following Notes, written during 16 years of his residence at Kinlet, on many separate sheets of paper, have been bound in a book 6 or 7 inches square, and are preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. Much difficulty in editing them has arisen from the manner in which the sheets have been bound, often mixing the subjects in a most puzzling manner.

The Topographical History of Kinlet is written with great detail and care, other parts are fragmentary, and in many instances further research has shown that his conclusions were erroneous, and it is with much hesitation that I have tried to put them together, desiring on the one hand to leave out as little as possible, and yet unwilling to mislead the reader.

These pages consist of:-

- 1. The Topographical History.
- 2. The Church and Monuments.
- 3. The History of the Owners to 1816.
- 4. The Folk-Lore.

The Rev. John Blakeway was a most industrious antiquarian. In the Parish Register of Kinlet are various notes made by him during his incumbency. He wrote, besides many notes and pamphlets, the well-known work "The Sheriffs of Shropshire," and in conjunction with Archdeacon Owen, "The History of Shrewsbury."

I have tried to elucidate the curious problem of the passing of Kinlet from the Cornwalls to the Blounts in 1446, and from the Blounts to the Lacons in 1581, when the descendants of the sisters took precedence of the descendants of the daughters; extravagance and a large loan or mortgage may be a possible explanation. Yet, notwithstanding all the vicissitudes, and the scarcity of male heirs, Kinlet has never been sold, and the representatives of the present day represent the successive owners since the Norman conquest, though in the female line.

I have added in an Appendix the Inquisitions post mortem of the Bromptons, Cornwalls, and Sir William Lychfeld, so that those who are interested in family history may draw their own conclusion from original sources.

FRANCES C. BALDWYN CHILDE.

Kyre Park, Nov., 1907.

The succession of Kinlet, Shropshire, by inheritance through the families of

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Ricardus, Domesday Lord.

Bernard Fitz Unspac, 1074—1135.

Brian, Lord of Kinlet, 1157-8.

Brian de Brompton I., 1193.

John de Brompton II., d. 1262.

Brian de Brompton III., d. 1267.

Walter de Brompton, d. 1292.

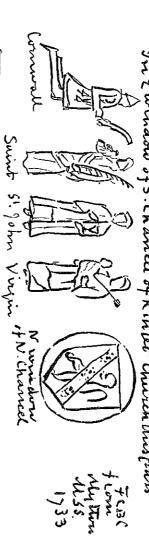
Brian de Brompton IV., d. 1294.
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Elizabeth de Brompton, d. 1354—Edmund de Cornwall, 1st son of Richard de (a widow) d. and coh. of Brian. | Cornwall (of Kinlet, by his wife), d. 1354 (Mar. 22).

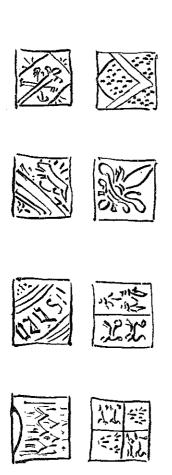
Cornwall
1309—1415

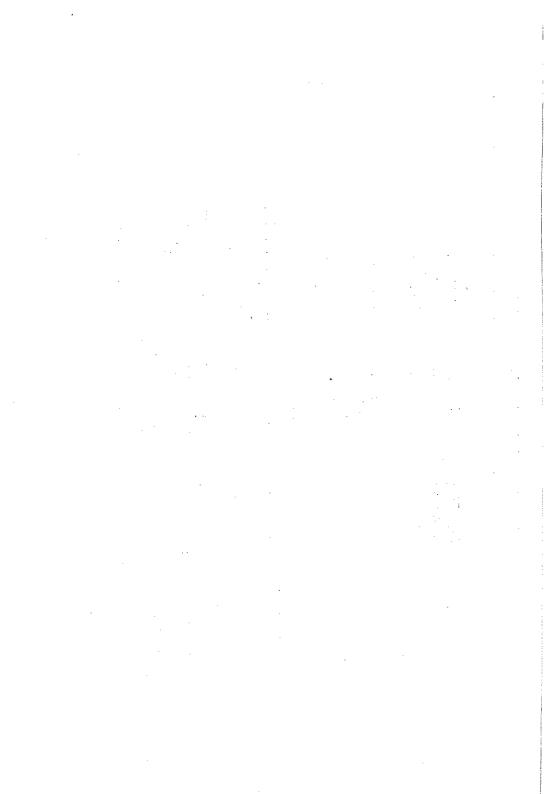
Edmund, 1st son (of Thonock, Lincolnshire), by gift of Edw. I.
m. and had a son, but d. s.p. (see Cornwall Pedigree at Kyre).
Bryan de Cornwall, 2nd son,
and h. of Kinlet, d. 1391.

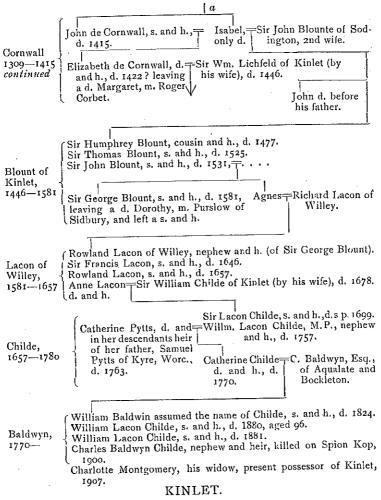
Chancel of Kinlet Church this plans



Thes in Kinter Church -







The parish of Kinlet is situated in the County of Salop and Hundred of Stoddesdon. As it contains no village, but consists entirely of single houses, we shall reckon its distance frum the neighbouring market towns from the Church, which is distant from Bridgnorth nine miles and a half; from Bewdley six miles, and from Cleobury Mortimer four miles and a half.

This parish, including the liberty of Earnwood, is bounded on the north by the parishes of Stottesdon, Billingsley, and Highley; on the east by that of Arley, in the County of Stafford, and by an insulated part of the parish of Stoddesdon; on the south by the parishes of Cleobury Mortimer and Neen Savage; and on the west by the last mentioned parish and that of Stoddesdon.

From these several parishes it is chiefly separated by rivulets and brooks, but in one part on the north-west by a broad trench which runs from an oak tree at the corner of Dunstan's Coppice to the park paling at the head of the Birchen Park, and so to the Knowl hill, to the head of a small rill of water which divides the High Wood, in this parish, from the Old Coppice, in the parish of Stoddesdon, and falls into the Borl Mill brook below Norton's End-From thence the boundary of the parish pursues this last mentioned brook till it falls into the Severn a few hundred yards above Bargate, down to which place that river is the boundary.

From Bargate this parish is separated from Arley (which in this part steps over to the Shropshire side of the Severn) by a small brook which it accompanies to its source just on the north side of the turnpike road to Bewdley, at the angle formed by which road and the said parish the parish of Arley ceases and that of Stoddesdon commences, the space between the said brook and the woodland in Arley, which contains above an acre, being called "No Man's Land," and in fact, pays an acknowledgment to the Lord. Thence the boundary proceeds to the source of another rivulet on the other side of the hill, which divides it from the aforesaid insulated portion of Stoddesdon, and which runs into Dowles brook at the Furnace Mill. From the Furnace Mill it runs upon Dowles Brook (which divides it from the parishes of Cleobury Mortimer and Neen Savage) to the southern angle of the aforesaid Dunstan's Coppice, which is in Stoddesdon parish, to the first mentioned oak tree at its north-eastern angle.

The parish of Kinlet knows no other division than into the two liberties or Manors of Kinlet and Earnwood, which are separated from each other by a little rill which rises near the Hophouse at the end of Hall of Hammond Lane, and so runs between the lands of Lawley and Bluck to the bottom of Henry Jeffs' garden, and whence it runs under Ventuck's bridge, and from Tippers to Log Mill.

From the end of Hall of Hammond Lane the boundary line goes along the lane till it comes to a rill which descends out of the lane and runs down Bluck's ground by the side of Southwell houses meadow into the larger brook, which divides Bluck's and Povey's. The boundary between the two liberties proceeds down the larger brook to the late Pool house, and thence up a little rill which comes down from Povey's, then across a little meadow and up Silligrove lane, cross that and down by the hedge of late Howells, at the bottom of which to a rill which runs into Dowles brook just above Hawkyard. Each of these liberties has its constable. The Constablewick of Kinlet comprises Walltown (both Upper and Lower), in the parish of Neen Savage. Kinlet and Earnwood are said to be distinct manors, the latter the largest.

Moor Hall was a manor within the Manor of Kinlet. Both Liberties owe suit at the Court Leet and Barony of Cleobury, but only the constables and jurymen are called.

KINLET.

Kinlet, Moor Hall, Winall, Norton's End, Prior's Moor, Crump's End, Tippers, Catsley, Broadley, Woodgate, Kinlet Common, Meaton upper and lower, Upper House Lawns, Foxcote.

EARNWOOD.

Earnwood, Birch, Lodge, Barns, Log Mill, Bargate, Fastens, all Button Bridge Common and Hill (now the Workhouse), Hall of Hammonds, Winwood, Winwood Barn, Rotten Row, Sturt and Hawkyard Commons.

Mr. Childe's present property in Kinlet (January, 1813) is 6,276 acres, add (Rotten Row 40)

$$\begin{array}{c} 6,276 \;\; \text{acres, add} \\ \text{(other owners)} \\ \\ \begin{cases} \text{Rotten Row} \\ \text{Henry Green's} \\ \text{Silligrove} \\ \text{Prior's Moor} \\ \text{Catsley} \\ \end{cases} \begin{array}{c} 45 \\ \text{Henry Green's} \\ 45 \\ \text{Catsley} \\ \end{cases}$$

The length of the parish along the turnpike road, from the bridge below Norton's End to that below Kinlet Common is

about three miles and a half. Its breadth from Dunstan's Coppice to No Man's Land, at the end of Button Bridge Common, about three miles.

At the last enumeration of the population it was found to consist of 552 souls. The inhabitants consist entirely of persons employed in husbandry, with the exception of two wheelwrights, a blacksmith, a tailor, and the like necessary professions.

The soil contains almost every variety (except gravel), often within a very small compass of ground. It is well adapted for the growth of corn, but still better for the pasturage of sheep. The state of Agriculture in this parish is generally esteemed superior to any of the surrounding parishes. This is certainly owing in a great measure to the active exertions of the landlord, William Childe, Esq. But the system of consolidating farms has been carried to a greater extent than can be approved by those who believe smaller farms to be conducive to the morals and general stock of happiness of the community. The farms do not, however, any of them approach to the extent to which they are carried in some other counties, none of them, I believe, much exceeding 500 acres.

This parish consists of 6,584 acres, 1,403 of which was found on the enquiry instituted by Government in 1801 to be in arable.

The tract of woodland is extensive; certain portions thereof are cut down in rotation every sixteenth year and converted into charcoal for the iron forges. Only one small plantation of hops exists in the parish, but all the farms are provided with orchards, from which a considerable quantity of indifferent cider is made.

A thin stratum of coal is supposed to run under the greater part of the parish; it has been worked in several places, but not with sufficient success to induce an extension of the works-

The price of labour is as follows:—5s. a week; 6s. or 7s. in hay harvest; 9s. or 10s. or more in corn harvest, all the above exclusive of drink.

Kinlet and Earnwood pay £207 9s. 6d. to the Land Tax. Two turnpike roads run through the parish, one from Bridgnorth to Cleobury Mortimer, and another from Bewdley to Orton limeworks. As this parish stands upon very high ground with a fall every way, it is remarkably destitute of rivulets; a small one rises in the road to Bewdley, between Catsley and Button Bridge Hall, and passing under Ventrick Bridge, where it receives another that takes its rise on the glebe, and divides the liberties of Earnwood and Kinlet, and falls into the Borl Mill brook at the Log Mill.

Another small rill falls into the same brook at the New Bridge, as a bridge now very ancient and almost ruinous continues to be called.

On a flat space close to this bridge that firebrand of party Henry Sacheverel (whom all sides now unite to decry) was met by above 2,000 persons when he passed through this country on his way to Selattyn in 1709, to which benefice he was presented by Mr. Lloyd of Aston, the patron, after the gentle sentence inflicted on him by the House of Lords. is well known that he was encouraged to avail himself of the pretence of going to take possession of his new preferment to make a sort of triumphant progress through the kingdom, and being invited by Sir Lacon William Childe of Kinlet to pay him a visit on his journey, the aforesaid "New Bridge", is said to have been erected for his accommodation, and a road out through the field into the lane leading to the Yew Tree turnpike, the traces of which still exist. He was received upon his entrance into the parish by a numerous cavalcade, and some vestiges of this visit are yet scarcely obliterated, for the neighbouring tenants and yeomen who adhered to the High Church principles of their superiors christened their children by the name of "Sacheverell," and some persons of this name have been living within these last few years. Thus at Cleobury Mortimer Edward Sacheverell, son of Edward Oliver buried 1719; Sacheverell Hincksman buried at Higley 1778.

A third rivulet which rises under the Knoll Hill and flows through the High Wood has been already mentioned; this receives a small rill of water which rises in the Birchen Park, and after feeding two small ponds runs at the bottom of Church Hill, and then forms a large piece of water. These united fall into the Borl Mill brook just under the Byne.

A fourth rivulet rises in the fold yard of Bradley, and

runs by the Metons, dividing the Commons of Sturt and Hawkyard, till it falls into Dowles Brook at Furnace Mill.

THE LIBERTY OF EARNWOOD,

now commonly pronounced Yearnwood, is separated from that of Kinlet by the small rivulet already mentioned, which, rising at the back of Catsley and running under Ventrick bridge, falls into the Borl Mill brook at Malpas's or the Log Mills, a mill now destroyed, but formerly, I presume, occupied by a miller of the name of Malpas, and since that used for grinding of log wood.

This name I find written in an early record Hernewood; hence I conclude that at the time when hawking was the favourite sport of our nobles, the wood with which this district was, doubtless, then overspread, was devoted to the "breadings" of herons for that diversion, such as heronry or hernary, as it is pronounced, still exists in the magnificent woods of Linley, near Bishop's Castle, the seat of Robert More, Esq., or at least did within my recollection. Ernwood was, as I shall presently show, formerly parcel of the royal forest of Wyre; -but a member of the Manor of Cleobury Mortimer. It must have been granted by the Crown at an early period to the family of Mortimer as what we should now call a hunting seat, for which purpose its situation between these two principal residences, Cleobury and Chelmarsh, rendered it very convenient. Here those great barons occasionally repaired with a numerous retinue of their Herefordshire retainers. Thus in the lib. nig. de Wigm., we find a grant from Ralph, son of Adam de Framino (of the Nash) to Roger de Mortimer (the same who liberated Edward from his confinement at Hereford)—"datum apud Hernewode, quarto Kalendas Maii, anno regni regis Henrici plii regis Johannis, xiliido Hiis testibus, Henrico de Mortuomari Henrico de Pembruge, Briano de Brampton, Johanne de Lyngayne, Richardo de Letton, Nicholao de Pedworthyn, Nicholao de Hyntes, et aliis," all gentlemen who must have been at that time either on a visit to or in attendance upon that great man. This was in 1250. So again, in the same MS., I find an indenture in French, dated at Ernewoode, in the "contie de Salop," on the 28th of June, 9 Edw. II., between the same nobleman, then called Monsieur Roger de Mortimer, seigneur de Wiggemor, on the one part, and Monsieur Barthlem de Badelesmere (afterwards chamberlain to Edw. II., and lord of Shifnall) on the other, reciting that the latter was bound to the former in a bond of twenty thousand pounds, to be paid at Michaelmas next ensuing,—and it is agreed by the present indenture that if before that time Baddlesmere enters into a recognizance with sufficient sureties to pay the said sum by instalments, the bond shall be given up. It was upon the same visit of Badelsmere to Mortimer at Ernewoode agreed that Edmund, son of the latter, should marry Elizabeth, daughter of the former, and that the young lady should be endowed of 3co marks of land in (among other places) Ernewoode and Cleobury Mortimer and the park and forest of Wyre. This marriage settlement was dated "Vendredy poschein devant l'Agsencion," in the year above mentioned. Three hundred marks is £200 sterling, a sum equal in efficiency to £3,200 at present, stating the then average price of corn at 6s. per quarter, now at £3 4s. od.

This Roger was the person afterwards so instrumental in the deposal of Edw. II. He probably induced his brotherin-law, Badelsmere, who was, we see, deeply indebted to him, to desert the party of his bountiful master and join the faction of the rebellious nobles, an act of ingratitude for which he paid by his being beheaded at Canterbury, after his capture at Boroughbridge with so many rebels in the spring of 1322, while Edward had yet power to assert his authority. Mortimer was fortunate to effect his escape to France, where he afterwards joined with Queen Isabel (into whose affections he had advanced himself by the graces of his person and address) to dethrone her husband. In the meantime, his estates in this county were at the mercy of the Many parts of it were granted to those nobles who had adhered to their sovereign. That of which we are now treating was either held by lease from the Crown, or Edward was desirous to retain the perpetuity of it. Certain it is that in 1334 the Manor of Ernewood (late the property of Roger de Mortimer) was ordered to be leased in the following year, 10 Ed. II.

I find the following abstract of a Record (Harl. MSS.):—
"Ernewood and Cleobury (Parks of the King), with the
Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

chase of Wyre and woods of Huggate (Higley) and Stanton Lacy, &c., concerning an Inquest or Malfaison therein."

On the deposal of Edward, Roger de Mortimer, who was now created Earl of March, re-entered, of course, into the possession of his property, but the Earldom of March (a creation which had excited much discontent among the nobles) was adjudged to be forfeited; yet his estates devolved upon his son and heir, who survived him only one year. Edmund de Mortimer was found (1331) to have holden the Manor of Ernewood' as a member of the Manor of Cleobury Mortimer (Harl, MSS.). From this period the descent of this place accompanied that of the earldom. the death of the third Earl of March, 1381, the next Earl being a minor, his estates were seized by the King, his "Welsh Uncle." I know not whether, in the use of this vulgar phrase, I shall escape the censure of the fastidious, but I own it appears to me a convenient phrase to express a degree of consanguinity which cannot otherwise be expressed without much circumlocution, and in the same year I meet with the following abstract of a record relating hereto²:--"1Wyreforest: an inquest of trespassers of vert and venery (de transgress' "virid. et vent.") committed therein, taken by Richard Nowell, Keeper of the same, also in Ernewode and Cleobury within the forest aforesaid." In 1432, 11 Hen. VI., on the death of Anne Stafford, Countess of Huntingdon, and relict of Edward, Earl of March, the Manor of Arnewode is found to be part of that earldom.3 Hence, of course, it went to Anne, Countess of Cambridge, sister of Edmund, and so to her grandson, King Edward IV. From the time of its thus merging in the Crown, my records are silent concerning it till 1 Ed. VI., 1547, when Ernewood manor and woodlands, called Ernwood, Stertewood and Hawkevard wood, and divers messuages, parcel of the possessions of the

² MS. Harl. 744 ut supra. MS. Harl. 3874 entitled "Manors held of the Crown, from Hen, III. to Edw. IV." It is an excellent and authentic MS. Smart's MS. m.y.

¹ By Inq. P. M. after the death of Edmund Lord Mortimer he is found to die seized of lands at Labourne and La Crofte, near Earnewood. The former of these places is, I presume, that which is still called "The Bower."

³ At the Parliament of Coventry, Nov. 20th, 1439, various parts of the Duke of York's property were granted to John Lord Dudley. Among these are Tyknil and Ernewood.

Earldom of March, and of the late Abbey of Salop, are found to be holden by William Pagitt in capite by the fortieth part of a knight's fee, and a rent of 30s. & 11d. This grant was made on the 30th of May, as appears from a record in Coke's Entries, in which Stertwood, Hawkyard-wood and Hedgewyke-wood are stated to be within the chase or forest of Wver, in the county of Salop, and from time immemorial parcel of the Manor of Cleobury Mortimer, and it was granted to Sir William Paget, K.G., in fee. This was the first Lord Paget, the great friend and adherent of the Protector, Duke of Somerset, in whose reverses of fortune he largely partook, being five years afterwards degraded from his knighthood on pretence of the meanness of his origin, and fined £6,000, at the instance of John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, on a charge of selling the King's land and timber wood without commission.

Long, however, before this great change in administration (viz., Aug. 21, 1547) only three months after the grant made to him by the King, Sir William alienated "the house" and manor of Earnwood, with the appurtenances, and the woods aforesaid, to Thos. Seymour, Lord Seymour, of Sudeley, and in Michaelmas term following levied a fine of the said woods (inter alia) by the name of the Manor of Ernewood, with its appurtenances in Ernewood, and the advowson of the Church of Ernewood, and a free piscary in Severn, to the said Lord By the "house" above mentioned is probably meant the ancient residence of the Earl of March, some remains of which might endure down to the period in question; but what is designed by the advowson of the "Church" of Ernewood I cannot say. The family of Mortimer had, doubtless, a private chapel here, because the officers of religion accompanied the great men of that day into every situation of life; in the field of battle, in the hour of conviviality and recreation, as well as in the stated recurrences of public worship, or the occasional retreats of solitary devotion. But that this chapel was ever parochial, The valor of Pope Nicholas, 1292, which records so many churches now lost, does not hint at such a thing. Either the Church of Kinlet is intended—which we know did belong to Lord Sudeley-or which is more probable, these sweeping words, which have occasioned so much doubt, were added, ex majori cautela, by the London conveyancer who directed the fine without any local knowledge of the

premises.

