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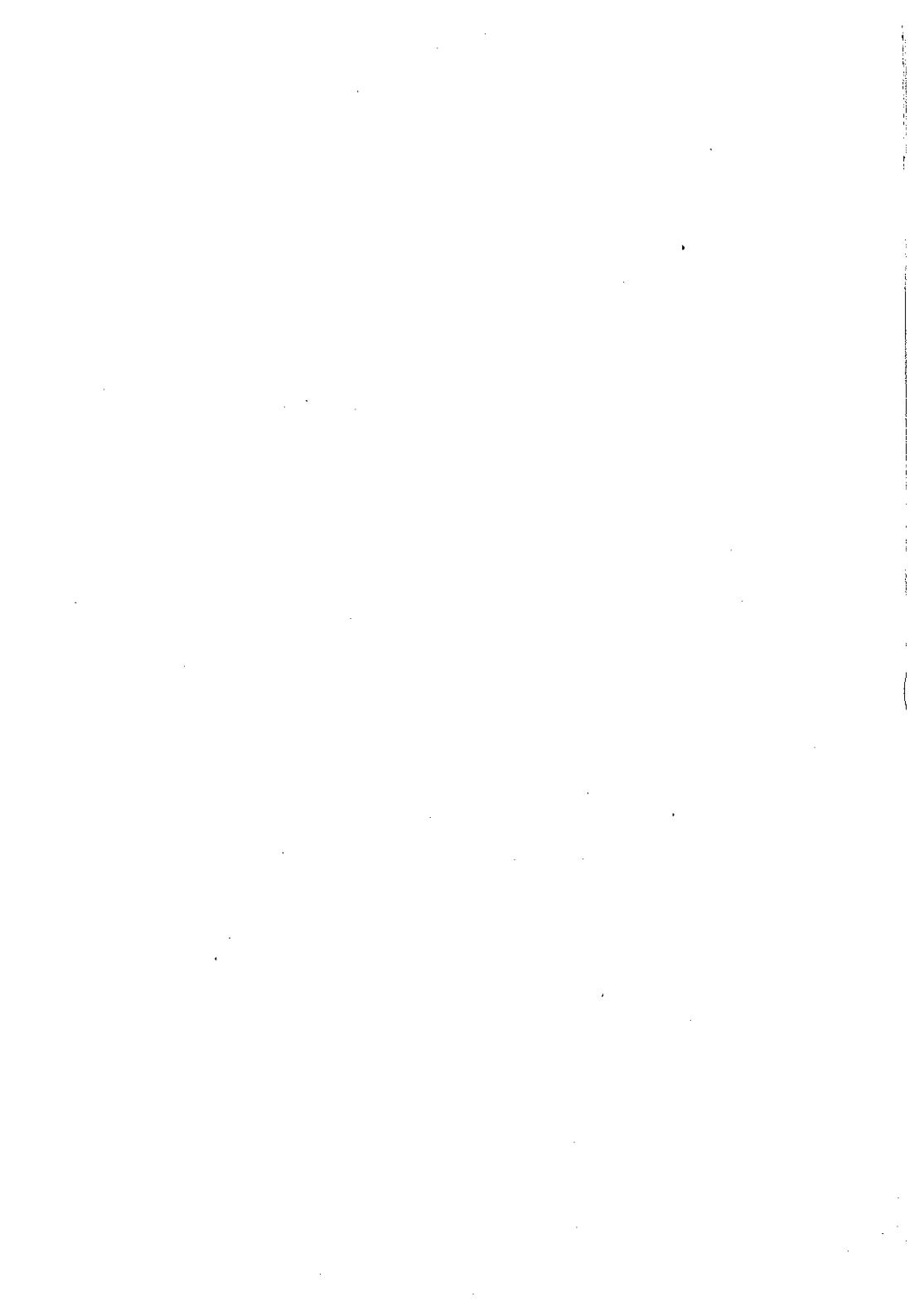
The Council of the Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, having decided not to continue the issue of the Calendars of Wills and Administrations in the various Peculiar Courts at Birmingham, Derby, and Lichfield, since they do not relate to the County of Salop, nor of the Alphabetical Index of names of testators to the whole series, beg to inform those members who wish to complete their sets, that the Calendars of the above-named Peculiars and also the Alphabetical Index can be obtained on payment of five shillings. Names of intending subscribers should be sent to the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, St. Michael's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

ALBRIGHTON CHURCH.





CORPORATE SEAL OF ALBRIGHTON,



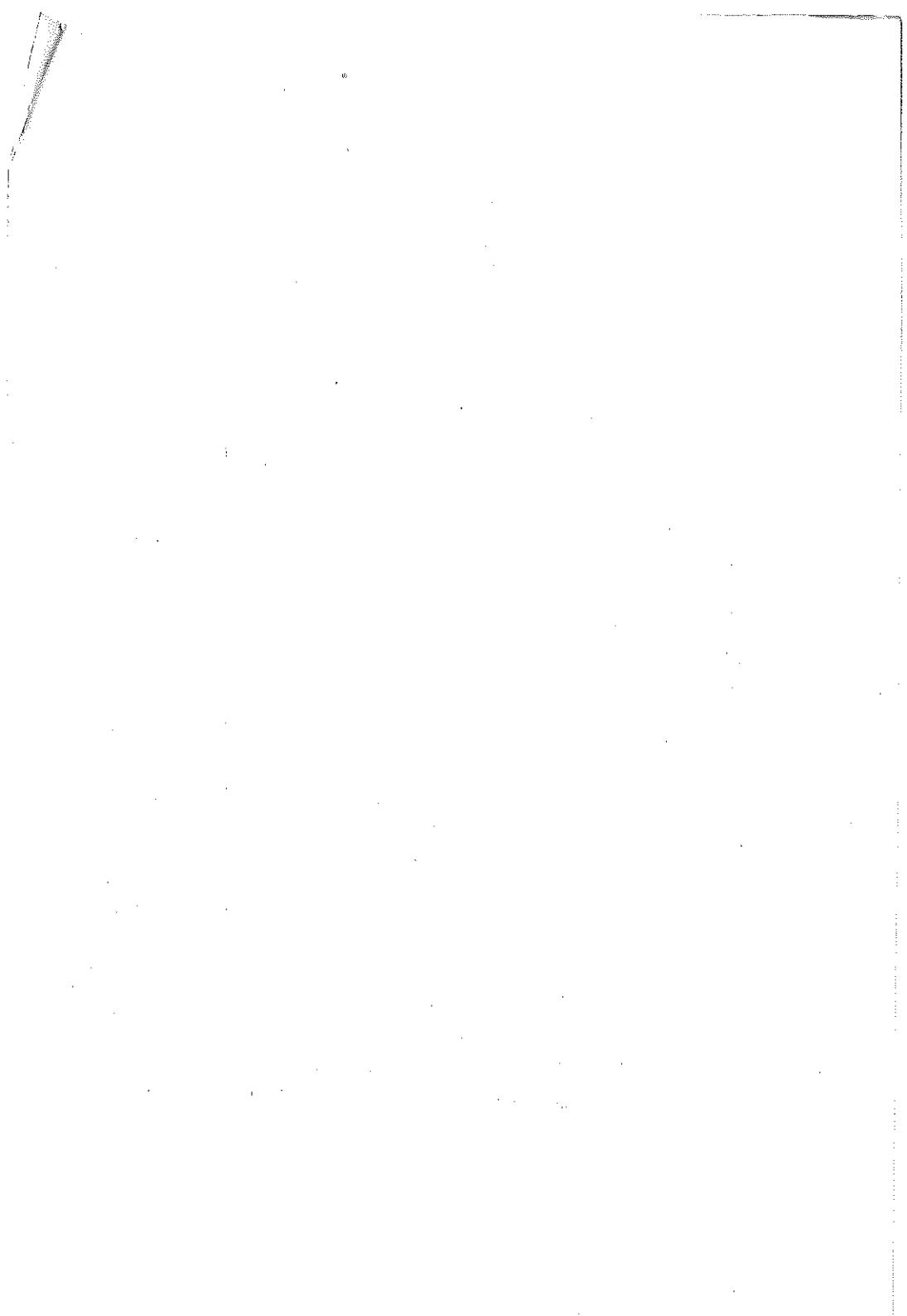
PEPPERMILL, ALBRIGHTON.





THE CROWN HOTEL, ALBRIGHTON.





station, which is accordingly known as "Dartmouth Terrace." For 34 years Mr. Thomas Totty has been the untiring secretary.

Reference was made just now to the *Railway*. It was in 1848 that the Shrewsbury and Birmingham Railway brought their line through a portion of Albrighton. It cut through the lands of the Earl of Albrighton, Shrewsbury, Sir Lancelot Shadwell, William Oatley, Maria Meeson, and the Albrighton Poor's Estate. The station followed in 1849, the first train being run in November of that year, exactly 50 years ago. To-day, Albrighton station serves a large district, especially in the way of coals, timber, and agricultural produce. The traffic on the road up to "The Crown" is immense, and is probably not exceeded by that on any road between Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury. It should be added that this line of rail was ultimately taken over by the Great Western, and it has become a part of their main line from Paddington to Chester and Birkenhead.

Early in the century there was a considerable manufacture of the best *Bricks*.

Gas was introduced into the village in 1868.

The present *Post Office* was built in 1877, and the office transferred to it from over the way on March 25, 1878. The building was improved in 1897, and is now one of the most picturesque objects in the place. There are two posts in and three out daily. The office is also a telegraph station, and includes Savings Bank and all other modern developments. Four letter carriers go out daily. Mrs. Maria Scriven has many years been Postmistress.

In 1857 the *Water Works* which supply Wolverhampton were established at Cosford, in this parish. The engines were started on the 15th October. The building has a handsome frontage in a dip on the great Holyhead road, and the chimney shaft is a conspicuous object for miles round. The water is derived from a well of 140ft. and a deep boring of 1,000ft. in the new red sandstone. There are to-day five engines of 750

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horse power capable of pumping 25,000,000 gallons per week. In 1895 this water began to be supplied to Albrighton itself, many of the wells there containing only surface water. By this time most of the houses and buildings have adopted it freely or by compulsion.

A neat *Wesleyan Chapel* was built in 1883.

A branch of *Llcyds Bank* was opened in 1894.

We still have the four *Inns* named by Blakeway. The Talbot Inn has become The Shrewsbury Arms. The change was made soon after Lord Talbot of Ingestre succeeded in his claim to the Earldom's estate of "Shrewsbury." The villagers still remember the sign of the Talbot Hound, and often speak of the old inn as "The Dog." This inn is a survival of the old hall of the Talbots, and is exactly opposite the church. Then we have the Olde (Holly) Bush Inn, the Crown with its picturesque half-timbered buildings, such a favourite study for artists, and lastly The Harp. We ought to add that in the rear of the Crown there was erected early in 1898 a large assembly room, built of corrugated iron, which is most useful for public meetings, concerts, sales, &c. The Harp has a curious history. It used, until about the middle of the century, to be across the way, and was the great posting house in the coaching days. Here Charles Dickens stayed when on his way to Tong, which village and church he associates with Little Nell in his "Old Curiosity Shop." At the old Harp (now turned into Mr. Forshaw's shop and private residences) the County Ball used to be held, and the Albrighton hounds were kept here in those days.

There were early in the century other *Inns* than the four before spoken of, but they have all gradually been closed. There was the Whiston Cross Inn where are now the Kennels. This was a great centre, but disappeared along with the coaching system. Then there was "The Last" in the middle of the village, and on its sign, "I have been looking for good ale all the day, and at the Last I have found it." "The Cat," and

also "The Star" would also seem to have been inns at Albrighton.

Speaking of the *Hounds*, there is no doubt that Albrighton is more widely known over England for its pack of foxhounds than for anything else. The writer of these words used as a boy to follow on foot the Bramham Moor hounds in Yorkshire. This got him into the habit of glancing down the list of meets in the *Times* newspaper. As Albrighton is always at the head of the list, the name became familiar; but if anyone had asked him then, or for many a year after, where Albrighton was, he would have been utterly unable to say. The kennels have now been for some years at Whiston Cross, a good mile south of "The Crown."

The M. F. H. since 1887 (until 1890 conjointly with Major the Hon. H. C. Legge) has been Captain James Foster of Apley Park, a very capable and popular gentleman. A change is, however, taking place, and the coming Master is to be Mr. J. C. Munro, late Master of the East Sussex Foxhounds. This change has involved the removal of John Scott, who has been huntsman twenty-one years and had a farewell present of £630.

We must say something now about the various estates. The late vicar, Mr. Woodhouse, went up to London as a witness in connection with the Shrewsbury claim, and took with him the volume of the Register which records the burial of the only Duke of Shrewsbury. It was in 1694 that Charles, the 12th Earl of Shrewsbury, was made Marquis of Alton and Duke of Shrewsbury. He died leaving no son, and therefore those titles died with him, and the earldom went to his cousin Gilbert, a Roman Catholic priest. From this time the direct line failed. A nephew three times succeeded an uncle, and then the title devolved upon a cousin, Bertram, who died unmarried in 1856. On his death the title was disputed, and the lands were claimed for the infant son of the Duke of Norfolk, under the will of the last Earl. The Courts decided that

under a private Act of Parliament obtained by the Duke of Shrewsbury in 1720, the title and estates must go together; and the true successor to the Earldom was found to be Earl Talbot, the head of another line of the descendants of Sir Gilbert Talbot of Grafton (who lived in the time of Henry VII.), sprung from a second marriage of Sir Gilbert's son, Sir John Talbot of Albrighton. The trial began 13 July, 1857, and was successful 1 June, 1858, when Earl Talbot and Viscount Ingestre became Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot.¹ The present Earl is the 20th. He is Lord of the Manor of Albrighton, and owns a considerable part of it, including the Cosford estate, the Bowling Green and Elms Farms, Whiston Hall Farm, High House, Little Harriots Hayes, &c.

The Earl of Dartmouth owns most, if not all, the southern (or foreign as Blakeway calls it) portion of the parish, which is separated from the northern half by the long and narrow parish of Boningale.

Mr. George Jones Mitton is the owner of Beamish Hall estate and of Big Harriots Hayes Farm. The Humfreston Hall estate, a portion of which is in Albrighton, is now the property of Mr. H. F. J. Vaughan, a well-known contributor to the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society*.

The Meeson property passed to the Barker family, some of it still belonging to Mr. John Raymond Barker, of London. Albrighton Hall and lands adjoining were sold on the death of Mr. George Jones Barker to Mr. Alfred C. Lyon, who is the present owner and a Justice of the Peace. Mr. Daniel Jones of Kilsall, Denington, and Mrs. J. E. Briscoe of St. Cuthbert's, Albrighton, also own various properties.

There is also the estate of the Poor of Albrighton, the estate of the Poor of Tong, and that of Tettenhall.

St. Cuthbert's, just named, built 1858-60 by Mr. Fred Walton, was a valuable addition to the large residen-

¹ These particulars were taken from newspapers, &c., of the day.

tial houses, and the gardens contain many valuable trees, some of foreign extraction. Sauchieleigh, built by the late Mr. Thomas Russell in 1891-2, is a handsome and well-built house at the eastern corner of the village. Several small villas have been built of late years on the Patshull and Station Roads.

The more *picturesque* parts of the parish are the approaches to Patshull Park, the seat of the Earl of Dartmouth, Albrighton Pool, Cosford Dingle with its pool and massive overhanging rocks, and above all Pepperhill reared aloft on rocks of the hardest sandstone, and commanding a magnificent prospect of the Clee Hills, Wrekin, &c. The row of lime trees in the High Street, so much admired, was planted by Mr. Orson Bidwell, the last bailiff. Mr. Bidwell was the medical man, and was succeeded in 1856 by his son, Dr. Henry Bidwell, and he in 1868 by Mr. B. W. Lamb.

Many of the *old features* in the village mentioned by Blakeway have long since disappeared. He refers himself to the removal of the Market House, with the Stocks under the arches below, and the Corporation room overhead, and also of the Toll House, where the Courts of the Lords of the Manor were held. Both these were near what we call the Crown Corner. The Lock-up, Stocks, and Pinfold were established on the north-east corner of the Green. Some now living can remember seeing persons fixed in the Stocks; but about 1845 Lock-up and Stocks were abolished, and the Pinfold removed further on. The overseers paid rent for the Workhouse for the last time on Lady-Day, 1837, owing to the formation of the Shifnal Union, and the buildings were converted into the cottages which stand south of the National School. Cosford Mill has long since ceased to be used as a mill. The paved causeway with white palings down the main street has long since vanished, and no one seems to remember or to have ever heard of it. All that survived of Beamish Old Hall was cleared away in 1849, when the railway came across the spot; a farm house took its place near the

edge of the line. At Lower Pepperhill in 1853 two cottages were made out of the materials of the old Mansion there. Wildecote, which was a large house in Blakeway's time, and which figures largely in the Registers, has been divided into four cottages for Lord Dartmouth's farm servants. The lodges at Patshull Park, the bailiff's house, the gardener's, the dairy, and various cottages, all have a comparatively modern look.

The *occupation* of the inhabitants is, of course, chiefly agricultural, farmers, gardeners, and their foremen and labourers. Several go out for the day to Wolverhampton and other places, either as heads or assistants in various businesses. Besides the above, we have 2 clergy (the Vicar of Boningale being compelled to rent a house in Albrighton, as he has no Vicarage), 2 doctors, 3 heads of schools, 1 registrar, 1 postmistress and stationer, 1 gas maker, 4 coal merchants, 4 butchers, 5 grocers, 2 drapers, 1 ironmonger, 1 saddler, 4 shoemakers, 1 tailor, 2 painters and glaziers, 2 blacksmiths, 3 wheelwrights, 2 bricklayers, 3 dairymen, 2 maltsters, 4 innkeepers, 1 engineer, 2 horsebreakers, 1 carrier, 1 barber, 1 policeman.

A large fair of sheep is held annually every September, and a flower show and horse leaping competition every August. It has also been a custom for many years to observe *May Day* as a children's festival. The Rev. G. W. Woodhouse began it, and the procession of children in quaint costume, some on foot, some in chariots, and some on horses, followed by the crowning of the May Queen, and the plaiting of the May Pole, make up a truly pleasing and popular spectacle. In summer many excursionists come to Albrighton, partly for its own sake, and partly as a pleasant way to Tong or Boscobel.

Reference has already been made to the *Parish Council*. This was first elected in 1895, and Mr. Alfred J. Hoole was the first Chairman, and Mr. J. Patston the first Clerk. The Council has already done useful work in keeping other public bodies on the move in

regard to roads and footpaths, and also in being among the first to supply the community with a due provision of hose and hydrants to protect it against the ravages of fire.

An interesting bit of local history has just come to hand. On January 27, 1829, a *Waterspout* broke from the clouds up the Codsall Wood Road. The volume of water washed away the bridge and dam at Albrighton Pool, and undermined the old mill at Cosford. A boy born at the time in a cottage swept by the flood was named Noah. He is still alive at this day (March, 1899).

An *amusing story* is told of an Albrighton plumber, a man of very intemperate habits. He had been to Pave Lane Races, on the border of the Shropshire coal fields, and was found by some colliers dead drunk in a ditch. They took him with them down the pit, and placing him near the scene of operations, left him to come round. As the man's reason began to return, he was sternly questioned as to what had brought him into that awful place. "Gentlemen," said the awe-stricken sot, "I hope you will deal with me as leniently as you possibly can. I know quite well that drink has brought me here, and nothing else, but believe me, I was once a very respectable plumber living in the village of Albrighton."

Another local incident may be acceptable. A former landlord of one of the village inns, who now lies near the church porch, was of an exceedingly irritable temperament. He used to hire out horses, and himself act as postilion. On one occasion he took Mr. Holyoake, of Neach Hill, and Mr. Molineux, of Kilsall, to a banquet at Wolverhampton. On their return, and near to Wrottesley Park, Mr. Holyoake upbraided the postilion for not making faster progress. Presently the carriage came to a complete standstill, but the occupants, concluding that something was amiss with the harness, continued their pleasant conversation. However, as the delay began to seem rather long, one of the pair put his head out to see what was going on.

To his dismay both horses and rider had totally vanished. The upbraided horseman, challenged to quicken his pace, had decided to do so, and had left his patrons and their lumbering vehicle to get home as best they could. What happened, history does not say.

Queen Victoria's *Jubilee*, 1887, and her Diamond Jubilee, 1897, were both loyally observed in Albrighton. There were services and sermons, sports, general decorations of the village, feasting, illuminations, fireworks, and torchlight procession. One permanent result of the latter celebration was the formation of an Albrighton Choral Society, which gave a *Jubilee Cantata* for its first concert, and which is continuing a good and appreciated work in the parish and neighbourhood.

At the beginning of 1895 a *Parish Magazine* was begun in the village, and is received into almost every house. Something of this kind in former years would have been most useful in compiling this record.

On Sunday, January 13, 1895, the roads were all knee deep in snow; and on Sunday, March 24, of the same year, a terrific gale, of but a few minutes' duration, laid low hundreds of trees, and did much damage to buildings.

On Friday, Sept. 2, 1898, William Edward Stanley, a young man of this village, greatly distinguished himself in the brilliant charge of the 21st Lancers at the now famous battle of Omdurman.

Mr. Daniel Jones, F.G.S., of Kilsall Hall, has kindly contributed the following short Geological note:—The Parish of Albrighton has for its subjacent rock formation the upper Bunter division of the new red sandstone. The surface has been under the influence of floating ice and glacial action. This is shown by the existence of large erratic blocks, some of which are to be seen in the village, having been moved there from the land, or found in excavating the sewers. They are mostly basaltic, but some are of granite and syenite. The presence of boulder clays here and there with

pebbles, beds of gravel and sand, all associated with glacial conditions, accounts for the varying soils to be found in many places in the same field. The stronger soils are found on the eastern side, the lighter on the western side of the parish. Several examples of "the dingle," channelled out by subaerial denudation, are met with, as at the Hall Pool and Cosford. Beneath the Triassic and Permian rocks, no doubt, a great coal field exists, of which the Shropshire and South Staffordshire coal fields are but the outcrop, but the depth to it would be as great at Albrighton as at any point that could be chosen between those two coal fields. The correlation of these two coal fields is so well established that there can be no doubt in carboniferous times the whole distance between them has been covered over with the same succession of coal measures as we find characteristic of those two coal fields. The deepest boring which has been made occurs at Cosford Water-works, in this parish, which is 300 yards deep. It passed through the pebble beds and entered the lower bunter 25 yards, having been started in the upper bunter. The question of a water supply for houses and cottages from local wells is, no doubt, influenced by the operations at Cosford. Wells, which are sunk in the soft bunter sandstone, through which the water would percolate quickly, are most affected. If, however, there should be a bed of marl forming a basin, the descent of the water would be arrested, and water may be found in fair supply, whereas wells on the outer margin of the basin may be dry. So with the surface, where clays occur in patches mixed with gravel and sand, there may be, and frequently is, a basin formed, which will yield a good quantity of water; such wells are shallow. If, however, they were sunk through the bed of clay, it is more than probable that the water would drain away through the sandstone rocks below. Here may be observed the association of Geology with agriculture and scenery, similar rocks being acted upon by similar agencies give rise to the same kinds of scenery. So

with the growth of trees and agricultural produce, and so with salubrity and the public health.

The field names of any place are interesting, and often throw light on its history. We have, among others, in the parish of Albrighton, these field names—Alley Croft, Banbury Piece, Bickley's Rough, Brier Croft, the Britch, Brickkiln Leasow, Broomy Leasow, the Burgage, Coachman's Meadow, Coachway Piece, Horseway Piece, Clapper Meadows, Clock Mill Meadow, Cockpit Meadow, the Cockshuts, the Ditties, Dog-kennel Meadow, the Fox Glove, the Garridges, Gig Pit Field, Gorsey Marsh and Asps, Great Shaw, Hemp Leasows, The Hook, Big Hooks, Little Hooks, Hem-riddings, the Hutts, Kite Meadow, Lady Croft, Lynn Croft, Osier Bed, Picken's Gorse, Rake Lane Piece, the Riddings, Rushy Leasow, Shellmore, Shoulder of Mutton, Soak (qu. Soke) Moor, Whet Riddling, Whistley Piece, and Yeoman's Meadow.

[The following epitaph to Leonard Smallpece should have found a place in the "Notes and Additions" at pp. 182—187 *ante*. It occurs on a tomb in Albrighton Churchyard, and is engraved round the stone, and in the centre is a bust of Leonard Smallpece :—

"Here lieth the body of
Leonard Smallpece Esq.
Who died at Pepperhill
In the County of Salop
In the year of our Lorde Christ 1610
The xxix Day of March
Death is to my Advantage."

It is erroneously stated at p. 137 that *Pepperhill* belongs to the Earl of Shrewsbury, whereas it belongs now to the Earl of Dartmouth.
ED.]

BRITISH SHROPSHIRE.

By R. LLOYD KENYON.

UNDER the heading of "Pre-historic Shropshire,"¹ I have shown that at the time when the Romans first appeared in this county under Ostorius, about A.D. 50, the inhabitants were chiefly Celts, but that there were mixed with them a considerable number of the older Iberian race, who retained some of the personal characteristics of the Iberians, but had become amalgamated with the Celts, and had adopted most of their habits. The two races thus amalgamated were the ancestors of the modern Welsh, and they formed the population of Shropshire throughout the time of Roman rule, and until they were finally driven out and supplanted by an Anglian population, a process which was begun under Oswy, King of Northumbria A.D. 655 to 659, and completed under Offa, King of Mercia A.D. 778 to 786. I have shown what remains of these ancient peoples we possess of a probably pre-Roman date. I propose now to trace the history of the county during the rest of the time of the British occupation, principally with a view to showing what effect the events of this period had on subsequent history. When the Romans arrived here they found a scattered and probably scanty population, well acquainted with the use of iron, but possessing no manufacturing industries of its own, living principally by pasturing cattle and by hunting; possessing no towns, but living in scattered hamlets; belonging to two independent tribes, neither of which had its principal territory in Shropshire. The country was thickly wooded, and the low-lying parts

¹ Shrop. Arch. *Transactions* for 1892, p. 264.

of it were very marshy. Probably the Severn was much choked up by fallen timber and other obstacles, and therefore lakes stood on many of the lowlands now drained by it and its tributaries. Beavers were common, and would greatly contribute towards obstructing the rivers. The people lived principally on the high ground, which would be naturally freer from timber, and easier to clear than the plains, and such roads as they possessed would therefore be on the high ground also. They were mere unpaved tracks, but the country on each side of those tracks would be cleared for the protection of travellers from robbers and wild beasts, among which latter were bears, wild boars, wolves, and wild bulls,¹ and the roads would therefore be the principal guides of the Romans in their invasion of the county. Very likely they often made their own roads along these tracks. The "Portway" still traceable along the top of the Long Mynd was probably one of these British roads.² It connects Castle Hill, near Leebotwood, with the British fortifications of Robury Ring, near Wentnor, and Billings Ring, near Lydbury North, and along its course are a large number of tumuli. These were generally erected near a road, that they might be seen by passers by, and a line of them is a pretty clear indication that there was a road in the neighbourhood.³

The only contemporary authorities about Britain under the Romans are Tacitus' *Annals* and his *Life of Agricola*, Ptolemy's *Geography*, Antoninus' *Itinerary*, and the *Notitia Imperii*, and what they tell us about Shropshire is very little.

Ptolemy⁴ tells us that both Uriconium and Chester

¹ Green's *Making of England*, pp. 8, 10, 171. Many wild boar tusks have been found near Shrewsbury, and are now in the Museum.

² *Salopia Antiqua*, p. 101.

³ See Wright's *Uriconium*, p. 47.

⁴ His *Geography*, so far as it relates to Britain, is printed in Henry's *History of Britain*, vol. ii., p. 377-416. It was written under the Emperors Trajan, Hadrian, and Antoninus Pius, A.D. 98 to 161.

were in the territory of the British tribe which the Romans called the Cornavii, which extended northward to that of the Brigantes, who occupied Lancashire and Yorkshire, and eastward to the Coritani, in whose country were Lincoln and Leicester. The territory of the Cornavii must therefore have included the greater part of North Shropshire, Cheshire, and Staffordshire. To the west of them, and extending to the west of the island, were the Ordovices, among whom were the towns of Mediolanium and Brannogenium. Neither of these towns has been identified with any certainty, but it is clear that the Ordovices occupied North Wales, and probably they made the Severn their eastern boundary, and therefore occupied the greater part of South Shropshire.

Tacitus tells us¹ that in A.D. 50 to 52 the Proprætor Ostorius established fortified camps along the river Severn, because the unconquered British tribes had been attacking those which had become allies of the Romans. In A.D. 51 he advanced to a point near the coast which looks towards Ireland, perhaps near Chester, but was re-called to quell a disturbance among the Brigantes, and then for a more formidable rising of the Silures of South Wales under Caractacus. Caractacus thereupon withdrew his forces into the country of the Ordovices, and offered battle in a situation very favourable to himself "on steep hills, on the more accessible parts of which he erected walls of loose stones. In front was a river dangerous to ford, and the place was guarded by some of his best troops." Caractacus, however, was totally defeated, and fled to the Queen of the Brigantes, who delivered him up in chains to the Romans.² The description of the situation is too vague for identification, but the Caradoc, near Church Stretton, has been supposed to be the scene of

¹ *Annal.*, xii., 31, 32. Tacitus wrote at the end of the first century A.D., and was father-in-law of Agricola, Governor of Britain A.D. 78 to 85.

² *Annal.*, xii., 33—36.

the battle, and to be named after Caractacus. The Breidden, and several other fortified hills, have also been suggested ; but in any case, whether the battle was in Shropshire or not, Shropshire was greatly interested in the result, for in consequence of the battle the Silures withdrew into their own country, and left Shropshire defenceless against the Romans. Aulus Didius succeeded Ostorius as Proprætor in A.D. 53, and found that his most important duty was to keep in check the Silures of South Wales, and the Brigantes of Lancashire and Yorkshire.¹ We might conclude from this fact that the Roman station at Uriconium, between those two powerful tribes, was established during his governorship, A.D. 53 to 57, and some of the discoveries there confirm this conclusion, and show that Uriconium was the station of the 14th Legion, which was in Britain from about A.D. 50 to 70. Veranius,² 57 to 59, made only some unimportant incursions into the territory of the Silures ; but Suetonius Paulinus,³ 59 to 62, is recorded to have spent his two first years in strengthening his outposts, and of these Uriconium would be one of the most important. Having done this, he attacked and captured Anglesey, but hearing of the great revolt of the Iceni in Norfolk and Suffolk under Boadicea, we are told that he immediately forced his way through the midst of enemies to London, taking with him the 14th Legion. His way would probably be by Uriconium, and as since the time of Cunobeline the Ordovices and Cornavii had been connected with the Iceni by owning the superiority of the same family, it is probable that Shropshire men formed part of the hostile bodies through whom Ostorius forced his way, that they shared in the revolt as in the oppression which caused it, and that they shared in the devasta-

¹ *Annal.*, xii., 40.

² *Annal.*, xiv., 29.

³ *Agr.*, xiv. ; *Annal.*, xiv., 33.

tion by fire and sword with which, after the rebellion was over, Suetonius visited the tribes which had been doubtful or hostile,¹ and in the famine which was the consequence of the devastation.

Our neighbours the Brigantes were finally reduced to submission in 69 and 70, and the Silures in 75 to 78, but it is not till the latter year that we again hear of the Ordovices. In 78, after the Proprætor, Julius Frontinus, had been recalled, and before his successor, Agricola, had arrived, the Ordovices rose in arms, and destroyed almost a whole regiment of cavalry which was acting within their borders. The news roused the whole country against the Romans, whose troops had retired into winter quarters, but Agricola, immediately on his arrival, marched into the country of the Ordovices with a small army, and though they would not face him in the open he succeeded in destroying nearly the whole tribe, and penetrating to Anglesey he completed the conquest of that British stronghold. From this time we hear no more of the Ordovices or Cornavii, unless a cohort of auxiliaries called Cohors Cornoviorum, which was stationed at Newcastle in the time of Honorius,² took its name from this tribe.

Agricola took great pains to reconcile the people to the Roman government by preventing oppression, and establishing a just administration, and he soon succeeded in attracting the sons of the chiefs to the towns, and persuading them to adopt the dress and language of the Romans, and to learn their arts and literature, as well as their luxuries and vices.³ The people also he tried to reclaim from their wild state by inducing them to build houses for themselves, and temples, and public buildings. Uriconium became the capital of the county for peaceful as well as warlike purposes, and the Britons

¹ *Annal.*, xiv., 38.

² *Notitia Imperii*, translated in Henry's *Hist. of Britain*, ii., 439.

³ *Agr.*, 21.

settled down for 300 years as peaceful subjects of the Roman Empire.

When the Emperor Severus, about the beginning of the 3rd century, divided Britain into two provinces, which were afterwards increased to five, Shropshire, with all the adjoining counties, and with Wales, was included in the province of Britannia Secunda,¹ which was governed by a president, under the Prefect of Britain. By the time of Arcadius and Honorius,² in the beginning of the 5th century, the troops had been entirely withdrawn from this province, and in 420, at the end of the same reign, they were finally withdrawn from the island.

From the destruction of the Ordovices by Agricola in A.D. 78 to the march of Ceawlin, King of Wessex, up the Severn Valley in A.D. 577, Shropshire has no recorded history. All we can know of it must be gathered from the relics left in the ground and from the few facts as to the general condition of the country recorded by Roman writers. The numerous articles of luxury and of comfort found at Urionium³ prove that it was not behind other provincial cities in wealth and refinement and sense of security, and the almost total absence of non-Roman articles proves how entirely the population of the town had adopted Roman habits. But outside the town there are few traces of Roman settlements, and though three centuries of law and order and of the conveniences of civilization must have greatly modified the character and habits of the people, yet it is certain that they retained their native language, from which many places in the county derive their present names, and that they continued to use many of their native customs, in particular those connected with the burial of the dead, as Roman

¹ Henry's *Hist. of Britain*, i., 343.