Lord Sudeley did not long continue master of this place. His ambition and unwarrantable designs against his brother soon brought him to the block. He was beheaded March 10, 1548-9. On his attainder his property here devolved to the Crown. In 2 May, 1554, I find the manors of Ernewood and Stanton Lacy, and lands there, holden by Jane Russell, wife of William Russell.

Queen Elizabeth, on the 7th of June, 1563, granted to Robt. Dudley, afterwards Earl of Leicester, the manor, Lordship, park and borough of Cleobury Mortimer, with the appurtenances thereof and all and every the lands and woods belonging thereunto or heretofore deemed part or parcel thereof. The reversion in fee of all these premises she granted March 8, 1565-6, to Sir Rowland Heyward, Knt., and Thomas Dixon, who on the 30th of the same month, in consideration of 100 marks, conveyed the said reversion to the Earl. Of Ernwood (now severed from Cleobury by the grant of Paget) he probably obtained a grant from the Russells. This I collect from an information ex officio filed in the Exchequer, 18 Eliz., 1576, against Richard Bushop and Thomas Thornton, of Cleobury, yeoman, for entering upon the woods called Stertwood, Hawkyard-wood, and Hedgewyke-wood, being within the chase or forest of Wyre, in the County of Salop, in the hands and possession of the Queen, in right of her crown of England.2

The defendants justify as servants of the Earl. They plead the grant of the woods to Paget, his conveyance to Sudeley, the attainder of that Lord, the present Queen's grants to Dudley. The point in this case was whether these woods in question passed by Queen's grant. The Attorney

¹ Smart ut sup'. Co. Esc. ut sup'.

² The premises devolving to the Crown by an attainder, were no longer part

of the Earldom of March.

Dr. Borde mentions Yernwood among the Forests and Parkes of Shropshire in his brief survey of the fall of Lord Sudeley one of his confidential servants says: "I did ever as much as in me lay to dissuade him from offering such extremity... in matters which only concerned his own private gain, as Sir George Blunt's case. Mr. Robert Long's for Vasterne Park, and Mr. Comptrollas for Fecknam Park."—Haynes Et Papers p. 69.

General contended that the words "all and every lands, woods, &c., belonging to the said Manor of Cleobury Mortimer, or heretofore deemed part or parcel of the same manor," were "void for *infinity*;" and stated that the said three woods were severed from the said manor sixteen or seventeen years previous to the date of the grant to Leicester. This alluded to the grant to Paget.

The Earl upon this occasion (for it was against him that the suit was directed) employed our countryman, the famous Plowden, who argued that the words in question could not in this instance be "void for *infinity*," because it was pleaded that at the time of Edward VI.'s grant, the said words were parcel of the manor; and in this opinion the Court concurred.

Leicester, thus confirmed in his possession of Ernwood, made it the subject of various conveyances. On the 21st of April, 1583, is a conveyance of the manor and parks of Ernwood from Edward Russell to Thomas Dudley, Esq.¹ This was probably nothing more than a transfer from Russell of any remaining claim he might have upon them, to a kinsman and trustee of the Earl's. Accordingly we find Mr. Dudley, two years afterwards, 15 Nov., 27 Eliz., 1585, conveying the same manor and park to the Earl, who in 1588 covenants with his nephew, the gallant Philip Sidney, and others, to "stand seized of this manor to his use, remainder to Lettice, his then countess (relect of Walter, Earl of Essex) for her life, remainder to his right heirs." This was, I presume, preparatory to his last will, whereby he devises to his "base son Robert" the manors of Cleobury and Ernwood after the decease of his dear wife. This Robert was the celebrated and unfortunate Sir Robert Dudley, who, disowned by his wicked and unnatural father, and plundered by the despicable James and his rapacious courtiers, ended his days in a volun-

Besides this is a note, the Manor of Ernwood and lands, messuages there purchased of by Edw. Boughtoune, Esq.; others recovered against Thomas Dudley, Esq., and others by writ of entry, Hilary term, 1583. This blank ought perhaps to be filled by Russell, who might convey his right to Boughton, who might have recovered from Dudley. These entrics are in Smart's MS.

Did he ever make it his residence? In a letter of his to the Lord Treasurer Burleigh, 1584, he says:—"I would have entreated your Lordship to grant me during my Lady Warwick's lunacy, the keeping and mastership of the game of the chace of Malvern, 'hit lyeth not farr from a lordship a lytle howse I have." Collins Sidney Papers, vol. i., p. 208.

tary exile and under the assumed title of Duke of Northumberland.

THE BIRCH

is a large farm lying between Catsley and Tiphouse. In Smart's Terrier are the following notes of a place of this name, which I conceive to be the place in question:—

37 Henry VIII., Birch: lands there holden in capite by

Thomas Onslowe.

3 Edward III., lands there holden in socage by Nicholas

Stanhope and John Bellowe.

3 Elizabeth, lands there granted in socage to Dudley and Aiscoughe.

30 Elizabeth, lands in the said parish granted to Tipper

and Daweinsceage.

39 Elizabeth, lands there holden by Ferdinand earl of

Derby.

From some of the entries, I conjecture that there was land here belonging to some of the monasteries or chauntries dissolved by Henry VIII. and Edward VI.

William and Robert Tippers¹ were in particular two great detectors of what were called "concealed" lands in the reign

of Elizabeth.

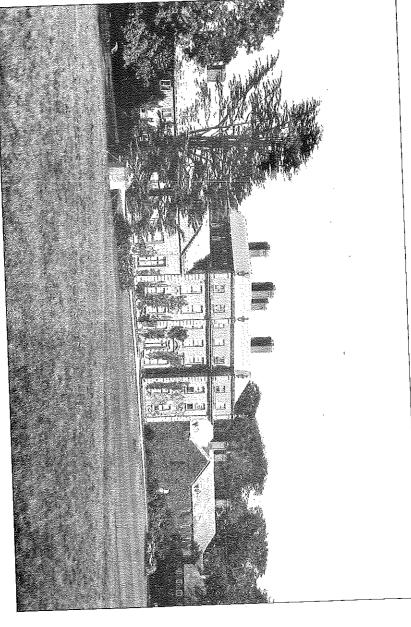
Here is a very handsome house, fit for the reception of a large family, erected by Sir William Childe for the residence of his second son Thomas, the memory of whose inhabitancy here is preserved by the name of the gate which opens upon Button Bridge Common, which was his road to Bewdley. Here also the late William Lacon Childe, Esq., resided during the time that the new house at Kinlet was building (1729).

HALL OF HAMONDS

was no doubt formerly the residence of a family of that name. It is remarkable that in Wood's map it is depicted as a stately mansion, while Kinlet Hall is omitted. Latterly, it consisted of two small farm houses, whereof one, the property of William Childe, Esq., was taken down in 1802.

If the earlier registers of this parish had remained, we

¹ The Lord Chancellor of England writing to Lord Burghley in 1594 mentions "one Tipper a seditious man of this country birth," who had been preferring untrue and malicious libels against him. —Strype's Annals, v. 4. p. 207.



KINLET HALL,
Built by William Lacon Childe, Esq., M.P., 1729.

H. H. Hughes, Photo.



should no doubt have had some memorials of the family of Hamond, which, from the name of Hall given to their residence, must have been of some importance; but as it is, their memorials have perished with them. Mr. Mytton has, however, preserved the following entry from a MS. belonging to Charles Baldwin, Esq., of Aqualate: - "Hamond of Kinlet descended of Hamond of Hamond Hall, near adjoining, sold The field argent, upon a cheveron enby their ancestors. grailed 3 martletts sable, betwixt 3 cinquefoils, &c." John Newport, gent., and Elizabeth Hamonde were married at Neen Savage June 4th, 1663. He is styled esquire in the register of Kinlet, January 10th, 1666, when his daughter of the same name with her mother was baptised; this child was buried on the 28th of the same month, and Mr. Newport had another daughter baptised by the same name February 18, 1667, and a son Edward baptised in December, 1669. At this time there was a Mr. Thomas Hamond, gent., residing in this parish. He had, by Elizabeth, his wife, a son John, baptised Sept. 8, 1670, and another, Joshua, Nov. 4, 1673, a daughter, Elizabeth, 16 Feb., 1675, Hanah 25 August, 1686, a third, Mary, 21 Nov., 1682, and a fourth, Frances, 23 Dec., 1687.

There is a family of the name still residing in the parish in the situation of farmers; but they have no tradition which connects them with the ancient possessors of the Hall, or with

the family spoken of in the Aqualate MS.

MOOR HALL.

The next place which requires our attention in this parish is Moor Hall, a farm contiguous to Kinlet Park. This may perhaps be the land granted by Brian de Brompton and Roger Chinlete, his brother, to St. John of Jerusalem, and which that warlike Order, the Knights Hospitalers, held here in 1185, they must afterwards have conveyed it to Wigmore Abbey, since it is certain that Moor Hall was held by that religious society, and in consequence hereof enjoys an exemption from the payment of all tithes. The first express mention of it I have seen is in 36 Henry VIII. (five years after the final dissolution of monasteries) on 11th of June,

in which year the King grants the Manor of Moorhall,1 in Kinlett, to Robert Taverner, gent., with all its rights, members and appurtenances, all waifs, strays, and heriots to the late Monastery of Wigmore belonging, for the sum of £604 13s. od.

Taverner was one of the swarm of speculators in abbey lands engendered by that nefarious robbery, the Dissolution. This conveyance from the Crown Taverner made haste to convey over to one Edward Pigott the same year that he became possessed of it.

By inquisition taken at Alveley, 1583, it was found that George Pigott, gent. (probably son of Edward), died on the 1st day of March last, seized of the Manor of Moorhall, in Kinlett, valued at £4 4s. 4d.—by the year, holden² of the Queen in capite by the 30th part of a Knight's fee, and 4s. rent, and 10d. nomine3 deins—that Edward Southall (son and heir of Isabella, one of the sisters and heirs of the said George, and wife of Thomas Southall) was cousin and heir of the said George, and of the age of 54 years.

The Southalls continued here many years. In the terrier presented at a visitation of Francis, Bp. of Hereford (this was Godwin who sate 1617-1633), Mr. George Southall is stated to pay 2s. modus for the Hay of More Hall, and 6d. for that of Foxcott. Francis Southall, of Kinlett, gent., was adm. of the inner temple Nov. 15, 1595, Antony Lowe and Humphrey Salwey being his pledges.

Geo. Southall, the Elder, of Foxcote, gent,

Edward Southall, son and heir

¹ MS. Swert Lethieullier, Cole's Escheats.
11 June, 36 Hen. VIII. The King grants Motehall in the psh of Kinlett with all waifs strays &c. late belonging to the Priory of Wigmore to Robert Taverner, gent. for £604.13.0. This was exemplified 1658 by Oliver, Lord Protector, at the request of Richard James, yeoman.

¹st April, 24 C. I., Geo. Southall, gent., and Edward his son and heir, mortgage the manor to Rich. James, yeoman.

Easter Term 1651 a fine of Edw. Southall and Anne his } 3^d Ap. 1651, wife deforciants.

George Southall, junior, son and heir. ² Mr. Cole states in the introduction to his valuable MSS, that the value found by Office is commonly about the tenth part of the true value per annum, sometimes more and sometimes less. This would make the yearly rent of Morehall in 1583, (45 os. 4d.

Perhaps "nomine decimarum," tithes.—Ed.

John Southall was vicar of Patteshull and was buried at Albrighton, near Shifnall, 19 Mar., 1696.

On the 1st of April, 24, Car. 1 (1648), George Southall, gent., and Edward, his son and heir, mortgage this manor to Richard James, yeoman; and on the 3rd of April, 1651, the same George (then styled of Foxcot, gent.) and Edward, with George Southall, the younger son and heir of the latter, finally conveyed it for the sum of £1,100 to the same mortgagee, who in 1658 obtained from Oliver, Lord Protector, under his great seal an exemplification of Henry VIII.'s grant to Taverner. James left issue an only daughter and heir, married to John Pardo, and by him mother of three daughters, one of whom, Joyce, in 1680 married John Hale, who thereby became possessed of this manor, which his grandson, Corbet Hale, sold in 1750 to William Childe, Esq., for the sum, if I am rightly informed, of only £1,200.

MOREHALL (on a slip of paper).

Richard James bought Morehall for £1,100 in 1651: . only child=John Pardo Susan=John Low of Mary=Edward Bodenham Joyce Pardo-John Hale Pardo Cleeton. Pardo of Lindridge. had Morehall John Hale- . . William Hale Edward Hale of Bewdley, Clerk. Grocer. Thomas Hale Jane Joyce Margaret Elizabeth Alice

John Hale, grocer in Bewdley, bought Hopton from Oldham, and left it to his nephew ob. s.p. Mr. Oldham bought Hopton from Miss Hyde.

FOXCOTE.

This was a farm contiguous to Woonall, now united to that farm. The barn and orchard are yet standing, but the other buildings are taken down; and in a few years the very name Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

in all probability will be lost. It occurs frequently in our ancient records, and (according to Collins (Peerage, ciii., Harley, Earl of Oxford) if he means the same place) must have belonged at an early period to Walter de Nova Meinil, who gave in free marriage with Alice, his daughter, to Brian de Bramton, four virgates of land in Foxcote, in the territory of Idelburi, to which donation E., Bishop of Hereford, Hugh William and Philip de Mortimer, William de Burley and others were witnesses. Unfortunately, no Bishop of Hereford occurs with the initials E. till a very late period, and the whole of this part of the article in question, though evidently grounded upon ancient documents, is awkwardly and incorrectly drawn up, so that whether this place is meant or what is intended by "the territory of Idelburi" I cannot decide. At the same time, Walter de Nova Meinill does certainly occur as witness to a deed of Roger de Mortimer, without date, in company with other gentlemen of the neighbourhood, as I have already observed; and in the Genealogia de Brampton, Brian, son, I conceive, of the preceding, is called Lord of Kinlet, Foxcote, &c. It seems that another family held it, in dependency, perhaps, to the Bramptons, and took their name, as was usual, from it. In the Harl. MS., 1087, so often quoted, is a memorandum that one-third part of the town of Walford descended to Roger de Foxcote, after the death of his uncle (avunculi), Adam de Foxcote.' William de Foxcote occurs in the lib. nig. de Wigorn as a witness to two deeds of Roger la Brockoke to Edmund de Mortimer, both dated at Cleobury, the one in the 21st, the other in the 24th of Edward I. and in 10 Edward II." Alicia "que fui uxor Walter Haklut " grants to Roger Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, lands in Foxcote which my uncle (avunculus), William de Foxcote, held, witnessed by Sir Robert de Harlye, John de Lyngeyne, and Edward Hakelut, Knights, John de Bromfeld, William de la Hulle, Richard de Clebury, and others."

This place appears to have been sometimes written Foxton; Mr. Lloyd quotes a record, 22 Richard II., stating that Roger, Earl of March, held one Knight's fee in

¹ In the Testa de Nevill under the Barony of Stutteville of Burford, it is said that Roger de Foxcote hald half a knight's fee in Foxcote, and it appears from a note in the Harleian copy of this record that this property was in the reign of Queen Elizabeth holden by Hayward.

Kinlet and Foxton, which Eliz. de Cornwall and Brian de Brampton held; this is, however, an hasty and inaccurate abstract, I presume, of the Kalendarium which has been already cited.

CATSLEY1

is a considerable farm, bounded by Woonall on one side and Ernewood on the other. If, as is the general opinion, all the places specified by name in Domesday are to be considered as ancient manors, this place has now lost that distinction, for it is therein described by the name Cateschesleie. Edric whom I conceive to be ye Salvage or Wild who held it in the time of ye Confessor after ye conquest, but was held of the Crown by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury; but as it lay contiguous to the other property of Ralph de Mortimer, he held it from the Earl, and one Ulf was immediate tenant of it under Mortimer. In the Testa de Nevill, which contains an abstract of inquisitions under Henry III., William de la Forde and Thomas de Hardle are stated to hold half a knight's fee in Katesley, of the Barony of Mortimer.

ROTTEN ROW.

See on the etymology of this place, Gibson Camden 1,091, Rotten Row in Norwich. Blomefield iii., 67.2

One of these small farms of 56 acres was, at the beginning of the last century (if my informant is correct), the property of one Wightwich, who let the farm to a tenant, occupying himself one end of the house, and leading here a mysterious sort of life. He kept two saddle horses, one of which was often found all in a foam on a morning. Hence his neighbours not unreasonably conjectured him to be a highwayman. When he received the purchase money, £550, which is stated to have been about 1730, he left the country, and was heard of no more in these parts.

When the Terrier was drawn up, one George Southall (a different person from him of the same name at Moor Hall) held it, and a large lonely barn still

called Southall's barn, preserves the memory of his former company.

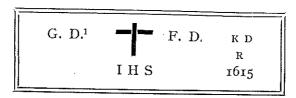
A street in Glasgow is called Rotten Row, and a late writer derives the name from "Zoutine," signifying the street of processions, It was here he said that the Host and the Images of Saints were borne in Festivals; he adds there is at Ratisbon a Rotten Gasse close to the Cathedral, and all over Germany the Canon who leads these processions is called "Rott-meister," i.e., Procession I and a late of the Cathedral and all over Germany the Canon who leads these processions is called "Rott-meister," i.e., Procession Leader. (Petas Letters, III., 167).

The purchaser was one Cole, a supervisor of excise, who came out of Oxfordshire. His son, originally a lieutenant in Col. Cholmondeley's regiment of foot, afterwards (I suppose in the short war with Spain, into which Sir Robert Walpole was forced by the clamours of the Tories) fitted out a privateer, but was taken prisoner by the Spaniards. On his liberation, he purchased and freighted a merchantman for the West Indies, but died on his passage home, as he was returning with great prospects of profit to his family. He had married a Sidbury woman, Lawley, by whom he had a son, who, having a large family, was obliged to sell Rotten Row in 1800 to Mr. Thomas Crane, of , for £1,500.

TIPPHOUSE.

This is a corruption of Tippers, as the name is written in Wood's map of Shropshire, which is very accurate in this part of the country, for the same reason perhaps that Roque's is so too in this part, viz., that the respective surveyors of the country probably were entertained at Kinlet during their being engaged in this part of their undertaking. This place derives its name, I presume, from the aforesaid speculator in "concealed lands," and this was probably part of his acquisitions in the 30th of Elizabeth, which, if D. stands for "Draper," probably went to Tippers coadjutors.

A stone in the wall of the house at Tippers:-



Tithes from Registry of the diocese of Hereford, April 4th, 1658.

George Draper for Tippers and Elliots', 1s. 6d.

George Draper 1615 built Tippers? Rowland Draper 1663, Katherine Draper 1665.

On Feb. 24th, 1892, in restoring Kinlet Church, under the altar tomb of Sir John Blount in the north transept, was found a broken slab with these words: "GEORGE DRAPER WHO.......

Stow, p. 732 of his Survey of London, furnishes the following pedigree:—

Henry Tippers, grocer, of London-Helen, d. of Rendal Dodd of Cheshire

William Tipper, Esq., of the body of K. James Mary, d. of John Clarke, goldb. 1542, ob. 1 Sept., 1613, et. 71, s. in St. smith, of London. Andrew's, Holborn.

Robert Tippers.

MEATON

is, I should think, meadtown, meadowtown. There are two

Meatons, the Upper and the Lower.

The earliest mention I find of this place is in a deed in the liber niger de Wigmore, where Roger de Brockock (perhaps the brokeoak) grants to Sir Edmund de Mortimer and Margaret his wife, "all my wood which is between the wood which is called Kynlete's wode and the wood of the said Edmund and extendit se ab uno capite a campo de Metene usque Dowles (Dowle's brook) for two marks of silver. Dated Clebury on Thursday next before the feast of St. George the Martyr in the 24th year of the reign of King Edward, son of Henry 1296). Witnessed by Sir Ralph de Araz, Sir Adam de St. George, William de Foxcote, Walter de la Steple, Ralph de la Lowe de Nen, Nicholas de Eldecote clerk, Nicholas de Eldecote, and many others."

This place, or part of it, appears to have been ever an appendage to the Kinlet estate. In 15 Richard II., 1391, it is found¹ that Sir Brian de Cornewell, Knight, held land in Meton, within the Lordship (dominium) of Kynlet, called Kyngeshemde, in capite by service unknown, and that John was his son and heir.

In 35 Henry VIII., 1543, James Levesoune had grant of the manors of Great and Little Meaton and lands therein. These had belonged to the Priory of Great Malvern, and thus were abbey lands, upon every detached portion of which the name of manor was very liberally conferred by the scribes of that day. Leveson was a large dealer in this unholy traffic. A Wolverhampton man, and a merchant of the Staple. He bought Lilleshull Abbey in the same year, which, on the extinction of his line, passed to that of his brother,

whose great grandson's daughter Frances married Sir Thomas Gower. Mr. Leveson, in the same 35th year, conveyed them to Thomas Grey, Esq., of Whittington, co. Stafford. In 18 Elizabeth, Edward Worewood was¹ found to hold a messuage and lands in Meaton; this was probably the nephew to Henry VIII.'s Attorney General, but of his property in Meaton I have nothing further to say. His first wife was daughter of Edw. Grey, Esq.