² *Notitia Imperii*, drawn up a little after the reign of Honorius.

³ See Wright's *Hist. of Urionium*, and an article on "Roman Shropshire," by Mr. Thompson Watkin, in *Shrop. Arch. Trans.*, ii., 317.

remains have been found in Iberian hut circles and in Celtic tumuli, proving that these were in use in Roman times. Native princes continued to exercise authority in subordination to the Romans, often assuming Roman names, as *Lucius*, the prince who is recorded by *Nennius*, *Bede*, and other authorities, to have become a Christian in the latter part of the 2nd century. Christianity¹ had made great progress among the Britons in the 3rd century; in 314 they sent three bishops to the Council of Arles, and before the Romans left the island Christianity was probably the dominant religion, but no vestiges of the Christianity of this period have yet been discovered in Shropshire.

The only places in the county, besides *Uronicum*, at which there are any traces of Roman buildings, are:—

1.—*Oakengates*, on the *Watling Street*, near which a Roman hypocaust and some coins have been found. The station of *Uxacona* was at or near this place.

2.—*Bury Walls*, *Hawkstone*, where, in a quadrangular fortification enclosing 20 acres, have been found the remains of a bath, a silver Roman spur, a large hewn stone, and pieces of earthenware and brick; and near to which, at *Weston*, were foundations of what was probably a small Roman villa. There are also traces of a Roman road here, and of a camp near it on *Hopton Hill*.

3.—*Old Oswestry* is a strongly intrenched camp in the form of an oblong parallelogram containing over 15 acres, within which have been found a well, a pavement, pieces of iron like armour, and a round shield a foot in diameter.² The pavement, and the shape of the fortification, indicate that the camp was altered and made into a permanent dwelling place, if not originally formed, by the Romans.

¹ *Thackeray's Eccl. & Pol. State of Ancient Britain* gives all the authorities on this subject.

² Engraved for the Soc. of Antiquaries in 1763. *Salopia Antiqua*, p. 80, n.

These three are the only places north of Uriconium which show traces of permanent Roman residence.¹

South of Uriconium we have—

4.—Yarchester,² a mile N.W. of Wenlock, where there are traces underground of buildings which may have belonged to a small station or to a large villa.

5.—Pontesbury,³ where a handsome tessellated floor and other remains of a bath belonging to a rich man's villa were discovered about the year 1793.

6.—Acton Scott, where remains of a villa were discovered in 1817, and further excavated in 1844. Six Greek coins were found here, ranging from B.C. 250 to A.D. 50.

7.—Linley Hall. In the park here there are remains of a large villa, with an aqueduct, &c.

8.—Rushbury. Near the Roman camp here some Roman masonry and tiles have been found.

There are a number of other camps in the southern part of the county, the territory of the Ordovices, which are quadrangular in shape, and are therefore presumably Roman, but as no buildings or coins or other Roman remains have been found near them, they were probably only thrown up for temporary purposes during the conquest of the county, or while the roads were being made through it, and are no indication of any permanent Roman settlements. These are at Nordy Bank near Clee St. Margaret, on Callow Hill between Habberley and Minsterley, at the Walls at Chesterton near Worfield, three near Clun, one at Bank Farm near Longnor, one on Pontesford Hill, and one at Norton Camp near Stokesay. Two or three of these were probably originally British, and adapted to Roman use; the rest were made by the Romans. The

¹ These and almost all the other Roman remains in the county are enumerated and described by Mr. Thompson Watkin in *Shropsh. Arch. Trans.*, ii., 317.

² Wright's *Uriconium*, p. 35.

³ *Gent's. Mag.* for 1793, p. 1144.

lead mines on the Stiperstones are proved by inscriptions on pigs of lead found there to have been worked under Hadrian, A.D. 117 to 138; and the copper mines at Llanymynech must have been worked in the 4th century, as coins of Constantine, A.D. 306 to 337, have been found there. Very likely the grotto at Hawkstone also is the remains of a Roman copper mine; and the villas at Pontesbury and Linley may have been built for officials of the lead mines, and that at Weston for someone connected with the Hawkstone copper mine.

The only recorded finds of Roman coins, except at Uriconium, appear to be near Ratlinghope, on the Wild Moors near Kynnersley (principally of Constantine), near Welshampton, and a find of nearly 1,000 small brass coins of the middle of the 3rd century in the parish of Moreton Say, made in 1898.¹ The last three places are in the northern division of the county, the territory of the Cornavii. Some coin moulds were found in 1747 at Ryton, near Condover, but probably belonged to forgers.

It will be seen from the above list of Roman remains that besides Uriconium itself no traces of Roman settlements have been found in North Shropshire, except a fortified post at Bury Walls, another at Old Oswestry, and villas at Weston and Oakengates; and that the almost total absence of Roman camps corroborates the silence of Tacitus, and leads to the belief that the Romans had exceedingly little fighting to do in the Shropshire part of the territory of the Cornavii.

In South Shropshire we have remains of five villas, two at least being probably residences of officials of the mines. We have no important permanent fortification, but a large number of temporary camps, indicating, as Tacitus indicates, that the resistance of the Ordovices gave a good deal of trouble to the Romans, though it

¹ See Catalogue of Exhibition of Shropshire Antiquities, 1898, at which some of these coins were exhibited.

is very likely that some of the camps were merely built for the protection of the workmen engaged in making the roads, and their existence does not prove that there was fighting in their neighbourhood.

Very few, if any, Romans probably remained in Shropshire after the troops had been withdrawn from Britain, and although the native chiefs had learnt Roman habits, and their subjects had acquired some Roman arts, yet the incursions of savage tribes soon extirpated the Romanisers, and destroyed the Roman buildings; and the only influence which the Roman occupation had on the future history of the county was the influence of their roads. But this is an influence which can hardly be exaggerated. The Roman roads were the first metalled roads made here, and very few indeed were made for 1300 years after the Romans left. Many of them are still used; every town in the north of the county, at any rate, seems to have been built on or close to a Roman road; and along the Roman roads no doubt came most of the subsequent invaders of the county.

The only two Roman roads, probably, mentioned in Antonine's *Itinerary*,¹ which passed through Shropshire are his second and twelfth. The second led from the Roman Wall to Richborough in Kent, and connected Chester with Uriconium, Oakengates, and Penkridge, the stations on it being Chester to Bovium 10m., to Mediolanum 20m., to Rutunium 12m., to Uriconium 11m., to Uxaconium 11m., to Pennocrucium 12m. It is generally admitted that this road from Uriconium to Pennocrucium is the Watling Street, which runs through Wellington, Oakengates, and Weston, but the northern part has not been identified. There was

¹ Printed at the end of Speed's *History*, and, so far as relates to Britain, in *Henry*, vol. ii., p. 417—438. The miles mentioned in it are Roman miles of 1,000 paces, about 142 yards short of an English mile. The *Itinerary* was probably drawn up under Antoninus Pius, A.D. 138 to 161, and many Roman roads may have been made after that time.

certainly a Roman road from Uriconium almost due north to Bury Walls, where traces of it, with remains of two Roman milestones, have been found; by Prees, where the name Watling Street survived till quite lately; to Whitchurch, and thence by Malpas to Chester, the straightness of the existing road from Prees indicating its Roman origin. But this is much too short for the itinerary road, and if, as has been suggested, Bury Walls is Rutunium, then Mediolanum and Bovium must be far east of this road, and the Mediolanum of Atonine's second iter can hardly be the town of that name which Ptolemy tells us was in the territory of the Ordovices, though it may possibly be the town to which the tenth road of the *Itinerary* led, from Manchester to Condate 18m., and thence to Mediolanum 18m. In that case it is suggested that Mediolanum may be Chesterton near Newcastle-under-Lyne, and Bovium, Tiverton near Tarporley. But whether Bury Walls was Rutunium or not, in any case it was a Roman settlement, and the Roman road we have mentioned ran past it.

Another road must have connected Uriconium with the mines at Llanymynech, and probably there would be one from Llanymynech to Chester. From Uriconium it must have crossed the Severn at Atcham, and it can be traced on the map by extremely straight roads, interrupted now in parts, past Meole Brace, Cruckton, and Stoney Stretton, to Westbury, and thence north west past a camp and some tumuli to Stanford, and under the Breidden to Llandrinio, Sarn Wen, and Llanymynech; Stretton, Stanford, and Sarn all being names indicative of a Roman road. The *Itinerary* distances would agree very well with placing Rutunium at Stoney Stretton, in which case Rowton, two or three miles off, preserves the name, and Mediolanum at Llanymynech. The Commentator on Richard of Cirencester accepts this as the itinerary road without knowing anything of the Roman names in its neighbourhood, or of the Roman remains at Llanymynech, which, of

course, strongly confirm his views; he merely places Mediolanum "on the banks of the Tanat." At Holt there was a Roman station which may have been Bovium, about 22 miles from Llanymynech, and thence it is eight to Chester, but the important point is not so much to know what were the Roman names of these places as to know that there were Roman settlements there, with Roman roads between them, and that the country along those roads was cleared and made peaceful and habitable in Roman times. Another road branching from the first at Rea Farm after crossing the river Tern, protected by Ebury camp, and going very straight to Hardwick, Loppington, and Welshampton, is said to be traceable by pavements still existing or recorded at Astley, Hadnall, Noneley, Loppington, and Welshampton, and the straightness and appearance of much of the existing road leads to the belief that another branch struck off near Hardwick, and ran through Middle and Ellesmere along Trench Lane to Overton. Another, much of which is still a main road, ran from Chesterton through Tong and Newport to Whitchurch. And if Old Oswestry was permanently occupied by the Romans, there was probably a road to it from Llanymynech, which could not be very different from the present one, and perhaps another towards Overton, on the line of which we find the Roman names of Sarn and Street-y-dinas.

Such are the roads north of Uriconium, as to which we have some evidence that they were made by the Romans. In the south the only itinerary road is the twelfth, from Silchester to Uriconium, which came by Magna, probably Kenchester in Herefordshire, to Bravinium 24m., and thence to Uriconium 27m. Richard of Cirencester identifies Bravinium with Plotemy's Brannogenium, which was in the country of the Ordovices, and his commentator places it at Leintwardine. From there the road goes very straight, bearing the name of Watling Street, near Norton camp, over Stretford Bridge, past Acton Scott and the three

Stretton to Cound and Wroxeter. A branch from this¹ seems to have gone from Pitchford to the Roman fortifications at Rushbury and Nordy Bank, bearing the name of the Devil's Causeway near Pitchford, and of the Roman bank where it crosses Wenlock Edge. Several other roads² are suspected to have been made by the Romans, and every station or important villa was no doubt connected by road with Uriconium. The camps on Callow and Pontesford Hills, and the Lead Mines which they protected, must have been so connected, very likely by way of Atcham, King Street, and Longden Wood, where the existing road is very straight and direct.

The Romans, then, left the county with well-made roads in many directions through it, and along all of them the land would be cleared and made safe and habitable. There was a considerable town at Wroxeter, and probably a good many native settlements along the course of these roads. The natives had learnt Roman habits of life, and had accumulated sufficient wealth to make them worth plundering. There were still probably native hereditary chiefs, but for the most part they had lost the power of governing, and their inferiors had ceased to look to them for directions, so that there was no leader strong enough to unite the Britons against the barbarians when the Roman authority was removed.

Even before the final departure of the Romans, in A.D. 364 to 367, we are told³ that the Picts, Attacots and Scots devastated a great part of England. Theodosius expelled them in 368, and repaired the places they had destroyed, as well as others which had been allowed to decay during the long peace. But after the accession of the Emperor Honorius, at 10 years old, in

¹ *Salopia Antiqua*, p. 138.

² They are fully discussed in Mr. Thompson Watkin's article already quoted.

³ *Amm. Marcell.*, I. 27, c. 8; I. 28, c. 3.

395, the incursions of the Picts and Scots became very common.¹ We have no local details, but it cannot have been long after the final abandonment of the county by the Romans, and may have been before it, that they penetrated as far as Shropshire, and it was probably their approach which caused the erection of the very irregular and poorly built wall which is still traceable round Uriconium.² They had got to the extreme south of England when Hengist and Horsa were invited to Thanet to repel them in 449. Mr. Wright, the historian of Uriconium,³ considers that it was destroyed in the first part of the fifth century, and if it had continued to be inhabited much later than that it is almost certain that many more articles of post Roman character would have been found among its ruins than have actually been found there. It must have been, therefore, the Picts and Scots who destroyed it, and as its destruction would open their way into the country of the Silures, it may probably have been the cause which determined Vortigern, King of the Silures, in 449 to invite the Saxons into Britain in order to expel the Picts and Scots.

The acceptance of this invitation by the Saxons, disastrous as it was to the Britons of the south and east, nevertheless answered its purpose extremely well as far as Shropshire and Vortigern's own kingdom of the Silures were concerned, for the Saxons drove back the Picts and Scots into their own country, and we hear no more of their incursions, and an Anglian colony was founded in Northumbria which was an effective bar to future incursions from the north, while the Saxons themselves did not penetrate to Shropshire for probably 130 years, so that during that period the Britons enjoyed independence and tranquility.⁴

¹ Bede, *Ecd. Hist.*, 1, 1, c. 12.

² Wright's *Uriconium*, p. 97; Green's *Making of England*, p. 115.

³ Wright's *Uriconium*, pp. 70, 387.

⁴ See Green's *Making of England*, p. 85, n.

There is no historical record of any event in Shropshire during this period. The Romanized Britons of Uriconium no doubt now built houses at Pengwern to replace those destroyed at Uriconium ; and a British town may have grown up at Oakengates near Uxacona, and a few British miners may have continued to work at Llanymynech and at Shelve. But nearly all our existing towns and villages have Saxon names, and may be presumed to have been founded by the Saxons ; and there are so few traces of British occupation that we may be sure that the British population of the county was never very large ; and in spite of the clearances made by the Romans it is probable that much of the county when the Saxons and Angles took possession of it was still covered with primeval forest,¹ and that great stretches along the river sides were still impassable bogs.

In 583, Ceawlin, King of Wessex, marched up the Severn Valley from Gloucester, which he had taken from the Britons in 577. He made his way through the great forest of Wyre and so into Shropshire, being the first Saxon who had penetrated so far. But advancing to Faddiley,² on the borders of Cheshire, he was met and defeated by a British army under Brocmill, Prince of Powys, and had to abandon the whole of the Severn valley, though not till he had "taken many towns and immense booty and wealth."³ Shropshire was thus restored to the Britons, but Gloucester and the lower part of the Severn valley remained in

¹ Green's *Making of England*, pp. 11, 134.

² "English Conquest of the Severn Valley," by Dr. Guest, in *Archaeol. Journal*, xix., 195. Llywarch Hen's elegy on "Cyuddylan" relates to this period, and is partly quoted and translated in Dr. Guest's article. The elegy speaks of the destruction of a town which is identified by Dr. Guest with Uriconium, and mentions also the burning of Pengwern ; but Mr. Wright (*Uriconium*, p. 70 and appendix) gives very strong reasons for thinking that the elegy is an unhistorical romance of the 12th century, and Eyton, x., 130, agrees with him.

³ *Saxon Chronicle*.

the hands of West Saxon settlers under a nephew of Ceawlin.¹

In 613 Æthelfrith, King of Northumbria, attacked Chester, then the chief city of the Britons of North Wales, and Brocmail marched from Pengwern to its relief, but was defeated, and the Northumbrians annexed Cheshire, thus cutting off the Britons of Shropshire from those of Lancashire and Cumberland, as they had already been cut off by the Saxon conquest of Gloucester from those of Devon and Cornwall. In this battle of Chester 1,200 monks from the great British Monastery of Bangor in Flintshire are said to have been massacred. Shropshire remained British, but the British princes had to acknowledge the supremacy of the Northumbrian kings.²

In 633 Cadwallon, King of North Wales, threw off this supremacy, allied himself with Penda of Mercia, invaded Northumbria, and defeated and killed the Northumbrian King Edwin at Hatfield. Cadwallon captured York and occupied Northumbria for a year, but in 635 the new King Oswald defeated and killed him.³ The Britons had to withdraw into their own territory, and were never afterwards able to act on the offensive against the English.

In 642, Oswald marched against Penda, but was defeated and killed in a great battle at Maserfeld,⁴ probably Maesbury near Oswestry, which latter town is named after King Oswald. To arrive at Maesbury he must have marched southwards over much the same line as Ceawlin and Brocmail and Cadwallon had traversed in coming northwards to attack what were now the dominions of Oswald, and must have made use of the Roman road from Chester to Llanymynech. His defeat made Penda the most powerful of the English kings; but in 655 Penda was defeated and killed in

¹ Green, p. 207.

² Bede, *Ecclesiastical History*, bk. ii., c. 3, 9.

³ *Ib.*, bk. ii., c. 20.

⁴ *Ib.*, bk. iii., c. 9.

Yorkshire, and Oswy annexed the northern part of Penda's dominions,¹ and may have annexed North Shropshire with them. It had hitherto been British, but the Britons had been allied with Penda, and may have been punished for this by the loss of this part of Powysland, and its annexation by Oswy would account for his brother's name being given to a new settlement near where Oswald fell. In 659 Oswy was expelled from Mercia, and North Shropshire must then or soon after have become subject to Wulfhere, son of Penda, and to his successors Kings of Mercia. South Shropshire was still Welsh, but with that exception the western boundary of the Kingdom of Mercia in the time of Archbishop Theodore, 659 to 690, was probably nearly the same as that of the present dioceses of Hereford, Lichfield, and Chester, the first of which was carved by him and the last by Henry VIII. out of what was before the single see of Mercia or Lichfield.² Oswestry and the neighbourhood were included in Mercia and the diocese of Lichfield, and were not transferred to St. Asaph till about 1160.³

In 721 the Britons obtained a victory over the Saxons (presumably the Mercians) in North Wales, at a place called Garth Maelawc, but in 728 Ethelbald King of Mercia invaded Wales with the object of annexing the fertile country between the Severn and the Wye, which includes the greater part of South Shropshire, and penetrated as far as Abergavenny. During the rest of his reign, which lasted from 716 to 757, he was frequently at war with the Britons, and appears to have been always victorious. After his death the Britons recovered the country west of the Severn, and ravaged great part of Mercia, but in 778 and the six subsequent years Offa drove them back, expelled the King of Powys from Pengwern, thenceforth

¹ Green, 303.

² Green, 343.

³ Eyton x., 885.

called by the Saxon name of Scrobsbyrig or Shrewsbury, carried the Mercia border to the Wye, and secured it by the great dyke which still bears his name, which runs from the mouth of the Wye to that of the Dee,¹ and still in some places forms the boundary between England and Wales. The whole of Shropshire was thenceforth finally annexed to Mercia, the Britons were expelled, and Englishmen established here in their stead.² Offa's conquests were for the most part annexed to the new diocese of Hereford, not to the old one of Lichfield. Thus the conquest of Shropshire by the English was completed, and such British inhabitants as were left in it became absorbed in and united to the mass of the English settlers.

Of this whole period, from the coming of the Romans to the expulsion of the Britons, very few traces are left in the county. Roman roads remain, and have been enumerated, and some places along their course, like the Strettons, are named after them. British roads were mere tracks, and cannot be certainly identified if they still exist. Not a single British or Roman building remains above ground except the fragment of wall at Uriconium. The British buildings were made only of timber and mud, and would soon be destroyed. The Roman buildings remained for ages, even down to the 12th and 13th centuries,³ but seem in no case to have been inhabited or repaired by Saxon or Norman, who at first avoided them as haunted by evil spirits, and afterwards used their materials for their own buildings in the neighbourhood. British and Roman intrenchments remain in considerable numbers, but exercised no influence on the subsequent history of the county. British tumuli also remain in considerable numbers, and are most of them probably of the period under discussion, though some may be earlier.

¹ Green, 419.

² Powell's *Hist. of Cambria*, 13—17, and *English Chronicle*.

³ Wright's *Uriconium*, 76—82.

British and Roman institutions, political, social, and religious alike, were entirely swept away by the English.¹ The British language was swept away to the west, with those who spoke it, and though in Bede's time there were Latins in England using the Latin tongue,² they were probably quite unconnected with the times of Roman domination, and were ecclesiastics speaking Latin as the language of civilisation, not as the language of their birth. Every borough and almost every village, except a few along the present Welsh border, has a Saxon name, though the Wrekin and a few other places retain a British one. The English settlements were necessarily influenced by the alterations in the natural features of the country, the roads, the clearances, the cultivated ground, left by its earlier inhabitants, and the long and bitter struggle of the Britons with the invaders left a hostility of feeling between the two nations which has hardly yet completely disappeared; but with these exceptions the development of the county under the English was entirely uninfluenced by the history of its former inhabitants.

The Welsh, of course, did not recognise that the whole of Shropshire had ceased to be British. The Princely families expelled from this part of their territory continued to reign in Wales and to claim as their own *de jure* all that had formerly belonged to them, and they were sometimes able to make the claims good. The Welsh chroniclers also spoke of the land so claimed as still belonging to the Welsh claimants. Hence we sometimes find a Welsh and an English owner dealing at the same time with the same land, and it does not necessarily follow that because a Norman makes a grant of land in a border Hundred, such as Oswestry, or because a Welsh poet or chronicler speaks of land there belonging to a Welshman, that

¹ Green, 1, 187—148.

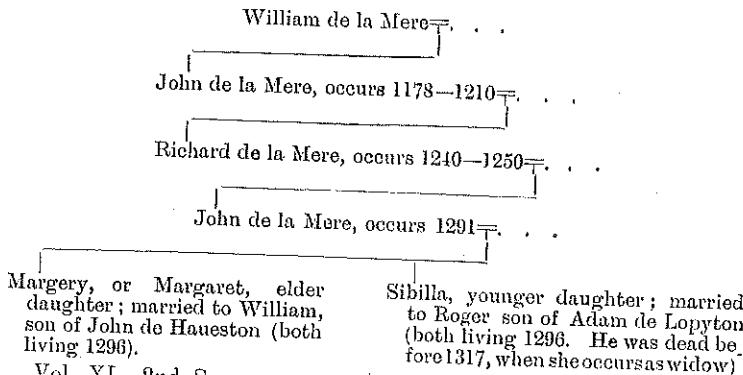
² Bede, *Ecccl. Hist.*, i., 1.

such Norman or Welshman was in actual possession at the time; though eventually it was almost always the Norman or Saxon title which prevailed. Under weak kings, both Saxon^w and Norman, parts of Shropshire were re-occupied for a time by the Welsh, and it was not till the failure of Owen Glyndwr that they finally relinquished all effort to re-assert their authority in what had once been British Shropshire.

THE MERE, IN THE PARISH OF BASCHURCH.

THE early deeds relating to The Mere, in the parish of Baschurch, are in the possession of Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart., and by his permission an abstract of them is here given. They are especially interesting, as they throw light on the history of a place of which very little is said in Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*. Eyton alludes to the de Mere family in vol. x., pp. 77, 134, 138, but gives no account of the place from which the family took their name. From the de Meres the estate ultimately passed in 1470 to Thomas Warde, and it continued in his descendants for ten generations. It came to the Offleys about 1690, by the marriage of Elizabeth Warde with Robert Offley; and to the Wakemans in 1797, by the marriage of Sarah Offley with Sir Henry Wakeman. The property was offered for sale on 30th July, 1827, and was ultimately conveyed by Sir Henry Wakeman and his wife on 25th December, 1828. It now belongs to Mr. Richard Wall, of Mere House, whose grandfather purchased it. The Mere estate is called Mere-house or Mere-bank.

The following pedigree will show the descent of the property in the de Mere family:—



Philip de la Mere occurs 1199. Richard son of Hugh de Mere occurs 1287. Hugh de Mere occurs 1296. Richard de la Mere occurs 1479-80. I cannot place these in the pedigree.

The earliest deed is a thirteenth century deed without date. It is a grant from John, son of Richard de La Mere, lord of La Mere, to his eldest daughter Margery, of his capital mease (or messuage) which came to him after his father's death, with the messuage and curtilages and half the land which he held within the town of La Mere and without; in case of her death without issue, the same to revert to the grantor or his heirs; and the rent of one rose at the nativity of St. John the Baptist. The date is probably a little earlier than 1291.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Johannes filius Ricardi de La Mere dominus de La Mere dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Margarie filie mee primogenite et heredibus suis mesam meam capitalem videlicet illam mesam que mihi contingebat de libero tenemento post recessum patris mei cum messuagio et curtilagiis et dimietatem totius terre mee quod unquam habui vel habere potui infra villam de La Mere et extra. Habendum et tenendum de predicto Johanne de La Mere predicte Margarie filie sue et heredibus suis totum predictum tenementum cum omnibus pertinentiis libertatibus et assiamenti et liberis consuetudinibus dicto tenemento pertinentibus videlicet in bosco mogor' in acris pratis pasturis herbariis in viis in semitis in caleris in vetteris in marescis et in omnibus aliis locis predicto tenemento pervenientibus. Et si ita contingat quod dicta Margeria fato recesserit sine herede ex corpore suo legitime procreato totum predictum tenementum sine contradictione vel impedimento dicte Margarete vel alicujus nomine suo predicto Johanni de La Mere vel heredibus suis revertat. Reddendo inde annuatim predicto Johanni de La Mere in tota vita sua dicta Margaria vel heredes sui unam rosam ad nativitatem sancti Johannis baptiste (*sic*) pro omni seculari servicio exactione et demando et pro omnibus rebus que a predicto tenemento exeunt aut exire poterint et pro omnimodis transgressionibus. Ego vero dictus Johannes de la Mere totum predictum tenementum predicte Margerie filie mee contra omnes homines et feminas warentizabo acquietabo et defendam imperpetuum, et quia volo quod hec mea donacio

concessio et presentis carte confirmacio mea stabllis imperpetuum permaneat huius presentis carte tenore sigilli mei impressione roboravi. His testibus: Rogero de Preston, Willielmo Banaster, Roberto de Haueston, Ricardo milite de Milleford, Rogero de Slepe, et multis aliis.

[Seal of white wax, broken: A star or mullet of 8 points in the centre. Legend indistinct, begins S' 10. . .]

The second deed is about the same date as the preceding one. It is a grant from John, lord of la Mere, to William son of John de Haestan, and Margery his wife, of five acres of land in the town del Mere, of which four lie upon le Mulnenor long between land of John Stad on the one side and land which was Hugemo' on the other side, and the fifth acre is that chief acre at the head of the said four acres; also of a piece of meadow between le mulnestr and the said four acres; to hold of the grantor to William and Margery and their heirs, without any rent.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Johannes Dominus de la Mere dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Willielmo filis Johannis de Haestan et Margerie uxori sua quinque acres terre in villa del more, quorum quatuor jacent super le Mulnenor long inter terram Johannis Stad ex una parte et terram que fuit Hugemo' ex altera, et quinta aera illa capital acra ad capud dictarum quatuor acrarum. Dedi etiam et concessi predictis Willielmo et Margerie quendam platiam prati inter le mulnestr, unde et predictas quatuor acras. Habendum et tenendum de me et heredibus seu assignatis libere quiete bene et in pace imperpetuum cum suis omnibus pertinenciis libertatibus eysiamensis tante terre prout metibus sine aliquo Reddito sen servicio mihi vel alicuj nostrorum. Ego vero dictus Johannes et heredes mei predictas quinque acras terre ad dictam placiam prati cum omnibus pertinentiis suis predictis Willielmo et Margerie et eorum heredibus seu assignatis contra omnes homines et feminas Warentizabimus acquietabimus et imperpetuum defendemus. In cuius rei Testimonium huic carte presenti sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Thoma le taylur, Thoma de olupt'olle, Ranulpho payn, Rogero burnel, Reynario le mons. de Stanwrdin', et multis aliis.

[Seal like preceding.]

Grant from Richard son Hugh de Mere juxta Baschirche, to Stephen son of Richard de Walleforde, of one messuage and half a virgate of land in the town of la mere juxta Baschirche, except six acres of unenclosed pasture land [terre campes-tralis] which Roger Dolute holds, which messuage and half virgate of land Hugh, the grantor's father, formerly held in the same town: paying to the Abbot of Salop 6d. silver at Michaelmas, and two annual appearances at the great court of Bas-churche, and a heriot. Witnesses: Richard Hord of Walleuord, Richard, son of Richard Hord, Richard de Walleuord, Roger Burnell of Marton, William le Chapman of Eyton, & others. Dated at the Mere, Thursday in Easter Week, 15 Edward. [1287.]

[Seal, a star or mullet.]

Grant from Roger son of Adam de Lopyton and Sibilla his wife, to William son of John de Haweston and Margery his wife, of a messuage and all the land and the tenement which they had in La Mere, namely, that capital messuage and all that land and tenement which John de La Mere, father of the said Margery, held of the grantors in the same for the term of his life, for 60s. silver paid by William and Margery: Rendering to the chief lords of the fee the services due, and also what Royal service is due for so great a tenement. Witnesses: Richard le Bauastr', Reiner de Stanwrthyn, William le Chapmon de Eyton, Roger Burnel, Hugh de Mere, & others. Dated at the Mere on Thursday next before the feast of St. Edmund Archbishop, 24 Edward. [Nov. 1296.]

Grant from John de Morton, perpetual Vicar of Bassechirch, to Roger son of Richard de Prestecote, for 7 marcs silver paid by Roger, of a certain messuage and one noke of land in the town of la Mere, namely, that which the said John bought of Richard le Taylur chaplain: To hold to the said Roger and his heirs, of the chief lords of the fee, paying to the Abbot of Salop 6d. annually for all secular services. Witnesses: William de Ondeslowe, Reiner de Stanworthyn, Richard Banastre, Hugh de Eton, Richard S'gent, and others. Dated at the Mere, on Sunday before the feast of the blessed Margaret virgin 29 Edward. [July 1301.]

(A duplicate of this deed omits the payment to the Abbot of Salop.)

Grant from Sibilla daughter of John de Mere, in her lawful widowhood, to Reyner son of William de Stanworthyn, for 10 marcs silver paid by him, of a certain messuage in the town of Mere, which lies opposite the messuage of the said Sibilla, and

half of the land and tenement which John her father gave her in the same town, and 3½ acres of land of her purparty, of which 3 acres lie in Ronlowesfeld, and ½ acre lies in Mulnefeld, and 1½d. rent annually issuing from a certain tenement which Roger de Mere son of Richard de Prestcote held of her: To hold to Reyner and his heirs, of the chief lords of the fee, at the accustomed service to the Abbot of Salop and his successors. Witnesses: Roger de Stanworthyn, Roger de Eton, Richard de Kincht, Roger son of Philip de Basseth, William de Ondeslowe, and many others.

[No date, but between 1296 and 1317, probably nearer the latter year. Seal wanting.]

Quit Claim from Sibilla, daughter of John de la Mere, formerly the wife of Roger son of Adam de Lopyton, to John son of Thomas le Taylur de Marton and Sibilla his wife, and their heirs lawfully begotten, of all her right and claim which she had in the town of La Mere and outside. Witnesses: Stephan de Felton, Richard lord of Pecton, Roger Burnel of Marton, William Le Chapmon de Eyton, Richard his brother of Marton, and many others. Dated at the Mere, on Thursday after the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas Martyr, 10 Edward son of Edward. [July 1317.]

Grant from John de Marton and Sibil his wife, to Roger Dolutel of Eyton, of one butt of land in le Mere, lying near the curtilage of the said Roger: To hold of John and Sibil, to the said Roger and his heirs, of the chief lords of the fee. Witnesses: Stephan de Felton, Roger Burnel of Marton, William de Eyton, and others. Dated at Baschirch, on Sunday before the feast of St. Laurence Martyr, 13 Edward son of King Edward. [Aug. 1319.]

Grant from William le Chapmon de Eyton, to Roger Dolitel of the same place, of one selion of land lying between the mores ledyay and land of the said Roger, and abutting one end towards the water and the other end towards the high road, in exchange for taking marl upon the land of the said Roger. Witnesses: Richard Banastr', Richard le knye of Walleford, John son of Reyner of Stanworthin, Robert his brother of the same, and John de ffennimere, and others.

[No date, but between 1287 and 1328, probably nearer the latter year. Seal wanting.]

Grant from John de Walleford clerk, to William son of William de Tonge and Cestilia his wife, of two messuages 3 bovates and 3 acres of land in la Mere juxta Baschirche. To hold to William and Castilia, and the heirs of their bodies. If

they die without issue, then to John, brother of said William, in tail ; remainder to John, younger brother of said John, in tail ; remainder to Margaret, sister of said John the younger in tail ; remainder to the right heirs of the said William de Tonge senior. Witnesses: Richard son of Richard Hord of Walleford, William de Eyton, John son of Reginald de Stanworthyn, Richard de Walleford, Roger son of Robert de Stanworthyn, John Graunt of Prestecote, and John son of Roger de Baschirche. Dated at Prestecote Friday before the feast of the Holy Trinity 1 Edward III. [June 1328.]

[Seal, two clerks holding a crucifix.]

(The counterpart of this deed has two seals. The first a chevron between three birds, 2 and 1.)

Quit Claim from William son of Roger de Burleton, to Roger Dolutes of Eyton, of one messuage and one nocese of land in Mere juxta Baschirche, which said Roger formerly held of said William for life. To hold to said Roger and his heirs, at the rent of 12d. sterling payable at the Anunciation, and after Roger's decease of 6d. for all secular demands. Witnesses: Stephen de Felton, Robat Hord of Walleford, Roger Burnel of Marton, William le Chapmon of Eyton, William de Tonge, and others. Dated at Mere on Sunday after the Feast of All Saints', 1 Edward III. [November 1328.]

[Seal wanting.]

Quit Claim from William Pate, to William de Tonge, of all his lands and tenements in Mere juxta Baschurche, which the grantor leased to the grantee for a term of years. To hold to said William de Tonge and his heirs. Witnesses: Richard Hord of Walleford, Richard de Walleford, John le Grant of Prestecot, Stephen de Marsh, and others. Dated at Mere, Friday on the morrow of St. Andrew the Apostle, 20 Edward III. [Nov. 1347.]