In these general abstracts formed by persons without local knowledge, errors in names of persons and places are wholly unavoidable. I suspect that for Kyngeshemde one should read Kynlete's wode.² Kinlet Common is close to Meaton.

KINLET CHURCH

is dedicated to All Saints. Ego Johannes de Brompton dedi Ecclesiæ omnium Sanctorum de Kinlet et canonicis de Wigemore, pro anima Matildis de Breus spose meam partem terræ meæ in Kinlet. (Dugdale MSS.).

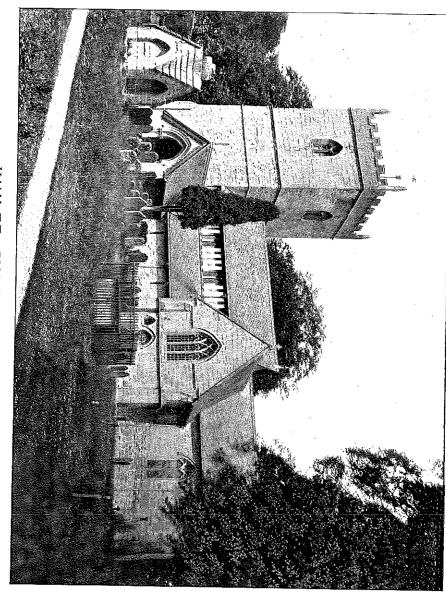
Brian de Brompton confirmed to the Monks of Lira, in Normandy, the grants of his ancestors, viz., one man with his land in the Manor of Kinlet and two parts of the tithes of the whole Lordship of Kinlet, of Fencote, and of Walton, and his brother Roger joins with him in acquitting the said land from all royal service.

The Church of Kinlet is a plain cruciform building of great solidity. It was so much modernized about the middle of the last century that it is not easy to form an opinion as to the date of its erection. The whole now consists of a nave with a range of four clerestory windows on each side, two side aisles, of which the windows, if ever they existed, are now closed. A chancel of extent little inferior to the body, but erected probably in the middle of 14th century, with two transepts. The length of the body is 65 ft. 4 in. Breadth of nave and aisles, 39 ft. 10 in. The tower is square and rather low, with high battlements.

There is a spacious porch, in which are the remains of some tiles, on one of which are the arms of France and England quarterly; on another those of Berkeley, and on a third are

¹ Smart MS. Harl. MS. 708.

² King's Wood joins Meaton. - F. C. B. C.



KINLET CHURCH (S.W. VIEW).
Shewing the 14th Century Ordory, and the Clerestory of 1892-3.

H. H. Hughes, Photo.

chevrons, probably for de Clare, Earl of Gloucester. door under this porch is slightly pointed, but the middle part is filled up by an X moulding, and is probably ancient. In the outer wall of the north (south?) transept are the remains of three arches; the middle one, which has evidently been an old entrance into that part of the church, and of which the span is increased in a progressive ratio—the first being half the size of the second and the second of the third-at the purpose of these I cannot guess. Very many of our old churches are well known to have on the south side of the altar a set of three stone seats, each progressively higher than the other. These at Kinlet may have been designed to answer the same end, whatever that might be, concerning which the learned, I believe, are not agreed. Near these trances on the inside is a holy water stoup; another is in the opposite transept, not far from the entrance, through which the family must always have come as they do now to church.

The church is pewed in a superior style of neatness and uniformity. This was done in the year 1752, by the munificence of William Lacon Childe, Esq. The pews are all well wrought oak, and have this peculiarity, that they are without doors, a judicious arrangement by which the noise of opening and shutting them by late comers to divine service is avoided.

So spacious are the chancel and aisles that a gentleman well skilled in Gothic architecture has supposed that our church has been at some period collegiate. When the dignity and opulence of the early possessors of Kinlet are considered, this will appear no improbable conjecture. It is, however, only fair to observe that it is only a conjecture; at least, I have hitherto discovered no traces of such a foundation in any of the records I have seen.

The windows of this part of the church have formerly been filled with stained glass, of which a few elegant fragments remain in the tracery of the windows. Much of this was probably destroyed at the last reparation. The east window is filled with remains of this sort confusedly jumbled together. Among them is the mutilated figure of a knight in plate armour and in the act of devotion, bearing a "scrowl" with the common legend "Mater Dei, miserere mei." On his surcoat are the Arms of Cornwall; and he was probably the

last of that name possessor of this place, in whose time this part of the fabric was perhaps erected. In 1815, the east window was filled with painted glass executed by Mr. Betton, of Shrewsbury, at the expense of William Childe, Esq. design was intended to represent the several families through which the Manor has descended, and the pattern of the tabernacles was made out from the remaining fragments of the former work. This altar screen was under the east window. There are no traces of any old screen dividing the chancel from the nave. A new altar screen was at the same time erected from an elegant design of the Rev. Hugh Owen. We have in this parish of Kinlet some remains of that custom which is mentioned by Dr. Heylin, in his Life of Arch: Laud, p. 16, where, speaking of the practice of bowing to the altar, he says "that it was observed by the Knights of the Garter, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, and thirdly by most countrywomen, who, in the time of my first remembrance and a long time after, made their obeisance towards the east before they betook themselves to their seats, though it was then taken (or mistaken rather) for a courtesie made unto the minister."

MONUMENTS.

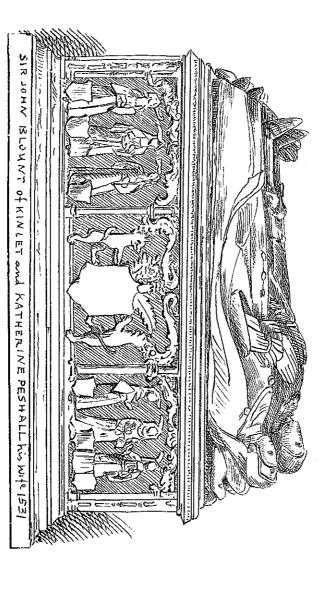
An alabaster figure of a lady with an infant in swaddling clothes in the folds of her mantle, date about 1420.

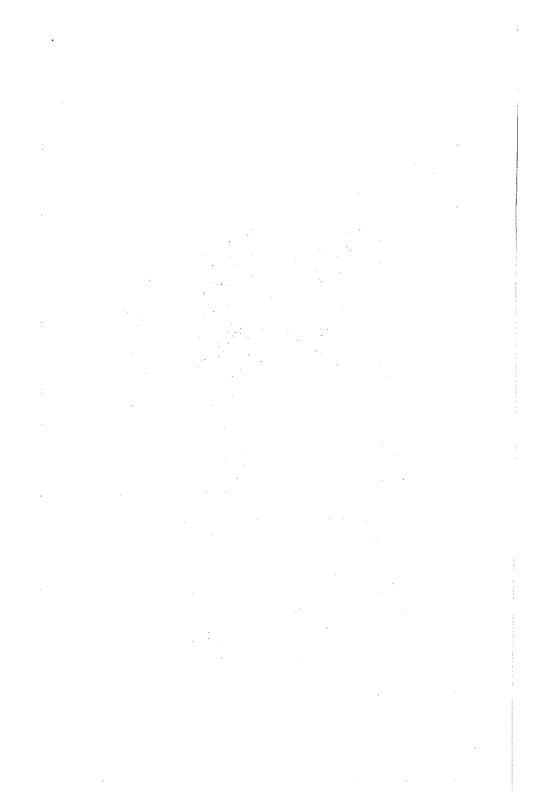
An alabaster altar tomb, on which are recumbent figures of a knight and his wife; their numerous family are sculptured under canopies round the tomb. Two angels are at the ends—this has either been removed to the place where it now stands from a situation where two sides of it were close to a wall, or it has had a vestry, sacristy, chantry, or some such apartment on two sides, the other two being closed with coarse wainscot.

An alabaster monument with a knight and his wife, and round it is carved the following inscription:—

Hic jacet corpus Joh'is Blount milit' filii et heredis Thome Blount milit' filii et hered' Hu'frid Blount milit' ac d'na Katherina uxor dicti Joh'is filia et heres sola Hugonis P'sall milit' ac dom' Isabelle uxoris sue filiæ dom' Johis Stanley milit' qui quidem Joh'es Blount obiit xvii die mensis Februarii anno d'ni MCCCCCXXXI cui' an'e propicietur deus amen.

Near this place lye the remains of Sir William Childe, Knight, and Doctor of Laws, second son of William Childe





of Northwick, in the county of Worcester, Esq. He was buried May 8, 1678, and Dame Anne his wife, daughter and heiress of Roland Lacon, Esq., Lord of this manor, and patron of this church, was buried June 28th, 1693.

H.S.E. Dominus Lacon Gulielmus Childe eques cancellariæ (Patri feliciter secundus) olim Magister, Quam Provinciam, Integritate Clarus, Justitia Severus, | Per 37 Annos summa cum Laude sustinuit—Candore ille et Misericordia Illustris—Priorem Amici (quibus triste reliquit Desiderium sui). | Fida tenuit Memoria Posteriorem Pauperes (quos vivus aluit et Moriens ditavit)—Quid plura? | Anima tandem Meditatione rarefacta sublimata—Ad expansus Beatorum Sedes—Ardenti pennâ contendens—Hic mortales Exuvias deposuit Mensis Mart' die quarto

Anno Domini 1719°

Ætatisq' suæ 76°

Monumentum hoc Price—illa

Conjux lectissima

Mœrens Statuit.

To the pious memory of Thomas Childe Esq^r late of the Birch in this parish second son of Sir William Childe Kt. Doctor of Laws & one of y^e Masters of the High Court of Chancery. Who after he had by his hospitality sincerity & constancy in friendship & undesigning openness of conversation gained the general esteem of his Country departed this life April y^e 12th 1708 In y^e 52 year of his age.

Here lies the Body of William Childe gent, third son of Sir William Childe of Kinlett Knight who departed this Life June the 9th 1706.

To the memory of William Lacon Childe Esq^r Lord of this manor & Patron of this church who died December 14th 1757. In y^e 60 year of his age—and of Catherine his wife Daughter ot Samuel Pytts of Kyre in y^e County of Worcester Esq^r who died November 29th 1763—in y^e 60th year of her Age.

Lacon Lambe gent. buried Nov. 10th, 1699.

Slab on Chancel floor illegible.

Here lyeth the Body of Katherine the Daughter of Alexander Adams gent. & Ann his wife, She died Sept. y° 16, 2712. aged one month.

Here lyeth the Body of Jane Daughter of Robert James who departed this life October the 7th 1694 Resurgam.

I. W. 1629, Heare lyeth . . . ce wife of John Winwood who died in Anno Domini, 1629.

1619. Here lyeth the body of John Winwood sone of Thomas Winwood who dyed in Anno Domini 1619.

M.S.

Margarettæ Phillips Feminarum optime et uxorum Que pueram unica Maritum infeliciter sibi Liberis vero feliciter superstitem Reliquens Piam Deo animam reddidit Anno Ætatis 30 et Epoche Xtianæ Anno 1705.

Hoc humile monumentum Tam amoris quam pietatis ergo posuit Robertus Phillips Mortua Conjux et hujus Ecclesie Pastor indignus.

Ad Latus sinistrum Positum est quicquid fuit caducum Anne Corbett Margarette Sororis Virginis Intacte Que obiit 24 die Martii A.D. 1703.

Terrier of all such houses, profits, commodities, tythes, rights, glebe lands, oblations, and portions of tythes belonging to the Vicarage of Kimlet, &c., exhibited by Thos. Kent, now incumbent, and by E. W. and H. H., churchwardens, and G. R. R. W., &c., sidesmen, unto the Rev. Father in God, Francis, Lord Bishop of Hereford, at the Visitation holden at Ludlow the 4th day of April.

"Dwelling house, &c., three closes of arable land joining to the house, containing about 3 acres, and $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre of meadow, which was anciently in lieu of tythe hay due for the demands of Kinlet, &c. And there doth also belong unto the same Vicarage all . . . tithes, as offering hay tythes, calves, wool, lamb, & all other accustomed tithes usually paid. And there belongeth also to the same Vicarage the sum of $37^{\rm s}$ 6d yearly paid for tythe hay at Easter to the Vicar for every inhabitant's tenements, which sum is paid

Jev. 19 BBlock ewing's Vremaye oth

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		Lava unda	e written.	wh	iich	1	
by the several inhabitan	ts, as 15 !	T Line	K (Kent)	did	inc	ì	
by the several inhabitants, as is here-under whether the said T. K. (Kent) did find said sum & particular thereof the said T. K. (Kent) did find said sum & particular thereof the said T. K. (Kent) did find							
said sum & particular thereof the said 17 12 (said sum ably recorded in my predecessor's book to have been accustomably re-							
recorded in my predecessor's book to have soon paid before the memory of man, and I have accordingly repaid before the memory of avery particular person for the							
paid before the memory of man, and I have been particular person for the ceived the said sum yearly of every particular person for the space of 42 years last past, in manner and form following: Space of 42 years last past, in manner and form following: 20							
						0	
Tananimic for Mr George	Souther	L TOI THE	I TTTII	, ē		6	
Mr George Southall for	Foxcott		•••]		2	
For Mone's ground	•••,	•••	***	•	-	0	
Tas Wheeler		•••	• • •			8	
George Draper for Nort	ton's End			•••		8	
Tho. Mountfut	• • •					4	
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T 1 - A 11 am		41.4			I	0	
T-mag Croves for	Langlan	d's living	•••		ī	6	
Geo Draper for Lippe	ers and L	lliots	* 1 *		-	10	
Th. Weaver for Crum	ps End	•••	* * *	•••		3	
nial Nott for Dawell	,	***		•••	2	0	
Mr Symon Philips for t	he Bursh	e	***	• • •	21	б	
John Cantall for his d	welling h	ouse		• • •		10	
Rowland Harnage		•••			I	3	
Tho. Harrington			***		1	4	
Humph, Dallowe		***	***	•••	1	8	
W ^m Hayward Traddel	l's living	***		• • • •		2	
Cao Peche (?)		* * *				2	
Geo Dallowe for But	ten Bridg	ge	***	• • • •		6	
Tohn Cankell of Butte	n bridge			• • •	1	б	
Geo. Southall of Cate	esly	•••	• • •	•••	r	10	
Ste Crofte				•••		IC	
Geo. Rowley & Mr S.	ingers lai	nd	* * *	•••			
W ^m Mounefut for Bu	tten brid	ge	• • • •	•••		5	
		•••	* 1 4			3 6	
Allen Butler		•••				8	
Mr Sami Corbyn			***	• • • •		2	
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nor The Hammond for Silligrove and Prognote				• • • • •		о б	
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Thos Southall for Dradlers				•••		
		• • • •	• • •		1	4
John Browne, jun ^r						6
John Browne, sen ^r						8
John Winwood for his wife's house of Bradley						б
Rob ^t Harris for Dasleman's (?) living						I
For Earnwood parks & Severne Meadows					_	
- 5. Dam tood parks	& Severne	meade	WS	• • • •	3	6
TMCCDI	DTIONE OF	7	DYST T C			

INSCRIPTIONS ON THE BELLS.

Richard Jones & John Wheeler, Old Churchwardens, A.D. 1720.

Floreat Ecclesia et dissipentur inimici.

Gloria Deo in excelsis.

D Robertus Philips vicarius opus promovit et curavit Gulielmus Lacon Childe Ar: Benefactorum Maximus.

Thomas James & Edmund Green, New Churchwardens, 1721.

They were cast by Rudhall in 1721.

KINLET CHURCH (from Mr. W. Mytton MSS.)

•			
		ft.	in.
Breadth of Chancel		21	$9^{\frac{1}{2}}$
Length of Chancel		4	IO
Length of Church from East to West		102	2
Length from Chancel to end of Belfry		65	4
Length of South Transept		16	5
Breadth of South Transept		ιб	-
Length of North Transept		15	3
Breadth of North Transept			9
Breadth of Church, including Transept	4	бі	10
Breadth of Church, including Isles		.39	10
Length of South Isle		-	3
Length of North Isle		•	
Breadth of Belfry		10	2
•			

Kinlet is in Domesday written Chinlete, but in the other ancient records generally Kinleth. The etymology is pro-In Roque's Map of Shropshire there is a bably Welsh. brook set down as falling into the Tanat river not far from Llanyblodwell, called Kinlleth river, and one of the Hundreds of Montgomeryshire is in Bowen's Map named Kinlaeth Hundred. For this, however, there is no foundation. Cefn (pronounced Kevn) is in Welsh a bach, a long ridge of a hill like a back. Kinver in Staffordshire is Cefnfawr, the great ridge. Lled in the same language is broader, the comparative of llydan; thus Cefnlled may signify the broader back, or ridge. Cyn (pronounced kin) anciently signified a head, and Cyn llêd may be the broader head; either etymology agrees very well with the comparative pre-eminence of the Knowl hill (a pre-eminence remarkably toiling as you come from Bridgnorth), on which the Hall and Church of Kinlet are placed.1

For these etymologies I am indebted to a gentleman of profound learning and distinguished talents, whose name I

will not mention on so slight an occasion.

In the reign of King Edward the Confessor, a Saxon of the name of Eddid held this manor.2 The same person held also Cleobury in this neighbourhood, Pulley, Edgebold, Meole, near Shrewsbury, all these places at the time of Domesday formed part of the estates of Ralph de Mortimer, which he held in capite of the Crown. Kinlet was then in the consolidated hundred, which seems to have been nearly the same with the south-western corner of the Hundred of Stottesden.

It is not my design in this place to pursue the history of this great family, the superior lords of the Manor of Kinlet. Their baronial residence of Cleobury Mortimer will be a fitter place, for that discussion. I shall confine my attention at present to the immediate owners of this place. It was a necessary consequence of the feudal polity, that the Norman barons in imitation of the King, from whose grant they received their estates, should grant in their turn the greater part of their lands to their respective followers to hold by services similar to those to which they were themselves bound to pay

But see Eyton's derivation of Kinlet.
'Eddid' was the Queen who held Knoll as her dower.

to the Crown. The person to whom Mortimer granted Kinlet was named Richard. He also held of the same powerful baron part of Neen, the Low, with Brantune, now Brompton Brian, in Herefordshire, and Pedwarden in that neighbourhood, whence it seems probable that this Richard was father of Bernard Unspac, ancestor of the family of Bramptons, and it will therefore be necessary to give some account of their Pedigree. This, however, I confess, I am unable to do in a way satisfactory to myself. (After several pages of doubt Mr. Blakeway says):—"I much lament that so much time has been occupied in so unsatisfactory an investigation."

The Pedigree of Brampton from the Lacon Pedigree.

ARMS: Or two lions passant gules.

Barnard Unspeck Lord of Chinlett in the time of Hen. I.
Sir Brian de Brompton, Kt. . . . d. of Sir Walter Devereux

Sir Brian de Brompton, Maude, d. and h. of John, Lord Roger, Lord of s. and h. of St. Valerie. Chinlett, 2nd son Symond de Sir John de Brampton, Lord-Maude, d. and coh. of William of Brampton (Sigill. Johan-Brewse, Baron of Brembre, eldest son, nis Unspac de Brontunia). relict of Roger Mortimer. ob. v.p. s.p. Margaret, sister to the Noble Bryan, called Alice, d. of Walter Neufonesmil, Bryan, md. Sir Hugh Turthe Noble of al's Nova Mennell bervylle, Kt. Brampton. Bryan, Lord of Brampton-Alyce, d. and h. of Renicirl'c [Remevill], Lord of Condover and Botley in Hampsheere.

Sir John of Brampton, Sarah, = Bryan, called = Emma, d. of Sir Thomas Kt., 2nd son. 2nd w. the Noble. | Corbett of Caulx, coh. to her nephew.

Sir Walter of Brampton-Joan

Sir Bryan of Brampton, Eleanor, d. and h. of Robert de Hereforde. d. May 19, 1294.

Margaret, eld. d. and coh., w. of Sir Robert Elizabeth, 2 2nd d. and coh., w. of Harley (of Brampton Brian, through his Edmund Cornwall, Kt., (of Harley (of Brampton Brian, through his

Kynlet, through his wife).

In the Monasiicon, v., ii., p. 988, Brian de Brampton and his brother Roger confirm the donations of their ancestors to the Abbey of Lira in Normandy of one man with his land in the Manor of Kinlet, and two parts of the tithes of that Lordship. The man thus granted was, doubtless, a "villain," who thus passed with all his issue into the service of that Abbey, and became literally part of their property. These grants being made by Brian de Brompton and his brother Roger, I should infer that the former was at the time unmarried or without issue, and Roger his presumptive heir, as the monks of that age generally took care to have donations to themselves strengthened by the confirmation of the next in succession, which in this case would have been the son of Brian, if he had one.