[Seal, A cross pommée.]

Grant from Sibil widow of William de Fenymere, to John de Fenymere, of all those messuages lands and tenements which she had in the vills of Mere and Prestcote. To hold to John and his heirs. Witnesses: John Draper, John Husee of Balderton, Thomas Burnell of Marton, Hugh Acherley of Stanwordyn, John Hordley of Prestcote, and others. Dated at le Mero, Wednesday before the feast of the nativity of blessed Mary the Virgin, 4 Henry VI. [September 1425.]

[Seal, the letter S.]

Quit Claim from Thomas Waryng of Ondeslowe and Roger Wycherley, to John Fenymere of Fenymere, of all their right

and claim in all the lands and tenements which the said John has of the gift and feoffment of Sibil widow of William de Fenymere in the vills of Mere and Prestcote. Witnesses: Gag^o Hawkstan, Gruffin Kynaston, John Ondeslowe of Ondeslowe, Robert Ondeslow, John Coly of Wollenon, and others. Dated at Fenymere, Saturday in the Octaves of St. Martin. 5 Henry VI. [November 1427.]

[Seals indistinct.]

Grant from Roger Glover, son & heir of Sybil de Fenymere' the daughter & heir of Margaret de Tong, to Thomas Warde, of two messuages, three bovates and three acres of land, in the town of Baschurche, and of one messuage, one bovate of land, and a parcel of meadow to the same messuage adjacent, in the town of Prestcote juxta Baschurche. To hold to said Thomas & his heirs. Witnesses: Philip Kynaston of Walford, esq., Robert Onneslowe and Richard Oteley, gents., Richard Twyford, John Wyle, William Hordley, Thomas Achurley, and many others. Dated at Mere aforesaid, Thursday next after the Invention of Holy Cross 9 Edward IV. [May 1470.]

[Seal: A lion rampant.]

Appointment by Roger Glover of Humfrey Kynaston and Richard Oteley, gents., as his Attorneys, to deliver seisin of the premises mentioned in the last Deed to Thomas Warde. Dated Monday after the Invention of the Holy Cross, 9 Edward IV. [May 1470.]

Quit Claim by Thomas Williams, son and heir of John Williams of Stanwarthyn in Campo, to Thomas Warde of Baschurch, of all his right and claim in all his lands and tenements in the town and fields of Stanworthyn, which descended to the grantor by right of heirship after the death of the said John his father, and which the grantor gave to the said Thomas Warde by Charter dated 12 April 10 Edward IV. Witnesses: Philip Kynaston, esq., Roger Kynaston son of the said Philip, Guido Banastr', Thomas Acherley, Thomas Payne, Richard Warde, and many others. Dated at Stanworthyn aforesaid 1 June 10 Edward IV. [1471.]

[Seal wanting.]

Grant from Richard Fenymere of Shyfnale, to Thomas Warde of Baschurche, of one messuage in the town of Mere in the parish of Baschurche, situate between a messuage of Richard de Le Mere on the one side and the King's Highway [Via Regia] on the other side, with half a ferendell of land in the fields of the said town of Mere. To hold to said Thomas Warde and his heirs, rendering to the chief lord $\frac{1}{2}$ d. silver at

Michaelmas annually. Witnesses: Roger Kynaston de Walford, John Kynaston de Nesse, esq., Richard Twyford of Petton, gent., Roger Wyke of Weston, John Browd' of Wytheford, women, and many others. Dated at Mere, Monday after the Purification B.V.M. 19 Edward IV. [February 1479-80.]

[Seal defaced.]

Appointment by Richard Fenymere of Walter parson of the church of Fyttes as his Attorney, to deliver seisin of the premises mentioned in the last deed to Thomas Warde. Dated at Shifnall, Monday after Purification B.V.M. 19 Edward IV. [February 1479-80.]

[Seal: a fesse between 3 chevrons (?) 2 and 1.]

Grant from Thomas Payne of Weston yeoman, son and heir of John Payne late of Weston yeoman, to John Warde, son and heir of Thomas Warde of Newtowne, gent., & to Johanna his wife, to Roger Cotton, John Warde senior of Ryghton, Thomas Cotton, and William Oliver, of all those messuages, lands, &c., which the said Thomas Payne has in the fields of Weston and Maire within the parish of Baschurche. To hold to the grantees, to the use of said John Warde the son and Johanna, and to the heirs of John. And he appoints Richard Cotton clerk and Roger Ward his attorneys to deliver seisin. Dated 4 December 15 Henry VIII. [1523.]

[Seal, not distinct.]

Bargain and Sale by John Pollard esq. and George Bytle gent. to John Warde and Johanna his wife, of two water mills called Bent mylle and Mylford mylle, in the parish of Baschurche and lordship of Meredon, lately belonging to the dissolved monastery of Haughmond, occupied by Margaret Warde, which the grantors had of the grant of the King by Letters Patent dated 2 Nov. anno 37 [1545]. To hold to said John and Johanna in tail, remainder to the heirs of Johanna. And they appoint John Hewes and Richard Warde their attorneys to deliver seisin. Dated 22 November, 37 Henry VIII. [1545.]

per me Johannam Pollard.

[Seal: a spread eagle (?)]

per me Georg' Bithe.

[Seal indistinct.]

Grant from John Warde de Newtowne de Baschurche, gent. and Johanna his wife, to Francis Warde their son, of their messuages, lands, &c., in Newtowne de Baschurche. To hold to said Francis Warde and the heirs of his body, by his wife Katerine daughter of one Roger Edge of co. Salop, gent. And

they appoint John Wynn and Hugh Corbett their attorneys to deliver seism. Dated 20 February, 1 and 2 Philip & Mary, [1554-5.]

[Seals indistinct.]

Quit Claim by Thomas Hawkes, gent. to Richard Payne of Petton (?), of all his right in the messuages, lands, &c., of said Richard Payne in the Newtowne Baschurch, or Baschurch, lately purchased from Arthur Ward of Hinton gent., grantor's father-in-law. Dated 2 February 26 Car. II. 1674. [Seal.]

Bargain & Sale from Arthur Warde the elder of Hinton gent. to John Oliver and Edward Powall, of three tenements in Newtowne Baschurch, Baschurch Meere, and Stanwardine in the fields, occupied by Margaret Kynaston widow, for six months, at the rent of 4d. Dated 24 March 29 Car. II. 1666. [Seal.]

Receipt dated 7 August, 32 Car. II. 1680, from Arthur Warde of Hinton, gent. to Thomas Lyster esq. for £300, and to Edward Powel for £300, being the moneys mentioned in an Indenture dated —— 27 [Car. II.] between said [Arthur Warde] of 1st part, said Thomas [Lyster] of 2nd part, and said Edward Powell [of the 3rd part].

[Seal: Arms of Ward. The document is much defaced.]

The pedigree of Ward of Newton, Baschurch, and Hinton, was entered at the Vis. Salop, 1623 (see *Harl. Soc.*, vol. xxix., pp. 484-5), and 1663. The following is a continuation of the Visitation pedigree, and shows the descent of the Mere estate in the Ward, Offley, and Wakeman families:—

Arthur Ward, of Hinton, in com. — Anna, dau. of Tho. Mynde, of Mynde-Salop, ao. 1623, fil. 4. — town, in co. Salop.

Samuell, Francis, Arthur Ward, of Hinton — Onley Lowe, dau. of Thomas ob. s.p. ob. s.p. & Baschurch; b. 1606; — Lowe, of Borley Hall, co. ob. s.p. ob. s.p. d. 1671. — Salop.

Arthur, b. 1643; Roger, Martha, m. Robert Offley; — Elizabeth, d. & h.; d. s.p. 1686. d. s.p. Hawke, & d. 1697. — b. 1648; m. 1690; d. s.p. — d. 1715.

Ward Offley, of Hinton & Baschurch; d. 1715. — Ursula Payne.

Richard Ward Offley, of Hinton & ^aSarah, d. of George Penbury, of Woother-Baschurch; d. 1762. ↓ Sarah Offley, b. 1759; ton & Rorrington.

Ward Offley; Sir Henry Wakeman, Bart., of Perdis-^aSarah Offley, b. 1759; d. s.p. 1793. well, co. Worcester; d. 1831. Sold ↓ m. 1797; d. 1843. the Mere estate in 1828.

The *Arms* of Ward are:—Argent, two bars gules each charged with three martlets or, in chief a cross-crosslet between two fleur-de-lis azure, all within a bordure engrailed sable, a mullet for difference. The *Arms* of Offley are:—Argent, on a cross patonce azure, between four Cornish choughs proper, a lion statant guardant or.

The property therefore came to Arthur Ward of Hinton, on the death of his half-brother Roger, or his nephew Roger. On his death it passed to his only surviving son, Arthur Ward; and on his death in 1671, his son Arthur Ward succeeded, but died without issue in 1686, when it came to his sister and heiress, Elizabeth, the wife of Robert Offley. Their great-granddaughter, Sarah Offley, married Sir Henry Wakeman, and they finally sold the estate on 25th December, 1828, as stated above.

W.G.D.F.

THE DOMESTIC HISTORY OF HENRY VYNAR,
OF LONDON AND CONDOVER, TOGETHER
WITH A TRANSCRIPT OF HIS WILL.

BY THE REV. C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

THE following curious domestic history is found in the first page of the Condover Court Roll Book, in the handwriting of Henry or Harry Vynar, who came into possession of the Condover estate about the year 1570, in succession to Robert Longe, whose daughter Mary he had married. He had spent his early married life in London, as a mercer, where he probably acquired some wealth. We learn indirectly that he was in a fair way to municipal honours, when he retired from business and removed to Salop, for among the god-parents of his children are found the "lorde mayor" Sir Thomas Lodge, Mr. Alderman Martyn, My Lady Laxton, and others who must have moved in the higher circles of civic society. We see that he was tinctured with one of the fashionable foibles of the time, for he records the sign of the Zodiac, under which several of his children were born, particularising the first part or quarter in some cases, as though that were an important item tending to the future advantage or detriment of the individual.¹ The careful mention of the sponsors in each case shows a desire to conform to *rubrics*, and

¹ Dr. Johnson in his *Lives of the Poets*, speaking of Hudibras says "Astrology, against which so much of this satire is directed, was not more the folly of the Puritans than of others. It had at that time a very extensive dominion. Its predictions raised hopes and fears in minds which ought to have rejected it with contempt. In hazardous undertakings care was taken to begin under the influence of a propitious planet; and, when the king was prisoner in Carisbrook

we must not overlook the note which is attached to each of the first three children, but afterwards dropped or omitted, respecting an additional sponsor. In the case of the first child, Mary, it is there stated, "And her godmother at the bysshoppes Mrs. Meredeth." Again in that of the third, Harry, "and mr. John harford my father in law was his godfath' at the bisshoppe." The rubric in the first prayer-book of Edward VI., 1549, directs thus, "then shall they bee brought to the Bushop by one that shalbee his godfather or godmother, that euerye childe maye haue a wittenesse of his confirmacion," but here we find this "wittenesse" apparently selected at the time of the child's baptism (unless indeed this record was compiled with additions many years afterwards), for which practice I have not found warrant nor example elsewhere. We may notice that both of Henry Vynar's wives were "ower young" when married. The first, Mary Longe, only a little over 14 years; and the second, Anne Lane, not 17 years old. It seems also that baptismal names were selected by the godparents, even at the risk of having two children of the same

Castle, an astrologer was consulted what hour would be found most favourable to an escape."

Henry, in his History of Great Britain, iij. 575, speaking of astrology, tells us "Nor did this passion for penetrating into futurity prevail only among the common people, but also among persons of the highest rank and greatest learning. All our kings and many of our earls and great barons had their astrologers, who resided in their families, and were consulted by them in all undertakings of great importance." The great man kept these "to cast the *horoscopes* of his children, discover the success of his designs, and the public events that were to happen." "Their predictions" he adds "were couched in very general and artful terms."

Strype in his annals of the Reformation, ij. 16, sub. anno 1570, says, "And because the welfare of the nation did so much depend upon the queen's (Elizabeth's) marriage measures were employed secretly, by calculating her nativity, to enquire into her marriage. For which art even Secretary Cecil himself had some opinion. I have met among his papers such a judgment made, written all with his own hand." It would be noticed that this date is only one year

name in one family. Here will be found two Elizabeths, two Annes of one mother. It may be that the first-born in each case had not survived the perils of infancy. The death, however, is not recorded of any except the first Mary, who lived to be six, and of the first Elizabeth, who died soon after her birth. Henry Vynar was himself dead in 1586, being about 40 years old. There is a notice of the family in the Visitation of Salop, 1623 (*Harleian Society*, vol. xxix., pp. 475-6), but it is a *very imperfect* one, and, as the following records show, by no means a correct one. By his first wife the heralds credit him with two sons and two daughters, whereas there was only one son, Harry; and one MS. says that one of these two sons was named Ralphe Veinor, but there was no Ralphe in either family. A fragment of the *Veinor* pedigree was tacked on to the *Vynor* tree! By his second wife they give him one child Anne, whereas we shall see that he had by her quite a quiverful, no less than fourteen children (five boys and nine girls), and nine of these

before the birth of Vynar's daughter Elizabeth, who was born when the Syne was in Caprycorne.

Sheridan in his notes on *Persius*, 2nd Edition, 1639, p. 79, says—“To give some little notion of the (opinion of the) ancients concerning *horoscopes*. The *ascendant* was understood by them to be that part of Heaven which arises in the East the moment of the child's birth. This containing thirty degrees was called *the first house*.” [N.B. William Vynar was born in the *firste partie* of Aries] “In this point the astrologers observed the position of the heavenly constellations, the planets, and the fixed stars, placing the planets and the signs of the zodiac in a figure which they divided into twelve houses, representing the whole circumference of heaven. The first was *angulus orientis* (by some called the *horoscope*), showing the form and complexion of the child then born; and likewise the rest had their several significations, too tedious to be inserted here, because of no use in the least. The heathen astrologers, in casting nativities, held that every man's *genius* was the companion of his *horoscope* and that the *horoscope* was tempered by it: hence proceeded that union of minds and friendship which was observed among some.” To these notices, which I take from Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, may be added that the whole system of astrology is still in force at Constantinople and Ispahan, and at various other Eastern Courts.

fourteen are mentioned in the will, and four children came into the world after the date of the will, and one, the first Elizabeth, had then died. Nine of the younger children were born at Condoover.

The will is, both holograph and autograph, authenticated by the seal of the testator, but not attested by witnesses, nor has it the *probate* attached, and so possibly it may not have been proved. As this paper purports to be a domestic history, it has not been lengthened out by the addition of Henry Vynar's documents relating to the manor of which he was the lord, although much might have been transcribed of a very interesting character, throwing light upon the manners and customs of this Royal Manor, which from Saxon times down to the present day has maintained its manorial character, having for its lords not merely noblemen and ecclesiastics, but royal personages, ruling monarchs, and princely scions of both sexes.¹

[DOMESTIC HISTORY OF HENRY VYNOR OF LONDON.]

In ffebruary, 1546, I Henry Vynor was xxijth yeare olde and the 22 of ffebruarij 1551 was marryed unto mary longe dowghter of Mr Robert Longe of London m'c' whom dyed the 12 daye of July 1561. And the 25 daye of Maye 1562 I marryed Anne Lane dawghter of Mr willm. Lane grocer.

Jesus.

MEMORANDUM that I Harry Vynar of London m'c' marryed Mary the eldest dawghter of Mr Robart Longe Cytizen and mercer of London the xxij daye of februarij beyng

¹ The succession of the lords of the Manor of Condoover is thus given in "An Indenture made the 17th daye of September in the fyrsye yeare of the Reygne of ower dreade Soveraigne lorde Kinge Edwardre the Sixth by the grace of God King of Englannde Fraunce and Irelande defender of the fayth and in Earthe of the Churche of Englannde and also of Irelande the supreme hedde." "The lords lovell, hollonde and Burnell, the noble prynce Kinge henry the viijth the most famos prynce Kinge henry the viijth Sr Richard Corbett Knight Sr Richard Cornewall Knight Sr thomas leighton Knight And Sr Henry Knyvett Knight lord's of the same manner successyvely."

mvndaye in the yeare of our Lorde god 1551 and by her had thes children followeng.

Mary. The 25 daye of december 1553, beynge tuysdaye and Seynte Stephens daye y'medyattly vpon viij of the clocke in the morneng I had a dawghter borne whose godfather was Mr Willm. coppinger & her godmothers was my mother in lawe M^{rs} Cicely longe & M^{rs} Thamyzyn dauntesy and named her mary. | And her godmother at the bysshopp M^{rs} meredeth.

Anne. The 10 daye of februarij 1555, beynge mvndaye betwyxt one and twoo of the clocke in the afternone very neare vnto twoo of the clocke I had a dawghter borne whose godfather was mr thom's longe her vncle and her godmothers my mother in lawe M^{rs} Cycely Longe and her Aunte m^{rs} merredeth. And named her Anne | and my owne mother was her godmother at the bysshopp.

harry. The 20 daye of november 1557, beynge Saterdaye betwixt one and twoo in the afternone very neare vnto twoo of the clocke I had a Sunne borne whose godfathers was m^r willm. longe and m^r harry longe his vncckles and my mother in lawe M^{rs} Cicely longe his godmother and they named hym harry | and m^r John harford my father in law was his godfath' at the bysshopp.

Mary. The 2 daye of July 1561 beynge wensdaye a lyttyll after viij of the clocke in the morning I had a dawghter borne whose godfather was m^r Thomas heton m^{'c} and her godmothers M^{rs} Thamessyn dawntesye & m^{rs} mawdelyn Sadler her Auntes and they named her mary.

The 21 daye of Marche 1559 last paste beynge tuysdaye mary my eldest dawghter dyede beynge of thage of vj years & A quarter and lyeth buried in Seynte Lawrens chirche in tholde Jury in London not farre from her grandfather & grandmother and her epytaph I over passe. The 12 daye of Julye 1561, beynge Saterdaye Mary my wyffe dyede beynge of the Age of xxiiij yeares A halfe and ij monthes and she lyeth buried in Seynte Lawrens chirche in the olde Jury in London vnder the stone wheare her father & mother lyeth vpon whose sowle I beseeche ow' Lorde Jesue Cryste haue mercy and graunte yt everlasteng blysse in heavyne.

The 25 daye of maye 1562 beynge mvndaye I was marryed vnto M^{rs} Anne Lane the eldest daughter of M^r willm. Lane grocer of London. And by her had thes chylderne followe', whiche Anne was xvij yeare olde at mydsomer followenqe after her marryage.

Thomas. The 9 daye of October 1563, beynge Saterdaye betwixte one and twoo in the afternone I had a Sonne borne whose godfathers was S^r thom's lodge lord mayor of London & M^r willm. burde Customer of London and my Lady Laxton godmother and named hym thomas.

Anne. The 29 daye of September 1564 beynge frydaye and mychaellmas daye somewhatt before elevyn of the clocke in the forenone I had a daughter borne whose godfather was M^r peter osborne and her godmother my Lady lodge and M^{rs} Marttyn And they named her Anne.

Richarde. The 5 daye of november 1565, beynge mvndaye halfe A quarter of An hower before v of the clocke in the morneng I had a sonne borne whose godfathers was m^r Roger marttyn allderman of London & m^r thomas smythe customer and his godmother M^{rs} mary Alington howe be ytt She Came but as deputy to her moth' m^{rs} Jane Alyngton and they named him Richarde.

Elizabeth. The 15 daye of Awguste 1567, beynge frydaye betwene twoo and three of the clocke in the afternone very neare vnto three I had a daughter borne whose godfather was m^r Luke Lane & her godmothers m^{rs} Elizabeth dale her Aunte & m^{rs} Elizabeth betenson her Cussyn godmothers and they named her Elizabeth, | and She dyede the fyrsste daye of September followeng and lyeth buryed att wansworthe in Surrey.

Johane. The 11 daye of marche 1568, beynge frydaye A bowte x of the clocke at night I had a daughter borne whose godfather was M^r Luke Lane her Vnkle and her godmothers M^{rs} Elizabeth dale & M^{rs} Elizabeth bytynson and they named her Johane.

Elizabeth. The 14 daye of Januarij 1571, beynge mvndaye betwixt v & vj of the clocke in the afternone the Signe beyng in caprycorne I had a daughter borne whose godfather was M^r Thom's Owens and her godmothers m^{rs} Anne Osborne and m^{rs} Elizabeth Blunt & they named her Elizabeth.

Anne. The 5 daye of July beyng Sunday 1573 the Signe beyng in the fyrsste partte of Tybra I had a daughter borne betwixt vij and viij of the clocke in the forenone her godfather was m^r Adam Otteley & her godmothers my Lady houghton & m^{rs} Elynor le and they named her Anne.

Willm. The 17 daye of January beyng mvndaye 1574, the Signe beyng in the fyrsste partte of Aries I had a Sonne borne betwixt iiiij and fyve of the clocke in the mornenge

A quarter of An hower before fyve his godfathers was m^r Richard lee & m^r Willm. fowler his godmother m^{rs} Elynor leighton and they named hym willm.

Mary. The 31 daye of decembre beyng Saterdaye 1575 the Signe beyng in Caprycorne I had A daughter borne betwixt twelve and one hallfe an hower paste twelve in the daye tyme her godfather was m^r Stephen duckett her godmothers m^{rs} Mary fowler and mrs Anne blyeth and named her Mary.

Martha. The 10 daye of februarij beyng Sundaye 1576 the Signe beyng in Sagytarius betwixt one and twoo of the clocke in the mornenge I had a dawghter borne her godfather was m^r Richard prynce her godmothers m^{rs} Elenor webbe and m^{rs} harris and they named her martha.

Elynor. The 5 daye of Aprill 1578 beyng Saterdaye the Signe beyng in the firste partte of Aries A bowte v of the clocke in the afternone I had a dawghter borne her godfather was m^r Gabriell Lane her godmothers m^{rs} Elynor leighton m^{rs} Elynor Burnell my Kyns womⁿ.

Edwarde. The 21 daye of September 1579 beyng myndaye the Signe beyng in the hallfe of Libra about xj of the clocke before noone I had a Sonne borne his godfathers was m^r Edward Cooker & m^r thomas mackworth his godmother m^{rs} Mary Ottley and they named Edward.

Mawdlynne. The 26 daye of June 1583 beyng wensdaye the signe beyng in Capricornys betwixt sevynne and eight of the clocke in the morneng I had A dawghter borne whose godfather was m^r John Webbe of Salop, her godmothers m^{rs} Anne Edwards of Salop and Johane cro'pton & named her mawdlyne.

(*Nicholas.*) The 22 of October 1584 beyng thursday Nicholas Vynar was borne betwen a vj & viij of the cloke at nighte whose godfathers was M^r Gabriell Lane his vnkle & Thomas Smythe of Chatford, his godmother Ann Scryven of Condover.

(Endorsed.) 1577. MR. HENRY VYNER'S WILL.

In the name of God Amen the xix of December An^o 1577 And in the xxth yeare of the Reyne of ou^r soverayne Lady Elyzabeth By the grace of God Quene of England, ffirance, and Ireland, Defender of the fayth and in yearth supreme hedd of the churche of Englande and Irelande &c', I Henry Vyner of Condouer, in the County of Salop gentylman beyng in perfect health and memory thancks be vuto almighty god Make my devyse and Laste wyll As towchenge all my Landes, tene-

mentts and heredytamentts Rents reversyon and s'uyces wthin the p'yse of Condouer in the County of Salop my personage of Condouer and all my tyethes thereunto belongyng or apperteyneng in the sayde p'yse of Condouer The advowson and patronage of the vickarage of Condouer my poreyon of tyeth in yockyllton wth the Appurtena'ces and all other heredytamentts whatsoeuer w^{ch} I haue or to me of right belongeth wthin the sayde countye or ells wheare wthin the Reallme of Englend ffyrste J geave and bequeath vnto Anne Vynar my Eldest daughter begotten on mary vynar my wyffe deceasyd all my porcyon of tyethe in yockyllton wth thappurtena'ces to haue and to holde to her and her heyers for ever. Itm I wyll that Anne my welbelouyd wyffe shall haue y'medyattly after the Redemyng or expirynge of A lease made vnto my brother Richard harforde of bosberry in the countye of hereforde deceasyd beryng date the viijth daye of December in the tenth yeaire of ower sayde Soverayne Lady, my personage of Condou' wth all tyethes therevnto belonginge or in any wise apperteynenge in the p'yse of Condou' or ells wheare, The advowsen and patronage of the vickarage of Condou' foresayde All my Landes tenementts and heredytamentts medowes pastures feedengs Com'ens woods vnderwoods waters ffysshings profytts com'odtyties and advantagis whatsoeuer in the foresayde p'yse of Condou' in the foresayde countye of Salop or ells wheare wthin the Reallme of Englonde w^{ch} vnto me of right belongeth or in anywise apperteyneth To have and to holde the foresayde personage of Condou' wth all tyethes thereunto belonging The advowson and patronage of the vyckarage theare, All my Landes tenementts and heredytamentts Rents reversyon and s'uycis medowes pastures ffeedings woods vnderwoods waters ffysshings profytts com'odys and advantagis whatsoeuer in the foresayde p'yse of condouer and countye of Salop or ells wheare wthin the Reallme of Englande vnto the foresayde Anne my wyffe during her naturall lyffe. And after her decease I wyll that Thomas Vynar my sonne shall receave the yssues and proffyttes of my personage of condou' The advowson and patronage of the vyckarage All my Landes tenementts and heredytamentts rentts reversyon and s'uycis whasoeuer before and above recyted to the intentte that he shall Satysfyre and paye vnto Richard Vynar my sonne twoo hundredth pounds w^{ch} I wyll and bequeathe vnto the sayde Richarde Att his full Age of xxjth yeaires And vnto will'm vynar my sonne twoo hundredth pounds for my bequeste & legacy to be payde to the sayde will'm Att his full Age of xxjth yeaires And one hundredth pounds

to Anne Vynar my eldest daughter begotten on Anne my wyffe to be payde to the sayde Anne att the daye of her marryage or Age of xxjⁱⁱ yeares w^{ch} do fyrste happen And to Johane my daughter one hundredth pounds for my bequeste to her to be payde att the daye of her marryage or Age of xxjⁱⁱ yeares w^{ch} do fyrste happen, And vnto Elizabeth my dawghter one hundredth pounds for my bequest to her to be payde att the daye of her marryage or Age of xxjⁱⁱ yeares w^{ch} do fyrste happen And vnto Anne Vynar the yonger one hundredth pounds for my bequeste to her to be payde att the daye of her marryage or Age of xxjⁱⁱ yeares w^{ch} do fyrste happen, And vnto mary my dawghter begotten on the body of Anne my wyffe one hundred pounds for my bequest to her to be payde att the daye of her marryage or Age of xxjⁱⁱ yeares w^{ch} do fyrste happen, And vnto Martha my daughter one hundredth pounds for my bequest to her to be payde att the daye of her marryage or Age of xxjⁱⁱ yeares w^{ch} do fyrste happen. Itm after paymrents made as beforesayde I geaue and bequeath vnto Thomas Vynar my sonne my personage of Condover wth all the tythes thereunto belongyng The advowson and patronage of the Vyckarage theare All my Landes Tenements and heredytaments whatsoeuer Rents reversyon S'uycis medowes pastures ffeedings woods vnderwoods water ffysshings proffytts Com'modytes and advantagis whatsoeuer in the p'yshe of Condou' and countye of Salop Aforesayde and above recyted To haue and to holde to the sayde Thoms Vynar and his heyers males of hys body lawfully begotten forever payeng performynge as Aforesayde And indefawte of such yssue to Richard Vynar my sonne and to the heyers males of body Lawfully begotten forever payeng performenqe and accomplayshenge to will'm Vynar my sonne and to hys systers as aforesayde And in defawte and lacke of suche yssue to will'm Vynar my sonne and to the heyers males of hys body Lawfully begotten payenge p'formynge and accomplayshenge unto suche of hys systers as shall then (be) vnmarryede and nott preferred And indefawte and Lacke of suche yssue to be Equally divyded Emongest all my dawghters And for lacke of yssue of them to the Right heyers of me the sayde henry Vynar for ever. It'm I wyll that yf Thomas Vynar my sonne pracktys go a bowte and sell The foresayde personage patronage advowson Landes Tenements and heredytaments a bove expressyd or Recyted or any partte thereof, that than hys next brother or hys heyers males shall enter wholy vpo' the premysys and the same holde and in ioye notwthstandenge any thynge to the contrary a bove or before specyfyeð And

in Lyke manner yf the sayde Landes shall happen and come vnto Rychard Vynar my sonne, And yf he att any tyme do præktyss go Abowte and sell as beforesayde than I wyll the foresayde premayssys shall come vnto will'm Vynar my sonne and to hys heyers males for ever notwthstandeng anythinge afore expressed to the contrary, and for Lacke of such Lawfull yssue to be divyded Emongest my dawghters and theyre heyers for ever, And yf thys my Laste wyll and Testamentt be not done in due forme of Lawe and therby some Questyon maye happen through my yngnorance I wyll the same maye not be expounded by extremyty of Lawe but Equally in the favor of eache and every of my chylderne, And to as myche advantage for my wyffe for terme of her lyffe as she by Lawe may haue It'm my wyll ys that for Lacke of yssue of my sonnes as A bove sayde, or of my dawghters as afore Recyted thatt than the foresayde Lands and other the premayssys shall go vnto henry vynar my sonne and hys heyers for ever And in wytnesse to the truth I have wrettonne thys my Laste wyll wthowte blotte enterlyneng or Rasuere the daye and year A bove sayde

By me HENRY VYNAR.

[Seal :—*Arms*, Azure, a bend or, on a chief argent a saltire engrailed gules between two Cornish choughs proper. *Crest*, an arm in armour, proper, garnished or, holding in the hand of the first a gem ring of the second.]

SHREWSBURY ABBEY. — TWO EARLY
CHARTERS.

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED BY THE REV. C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

A REMARK which Mr. Eyton makes in the preface to his "*Court Household and Itinerary of Henry II.*," p. 8, will be found to considerably obviate the only objection which can be urged against the two documents transcribed below, and especially the latter of them. He had been speaking of an alleged letter of Pope Alexander III., proved to be a forgery not merely by its extravagant absurdities, but by its date, and he says, "This letter, being a nearly coeval forgery, has its use, in that it shows what certain impostors or partizans of a later day thought or wished to be thought or cared to circulate." His argument amounts to this, that forgers to be at all successful must make their statements in exact accordance with the manners and circumstances of the times and persons they were using; they must not, to use another of his expressions, " belie themselves by absurdities or anachronisms." Now, I am not going to insinuate or allow that the second of these documents, (the Confirmation Charter of King Stephen), is an absolute forgery from beginning to end, either in fact or in intention, for it is, for the most part, a recital of former Charters, and it has almost every possible mark of authenticity; but I would like to show that even upon the extreme supposition of its having been forged, the forgery must have been perpetrated very soon after its implied date, and all the facts must have been sufficiently circumstantial to deceive those, who had greater or less facilities for knowing the truth, and also some personal interest in exposing the falsity. Putting aside the

main notion, the monks intended to convey, that to certain grants of land and tithes they had the unqualified consent of former monarchs, all the particular details of place-names, properties, personal names of donors and witnesses must have been set down in exact conformity with the facts, for there were plenty of people who could dispute their claims if such claims were ill founded. But after minute examination and comparison with contemporary documents and histories, I cannot say that either of these charters is forged. I have looked into every statement, compared them with extant records, traced changes in the place-names, in short, taken considerable pains to sift and verify every item of any importance. One element of suspicion there was, but even that disappeared when other records were studied, and that was the fulsome adulation, or gross flattery, which pervades the mention of most of the royal donations. '*Nihil nisi bonum*' (*optimum* would better suit the quotation) is recorded of several whose moral and religious characters are now known not to have been above suspicion. This is perhaps excusable. The "powers that were" had to be conciliated, King Stephen especially. His right to the throne was stoutly disputed from the very first, and his occupation thereof was deemed an usurpation. Flattery, therefore, was the abbot's best policy, if he and his monks were to retain the various tithes, manors, and advowsons which others had granted; and so, plausible representations of piety of preceding donors abound in his Charter, representations, moreover, which would most likely have influenced the Empress Matilda equally with Stephen, if she had gained the upper hand.

Mr. Eyton, in his account of the parish of Morville, has cast suspicion upon a Foundation Charter granted to the Abbey of Shrewsbury by Hugh Earl of Montgomery, specifying pointedly the fact that "the Earl talks of his demesne of Astley, near Bruge, whereas Bruge was a nameless and barren rock in his day, and probably involved in the very demesne of Astley, which

he is speaking of." But in the foundation Charter of Earl Hugh which follows, Astley and Bruge are not even mentioned, and so this Charter cannot be the one to which he refers.

Another objection is made by him to that Charter, which lies against this, viz., that it was sealed with his own seal,—as though the sealing of deeds was not usual a that early period,—but here he is mistaken, for the "sealing of deeds and writs was first practised in England in A.D. 1079," fifteen years before the death of Earl Roger, who was Earl Hugh's father, and probably long before the execution of this undated Charter, which cannot have been earlier than A.D. 1094 or later than A.D. 1098.

On the whole we may safely conclude that the two Charters now published (the latter for the first time) are valuable helps to the history of Shrewsbury Abbey and its dependencies, and the second of them, when carefully studied, will throw light upon much that is obscure in parochial and local history.

The documents themselves are not the originals, but have every appearance of being authentic copies; they are stitched together, and, although in the hands of a private gentleman, must have been taken originally from the muniment chest of the Abbey.