Sara, second wife of Brian de Brampton III. released to Sir Walter de Brampton her title of dower in the Manors of Brampton, Stanedge, Stowe, Weston, Ayston, Idesburie, and of all other his lands, so that she might have the "manner" of Kinlett and the tenements in the newe park at Knowle and the rent salt at Witch for her dower, as appeareth by a deed same date.

In the curious French Chronicle of the Mortimers printed in the Monasticon, we read that "when Sir Hugh de Mortimer in the reign of Henry II. went to visit the Canons of Wigmore, he was requested by several of his followers, and particularly by Brian de Brampton and John de Brompton his son, to begin the foundation of a new Church, at which foundation," says the Chronicle, "Sir Hugh de Mortimer laid the first stone, Brian de Brompton the second, and promised an hundred shillings; he did not, however, pay it in money, but he granted them easements in his woods and all his fields, which were of considerable use to them in the

² Elizabeth de Brompton was born at Ayston, co. Hereford, and baptised

¹ Margaret de Brampton was born at Huggeford (now Higley), and baptised at Stoddesdon 22nd Ed. I.

progress of the building. His son John laid the third stone; and though he neither gave them or promised aught at that time, he made up for it afterwards when he gave them the Church of Kinlett." This foundation must have been before 1185, when Hugh de Mortimer died.

Sir Brian de Brampton (IV.) married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Robert de Hereford, and died on 19th May, 1294, 22nd Edward I., leaving two infant daughters his co-heirs, viz., Margaret, the eldest, who married Sir Robert de Harley, and Elizabeth, the second, who married Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, base grandson of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and King of the Romans, second son of John, King of England. These two ladies got a share of the property of Caus Castle. The record of Hilary term, 24 Edward III., bears the partition of that Barony between Stafford, Harley, and Cornwall.

CORNWALL OF KINLET,

Further investigation corrects so many inaccuracies in the descent of the Cornwalls of Kinlet, that it seems advisable to re-write it, and with the help of the Inquis. post mortem, which will be found in the Appendix, the reader may form his own conclusions on some points which even now are somewhat obscure.

EDMUND DE CORNEWAILL

was the eldest son of Richard (the illegitimate son of Richard Plantagenet, King of the Romans and Earl of Cornwall (the younger son of King John) by Joan, daughter of John, second Lord St. Owen, and is said to have been slain at the battle of Bosworth 1297. In 1320, Edmund de Cornubia, Lord of Asthall, grants to Lady Joan de Cornubia, his mother, a messe there.

Edmund de Cornwall was given by Edward I. the custody of the lands of Brian de Brompton till his two young daughters and co-heiresses came of age. In 1309 he married Elizabeth, the younger daughter, and on December the 7th did homage to King Edward II. for Kinlet, which was held

¹ For an authentic account of the Bramptons of Kinlet see Eyton, Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. iv.—F. C. B. C.

of the Lord the King in chief and by service of paying to the Lord of Stottesdon one buck yearly. By Elizabeth de Brompton, who was born in 1294 (the same year her father died) Edmund de Cornwall had three sons. I. Edmund of Thonock, in Lincolnshire (who married Isabella, daughter and heir of the Earl of Athol, and had a son John, who pre-deceased him), and dying Aug. 2nd, 1376, the representation of the elder branch of the Cornwalls devolved upon his brother, Brian of Kinlet. 3. Peter, on whose descendants the representation of the Cornwalls now rests, and from whom the Burford, Delbury and Eye and Berrington Cornwalls branched. A little boy of 7 years old can now alone prove descent in the male line. In the female line there are many descendants, among whom may be mentioned the Childes (i.e., Baldwyn), who still hold Kinlet by descent. The Cornwall Leghs of High Legh descended from Francis Cornwall of Burford through the marriage of his only daughter to Mr. Legh of High Legh. Sir George Cornwall, whose ancestor Sir Velters Amyand, married in 1771 Catherine Cornwall, the heiress of Moccas, the Reades, Foliambes, Crofts, and many others.

The I. P. M. of Edmund Cornwall, dated at Wurthyn, 1354, 28 Edward III., gives his Shropshire property thus:— "Kynlet of the Lord the King with appurtenances; half the Vill of Wurthyn of the Barony of Caus; a plot of the forest of Caus (also of the Barony of Caus), Overgorthore and Caughaltre."

Elizabeth de Brompton, the widow of Edmund de Cornwall, died the same year, aged 60. She is buried at Burford, and a slab still remains to her memory. Her I. P. M. states that she died possessed of Kynlet, Caus Castle and Manor, Abberley, half Worthyn, Bukaltre maner, Overgarther man' of the Barony of Caus.

BRYAN DE CORNWAILLE (of Kinlet), 1354 to 1391.

BRYAN CORNWALL, second son, succeeded his father and mother at Kinlet 1354. Married Maud le Strange, daughter of the Lord of Blackmere, and died 1391, his wife surviving.

Their children were John, son and heir; Henry, d.s.p.; yol. VIII, 3rd Series,

Bryan, d.s.p.; Thomas. d.s.p.; and Isabel, who married in 1382 as his second wife, Sir John Blount of Sodington, and whose grandson, Humphrey Blounte, succeeded to Kinlet in 1446 on the death of Sir William Lychefeld, who had married Elizabeth, d. and h. of Sir John Cornwall.

Inq. P. M. taken at Bruggenorth 12th Sept., 1391. SALOP (only). I.P.M. Brian de Cornewaille, Knight.

The Manor of Kynlet (worth nothing) and appurtenances held under the Earl of March by what service they do not know.

Rent of assize there of free tenements 100s.

Meton, worth 4^d, within the Lordship of Kynlet, called Kyngeshemde, held of the Lord the King in chief, by what service they do not know.

Cattesleye, 20^d (beyond the rent of 5^s), one small nook of land called Collieres, of the Prior of the Hospital of St. John by service of 5^s.

Cattesleye, 20^d, also one Messuage and half virgate of land with appurtenances, of the Earl of March, part of the Manor of Kynlet.

Cattesleye, half a virgate of land with appurtenances, of the Earl, 5^s.

Brian de Cornwall died Aug. 18th, 1391. John de Cornwaille is his son and next heir, and is of the age of 25 and more.

SIR JOHN CORNWALL (of Kinlet), 1391 to 1415.

Sir John Cornwall was born about 1366. He married Alice, daughter and heiress of Sir William Wastneys of

Dat. Salopie die Sabb. proximo an. fest. S. Georgii

¹ Marriage Settlement of Isabel Cornwall (Lady Blount). 1382. Brianus de Cornewall de Kinlet miles salutem in domine.

Whereas John Blount of Sodington is holden to me in a certain writing obligatory of Statute merchant in 200 Marks . . . yet the faid Bryan wills that if Blount be assiduous according to his power to obtain from the King and his Council a license within the next year (or else within the year then next following) to enfeoff at his own expense certain persons in feodo simplici in all his lands in Batterley, Fento Kiluord Bydulfe and Tamgere in Staffordshire, who shall cause Isabel daūr of Cornwall and wife of Blount to be enfeoffed of all yo said lands and to yo heirs of yo bodies of yo sa John and Isabel Blount, reversion to the right heirs of John, and if in the meantime Is thel be secure and enfeoffed to her and the heirs of their bodies as aforesaid of all yo other lands of yo sa John in Danson Glaston Wyxhall in yo said County that then the execution of the said writing be null.

Wastneys, Staffordshire. By her he had two daughters—Maud, who married John Wode, but who d.s.p. before her father in 1415; and Elizabeth, wife of Sir William Lychfeld, who is described in Sir John's I. P. M. as his daughter and heiress, aged 24. According to the *Coram Rege* she had two daughters, Alice, who probably died young, and Elizabeth, who married Roger Corbet, died soon after, and left a daughter Margaret.

It is a curious fact that in Sir John Cornwall's I. P. M. it is stated that he held I acre in Great Meaton (which joins Kinlet), and no other land in Salop. Whether he had made over his estate either by lease or mortgage to his daughter and her husband, with the reversion to the male heirs of his sister, Lady Blount, is not known. He died 2nd July, 2 Henry V., 1415, and it is certain that his sister's descendants, and not his daughters', succeeded to Kinlet, eventually.

SIR WILLIAM LYCHEFELD (of Kinlet), 1415 to 1446.

There is considerable doubt as to who the Sir William Lychfeld was who by his marriage with the only daughter and heiress of Sir John Cornwall of Kinlet, became a Shropshire landowner during 30 years in the 15th century.

In 1411, William Lychfeld (alias William Taverner, Esq.), granted land to Thomas de Swynfen, signs William de Lichfield, and seals with the coat of Swynfen, which was, in fact, the coat he bore. Before 1415 he had married Elizabeth Cornwall, the heiress of Sir John Cornwall by Alice, the daughter and heiress of Sir William Wastneys of Wastneys, Staffordshire, and Eastham, Worcestershire, who presented to the living of Eastham in 1381 and 1395, and Sir John Cornwall presented in 1404 in right of his wife Alice. By his wife Elizabeth, who was dead in 1422, Sir William had an only surviving daughter, Elizabeth, who married Roger Corbet, and died shortly after. In 1430, Roger Corbet died, and his Inquis. p. m. states that he left a daughter Margaret, aged 3 years and more (born about 1425) who was seized of land in Estham (by the Charter of Sir William Lychfeld, 1431), she being under age and his heir by hereditary descent as daughter and heir of Elizabeth and Roger. The manor is held by Richard, Earl of Warwick, by knight's service, as also the custody of Margaret and her marriage. In 1446, Sir William Lychfeld died, Margaret, wife of Humphrey Stafford of Frome, aged 27 (born about 1425-6) and more, his daughter and heiress (grand-daughter?)

In 1488, Sir George Vere, whose wife was grand-daughter of Margaret Stafford (and whose husband, Sir Humphrey Stafford, was attainted for High Treason) brings a Petition for the restoration of the Manor of Eastham, which had belonged to Margaret Lady Vere's ancestors. The petition was granted "Soit fait comme il est desiré."

To return to Sir William Lychfeld. In 1428 he was Sheriff of Shropshire; in 1430 he was M.P. for Worcestershire. His wife, Elizabeth Cornwall, died early, and probably the monument in Kinlet Church with an infant in the folds of her mantle records her death, and possibly of her little son and heir. Sir William outlived his wife, his daughter, and his son-in-law, but continued to hold Kinlet by the courtesy and law of England. He married secondly Joan, the daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Rugge of Somersetshire; she survived him, but had no children. Her sister, Lady Barre, mentions her in her will as "Dame Joanne Lychfeld." From Sir William's I. P. M. his own Staffordshire estates appear to have been settled on her, his Worcestershire on Margaret Stafford, and Kinlet and the Shropshire estates passed under some family arrangement to Sir Humphrey Blount, the grandson of Isabel, Lady Blount, the sister of Sir John Cornwall. (F. C. B. C.).

BLOUNTS OF KINLET.

Ser John Blount of Sodington had by his first wife a son John, ancestor of the Baronets' family Blount of Mawley. By his second wife, Isabel Cornwall, mar. 1482, he had a son of the same name. This John Blount married Alice, daughter of Kynard de la Bere, Co. Hereford, and died before his father. They had issue, Humphrey (of whom hereafter), John, Robert, William and Charles, and according to the Visitation of Shropshire, five daughters:—Isabel, wife of Sir John Kryne, Kt.; Anne, wife of Geyton; Mary, wife of Pigot; Margaret, wife of Ottley; Ellen, wife of John Cheney of Chesham Boys.

SIR HUMPHREY BLOUNT (of Kinlet), 1446 to 1477.

SIR HUMPHREY BLOUNT of Kinlet must have lived at the time when Commissioners were appointed in every shire to take the oaths of persons of every description to keep the peace. This was appointed by Parliament in 1433 under pretence of suppressing the quarrel between the Cardinal Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, and Duke of Gloucester, but in reality, as Fuller supposes, to detect the partizans of the Duke of York, who was even then (under the minority of the young King) preparing in secret his claim to the Crown. The names of those gentry who took the oath were returned into Chancery, and are printed in Fuller's Worthies, but the names of Blount and Cornwall do not appear (indeed, the return from Shropshire is very brief), whence we may infer what we know in fact to be the case that this county was much devoted to the House of York.

This quarter of Shropshire, we may even conjecture, was especially zealous in the cause, as it was the great seat of the Mortimer property, from which house proceeded the title of York to the throne. Sir Humphrey then was, it is probable, a Yorkist. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Winnington, Knt., of Cheshire, and by her, besides his successor Thomas, had Edmund, William, Walter (who left a son Charles), and John Blount, gent., who by that name appears in the list of the Lords, Knights, Esquires, and gentlemen resident in the county of Salop in 17 Hen. VII., 1501, and who marrying the heiress of John Yeo of Yeo, was ancestor to a numerous family, from whence proceeded the Blounts of Church Stretton. He served the office of Sheriff in 1460 and 1475 with no higher title than that of Esquire, his Knighthood therefore, which is recorded on his grandson's tomb, must have been conferred very shortly after the last of these dates, as he died on the 1st day of October, 17 Edw. IV. The inquisition after his death is taken on the last day of the same month, and finds that he died seised of the Manor of Astall Lye in Oxfordshire, holden of Edward, Prince of Wales, as of the honour of Wallingford Castle. (Lacon Evid. 1583). This manor had been granted to Richard Cornwall by his half brother, Edmund Earl of Cornwall, ibid.

20 April, 1502, Eliz. Blount nuper uxor Humfridi Blount militis by her will of this date orders her body to be buried in the Church of S. John Baptist of Kinlet. She leaves legacies to John, William and Thomas Blount, her sons, and Johanna, her daughter. MSS. Rawlinson in Bibl. Bodl.

Dame Elizabeth Blount (his widow), of the Hundred of Stottesden, pd. 20° to the benevolence in 7 Hen. VII. She must have been favoured by the Commissioners; many persons of very inferior rank, and I suppose inferior estates, paid double and quadrouple. Her son Thomas indeed made up for her deficiency. "Thomas Blounte Knight £108 10s."

The same Sir Humphrey Blount appears to have resided in the latter part of his life at Worcester, for in his Will, which bears date 6 Sept., 1477, and was proved before the Bishop of Hereford, 2 June, 1478, he styles himself Sir H. B. Knt of the Parish of All Saints, Worcester. himself to be buried in the psh. Church of Kynnelet within the Chapel of S. Katherine of the said Church. Mother Church of Worcester he bequeaths 20s. He leaves his black "felwet" gown to the Church of Kynnelet to make a cope (capani?) ornament to the honour of God & S. John Baptist. He wills that his gold chayne shall be sold for the best price that it will bring, and that the money arising therefrom be applied for the exhibition of a chaplain to celebrate in the Church of Kynnelet, for his soul and those of his well-doers and all faithful deceased. queaths to the repair of the Churches of Alveley, Areley, Huggeley, Suddebury, Byllyngesley, Chelmersh, Stotesdon, Cleobury Mortimer, and Hondeshende, to each of them 68 8d. To his son Thomas Blount he leaves a black horse, his best gilt sword and a gilt salett, a gold collar, a flat piece (I suppose a breast or back piece) with a covering of silver gilt, another flat piece with a covering of silver.

He bequeaths to his son John a gown of chamlet furred (penulat?), a doublet of red damask (nun' duplois de' la damaske rabei coloris), his second gilt sword and a gold cross.

To William his son a gown of tawny, furred and a wode knyf gilt. To Mary, his daughter, wife of Robert Pygot, Esq., to her marriage 100 marks to be received of William Bishop

of Derham, which he owes me; likewise, for her marriage 20 marks to be received of Elizabeth my wife. To the rector of Sudbury a long gown (togam talarem) of London russet. To Hugh vicar of Kynnelet and to his (the testator's) servants, Robert Grubber, Humphrey Weaver, Richard Boteley, and Thomas Cole 6s 8d each. To the repairs of the bell tower (campanilis) of All Saints', Worcester, 13s 4d. He wills that all the lands and tenements, &c., which he has purchased within the counties of Stafford, Salop, and Worcestor (except those which he has purchased within the Lordship of Kynnelet) be equally divided between his sons John and He directs that John Blount of Sodynton, Humphrey Cotes, Esq., and Sir Thomas Latewite, rector of William. Sudbury, his feoffees, shall make a sufficient estate in half the Manor of Rumsley to his son John in tail, and in the other half to his son William in tail, with cross remainders, remainder to his own right heirs. He also bequeaths to the friars minors of Worcester as many pales as will suffice to enclose their garden called le Friars Orchard, Ita ut possidentur & habeantur clam civitat' Wigorn ex sumptibus meis propriis & expensis & ad manus predict' fratrum minorum ibidem deliberand'. The residue of his goods he bequeathed to Elizabeth, his wife, whom with Humphrey Cotes, Esq., of Wodecote, he appoints his executors. These being witnesses, Sir Thos. Latewite, rector of Sudbury, Humphrey Cotes, Esq., William Dallowe and others.

Inter cartas Thomæ Lyttelton barii in Coll. W. Mytton.

SIR THOMAS BLOUNT (of Kinlet), 1477 to 1524.

Sir Thomas was of full age in October, 1477, when he succeeded to ye Kinlet estates, and in 1488 by ye name of Thos. Blount, Esqre, of Kinlet, he served the office of Sheriff. Like many other Yorkists of that period inflamed with resentment against the usurpation of Richard III., he was fortunate enough to embrace in time the victorious party of Henry VII. Accordingly, among the numerous exceptions to the act of resumption which passed, as was usual in those days, immediately on the accession of Henry is an express proviso that the said act shall not extend to or prejudice Thomas Blount in the offices of Steward of Bewdley and Cleobury Mortimer, with the maister forstership and ryder of the forest of Were (i.e., Wyre) in oure County of Salop under the seale of Marche.

Sir Thomas Blount accompanied his royal master in his short but successful campaign against France in 1513, when Tourenne and Tournay were taken and received the honour of Knight Banneret at the same time with two other Thomases and Shropshire men, Sir Thomas Cornwall, Baron of Burford, and Sir Thomas Leighton. Sir John Mainwaring (of Ightfield, as I suppose), was also made a knight.

Continuing in the favour of his Sovereign, he assisted at the battle of Stoke, which was fought June 20th, 1487, 2 Henry VII., and there received the honour of Knighthood, by which title he appears in the list of gentry resident in Shropshire 17 Henry VII., 1501. In 1 Henry VIII., 1509, Thomas Blount de Kynlet miles is entered in a recognizance on the Records of the Exchequer of Shrewsbury, together with John Blount of Bitterley, gent., and William Blount de Glaseley, gent., two of his sons, I presume. When Brazenose College was founded by Bishop Smith, Sir Thomas Blount (probably in compliment to that distinguished president of the Welsh Marches, at whose Courts of Ludlow and Bewdley he must frequently have attended) appears as a benefactor to the infant foundation, at which some of his many children might be educated. In 1516 he gave £6 13s. 4d. to the Society, and considerable sums at other times, as well as a legacy by his last will, about the year 1524. He was also a benefactor to the Church of Stottesden, as his arms and those of his wife, painted on two banners, formerly appeared in a window of that church with an inscription. Pray for Sir Thomas Blount, Knight, and Dame Anne his wife, which made this window in the year 1517.

The lady here mentioned was Anne, daughter of Sir Richard Croft, Knt.¹ By her Sir Thomas Blount had a large family, not less than twenty children, according to the *Visitation*, which, however, mentions only five sons and six daughters. Of the sons, John was his successor; Walter married Margaret, daughter and heir of William Acton; Robert Blount died in 1580, having

¹ By Eleanor Cornwall, whose first husband was Sir Hugh Mortimer of Kyre.

left a large family by Elizabeth Columbull of Darley, in co. Derby; Edward married the daughter and heir of John Garneys; Arthur; and William of Glaseley was, I presume. a sixth son. He had also a son John. Of the daughters. Mary married John Corbet of Lee, who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; another Mary married Robert Piggot, Esq. of Chetwynd; 1 Joyce married Francis Gower and Thomas Thornes of Worcestershire: Catherine was wife of Robert Smith; Anne of Humphrey Massey, and Eleanor was married to Thomas Scriven of Frodesley, who died in 1533, was Sheriff in 1413, 1501 and 1518.

STR JOHN BLOUNT (of Kinlet), 1524 to 1531.

Sir John Blount of Kinlet, the eldest son, was arrived at man's estate in the first year of Henry VII., there being a proviso in the act of resumption of that year that it shall not extend to, or prejudice John Blount "of (or in the kepyng of) the park called Clibery in the County of Shropshire and the seyalingaye2 of the forest of Wire, in the said County, to him granted by the now King," Sir John resided at Bitterley during the life of his father, whom he survived a very few years, deceasing Feb. 17th, 1531. His wife, who died 32 Henry VII., was Catherine, daughter and sole heir of Sir Hugh Peshall (knighted by Henry VII. after the battle of Bosworth), by Isabel, daughter of Sir John Stanley. His sons were George (of whom hereafter); Henry Blount of Bewdley (who by Joan, daughter of John Somervile of Edreston, in co. Warwick, left a son George), and William Blount, third son. The daughters were Rose, wife of William Grisling of Lincolnshire; Albora unmarried; Agnes, wife of Richard Laken, Esq., of Laken and Willey; Isabel, wife of William Reade; and Elizabeth Blount, thought for her rare ornaments of nature and education to be ye beauty and mistress piece of her time (says Lord Herbert) who became successively the wife of Gilbert Lord Talbois, and Edward

¹ In the neighbouring Church of Stoddesdon were formerly painted on glass the arms of Pigott single, with the inscription "Orate pro bono statu Thome Pigott & Isabel uxoris;" and another shield quarterly, 1, Pigott, 2, Chetwynd 3, Peshall, 4, 2 lions rampant in pale, impaling Blount and Cornwall quarterly, ² This word I cannot explain, though I guess it to have some reference to the care of swans. Tha Forest of Wyre comes down to the Severn in one part.