(Dorso) *Carta domini Hugonis comitis super libertatibus concessis.*

Hugo comes Salopesberie¹ uniuersis fidelibus et amicis suis Baronibus ministris et omnibus hominibus suis tam presentibus quam futuris, Salutem.—Volo uos omnes scire quod una dierum cum starem ante sepulchrum patris mei Rogeri comitis et recordatus fuisse quod ipse adhuc uiuens preceperat mihi diligere et manutenere elemosinam suam, scilicet abbaciā Salopesberie, compunctus paterne dilectionis et pietatis affectu, concessi et in puram et perpetuam elemosinam confirmaui pro salute mea, et pro anima eius et pro animabus antecessorum meorum, quod predicta abbacia cum omnibus pertinentijs suis libera et quieta sit ab omni consuetudine, et

vexatione et exactione vicecomitum et aliorum quorumlibet
 ministrorum et ab omni servicio seculari². Et ideo uolo et
 firmiter statuo in perpetuum ut monachi in predicta ecclesia
 deo seruientes. omnes terras et possessiones et omnia tene-
 menta sua que nunc tenent vel que in futurum adepturi
 sunt de cuiuscunque dono fuerint habeant et teneant. bene et
 in pace et libere et quiete et honorifice et ipsi et omnes homines
 sui liberi sint et quieti ab omni operatione castellorum³ et
 uiuariorum⁴ et pontium⁵ et uiarum⁶ et omnium operum
 sectarum² nec summagia⁷ faciant; nec aliqua comitatus negotia
 exerceant et sint quieti et immunes de schiris⁸ et de hun-
 dredis⁸ et habeant curiam suam de omnibus placitis et de
 omnibus forisfacturis hominum suorum et ibi rectum teneant
 alijs et iusticiam suam habeant tam bene et plenarie sicut ego
 habeo et sicut melius et pleniis eis dare possum. Sint etiam
 liberi et quieti de geldo militum⁹ et de geldo communi¹⁰ et
 de omni seruicio unde denarius exigitur.¹¹ Concedo etiam ut
 barones mei uel burgenses uel milites quicunque uoluerint de
 terris et facultatibus suis eis largiantur absque ulla mei uel
 meorum heredum licentia: ita ut de data elemosina mihi
 nullum ulterius seruicium faciant uel dantes uel recipientes.
 Et hoc sciant omnes mei fideles quia nichil retineo in honore
 sanctorum apostolorum Petri et Pauli nisi oraciones et bene-
 ficium monachorum in hoc loco manencium et tam liberam
 hodie hunc honorem constituo ut nullus sit qui post me liber-
 tatis uel quietis aliquid possit addere. Et si falsus monetarius¹²
 de alterius terra aduenticius in terra sancti Petri captus fuerit:
 corpus cum pecunia reddatur mihi: Si uero falsarius de terra
 sancti Petri fuerit: corpus solummodo reddatur mihi, pecunia
 autem erit abbatis. De latronibus autem iusticiam sibi concedo
 et pecuniam: si abbas uel per se uel per suos ipsam iusticiam
 facere uoluerit. Sin autem corpus tantum reddatur mihi et
 pecunia erit abbatis. Hoc tantum retineo et nichil aliud.
 Decimam uero uenationis mee de toto comitatu salopessire
 concedo perpetuo esse in hoc loco, preter siluas Sancte Mil-
 burge,¹³ Hec autem omnia facio pro animabus patris et matris
 mee et mea et omnium ad me pertinencium et pro anima regis
 Willelmi¹⁴ et Matildis regine et filiorum suorum. Quare uolo
 et firmiter precipio quod prefati monachi habeant et teneant
 omnes terras et possessiones et omnia tementa sua bene et
 in pace et libere et quiete et honorifice et cum omnibus liber-
 tatis et quietancijs¹⁵ supradictis. In bosco et in plano et
 pratis et pasturis et pascuis. In aquis et stagnis. In molen-
 dinis. In piscarijs. In moris. In via et semitis. In civitate
 et extra, et in omnibus locis et rebus omnibus cum socha¹⁶ et

sacha¹⁷ et tol¹⁸ et team¹⁹ et Infangenetheof^{10a} Testibus Arnulfo,²⁰ Rotberto de Belismo,²¹ Euerardo²² fratribus meis Ricardo de Belmesio,²³ Rogero corebeth,²⁴ et Rotberto fratre eius²⁵ Hamundo peuerel,²⁶ Fulcoio vicecomite,²⁷ Vlgero²⁸ venatore. Radulfo²⁹ de conedoura. et multis alijs. (SIGILLUM.)

Carta Stephani Regis cum subscriptione diuersorum Episcoporum.

Cum prouidenti dispensatione dei—in cuius manu sunt potestates et iura regnorum, normannorum dux Willelmus³⁰ cum ingenti angliam nauigio petens eam debollasset regnoque iure hereditario potitus diuersas imperii sui prouincias diuersis secum aduectis baronibus suis contulisset: ROGERO de Montegummeri³¹ hanc prouinciam scilicet salopessiram³² contradidit. Qui illam suscipiens ut iustus et deo plenus qui dei erant omni sollicitudine prius curare et qui uiolata erant redintegrare et ad dei seruicium reformare studuit. Et quoniam anime sue providus custos fuerat et uxor illi non minoris erga deum deuocionis erat ADELAISIA³³ nomine: concedente rege Willelmo et archiepiscopo Lanfranco³⁴ et patrie presule petro³⁵ posuerunt monachos deo seruituros in quadam ecclesia in honore sanctorum apostolorum petri et pauli constructa in suburbio Salopesberie ciuitatis: qui deum exorarent assidue pro animarum suarum salute et pro animabus omnium antecessorum suorum et heredum, qui ante eos ipsum honorem recte possiderunt, vel possessuri sunt. Hanc autem ecclesiam memoratus comes et cometissa de suis propriis facultatibus a fundamentis instaurantes, habitationi monachorum congruam efficere incepérunt: sed morte interueniente non perfecerunt. Huic uero ecclesie ea que infra continentur, tam pro animarum suarum quam pro omnium Xptanorum salute donauerunt perpetuoque concesserunt. Primo scilicet dederunt congregatis illic fratribus uicum quendam³⁶ iuxta eandem ecclesiam positum cum tribus molendinis,³⁷ cunctisque redditibus qui ad eum pertinere noscuntur. hic autem uicus³⁸ diuiditur a ciuitate Salopesberie solo alueo fluminis intercurrentis, cui nomen est sauerna.³⁹ Vicus autem ipse biforieta⁴⁰ uocatur quod nos lingua gallica ante portam dicimus. Addiderunt quoque supradictis donis quasdam ecclesias cum omnibus pertinentibus ad eas tam in terris quam hominibus, uniuersisque aliis possessionibus, quas hic nominatim annotare commodum duximus. Scilicet ecclesiam Sancti gregorij⁴¹, ecclesiamque de stotes-dona,⁴² et illam de dudeleberia,⁴³ illamque de conedoura,⁴³ et

illam de Walintona,⁴⁴ et illam de recordina,⁴⁵ et illam de edmundona,⁴⁶ et illam de hodenet,⁴⁷ et illam de archalon,⁴⁸ et illam de toenga,⁴⁹ et illam de dunintonam,⁵⁰ illam etiam de bascerche,⁵¹ et illam de nessa.⁵² Et super hec omnia concessit comes ut primates sui atque milites quicunque in elemosinam conferre uellent huic ecclesie aliquam partem terrarum suarum, non quæsita licentia a comite uel ab alio aliquo, libera mente donarent, ex eo tempore liberrimi ab omni seruicio eiusdem terre in perpetuum, Monachi uero eadem libertate illas terras suscipientes: nunquam de his sicut nec de aliis suis terris geldum communem darent, sicut vicecomes de dominio suo daret: geldum tamen militum nunquam ullo modo darent: Quod omnibus audientibus ualde placuit: totaque sua curia laudando et deo gratias referendo confirmavit. Addiderunt etiam comes et cometissa supradictis donis quasdam uillas, quarum nomina hic habentur. Aitonam⁵³ scilicet, Alministram,⁵⁴ et burtonam⁵⁵ et cum his omnibus concesserunt monachis tributum de lignis que in ciuitatem afferuntur per portam urbis orientalem. Addiditque comes ut totius prouincie mercatus omni anno ad honorum apostolorum petri et pauli in festiuitate sancti petri que dicitur ad uincula⁵⁶ conueniret, et tribus diebus solitus esset, et quietus ab omni incursione ministrorum comitis, solummodo monachi omnia que inde exirent et omnes redditus haberent. Testibus Godebaldo⁵⁷ et Olierio⁵⁸ sacerdotibus, Herberio archidiacono,⁵⁹ Warino uicecomite,⁶⁰ Rotberto filio tedbaldi,⁶¹ Rogero filio corbetti,⁶² Rotberto pincerna,⁶³ multisque alijs nobilibus atque popularibus qui hec audierunt et confirmauerunt. Hec autem omnia acta sunt anno ab incarnatione domini millesimo octogesimo septimo. Locus autem ille in quo supradicta ecclesia fundata est: fuit de hereditate cuiusdam militis cui nomen Siwardus.⁶⁴ Et quia comes Rogerus⁶⁵ in illius hereditate eo inuito ecclesiam fundare noluit: dedit ei quandam uillam nomine langafeldam,⁶⁶ ut ipse cum bona uoluntate in predicto loco ecclesiam sibi fundare concederet. eiusdemque elemosine isdem Siwardus particeps existeret. Postea autem memoratus Siwardus eandem uillam quam comes ei dederat ecclesie sanctorum petri et pauli post mortem suam concessit fraternitatemque eiusdem loci recepit. Teste Godebaldo⁶⁷ et Ricardo de belmesio⁶⁸ et Ricardo de monte Warolt.⁶⁹ Hoc etiam filii siwardi edwardus et aldredus⁷⁰ concesserunt. Teste Ricardo Londonie episcopo et multis aliis. Quam uillam postea monachi consensu et confirmatione regis Henrici⁷² et consilio baronum prouincie mutuo dederunt henrico de Sai⁷³ propter aliam uillam nomine brantonam⁷⁴ que eis uicinior et decentior erat.

Post ista autem supramemorata dona quidam barones et milites ipsius prouincie pro animarum suarum salute eidem ecclesie de suis possessionibus contulerunt. Scilicet Warinus⁶⁰ uicecomes dedit duas hidam terre in villa que dicitur tugafort⁷⁵ et decimam opetone⁷⁶ quam et semper eadem ecclesia habuerat a tempore regis Edwardi⁷⁷ ecclesiam quoque de beritona⁷⁸ cum decima ipsius uille. Vxor uero⁷⁹ illius post eius obitum dedit pro anima mariti sui domum⁸⁰ quam habebat in ciuitate de propria dote. Concedentibus filiis suis: eo pacto ut manens in eadem domo inueniret sepum ad illuminandam ecclesiam per singulas noctes totius anni. Herbertus de furches⁸¹ dedit domum unam et terram in agro que reddit per annum 11 solidos. Rainaldus⁸² frater Warini uicecomitis dedit uillam que vocatur lega.⁸³ Aherius⁸⁴ concessit edburtonam⁸⁵ et quicquid ad eam pertinet. Girardus de tornaj⁸⁶ dedit uillam unam que uocatur bettona⁸⁷ Helgotus⁸⁸ dedit hidam unam iuxta sauernam fluum que ex adiacente siluula mora uocatur⁸⁹ et piscariam in eodem flumine. Oilerius⁹⁰ sacerdos dedit hidam unam in cherletona.⁹¹ Tochi⁹² aliam hidam in villa que cota⁹³ dicitur. Odo quoque miles⁹⁴ dedit uillam hordeleiam⁹⁵ nomine. Decimam de Cambristona⁹⁶ et ecclesiam de ithessala⁹⁷ dedit Rotbertus uicecomes⁹⁸ and⁹⁹ filius tedbaldi cum omnibus que ad eam pertinent et cum decima ipsius manerii, scilicet in nummis et animalibus et messe. Et quia eandem ecclesiam tunc clerici habebant: precepit isdem Rotbertus⁹⁸ ut cum illi, morerentur, ecclesia in dominio sancti petri ueniret. Teste Ricardo²³ Londonie Episcopo. Goiffridus⁹⁹ dedit dimidiad hidam in villa que dicitur herleia.¹⁰⁰ Sciendum quoque est quod sanctus petrus habet dimidiad hidam in biritona¹⁰¹ de ecclesia de conedoura.^{102 43} Hec omnia concessit atque firmauit uenerabilis comes ROGERVS¹⁰³ testibus filiis eius et cum patre firmantibus, Hugone⁶⁵ Rogero⁶⁵ Arnulfo⁶⁵ cum baronibus plurimis. Defuncto autem comite cum corpus eius in ecclesia sancti petri sepulture traderetur. Rogerus filius⁶² corbeth dedit monachis ecclesiam de Wantenoura¹⁰³ cum decima ipsius uille, decimamque de iochehulla.¹⁰⁴ Post obitum autem uenerabilis comitis Rogeri Hugo filius eius,⁶⁵ digna proles tanti patris, ei in honorem successit. Quo tempore Rainaldus⁸² qui post mortem Warini uicecomitis uxorem illius cum honore suscepit et hugo filius eiusdem Warini⁶⁹ dederunt monachis ecclesiam Sancti Osuualdi¹⁰⁵ Et illam de mutla¹⁰⁶ cum omibus que ad eas pertinent et decimas de nessa⁶² et de seraordina¹⁰⁷ concedente comite et testimonum perhibente cum pluribus aliis. Quadam uero die cum isdem uenerabilis comes sepulturam patris inuisere uenisset, diuina

inspiratus gratia, motusque pietate paterna. iuxta ipsam sepulturam conuocauit dominum fucherendum¹⁰⁸ primum loci huius abbatem et coram cunctis baronibus qui aderant, resolutus in lacrimas, dixit, Pacem et quietem uolo esse in hoc loco et ideo constituo hanc abbatiam et omnia ad eam pertinentia ab omni consuetudine huius terre, quam ego possum condonare, esse libera in perpetuum et pacata et quieta. Homines monachorum nulla comitis negotia exerceant nulla castellorum¹⁰⁹ seu uiuariorum sine pontium uel uiarum nee aliqua omnino opera faciant, sed quieti et immunes sint ab omnibus schiris et hundredis et placitis, et ab omni vicecomitum incursione et exactione et fiscali redditione. Et qui aliquam aduersus hominem sancti petri querelam habuerit: in curia abbatis conqueratur, et ibi rectum habeat. Et hoc sciant omnes mei fideles, quia nichil retineo in honore sanctorum apostolorum petri et pauli, nisi orationes et beneficium monachorum in hoc loco manentium: et tam liberum hodie hunc honorem constituo, ut nullus sit qui post me libertatis uel quietis aliquid possit addere. Hoc tantum retineo: quod si abbas huius loci superbia inflatus noluerit rectum facere uicinis suis: ego uel heres meus post me constringemus eum ad rectum faciendum. Et si falsus monetarius¹¹⁰ dealterius terra aduenticius in terra sancti petri captus fuerit: corpus cum pecunia reddatur comiti. Si uero falsarius de terra sancti petri fuerit: corpus solummodo reddatur comiti, pecunia autem erit abbatis. De latronibus autem iusticiam sibi concedo et pecuniam, si abbas uel per se uel per suos ipsam iusticiam facere uoluerit; sin autem corpus tantum reddatur comiti et pecunia erit abbatis. Hoc tantummodo retineo: et nichil aliud. Decima uero uenationis mee de toto comitatu salopesire concedo perpetuo esse in hoc loco, preter silvas sancte Milburge:¹¹³ Hec autem omni facio pro animabus patris et matris mee et mea et fratrum meorum et omnium ad me pertinentium, et pro anima regis Willelmi¹¹⁰ et Mathildis¹¹¹ regine et filiorum suorum. Si quis autem uel meo tempore uel post obitum usque in finem seculi aliquid ex his uoluerit infringere uel auferre uel minuere: altissimus qui dominatur in regno hominum auferat eum de terra et deleat nomen eius de libro uite: et perpetuo anathemate multatus, uermibus consumptus intereat. Barones autem qui tunc presentes aderant uidentes tantam compunctionem domini sui, tantamque audientes libertatem honoris huius monasterii: pedibus eius prouoluti gratias egerunt deo, et tam piissime uenerabilis comitis uoluntati. Hi quippe fuerunt Arnulfus²⁰ frater eiusdem comitis, Ricardus²³ de belmesio: quo postea londonie epis-

copus factus est. Rotbertus²¹ uicecomes. Rainaldus uicecomes.²² Rotbertus corbeth,²³ et Rogerus frater eius,²⁴ Picotus de sai.²⁵ Hamundus peuerel.²⁶ Fulcoius uicecomes²⁷ et omnes fere huius comitatus barones. Defuncto autem pro-comite hugone, cum Rotbertus²¹ de belesmo frater ipsius post eum comitatus suscepisset honorem: dedit ecclesie sancti petri et monachis eiusdem loci uillam que dicitur Bascherche²⁸ cum omnibus ad eam pertinentibus. Omnia quoque dona que uel pater eius uel barones monachis contulerant, et totam libertatem quam frater suus eis concesserat ipse concessit—et sigillo suo confirmauit. Post eum uero gloriosus rex Henricus²⁹ comitatum in proprio tenens dominio, et audiens de pace et libertate et quietudine quam predictus comes hugo¹ ecclesie sancti petri dederat, ut erat uir natura benignus et ecclesiarum dei cultor deuotus in primis benignitatem et deuotionem comitis admirans laudauit et prompta uoluntate et alacri animo omni tempore deinceps tenenda mandauit: precipiens et constituens omnia illa pacis et libertatis priuilegia que comes hugo¹ sancto petro concesserat in perpetuum inuolata permanere. Addens omnibus anathema qui aliquid ex his infringere uel imminuere presumserint. Adiecit etiam ex sua parte ut monachi sancti petri seu homines quoconque irent per totam angliam seu mercandi seu alicuius negocii causa immunes essent ab omni theloneo et passagio et omni consuetudine: et ut monachi sancti petri accipiант in siluis ubicumque uoluerunt per totum comitatum ea que necessaria fuerunt ad opus ecclesie sine uastatione et essart. Eo tempore Toraldus³⁰ de uerleio dedit ecclesie sancti petri unam hidam in minore draitonae et Rotbertus³¹ filius eius qui et heres ipsius debit (sic, pro *dedit*) uillam nomine Wiche-witam.³² Teste Ricardo londencie episcopo³³ Hamone²⁶ peuerel, Johanne filio grip.³⁴ Toreth³⁵ et multis aliis. Odo quoque de berneles³⁶ dedit unum ferdendel in bradestan.³⁷ aliam partem eiusdem uille dedit Guarinus uicecomes. Herbertus filius helgoti³⁸ dedit quandam uillam nomine nortonam³⁹ et ecclesiam de stantona,¹²³ cum decimis suis omnibus et omnium militum suorum et cum omnibus que ad eandem ecclesiam pertinent. Postea uxor eius se concedente dedit quandam terram in eadem uilla que per annum reddit quatuor solidos. Normannus uenator⁴⁰ dedit uillulam unam nomine boleleiam.¹²⁵ Hugo de constantino⁴¹ dedit dimidię hidam in pectona¹²⁷ Azo bigot¹²⁸ aliam diuidię in langanarra^{128a} et unum ferdendel in abetona¹²⁹ Rotbertus filius Wigerij¹³⁰ dedit domum patris sui que est in castello. Picotus de sai¹¹² dedit decimam de brantona¹³¹ et de phitesso.¹³² Hunaldus¹³³ dedit decimam de

prestona¹³⁴ et de luscafort¹³⁵ et decimam equarum suarum
 agrestium. Hamo peurel²⁶ rogatu sue uxoris dedit uillam
 nomine Wlueruntonam.¹³⁶ teste Ricardo²⁸ londonie episcopo.
 cum aliis pluribus. Theodericus de saj¹³⁷ iuxta eandem uillam
 ex altera parte uicini fluminis dedit terram quandam in
 manerio suo stoca¹³⁸ de dominio suo solutam et quietam ab
 omni geldo et aliis consuetudinibus. Rotbertus corbeth⁶² dedit
 uillam nomine lochetonam¹³⁹ et filius eius Rotbertus concessit.
 Teste Ricardo londonie²⁸ episcopo cum baronibus totius comi-
 tatus. Rogerius corbeth²⁶ dedit aliam uillam nomine Wine-
 legam.¹⁴⁰ concedentibus filiis suis. Willelmo et eurardo.^{24 and 26}
 Fulcoius²⁷ uicecomes ad sepulturam uxoris sue dedit pimele-
 gam.¹⁴¹ henrico filio eius concedente²⁷. Vxor Azonis bigot¹²⁸
 dedit terram quandam in ciuitate pro anima filii sui Rainaldi.¹²⁸
 que reddit per annum decem denarios. In campis de ciuitate
 Alnothus¹⁴² dedit unam terram. et Reinerius¹⁴³ prefectus aliam
 pro filio suo quem fecit monachus et eilricus rufus¹⁴⁴ aliam
 similiter pro filio suo. Rotbertus presbyter filius andree
 clerici¹⁴⁵ cum moreretur. dimisit monachis terram suam in
 campis. ita ut mater sua quamdiu uiueret eam teneret et post
 mortem eius in dominio monachorum ueniret. Teste Rogero¹⁴⁶
 archidiacono, et Reinerio prefecto.¹⁴³ Gislebertus¹⁴⁷ archidiaconus
 dedit unam terram in campis de ciuitate. et decimam de
 opetona.⁷⁰ Alanus filius¹⁴⁸ fladaldi qui honorem uicecomitis
 Warini post filium eius suscepit. libenti animo concessit omnia
 que antecessores uel barones sui dederant ecclesie sancti petri,
 et in suo tempore et ante. que ab omnibus que ad se pertine-
 bant. excepto geldo regis. libera et quieta condonauit. Testibus
 Ricardo londonie²⁸ episcopo. Hamone peurel.²⁶ Rogero corbeth.⁶²
 cum toto fere comitatu. Hoc etiam Willelmus¹⁴⁹ filius eius et
 heres coram omni comitatu concessit et proprio sigillo con-
 firmauit. Comes autem Rogerius cognomine pictauensis¹⁴⁹
 supradicti Rogerii comitis filius. dedit ecclesie sancti petri
 piscariam detarewalla¹⁶⁰ et duas uillas paruasscelicet pultonam¹⁶¹
 et oesitonam¹⁶¹ iuxta ipsam piscariam. et aliam uillam nomine
 biskeopeham.¹⁵² pro salute sua. et uxoris sue. et patris et matris
 sue. Godefridus¹⁵³ uero uicecomes eius qui in eadem ecclesia
 filium habebat monachum concedente sibi comite dedit
 monachis ecclesiam de waletona.¹⁶⁴ et illam de Chereheham¹⁶⁵
 cum quadam uilla que dicitur garstan.¹⁶⁶ Et hec omnia idem
 comes in perpetuo firmauit quieta et libera ab omnium hominum
 inuasione: addens quod qui hec disturbaret uel auferret ana-
 thema esset. Teste Rotberto¹⁶⁷ Cestrie episcopo et Hugone¹⁶⁸
 eiusdem ciuitatis comite. Omnia ista suprascripta gloriosus
 rex Henricus⁷² coram omni concilio suo apud londoniam suo pro-

prio signo et sigillo confirmauit et archiepiscopis suis episcopis comitibus et aliis baronibus ad confirmandum tradidit. Et sicut comes Hugo concessit ecclesie sancti petri totam libertatem quam potuit ut nullus post eum plus addere posset: ita ipse rex concessit eidem ecclesie et omnibus ad eam pertinentibus quicquid potuit libertatis et quietis ut nullus post se plus concedere posset. Interminatus est etiam suum et archiepiscoporum episcoporum et omnium baronum suorum eternum anathema: omnibus qui de suprascriptis donis uel de ipsa libertate aliquid subtraherent uel infringerent. Concessit quoque monachis moltam¹⁶⁹ totius ciuitatis salopesberie. precipliens ut nullus in toto circuitu ciuitatis nec in uno ponte nec in alio molendinum faceret nisi monachi uel cui ipsi concesserunt. Testibus Ricardo londonie⁷¹ episcopo. Hamone peurel.²⁶ Fulcoio uicecomite²⁷ et multis aliis. Defuncto autem rege henrico cum uenerabilis nepos eius Stephanus¹⁶⁰ in regno successisset: Supradictus Hamo peurel²⁶ concedente rege dedit ecclesie sancti petri duas uillas id est crugeltonam¹⁶¹ et scle- pam¹⁶² et Sibilla uxor eius aliam uillam que uocatur chinardceia.¹⁶³ concedente uiro suo et donum super altare ponente. Testibus Willelmo Filio alani.¹⁶⁴ Willelmo de tornai.¹⁶⁵ Alano filio Willelmi de hedlega.¹⁶⁶ Rotberto filio Nigelli.¹⁶⁷ Radulfo de tirna.¹⁶⁸ Ricardo filio balduini de linlega.¹⁶⁹ et pluribus alijs. Rogatus autem rex Stephanus ut confirmaret omnia suprascripta: dixit Cumauunculus meus rex Henricus baronum suorum prece ista confirmaret: presens aderam et testis aduocatus fui: et eum omnia concedere et confirmare audini et uidi que comes Hugo concesserat et eadem uerba dicere que predictus comes dixit quando ecclesie sancti petri libertatem constituit: uidelicet quod tam liberum ipsius ecclesie honorem constituebat ut nullus post eum aliquid libertatis uel quietis addere posset. Et ideo ego pro salute anime mee et pro pace regni mei concedo et confirmo omnia suprascripta et eandem libertatem et quietem quam ecclesie sancti petri comes Hugo dedit et rex Henricus confirmauit Ego quoque concedo et confirmo: ita liberam et quietam ipsam ecclesiam constitui. ut nullus sit qui post me aliquid libertatis uel quietis addere possit. Qui uero aliquid ex his minuere presumserit: eterno anathemate puniatur.

¹⁶⁹  Ego **STEPHANVS** rex confirmaui et subscrispi.

¹⁷⁰  Ego Henricus Wintoniensis episcopus subscrispi.

¹⁷¹  Ego Rogerus Salesberiensis episcopus subscrispi.

¹⁷²  Ego Nigellus Heliensis episcopus subscrispi.

¹⁷³  Ego Rotbertus Herefordensis episcopus subscrispi.

¹⁷⁴  Ego Seifridus cicestrensis episcopus subscrispi.

175  Ego Ricardus abrincatensis episcopus subserpsi.
 176  Ego Gernasius abbas Westmonasterii. subserpsi.
 177  Ego Gaufridus abbas Sancti Albani. subserpsi.
 178  Ego Rogerus cancellarius subserpsi.
 179  Ego Rannulfus comes cestrie. subserpsi.
 180  Ego Willelmus comes Warenne. subserpsi.
 181  Ego Willelmus Martel. subserpsi.
 182  Ego Albricus de uair. subserpsi.
 183 Ego Gaufridus de magna-uilla. subserpsi.

Charter of Earl Hugh in respect of liberties granted.

Hugh Earl of Salopesberia¹ to all his lieges and friends, Barons ministers and all his men, as well present as future—greeting—I will you all to know that one day as I was standing by the sepulchre of the Earl my father and remembering that he, while yet alive, had enjoined me to love and maintain his almesse, that is to say, the abbey of Salopesberia; pricked as I was in regard of my father's love and affection I granted and confirmed in pure and perpetual almesse, for my own welfare and for his soul's sake and for the souls of my ancestors, that the aforesaid abbey with all its appurtenances should be free and quit of all taxation and interference and all exactation of sheriffs and other ministers whosoever, and from all services connected with suits of court² And therefore I will and firmly decree for ever that the monks in the aforesaid Church serving God may have and hold all their lands and possessions and all their tenements, which now they hold or which in future they may obtain of any one's gift well and in peace and freely and quietly and honourably and that they and all their men be free and quit of all working at castles³ and vivaries⁴ and bridges⁵ and roads⁶ and court suit works,² nor shall they perform summages⁷ nor exercise any business of the county-court and that they shall be quit and exempt from shires⁸ and hundreds⁹ and have their own court for all pleas and forfeits of their own men and therein dispense justice to others and have their own justice as well and as fully as I myself do and as I best and most fully can give them; that they be also free and quit of knights' geld¹⁰ and of common geld¹⁰ and of every service wherein a penny is exacted¹¹ I further grant that my barons, burgesses, and knights, whosoever they be that so wish, may make grants to them of lands and privileges without any further licence of me or of my heirs, in such a manner however as that from the almesse given they shall not require further

service to me either by their giving or their receiving. And let all my leiges know this that I retain nothing within the lordship of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul but the prayers and goodwill of the monks remaining in this place and so free do I this day establish their lordship that no one who shall come after me shall be able to extend either the liberty or the aquittance. And if a false moneyer¹² coming from another's land shall be captured in the land of St. Peter, his body with the money shall be given up to me. If however the falsifier be of the land of St. Peter let his body only be surrendered to me and let the money be the abbot's. But in the case of thieves I grant both the judgement and the money to him, providing that the abbot either by himself or by his own people is willing to exercise such justice, but if not let the body only be surrendered to me and the money to the abbots. This one matter I retain and nothing else. I grant further that the tithe of my venison of the whole county of Salopesberia shall be for ever in this place with the exception of the woods of St. Milburga¹³. And all these things I do for the souls of my father and mother and for my own and all belonging to me and for the soul of King William¹⁴ and Queen Matilda and their children. Accordingly I will and firmly enjoin that the aforesaid monks may have and hold all their lands and possessions and all their tenements well and in peace and freely and quietly and honourably and with all the liberties and quittances¹⁵ aforesaid, in wood and in plain, in meadow and in pasture and in fodder, in waters, and in pools, in mills, in fisheries, in moors, in highway and in byeways, in town and in country and in all places and in all matters, with sok¹⁶ and sak¹⁷ and toll¹⁸ and team¹⁹ and infangenetheo^{19a}.—Witnesses Arnulf²⁰ Rotbert de Belesmo,²¹ Euerard²² my brothers, Ricard de Belmesio,²³ Roger corebeth²⁴ and Rotbert his brother,²⁵ Hamond peverel,²⁶ Fulco the Sheriff,²⁷ Ulger the hunter,²⁸ Radulf de Conedoura²⁹ and many others.

[N.B.—To this document the facsimile of a seal is appended.]

Charter of King Stephen with the subscription of divers Bishops.