Clinton, Lord Clinton and Say. This lady also bore in 1519 to King Henry VIII., a son called Henry Fitzroy, whom his father in the year 1525 created Earl of Nottingham and Duke of Richmond and Somerset; Lieutenant-General and Warden of the Scottish Marches, and Lord High Admiral of England. With the young prince, Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, so well known for his poetical talents and cruel fate, was brought up as play-fellow; and this friendship was endeared, says Lord Herbert, by a match of the said Duke with Mary, the Earl's sister. But this young duke died without issue July, 1536, and is buried under a superb tomb at Framlingham, the sepulture of his wife's ancestry.

SIR GEORGE BLOUNT, 1531 to 1581.

Sir George Blount, eldest son of Sir John, was born in 1513, and received an education befitting the antiquity and opulence of his family. The rank and connexions of his aunt gave him distinction in the court of Henry. The age of chivalry was not then past; all the young men of fashion in those days were eager to signalize themselves in the field, and we know from his epitaph that Sir George Blount served in the wars of France and Scotland. He was 31 years of age, in the prime of life and full enjoyment of his future, when Henry VIII. passed over to the siege of Boulogne, July, 1544, and it is no improbable conjecture that our Knight was engaged in this expedition. Whether he accompanied the Duke of Somerset on the invasion of Scotland in the ensuing reign, or whether his Scottish campaign was confined to that in the declining years of Henry I have no means of ascertaining; but after having sufficiently complied with the fashion of the day, by a tincture of military service, he seems to have been content to sit down at his country residence. engaged in the less showy, but more useful occupation, of a good country magistrate and landlord, the oracle and arbiter of the disputes of his neighbours. In 1563 he served the office of Sheriff. The historian adds he was very personable and of great expectation, insomuch that he was thought, not only for hability of body, but mind, to be one of the rarest of his time.

"The state of Wales 1542-3, 34 and 35 Hen. VIII., c. 269129," contains a saving of the rights of George Blount, Esq., son and heir of Sir John Blount, Kt., deceased, as Steward of the King's Lordships of Bewdley and Clebury; so that he was not then knighted, which is rather extraordinary, as he had been several years in possession of his estate, and was so highly connected at Court. Perhaps he disdained so promiscuous an honour. He was, however, frequently a representative in Parliament, as in 1547 (when he appears with the title of knight) for the County; in 1553 for Bridgnorth; in 1554 and 1555 for Wenlock; in 1558 for Bridgnorth; in 1563 for Wenlock; in 1570 and 1571 Member for the Shire again. In 1545 Sir George was one of the executors of the Duchess of Northumberland, widow of John Dudley, beheaded in 1st of Marie.

The marriage of Sir George Blount was correspondent to his rank in life. His lady was Constance, daughter of Sir John Talbot (of Grafton). By this lady he had an only son, who died in his infancy, and an only daughter, Dorothy, who become sole heir to his ample possessions. But this young lady had the misfortune mortally to offend her father in the tenderest point. She bestowed her hand upon a country gentleman of the neighbourhood, who though of ancient family, respectable connection, and even ample patrimony, was not of that elevated rank to which Sir George looked for a husband for his daughter. John Purslowe, Esq., of Sidbury, was a widower at the time when he married Dorothy Blount. He died March, 1593, leaving his widow surviving, who afterwards married Bullock of Morvill. Upon this marriage of his daughter, Sir George cast his eyes on the

It must be remembered that this country was not at that period so denuded (if I may use the expression) of country gentlemen as is the case at present. It was a consequence of the feudal polity to stock the country with a race of gentry who lived upon their own estates and considered themselves (to use a Spanish expression) "as noble as the King." The neighbouring parish of Neen Savage possessed two of these gentlemen, that of Kinlet two, if not three, and scarce a parish without at least one. By the consolidation of estates, the change of manners, and the extension of commerce, the scene is now totally altered. Their residences are converted into farm houses, and through the whole hundred there is not, I believe, more than one resident gentleman (viz., at Hopton Lodge) except in the parish of which I am now writing.

children of his sisters for an heir to his estates.1 Rowland Laken, son of his sister Agnes, was the person whom he selected for this purpose; why he deserted the male line and passed over his nephew and namesake George Blount, son of his brother Henry, it would now be vain to enquire. Perhaps he selected Mr. Laken as being the wealthiest of his nephews, upon the principle so common in the days of Juvenal-" Quis pauper scribitur heres?" rather, perhaps, he selected Mr. Laken as equally descended with himself from the ancient Lords of Kinlet, the Bramptons of Brampton Bryan; and his heir seems to have been ambitious of recording this connexion by introducing his own armorial quarterings, a little out of common course, on his uncle's monument. There the two achievements of Blount and Lacon are placed side by side, each exhibiting, as equally entitled each to bear, the arms of Brampton and all the illustrious quarterings introduced by that great family.

In those days, when Lord Chancellors could not address the Parliament without a plentiful quotation of Scripture, and when Privy Councillors could pull Prayer Books out of their pockets at the Council Board, religion was not, as at present, deemed unworthy the attention of men of the world; but the frequent changes in the national worship had left no great stability of principle in the higher ranks. Sir George Blount was too good a courtier to offend the imperious Henry by any dissent from that monarch's faith, yet he doubtless concurred with the reformation under his successor, as he was appointed Chief Commissioner for the Survey of Colleges and Chauntrics in this county, under the Act of Parliament 1st Edward VI., and received for his share of the spoils a grant from the Lord Protector of the Chauntry of St. Mary, in the neighbouring church of Alveley. From this time I find no further mention of him till his death, which happened on the 20th of July, 1581, when he had attained the age of 68 years.

¹ Mr. and Mrs. Purslow did not tamely submit to this dishersion. The legal proceedings to which they had recourse may be seen in the case of Fines, Cole

From the Parish Register of Sidbury I extract:-1576, Feb. 14.—John Purslowe, Esq., and Dorothy Blunt mard. 1581, Feb. 5.—Rowland, s. of John Purslowe, Esq., chr. 1582, Mar. 5.—Katherine, d. of John Purslowe, Esq., chr.

^{1593,} Mar. 13.—John Purslowe, Esq., bur. 1619, Dec. 14.—Dorothy Purslowe bur. F. C. B. C.

From his picture, painted at the age of thirty-five, and which is still preserved at Kinlet, he appears to have been a very handsome young man. He is there drawn with a cap on his head, a flowing auburn beard, standing collar, sword and dagger. This piece, which is painted on wainscot, and is of the form we now term kit-cat, is the production of no inferior master.

In nothing, perhaps, have the caprices of fashion been more visible than in the alterations which have taken place in the treatment of this ornament of the human countenance. To trace it no higher, at the close of the 15th century and commencement of the 16th century, the beau, or man of fashion, was closely shaven, while the grave lawyer or reverend divine nourished a length of beard. A few years after the man who was desirous to maintain a gravity of appearance cut it off, while the smart young man wore it lightly flowing and smoothly combed, and encouraged it to grow to the utmost length of which it was capable by the application of a variety of fashionable cosmetics. This was the fashion when Holbein drew those interesting sketches of the distinguished characters of his days, which have been lately engraved by Bartolozzi from the originals in His Majesty's collections. There we see Warham, More, and the other great men who directed the counsels of Henry represented with smooth chins, while Lord Vaux and the other youthful nobles who adorned his Court appear with light and flowing beards.

LACON OF WILLEY AND KINLET.

The family of Laken was seated, from very remote antiquity, at a place of that name in the parish of Wem, which passed, through heiresses, into the family of Hose and Banaster. Alan de Lakyn, the founder of the second branch, lived in the reign of Richard II., and was grandfather to William Laken, a justice of the King's Bench in 1466. Sir Richard Laken, father of the judge, married a daughter of Sir Hammond de Peshell (of the same family with Sir Hugh Peshell, grandfather of Sir Geo. Blount), and from them, Richard Laken, who married Agnes Blount, was fourth in descent.

In 1572, when the Romanists entertained sanguine hopes of the restoration of their religion, "among other methods,"

says Strype (ann. v. 2., p. 181), made use of to amuse their proselytes one was conjuring. A nest of these conjuring messmongers," he adds, "was discovered in the north parts by the diligence of Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord President of the North." From some of these it is probable that the Earl learned that a servant of Mr. Lacon's, one Avery Killet, had dealings with the conjurors; whereupon that nobleman sent a message by one of his own attendants to that gentleman, requiring him to send the said Killet to the Earl, who then resided at Sheffield Castle. Upon his arrival there, he soon confessed that he was a dealer with the conjurors, and that he had brought several books of that art to one Revel's house, where they were made use of by the conjuring scholars, Palmer and Falcon, and Skinner, the priest. According to his confession, the chief objects of their art were the knowledge of hidden treasures, the cure of diseases, the discovering of secret places in which they might conceal themselves, and to have certain knowledge also touching the state of this realm.2 Hereby the Earl gathered that this Avery could declare some further matter needful to be discovered, and accordingly, on the 1st of February, in the above year, sent him to the Privy Council. What became of him I have not found; but there appears to have been no grounds to implicate his master in the charge against him, since we find him a justice of peace and quorum in 1585, and a commissioner for disarming the recusants.

Richard Laken, Esq., died January 15th, 1532-3, leaving his son Rowland, an infant of the age of 5 years, heir to the Manors of Willey, Borwarderley or Broseley, Harley, Kenley, Wylderton, Stretton, Stowe, and Bolde, besides extensive estates in Wem, Wulverley, Lopynton, Edstaston, Coton, Laken, Bradenheth, Shrewsbury, Smethcote, Weston, Stowe, and Newton. To these large possessions he afterwards added his uncle's estate at Kinlet, but seems never to have removed his residence to this place, as he was 54 years of age

¹ Mr. Rowland Lacon of Willey, near Bridgenorth. (Strype, Bri. His., v. 2, p. 88).

² That these practises of conjuration had connection with Popery may be gathered among other proofs from the confession of Edward Phaar, 1576 (in the same Strype, v. 2, b. 2, app. no. 11) "For magic I would hunt out a mervailous pack of them with their books and reliques: yea and with their act goeth many a filthy ceremony, as mass, sacrifice, and their service of the devil."

when that succession devolved upon him At least, in the visitation he is styled of Willey, which place his ancestor, Sir Richard Lakin, obtained in marriage with Elizabeth Peshell. Mr. Lakin was a justice of the peace and quorum in 1385, and a commissioner for disarming the recusants. He married Ellen, daughter of William Rigges, of Straglethorp, in co. Lincoln, Esq., and by her had issue, Sir Francis Lacon, of Kinlet, Knt., born 1568 (of whom hereafter); Thomas Lacon, born 1569, of Linley, Esq. (ancester of the present gentleman of that place), who was admitted a member of the Inner Temple in 30 Elizabeth, at the instance of Thos. Smallman Beucher; and four daughters, Beatrice, wife of Sir Francis Newport, Knt., of High Ercall, and mother of the first Lord Newport; Jane, wife of Richard Fermer, of Somerton, in co. Oxon, Knt.; Margaret, unmarried; and Rebecca, wife of John Gouldsborough, Esq., son of Godfrey, Bishop of Gloucester. Mr. Lakin was the first who altered the spelling of his name to Lacon, which has been continued by his de-This alteration first appears, I believe, on the scendants. sumptuous monument erected by him to the memory of his Whether it was suggested by the writer of the epitaph, which is conceived in a style of classical elegance not unworthy of a later period in allusion to the name of the ancient inhabitants of Sparta, is left to the judgment of the learned reader.

Mr. Rowland Lacon was, as we have seen, Commissioner He was, therefore, notwithfor disarming the recusants. standing any suspicion that might be entertained against him in consequence of the practices of his servants, esteemed a good Protestant, and a person in whom Elizabeth's ministers could confide. But his son, Sir Francis, who removed his residence to Kinlet, was tinctured with other principles. married with a family remarkable for its devotion to Popery, Jane, youngest daughter of Antony Maria, first Viscount Montague, by his second wife, Magdalen Dane, of Gillesland Sir Francis Lacon served the office of Sheriff for Shropshire This was a period in which the serious part of the nation were in a state of much uneasiness on account of the supposed attachment of the Court to the Romish religion. That the fluctuating and childish counsels of James did not give some countenance to this suspicion it would be in vain

to deny. He thought perhaps to play off the Papists against the Puritans, a turbulent and republican faction. But neither his head nor his hand were steady enough to execute this with dexterity. His heart was, I believe, firm to the reformed religion. On the other hand, the Puritans, it is probable, had not all those gloomy apprehensions of Popery which it answered their purpose to pretend. In the meantime, it is certain that the laws against Popish recusants were either wholly neglected, or executed with a feeble reluctant hand. This is admitted by the King, in his speech to the Parliament April 6th, 1614: — "First," says he, "some branches of the laws made to meet with them are so obscure, that I myself, with conference with my Lords and Judges, cannot clear them. Secondly, for want of due presentment in the country by the officers appointed to it, and in some places when presented, yet they are so favoured by the Justices of peace, that a Lieutenant of mine in one contreye hath informed me he could not procure three of the peace, except some of his own friends and servants, that would assist him in the due execution of my laws."1

If His Majesty hoped, by this beginning, to stop the mouth of the Commons, he was disappointed. Among the other grievances which that house complained of in their remonstrance was the unexpected increase of Popish recusants since the Gunpowder Plot, the detestation whereof they thought should have utterly extinguished them.² In consequence of these multiplied complaints, the Government found it was at length necessary to interfere. One of the first steps which they took was to call sheriffs to account for omissions in the execution of their office. On the 18th of August, 1617, Sir Francis Lacon,³ Knt., late High Sheriff, "was fined 20^s by the council of the marches," for negligence in levying fines. At the same time, Humphrey Briggs, Esq., was fined £5 for the

¹ Parl. Hist, sub. ann,

² In the curious household book of his descendant (the Earl) a table is mentioned cailed the Knightes boorde; and in the Biographie, Act. Arden, may be seen an interesting account of the cruel fate of that gentleman, occasioned by his refusal to follow the example of his neighbours the other gentry of Warwickshire, in wearing the livery of Robert Dudley, the proud and wicked Earl of Leicester.

³ Sir Francis Lacon was knighted during his father's lifetime, and then resided at Whittington. See his seal, dated 43 Elizabeth.

same offence; Sir Henry Wallop, Knt., £3 6s 8d; Bonham Norton, Esq., the like sum; and Thos. Pigott, Esq., 40s.

But this lenient punishment of Sir Francis did not content the House of Commons. Wilson relates that the Parliament "followed the chase close, and bolted out divers of the nobility and gentry of eminency, popishly affected, that had earthed themselves in places of high trust and power in the kingdom, as if they meant to undermine the nation." Among these he mentions Sir Francis Lacon. The Parliamentary History gives further account of this transaction:—

"In fee as meny all men of his housold Whom he as lord worsheply manteyned."

Percy's Reliques, Vol. i., B. i., No. 9.

In May, 1624, the House of Commons prepared a petition to the King, in which, after thanking him for having directed the laws against popish recusants to be enforced, they proceed to inform him " of the growth of this dangerous sort of people, and of their insolency and boldness in so much as many of them (unknown to your Majesty) have crept into offices and places of government and authority under you." Then follow the names of all such persons as are certified to have places of charge or trust, and are popish recusants or non-communicants that have given over to suspicion of their ill-affection in religion, or that are reported or suspected so to be. Among these, Sir Francis Lacon, Knt., is certified to be a justice of the peace in Shropshire, and that he is suspected to be a popish recusant. As Lady Lacon is not mentioned in this petition, Sir Francis was probably then a widower, for the framers thereof were by no means of a temper to spare her had she been living, and in fact many ladies' names appear in the same list. Sir Francis Lacon probably first commenced the system, which his descendants have invariably pursued, of disposing of their more remote property, in order to purchase other estates nearer home. At least, I find that in 1618 he sold his estates in the parish of Wem to his brother-in-law, Gouldsborough, and at another time disposed of Knightley Hall to Sir Edward Cooke. I cannot fix the date of Sir Francis's death, but we shall see that it must have happened previous to the year 1646. His issue consisted of two sons, Rowland, his successor, of whom hereafter, and Francis Lacon, who, probably by the name of Mr. Francis Lacon, had issue by Elizabeth, his wife, at least three children, viz., Elizabeth, baptised at Neen Savage November 2nd, 1648, Rowland, baptised at the same place April 4th, 1654, and Margaret, October 2nd, 1655 A Francis Lacon, gent., was buried at Kinlet December 23rd, 1663.

ROWLAND LACON OF KINLET,

Rowland Lacon, Esq., succeeded to the estate at Kinlet. In the Civil Wars he appears to have adhered to the side of royalty. Whether by this his fortune was materially impaired, or whether he was especially favoured by the victorious party, is not known to me; but he was permitted to compound for his estate, by the name of Rowland Lacon, of Kinlet, Esq., at the very low rate of £66, a sum which, if it was estimated, as was usually the case, at two years' income, gives a yearly rental of only £33. He is said to have married a daughter of Sir Robert Purslow, of Sidbury, Knt. (the son by a former wife of John Purslow, who took to his second wife, Dorothy Blount), and by her had an only child Anne, born 1628, married February 18th, 1640, at Highley to William Childe, Esq. He died in September, 1657, and was buried at Kinlet on the 9th of that month.

CHILDE OF KINLET.

The family of Childe were seated at Northwick, in Worcestershire, from the reign of Edward II. Their pedigree may be seen in Dr. Nash's History of that county. Mr. Childe was the third son of William Childe, Esq., of Northwick, by Catherine, daughter of Thomas Coventry, of Croom D'Abetot, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas to James I., and sister of Thomas, Lord Coventry, Lord Keeper to Charles He was thus related to some of the great luminaries of the law, and having, as a younger son, to carve his own future, he applied himself to that profession, in which he rose to the dignity of a Master in Chancery. Being upon a visit to Mr Lacon at Kinlet, he prevailed on the young lady, the daughter of his host, to accompany him one Sunday morning to the neighbouring Church of Highley, where they were united in matrimony 18th February, 1640, and returned home without any of the family knowing aught of the matter.

SIR WILLIAM CHILDE OF KINLET.

By this lady, Sir William Childe (for he was afterwards created a Knight and L.L.D.) had a very numerous family, not less than three sons and eight daughters, several of whom must have been born previous to the commencement of the present register. I shall begin with those whose births are not recorded therein:—

1. Mris Margarett, daughter of William Childe, of the parish of Kinlet, Esq., and Ann, his wife, so she is styled in the Register of this parish, was bapt. at Highley August 24th, 1642, and married on the 20th of January, 1656-7, at Cleobury Mortimer, to William Lambe, of London, gent., son of Anne Lambe, widow. Sir William Childe seems to have been of a very hospitable disposition, and to have delighted in being surrounded by his family. Accordingly, the births of many of his grandchildren are recorded in the Register at Kinlet Thus William Lambe, Esq., had by Margaret, his wife, William, bapt. December 30th, 1658; Anne, bapt. 18th June, 1661; Catherine, October 2nd, 1662, buried by the name of Mrs. Cath. Lambe, March 31st, 1690; Thomas, bapt. 20th March, 1663-4; Clement, February 10th, 1665-6; Edward, 26th March, 1660; and at least two other sons, whose births are not registered at Kinlet, John Lambe, Vicar of Kinlet from 1690 to 1695, who proceeded M.A. from Edmund Hall, Oxford 7th July, 1687, and Lacon Lambe, gent., who must have been born in 1666, dying at the age of 33, November 7th, 1699, and being buried here on the 10th of that month.1

2. Muriel, married Francis, son of Thomas Berkeley, Esq., of Ewdnesse, near Worfield. By her he had a daughter Muriel, born September 17th, and bapt. at Worfield October 4th, 1680; Lacon, born 9th and bapt. 26th September, 1681; and a younger son Thomas, born September 19th, 1682, who died April 18th, 1683, and was buried in that church. She was buried at Kinlet April 9th, 1686, by the name of Merrial, wife of Francis Barkly, Esq.

Mr. Lambe was an attorney, and resided in St. Mary's Churchyard, as his

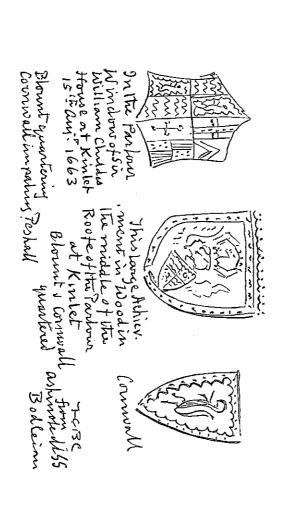
widow continued to do after his death.