Since by the provident dispensation of God, in whose hand are the powers and rights of Kingdoms—William,³⁰ Duke of the Normans, invading England with a mighty array of ships

had vanquished it, and, acquiring by hereditary right the government thereof, had conferred upon diverse Barons whom he had brought with him diverse provinces of his empire, he confided to Roger of Montgomery³¹ this province, that is to say Salopesscire.³² He, receiving it, being as he was a just man, and full of the fear of God, was mainly desirous to foster with all due care the things which pertained to God and to re-establish whatever had been dishonoured and to restore everything to God's service. And since he had been a careful custodian of his own soul and his wife, whose name was Adelaisa³³ had been of no less devotion towards God, by the permission of King William and Archbishop Lanfranc,³⁴ and Peter³⁵ the prelate of the district, they placed monks to serve God in a certain church built in honour of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul in a suburb of the city of Salopesberie, which monks were to beseech God continually for the welfare of their souls and for the souls of all their ancestors and successors, who either before them had rightly possessed that dignity or should afterwards possess it. This church, moreover, the mentioned Earl and Countess, erecting it from the foundations at their own cost, commenced to make fit for the dwelling of the monks, but death intervening they did not complete it. To this church, however, they gave and granted in perpetuity the gifts which are rehearsed below, as much for their own souls as for the welfare of all Christian people. First of all, that is to say, they gave to the brethren assembled there a certain settlement,³⁶ situate near the same Church together with three mills³⁷ and all the revenues recognised as pertaining to it. This settlement,³⁸ however, is separated from the city of Salopesberie only by the channel of an intervening river, the name of which is Savern³⁸ but the settlement itself is called Biforiet³⁹ which we call Foregate in the Gallic tongue. They added further to the above mentioned gifts certain churches with all that appertained to them both in lands and men and in all other possessions, which (churches) we have thought fitting to set down here. Forsooth, the church of St. Gregory⁴⁰ (at Morville) and the church of Stotesdon⁴¹ and that of Dudelebery⁴² and that of Conedour⁴³ and that of Walinton⁴⁴ and that of Recordine⁴⁵ and that of Edmundon⁴⁶ and that of Hodenet⁴⁷ and that of Archalon⁴⁸ and that of Toeng⁴⁹ and that of Duninton⁵⁰—That also of Bascherch⁵¹ and that of Ness.⁵² And over and above all these the Earl granted that his nobles and Knights whosoever they might be, that were willing to grant in almesse any portion of their lands might do so with freedom without leave being asked of the Earl or any one else

but only so as from that time to be completely free for ever of any service due for that land. But the monks accepting those lands with such immunity should never give in respect of these and their other lands the common geld otherwise than as the sheriff giveth from his own demesne but never should give in any shape or form knights' geld. Which thing mightily pleased all the auditors and the whole of his court confirmed it by praising it and rendering thanks to God. Further the Earl and Countess added to the above mentioned gifts certain vills, the names of which are here supplied that is to say Aiton,⁵³ Alminstry,⁵⁴ and Burton,⁵⁵ and with all these they granted to the monks the toll of such logs as were brought into the city by the east town gate. The Earl added that a market of the whole province should be held every year to the honour of the Apostles Peter and Paul on the festival of St. Peter which is styled *ad vincula*⁵⁶ and that it should be dissolved in three days and be quit of all interference of the Earl's ministers, that the monks alone should have all the revenues thence accruing and all the rents. Witnesses Godebald,⁵⁷ and Oilerius,⁵⁸ priests. Herbert archdeacon,⁵⁹ Warin sheriff,⁶⁰ Rotbert fitz Tedbald,⁶¹ Roger fitz Corbeth,⁶² Rotbert Pincerna,⁶³ and many other noble and notable men who heard and confirmed these things. Now all these things were done in the year from the Incarnation of our Lord the one thousandth and eighty seventh. But the particular place where the aforesaid church was built was of the heritage of a certain knight whose name was Siward,⁶⁴ And because the Earl Roger⁶⁵ was not willing to found a church within his heritage without his consent he gave to him a certain vill Langafeld⁶⁶ by name, in order that he with goodwill might grant to him to found a church in the aforesaid place and that the same Siward might be a participator in the same almesse. Afterwards, however, the said Siward granted the very vill which the Earl had given him to the church of Saints Peter and Paul after his own decease and he joined himself to the fraternity of the same place. Witness Godebald⁶⁷ and Richard de Belmesio⁶⁸ and Richard of Monte Warolt.⁶⁹ This, moreover, the sons of Siward, Edward, and Aldred⁷⁰ conceded. Witness Richard bishop of London⁷¹ and many others. That vill afterwards the monks by the consent and with the confirmation of King Henry⁷² and the mutual advice of the Barons of the province gave to Henry de Sai⁷³ in lieu of another vill named Branton⁷⁴ which was nearer to them and more convenient. Then after the above mentioned gifts certain Barons and Knights of the same province contributed of their

possessions to the same church for the welfare of their own souls. For instance, Warin⁶⁰ the Sheriff gave two hides of land in a vill called Tugafor⁷⁵ and the tithe of Opeton⁷⁶ which the same Church held and had possessed from the time of King Edward,⁷⁷ the church also of Beriton⁷⁸ with the tithe of that vill; His wife,⁷⁹ further, after his decease, gave for the soul of her husband, the house⁸⁰ which she held of her own dowry in the town, her sons agreeing thereto, on this condition that as long as she remained in the house she should find the tallow for lighting the church every night in the year. Herbert de Furches⁸¹ gave a house and land in the field which produced two shillings a year; Rainald⁸² brother of Warin the sheriff gave a vill called Lega;⁸³ Aherius⁸⁴ granted Edburton⁸⁵ and all thereto pertaining; Girardus de Tornai⁸⁶ gave a vill called Betton;⁸⁷ Helgot⁸⁸ gave one hide near the river Severn which from a neighbouring little wood is called Mora⁸⁹ and a fishery in the same river; Oilerius,⁹⁰ the priest, gave one hide in Cherleton;⁹¹ Tochi⁹² another in a vill called Cota;⁹³ Odo,⁹⁴ the knight, also gave a vill named Hordley,⁹⁵ Rotbert,⁹⁶ and⁹⁷ the sheriff, son of Tedbald, gave the tithe of Cambriston⁹⁸ and the church of Ithessal⁹⁷ with all things pertaining thereto and the tithe of the same manor, that is to say, in money and animals and corn, and inasmuch as at that time certain clerks held the same church, the same Rotbert⁹⁸ ordered that, when they were dead, the church should come within the rule of St. Peter,—Witness Richard, bishop of London,^{98a} Goiffridus⁹⁹ gave half a hide in the vill which is called Herley;¹⁰⁰ It should be also known that St. Peter held half a hide in Biriton¹⁰¹ of the church of Conedour.^{48 102} All these things the venerable Earl Roger granted and confirmed, his sons being witnesses and confirming with their father (namely) Hugh, Roger, Arnulf,⁶⁵ with very many Barons. But when the Earl was dead and his corpse was being delivered for burial in the Church of St. Peter, Roger fitz Corbeth⁶² gave to the monks the church of Wantnour¹⁰³ with the tithe of that vill and the tithe of Icchephull.¹⁰⁴ After the decease of the venerable Earl Roger, Hugh his son,⁶⁵ worthy offspring of so noble a father, succeeded him in the dignity, at which time Rainald,⁸² who after the death of Warin the Sheriff had taken his wife, as well as his dignity and Hugh,⁶⁰ son of the same Warin, gave to the monks the Church of St. Oswald,¹⁰⁵ and that of Mutle with all that pertains to them and the tithes of Ness¹⁰⁶ and of Seraordine,¹⁰⁷ the Earl agreeing and bearing his testimony with many others. But on a certain day when the same venerable Earl had come to visit his father's burying place, he being filled with

divine grace and moved by filial affection, summoned the lord Fucherid,¹⁰⁸ the first abbot of this place, and near the tomb itself and in the presence of all the barons who were standing around said I desire that there should be peace and quietness in this place and so I decree that this abbey and all thereto pertaining shall be for ever free from every custom of this realm so far as I can remit and be peaceful and quiet; let not the monk's men perform any of the Earl's business nor take any part in building castles,¹⁰⁹ or vivaries,⁴ or bridges,⁵ or roads,⁶ or any works whatever, and be quit and exempt of all schires and hundreds⁸ and pleadings and from every encroachment and demand of the sheriffs and from every fiscal tax. And should anyone have a complaint against any of St. Peter's men, let him implead him in the Abbot's court and there obtain his rights. And let all my lieges know this because I claim nothing within the lordship of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul except the prayers and the goodwill of the monks remaining in that place, and so very free do I this day make this lordship that no one coming after me shall be able to add to it any further freedom or exemption. This one thing only I retain that if the abbot of this place be puffed up with pride and be unwilling to do justice to his neighbours, I myself or my heir after me will compel him to do the right. And if a false moneyer,¹¹⁰ coming from another man's land be caught in the land of St. Peter, his body with the money shall be given up to the Earl; if, however, the falsifier be of the land of St. Peter his body only shall be given up to the Earl but the money shall be the Abbot's. The judgment however of thieves I leave altogether to him and the money as well, if the Abbot, either personally or by his deputy shall desire to do justice, but if otherwise, the body only shall be delivered to the Earl and the money shall be the Abbot's. This only I retain and nothing else. But the tithe of my venison from the whole county of Salop I grant to belong to this place for ever, except that of the woods of St. Milburg.¹³ And all these things I do for the souls of my father and mother and for my own and for my brother's and all belonging to me and for the souls of King William¹⁰ and Queen Matilda¹¹¹ and their children. If any one either in my time or after my decease up to the end of time shall desire to break down, or remove or lessen any one of these privileges may the Most High God, Who rules in the kingdom of men, take him away from the earth and blot his name out of the book of life, and let him be punished with an eternal curse, and perish eaten up by worms. Then the Barons who were standing around and observing the great compunction

on the part of their lord, and hearing how great the immunity and the dignity of this monastery should be, fell down at his feet and gave thanks to God and for the very righteous intentions of the venerable Earl. These indeed were Arnulf²⁰ the brother of the same Earl, Richard de Belmesio²³ who afterwards was made bishop of London, Rotbert the Sheriff,²¹ Rainald the Sheriff,²² Rotbert Corbeth,²⁵ and Roger his brother,²⁶ Picot de Sai,¹¹² Hamund Pevrel,²⁶ Fulco the Sheriff,²⁷ in fact nearly all the Barons of the County. When, however, Earl Hugh was dead and Rotbert de Belismo²¹ his brother had undertaken the county dignity after him, he gave to the Church of St. Peter and to the monks of that place the vill called Bascherche⁵¹ with all things pertaining thereto and he himself conceded and confirmed all the gifts which either his father or the Barons had conferred on the monks and all the privileges his brother had yielded to them and that with his own seal. After him, however the renowned King Henry¹¹³ took the county into his own hands, and when he heard of the peace and liberty and quiet which the aforesaid Earl Hugh had granted to the Church of St. Peter, being naturally a kind man and a devout maintainer of God's churches he, first of all, filled as he was with admiration, praised the benignity and devotion of the Earl and then with willing promptitude gave command for these privileges to be enjoyed for all time, henceforth ordering and constituting that all the immunities of peace and liberty which the Earl Hugh¹ had granted to St. Peter should remain inviolate for ever, superadding an anathema upon anyone that should presume to infringe or lessen any of them. He added too of his own accord that the monks of St. Peter and their men wherever they might travel through all England whether for the sake of trading or other business should be exempt from all tolls and passage and custom and that the monks of St. Peter might have out of the woods wherever they pleased in the whole county such things as were necessary for the building of their church without (being charged with) waste or essart. At that time Torald de Verley¹¹⁴ gave to the Church of St. Peter one hide in Little Draiton¹¹⁵ and Rotbert his son¹¹⁴ who was also his heir gave a vill named Wichewit.¹¹⁶ Witness Richard bishop of London,⁷¹ Hamon Peurel,²⁶ John fitz Grip,¹¹⁷ Toreth¹¹⁸ and many others. Odo of Berneles¹¹⁹ also gave one ferdendel in Bradestan,¹²⁰ the other part of the same vill Guarin the sheriff gave; Herbert fitz Helgot¹²¹ gave a certain vill Norton¹²² by name, and the Church of Stanton¹²³ with all their tithes and the tithes of all their knights and with all things that pertain to the same Church.

Afterwards his wife with his permission gave certain land in the same vill which produced fourpence annually; Norman Venator¹²⁴ one little vill Boleley¹²⁵ by name; Hugh de Constantine gave half a hide in Pecton; ¹²⁷ Azo Constantine gave half a hide in Langanarra;^{128a} and one ferdendel in Abeton;¹²⁹ Rotbert fitz Wiger¹³⁰ gave his father's house which is in the castle; Picot de Saj¹¹² gave the tithe of Branton¹³¹ and of Phitess;¹³² Hunald¹³³ gave the tithe of Preston¹³⁴ and of Luscafort¹³⁵ and the tithe of his wild mares; Hamon²⁶ Peurel at the request of his wife gave a vill named Wlnerunton;¹³⁶ Witness Richard bishop of London²³ with many others; Theodoric de Saj¹³⁷ near the same vill on the other side of a neighbouring stream gave a certain land in his own manor of Stoke¹³⁸ out of his own demesne freed and quit of all geld and other customs; Rotbert Corbeth¹⁰² gave a vill Locheton¹³⁹ by name and his son Rotbert agreed, Witness Richard²³ Bishop of London with the Barons of the whole county; Roger Corbeth²⁵ gave another vill Wineley¹⁴⁰ by name, his sons²⁴ William²⁶ and Everard agreeing; Fulco the sheriff²⁷ at the burial of his wife gave Pimeley¹⁴¹ Henry his son agreeing²⁷; The wife of Azo Bigot¹²⁸ gave a certain land in the town for the soul of her son Rainald¹²⁸ which produces ten pence annually. In the fields of the town Alnoth¹⁴² gave one land and Reiner¹⁴³ the prefect, another for his son whom he made monk and Eilric Rufus¹⁴⁴ likewise another for his son; Rotbert the presbyter, son of Andrew the clerk,¹⁴⁵ when he was dying, demised to the monks his land in the fields in such a manner that his mother should hold it as long as she lived and after her death it should come into the demesne of the monks. Witness Roger Archdeacon¹⁴⁶ and Reiner prefect;¹⁴³ Gislebert, the archdeacon,¹⁴⁷ gave one land in the fields of the town and the tithe of Opeton⁷⁶; Alan the son of Fladald¹⁴⁸ who undertook the dignity of Sheriff Warin, after his son, granted with a ready mind all that his ancestors or his Barons had given to the church of St. Peter, and remitted both for his own time, and previously all that pertained to himself, with the exception of the King's geld, so as to be free and quit. Witnesses being Richard Bishop of London,²³ Hamon Peurel,²⁶ Roger Corbeth,⁶² with nearly the whole county. This, moreover, William his son¹⁴⁸ and heir granted and confirmed with his own seal in the presence of the whole county. But Earl Roger, surnamed of Poictou,¹⁴⁹ the son of the aforesaid Earl Roger gave to the church of St. Peter the fishery of Tarewall¹⁵⁰ and two little vills, that is to say, Pulton and Ocsiton¹⁵¹ near the same fishery, and another vill named Biscopeham¹⁵² for

his own welfare and his wife's and of his father and mother. Godifrid¹⁵³ this man's sheriff, moreover, who had a son a monk in the same church, with the consent of the Earl gave to the monks the church of Waleton¹⁵⁴ and that of Chercheham¹⁵⁵ with a certain vill which is called Garstan.¹⁵⁶ Now all these the same Earl confirmed for ever to be quit and free from the intrusion of all men adding that he should be accursed whosoever should disturb or take away these things. Witness Rotbert Bishop of Chester¹⁵⁷ and Hugh the Earl of the same city.¹⁵⁸ All these things aforesaid the renowned king Henry⁷² before his own council in London confirmed with his own hand and seal and delivered them to his archbishops, bishops, Earls and other Barons for confirmation. And just as Earl Hugh had granted to the Church of St. Peter all possible freedom in order that no one after him should be able to add thereto, so the king himself granted to the same Church and to all belonging to it, as much as he could confer of freedom and quittance so that no one after him should be able to grant any more. He also laid his own, and the archbishops' and bishops' and all his barons' eternal anathema upon all who should diminish or infringe anything concerning the aforesaid gifts or the freedom itself. He granted likewise to the monks the multure¹⁵⁹ of the whole town of Salopesbery, enjoining that no one except the monks in the whole circuit of the town, neither on one bridge nor on the other, should build a mill, but only those whom the monks should authorize, Witnesses Richard bishop of London,⁷¹ Hamon Peurel,²⁰ Fulco the Sheriff²⁷ and many others. When however King Henry was dead and his revered nephew Stephen¹⁶⁰ had succeeded to the kingdom, the above mentioned Hamon Peurel,²⁶ with the king's consent gave to the church of St. Peter two vills Crugelton¹⁶¹ forsooth and Schlepe,¹⁶² and Sibilla his wife another vill called Chinardesey,¹⁶³ her husband agreeing and placing the gift upon the altar. Witnesses William fitz Alan,¹⁶⁴ William de Tornai,¹⁶⁵ Alan fitz William de Hedley,¹⁶⁶ Robert fitz Nigell,¹⁶⁷ Radulf de Tirna,¹⁶⁸ Richard fitz Baldwin de Linley¹⁶⁹ and very many others. Moreover King Stephen being requested to confirm all the above-written said 'When my uncle king Henry was confirming those things at the request of his Barons I was present, being summoned as a witness, and I heard and saw him grant and confirm all that Earl Hugh had granted and I heard him say the very same words which the aforesaid Earl said when he ordained the freedom of the church of St. Peter, namely, that no one after him should be able to add any further degree of freedom or quittance. And accordingly for the

welfare of my own soul and the peace of my realm I also concede and confirm all the things above written and I likewise grant and confirm the same freedom and quittance which Earl Hugh and King Henry conferred on the Church of St. Peter. I constitute the same church so free and quit that no one after me shall be able to add any further degrees of freedom and quittance and should anyone presume to diminish any of these privileges let him be punished with an eternal curse.

160  I KING STEPHEN have confirmed and subscribed.
 170  I Henry bishop of Winchester have subscribed.
 171  I Roger bishop of Salisbury have subscribed.
 172  I Nigell bishop of Ely have subscribed.
 173  I Rotbert bishop of Hereford have subscribed.
 174  I Seifrid bishop of Chichester have subscribed.
 175  I Richard bishop of Avranches have subscribed.
 176  I Gervase, abbot of Westminster have subscribed.
 177  I Gaufrid abbot of St. Albans have subscribed.
 178  I Roger chancellor have subscribed.
 179  I Ranulf Earl of Chester have subscribed.
 180  I William Earl Warenne have subscribed.
 181  I William Martel have subscribed.
 182  I Albric de Uair have subscribed.
 183  I Gaufrid de Mandeville have subscribed.

N O T E S .

¹ Hugh de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, was the second son of Earl Roger by his first wife, Mabel (murdered Dec. 5th, 1082). By her he had five sons and four daughters—1, Robert de Belesmo, Count de Alengon; 2, Hugh de Montgomery; 3, Roger the Poitevin (Pictavensis), *titular* Earl of Lancaster; 4, Philip the Grammarian, who died at the siege of Antioch in the first crusade; and 5, Arnulph (or Arnold) de Montgomery, keeper of Pembroke Castle. The daughters were: 1, Emma, a nun and abbess of Almenesch, who died the 4th of March, 1113; 2, the Countess Matilda, wife of Robert Earl of Mortain, half brother to William the Conqueror; 3, Mabel, wife of Hugh of Chateau-neuf, living in 1131; 4, Sibil, wife of Robert Fitz-Hamon (see O. & B., i., 50), Lord of Creulli in Normandy and of Tewkesbury, &c., in Gloucestershire. By his second wife, Adelaisa or Adeliza, daughter of Everard du Puisset, one of the highest of the French nobility, he had only one son, Everard, brought up to learning, who afterwards in the reigns of William and Henry became one of the royal chaplains. Hugh succeeded his father as Earl of Shrewsbury in 1094 (Ord. Vit. II., 195, &c.).

² *Servicio seculari*: "Service connected with suit of court." Suit of Court: *secta curiae* is a service by which all freemen above

twelve years of age were bound to attend the sheriffs' *tourn*, that they might be informed in all things relating to the peace of the publick. All persons were obliged to take the oath of allegiance in this court. There were also *schire* and *hundred* courts to which similar obligations extended.

³ *Castellorum* : Castles. *Castle-ward*, *Castel gardum vel Wardum* *Castel* is an imposition laid upon such as dwell within a certain compass of any castle towards the maintenance of such as watch and ward therein.

⁴ *Uinariorum* : Vivaries are places on land or water where *living* things are kept. In land the word *vivarium* commonly signifies a park, warren, fish-pond, or piscary.

⁵ *Pontium* : Bridges. *Pontage* was an enforced contribution towards the maintenance or re-erecting of bridges, or else was toll taken for such purpose from persons using them.

⁶ *Viarum* : Roads or Highways. The *trinoda necessitas* was *expeditio, pontis, et arcis reparatio*. Where under *reparatio*, the maintenance of highways is understood. The three exemptions forming the *trinoda necessitas* were anciently inserted in all royal grants to the Church after the words that freed spiritual persons *ab omni sæculari servitio*.

⁷ *Summagia* : summages, tolls for carriage on sumpter horses, *summa* is a horse-load.

⁸ *Schiris et hundredis* : schires and hundreds. (see *suit of court*.²)

⁹ *Geldo militum* : knight's geld. All persons having £10 yearly income (£20 by I. Ed. ij., cap. 1), were obliged to be Knighted or pay a fine to be excused. "A.D., 1181. Henricus rex Angliæ per omnes torras suas transmarinas edidit statutum de armis habendis; postea vero etiam Anglos eidem statuto subjecit, i.e., quicunque haberet feodum militis unius haberet loricam, cassidem, clypeam et lanceam, et quot feoda militum quis haberet, tot militaria arma haberet. Et post multa, quilibet liber laicus, qui haberet in cattallis valorem decem marcarum, haberet habergellum, capellum ferreum, et lanceam, et unusquisque juraret non vendere nec alienare arma sua" [Chronicon Angliæ Petriburgense p. 104.]

¹⁰ *Geldo communi* : common geld. The following quotation seems to explain this—"It was a law among the Saxons that every freeman of 14 years old should find sureties to keep the peace, or be committed, whereupon certain neighbours entered into an association and became bound for each other to produce him who committed an offence or to make satisfaction to the injured party; which that they might do the better they raised a sum of money among themselves, which they put into a common stock, and when one of these pledges had committed an offence, and was fled, then, the other nine, made satisfaction out of this common stock according to the quality of the offence; and because this association consisted of ten families it was called a Decenary."—(Blount.)

¹¹ *Denarius exigitur*; a penny is exacted. Such exactions were styled *Werd peni*, *Aver peni*, *Hundred peni*, and *Toling peni*.

¹² *Falsus monetarius* : false moneyer. Very many statutes were passed in early times against false moneyers and counterfeiters ex.gr. in A.D. 1108 "Henricus rex pacificato regno, legem dedit quod furto deprehensus suspenderetur, et monetam etiam correxit, graviter ulciscendo in corruptores monetæ ut falsarii ejus absque misericordia oculis et genitalibus privarentur" (Chron. Petriburg. p. 74).

¹³ *Sancte Milburge* : Saint Milburg was the daughter of Merewald the Christian founder of Leominster Priory, and grand-daughter of Penda, the pagan King of the Mercians, who died Feb. 28th, 722. Wenlock was at first a nunnery and became, (after its destruction by the Danes in 874) a priory of Cluniac Monks by the beneficence of Earl Roger, about 1080, that is, three years before the foundation of Shrewsbury Abbey. The words in the text *Saint Milburg* are to be understood of the Priory in its corporate capacity.

¹⁴ *Willelmi et Matildis et filiorum* : William 1st the Conqueror married Matilda, daughter of Baldwin, vth Earl of Flanders, and niece of Henry, King of France, by his sister Adelaide, the daughter of King Robert. Their children were Robert and Richard, William and Henry, Agatha, Adeliza Constance, Cicely and Adele.

¹⁵ *Quietanciis* : quittances, acquittance is a discharge or clearing from an offence objected—or else a release or discharge of a debt formerly due.

¹⁶ *Socha* : Sok or Soc "is a liberty whereby the lordes shal hold their Courtes and receive homage."

¹⁷ *Sacha* : Sak or Sac "is a libertie by the whiche the lord shal have the amerciamentes of all trespasses doon within his lordshipp."

¹⁸ *Tol* : Toll, Thol "is a libertie by the which the lord shal have thol of all things bought and sold within his lordshippe."

¹⁹ *Team* : Team, Theam, or Them "is a libertie whereby the lord shal call and bring home all the generac'on of his bondmen, with all their sequele or offspring and catell whersoever they be founden in Englonde, except that if any such bondsman dwel by a yer and a day in eny privylegid town and be receved into the comon guylde ther than he shal not be taken out of the precinct of that towne or lordship forasmyche as for the tyme that he is receved within that franchise or libertie he is free and delivered of bondage." (These four explanations from "Priory of Bromfield," p. 98.)

²⁰ *Infangenetheof*, Infangthef : is the right of trying and punishing a thief taken within the jurisdiction with the stolen goods in his possession. The word is derived from the Saxon *fangen*, capere and *theof* fur, and so "latronem infra captum," i.e., taken within the manor, liberty, or jurisdiction. In the register of Cokesford Priory, the right is expounded thus : "Quod latrones, capti in dominio vel feodo Prioris et de latrocino convicti in Curia Domini Prioris, judicentur, et ad furcas ejus suspendentur."

²¹ *Arnulfo* : Arnulphus de Montgomery, keeper of Pembroke Castle, who built that of Carew, was son of Earl Roger. He and his brother Roger lost all their honours and estates for their treason

He married the daughter of a king of Ireland called Lafracoth, [but whether this was her name or her father's is a debateable point (see O. & B., I., 49)] in right of whom he aspired to get possession of her father's kingdom. (See also note 1.)

²¹ *Rotberto de Belismo* : Robert de Belesmo, brother of Earl Hugh (see note 1) with his brother Arnulf and Roger, having rebelled and been vanquished, in 1102 abjured the kingdom and retired to Normandy. (Chron. Petriburg, p. 71.)

²² *Euerardo* : Everard, the son of Earl Roger by his second wife, Adelaisa. (Note 1.)

²³ *Ricardo de Belmesio* : Richard of Belesmo, a confidential *clerk* in the service of Earl Roger, at first viceroy, then sheriff of Shropshire, and ultimately in 1108 Bishop of London. He died 1128.

²⁴ *Rogero Corebeth* : Roger fitz-Corebeth and Rotbert his brother were sons of that Corebeth who came over with William and about 1121 built a castle at Alreton and called it Caux or Cause, from the name of the place, whence he came, the Pays de Caux in Normandy. Rotbert's son was likewise Rotbert. Roger's sons were William and Everard.

²⁵ *Rotberto* : See note preceding (24).

²⁶ *Hamundo Peurel* : Hamon Peurel, Dugdale says that the Peverels were descended from a Saxon ancestress, who was mistress to William, duke of Normandy, afterwards married to Ranulf Peverel, of Hatfield. It does not appear what relation Hamon was to Ranulf, but he married Sibil, daughter of the disinherited Gerard of Tornai. His natural daughter Seburga married William de Hadley i., whose descendants for 200 years were at High Ercal (see Archelona 48.)

²⁷ *Fulcoio vice-comite* : Fulk, the Viscount or Sheriff of Shropshire 1098 to 1102. His son was Henry, his wife is mentioned under Pimelege (141).

²⁸ *Ulgero Venatore* : or Ulger the Hunter was one of the defenders of Bridgenorth Castle for De Belesmo against Heu. i. He was the ancestor of the De Pitchfords of Little Brug, a suburb of Bridgenorth, who founded the Church at Pitchford, from which place they took their name. (See note 124.)

²⁹ *Radulfo de Conedoura* : Ralph of Condovery. Of him I can find nothing more than what Eyton says, viz., that Ralph de C. contemporary with Gilbert de C. was tenant of Sibberton, and that his descendants were known in the De Condovers.

³⁰ *Willemus*, William duke of Normandy, afterwards King of England, was the son of Duke Robert ij., who died July 20th, 1031, when William, then a boy of eight years, succeeded to the dukedom ; which, says *Ordericus*, he ably governed for 50 years, (he afterwards says 53 years). He invaded England and gained the Battle of Hastings or Senlac 14th Oct., 1066, was crowned Dec. 25th, 1066, and died Sept. 9th, 1087.

³¹ *Rogero de Montegummeri* : His father Roger was cousin german of Duke Robert, and so he was related to William the Conqueror. He

married Mabel the daughter of Wm. Talvas, and so inherited the vast domains of that family. After the battle of Hastings he received Chichester, Arundel, and the Earldom of Shrewsbury, was a great benefactor of the Abbeys of Séez, St. Evrout, Cluni, and Caen, besides being the founder of Shrewsbury Abbey and Wenlock Priory. (See note 18.)

³² *Salopessciram*, Shropshire, here called a province, *provincia* and not *comitatus*.

³³ *Adelaisa*. Adeliza was daughter of Everard du Puisset. (See note 1). She was the 2nd wife of Earl Roger, to whom she bore one son Everard (See note 22). She "excelled in understanding and in piety, and oft persuaded her lord to befriend monks and to relieve the poor."

³⁴ *Lanfranco*: Archbishop Lanfranc 1070—1089. He had been abbot of Caen. He was born of a noble family in the city of Pavia, in Italy, he was educated in all the liberal arts, had studied the civil law, and was very eloquent, but being convinced of the vanity of all worldly concerns, he relinquished all his prospects and submitted himself to the Monastic yoke at Bec in 1042, became prior in 1045, defended transubstantiation in many published books, was present at the Conference at Winchester in 1041, was *first* abbot of Caen in 1066, and was enthroned as Archbishop at Canterbury on 29th Aug., 1070, and died May 20, 1089.

³⁵ *Præsule Petro* : Peter the prelate (of Lichfield) 1075 to 1086.

³⁶ *Uicum Quendam* : Settlement, hamlet, or suburb, rather than street or vill, which it was not. The word suburb is, however, afterwards used to *include* the abbey and its precincts.

³⁷ *Cum tribus molendinis* : These three mills remained to the Abbey for some 400 years. They were all on Meole brook : The Burnt Mill, Trill or Prince's Mill, and the Abbey Mill. The interdiction of the burgesses from grinding their corn anywhere else but at these three mills was the source of many law-suits and much bad feeling between the abbey and the town for many generations.

³⁸ *Sauerna* : Severn, the derivation of this word has been a matter of much dispute.

³⁹ *Biforieta* : Foregate or rather *beforegate*. The Saxon would be *beforangeate* or *beforanyeat* (or—*yate*). The *vulgar* pronunciation still conforms to the Saxon.

⁴⁰ *Sancti Gregorii* : The church of St. Gregory at Morville was of the gift of Earl Roger and his wife Adelaisa. The Norman Earl "held of the Crown the manor of Membrefelde with its eighteen Berewicks or hamlets, King Edward had held it in Saxon times. Here were xij hides, of these the Norman Earl held iv. in demesne. . . . This Church with five hides was now given to the monastery . . . Morville, then called Momerfeulde, in 1138 became a Priory, subject to the Abbey, and so continued till the Dissolution."

⁴¹ *Stotesdona* : Stottesden. *Eyton* derives this name from *stod*,

stodes, a stud of brood horses, and *den* a valley or *dun* a hill or down. The *Domesday* record says : "The church of St. Peter holds the church of this manor together with ij hides and a half, &c. . . . It is worth 20s. (per annum)." The abbot's rectorial income was in 1291 valued at £13 6s. 8d., in 1534-5 at £8 13s. 4d.

⁴² *Dudeleberia* : Now Diddlebury or Dilbury, in Corve Dale about 7 m. N. of Ludlow. Here was the church of Corfham manor, which the abbot held with one hide of land, which yielded 18s. annually. In 1284 it was Dudeleburia ; in 1348 it appears as Dudlebury ; and is styled a hamlet. Other variations are Brudlesburye 1227, and Dudelewiz circa 1389, but both erroneously.

⁴³ *Conedoura* : Condover. In *Domesday* Conendovre, a royal manor from Saxon times. Condover 1267, Condever 1272, 1292, 1316, Condoure 1294, Condovere 1300, Condover in 1362. "Alicia uxor Edwardi Brunel militis" died seized of "Conedovere terris et tene-
mentis" in 1362. Nich'us Burnel had confirmation of Condovre in 1364.

⁴⁴ *Walintona* : Wellington. This church and eleven others were of the original endowment of Earl Roger and his Countess. In *Domesday* it is Walitone with xij hide geldable and a priest ; so that a church was there in 1086. Wellington (Welynton, Welinton in 1316), remained a rectory, in the gift of the Abbot, till 1232, when the Bishop of Lichfield (Alex. de Stavensby, 1224-1240), suffering the Abbot to appropriate it, received as the reward of his complicity that moiety of the tithes which enabled him to found the Prebend of Wellington in Lichfield Cathedral. In 1291, the prebend was valued at £6 ; the abbot's share, £2 13s. 4d., was the value of the Vicarage, and £10 the prebend. In 1341 the parish was rated at £10 13s. 4d. The *Valor* of 1534-5 gives £11 to the abbot, £10 to the prebendary, and £10 to the vicar.

⁴⁵ *Recordina* : Wrockwardine. Another early grant of the Earl Roger. The priest Oilerius or Ordelirius gave one hide to the Abbey. In 1291 the Church of Wrockworthin was valued at £10 per annum. In 1341 the parish was rated only £6 13s. 4d. to the ninth, because there were but few sheep in it. In 1534-5 the abbot's rectorial tithes of Wrockwardyn were £14, and the vicarage £8, less 7s. 6d. for procurations and 4s. for synodals. The hide given by Oilerius was at Cherleton, a member of Wrockwardine.

⁴⁶ *Edmundona* : Edgmundon. In *Domesday* Edmendune. In 1291 it was Egemindon and Egmonde in 1534-5. In 1341 the abbot derived an annual income of £1 10s. 0d. from Egemindon.

⁴⁷ *Hodenet* : Hodnet. Another of Earl Roger's grants. This place gave name to the old hundred of Odenet, other spellings are *Holenneth*, *Hodyneth*. It once belonged to the Saxon king. The manor was afterwards attached to the *Seneschaley* of Moutgomery. In 1291 the church, with its chapels, was valued at £40 per annum, besides a pension of £1 6s. 8d. to the abbot. In 1341 the assessors taxed the parish 40 merks to the *ninth*. In 1534-5, it was worth £30 per

annum, less 13s. 4d. for synodals, 6s. for procurations, a pension of £3 to Marchamley Chapel, and £1 6s. 8d. to the Abbot.

⁴⁸ *Archalon*: Ereal, i.e., High Ereal. Here the Monastery had both the tithes and the advowson. The nomenclature is various, *Archelona*, *Ercalwe*, and even *Miche Ereal*. *Rodintone* (Rodington) belonged to this as its mother-church and with it passed to the Abbey. In 1534-5 it was worth £6 13s. 4d. per annum.

⁴⁹ *Toenga*: Tong, one of Earl Roger's grants. The retention of this vill by the Norman Earl himself is thus set forth in *Domesday*: "The same Earl holds Tuange. Earl Morcar held it. Here iij hides geldable . . . Here is one league of wood. In King Edward's time the manor was worth £11 per annum. Now it is worth £6." Earl Roger built him a church here in token of his especial regard, this he endowed, and bestowed it on Shrewsbury Abbey previous to 1094. At the Salop Assizes of Nov. 1221 Roger la Zouche sued the abbot for the advowson of Tong but without success. In 1291 the church was valued at £4 besides the abbot's pension therefrom. In 1535 the parochial church was worth £6 13s. 4d., less 14s. to the bishop and archdeacon.

⁵⁰ *Dunintona*: Donington near Shifnal, also *Doniton*. "The Earl himself holds Donitone Earl Edwin held it, Here iij hides . . . a mill . . . and a word. In *Wich* there are v salt pits which render xx shillings." (How these salt pits came in connection with Donington does not appear, they must have been situated either in Cheshire or Worcestershire). Bishop Roger de Belmeis wrung this advowson from the moulks; but on his deathbed he was careful to restore it, this was in 1127. In 1291 the annual value of this church was £2 13s. 4d. . In 1341 it was taxed to the *ninth* only, £1 3s. 4d. In 1534 Donyngton Rectory was valued at £14 per annum, less 13s. 4d. for synodals and procurations and a pension of 6s. 8d. to the abbot.

⁵¹ *Bascerche*: Baschurch. Besides the church the monks had free warren in this manor. "The Earl himself holds Bascherche" says *Domesday* "Here are iij hides and a half, one hide is in demesne. The monks had ij hides and a half, and the church of this vil. Earl Roger afterwards gave the j hide held in demesne also to the abbey. On Dec. 28th, 1339, the Baschurch people acquired by charter from the abbot and monks a corporate government and a position superior in some respects to the inhabitants of a royal borough. The abbot's income in 1541-2 was £26 19s. 0d. In 1291 the church, i.e., the rectory, was worth £13 and the vicarage £5 per annum. Bissecurch in 1226, Baschurche, Bassechurch, Basschurch in 1388, and also Bassa's church.