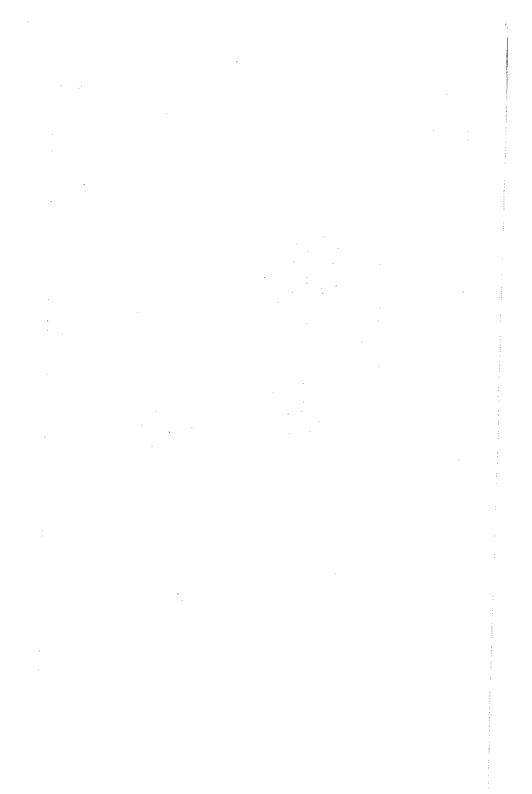
William Lambe of Bidney, Esq., among the gentry of Herefordshire 1673. (Blomes' Britannia).

Mr Lacon Lambe married at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, July 28, 1691, Mrs. Mary Shipman, where he had a daughter Mary, a son Lacon bapt. Nov. 1, 1694; another Mary bapt. 24 June, 1696; Francis bapt 23 Dec., 1697; Anne 28 Aug., 1699, bur. 27 Feb., 1699.

- 3. Mrs. Mary Childe, married at Kinlet, July 2nd, 1661, "Mr. John Andrews, of Lincon's Inn."
- 4. Mrs. Ann Childe, married October 10th, 1667, Nicolas Barneby, gent.
- 5. Mrs. Catherine Childe, married August 8th, 1670, Robert Gower, gent. Of their children, Robert was bapt. here, June 6th, 1671; William, December 13th, 1680; and perhaps another daughter, Anne Marry, who was married here 20th June, 1711, to Mr. Alexander Adams, and had a daughter who died September 16th, 1712, aged one month, and was buried here, and another, Laconia, bapt. at Cleobury Mortimer September 18th, 1718, was buried here 15th June, 1736.
- 6. Mrs. Elizabeth Childe, married, October 29th, 1677, Mr. Walsa.
- 7. Sir Lacon William Childe, Knt., eldest son, was bapt. at Highley July 9th, 1644. Of him hereafter.
- 8. *Thomas* Childe, Esq., second son, was born 1656. Of him also hereafter.
- 9. Sarah, daughter of Sir William Childe and Anne, his wife, was bapt. here October, 1663. She married, January 31st, 1679-80, Thomas Jobber, gent. This was Thomas Jobber, of Aston Grange, in the parish of Shifnall, Esq., by whom she had the following children, bapt. at Kinlet:—William, February 3rd, 1680, buried there February 2nd, 1683-4; Thomas, bapt. 25th April, 1683; Sarah, 11th April. 1687; Mary, 28th May, 1692; besides other children, of whom Humphrey, and another named John, clerk in the Pipe office, are mentioned on her monument at Shifnall, where she died February 25th, 1694, aged 31.
- 10. Frances, bapt. 6th June, 1666, was buried by the name of "Maddam Frances Childe," April 9th, 1690.
- 11. William, bapt. 25th April, 1669. He died on the 9th, and was buried on the 12th of June, 1706.

I should apprehend that Sir William Childe, the father of this numerous family, was a Master of Chancery previous to the Civil Wars. At least, he appears at the head of the list of those who entered upon that office June 1st, 1669, two days after the Restoration of Monarchy. He resigned his post June 17th, 1672, in favour of his son, and was buried at Kinlet May 8th, 1678. He is represented in his picture now in the library at Kinlet, in his doctor's robes, with a good





countenance, whiskers, small peaked beard, and skull cap. His lady is painted in the dress of a later period, the fashion of King William's days, of a large frame, and not very beautiful. She survived her husband fifteen years, and was buried here June 28th, 1693.

SIR LACON CHILDE, KT., OF KINLET.

Sir Lacon William Childe does not appear as a graduate in either University. In 1672, being then 29 years of age, he succeeded his father as a Master in Chancery, in which capacity he walked at the magnificent Coronation of James II., when his portrait may be seen in Sandford's sculptures of that ceremonial. He resigned his office in 1709, being then arrived at the age of 66, and devoted the remainder of his days, says his epitaph, with admirable cheerfulness, to the offices of religion and the duties of society. Of these, he left behind him a lasting monument in the foundation of a charity school at Cleobury Mortimer, which he endowed with ample revenues, for the education, clothing, and apprenticing of poor children, and which still subsists in full vigour.

Sir Lacon William Childe seems to have resided at West Coppice during the life of his father and mother. He married three wives:—I. Ultratrajectina (so called from Utrecht, the place of her birth), his second cousin, daughter of Francis Coventry, Esq., third son of Thomas, the first Lord Coventry. It is said that she and Sir Lacon were within the prohibited degrees of consanguinity, and that in consequence of remorse for this transaction she ever after observed a fast on one day in the week—her marriage day. 2. Mrs. Hugh, or Hughes. 3. Price-illa, daughter of Sir Thomas Morgan, of Kinnersley Castle, Bt., niece to Mrs. Hugh.² Leaving no issue by either of his wives, he was succeeded in his estates, upon his death, which happened March 4th, 1719-20, by his nephew, William Lacon Childe, only son of his brother, Thomas Childe.

He matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, 26 Nov., 1662, then aged 17; and became a barrister-at-law of Lincoln's Inn 1670. He was knighted at

Whitehall, 16 June, 1673.

2 Lady Childe died in the summer of 1734. She seems to have been daughter

2 Sir John Morgan, whose other daughter Annaretta married Thomas Clutton,

2 of Pensax, where she resided after she became a widow. Sir John

3 Morgan, Bt. of Kinardesley Castle, Co. Hereford, was one of the first Trustees

4 of Cleobury School.

THOMAS CHILDE OF THE BIRCH.

This gentleman (Thomas Childe, Esq.), born, as we have mentioned, in 1656, devoted himself to a country life. He resided at a stately mansion erected for him by his father at the Birch, in this parish, which estate was settled upon him for his maintenance. Here, as his epitaph informs us, and as tradition confirms, "he gained the general esteem of his countrey, by his hospitality, sincerity, and constancy in friend-ship, and undesigning openness of conversation." He served the office of Sheriff in 1705, and died on the 12th of April, 1708, and was buried on the day following, whence the disorder which carried him off might seem to have been of a malignant nature, in the 52nd year of his age.

Thomas Childe married Sarah, one of the daughters of Sir Edward Acton, of Aldenham, Bart., and by this lady (who was sixteen years younger than her husband, and who, after his death, re-married to Robert Phillips, D.D., Vicar of Kinlet, Headmaster of the Free School at Shrewsbury, official of St. Mary's) had issue, besides his eldest son, of whom hereafter; a second, Edward, born June, 1700; two daughters, Anna, born December 14th, 1702, married June 10th, 1718, to Henry Sprott, Esq., of the Marsh, in the parish of Barrow, and died there September, 1763, aged 60. Mary, the second daughter, was born 27th April, 1705, and married Samuel Sprott (brother of her sister's husband), B.A. 1718, M.A. of Christ Church, Oxford, 1722, and B.M. 1729. She died January 18th, 1772, æt. 66.

WILLIAM LACON CHILDE OF KINLET.

William Lacon Childe, Esq., the eldest son of Thomas, was born the 3rd of March, 1699-1700, and succeeded to the Kinlet Estate upon the death of his uncle, being just entered into the 21st year of his age. In 1727, he was prevailed to offer himself a candidate for the County of Salop, and in conjunction with John Walcot, Esq., of Walcot, was elected without opposition, after a canvass which lasted six weeks, and in which they are said to have made personal application to every freeholder in the county. Mr. Childe did not find such charms in a Parliamentary life as to be induced to offer his services at the next general election. He lived with great

hospitality at Kinlet, where he rebuilt the house and beautified the church. He was a very active justice of peace, and paid much attention to the management of his large estates. The beautiful lines of Dryden to his cousin, Mr. Driden, of Chesterton, were an exact picture of this gentleman:—

How blest is He who leads a country life, Unvest with anxious care, and void of strife; Who studying peace, and shunning civil rage, Enjoy^d his youth and now enjoys his age.

Just, good and wise contending neighbour's come, From your award, to wait their final doom, And, foes before, return in friendship home; Without their cost, you terminate the cause, And save the expense of long litigious laws.

No porter guards the passage of your door, To admit the wealthy and exclude the poor; For God, who gave the riches, gave the heart To sanctify the whole by giving part.

With crowds attendants of your ancient race, You seek the champaign, sports, or sylvan chase: And often have you brought the wily fox, To suffer for the firstlings of the flocks. This fiery game your active youth maintain'd, Nor yet by years extinguished, though restrained. You season still with sports your serious hours, For age but takes of pleasures, youth *devours*. The hare in pastures or in plains is found, Emblem of human race, who runs the race.

Mr. Childe married Catherine, only daughter of Samuel Pytts, Esq., of Kyre, in co. Worcester (by Catherine, daughter of Sir James Rushant, of Northwick, Bart.), and by this lady (who was born in 1703, dying November 29th, 1763, in the 60th year of her age, was buried here the 9th of December following, having survived her husband six years) he had

¹ The old house at Kinlet stood near the Church, close to the present drive gate. It contained the Arms of Cornwall and also of Blount, and Cornwall quarterly.—F. C. B. C.

issue three daughters, Catherine, bapt. November 19th, 1722, married at Kinlet May 14th, 1752, to Charles Baldwyn, Esq., of Aqualate, in co. Stafford, and buried 2nd June, 1770; Sarah, buried April 9th, 1730; and Anne, married to George Woodruffe, Esq., at Pyle, near Farnham, co. Surrey, and died Mr. Childe died on the 14th, and was buried on the 23rd day of December, 1757, in the 57th (and not, as his monument asserts, in the 60th) year of his age. Mrs. Baldwyn being the only one of his daughters who had a family, he devised his estates to her eldest son. I am credibly informed that there was something very peculiar in the death of Mrs. Baldwyn. As she was passing to the bath in her sedan chair (at Bath) a child put its head out of a two-pair of stairs window in the height of the smallpox. Mrs. Baldwyn saw it (and having a great dread of the disorder), felt an immediate sickness at her heart, went home, took the infection, and died.

BALDWYN OF KINLET.

The family of Baldwyn, or Bawdewyn, for so the name appears anciently to have been written, and is so spelled in the Battle Abbey roll, is of great antiquity in the County of Salop, where they were seated at Diddlebury, of which place John Bawdewyn is styled, who, nine generations before the reign of Edward II., is said to have married Anne, daughter and heir of Richard L'Enfant or le Childe. That they were descended from Baldwin, King of Jerusalem, I will not, with the compiler of the beautiful pedigree of the Leighton family, now in the possession of Sir Robert Leighton, of Loton, Bart., undertake to affirm. At the same time, as there were many Kings of Jerusalem of that name, such an opinion may be supported by evidence which I have not seen, and certainly their arms—a sable saltire on an argent field—bespeak a connection with the Crusades. Sir Samuel Baldwyn, Knt., bapt. at Burwarton, June 17th, 1618, appointed King's Sergeant in 1672, was elder brother of Sir Timothy Baldwyn, bapt. September 28th, 1619, Fellow of All Souls, an eminent civilian and editor in 1663 of Dr. Zouch's treatise on the Admiralty, and grandson of William Baldwyn, of Elsidge, a younger son of the house of Diddlebury. Charles, the second son of Sir Samuel, greatly augmented his fortune by marriage with Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Nicholas Acton, Esq., of Bockleton, in co. Worcester, by his wife Mary, sister and coheir of Edwyn Skrymshire, Esq., of Aqualate. Charles Baldwyn, Esq., of Aqualate and Bockleton, grandson of this marriage, and Knight of the Shire from 1766 to 1780, married, as has been stated, the heiress of Kinlet, and by this lady (who died of the smallpox at Bath, and was buried at this place June 2nd, 1770) had issue one daughter and two sons, of whom the eldest, William Childe, Esq., is now possessor of Kinlet, and 23rd in lineal descent from Bernard, son of Unspac, Lord of Chinlete in the time of Henry I.

FOLK-LORE OF KINLET.

Mr. Lloyd, in his MS. Collections for Shropshire, quotes the annals of Worcester for a phenomenon of three suns seen at Kinlet, A.D. 1282. The passage is in Wharton's Anglia Sacra, vol i., p. 506, and states that it was on the ides of March, and in the presence of the Prior of the Order of St. Augustine of Lodelawe. Sir Richard Baker, the diligent relater of such occurrences, does not mention any such thing under Edward I., in whose reign it happened, though under the reign of Henry III. he notes that in the seventeenth year of that King (viz., 1232-1233) "five suns were seen at one time together, after which followed so great a dearth, that people were constrained to eat horse flesh and bark off trees." This spectacle must have happened at no great distance from Kinlet, and is so accurately described by Mathew Paris that I shall take the liberty of describing it.

At the same time, i.e., 1233, says the monk of St. Alban's namely, on the 6 of the ides of April (i.e., April 8th), about the first hour of the day, on the borders of Herefordshire and Worcestershire appeard in the heavens four false suns, besides the natural sun, of a red colour. There was a great circle of the colour of chrystal, and of the breadth, as it were, of two feet, comprehending within it, as it were, all England, from the sides of which went out semi-circles in the sections of which appeared those four suns before mentioned, the true sun being in the east, and the air very clear. And because this prodigy cannot be described in words, I have subjoined a figure thereof. The heavens being thus encircled,

many persons immediately painted a similitude of the objects thus appearing, on account of their novelty. This vision appeared unto many, among whom was John, Bishop of Hereford, who caused the figures to be drawn in his presence, not hastily, but with deliberation, by the hands of his chaplain.

1813. Mr. Andrew Armstrong, a Scottish gent., killed at Kinlet and brought to Ribbesford and burd. there. He was killed on y^a 13th and buried 15th April, 1813.

A person of the name of James Meredith, of Kinlet, in Shropshire, wrote a character of Bp. Hough, in verse, in *Gentleman's Magazine*, November, 1736, and verses to Miss Caroline July 21st, 1737.

Asperiana.

Near to Button Oak grows a thorn in the form of an arch, one end growing in Shropshire and the other in Staffordshire; this is resorted to by numbers in order to make their children pass under it for the cure of the whooping cough.

At Cooper's Mill, near Button Oak, is a boy, son of the miller, who has two thumbs; he is become an object of great curiosity among the country people, who suppose him destined to fulfil Nixon's phophecy.

"One of my sister's children at Nortons End, being at the last extremity with the whooping cough, was cured by feasting on a broiled mouse." (This was communicated by Mrs. Childe of Kinlet.)

One disease is endemic in this parish, the bronchocale or Derby neck, an enlargement of the glands of the throat, and a degree of the same disease that is known in the Alps, and in some other mountainous tracks, and there attributed, I believe, generally to the badness of the water. The quality of that element is sufficiently indifferent among us to justify our ascribing the prevalence of swelled necks at Kinlet to the same cause; but as with us they are confined exclusively to the female sex, the practice, so universal with our women, of carrying large burdens of wood upon their heads, must come in for its share of blame upon this occasion

APPENDIX.

INQUISITIONS POST MORTEM, &c.

Inq. p. m. Edmund de Cornewaille, son of Richard, died 1354.

Oxfordshire.—Asthalle, conjointly with Elizabeth, his wife, held of Edward, Prince of Wales, by knights service, worth £15. Died 22nd March. Edmund de Cornewaille, son of Edmund, is next heir, of the age of 40 and more.

Hereford.— $\frac{1}{2}$ the Manor of Ashton, of the inheritance of Elizabeth, his wife, as yet alive, of Roger de Mortimer by knights service, worth £10. Edmund, son and heir of Edmund and Elizabeth, age 30 and more.

Salop.—Manor of Kynlet, Edward and Elizabeth, still alive, of the King in chief by homage and fealty.

½ of the Village of Wyrthen, of the Lord the King, in chief as part of the Barony of Caus.

And Overgorthore and Baughhaltree, of the Barony of Caus. Edmund, son of Edmund, is next heir, and aged 30 and more.

Inq. ad quod damnum. Elizabeth de Cornwall (Brampton), 28 Edward III.

I.—Writ, 25 June, 28 Edward III., to inquire whether it is to the damage of the King, &c. (as below).

II.—Inquisition at Clebury, co. Salop, on Wednesday next after the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, 28 Edward III. It is not to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Elizabeth, who was the wife of Edmund de Cornubia, that she may be able to enfeoff her Manors of Overgorther and Worthyn, with appurtenances and 1,000 acres of wood with appurtenances in Aberleye, to Henry de Mortimer, senior, and Reginald del² Hay. To hold to them and their heirs of the King and his heirs, by the services due and accustomed for ever, so that Henry and Reginald having full and peaceable seisin thereof, shall be able to give and grant the same premises to the

¹ Mortuo Mari in Writ. Vol. VIII., 3rd Series.

² de la in Writ.

said Elizabeth, to hold for life, of the King, as above. Remainder to Brian, her son; to hold as above. The said Manors, &c., are parcel of the Barony of Caus, and the Castle and Manor of Caus are held of the King in chief by barony. The premises are worth in all issues according to the true yearly value of the same, 10/. And 10/. of land and moiety remain to the said Elizabeth at Kynlet, co. Salop, beyond the said Manor, moiety, and wood, and they are held of the King in chief by h[omage] and fealty.

Inq. p. m. Brian de Cornewaille, 1391.

Oxfordshire.—Manor of Asthalle subtus quickewode held of the King in chief as of the Honor of St. Walrie, by service of 5th part of 1 knight's fee, worth £10.

Iddebury, jointly enfeoffed with Matilda, his wife, held of Earl of March, £10.

Next heir, John de Cornewaille, 24 and more.

Salop, at Bruggenorth.—Kynlet, of the Earl of March Meton, within the Lordship of Kynlet of the Lord the King, Cattesley, of the Prior of the Hospital of St. John (called Colieres). Cattesley, I messuage and ½ virgate of land, of the Earl of March, as parcel of the Manors of Kynlet. Died August 18th, 1391, John Cornewaille, son and heir, 24 and more.

Hereford, at Lemester.—½ Ashton, by Lemester, jointly with Matilda, his wife, of the Earl of March, by knight's service, value £10. John, son and heir of Brian and Matilda, is next heir, and is aged 24 and more.

Inq. p. m. Sir John Cornwall of Kinlet, 2 Henry V., died 1415.

Inquisitions post mortem (Chancery), File 10, No. 45.

I.—Writ, 10 July, 2 Henry V.

II.—Inquisition at Wenlok, on Tuesday next after the Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, 2 Henry V., before the Escheator of Salop and the March of Wales. John Cornewaill was seised in demesne as of fee of 1 acre of land with appurtenances in Great Meton. He held of the King in chief by the service of 4d. yearly for all services, customs, and demands. The said acre is worth nothing by the year beyond reprises. He held no other lands or tenements [in

co. Salop?] at the time of his death. He died on Tuesday next after the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 2 Henry V. Elizabeth, wife of Wm. Lychefeld, is daughter and next heir, and aged 24 years and more. The said acre has been seized into the King's hand.

CORAM REGE ROLL, 1st year of Henry VI. (1422).

WORCESTER.

Extracted Transcript of the Fine.

Final agreement made in the Court of the King at York, 13th year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward, &c., between Richard le Porter, plaintiff, and Ralph le Porter, parson of the Church of Eastham, defendant, of 40 solidates of Rent in Boycote and two parts of the Manor of Eastham and the advowson of the Church. . . . Richard acknowledged them to be the right of Ralph, for which Ralph granted to the said Richard the tenements and advowson for his life, and after should entirely remain to Richard, son of the said Richard and Joan his wife and their heirs, to hold of the chief Lords of the fee. In default to remain to the right heirs of the said Richard le Porter for ever.

Afterwards Ralph Porter and Thomas Raulyns, kinsmen and heirs of the said Richard (son of Richard) and Joan his wife, are all dead, and that a certain William Lychefeld, Kt., has entered into the said two parts of the Manor and the advowson, and holds them contrary to the forme of the fine. The said William Lychefeld to come on the Quindem of Easter to show if he has anything to say for himself wherefore the two parts of the Manor and the advowson ought not to remain to Porter.

The same day at Westminster came John Porter, attorney for Ralph and Thomas, and Richard Corve for William Lychefeld.

Ralph Porter says he is kinsman and heir of Richard, son of Richard and Joan; that is to say, son of Joan, one of the daughters of Richard and Joan.

Thomas Raulyns says he is son of Margery, the other of the daughters.