⁵² *Nessa*: Ness Strange or Great Ness. *Domesday* says: "The Earl himself holds Nessham, Earl Morcar held it with iiii berewicks, The Church of St. Peter holds the church of this manor with one virgate of land." *Eyton* says: "The church was originally a Saxon Collegiate Church and given by the Norman Earl,

before *Domesday*, to the abbey. In 1291 the church of Nesse Extranea was valued at £10 per annum, besides the abbot's pension of 10s. therefrom. In 1341 this parish was taxed only £4 to the ninth because much of the parish was in Wales and there had been a general murrain among the sheep, &c. About the middle of the 15th century the abbey obtained an appropriation of this church. The *Valor* gives the vicar of Nesse Strange's income as £9. The rectorial tithes which went to the abbey was worth £12 6s. 8d., but this sum was chargeable with sundry pensions and payments.

⁵³ *Aitona* : Eyton (upon Severn) so in 1226. This vill or manor, near Wroxeter, is mentioned by *Domesday* as, with three others, belonging to the abbey. In the *Tax Eccl.* 1291, p. 260, it runs thus,

" Item (abbas) habet apud Eyton in eodem Decanatu duas carucatas et valet carucata per annum	...	...	...	0 10 0
Et habet ibidem de redditibus assisis per annum	...	15	1	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Et habet ibidem unum molendinum quod valet per annum	0	13	4	
Et habet ibidem de placitis et perquisitis per annum	...	1	6	8
Et habet ibidem de praefecto stauri per annum	...	3	18	8
<hr/>				
Summa totalis	...	21	10	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

⁵⁴ *Alministra* : Emstrey near Atcham, erroneously called Cumminstra in 1226, Eminstre Parva in 1388. This was the second manor granted to the Abbey and the monks retained it until the Dissolution. "The same church holds Eiminstre, Earl Eduin held it, Here ix hides geldable &c., In the time of King Edward the manor was worth 100s. per annum, afterwards £4. Now it is worth £11. The *Tax Eccl.* 1291, gives these particulars of the abbot's income:—

Item habet apud Emestra in eodem Decanatu unam carucatam terrae et valet per annum	...	...	0 10 0
Et habet ibidem de redditibus assisis per annum	...	4	4 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Et habet ibidem de placitis et perquisitis per annum	...	1	0 0
<hr/>			
		£6	4 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

⁵⁵ *Burtona* : Boreton in Condover parish. Here in 1291 the abbot held two carucates, rents, pleas, perquisites and a mill to the total value of £15 5s. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. In 1327 (*Cal. Rot. Chart.*) it is spelled Burtone and the manor is the abbot's. "To read his charter," Eyton says, "one would suppose that Earl Roger had been the original donor of Bourton to the monks. *Domesday*, however, clearly shows that it had belonged to the Saxon church of St. Peter before the Conquest, after which the Norman Earl merely restored it. In 1344 it is styled Burton juxta Conedoure and the whole manor is the abbot's, and therefore it is not likely to be another Burton (*Cal. Inq. p.m.* ij., 115).

⁵⁶ *Ad Vincula* : This festival was held on Aug. 1st. It was also called the gule of August. [See the reason in Durand's *rationale* (lib. 7, cap. 19).]

⁵⁷ *Godebaldus* : A priest, friend and adviser of Earl Roger. When Shropshire was surveyed in 1086, it was found that six manors belonged to the Collegiate Church of St. Alkmund, three out of the five being held by Godebold, from *his son* Robert his estates passed to Bishop Richard de Belmesio, the viceroy, whose younger nephew founded Lilleshall Abbey and endowed it with the same estates. Ordericus calls him Godebald (i. 48). From him Preston *Gubbalds* takes its distinctive name.

⁵⁸ *Oilerius* : or Odelirius of Orleans, son of Constantine, was a priest of talent and eloquence as well as of great learning, and one of the Norman Earl's chief counsellors. He was the father of *Ordericus Vitalis*, the celebrated Norman chronicler. He is supposed to have been rector of Wrockwardine in 1080. He died a professed monk on 3rd June, 1102.

⁵⁹ *Herbertus archidiaconus* : Herbert the archdeacon. This was probably Herbert, a monk of Shrewsbury, who in 1128 was consecrated third abbot in succession to Godfrey, who died March 22nd of that year. Fulchered, the first abbot, died in March, 1113. The time of Herbert's death is not known. He, however, translated the relics of St. Winifred from Gwytherin in Denbighshire to Shrewsbury. Another Herbert was Bishop of Lisieux 1022—1050. These three Godebald, Oilerius, and Herbert were Earl Rogers' chief friends and advisers.

⁶⁰ *Warin* : or Guarin the Bald, was a soldier at Hastings and first sheriff of Shropshire under William the Conqueror, "a man of small stature but of great courage, who bravely encountered the Earl's enemies and maintained tranquility throughout the district entrusted to his government." He married Aimeria (Emerie or Ameria) niece of Earl Roger. He left a son Hugh, a minor at the time of his death in 1086. Warin's widow afterwards was married to Rainald, who became second Norman sheriff and lord over those eleven manors in Recordin hundred of which Upton Magna was the most important.

⁶¹ *Rotbert fitz Tedbald* : (vicecomes). Upon the death of Earl Morcar, the Norman Rotbert or Robert-fitzy-Tedbald received the ruined manor of Idsall or Shiffnal and became a coadjutor of Earl Roger in the endowment of the abbey.

⁶² *Roger Corebeth* : (and Rotbert his brother) or Roger-fitzy-Corbet, second son of that Corebeth or Corbet who came over with William, built a castle at Alreton and called it Caux or Cause, after his father's native district, the Pays de Caux in Normandy. He died about 1121.

⁶³ *Rotbert Pincerna* : or Robert, the butler to Ranulph, second Earl of Chester, founded an abbey for Cistercian monks at Pulton or Poulton in Cheshire in 1153. (See note 151.) This foundation was transferred to Dieulacres (Dieu la Croix) near Leek in Staffordshire by Ranulph de Blundeville, Earl of Chester in 1214. Dieulacres was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Benedict for Cistercian monks. It was

valued at the dissolution at £243 3s. 6d. per annum. (See notes 151, 152, 154.)

⁶⁴ *Siwardus* : Siward or Senuard the Gross, was probably an Anglo-Dane. He is said to have been a son of Ethelgar, a cousin of K. Edward the elder and a kinsman of Earl Roger. He held various manors in time of King Edward the Confessor.

⁶⁵ *Earl Roger of Montgomery, or, de Montegummeri* : son of Roger first earl, married first Mabel de Belesme the widow of William Talvas, and niece of Ivo Bishop of Séez (1035 to 1070) with whom he acquired a large portion of the domains of William de Belesme. "She was," says *Ordericus*, both powerful and politic, shrewd and fluent, but extremely cruel," but was at last assassinated by Hughe d'Igé and buried at Troarn, Dec. 5, 1082. By her Earl Roger had seven sons and three or four daughters. Two sons : William and Gislebert, deceased in Normandy before the Conquest. The others were Robert de Belesme (21), Hugh de Montgomery (1), Roger of Poictou (149), Philip the clerk, Arnulph (20). Her daughters were :—Emma, a nun and abbess of Almenesch, Maud wife of Robert, Earl of Meritot. Mabel wife of Hugh of Chateauneuf, and Sibil wife of Robert-fitz-Hamon. Earl Roger by his second wife Adelaisa (daughter of Everard du Puissett, one of the highest of the French nobility) had only one son Everard (22). Earl Roger founded Shrewsbury Abbey in 1083. He died on the 27th of July, 1094, and was buried with distinguished honour between the two altars, i.e., behind the high altar and before that of our Lady (*O. & B.*, i., 44 n.).

⁶⁶ *Langefelda* : Cheney Longville, Languefelle (for Siward the grantor see note 64). "Here i hide and a half geldable. The land is for viij ox-teams. The old value was 20s. afterwards it was waste. Now it is worth 5s." In *Testa de Nevill* (temp. Hen. iij., and Edward j.). It seems to have been called Langefeind, Rogerus de Waudin held half a fee there, in the Baronia de Cloune.

⁶⁷ *Godebaldus* : See note 57.

⁶⁸ *Ricardus de Belmesio* : See note 23.

⁶⁹ *Ricordus de Monte Warolt* : This person is not known. In First John, 1199, an entry in Cal. Rot. Chart., p. 2, runs thus "Willelmus de Monte Gerulf et Willelmus de Gorham dant obsides Regi." Monte Gerulf may be the same as Monte Warolt.

⁷⁰ *Edwardus et Aldredus filii Siwardi* : Of these we only know that Edward is said to have been Earl of Mercia ; if he was not, which is more probable, the son of Siward Barn the Earl of Mercia and a cousin of David King of the Scots (*Ordericus Vitalis*, iv., 16.)

⁷¹ *Ricardus Londonie Episcopus* : See note 23.

⁷² *Regis Henrici* : King Henry j, 1100—1135, surnamed Beauclerk. In 1121 he married the Saxon Edith, renamed Maud, i.e., Matilda.

⁷³ *Henricus de Sai* : Son of Picot de Sai. See note 112.

⁷⁴ *Brantona* : Brompton, s. of Wroxeter on the other side of the Severn in the deanery of Salop (Tax Eccl., p. 260) where the abbot had, circa 1291, two carucates of land, rents, pleas and perquisites to

the total value of £3 3s. 0*½*d. The *Domesday* spelling is Brantune. "Here iij hides geldable . . . in time of King Edward the manor was worth 25s. afterwards 20s. now 40s. annually." It is called a *vill*, and with its tithes was given to assist the monks in building and repairing their conventional church.

⁷⁵ *Tugaford*: Tugford (a village half-way between Ludlow and Wenlock). There is a slight discrepancy between this charter and the *Domesday* record, which says: "The same Rainald hath given Dodefort to the church of St. Peter for the soul of Warin his antecessor," but here we have Warin the Sheriff giving two hides of land in a *vill* which is called Tugaford. Eyton notices the scribe's errors for he says: "Warin it was, and not Rainald, his successor, that gave to Shrewsbury Abbey by far the larger portion of this manor. Warin died before the year of the survey, when Rainald marrying his widow succeeded him as sheriff; hence in *Domesday* Warin is called Rainald's antecessor, i.e., predecessor in office and estate." The *vill* consisted of iij hides and a half and was worth 20s. now 40s. The abbots collective receipts from the Tugford estate were estimated in 1291 as £8 4s. 4*½*d, and were returned in 1534 at £13 17s. 2d. The etymological changes with reference to this place are great: Dodeford becomes Tugaford in 1227, Tugeford in 1285, Toggefod in 1291.

⁷⁶ *Opelone*: Upton Magna. Warinus the Bald, sheriff, gave the tithe of this *vill*. The tithe of Opeton which Gislebert the archdeacon gave (see note 147) must be referred either to some other Opeton (Upton) or is a mistake. "Here v hides geldable, a mill of 16s. annual value, a fishery, and half a league of wood. The manor was worth £10 per annum now £7." Bishop Clinton (1129—1148) confirmed to the abbey the "church of Uptona together with its chapels and pension of 20s."

⁷⁷ *Regis Edwardi*: Edward the Confessor. The time of K. Edward is the time before the Conquest. It is very probable that some survey, made in Saxon times, is referred to in the expression so common in *Domesday* as "*tempore R.E.*"

⁷⁸ *Beritona*: Berrington. Here the monks had both church and tithe. "Thoret held the manor in Saxon times, Rainald now holds it and Azo holds it of him." In 1397, and Robert de Lee was tenant by the service of half a knight's fee. In 1226 the Abbey held one virgate and the church. Berrington church was in existence before *Domesday*. In 1291 it was valued at £5 9s. 4d., besides a pension of 24s. to the Abbey and one of no less a sum than £6 13s. 4d. to Lichfield Cathedral. The *Valor* of 1534-5 gives the gross value of the rectory, as £20 12s. 0d. reduced by pensions, procurations and synodals to £10 12s. 0d. net. *Domesday* Beritune, afterwards Biriton, Byryhton, Beriton.

⁷⁹ *Uxor*: (Warini), Amieria or Emerie niece of Earl Roger. (See note 60.)

⁸⁰ *Domum*: This *house* or *mansura* cannot now be identified or located.

⁸¹ *Herbertus de Furches*: A name which does not occur in *Ordericus*,

there was a monk so called, who was afterwards abbot, about this time. This Herbert was most likely the ancestor of the De Furchis of Corfton who held Corfton under E. Roger at Domesday. (See note 59.)

⁸² *Ranaldus frater Warini vicecomitis* : One Rainald was lord of Bailleull in Normandy and married Warin's widow, he was the second Sheriff of Shropshire (*Eyton*, s.v., Upton Magna). In *Ordericus* (ii., 19, &c., see note 6) Reginald Baliol, who married Aimeria niece of Earl Roger, is mentioned as the brother of Warin. If he married his brother's widow it must have been a very unusual proceeding, but *Eyton* takes "brother" to allude to his being the husband of Warin's widow.

⁸³ *Lega* : Lee (near Ellesmere). As place-names Lee, Lea, and Legh are very common in this and the adjoining county of Cheshire. The possession of this vill must have been of great advantage to the Abbot in peaceful times, but when the times of trouble, which soon ensued, arrived, his tenure would be very precarious. Rainald held the j hide which constituted the vill of Lea in the manor of Ellesmere. (Ellesmieres in *Domesday*). Henry i. granted the whole manor to William Peverel who revolted against K. Stephen. It was afterwards conferred in 1177 upon David-fitz-Owain, prince of North Wales, who had married Henry i.'s sister. At Michaelmas, 1203, it was again in the king's (John's) hands who gave it with Joan his natural daughter to Llewelyn. These changes, and they are not all by any means, must have been very disadvantageous to the abbot, for in 1341, Lea, with the other members of Ellesmere, was reputed to be in Wales.

⁸⁴ *Aherius* : or Aer, *Domesday* calls him *Alcher*, an under-tenant of Sheriff Rainald. He had an interest in several Shropshire manors, three under Rainald and one, Harcott, directly under the Earl. Upon the forfeiture of Earl Robert de Belesme Alcher's descendants became tenants *in capite* of the crown, and they were known as Fitz-Aer.

⁸⁵ *Edburtonam* : Albrighton (4 m. north of Shrewsbury), Edbriton, Etriton. In *Domesday* Abretone and Etbretone. "Alcher held of Warine, who was Rainald's antecessor, Etritone, Gheri had held it and was a free man. Here are iij hides geldable." This place acquired from Alcher's dedication the name of *Monks Albrighton*. They retained it until the Dissolution.

⁸⁶ *Girardus de Tornai* : He held many manors, several at least in the Domesday hundred of Odenet. He was one of William's followers who received as his meed of service eighteen Saxon manors of which Sutton-Maddock was the largest. He forfeited all by rebelling against William Rufus. Sibil, wife of Hamon Peurel (see note 26) regained some of the forfeited estates.

⁸⁷ *Bettona* : Betton-in-Hales. *Domesday* says : "The same Gerard holds Baitune. Ulchete held it and was a free man. Here iij hides geldable . . . a mill and a wood which will fatten ix swine, &c. It was worth 40s. now 30s." The monk's retained Gerard's gift for more than 250 years. (See note 122.)

⁸⁸ *Helgotus* : Earl Roger conferred upon Helgot his follower nine-

teen manors in this county. This knight, who had doubtless seen service at Hastings, "reared his stronghold in the upper valley of the Corfe over the rich repose of which in ancient times it reared its gloomy shadow." His son was Herbert. (See note 121.)

⁸⁹ *Mora* : Now Monkmoor. Helgot's gift of the hide of land with the fishery attached would have been a great boon to the abbey, as being so near to the monastery and yet so far as to prevent any interference by the burgesses who disputed the abbot's right to any fishery in the Severn.

⁹⁰ *Oilerius* : Or Odelirius. (See note 58.)

⁹¹ *Cherleton* : There are two Charltons, one near Shrewsbury and the other near Wrockwardine. They were each of $\frac{1}{2}$ hide. The latter is the one meant.

⁹² *Tochi* : Or Tochil, probably a Saxon who was permitted to hold two manors which were his own by descent.

⁹³ *Cota* : Woodcote. In *Domesday* Udecote, on the eastern verge of the county, south of Newport. Here were $\frac{1}{2}$ hides. Woodcote chapel is a very ancient structure. The south door is said to be Saxon, but probably only very early Norman.

⁹⁴ *Odo miles* : Odo, the knight, was the *mesne* tenant of Ruyton of the xi towns and Udeford as well as of Hordley. He was one of the vassals of the Norman Earl. Odo the Red is mentioned by *Ordericus* (i., 395) as having been a benefactor to the abbey of St. Evrault in 1050, but perhaps this was not the same man.

⁹⁵ *Hordeleia* : Hordeley in Bascherch hundred. In *Domesday* Hordelei "In Saxon times Algar and Dunniheld it for ij manors and were free. Here ij hides geldable." In 1291 the church of Ordeleye was valued at £2 13s. 4d., besides a pension of 2s. therefrom to the abbey. In 1341 the assessors to the *ninth* treated Hordel as a chapelry to Baschurch and taxed the parish only 20s. because there were no sheep in it, &c. In 1535 the income of the rector was £4 2s. 0d. less 2s. procurations and 11s. for synodals (Eyton). In *Cal. Rot. Chart.* it is Hordeley.

⁹⁶ *Cambristona* : Kemberton, in *Domesday* Chenbritone, in 1291 Kembryghton, Kembrihton from Cenbyrh or Kenbert, some Saxon earldorman or theyn. It is in the deanery of Newport. "Here $\frac{1}{2}$ hides geldable . . . and a wood to fatten xxx swine." In 1227 the abbot had the tithe, in or about 1284, Willelmus de Alta Ripa (Hauterive) held half a fee in Kemberton or Kenbritton.

⁹⁷ *Ithessala* : Idsall (i.e., Shiffnal). "The Saxon word Idesheal," says Eyton, "signifies the hall of Ide, and Seefanheal, the hall of Seefea, and it may be that, originally, Idsall and Shiffnall represented two districts, lying respectively west and east of the stream dividing the town." In *Domesday*, it is Iteshale. The variations in spelling are noticeable. In 1291 Ydesale. In 1328 and on to 1369 Ideshalle or Ideshale. Shiffnall appears in 1471. Will'us de Shuffenhale is mentioned in 49 Edw. ii. 1375. "Here were $7\frac{1}{2}$ hides geldable . . . a wood here will fatten 300 swine. . . . It was worth £15, after-

wards 6s. Now it pays £15." From the church the abbot had 30s, per annum.

⁹⁸ *Rotbertus vicecomes filius Tedbaldi*: Upon the death of Earl Morecar the Norman Rotbert or Robert-Fitz-Tedbald, received the ruined manor of Idsall or Shiffnal, and became a coadjutor of Earl Roger in the endowment of the Abbey. He was sheriff of the earldom of Arundel and Chichester. Tedbald, i.q., Theobald. (See note 61).

^{98a} *Ricardus Londonie Episcopus*: (See notes 23, 68, 71).

⁹⁹ *Goisfridus*: Goisfrid of Herley or Hatlege now Hadley. *Domesday* says "The same Rainald holds Hatlege and Goisfrid holds it of him." Before the end of Henry I.'s reign Goisfrid was succeeded by William de Hadley who married Hamo Peverel's daughter Seburga.

¹⁰⁰ *Herleia*: Hadley, 2 m. N.E. of Wellington. (See note 99.)

¹⁰¹ *Birtona*: Apparently Berrington, where the glebe land of Condover was situated (but see note 55).

¹⁰² *Conedoura*: Condover in Domesday Conendovre, a royal manor, *caput* of the hundred. (See note 43.)

¹⁰³ *Wantenoura*: Wentnor. This vill was held of the Norman Earl by Roger Fitz-Corbett. In the time of King Edward, it was worth £6, afterwards 40s, now £4. In process of time the Abbeys of Shrewsbury, Haughmond and Buildwas acquired by successive grants from the Corbets, Barons of Caux, by far the larger portion of the Manor of Wentnor. In 1291, the church of Wentnor was worth £5 6s. 8d. per annum besides a pension of 5s. to the Abbot of Shrewsbury. The *Valor* of 1534, 5 represents the preferment as worth £7 per annum less 1s. for synodals (Eyton).

¹⁰⁴ *Iochchulla*: Yockleton. In *Domesday* Loelehuile (so it is written by Eyton, but should no doubt be *Iochchulla*). In 1227, it was spelled Jocheshull; in 1300, Yokelthull; in 1322, Jokelhulle; in 1332, Hokelton; in 1349, 1363, 1367, Yokelton; and again Hokelton in 1360. This place was almost uniformly held in demesne by the Barons of Caux. The abbott had only the tithe. It had vij hides geldable, and a mill, "It was," says *Domesday*, "worth £8 annually, now £6." It is now a separate parish from Westbury, having been so constituted in 1862.

¹⁰⁵ *Oswualdi*: Oswestry. This church was a Saxon foundation, originally collegiate, and the mother church of an extensive district. In *Domesday*, it is identified with Meresburie (Maesbury). The revenues, i.e. the rectorial tithes of the church, which were given by Guarin, the Sheriff, about 1222, amounted in 1534 to £66 13s. 4d. Around the church and the castle, a vill gradually sprang up, which in the course of age, developed into the town of Oswestry, "There were vij hides geldable, and here Rainald has built Luure (L'œuvre) Castle. In the time of King Edward, it was waste. Now, it is worth 40s. annually." Oswaldestre, in 1285, 1326 and 1330; Oswastre in 1324.

¹⁰⁶ *Mutla*: Middle (the spelling Myddle is quite modern), *Domesday* says, "the same Rainald holds Mulleht, Seuuard held it in

time of King Edward. Here viij hides and a wood. It was worth £6, afterwards £4, now £3 10s. Od." The church, originally, a Saxon foundation, was given, before the Survey, by Warin, but it was never appropriated by the Monks. In 1291, it was valued at the large sum of £20 10s. per annum; out of this a pension of 10s. went to the abbot. In 1535, the income of the rector of Middle was £16, less £2 to the Chaplain of Hadnal, 18s. 4d. to Shrewsbury Abbey, and 19s. 6d. for procurations and synodals. Before 1165, John le Strange had acquired the greater portion of the manor and his descendants for centuries continued to hold it under the Fitz-Alans, Rainalds' successors. A patent of April 1st, 1308, permits John le Strange to fortify and crenellate his *mansion* of Middle, with a wall of stone and lime, remains of which *castle* are still to be seen. After the L'Estranges, the castle descended to the Derby family, and William Dod was appointed keeper, and after him, Sir Roger Kynaston was by commission keeper of Middle and Knockin Castles. After him, his son Humphrey (Wild Humphrey) was tenant here. On his being outlawed, he left Middle Castle, which he had suffered to become ruinous, and went and took up his abode in a cave at Nesscliff. Mutla is called Middell in 1272, and Mudleye in 1362. There seems no ancient instance of the spelling Myddle.

¹⁰⁷ *Seraordina*: Shrawardine. In *Domesday*, Saleurdine. Rainald held it, Eli held it in King Edwards time. Here two hides. It was and is worth 40s. per annum. There was a church here in the reign of King John, who presented a rector thereto. In 1291, the Church of Shrawardyn was valued at £5 per annum. In 1535, the income of the rector of Serawardyn was £10, less 6s. 8d. for procurations and 1s. for synodals. The variations in spelling are very remarkable —Ex. gr. . . Shrawurde in 1171, Srwardin 1187, Serewarden 1227, Strawardin 1229, Shrewardin in 1252, Schirewordan in 1302, Shrewgardyn in 1421. I do not find other evidence of the abbots holding the tithes of this church, (but see appendix) which was at one time in the Deanery of Pontesbury and diocese of Hereford. It is now attached to Montford in Lichfield diocese.

¹⁰⁸ *Fucherendum*: Fulchered (see note 59) had been a monk of Seez, he died in March, 1118. Godfrey, another monk of Seez, succeeded him, and died March 22nd, 1128. Herbert was consecrated the same year as abbot, by William, Archbishop of Canterbury, the time of his death is not recorded. Herbert translated the relics of St Winifred from Gwytherin to Shrewsbury. (See note 49.)

¹⁰⁹ *Castellorum*: For these exemptions. (See notes 2 to 11 inclusive), and (15 to 19a.)

¹¹⁰ *Monetarius*: (See note 12.)

¹¹¹ *Mathildis*. Matilda, daughter of Baldwin V., Count of Flanders, was married to William, Duke of Normandy, about 1047. She was niece of Henry, King of France, by his sister Adelaide, daughter of King Robert. Their family consisted of Robert, Richard,

William and Henry, Agatha Adeliza, Constance Cicely and Adele. "Beauty of person, high birth, a cultivated mind and exalted virtue, combined to grace this illustrious queen. She was firm in the faith, and devoted to the service of Christ." (*Ordericus* ii., 23.)

¹¹² *Picot de Sai*. A brave and faithful knight, otherwise Pigot de Sai, in the canton of Argentan. In the family the surname of Pigot (in Norman French, *Picot*) appears to have been hereditary. He received from Earl Roger a grant of twenty-nine manors in Shropshire. He had also large possessions in Pembrokeshire. In Normandy, Jordan de Sai about 1131 founded the abbey of Aulnai. Picot's real name was Robert. The vill of Saim (Say, or Sai) was about 9 miles from Exmes, the *caput* of Earl Rogers's Norman *viscomté*. His wife was Adeloya; his two sons Robert and Henry. He fought at Hastings. His name is in the Battle Abbey Roll. Clun was the largest of the twenty-nine manors he held. Henry his son succeeded him, whose son Helias was the father of Isabel, who was married to William Fitz-Alan I., Lord of Oswestry.

¹¹³ *Henricus*: Henry I., 1100 to 1135, son of William 1st and Matilda. (See note 111.)

¹¹⁴ *Toraldus de Uerleio*: It is not known whether he were Saxon or Norman. He held thirteen manors under Earl Roger, and died before 1121. Robert-Fitz-Turald was his son.

¹¹⁵ *Minore Draitona*: Now Deckar Hill in parish of Shifnal. Nothing seems to be known of the strange alteration of this place-name.

¹¹⁶ *Wichewita*: Wigwig in Much Wenlock parish. "Tuold," says *Domesday*, "holds Wigewic of the Earl. Elmar held it. Here j hide geldable . . . In King Edward's time it was worth 15s. per annum, afterwards 3s., now 10s." Given by Tuold's son Robert to the Abbey, Wigwig, before the reign of Richard I., had passed to the monks of Wenlock, who retained it until the dissolution. The *Taxatio*, 1291, speaks of Wodlewyk, where the Abbot held two carucates and a mill, probably Wigwig, is meant. In 25 Edw. I. (1297) *Willelmus le Herdeman felo obiit seizitus in Wykewyk de uno messagio et 7 acris terræ in Gloucestr* (?Salop).

¹¹⁷ *Johanni filio Grip*: Cannot be identified. Gruf ? = Gryffydd, and so a Welshman. Kinnerley was held temp. R.E. by one Willegip.

¹¹⁸ *Toreth*: Is likewise unknown, unless he be Toret, who held Wroxeter, Rodington, and Lee-gomery under Sheriff Rainald.

¹¹⁹ *Odo de Berneles*: If this was Odo surnamed *Borleng*, he was stationed in 1108 in the fortress of Bernai, near Lisieux, to defend the country against freebooters.

¹²⁰ *Bradestan*: Now Broadstone, a chapel to Munslow, in the diocese of Hereford. Here the Abbot had one ferdendel of the gift of Odo and the other part of the same vill of the gift of Guarin the Sheriff. (For the identification of this place see O. and B., ii., 531.)

¹²¹ *Herbertus filius Helgoti*: Lord of Corfe and Castle Helgot. (See note 88.)

¹²² *Nortonam* : Norton in Hales. This vill was retained by the monks until the Dissolution. In 1291 the abbot received a pension of 2s therefrom. In 1534-5 the preferment of the rector was worth £6 per annum less 6s. 8d. for procurations, 2s. for synodals, and the abbots pension of 2s. An entry in the *Cal. Rot. Pat.* runs thus, the date is 1343, "Rex confirmavit Willelmo de Okely in feodo quoddam stagnum in Norton-in-Hales salvā abbati Salopiæ liberā piscariā suā in aqua di Tyrne, &c., necnon molendinum disti abbatis in Betton (See note 87) pro annuo redditu octo marcarum ad manerium suum de Betton" (p. 145). Edward III. was king in 1343.

¹²³ *Stanton* : Stanton, now called Holgate. There were two contiguous manors so-called. Stantune. In *Domesday* we read "The same Helgot holds Stantune, Chetel held it and was a free man. Here ij hides geldable, &c," and again "The same Helgot holds Stantune. Genust and Aelward, Dunning and Elveva held it for four manors and were free with their lands. Here iij hides geldable. These manors lost the name of Stantune and became one great manor under the name of Holgate after the baronial residence of the first Norman lord (*Eyton*). (See note 88.)

¹²⁴ *Normannus Venator* : A warrior who came over with William. He was in some way related to Ulger Venator, who may have been his son. He held about seven manors. He himself was probably son of Guy Bollein, great nephew of the elder Giroie. Guy's wife's name was Hodierna. They had several sons, of whom Norman and Walter served in the wars, while Godfrey and William (surnamed Gregory), became priests (*Ordericus*, i., 428). (See note 28.)

¹²⁵ *Bolecia* : Booley or Bowley, a *villula* or hamlet in the parish of Stanton-on-Hine-Heath. Part of it was the property of Robert Corbet of Moreton. Boleleg in 1226, Boleye in 1301.

¹²⁶ *Hugo de Constantino* : One of the Anglo-Norman family of that name who, under the Fitz-Alans, held at the time of *Domesday* Etune, now called Eaton Constantine, S.W. of the Wrekin.

¹²⁷ *Pectona* : Petton, near Baschurch, "Here one hide and a half," which Robert Pincerna held of this Earl. This manor with four others were subsequently held under the lords of Montgomery, the service of the tenant of Petton being to attend for fifteen days with a bow & two unfeathered arrows at his suzerain's cost. Petton chapel was founded before 1159, and at first was subject to Baschurch.

¹²⁸ *Azo bigot* : Was subtenant of the manors of Berrington, Abdon, and Lege (Longnor) under Rainald. By his wife, whose name does not appear, he had two sons, Rainald, who died apparently young, and Robert, the knight, who likewise was a benefactor to the Abbey.

¹²⁹ *Langanarra* : Longnor, near Condover. Eyton has successfully refuted the statement that Longnor-upon-Severn is meant, whereas it is Longnor south of Condover. Here the Abbot had half a hide of the gift of Azo Bigot, whose wife was also a benefactor to the Abbey.

¹³⁰ *Abetona* : Abdon. *Domesday* has Abetune, and tells us that Uluuinus was the Saxon owner and the tenant at the time of the

survey of *Ecclesie Sancti Petri*. The grant of one ferdendel or fourth part of a carucate by Azo Bigot is coupled with that of half a hide in Langauarra. Not long after, by some mischance, Abdon slipped between the fingers of the monks so as, in 1155, to form part of two knight's fees of new feoffment which John le Strange held of Fitz-Alan's barony (Eyton). Abdon is in the hundred of Patinton.

¹⁸⁰ *Rotbertus filius Wigerij* : Cannot be traced or identified.

¹⁸¹ *Brantona* : Brompton, in the deanery of Salop (*Tax. Eccl.* p. 260) where the Abbot had in 1291 two carucates of land, rents, pleas and perquisites, to the total value of £3 3s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. The *Domesday* spelling is Brantune.

¹⁸² *Phitesso* : Fitz. The tithe of Phitess with that of Brantune was Picot de Say's gift. *Domesday* says—"The same Picot holds Witesot. Hunnith held it and was a free man. Here iij hides geldable, &c." He (Picot) gave two thirds of the tithes of his demesnes of Phitessho and of Gulidone (i.e., Merrington) for the building and maintenance of the Abbey. In 1341 the parish of Fittos was taxed 20s. to the ninth. The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* gives the Rectory as worth £5 10s. Od. per annum, less 1s. for synodals and 3s. 4d. for procurations. From Witesot to Fitz is rather a wide spring, even though it be through Phitessho.

¹⁸³ *Hunaldus* : The name Hunnit appears as that of a tenant in various manors. Huni, Hunine, and Huning also are found, but not Hunald. Some say a family of the name of Hunald owned Frodesley, but I find no corroboration.

¹⁸⁴ *Prestona* : Preston Brockhurst was held of the Earl by Turold de Verley at *Domesday*. Here were two manors held by Hunni and Ulriet, who were free men.

¹⁸⁵ *Luscafort* : Losford, near Hodnet. It is said to have been a Roman settlement.

¹⁸⁶ *Wluerunton* : Wollerton or Woolerton, near Hodnet; Wluerunton in 1227. The *Taxatio* (1291) gives the Abbot one carucate and a mill in Wolverton. "The same Gerard de Tornai holds Ulvretone, Oschetel held it, and was a freeman. Here one hide geldable. . . . Here a mill of 10s. (annual value) and a wood which will fatten four score swine. It was worth 15s., now 25s. He (Gerard) found it waste." Hamon Peuerel, by marrying the daughter of Gerard de Tornai (but ?) became his successor, and gave the vill to the abbey, to which it pertained till the Dissolution. It produced in 1291 £12 2s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.

¹⁸⁷ *Theodericus de Sai* : (See note 112.)

¹⁸⁸ *Stoca* : Stoke-upon-Tern. "Land on the other side of the stream" i.e., from Wollerton. *Domesday* says "The same Roger holds Stoche, Edmund held it in Saxon times, Here viij hides, &c. It was worth £6, afterwards waste now it is worth £7." The Norman Earl gave three manors to Roger de Laci, viz., Stoche, Uptoue and Wifford. The De Lacy's had for tenants in Stoke the important family of De Say (see note 112), whence it was called indifferently Stoke Lacy and Stoke Say in the *feodaries* of 1284-5 (Eyton).

¹³⁹ *Lochetona* : Loton, near Alberbury. The name Lotheton is found. *Domesday* tells us that "the same Roger (-Fitz-Corbet) holds Luchetone, Edric held it, Here j hide geldable. In demesne is j ox-team and one serf and one haye. The manor is worth 5s. and ij more teams might be here." Loton in 1355.