William Lychefeld says that a certain William More, late parson of Eastham, and others, gave and granted the tenements aforesaid to Sir William Wastneys, Kt., and Alice his wife, and to their issue, and they had a daughter Joan, and died seized as of the fee tail. After their death the said Joan entered into the tenements as their heir. And Joan took to husband John Cornewaylle, Kt., and they had a daughter and heir Elizabeth; and the said John Cornewaylle and Joan died seized of the tenements as of fee tail. After Elizabeth entered into the tenements as daughter and heir, and Elizabeth took to husband William Lychefeld (and they had two daughters and heirs, Elizabeth and Alice), and afterwards Elizabeth, wife of William Lychefeld, died. Afterwards the same William Lychefeld is seized of the said tenements by the law of England for the term of his life, the reversion thereof after the death of William Lychefeld belonging to the said (Elizabeth and Alice¹), without whom he is not able to answer, and he asks that the suit may remain because (Elizabeth and Alice) are under age until the full age of the same.

And Ralph and Thomas say that William Lychefeld ought not to have aid, for a certain John Geete was seized of it, and granted the same to William Lychefeld and Elizabeth his wife, and their issue, which said William and Elizabeth, by virtue of the gift aforesaid, were seized thereof as of fee tail. Afterwards the same Elizabeth died, and William Lychefeld is seized of the same Manor as of fee tail by the form of the gift aforesaid. Wherefore they pray for judgment, &c.

And the said William Lychefeld says that he holds the tenements in the form in which, in pleading above, he alleged, &c.

Therefore let a Jury come before the Lord the King on the morrow of St. John the Baptist to recognize, &c.

At which day came as well the said Ralph Porter and Thomas Raulins by their Attorney as the suit. William Lychefeld by his Attorney.

And the Sheriff did not send the Writ; therefore let a jury come on the quindem of St. Michael, &c.

Inq. p. m., Roger Corbet, 9 Henry VI., 1430. Inquisitions post mortem (Chancery). File 49, No. 33. I.—Writ, 14, 9 Henry VI.

(1431) II.—Inquisition at Worcester, 6 May, 9 Henry VI., on Roger Corbet. He held no lands of the King in chief in the County of Worcester. William Westneys Knight and Alice, his wife, daughter of Walter Hewett, were lately seized of the Manor of Estham, together with the advowson of the Church of Estham, appertaining to the same Manor, in their demesne as of fee tail, by the gift of Wm. More, Rector of Estham, Robert the Sergeant, John Obdon, and Walter Waldeford, Clerk, made to the said William and Alice and the heirs of their bodies; to hold of the chief lords of that fee by the services due and accustomed. William and Alice had issue Joan, who was seized of the said Manor, &c., after their deaths. Joan married John Cornewaille, Knight. They had issue Elizabeth, who became seized, &c. married Wm. Lychefeld, Knight. They had issue Elizabeth. The first Elizabeth died before William, who became seized of the said Manor (&c.). After William's death, the second Elizabeth was seized (as above). She married the said Roger Corbet; they had issue Margaret, who became seized, &c., she being under age. The said William granted and surrendered the one and one acre of land with appurtenancies in Estham, parcel of the said Manor (which Richard Curteys formerly held at the will of the same William), by his Charter dated on the Feast of St. Leonard the Abbot, 9 Henry VI., to the said Margaret, being under age, and his heir; to hold of the chief lords of that fee; by virtue of which grant she was seized of the same messuage and land by hereditary descent as daughter and heir of the said Elizabeth, wife of Roger. On the Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, 9 Henry VI., William gave and granted to Wm. Koyne one messuage and one close adjacent, called Rakclose, in Estham, parcel of the said Manor; to hold to him his heirs, and assigns of the chief lords of that fee; to the disherison of Margaret, who entered into the same messuage and close as daughter and heir of Elizabeth, wife of Roger, and was so seized thereof by hereditary descent. The Manor and

¹ Servientis.

advowson with their appurtenances are held of Richard, Earl of Warwick, by knight service. The custody of Margaret, together with her marriage, and the said two messuages, &c., pertain to the said Earl, by reason of her minority. The Earl granted the same messuages, land, and close to John Wode on I March, 9 Henry VI. Roger died on 15 July last. Margaret is his next heir, aged 3 years and more. The said Manor is worth yearly in all issues beyond reprises, 20 marks.

SALOP.

Exch. Inq. p. m., taken at Bruggenorth May 24th, Henry VI. Sir William Lychefeld died 1446.

Kynlet.—Before his death by his Charter dated Friday after St. Gregory, 23 Henry VI., he enfeoffed John Halle and William Cuyne of the Manor of Kynlet, to hold to them and their heirs. Cuyne afterwards died, and Halle remained in sole possession. William Lychefeld died on Sunday before the Purification last.

Margaret, wife of Humphrey Stafford Esq., is daughter¹ and heir, and is aged 24. The said Manor is not held of the King in chief.

HEREFORD.

Exch. Inq. P. M., 29th May, 1446, taken at Leominster, Jurors say upon oath that William Lychefeld, Kt., held of his own domain as of fee, nor in service to the Lord in capito, neither lands nor tenements, but that a certain Edmund Cornewaylle, Kt., was formerly seized of half the Manor of Assheton, which was held of Richard, Duke of York, and not of the Lord the King, and he gave the same half to Brian de Cornewaylle, his younger son, to hold to his heirs male, by virtue of which gift Brian was seized in domain as of fee tail, and had issue John Cornewaylle, Kt., and afterwards the said John Cornewaylle gave and granted the said half to the said William Lychefeld, to hold to him for his natural life. And afterwards the same William enfeoffed William Hill, parson in the Church of Eastham, and John Halle, with the said half, to hold to them and their heirs for ever.

¹ Grand-daughter?

wards, William and John Halle gave and granted the said half to William Lychefeld and Joan, his wife, who is still living, to hold to them and their heirs for ever, by virtue of which gift the said William and Joan were seized thereof as of fee. Afterwards, the said William Lychefeld died; the aforesaid John Cornewaylle, son of Brian died without male heir, whereupon half moiety ought to revert by the form of the gift to Edmund Cornwall, cousin and heir to the aforesaid Edmund, Kt., namely, to the son of Lewis, son of Peter, son of the said Edmund, Kt., because the aforesaid Brian died without male heir issuing from his body; the said Edmund, son of Lewis, after the death of John, son of Brian, entered upon the said moiety, and has kept and still keeps possession of it. In the said moiety there is neither house nor messuage, except a dovehouse, badly ruined, and worth nothing a year, and there is one carucate of arable land worth 10s., and 8a. of meadow, of which each acre is worth 12d. a year, and ga. of enclosed pasture, each acre worth 8d. a year. A rent of assize worth 23s, and one apple orchard worth each year 6s. 8d.

That Isabella (Margaret?), wife of Humphrey Stafford, is William Lychefeld's daughter and next heir, and is of the age of 22 years. William Lychefeld died the last day of January,

1445-б.

WORCESTER.

Exch. Inq. P. M., taken at Worcester, 12th January, 25 Henry VI.

Sir William Lychefeld, Kt.

Seized of the Manor of Estham, and of 20 messuages, 2 carucates of land, 20 acres of meadow, 40a. of pasture, and 40s. of rent, with appurtenances, in Worcester and Barbonne, in his demesne as of fee.

The said Manor is held of Anna, daughter and heir of Henry, late Duke of Warwick, as of the Barony of Elmeley,

by the service of 20th part of one knight's fee.

The lands and tenements in Worcester are held by socage of the Bailiffs and Citizens of Worcester, who have all the town of Worcester for a certain fee form payable yearly to the King.

The lands in Barbon are held by John Bishop, of Worcester, by socage.

All the premises are worth yearly beyond reprises 20 marks. William Lychefeld died on Thursday before the Feast of the Purification. Margaret, wife of Humphrey Stafford, of Frome, Esq., his daughter and heir, æt 21.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Exch. Inq. P. M., 25th Henry VI., taken at Wolverhampton. Sir William Lychfeld, 1446.

Before his death he was seized of Abenhale Manor; Weford; Treford, third part of Manor; Messuages, 44; Carucates of land, 8; Meadow, 50a.; Pasture, 200a.; Wood, 100a.; Rent, 100s, in Lichfield; Litel Coroborowe; Freford; Whytynton; Edwynghale; Allersthawe; Horseley; Stichebroke; Bromley; Elmehurst, in his demesne as of fee; and by his Charter dated at Lychefeld 10th June, 9 Henry V., 1424, he enfeoffed thereof Thomas Delamare, Rich. Upton, Willm. Hull, parson of Eastham, and Robt. Harper, clerk by name, of his Manors of Abenhale and Weford, with all other his lands, and in co. Stafford, to hold to them and their heirs, and after Richard and Robert released to Delamare and Hull all their rights, and afterwards De la Mare and Hulle, by their Charter dated 8 September, 9 Henry VI. (1431) enfeoffed William Lichefeld and Joan,2 then his wife, to hold them and their joint issue, with remainder to the right heirs of William Lychefeld, who died without issue by the said Joan, who survived him, and has remained in possession until now. premises are worth yearly 20 marks, and are held in chief of the Barony of Coventry and Lichfield.

William Lychfeld died Thursday before the Purification, 24 Henry VI. (1446). Margaret, wife of Humphrey Stafford, of Frome, daughter and heir, at 21.1

¹ Grand-daughter?
² "Joan" was a daughter and coheir of Thomas Rugge of Charlemont,
Somersetshire. Her sister, Lady Barre, mentions her in her will as "Dame
Joan Lychfeld."

EPITAPH ON SIR GEORGE BLOUNT, KNIGHT, OF KINLET, DIED 1581.

HERE 'LYETH' THE 'BODY' OF SIR' GEORGE 'BLOUNT KNIGHT' WHICH' WAS 'LORDE' OF KINLET' WHO' DIED' IN' THE 'YEARE' OF' OURE' LORD' GOD' 1581' HERE THYRE CHILDREN BE' JOHN AND ALSO' DORETHY. FIAT VOLVNTAS DEI 1584 ANNO DOMINI. AVOVS SERVIR JESUIS MIS.

Laid in this tomb is Blount of noble race,

ENNOBLED BY LIGHT of his own, and BY THE LIGHT of his father he was; His lineage most high, knightly by either parent,

Worthy of these was the son's knightly name;

Arms, and the charger fiery were his delight, on the day of battle,

But the palace of his King delighted his youth,

In manhood Scotland and the realms of France

Felt his generosity in war; to both he was a terror;

His neighbour's quarrels and disputes he settled all,

At home he was a man of peace,

Nor did he make unfitting nuptial for himself,

The daughter of a knight he wedded of equal lineage,

Who bore two children, of whom a daughter lives,

The son before his father sought the realms above;

After his son's death, he gives many lands to his nephew

And makes him the heir of this very

Rowland Lacon who laid his lifeless body in a tomb

But his spirit the realms above hold. This Lacon an Esquire in filial memory of love

This record raised. His nephew and his heir.

CHRIST'S LIFE'S AIM.

Be near good Christ to England,

To Prince, to Nobles, And to all other Inhabit-

ants; Good Christ, I pray grant Peace—

For by this the life of men is quiet—

By this, their journey safe And all good things do multiply.

By strife, what has been gotten

By great labor, melts away, So to Thine own give everlasting peace—

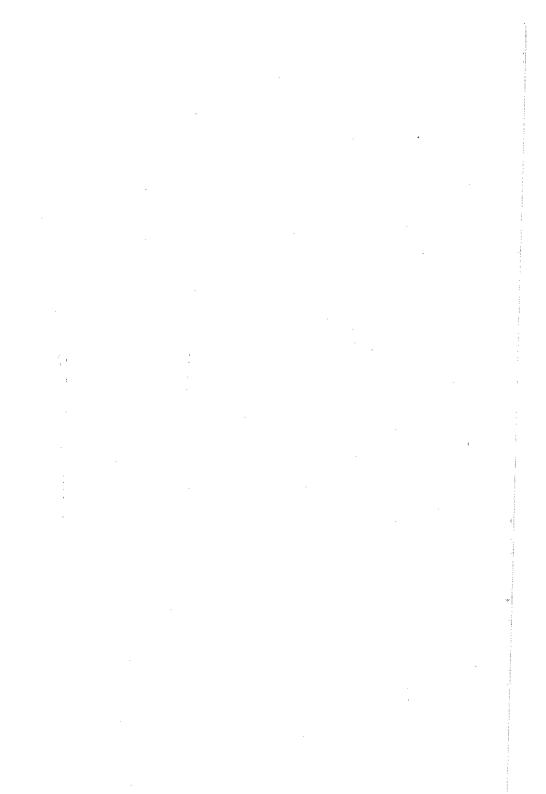
May virtue which is learning's light,

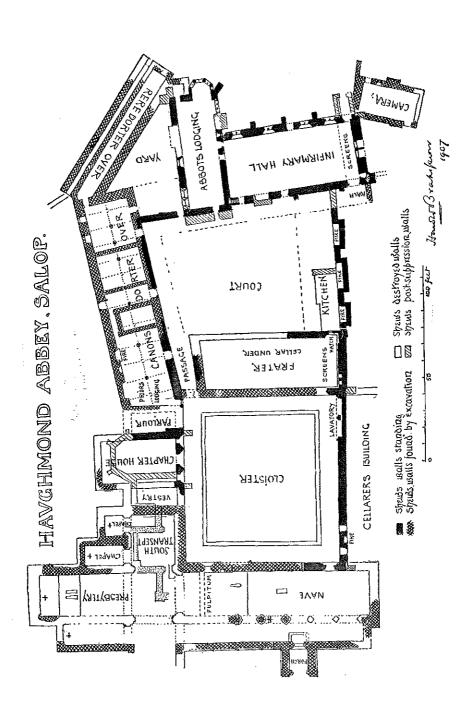
Be given too, and blessings come—

Far off be what, At any time may hurt. This Epitaph is engraved on a white marble slab, by the side of the large Tudor Monument, which contains the kneeling figures of Sir George and Constantia Talbot, his wife, and their two children. Underneath is the entombed figure. The monument is richly decorated with the quarterings of Blount and Talbot.

[Latin Epitaph at Kinlet translated by the late Stanley

Leighton, M.A., F.S.A.]





MISCELLANEA.

[Under this heading the Editors will be pleased to insert notes, and short articles relative to recent discoveries in the County, or other matters of archæological or historical interest. Communications are invited, and should be addressed to the Editors, c/o Mr. H. W. Adnitt, (Hon. Sec.), The Square, Shrewsbury.]

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HAUGHMOND ABBEY.

Haughmond Abbey was founded about 1135 by William Fitz Alan (who was buried in the Abbey Church at Shrewsbury) for Canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, but judging from the fragments of the first church found by excavation it was upon a very small scale. Some fifty years later, owing to the increased wealth and numbers of inmates, the abbey was entirely rebuilt upon a much larger plan, and of this rebuilding are considerable remains.

The abbey was suppressed with the greater monasteries in 1541, and the annual value then amounted to £259 138. 7d. It

contained an Abbot and twelve Carons.

The abbey was granted to Sir Edward Littleton, Knt., of Pillaton, Staffordshire, on 20th September, 1541. He sold it to Sir Rowland Hill, Knt. Through his sister it passed to the Barker family, who converted a great part of the buildings into a dwelling house, and from them by heirship to the Kynastons. In 1740, Andrew Corbet, of Legh and Albright Hussey, succeeded to the Sundorne estate, which included Haughmond Abbey, on the death of his relation, Corbet Kynaston.

It is not known when the buildings ceased to be inhabited as a dwelling house; but it is probable that this may have occurred in the middle of the 17th century. In the supplement to the Gentleman's Magazine for 1790, p. 1193, is the following:—"In the time of the Civil Wars of the last century, Caprain Hosier (I suppose of the Berwick family) burnt the house of Mr. Barker, of Haughmond Abbey, near Shrewsbury, by setting fire to the Yule-

log."

The order of Austin Canons was introduced into this country in 1108, and became so popular that there were 170 houses in England at the suppression. Their habit was black (from whence they were known as Black Canons) over a white rochet, and they wore a cap and boots. The rule was severe, and they kept to their houses like monks, though in some cases they were allowed to serve parish churches, and their houses were subject to episcopal visitation.

The chief buildings at Haughmond were grouped round two courts, the northern being the canon's cloister with the church on the north. The second church consisted of an aisleless presbytery. north and south transepts with two eastern chapels to each, and a long aisleless nave; of this work the western of the two doorways to the cloister remains complete, and is a fine example of late twelfth century work (in the fourteenth century the figures of St. Peter and St. Paul were cut into the jambs in a remarkable manner). Considerable parts of the foundations of the remainder have been recovered by excavations. In the thirteenth century an aisle and porch were added on the north side of the nave, of which the fine bases of two of the arcade columns and lower parts of the walls have been found by excavation Before the high altar are two grave slabs, they bear inscriptions, the one of John Fitz Alan, who died in 1270 great-grandson of the founder of the Abbey), and the other of Isabel, his wife, daughter of Roger, Earl of Wigmore.

WOVS.KI.P | ASSEZ.P.....I.PRIES.PVR.LALME.IOHAN

FIS | ALEIN, KI. | GIT.ICI.DEV.DE.SA.ALME.EIT.

MERCI.AMEN.

ISABEL | , DE , MO.....SA , FEMME , ACOST , | DE , L . . . | DE , LVR , AL . . . , MERCI , A

In the middle of the nave another grave slab of much later date was found during the excavations. It bears the incised effigy of a woman under a canopy, and round the rim is

Hic jacet ankereta filia | Johis Leyton * armigi & uxor Ricardi mynde que obiit in festo *— Cathedre sancti petri | Anno Dni Millesio cccco xxviijo cui' aie ppiciet' De Amen. 1

A curious feature in the church is that the lower parts of the walls are in places formed of the solid rock.

On the east side of the cloister was the chapter-house, of which remain the entrance and flanking arches, the room behind with a fine oak ceiling is of the Barkers' conversion, and was, originally, as the window on north of entrance shows, of greater width. It was also longer (see plan). The jambs of the arches have also been cut with figures, which starting at the north are:—

I.—An abbot with staff in hand. Probably St. Augustine.

2,-St. Thomas of Canterbury.

3.—St. Catherine with her wheel and sword, standing on the head of a crowned King, representing the monarch who condemned her to death.

¹ The Feast of St. Peter's Chair. January 18th.

- 4.-St. John the Evangelist, with palm branch and book.
- 5.—St. John the Baptist, with Holy Lamb on a roundel.
- 6.—St. Margaret, standing on the dragon which devoured her, and from the inside of which she re-appeared owing to her intercessions.
- 7. An Abbess.
- 8.—St. Michael, with his sword, and his foot on the dragon.

South of the chapter-house and deflecting to the east was a long range of building, recently found by excavation, which was vaulted beneath, and contained the dorter (or sleeping place of the Canons) above, and of which the lower parts of the walls remain. On the south side of the cloister was the frater, or the dining hall of the convent, over a cellar, of which the west gable, with the serving hatch and a locker remain, together with one jamb of the entrance doorway.

On the west side of the cloister was the cellarer's building which in Canons' houses contained accommodation for guests, and of which the wall next the cloister remains. In this, adjoining the frater door, is the lavatory formed of two fine arched recesses.

Southward of the frater was the second court, with the dorter on the east. The kitchens with three great fire-places were on the west, and on the south was the infirmary.

The infirmary hall of the fourteenth century remains almost entire, and has, at the west, a large window, over two doors that led to the pantry and buttery. On the south side are four two-light windows and a door, which, no doubt, was the entrance to the infirmary chapel, of which not a fragment remains; and on the north three doorways, and a fire place inserted by the Barkers. At the east end of this hall is a two-storied building of earlier date, which was apparently the abbot's lodging. It has at the south end a bay window of the fifteenth century on the ground floor, and two doorways, in the south-east corner, which led to gardrobes.

From the angle of this building to the end of the dorter was the rere-dorter or latrines, with the great drain against the south-east wall, which was flushed by water from a pond in the hill above. Near this pond is the conduit head of the water supply covered by a fourteenth century well-house with stone roof.

The line of the precinct is nowhere traceable, but the great gate was to the north of the abbey church. The present wall, surrounding the garden, is of sixteenth century date. The bank in the field to the north-west of the Church was that of the fish pond.

Haughmond had, up to 1907, never been properly planned, but during the early part of that year, owing to the kindness of the owner, Mr. Hugh Corbet, and with the aid of public subscriptions, excavations were undertaken in a scientific manner, under the superintendence of Mr. W. H. St. John Hope and Mr. Harold Brakspear, F.S.A., with the result that many missing buildings have

been traced, of which some have been able to be left exposed, and a careful survey taken of the whole.

The foregoing description, with a copy of the plan, will in future be given to all visitors to the Abbey.

An illustration of the Fitz Alan stones was communicated to the Gentleman's Magazine by the late Rev. W. A. Leighton in June, 1825, and is reproduced here. The Inscriptions were then somewhat fuller than they are at present, and were as follows:—

WOVS . KI . PASSEZ . PAR . ICI . PRIES . PVR . LALME . IOHAN . FIS , ALEIN . KI . GIT . ICI . DEV . DE . SA . ALME . EIT . MERCI . AMEN. +

ISABEL, DE, MOR..., R, SA, FEMME, ACOST, DE-L... DEV.
DE, LER, ALM..., MERCI, AMEN, +

The imperfect words in the second inscription are probably "Mortimer," "Lui," "Alme eit."

The lady commemorated on the newly discovered grave slab is Ankeret, wife of Richard Mynde of Mynde, and daughter of John Leighton of Stretton in the Dale, Sheriff of Salop in 1468, by Ankaret his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir John Burgh of Mouthwy. The pedigree of Mynde was entered at the Visitation of Salop 1623. Their Arms were, Quarterly, 1 and 4—Argent on a chevron gules between three lions' heads erased sable as many bees volant of the first; 2 and 3—Gules a chevron ermine between three owls argent. The Arms of Leighton are,—Quarterly per fess indented or and gules,

H. R. H. SOUTHAM, F.S.A., F.R. HIST.S

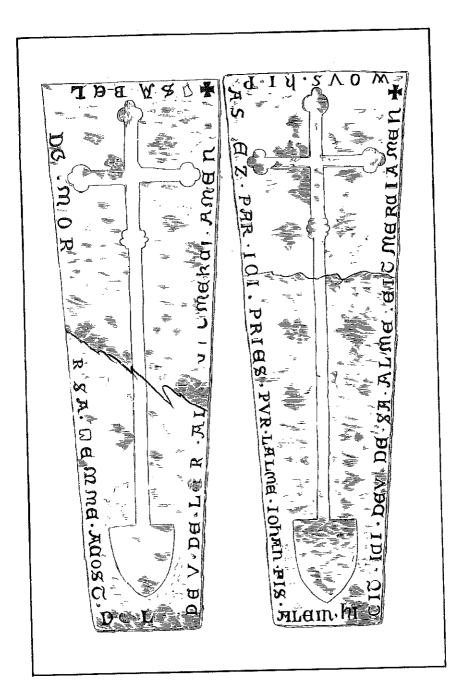
II.

CHARLES II. AND TONG: ADDITIONAL NOTES.

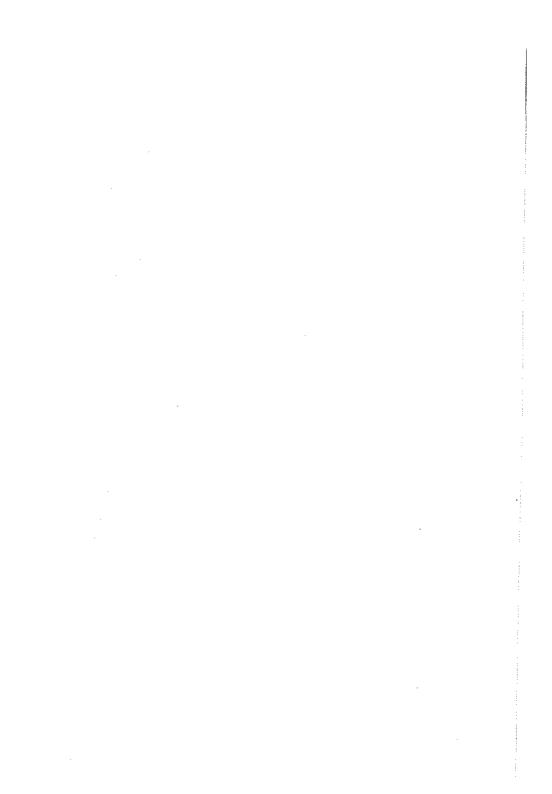
(See 3rd Series, Volume VII., pages 177-192).

Clarendon¹ seems to hint that Shrewsbury, not Worcester, might have been the scene where Charles II. and Cromwell met in battle had not Col. Mackworth stood out so firmly for the Commonwealth. His words are:—"There was a small garrison in Shrewsbury

¹ Clarendon, iii., p. 540.



MONUMENTAL STONES.



commanded by a gentleman, who, it was thought, might be prevailed with to give it up to the King; but his Majesty sending to him he returned a rude denial, so that his Majesty's eye was upon Worcester." At all events, it was considered that Mackworth had been of great service to his side, for as Whitelock writes ":—"Aug. 30, 1651. The Parliament ordered to Collonel Mackworth a chain of Gold with a medal as a mark of their Favour for his faithful and gallant refusal of the King's Summons to render Shrewsbury Castle."

William Careless, the eldest son of Colonel William Careless, who entered the English College at Rome in 1654, afterwards became a member of the Society of Jesus. He took the name of Dorrington, it being usual for priests to adopt such slight disguises in the days when the Penal Laws of England were so severe against them. It has been suggested that this was his mother's maiden name, an alias frequently assumed by the persecuted Catholic clergy. There was a Catholic family named Dorrington living in Shropshire, of which a member joined the English College in 1592. William Careless, S. J., died January 26, 1679-80. An interesting paper by him is given by Mr. H. Foley, in his "Records S. J.", vol. i., p. 180-1.

The following extracts from the English Catholic Non jurors of 1715² (i.e., those who complied with the Act of Parliament obliging Papists to register their names and Real Estates), give much additional information concerning the Pendrill family, and the

rewards bestowed by the King upon his preservers.

Hereford. - Richard Pendrell of Hobbal Grange, Thomas How of Boscobel, John Pendrell of Parham, Richard Pendrell of the Savoy Parish. A true particular of all the manors, lands; &c. in co. Hereford whereof we, Richard Pendrell, son and heir of Thomas Pendrell, late of Hobbal Grange, eo. Salop, gent., dec., who was son and heir of Richard Pendrell also dec.; Thomas How of Boscobel, co. Salop, gent. in right of Catherine my wife, daughter and heir of William Vendrell, late of Boscobel, gent., dec., who was son and heir of William Pendrell, also dec.; John Pendrell of Parham, co. Sussex, gent., son and heir of George Pendrell, late of Essington, co. Stafford, gent., dec., who was son and heir of John Perdrell, late of Beamish Hall, co. Salop, gent., also dec.; Richard Pendrell of the parish of the Savoy, co. Middlesex, gent, son and heir of Edmund Pendrell, late of London, gent, dec., who was son and heir of Humphrey Pendrell, late of Bloxwich, co. Stafford, gent.,3 also dec.; register an estate of five-sixths of a rental of £5 out of Shurringfield, and £8 4s. 2d. out of the rectory of Wem-

1 Memorials of the English Affairs in the Year MDCLI.

² English Catholic Non-jurors of 1715, by E. E. Escourt and J. O. Payne. ³ A grandson of Humphrey Pendrill, namely Richard, son of Edmund Pendrill by his wife Ann Stirling, entered the English College at Rome. He was born in 1681, but, after receiving minor orders, left the Society of Jesus.

bridge, in fee simple, by virtue of a grant or Letters Patent under the great seal of England, dated 24 July, 27 Car II.; Robert Hope in right of Anne his wife, and Margaret Keeling, widow, her sister, daughters and co-heirs of George Pendrell, dec., who was son and heir of George Pendrell, also dec, being in receipt of the sixth portion and are Protestants—£13 148. 2d.

Salop.—Richard Pendrell, of St. Clement Danes, co. Middlesex, apothecary; Thomas How, gent.; John Pendrell, gent.; Richard Pendrell, gent Fee farm rents out of Lilleshall, &c. -£83 3s. 7d.

Stafford. - Richard Pendrell; Thomas How; John Pendrell; Richard Pendrell (described as in Hereford). Fee farm rents out

of several parishes in Staffordshire, £201 19s. 41d.

Worcester.—Richard Pendrell of Hobbal Grange, co. Salop. gent.; Thomas How of Boscobel, co. Salop, gent.; John Pendrell of Parham, co. Sussex, gent.; Richard Pendrell of the Savoy, co. Middlesex, gent. Five-sixths of fee farm rents out of the rectory of Ombersley; tithes of Defford Grange, &c.—£38 7s. 1d.

Stafford.—Thomas How, of Boscobel, co Salop, gent., son of Richard How.² A farm at Kerrimore Green for the life of Catherine, his wife, to go at her death to William How, their son—

£46 158.

~ Stafford.—Catherine Giffard, late of Blackladies, and now of the city of Worcester, widow of John Giffard. Life estate at Stretton

subject to £260 to Thomas How of Boscobel.

Sulop.—William Fitzherbert of Norbury, co. Derby, Esq. Estate at White Ladies, entailed; the mansion of Boscobel, formerly leased by John Giffard the elder, Esq., Basil Fitzherbert and Jane, his wife, to Thomas How, the elder, at a rental of £92.—£167 is.

Salop. - Bartholomew Martin; Giles Martin, of Cosford, in

Albrighton, yeomen. Estate in fee at Madeley - £61 15s.

Middlesex.—John Rogers of Hobbal Grange, in the parish of Tong, co. Salop, gent, son of Anne Rogers of Wolverhampton, co. Stafford, widow of John Rogers, and daughter of Richard Pendrell, gent., seised in tail of a pension granted by King Charles II—

£100.
Sussex.—John Pendrell of Storrington, gent., son of Charles
Pendrell, late of Essington, co. Stafford, son of John Pendrell of
Beamish Hall, co. Salop. Estate at Shipley and Henfield in right

of Barbara his wife. -£52 158.

² In the former paper was a misprint of Thomas for Richard. It ought to have been: "Mary Pendrill married Richard Howe, by whom she had a son Thomas." Richard How was a son of Thomas How the elder, to whom the

mansion of Boscobel had been leased.

¹ Richard Pendrell, though described as of "Hobbal Grange" in the other entries, probably because he had inherited it from his father, had evidently embraced the profession of an apothecary and practised in London, letting his cousin, John Rogers, farm the Grange, his uncle Lawrence, who had once had Hubbal, having died before 1715.

Of the Hows of Boscobel, Mr. H. F. J. Vaughan kindly sent me the following:—"I know little of the family save that I remember an account which said that the only son of the last who was tenant was playing in the great barn there with some companions, sliding down the side of a high mass of straw, which was placed there, on to a lower heap. The youths had not observed that a pitchfork had been left against the side of the straw, and young How gliding down from a considerable height upon the top of the pitchfork, the handle entered his body and virtually impaled him. Thus ended the Hows at Boscobel."

J. ERNEST AUDEN, M.A.

III.

NOTES ON CHIRBUBY.

I beg to send the enclosed notes as a Supplement to the History of Chirbury. They are derived from personal observation during the time I lived at Chirbury Hall.

3rd Series, Vol. VI., page 228 (Tumuli). Add Dudston and Winsbury. There are also some entrenchments at Calcot, near the bank of the Camlad, on the edge of Marrington Dingle. I do not think there ever was a Castle upon the field called King's Orchard, but only an encampment, as there are no traces of walls, and when in 1849 the road to Montgomery was partly cut through the supposed site of the castle no foundations were met with. If a castle was ever built, it must have been on or near the site of the present church, or Chirbury Hall, before the monastery was built.

Page 230.—There are on Corndon five large heaps of stones on the five highest points of the hill, three of which are still perfect, and correspond to a description given in a book called "A Holiday in the Island of Skye," Scotland, of similar heaps which are supposed to be the burial places of the chiefs of the original inhabitants.

Page 241.—The pillar mentioned was, no doubt, part of the large building which extended from it to the stone conduit, or water course, in Chirbury Hall garden, under the west side of which are extensive old foundations, which adjoin the conduit. The old monastery probably had either two towers or other parapets belonging to it, as I have seen three arched stones similar to those at present on the tower. Two of these were lying in Chirbury Hall garden when I went to live there in 1849, and they were afterwards used to repair the tower in the place of two which were broken. One damaged one was taken out of the wall of Chirbury Hall farm buildings during some alterations, and it is now in the garden. Chirbury Hall was built of old materials in 1736, and many old carved stones are in the walls, some of them being sandstones.

There is still standing near the house a very large Dovecot built of very thin bricks, which, no doubt, were made in a field called the Sandpits, a short distance away, and the holes from which the clay was taken were made into two fish ponds, supplied with water by a spring at their upper end. The monks probably obtained their clean water for domestic use from a small spring in a field, now in the occupation of the shopkeeper, situated to the east of the Shrewsbury road. A small lead pipe carried the water down in the direction of the monastery, part of which pipe was found in Chirbury Hall garden. It is not the ordinary round lead piping, but is made from a strip of sheet lead bent into the form of a pipe, the edges being hammered together and made water tight, in the same way as the old Roman pipes at Bath.

The mill belonging to the monastery was near the Camlad, at the bottom of some fields which are called the Shiregroves, and are still tithe free. Some of the timbers of the sluice can still be seen in the Camlad at low water. There was a large fleam or water course leading from the river for nearly half a mile to the mill, some parts of it through a deep cutting. The meadows near are protected from floods by an extensive embankment made, no doubt,

by the monks.

The river Camlad runs from Churchstoke through Marrington Dingle for about three miles. There are possibly traces of volcanic action in the neighbourhood, as I have found stones there half melted and run like a piece of glass on the one side. It is the only river, I believe, which runs from England into Wales.

WM. LANGFORD.

IV.

A LETTER FROM RAPHE CLYVE OF WALFORD TO THE BAILIFFS OF SHREWSBURY, 1571.

(Shrewsbury Corporation Muniments, Box LXXIII., bundle No. 2621).

My duetie vnto yo' worshups most humbly remembered.

Whereas this beyrer did receive this sommer in Salop of Thomas Lewis one pece of counterfait gold of the valewe of xs nowe in yor kepinges and as yet hathe of him no recompense, Thes are most hartely to desyre youe to shewe this beyrer (being servante and tenant to the quenes solistar) so muche favor as to put the said Lewis or this beyrer to their othe for the same matter. And therupon to take suche order therin as shall stand wth equitie.

in yor so doinge ye shall do me thanckfull pleasure the web I shalbe glad to requite ffrom walford the xxixth of September 1571.

Yors humbly

RAPHE CLYVE.

[Endorsed.]

To the worshupfull Mr humfrey Onslowe and Mr Hughe Beyns bailiefes of the Towne of Salop esquires give this

C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A

V,

ORDER CONCERNING ROGUES AND VAGABONDS, JULY 30, 1571.

After our hartie comendac'ons/ The grete benefitte towards the good order of the comen wealthe which came thislaste yere throughe yor diligence in Serching out and ponishing Vagabonds and sturdye beggars, according to the good and holsome lawes of the Realnie, and the disorders and inconveniences which hath rysen sith this laste wynter, and from thense hetherto/ a forbearing hath byn in executinge the said lawes dothe cause us by the Quenes majesties comaundement ones agayne to call Upon you and to chardge you most straightly in this three next monethes, that ys August. September, and October to cause and see to be made throughout all the hole shere as well in places exempte as all other, a most straight watche and serche from the xxth of Auguste vij of the clock in the night Vntill the next daye iijs at the after none, and that namely by constables and ijo iiijor or more of the most substauncyall parisheners of eche parishe, accordinge to the bignes of the parishe to apprehend all Roges Vagahouds sturdie beggers, masterles mene, and all persones otherwise suspected! All which so taken you shall cause to be ponished by stockinge and sharpe and severe whippinge according to the lawes effectually: and that wout redempe'on or favor according to their deserts And after ponishment due done to them to be conveyed from Constable to Constable tyll they do come to their place of birthe or laste abode whin three yeres according to the statute/ The like watche serch and ponishement to be done of the same persones, if any shalbe founde the xijth of of September and October at vij of the night vntill the next daye of the same moneth at three of the clock at the after none/ And from thense eche xvth or xxth dayes as you shall Agree wthin you selfes moste for the comodytye and quiet of yor shere and the hole

Realme/ not omittinge, yf betwixte the tyme of the serches or after any such vagaraunte persones be founde that they be ponished according to the lawes and statutes of the Realme/ ffor ther ys no greater disorder nor no greater roote of theftes murders pickinge stealinge debate and sedic'on then ys in these vagabonds and that riseth of them/ And therfor yt is her highnes' most godly and zelouse plesure to have this evill repressed and redressed, wherin ye oughte not to deceave her majesties trust we'h ys reposed in you chefly by her highnes therto² And we praye you from tyme to tyme certifie vs of you doings herein from eche quarter and devisyon, so as youe the Shirref shall cawse the same to be sent to vs wherof we praye you not to fayle as ye tender her majestys pleasure and wyll answere to the contrary/ So faire you well ffrom Hamptone Court the xxxth of July 1571.

[The following lists of names are appended]:-

WARDA LAPIDEA.

Adam Clarke captaine
John ockley mercer
John Massey
Will^m higgenson
Will^m harryes
John Blease
Robt. Richerson
Roger Pres baker
Will^m cunye baker
Thomas howells

WARDA WALLIE.

Gilbart Wood captaine
Ric' Elsmere
oliuer Mathews
John gittens sherman
Robt. streat tanner
Ric' bowdeler
John cley
Robt. Reffine
John nichelles
Griffith bromley (erased)
Robt. bromle

WARDA CASTRI.

Thomas elkes captaine Hughe bame Will^m medlicott tiler Ric' medlicott bocher
John ap Thomas baker
Adam Larke baker
Ric' crippine
Thomas swaine
Humfrey Wilcoxe barbar
Humfrey hughes sherman

THE EAST FORIETT.

Robt. Hatton captaine Ric' (Walker erased) Will^m gowin Thomas bate corvisor Griffith euanes corvisor John gibbons . Harrye patten Ric' hussey.

WARDA LAPIDEA.

Adam clarke captaine
Ranulphe Kelles
Ranulphe steuens
phelippe homle
Will^m ysones
John Sprestone
George gurche
Thomas heylme
Raffe Sandford
John blacqueye

WARDA CASTRI.

Thomas elkes captaine
Robert smithe
John leceter
John Hassolde
Ric' medlicott gent'
Humfrey Wilcoxe
Humfrey hughes
Thomas Larkes
Will^m medlicott tiler
Will^m faukener

WARDA WALLIE.

John ap griffith (erased)
Gilbart wood captaine
John Wine al griffithe
Will^m p'hes
Griffith ap madocke
John hemes
Ric' boudeler
Will^m tidder
Ric' ap Ric'
Ric' huggens
Ric' leaton

THE EAST FORIETT.

Robt. hatten bailiff captaine Ric' baker Will^m locde Ric carter Thomas tyler Edward adderton John Shutte George Carter

WARDA LAPIDEA.

Nicolas oneslowe captaine
John miller (erased)
Edward Benett
John Tinsley
John firrett
John skott
Willm strange
Roger payn (erased)
Humfrey smith fidler
John hotchkes at atcham (erased)
Ric' babinson

Ric' boudley
Francis tenche (erased)
George mutton
John daines Sherman (erased)
John baugh skinner captaine
Robert hardinge
Ric' prestouch
Arthure eaton
Ric' tudder (or tubbe)
W^m farmer

WARDA CASTRI

Willm Carwine allen Jonson James mitton James butur (erased) Ric' rider John grinsell (erased) Adam Whittacres (erased) David picke Thomas tubbe (erased) Thomas mitton (erased) John meredith baker (erased) John bache baker Rainold Jonson Ric' anderton Roger downe Thomas riton James haines John Hughes Edward lloyd sherman Robert Swaine Geoffrey . . . ser Barke (erased) Thomas Barne Hughe benion Thomas manning

WARDA WALLIE.

Mathewe ap hoell
Ric' tilston
Roger allen captaine
Ric' hardinge
Arthure maxon
Thomas simkes
Willim meoles
John dicher
John huggins

John cley
Robart brome
Humfrey Leaton
Evan nicoles
Roger bulley
John meredith (erased)
Oliver anderton

Roger larrence Thomas gardener Roger petton Thomas hinton Dauid Jones Edward Calcott.

[N.B.—Some of these names are very uncertain, especially such as have been erased.]

It only remains to add that the foregoing Order may be found amongst the Shrewsbury Corporation Muniments, Petitions to the Bailiffs, No. 2,621.

C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

VI.

SURRENDER BY WILLIAM BELL, OF LAND IN ROUGHTON, IN THE MANOR OF WORFIELD. 1659.

december the 23 day anno Dom' 1659.

—M' That the day and yeare aboue written William Bell of Roughton did Surrender into the hands of John Brooke gent. and Thomas Bell two Customary Tenants of this Manner of Worfeild one halfe yard land in Roughton with the apurtenances unto the use and behoofe of Sarah wife vnto the aforesaid william during her naturall life and after her decease to her heires and Assignes for three yeares and after those three yeares to william Bell sonne vnto the aforesaid william and to his heires and assignes for euer.

[This is a M.S. note on a fly leaf of a book in my possession published at Venice in 1604. The Bells were an old Worfield family. William Bell married Jane, only daughter and heiress of John Walker of Burcote House. Their son, William Bell, of Burcote House, married Anne, daughter of Thomas Gibbons of Stableford (descended from an ancient Sedgley family); and the third daughter of William and Anne, Hannah Bell, married in 1737 Richard Hardwicke, of Burcote House. They had an only son, William Hardwicke, of Burcote House, who married Mary, daughter and coheiress of Joseph Perton of Chesterton, and died in 1807, leaving issue two sons,—John Bell Hardwicke of Burcote House, and William Hardwicke, the celebrated Salopian antiquary.]

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