¹⁴⁰ *Winelega* : Winsley, between Westbury and Minsterley. *Domesday* calls it Wineslei, and says "Seuward a free man held it in Saxon times, Here ij hides geldable." The *valor* of 1534-5 reckons among the temporalities of the abbey 35s. of assized rents in Wynnesley. In 1247 it was Wineslye, in 1389 Wineslegh.

¹⁴¹ *Pimelega* : Pimley, near Uffington. The seigneurie of this manor of the gift of Sheriff Fulk at the time of his wife's sepulture remained with the abbot and monks till the Dissolution. Fulk was a sort of under-sheriff to Rainald. Pimbroc was the rivulet which flows into the Severn, near Uffington. Pemeley was added to the Liberties of Shrewsbury by the Charter of Henry VII, dated 14th Dec., 1495. (See Blakeway's *Liberties of Salop*, p. 378.)

¹⁴² *Alnothus* : A name not elsewhere found. Probably not a man of mark. One Alnod was tenant of E. Roger at Dawley in Middlesex, Alnod of Lcndon occurs. (See *Pipe-Roll* of 1163.)

¹⁴³ *Reinerus Prefectus* : Reiner the Prefect or Provost of the town time of Henry I.

¹⁴⁴ *Eilricus rufus* : Probably another Prefect or Provost, commonly known as Edric the Provost.

¹⁴⁵ *Robertus Presbyter* : Son of Andrew the clerk, otherwise unknown, but as the son of a cleric he is noticeable, as the marriage of clerics was either permitted or winked at in those days of great licence. (See note 57.)

¹⁴⁶ *Rogero Archidiacono* : Of him I find no other notice. The name Roger was very common.

¹⁴⁷ *Gislebertus Archidiaconus* : Otherwise Gilbert. Probably Gislebert, Archdeacon of Lisieux, who was sent by Duke William to Rome in 1063 to ask Pope Alexander's advice, if so, he was the son of Robert of Courbepine, and was Bishop of Lisieux in 1077. He was much trusted by the Duke, and served him as chaplain and physician, (*Ordericus*).

¹⁴⁸ *Alanus filius Fladaldi* : Was son of Fladald, Flaald or Fleance, who was the son of Banquo, the murdered Thane of Lochaber. Fleance fled to Wales, and by Gwenta, daughter of Gryffydd ap Llewelyn, had a son, this Alan. Alan was thus the great grandson of Algar, the Saxon Earl of Mercia. Alan married Avelina de Hesting (Hesdin in Artois), and had three sons, William, Walter and Jordan, and a daughter Sibil. Walter became steward to David, King of Scots, and was the first of the Stuarts. William married Isabel de Say, the wealthiest heiress in Shropshire, the niece of Robert, Earl of Gloucester, and was Sheriff in 1156. Alexander, the great grandson of Walter, abandoned his patronymic, and styled himself Alexander Stuart. Alan fitz-Fladald was made Sheriff by Hen. I., after Hugh fitz-Warin.

¹⁴⁹ *Roger Pictauensis* : Roger of Poictou, Earl by courtesy, was the third son of Earl Roger. (See note 65.)

¹⁵⁰ *Tarewalla* : Thelwall in Cheshire. Roger of Poictou, so called from the country of his wife, had extensive possessions in Lincolnshire, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, in that part of Lancashire called Amoundernes (which is between the Ribble and the Mersey), and elsewhere. His title of Earl was, however, not territorial, Thelwell or Thelwall is not now in Lancashire, but in Cheshire, being on the south side of the Mersey, in the hundred of Bucklow, and not far from Warrington. Camden in his *Britannia*, gives this explanation—“in the year of Christ, 920, King Edward the Elder built a town at Thelwall, which was so called (*teste Florilego*), from the stakes or stumps cut from the trees wherewith they had environed it; for the Saxons call such stakes *thell*; and the word *wall* is yet used for a high fence, that encompasseth any place about, with stone, or other thing or building (*Polychronicon*, lib. 6, cap., *ad finem*), and that King Edward made it a garrison, and placed soldiers therein. But it seems to lie waste in the time of the Conqueror. . . .” Roger of Poictou gave half only of the Fishery to the abbot (*Monasticon* i., 383). This was the fishery on the Lancashire side. The Prior of Norton had the other half, which was on the Cheshire side. This was granted to him by William, Constable of Cheshire, the younger, Baron of Halton, about the reign of King Stephen (*Monasticon* ii., 186). In our Mize-book of Cheshire, anciently the abbot of Salop stood charged with 3s. in the Mize for fishing in Thelwall (*Ibid* i., 382). This township of Thelwall is of the fee of the honor of Halton, one-third part whereof William, Constable of Cheshire, gave to the Abbey of Salop, *eum pertinentiis in bosco, in plano, in aqua* (*Ibid.*) N.B.—The historians of Shrewsbury do not rightly state the case when they locate Thelwall in Lancashire.

¹⁵¹ *Pulton* : Poulton le Fylde in Lancashire. This is one of the little vills given by Roger of Poictou; *Ocsitona* was the other, but it is now unknown unless it be Olsiton, i.e., Woolstone. There are several places named Pulton or, as it is now, Poulton. This seems to be the one near Warrington. An entry in the *Tax Ecl.* places it in the Deanery of Coupland. “Abbas de Salop habet [de Abbate de Deulacres pro terra de Biscopayne et Northbrek] £5 6s. 8d.” It would seem that the abbot of Salop had, before 1291, exchanged Biscopayne (here Biscopayn) and Northbrek for an annual payment. Pulton is said to have been in Aymondernes, in which also the deanery of Coupland was. An important entry in the *Cal. Rot. Pat.*, p. 109 (4th Edw. iij., 1330) shews that at that date the abbot still retained the major part of his Lancashire grants “Rex confirmavit Abbatii S. Petri Salop manerium de Gerstan, Ecclesiam de Walton, decimam de Newton et dominium et villas de Ulston et Pulton, medietatem piscariae de Merse et tertiam partem de Thelwell ei concessa per Ranulphum quondam Comitem Cestriæ.” This grantor, however, is not the same as in the text. If Ranulph were the son of

Roger of Poictou, he might have confirmed his father's gifts and added the tithe of Newton, the vill of Ulston and a third part of Thelwall to his other gifts. I have no means of ascertaining the truth of this conjecture. Ulston now Woolstone, the modern form of Ocsiton or Olsiton. (See above.)

¹⁵² *Biscopeham* : Biscopeham in Amoundernes. (See preceding note.) In 1287 it was called Bispeham, and held by William de Ferrars, Bispam in Leeland in 1369. The leasing of Biscopayne and Northbrok to the abbot of Deulacres (see note 151) may have been a convenient arrangement on account of the distances of these places from Shrewsbury.

¹⁵³ *Godfridus vicecomes* : Sheriff of Cheshire, of whom nothing more is found.

¹⁵⁴ *Waleton* : Probably Walton on the Hill, West Derby, the mother church of Liverpool. The church of Waleton thus given by Sheriff Godfrid was in Coupland (see note 151), and the revenues were included in the £5 6s. 8d. paid annually by the abbot of Deulacres.

¹⁵⁵ *Cherchham* : Now Kirkeham in Lancashire, formerly Kyrkeham in Amounderness. This church was granted to W. Gray, cancellarius *ad vitam*, 1213.

¹⁵⁶ *Garston* : Garstang in Lancashire. (See note 151.) The vill here was the abbot's. In the *Tax Eccl.* it is said to be in the Deanery of Amoundernes and Archdeaconry of Richmond. "Ecclesia de Gayrestang (antiqua taxatio) £26 13s. 4d. (nova taxatio), £10." It was called Garstang in 1381, 1344, 1346, Gayrstang in 1344, 1358, and Garstange in 1362. The abbot of Cokersond had market and fair here in 1310-11. William of Lancaster held lands here in 1246-7. Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, the King's brother, held lands and tene- ments here in 1296-7. It was, therefore, a notable place.

¹⁵⁷ *Roberto Cestrie episcopo* : Robert de Limesey, who transferred the episcopal see from Chester to Coventry in 1095 or 1102, and died Aug. 30, 1117, is sometimes called Bishop of the Mercians. He was succeeded by Robert Pecceth. He was consecrated by Archbishop Lanfranc, Dec. 25, 1035. The editor of *Ordericus* seems to confuse the dates of his transferring the see of Chester to Lichfield and to Coventry.

¹⁵⁸ *Hugone comite Cestrie* : Earl of Chester, otherwise called Hugh d' Avranches and Hugh Lupus, was son of Richard Goz, otherwise Richard d' Avranches, who was the son of Turstin. Hugh succeeded to the Earldom of Chester after the imprisonment of Gherbod of Flanders and his return home. Hugh married Ermentrude, daughter of Hugh de Clermont in the Beauvais, by whom he had Richard, his successor in the Earldom, who perished in the *Blanche Nef* in 1119. Hugh restored the ancient Abbey of St. Werburgh at Chester, founded by Edgar, King of Mercia, in 358, where he died in the habit of a monk, and was there interred July, 1101. (*Ordericus.*)

¹⁵⁹ *Moltam* : The charge for grinding paid in kind equivalent to *mol- turam*. Here it means the revenue arising from grinding. (Seenote 37.)

¹⁶⁰ *Stephanus rex* : King of England (Dec. 26, 1135, to Oct. 25, 1154), son of Stephen de Blois, and Adela, daughter of King William, who were married in 1081. King Stephen was their third son. He married Matilda, daughter of Eustace, Count of Boulogne, by his wife Mary, and in her right inherited all his estates. He also was made Earl of Moreton in Normandy by his uncle Hen. I.

¹⁶¹ *Crugeltona* : Crudgington, in parish of High Ercal, and a member thereof.

¹⁶² *Schlepa* : Sleap, also formerly a member of High Ercal. In the *Tax. Eccl.* of 1291, the value of the abbot's property is recorded as £10 7s. 6d., consisting of two carucates, assessed rents, one mill, aids, pleas, and perquisites. It was written Slepe in 1388.

¹⁶³ *Chinardesia* : Now Kinnersley. In *Domesday* Chinardeseie, afterwards Kynerdesle. There was a chapel here in 1174, an ecclesia in 1227. Kynardeley manerium passed 1253 to Jacobus Aldithele. It was Chinebar in 1284, Kynardesley in 1304, Kinardesley in 1360. In 1291 the Abbot's pension from Kynardesey was 2s. per annum.

¹⁶⁴ *Willelmo filio Alani* : Son of Alan Fitz-Fladald (see note 148) who married Isabel de Say.

¹⁶⁵ *Willelmo de Tornai* : Probably son of Girardus de Tornai. (See note 86.)

¹⁶⁶ *Alano filio Willelmi de Hedlega* : William de Hedley married, Seburga, daughter of Hamon Peurel (see note 26), their son was Alan, who conjointly with his father and mother founded Wombridge Priory before the end of Hen. I's reign.

¹⁶⁷ *Rotberto filio Nigelli* : Nigil or Nihil was a clerk, and also physician to Earl Roger de Montgomery, but, as after his death, his estates escheated to Earl Hugh, this Rotbert may not have been his son. Nigil, Bishop of Ely (1133 to 1169), one of the greatest financiers of the middle ages, nephew of Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, may not be supposed to have a son, at least a *legitimate* one. Nigil, however, was far from being an uncommon name in the 11th and 12th centuries. The Bishop of Salisbury, certainly, had one son by his concubine Maud of Ramsbury, named Roger, surnamed the Poor, and may have had others. Roger was at one time King Stephen's chancellor.

¹⁶⁸ *Radulfo de Tirona* : It may be asked whether he was of the same family as Radulf de Toni, who witnessed St. Evroult's charter in 1050, and was disinherited and exiled in 1058, by Roger de Montgomery ? Tern in Salop was a member of High Ercal.

¹⁶⁹ *Ricardo filio balduini de Linlega* : Is unknown.

¹⁷⁰ *Henricus Wintoniensis Episcopus* : Henry of Blois, Bishop of Winchester, from 1129 to 1174. He was brother to King Stephen, and legate from the papal See, Henry de Blois, son of Stephen, Count de Blois (Blesensis) had been a monk of Cluni, Abbot of Glastonbury, Bishop of Winchester, and was elected Archbishop of Canterbury after the death of William, 1136, but did not succeed in

gaining the approval of the Pope and Theobald, Abbot of Bec succeeded William, with the consent of the new legate Alberic.

¹⁷¹ *Rogerius Salesuriensis Episcopus*: Consecrated by Auselm, Archbishop of Canterbury, Aug. 10th, 1107, and died Dec. 11th, 1139 (some say 1140). After his imprisonment by King Stephen in 1139 he was succeeded by Jocelyn de Baileul. He was styled Roger the Great. He was Chancellor, Justiciary, Treasurer, in fact, *Prime Minister*, and a great builder of churches and castles. "He died," says Daniell, "unpitied, for he was a man guilty of much corruption and of insatiable avarice."

¹⁷² *Nigellus Heliensis Episcopus*: (See note 167), 1138 to 1174.

¹⁷³ *Robertus Herefordensis Episcopus*: Robert de Betun, 1131 to 1148. Present at Winchester Conference, 1141. He had been Prior de Lantun. He died 1148.

¹⁷⁴ *Seifridus cestrensis Episcopus*: Sigefrid consecrated by William, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1125 to 1147, in which year Hilary was consecrated as his successor.

¹⁷⁵ *Ricardus Abrincatensis Episcopus*: bishop of Avranches, consecrated 1135. He was grandson of Richard, son-in-law of Robert Count d' Ivri; his father's name probably Robert. *Ordericus* names him as Bishop of Coutances, while his editor in a note styles him of Avranches, but both give the same date for his consecration, viz., 1185. Richard Bishop of Avranches was appointed a Trustee by Hen. II. in 1182.

¹⁷⁶ *Geruasius abbas Westmonasterii*: He seems to be Geruasius de Blois, natural son of King Stephen, who died 1106. His monument of black marble in the cloisters is popularly called LONG MEG from its extraordinary length of 11ft. 10in. by a breadth of 5ft. 10in.

¹⁷⁷ *Guifridus abbas Sancti Albani*: Geoffrey de Gorham succeeded Richard de Albini in 1119. He was the 16th Abbot, who greatly improved the internal regulations of the Monastery, increased the size of the Abbey buildings, and multiplied its revenues. He provided rich vessels and splendid garments for the various services of the church, and more than that, he prepared in 1129 a very magnificent shrine, adorned with gold, silver, and precious stones for the relics of St. Alban. He was succeeded by Ralph de Gobron in 1146. (Gibb's *Handbook of St. Albans*.)

¹⁷⁸ *Rogerius Cancellarius*: Appointed to that office in 1136. He was son of Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, by Maud, of Ramsbury, his concubine. (See note 167.)

¹⁷⁹ *Ranulfus comes Cestrie*: Randal de Gernons died 1152. Son of Lucia Countess of Lincoln.

¹⁸⁰ *Willelmus comes Warenne I.*: was one of William the Conqueror's original followers, but as he died June 24th, 1089, this must have been his son or grandson, both named William de W., probably the latter, who was engaged in the battle of Lincoln, and continued loyal to Stephen after his captivity. The coffin of the first Earl and Gundreda his wife were discovered in Castle Acre in Norfolk in 1845, and are now in Southover Church near Lewes.

¹⁸¹ *Willelmus Martel* : Formerly cup-bearer to King Henry and now butler (*pincerna*) to King Stephen. He was excommunicated by the Legate Henry Bishop of Worcester in 1141.

¹⁸² *Albriecus de Vair* : Of him the writer has found no record.

¹⁸³ *Gaufridus de Magna villa* : (Or Mandaville), in 1142 took Ramsey Abbey, expelled the monks and converted it into a castle. One Ric'us de Mandeville in 1277, died seized of Shirlet boscus, Sponhull boscus and Upton haia, all in the County of Salop.

APPENDIX.

The following extract from the *Cal. Rot. Chart.* of 1226-7. The 11th year of Hen. III., forms an independent testimony to the genuineness of Stephen's Charter.

SALOPIE ABBAS SANCTI PETRI (habet).

Biforgat vicus juxta Abbathiam ; Monerfeid Ecclesia (Morville) ; Scottesdone ; Brudelesburye ; Cenedon (Conedour ?) et Burton dimid' hida terre ; Egmunden ; Welintone ; Arkelona ; Hodeneth ; Tonga ; Doninton ; Wroewurthin ; Bissechurch ; Nessa ; Novus Burgus ; Eyton Manerium ; Cumminstram manerium ; Burtone ; Theolonium lignorum venditorum in Salopia ; Longefeld manerium ; Lugaford ij hide terrarum et dimidium ; Uptun ecclesia et decima ; Biritone una virgata terre et ecclesia ; Oswald ecclesia ; Mudla ecclesia ; Serewarden ; Salopia una domus in foro ; Bertona ; Wlnerenton ; Chinardeseye ; Gringeltone ; Slepham ; Nortone ; Pocton (Pecton) una hida ; Cherleton una hida ; Cata (Cota) due hide ; Wichewytan ; Itesball ecclesia ; Jocheshull et Winesleg decime ; Basechurch ; Upton decima ; Cunedoure ecclesia 3 mansure ; Stokes terra Sancti Burthull ; Stanton ecclesia ; Bolelegam ; Langenalre una hida ; Hetleg dimidium hida ; Hordeleg ; Drayton minor una hida ; Lotheton (Loten) ; Salop mansura ; Cambriston decima ; Wantenor ecclesia ; Wanten ferindel terre ; Branton ; Preston Lacheford decima ; Hunlega ; Sutton sedes molendini ; Dernald (Derfald ?) ; Castellum una mansura ; Thelewell piscaria, cum multis aliis terris ibidem nominatis et libertatibus ; SALOP.

SALOP ABBAS (habet) Gridgerimer (?) ; Salop feria.

It may be difficult to identify two or three of these names, but the large majority occur in the *Charter*. We may notice Gringeltone, Sancti Burthull, Wanten Dernald, and Gridserimer, as unusual.

SHROPSHIRE ASSIZE ROLLS, TEMP. KING
JOHN. (OCTOBER 1203.)

THE following Assize Rolls, which are the earliest Shropshire ones preserved in the Public Record Office, were extracted and translated by Mr. W. K. Boyd for the Society. The Assize Rolls contain a record of proceedings before the Justices in Eyre, who itinerated throughout the country. These Itinerant Justices were vested with considerable power. The business transacted before them was entered on Rolls, which commence in 6 Richard I., and extend to Edward IV. The Rolls here given contain notes of the Pleas taken at Shrewsbury in October, 1203. A list of the places named in these Rolls is appended.

ASSIZE ROLLS (SALOP) No. 732.

[Translation].

Essoins taken at Shrewsbury of the eyre of William de Cantelupe and Simon de Pateshull and their Fellows on Wednesday after the Feast of St. Michael in the fifth year of the reign of King John [5 October 1203.]

(m. 3d.) AT GLOUCESTER.

The assize came to recognise if William, father of Christiana, Matilda, and Margaret wife of John, Richard, and Baldwin, was seized in his demesne as of fee of 2 virgates of land, with the appurtenances, in Raggeden, on the day whereon he died, &c. Which land Richard de Wudridesle holds.

Who comes and says that the assize ought not to be made therein, because he, a long time ago, sued touching that land in the Court of the Lord the King, against Robert de Boulers and Roger de Say, and there it was agreed between them that

by the Fine made in the same Court that land remained to him without claim that they or any on their behalf might put in. And he asks that this be allowed him.

And Simon de Pateshull, before whom the plaint was moved, witnesseth that they put in their claim. And therefore it does not remain.

And afterwards came Richard and vouched to warrant Baldwin de Boulers, heir of Robert de Boulers. Let him have him at Oxford in 15 days from the day of All Souls, and the same day is given to the recognitors. And others are put in the place of Reginald de Acton, Philip de Stapelton, Hugh Lestrange, and William de Bikedon, who are removed.

Walter de Huggefond, by Warner [? Warin] his attorney, demands against Juliana de Ledwie the custody of a moiety of the vall of Ledwie as that which belongs to him to have with Geoffrey, son of Geoffrey, who ought to hold it of him, and whose father held that land of him together with other lands.

And Juliana comes and says that that land is her dower of the gift of William formerly her husband. Wherefore the aforesaid Geoffrey is, and ought to be her warrant.

And Warner [? Warin] says that that land is not her dower nor ought it to be, because she was not dowered thereof, but was dowered of certain other land, to wit, of the land of Clie, so that she held it as her dower for years and days after the decease of the said Geoffrey, formerly her husband. And therefore she produces suit which witnesseth this.

A day is given to them, at Oxford, on Friday after the Feast of St. Martin, and let Warner [? Warin] then have the aforesaid Geoffrey [there], without whom she did not wish to answer, because he has the said Geoffrey in his custody.

[In the margin.] And Juliana puts in her place Roger de Mora.

Paulin de Hodenet gives to the Lord the King one mark for having licence to agree, by the pledge of Griffin, son of Einow, and William, son of Seman. 1 mark.

The Prior of Brumfeld puts in his place William de Linghand, his monk, against Robert, son of Simon, of a plea of a Fine made, and of a plea of land &c.

The assize came to recognize if Audulf, father of Audulf, was seized in his demesne as of fee of the manor of Moles, with the appurtenances, on the day whereon he died &c. Which land Roger de Mortimer holds.

The jurors say that he so died seized.

Judgment. Let Audulf have his seisin, and Roger is in mercy.

Mercy.

AT OXFORD. Elias, Prior of Brumfeld, demands against Robert, son of Simon, half a hide of land, with the appurtenances, in Brumfeld, as the right of his church of Brumfeld. And Robert comes and puts himself on the grand assize of the Lord the King, and he asks that an acknowledgment be made whether he has greater right in the land aforesaid, or the same Prior and his church of Brumfeld. A day is given to them on the coming of the Justices, and then let four [knights] come to choose twelve.

The Prior of Brumfeld was attached to be before the Justices to show wherefore he does not hold a Fine made in the Court of the Lord the King between the Prior of Brumfeld and Robert, son of Simon, touching land, moor and wood in Bromfeld. Wherefore the same Robert complains that, against a Fine made, the same prior deforces him of common of his pasture.

He comes and defends that he never went against that Fine, and that he is ready to hold that Fine. And Robert produces suit which witnesseth that he did not hold the Fine.

The said Prior will defend himself with the twelfth hand on the coming of the Justices.

Pledges for the law Richard de Troham and Walter Durnet.

(m. 4) PLEAS OF THE ASSIZE TAKEN AT SHREWSBURY.

Salopshire. The Abbot of Bildewas puts in his place brother Walter, a monk, against William de Bradele of a plea of the assize of novel disseisin &c.

Simon de Perepunt, Philip de Bubbiton, William Keterell, and Hugh de Sudburi, four knights summoned to choose twelve to make an acknowledgment between Christiana de Northlegh, plaintiff, and Adam Ting, tenant, touching one virgate of land, with the appurtenances, in Northlegh, whereof the same Adam, who is tenant, put himself on the grand assize of the Lord the King and asked that an acknowledgment be made whether he has greater right to hold that land of the said Christiana, or the said Christiana [to hold] in demesne, came and chose these, Roger de Begesoure, Richard

de Ruiton, Warner de Wilileg, Richard de Lechton, William Burnel, Hugh de Lega, Maucolus de Arlega, Robert de Cuthager, Hugh de Sudburi, William de Spineto, Adam le Sauvage, Ralph, Ralph son of Moubert, Roger Corbet, Henry Bostard, Elias de Attingham, Robert de Girros.

They are agreed, and Christiana gives to the Lord the King half a mark for licence to agree, by the pledge of Thomas de Northlega and Adam Tugel.

Half a mark.

Salop. The assize came to recognize if Ralph de Sanford unjustly and without judgment disseised Basilia de Rohal of her free tenement in Rohal after the coronation of the Lord the King at Canterbury.

The jurors say that he so disseised her.

Judgment. Let Basilia have her seisin, and Ralph de Sanford is in mercy. Damage, one mark.

Mercy, one mark, by the pledge of Richard de Lake and Ralph Hose. Pledge for the damage, Ralph Hose.

Salop. The assize came to recognize if William Boterell unjustly and without judgment disseised Philip de Stapelton of his free tenement in Stapelton, after the Feast of St Michael next before the first coronation of the Lord the King.

The jurors say that he so disseised him.

Judgment. Let Philip have his seisin, and William is in mercy. Damage half a mark.

Salop. The assize came to recognize if Herbert, son of Herbert, unjustly and without judgment disseised Philip de Stapleton and Emma his wife of their free tenement in Pantesbury after the Feast of St Michael next before the first coronation of the Lord the King. And this assize was taken for reason following.

The jurors say that he so disseised them. Damage 2s.

[In the margin.] To-morrow touching the seisin.

The assize came to recognize if Herbert, son of Herbert, unjustly and without judgment disseised Philip de Stapelton and Emma his wife of their free tenement in Boicot, after the Feast of St Michael next before the coronation of the Lord the King. And the Steward of the same Herbert says that that tenement, and so all the lands of the said Herbert are in the hands of the Lord the King, and therefore it does not seem to him that the assize ought to proceed.

And the Sheriff, being asked, says that in truth, because he did not make a fine for his passage, his lands are seized into the hand of the Lord the King; so nevertheless that neither the Steward of the same Herbert, nor his serjeant nor reeve are removed. And therefore this assize was taken by the council.

The jurors say that he so disseised them. Damage 2 marks.

Judgment is put in respite touching having seisin until discourse shall be had therein with the lord G. Fitz Peter. And they have a day thereupon in 15 days from the day of St Martin.

Salop. The assize came to recognize if Wlliam de Broeton unjustly and without judgment disseised Ulger Canonicus of his free tenement in Broeton, after the coronation of the Lord the King at Canterbury.

The jurors say that he so disseised him.

Judgment. Let Ulger have his seisin, and William is in mercy. Damage 6^d. Mercy half a mark.

Salop. Roger de Begesoure, Walter de Hugeford, Warner de Wililega, Robert de Gatacre, four knights to choose twelve to make an acknowledgment between the Abbot of Hageman and John de Kilpec, touching the service which the same John exacts from the aforesaid Abbot in respect of the free tenements which he holds of him in Bebrug. Wherefore the same Abbot, who is tenant, put himself on the grand assize of the Lord the King and asked that an acknowledgment be made whether he ought to hold the aforesaid tenement of the aforesaid John by the service of the fifth part of one knight's fee, as the same John exacts from him, or whether he ought to hold it of the aforesaid John in free alms quit from all service, as he acknowledges to him, came and chose these. Philip son of Hologot, Robert de Girros, Hugh de Sudburi, Roger Corbet, Richard de Ruiton, Simon de Perepunt, Hugh de Upton, William Boterelli, Philip de Fornlaw', Reiner de Lega, Warin de Burwardesle, Richard de Lecton, Roger de Begesoure, Warner de Wilitea, Walter de Hugeford, Robert de Gatacre. They are agreed.

[In the margin.] And the Abbot puts in his place Henry, his Canon.

Hugh de Wodenorton, Mankolun de Arlega, Philip de Stapelton, Hamon Marescot, four knights summoned to choose

twelve to make an acknowledgment between William, son of Robert, and Walter de Corue, and Thomas de Corue touching 2 carucates of land, with the appurtenances in Corue, whereof the same Walter and Thomas, who are tenants, put themselves on the grand assize of the Lord the King and asked that an acknowledgment be made whether they have greater right in the land aforesaid, or the aforesaid William, came and chose these. William de Middlehop, Hugh de Lega, Roger de Begesoure, Hugh de Sudburi, William Boterel, Warner de Wililega, William de Hopton, *William de Sureis*,¹ Martin de Castello, Hugh de Upton, Henry Christian, Warin de Burwaridesleia, *William Burnel*,¹ *Elias de Say*,¹ *William son of Walter*,¹ Robert de Gatacre. Who, having been sworn, say that Walter and Thomas have greater right in that land than the aforesaid William. And therefore let the aforesaid Walter and Thomas have and hold their land in peace for ever quit from the said William and from his heirs. And William is in mercy.

[In the margin.] And be it known that Ralph de Welleford and the other knights sent to the aforesaid Thomas, who is sick, that they might hear who he wished to attorn therein, say that he put in his place Walter de Coru to gain.

Salopshire. The assize came to recognize if Christiana, late the wife of Richard de Costantin, unjustly and without judgment disseised William Lestrange of his free tenement in Eardinton after the Feast of St Michael next before the first coronation of the Lord the King.

The jurors say that she so disseised him.

Judgment. Let William have his seisin, and Christiana is in mercy. Damage 3s. Mercy 1 mark. Pledge for the damage and mercy Thomas de Costantin.

Salop. The assize came to recognise if Richer, son of Robert, unjustly and without judgment disseised Leticia, late the wife of Guy, of her free tenement in Schauburi, after the coronation of the Lord the King at Canterbury.

The jurors say that he so disseised her.

Judgment. Let Leticia have her seisin, and Richer is in mercy. Damage half a mark. Mercy one mark. Pledges

¹ The names printed in italics are crossed out in the Record.

for the damage, John de Wiford and Richard de Wiford. Pledges for the mercy, Richard de Chesthull and Baldwin Wiscaral.

Salop. The assize came to recognize if Simon de Perepunt unjustly and without judgment disseised Roger de Wadelega of his free tenement in Wadelega after the coronation of the Lord the King at Canterbury.

The jurors say that he did not so disseise him.

Judgment. Roger is in mercy, and let Simon hold.

Mercy. It is pardoned.

Salop. The assize came to recognize if Amilla de Clune unjustly and without judgment disseised Roger de Aerug of his free tenement in Rokehull, after the coronation of the Lord the King at Canterbury.

The jurors say that she so disseised him.

Judgment. Let Roger have his seisin, and Amilia is in mercy. Damage half a mark. Mercy half a mark, by the pledge of Walter Flandrensis.

Salop. William son of Walter, Philip de Stapelton, Hamon Marescot, and Henry Bastard, four knights summoned to choose twelve to make the grand assize between Hugh Lestrange, plaintiff, and Osbert Purcol and Hugh son of Walter, tenants, touching 40 acres of land, with the appurtenances, in Erdeston, whereof the same Osbert and Hugh put themselves on the grand assize of the Lord the King and asked that acknowledgment be made whether they have greater right in that land or the same Hugh Lestrange, chose these—Afterwards came William Fitz Alan and said that that land is in his Hundred which owes no suit at the County Court of Salop, nor do the men of that Hundred come before the Justices or before the Sheriff, either for death, or burning, or for any summons. He also says that no grand assize ought to be held in that Hundred, nor was it ever. And the whole county witnesseth this.

To-morrow.

Ralph Hase, Robert de Girros, Roger Sprengehose, and Vivian de Roshal, four knights summoned to choose twelve to make the grand assize between William Presbiter and Ralph de Roshal and Godith his wife, and Aldith, sister of the said Godith (Gode) touching half a virgate of land, with the appurtenances, in Little Roshag, whereof the same Ralph, Godith,

and Aldith, who are tenants, put themselves on the grand assize of the Lord the King and asked that an acknowledgment be made whether they have greater right in the land aforesaid, or the same William, came and chose these. Hugh Lestrange, William Hose, Reiner de Acton, William Burnel, Herbert Mauvesin, Henry Batard, Hamon Mariscot, *Philip de Stapelton, Hugh de Lokeford, Roger Purcel, Roger de Eston, Robert de Girros, Ralph Hose, Vivian de Rushal, Roger Sprengelhose.* Who, having been sworn, say that the aforesaid Ralph, Godith, and Aldith have greater right in that land than the aforesaid William Presbiter, because that land is the right of the said Godith and Aldith. And therefore let them hold. And William is in mercy half a mark, by the pledge of Robert de Girras.

Thomas de Beverlac put in his claim, saying that neither the plaintiff nor the tenant has right in that land, because that land is his right pertaining to the Prebend which he has in the church of St Cedde.

Philip de Stapelton, Robert de Woodecoc, Hamon Marescot, and Martin de Castello, four knights summoned to choose twelve to make an acknowledgment between William de Etton and Robert Esmerulum touching half a virgate of land, with the appurtenances, in Wullaueston, whereof the same William, who is tenant, put himself on the grand assize of the Lord the King and asked that an acknowledgment be made which of them has greater right in that land, chose these. William Burnel, Wido de Arundel, Roger de Eston, Hugh de Wolferton, Vivian de Roshal, Robert son of Madoc, William Hose, Reiner de Acton, William son of Walter, Robert de Gatacre, Herbert Mauvesin, Robert de Girros, Roger Sprengelhose, Ralph Hose, Warner de Wililoga, and Hugh Lestrange.

Afterwards came William and acknowledged that that land is the right of the aforesaid Robert as his right. And he gives one mark.

Richard de Merinton, the sergeant, because he did not come at the hour on the first day of the summons is in mercy.

Edric, the Reeve of Panteburi, because he forbade the sureties and pledges of the Sheriff is in mercy.

(m. 4d.) Salop. The assize of novel disseisin between Reginald de Thirn, plaintiff, and David, son of Audoen, and

Emma his wife, touching the said Reginald's free tenement in Stockiet and Kenewic, remains because that tenement is in the hand of the Lord the King.

The assize came to recognize if Richard, son of Warin, unjustly and without judgment disseised Richard Dyer (Tinctor) of his free tenement in Shrewsbury after the coronation of the Lord the King at Canterbury.

The jurors say that he so disseised him.

Judgment. Let Richard have his seisin, and Richard son of Warin is in mercy of half a mark.

Damage 8*s.* Pledges for the mercy Nicholas Le Teintarer, Walter Le Roseu.

INDEX OF PLACES NAMED IN THE FOREGOING ASSIZE ROLLS.

	PAGE.
Beobridge (Claverley), iii., 83	... 247
Boycott (Pontesbury), vii., 181	... 246
Brockton (near Rushbury), iv., 109	... 247
Bromfield, v., 218	... 245
Clie (? Cleeton), v., 88	... 244
Corve (Brockton)	... 248
Eardington, i., 120	... 248
Eardiston, xi., 6	... 249
Kenwick, x., 251	... 251
Ledwich, Upper, v., 88	... 244
Meole Brace, vi., 851	... 244
Nordley Regis (Northlegh), iii., 157	... 245
Pontesbury, vii., 180	... 246
Ragdon, v., 118	... 243
Rohal (Ruthall, Priors Ditton), iv., 47	... 246
Rokehull (? Court of Hill; or Rochall, near Wall Town), iv., 843 or 371	... 249
Rosshall, x., 86	... 249
Shawbury, viii., 137	... 248
Shrewsbury ...	... 251
St. Chad ...	... 250
Stapleton, vi., 110—111...	... 246
Stockett (Kenwick), x., 249	... 251
Wadley (near Glazeley), i., 212	... 249
Woolaston, Little, vii., 114	... 250

The references are to Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*.

W.G.D.F.

Vol. XI., 2nd S.

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EXTENT OF THE MANOR OF ELLESMORE,
28 OCTOBER, 1280.

THE Extent of the Manor of Ellesmere which follows, was extracted and translated by Mr. W. K. Boyd, for the Society, from the original Survey in the Public Record. It is dated 28 October, 1280. It shows the exact condition of the Manor at Ellesmere at that time, with its acreage and value, the names of the tenants and their rentals, &c. Sir Roger le Strange was then the lord. (See Eyton's *Antiquities*, x. 242.) In translating these Extents, Mr. Boyd has used "son of," as it is difficult to distinguish between the English and Welsh names, though no doubt many of the Welsh ones were "ap."

W.G.D.F.

RENTALS AND SURVEYS ROLL, 555, P.R.O.

[28th Oct., A.D., 1280.]

Extent of the Manor of Ellesmere made on Monday the Feast of the Apostles Simon and Jude, in the 8th year of the reign of King Edward; before Thomas de Thorp and John de Say, Clerks, by the oath of true and lawful men of every Township of the Hundred of Ellesmere, Jurors.

Who say upon their oath that the lord holds in demesne 4 virgates of land, viz., 324 acres, the worth of an acre 4d. Sum 6li. 8d. And that the fines and amercements of the Courts of the Burgh of Ellesmere are worth 30s. And that the assize of every brewery of beer is worth 20s. And that the lord holds 3*1/4* acres of meadow which are worth 26s. 8d. by the year. And that the lord holds two mills *redden* 40s. And that the fishery throughout all the vivaries, except the vivary of Culmere are worth the fines, amercements of the Courts, and heriots are worth 6li. 13s. 3d. by the year. And that in all the woods is

worth 40s. by the year. And that the garden is worth 3s. by the year. And of the Sergeants in the country (patria) is worth 106s. 8d. by the year if the lord shall wish to release the services

Sum 28li. 4d.

BURGH OF ELLESMORE.

Also they say by their oath that Adam del broke holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Richard, son of Robert, holds the moiety of a burgage,¹ and renders 6d. by the year.

And Robert, son of Henry, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And John the Chaplain holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Hugh, son of Edward, holds a burgage and a half, and renders 18d. by the year.

And Nicholas, son of Adam, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Thomas Le Mercer and Thomas his son, hold half a burgage, and render 6d.

And William Le Skelker holds half a burgage and the third part of a burgage, and renders 10d. by the year.

And Richard the cobler (sutor) holds half a burgage and the third part of a burgage, and renders 10d. by the year.

Hervey the smith (faber) holds the third part of a burgage, one croft and two gardens, and renders by the year.

And Alice the widow holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Amice, daughter of Russell, holds and one house, and renders 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. by the year.

And Nicholas, son of William, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Hugh Slaghthorn holds two burgages, and renders 2s. by the year.

And Richard Pere holds 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ burgages, and renders 2s. 6d. by the year.

And Roger, son of Pymme, holds the third part of a burgage, and renders 4d. by the year.

¹ Burgage : A tenement in a borough ; the tenure or rent by which such premises were held.

And William Monnyng holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Roger the baker (Pistor) holds the moiety of a burgage and the twelfth part of a burgage, and renders 7d. by the year.

And Hugh Le Glover for so much land, and renders 7d. by the year.

And Ithel Du holds a burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And William Kulward holds the moiety of a burgage and the twelfth part of a burgage, and renders 7d. by the year.

And David le Pelter holds one burgage and the fourth part of a burgage, and renders 9d. by the year.

And Richard de Hampton holds the fourth [part] of a burgage, and renders 3d.

And Richard de Lumal holds the moiety of a burgage and the third part of a burgage, and renders 10*1/2*d. by the year.

And Philip, son of Hona, hold two burgages, and renders 2s. by the year.

And David, son of Hona, holds 5 burgages, and renders 5s. by the year.

And David, son of Nicholas, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Anian, son of Richard, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Ralph, son of Adam, holds two burgages, and renders 2s. by the year.

And Nicholas, son of Daniel, holds one burgage and a half, and renders 18d. by the year.

And Robert, son of William, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Elias del Mere holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Richard, son of John, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Nicholas, son of John, holds one burgage and the fourth part of a burgage, and renders 15d. by the year.

And a nun (Inclusa) holds [the moiety of] a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And John Le Mercer holds one burgage, and renders . . d. by the year.

And David, son of William, holds one burgage, and renders 13d. by the year.

And William, son of Reyner, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year,

And Roger, son of Roger, and Lewelin Vaghan hold three burgages, and render 3s. by the year.

And Edusa, daughter of Gilbert, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Louke the breweress (Braciatrix), holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Reyner de Lithe holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Stephen de Waresleye holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Cecilia, wife of Stephen, holds the moiety of a burgage and the fourth part of a burgage, and renders 9d. by the year.

And William, son of Stephen, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Hugh, son of Pymme, holds a burgage and a garden, and renders 13d. by the year.

And Thomas, son of Richard, [holds] one burgage and a half, and renders 18d. by the year.

And Ranulph the Chaplain holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Cadogan Vaghan holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Ideneuet, son of Adam, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Richard Broun and Stephen Le Geyte hold two burgages and the third part of a burgage, and render 2s. 4d. by the year.

And Adam de Rugge holds two parts of a burgage, and renders 8d. by the year.

And John, son of John, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Margery, wife of Adam, holds one burgage, and renders 12d. by the year.

And Stephen Rag holds one burgage and a half and the sixth part of a burgage, and renders 22d. by the year.

And Ithel, son of Le Skelker, and John his brother hold one burgage, and render 12d. by the year.

And Hugh, son of Hugh, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And David, son of David, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 6d. by the year.

And Maye, wife of Adam, holds the moiety of a burgage, and renders 7d.

And Elyas Badde holds the third part of a burgage, and renders 4*4d.* by the year.

And Stephen de Caldecote holds one house, and renders 1*d.*

And Richard, son of Hugh, holds one house, and renders 1*d.* by the year.

And Richard, son of David, holds one house, and renders 2*d.* by the year.

And Stephen, son of Alderiche, holds one house, and renders 1*d.* by the year.

And David Barnhers holds one house, and renders 12*d.* by the year.

And Henry Sped holds the third part of a burgage, and renders 4*d.* by the year.

And Anian, son of Richard, holds one house and one croft, and renders 6*d.* by the year.

Sum—62*s.* 6*1d.*

FREE TENANTS.

Madoc, son of Ralph, holds 4 virgates of land, and renders 2*s.* by the year, or he shall give one sparrow-hawk.

And David de Otley holds 3 virgates of land, and renders 2*s.* 2*d.* by the year, and he ought to be in the Castle of Ellesmere at his own expenses for 40 days in the time of war. And at his death he shall give to the lord one tunic (lorica). Edeneuet de Stockes holds half a virgate of land and 13 acres of land of assart, and renders 4*s.* 8*d.* by the year. And he owes suit of the Lord's Court, and when he shall die the Lord shall have his arms.

Euer, son of Blethind, holds one bovate of land, and renders 9*d.* by the year. And he ought to follow the Court, and when he shall die the Lord shall have his arms.

Gwion Seys holds 4 acres of land of ancient tenure, and renders 6*d.* by the year. And he owes suit of the Lord's Court, and the Lord shall have his arms when he shall die.

The Lady of Lunyal holds 5*1*/*2* virgates of land and assarts, and renders 2*s.* by the year or one fish-hawk (nisus). And she ought to follow the Court and feed the servants (servientes)¹ and at her death she shall give to the lord her best goods (averium).

Reginald de Lythe holds 3 bovates of land and renders 2*s.* 8*d.* by the year. And he shall follow the Lord's Court, and at his death the Lord shall have his arms.

¹ Servientes: Perhaps men-at-arms, or common soldiers.

Eynon, son of Candelau the doctor (medicus) holds one bovate of land, and renders 12d. by the year; and he ought to pay pannage (pannagare) and feed the servants, and he owes suit of Court.

Ralph, son of Adam, holds 1 bovate of land, and renders 3s. by the year, and he shall follow the Court.

Stephen de Fraunketon holds in Ellesdon 4 virgates of land, and in Wodehouses one oxgang of land, and in Otale one oxgang of land, and renders 22s. And he owes suit of Court and [ought] to feed the servants.

William de Dokeleye holds 23 acres of land in the assarts,¹ and renders 2s. by the year. And he shall follow the Lord's Court, and when he shall die he shall give his best goods.

And William de Gefnoke holds half a virgate of land for guarding the woods; and he holds 58 acres of land in the assarts, and renders 4s. 10d. by the year; and he shall follow the Court, and when he shall die the Lord shall have his best goods.

And Colyn le Bedel holds half a virgate of land and 13 acres in the assarts, and 10 acres with a croft in the field. And he renders 7s. 3d. by the year. And he shall follow the Court; and he ought to make the summonses and attachments of the Courts and feed the servants. And when he shall die the Lord shall have his best goods.

Richard, son of John, Richard Carpenter (Carpentarius) and Win Smith (faber) hold half a virgate of land, and render 3s. by the year. And the same hold 20 acres of land in the assarts and render 20d. by the year. And they ought to follow the Court and feed the servants. And at their death the Lord shall have their arms.

Meuric holds the third part of the vill of Grenhull, and he ought to give one brachet² (brachettus) every third year; and he shall follow the Court.

Lewelin Vaghan holds two parts of the vill of Grenhull, and he shall give one brachet to the lord every second year; and he shall follow the Court. And the same Lewelin and his brothers hold the vill of Astwike, and for all service they ought to follow the Court, and they shall do nothing else.

And Roger de Astwike holds one assart, and renders 4d. by the year.

¹ Assart: A piece of land cleared of wood and fit for tillage.

² A hound for hare and fox.

Gurgenew son of Madoc, Madoc son of Yareford, and Wyn Vaghan and Lewelin son of Wylim hold the vill of Herdewike, and render 6s. 8d. by the year; and they ought to follow the Court and feed the servants.

Adam de Rugge, Madoc son of Wilym, Yareford son of Eynon, and others hold 4 virgates of land in Rugge, and render 10s. by the year. And they ought to follow the Court and feed the servants; and [they owe] a fine (gersumma) for marrying their daughters, for every daughter 2s.

Philip de Fernenhalgh holds one bovate of land in the assarts, and renders 2s. 7d. by the year; and he ought to follow the Court and feed the servants, and [he owes] a heriot.

Kenewreic son of Louhard, David Vaghan, Euer son of Gwyhon, Owelyn son of Eynon, Kenewreic, and others hold 4 virgates of land in the vill of Marton, and render 6s. 8d. by the year; and they owe suit of Court [and they ought] to feed the servants; and at their death they shall give to the lord the best goods that they have or 6s. 8d. And they owe a relief when they die.

And William, son of Colyn le Bedel, holds 19 acres of land in the assarts and renders 19d. by the year for all service.

And William Smith (faber), of Birche, holds half a virgate of land, and he shall make the iron of the ploughs and of the mills of the manor. And in the time of war he ought to be in the Castle to forge all things necessary.

And Richard, son of Matilda, holds 12 acres of land in the assarts and renders 2s. 4d. by the year; and he shall follow the Court, and he ought to feed the servants, and at his death he shall give to the lord his best goods.

Mabel, daughter of Richard, son of Matilda, holds one acre of land in the assart, and renders 1½d. by the year.

And William, son of Hobyn, holds a meadow of assart, and renders 1d. by the year.

And Pymmot, son of Geoffrey, holds a meadow of assart and renders 1d. by the year.

And Richard, son of Richard del Grene, holds half an acre of land of the assart, and renders 1d. by the year.

And Richard, son of Stephen, John Hering, Matilda the widow, and others, of Birche, hold 10 acres of land of the assart, and render 10d. by the year.

And Richard Fribald holds 4 acres of land of the assart, and renders 4d. by the year.

And David, son of Wenunwyn, holds 3½ acres of the assarts, and renders 3½d. by the year.

And Richard, son of Hugh, holds 3 acres of land of the assarts, and renders 3d. by the year.

And Hugh son of Hugh and Adam son of Hotte hold 4 acres of land of the assarts and render 4d. by the year.

And the tenants of Horton render 2s. by the year.

And five men of the vill aforesaid ought to follow the Court.

The vill of Leye renders 2s. by the year, and it ought to feed the servants.

The vill of Baggeley renders 2s. by the year.

The Abbot of Hawemon holds Stockeyth, Neuton, and Kenewic, and he ought to follow the Court.

And the said vills ought to feed the servants.

Sum 4li. 18s. 5d.

Sum of the acres of the assarts of this roll 195.

Sum of all the acres of the assarts of the Hundred of Ellesmere 536 $\frac{1}{2}$.

EXTENT OF THE MANOR OF WELCH
HAMPTON, 4 NOVEMBER, 1280.

THE following Extent of the Manor of Hampton, or Welch Hampton, was also extracted and translated by Mr. W. K. Boyd, from the original Survey in the Public Record Office. It is dated 4 November, 1280. The Manor was of course less extensive than Ellesmere, and less valuable. The name of the lord is not given in the Survey, but it was Roger le Strange. (See Eyton's *Antiquities*, x., 93.)

W.G.D.F.

RENTALS AND SURVEYS. PORTF. $\frac{14}{27}$ P. R. O.

(WELCH HAMPTON.)

[4 Nov., A.D., 1280.]

Extent of the Manor of Hampton, made on Monday next after the Feast of All Saints, in the 8th year of the reign of King Edward, before Thomas Bosse, Thomas le Thorp, and Philip de Say, by twelve jurors.

Who say upon their oath that the lord holds in demesne 44 acres, the worth of an acre 4d. The sum whereof, 14s. 8d. And that he holds 2 acres of meadow, the worth of an acre 12d. The sum whereof 2s.

And that the garden is worth 3d. by the year.

And that the perquisites and pleas of the Courts are worth 5s. by the year.

And that the pannage is worth 2s. by the year.

And that the vivary is worth 4th.

And of the herbage of "Stockes," 3s.

Sum—27s. 3d.

FREE TENANTS.

Oweyn, son of Gronow, holds 12 acres of land by charter and renders 2s. by the year, and he owes suit of Court.

And Stephen de Fraunketon holds 15 acres and renders 2s. 6d.

And Richard, son of Elias, holds one virgate of land and a half, and renders 4 horseshoes by the year, and he ought to follow the Court.

Richard de Prene holds half a virgate of land and renders
4 hens, and he ought to follow the Court.
Sum 5s. 2d.

COTTERELLI.

Richard Fox holds a house and a garden with 3 acres of
land and renders 6d. by the year.

Roger the Miller (Molendinarius) holds a house and an acre
and a half of land and renders 10d. by the year.

Alice the widow holds a house and an acre of land and
renders 6d.

And Hamon holds a house and an acre and a half of land
and renders 10d. by the year.

And Tibota de Hodenet holds a house and an acre of land
and renders 6d.

And Anian Smith (faber) holds one smithy and renders 4d.

All the aforesaid people ought to follow the Court.

Sum 3s. 6d.

BOND MEN.

Robert, son of Juliana, holds half a virgate of land, and
renders 4s. by the year.

And Richard the Reeve holds half a virgate of land, and
renders 4s.

And Madoc, son of David, holds half a virgate of land, and
renders 4s.

And Richard, son of Hernhirste, holds half a virgate of land,
and renders 4s.

And Philip de Fraunketon holds half a virgate of land, and
renders 4s. by the year.

And William the Miller holds one oxgang of land, and
renders 2s.

And David, son of Juliana, holds half a virgate of land, and
renders 4s.

And Robert Strupe holds half a virgate of land, and renders
4s. and one cock.

And Wyon, son of Wyn Ky, holds half a virgate of land,
and renders 4s.

And John, son of Robert, holds half a virgate of land, and
renders 4s.

And Richard the Reeve holds one garden, and renders 2d.

Sum—38s. 3d.

Sum of the sums—74s. 2d.

SHROPSHIRE INQUISITIONS POST MORTEM.

THE following twelve Inquisitions have been extracted and translated by Mr. W. K. Boyd, for the Society, from the originals preserved in the Public Record Office. There is probably no class of records of such great value, either for the purposes of local topography or genealogy, as the Inquisitions post mortem. On the death of anyone who was supposed to hold lands in chief under the crown, a writ was issued to the escheator of the county, entitled a writ of *diem clausit extremum*, commanding him to summon a jury to enquire—(1) of what lands the deceased person died seised, (2) of whom and by what rents and services the same were held, (3) the date of his death, (4) the name and age of his heir-at-law. The inquest was taken on oath, and the verdict engrossed on parchment, and in due course returned into the Court of Chancery, where it was filed. If the jury made an insufficient return, a further writ, called a writ *ad melius inquirendum*, was issued, directing the escheator to hold a second inquest for obtaining fuller particulars.

These Inquisitions commence in the 3rd year of the reign of Henry III., and come down to the 20th year of Charles I. (1218—1645.) A transcript was sent into the Exchequer, to enable the King's officers to collect the duties, &c., payable to the King. From the reign of Henry VIII., when the Court of Wards and Liveries was established (anno 1543), a transcript was also sent into that Court. There are, therefore, three sets of Inquisitions preserved in the Public Record Office.

Amongst these Inquisitions post mortem are also some extents of lands; a few inquests for proof of age;

some that were taken *virtute officii*, without writ or commission; and some inquests *ad quod damnum*. Three of these Inquisitions *ad quod damnum* are here given. The others are ordinary Inquisitions *post mortem*. They relate to the families of Burnel, Corbet, More, Retheryk, and Talbot, and show what lands the deceased persons held in the county of Salop.

W.G.D.F.

INQUISITION AS TO THE LANDS HELD BY ROGER DE LA MORE,
1254. THE VILL OF LA MORE.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem 39 Henry III., No. 13.
Writ dated at Westminster 3rd Dec. 39 Henry III. [A.D. 1254] directed to the Abbot of Persore and James Fresel, the King's Escheators, to inquire what lands Roger de la More held &c.

This is the Inquisition made by these under written jurors, to wit, Walter de Neuton, Roger de Plouden, John de Say, Ralph del Yeyn, Kadugan de Lee, William, son of Seysil, Thomas de Eyton, Houwel de Lydom, Hugh de la More, Robert del Omers, Richard, son of Robert de Northbury, Wronou de Omers. Who say upon their oath that Roger de la More held the vill of La More by the service of keeping one Constable with the Lord the King in the war in Wales, taking from the Lord the King 12d. by the day. And he gives to the Lord the King 1d. by the year for alienations of the aforesaid land.

And there are there 3 carucates of land in demesne which are worth 30s.

Of rent of assize by the year 5s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Also there are there boondays of the value of 5s.

Also one vivary which is worth 6d.

Also one garden 2s.

Also wood, 2s. by the year.

Also of pasture 2s.

Also from the falcons, 2d. by the year.

From the herons' nests, 6d.

Also the pleas, 5s. by the year.

Also the market heriot, 2s.

Also the works of customary tenants, 5s. 7d.

Also the presentations at the Lathe, 2s. 10d.

Sum 113s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Also they say that the same Roger held 5 virgates of land of the Bishop of Hereford and Adam de Acton by the service of 5s. 4d., and they are worth 10s. 4d.

And the same Roger held of Roger de Nortbury 2 virgates of land by the service of 2s. 10d., and they are worth 7s. 2d. by the year.

The other sum—17s. 6d.

The whole sum, 6li. 11s. 2½d.

Roger, son and heir of the same Roger, is next heir of the said Roger, and is of full age.

INQUISITION P.M. PETER CORBET, 1322. THE MANORS OF CAUS, WORTHEN, SHELVE, &c.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem, 15 Edward II., No. 34.

Salop.

Inquisition made at Shrewsbury, before the Escheator of the Lord the King, on Tuesday next after the Feast of St. John the Baptist, in the 15th year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward, [29th June, A.D., 1322,] that is to say, according to the tenour of the writ of the Lord the King sewn to this Inquisition; by the oath of Hugh de Say, &c. Who say upon their oath that Peter Corbet held nothing of the Lord the King in chief, nor of any other, in his demesne as of fee on the day that he died; but they say that the aforesaid Peter Corbet and Beatrice his wife jointly held the manors of Caus, Jokelhall, Worthin, Schelue, Binneweston, Forton, Hemme, Overgorther, Nethergorther, and Bagheltref, with the appurtenances, in the county of Salop, of the gift and feoffment of Hugh Bergam, Chaplain, who enfeoffed the aforesaid Peter and Beatrice, his wife, of the manors aforesaid by the Lord the King's license and by a Fine thereof levied in the Court of the Lord the King. To have and to hold to the same Peter and Beatrice and to the heirs issuing of their bodies, and if they should die without heir issuing of their bodies, then, that the aforesaid manors, with the appurtenances, should remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Peter. And they say that the manors aforesaid, with the appurtenances, are held of the Lord the King in chief by Barony, that is to say, by the service of five Knights' fees, and they are worth 200 marks by the year in all issues. And they say that John Corbet, brother of the aforesaid Peter, son of Peter Corbet,

father of the said Peter, who has now died, is next heir of the same Peter, and was of the age of 24 years at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary last past.

INQUISITION THAT IT IS NOT TO THE KING'S HURT IF SIR JOHN CORBET GRANT THE MANOR OF BYNWESTON TO JOHN HIS SON, 1356.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem 30 Edward III. (2nd n^{re})
No. 15.

Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, at Worthyn, the 14th day of August in the 30th year of the reign of King Edward III. [14th Aug. A.D. 1356] after the conquest, according to the tenour of the writ of the Lord the King sewn to this Inquisition, by the oath of Adam Corbet, Hugh Mauncel, &c. Who say by their oath that it is not to the harm or prejudice of the Lord the King or another if the Lord the King grant to John Corbet, Chivaler, that he can give and grant the manor of Bynweston, with the appurtenances, to John, his son, and Joan his wife. To have and to hold to the same John, son of John, and Joan, and to the heirs issuing of their bodies, of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services thereof due and accustomed for ever. So that, if the same John, son of John, and Joan, shall die without heir issuing of their bodies, then the said manor, with the appurtenances, shall remain to the right heirs of the said John Corbet. To hold of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid for ever. And they say that the said manor is held of the Lord the King in chief as parcel of the Barony of Caus. Which said Barony is held of the King as of his crown. And they say that the said manor is worth by the year in all issues according to the true value—100s.

And they say that no lands or tenements remain to the same John Corbet beyond the manor aforesaid, in the said County of Salop.

INQUISITION THAT IT IS NOT TO THE KING'S HURT IF ROBERT CORBET OF MORTON SETTLE THE MANOR OF SHAWBURY UPON HIMSELF AND ELIZABETH HIS WIFE AND THEIR HEIRS, 1359.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem 33 Edward III. (2nd n^{re})
No. 42.

Inquisition made before John Atte Wode, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, at Shawbury, on

Saturday next before the feast of St. Martin in the 33rd year of the reign of King Edward the third after the conquest [9th Nov. A.D. 1359], that is to say, according to the tenour of the writ of the Lord the King sewn to this Inquisition; by the oath of Richard Gery, of Acton, &c. Who say by their oath that it is not to the harm or prejudice of the Lord the King nor of others if the Lord the King assent to the supplication of Robert Corbet, of Morton, that whereas he has acquired the manor of Shawebury, with the appurtenances, to himself and his heirs, of Giles de Erdyngton, the licence of the Lord the King not being obtained concerning this, and also if the Lord the King grant to the same Robert that he can enfeoff Hugh, vicar of the church of Shawebury, and William, parson of the church of Upton, of the manor aforesaid. To have and to hold to them and their heirs &c. So that the same Hugh and William, full and peaceable possession thereof being had, can enfeoff the aforesaid Robert and Elizabeth his wife of the manor aforesaid. To have and to hold to them and their heirs, &c., for ever. And they say by their oath that the aforesaid manor with its members is held of the Lord the King in chief by the service of half a knight's fee. And they say that the aforesaid manor is worth 66s. 8d. by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same, and not more because it is dismembered by the Lord the King's licence to divers men.

INQUISITION THAT IT IS NOT TO THE KING'S HURT IF ROBERT DE HARELEY AND JOAN HIS WIFE GRANT THE REVERSION OF THE MANORS OF YOCKLETON, SHELVE AND WENTNOR, &c., TO ROGER SON OF ROBERT CORBET, OF MORTON, KNIGHT, 1366-7.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem 41 Edward III. (2nd n^o)
No. 17.

Inquisition taken at Bruggenorth, before Philip de Lutteley, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, on the 14th day of February, in the 41st year of the reign of King Edward III. [14th Feb. A.D. 1366-7], by virtue of the writ of the Lord the King sewn to this Inquisition; by the oath of William de Eyton, &c. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the harm or prejudice of the Lord the King or of others if the Lord the King grant to Robert de Hareley and Joan his wife that they can grant that the manors of Yokulton, Shelue, and Wentenore, and a fourth part of the forest of Caus, with the appurtenances, which Fulke, son of Robert Corbet, of

Morten, knight, holds for his life, of the demise of the aforesaid Robert and Joan, and which, after the death of the aforesaid Fulke, ought to revert to the aforesaid Robert and Joan after the death of the said Fulke shall remain to Roger, son of Robert Corbet, of Morton, Knight. To have and to hold to the same Roger and to the heirs males issuing of his body, of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services thereof due and accustomed for ever. And if it happen that the aforesaid Roger shall die without heir male issuing of his body the manors and fourth part aforesaid, with the appurtenances, shall revert to the aforesaid Robert and Joan and to the heirs of the said Joan &c. And they say that the manors and fourth part aforesaid are held of the Lord the King in chief by the service of the tenth part of a Barony. And they say that the manors and fourth part aforesaid are worth 20 marks by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same &c.

INQUISITION THAT IT IS NOT TO THE KING'S HURT IF SIR ROBERT CORBET, OF MORTON, AND ELIZABETH HIS WIFE SETTLE THE MANOR OF SHAWBURY UPON THEMSELVES FOR THEIR LIVES, REMAINDER TO FULKE CORBET THEIR SON, &c., 1369.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem 43 Edward III, part 2 (2nd n^o) No. 53.

Inquisition taken at Shrewsbury before William Banastre, of Yorton, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, on the 25th day of May in the 43rd year of the reign of King Edward III, after the conquest [25th May A.D. 1369], by virtue of the writ of the Lord the King sewn to this Inquisition, by the oath of Richard Gery, &c. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the harm or prejudice of the Lord the King nor of others if the Lord the King grant to Robert Corbet, of Morton, Chivaler, and Elizabeth his wife that they can enfeoff Thomas Gery, vicar of the church of Morton, and Thomas de la Lee, of Southbache, of his manor of Shabury, with the appurtenances, which is held of the King in chief. To have and to hold to the same Thomas and Thomas and their heirs, of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services thereof due and accustomed for ever. And to the same Thomas and Thomas that they &c. can give and grant the manor aforesaid, with the appurtenances, to the aforesaid Robert and Elizabeth. To have and to hold for the whole lives of the said Robert and Elizabeth, of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid. So that after the

death of the aforesaid Robert and Elizabeth the said manor with the appurtenances, shall remain to Fulke Corbet, son of the aforesaid Robert and Elizabeth. To have and to hold to the same Fulke and to the heirs males issuing of his body &c. And if the same Fulke shall die without heir male issuing of his body, the manor aforesaid, with the appurtenances, shall remain to Roger Corbet, brother of the same Fulke. To have and to hold to the same Roger and to the heirs issuing of his body, &c. And if the same Roger shall die without heir issuing of his body the said manor, with the appurtenances shall remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Robert, &c. And they say that the manor aforesaid is held of the Lord the King in chief by the service of the sixth part of a knight's fee. And they say that the said manor is worth 100s. by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same. And they say that there remain to the same Robert and Elizabeth besides the manor aforesaid, the manor of Morton Toret and the manor of Boleye, in the County of Salop. And the said manor of Morton Toret is held of the heir of John de Chete-wynd by knight service, and is worth 10li. by the year; and the said manor of Boleye is held of the Abbot of Shrewsbury by socage and is worth 40s. by the year.

INQUISITION P.M. JOHN, SON OF WILLIAM CORBET, DECEASED,
1370. THE HAMLET OF HOPE, WITHIN THE LORDSHIP OF
CAUS.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem 44 Edward III. (1st n^{rs})
No. 18.

Inquisition taken at Caus, before William Banastre, of Yorton, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, on the 16th day of October, in the 44th year of the reign of King Edward III. after the conquest [16th Oct. A.D. 1370], by the oath of Hugh Jonus, David Seys, Richard Colier, Roger Lewellyn, Nicholas Bacoun, William Hancokes, Adam Le Hopere, William Bacoun, John Corbet, Thomas Broun, and Hugh Hancokes. Who say by their oath that John, son of William Corbet, deceased, named in the writ did not hold any lands or tenements of the Lord the King in chief, in demesne nor in service, on the day on which he died. But they say that the same John, son of William Corbet, held on the day on which he died, in his demesne as of fee, the Hamlet of Hope, within the Lordship of Caus, in the County aforesaid, of Ralph Earl of Stafford, by knight service. In

which said Hamlet there is not any capital messuage, but there is there one carucate of land which is worth nothing by the year because the land is hilly within the Forest of Caus, and it lies untilled and destroyed by the wild deer there. And there is there a certain meadow, called "Hopes medewe," which is worth 5s. by the year when it can be mowed and gathered. And there is there of rent of assize of free tenants 40s. by the year to be paid at the Feasts of St. Martin and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist by even portions. And they say that the same John, son of William, did not hold any other lands or tenements of the Lord the King in chief nor of any other, in the County aforesaid. And they say that the aforesaid John, son of William Corbet, died on the 12th day of September last past, and they say that William¹ Corbet, brother of the aforesaid John, son of William Corbet, is his next heir and of the age of 18 years.

THE
INQUISITION P.M. WILLIAM CORBET, DECEASED, 1377.
HAMLET OF HOPE, WITHIN THE LORDSHIP OF CAUS.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem, 1 Richard II., No. 10.

Inquisition taken at Caws, before William de Walshale, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, on the 8th day of October, in the first year of the reign of King Richard II. after the conquest, [8th Oct., A.D., 1377], by the oath of John Davy, Richard Imbard, Robert Hulle, &c., Who say upon their oath, &c., that William Corbet held on the day he died, in his demesne as of fee, the Hamlet of Hope within the Lordship of Caws, in the County aforesaid, of Hugh, Earl of Stafford, by knight service, &c.

And they say that the aforesaid William died on the 25th day of August last past; and they say that Margaret Corbet, sister of the aforesaid William Corbet, is his next heir and is of the age of 25 years.

INQUISITION P.M. SIR FULKE CORBET, OF MORTON, DECEASED,
1392. THE MANORS OF SHAWBURY, MORTON CORBET,
ROUTON, AMBASTON, & HARPECOTE, &c. ALSO THE MANORS
OF WENTNOR, YOKILTON, & SHELV.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem, 6 Richard II., No. 27.
Inquisition taken at Shrewsbury, before Robert de Swynfen,

¹ Peter, in the Inquisition taken in the county of Gloucester, and annexed hereto.

Escheator of the Lord the King in the Counties of Salop and Stafford, and the Marches of Wales to the same Counties adjacent, on Monday the Feast of Nativity of the B. Virgin Mary in the 6th year of the reign of King Richard II., [8th Sept., A.D., 1392], by virtue of the writ of the Lord the King to the same Escheator directed and sewn to this Inquisition; by the oath of Thomas Malehurst, John de Eyton, John Southemond, John Corbet, Richard Huse, Thomas Lynleye, &c. Who say upon their oath that Fulke Corbet, Chivaler, of Morton, deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements in his demesne as of fee simple, of the Lord the King in chief or of any other in the Counties and Marches aforesaid on the day he died. But they say that the same Fulke held on the day he died the manors of Shauburi, Morton Corbet, Routon, Ambaston, and Harpecote, with the appurtenances, in the County, to himself and the heirs male issuing of his body, And if the same Fulke should die without heir male issuing of his body then the said manors, with their appurtenances, should remain to Roger, brother of the same Fulke, yet living, and to the heirs issuing of the body of the said Roger; and if the same Roger should die without heir issuing of his body the aforesaid manors, with their appurtenances, should remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Fulke Corbet for ever.

And that the aforesaid manor of Shauburi is held of the Lord the King in chief by knight service; and the said manor of Shauburi is worth 56s. 8d.

The manor of Morton Corbet is held by Richard Peshale by knight service as of his manor of Chetewynd and is worth 108 marks by the year.

The manor of Harpecote is held of the lord of Wemme as of the manor of Weme by the service of rendering 8s. by the year; and it is worth 36s. by the year.

The manors of Routon and Ambaston are held of Nicholas Burnell as of the manor of Acton Burnell by the service of rendering 20li. by the year, and they are worth 9s. by the year beyond the rent aforesaid.

And the aforesaid Fulke held jointly with Elizabeth, his wife, yet living, for their lives, of the demise of on the day he died the manors of W bourgh, Heye, Bradeshull, Hemme, the townships of Hymynton, Haberlye, Stircheleye, and Kynarton, with the appurtenances, in the County of Salop, and to the heirs issuing of his body, &c. And they say that the same Fulke died on Monday next

after the Feast of St. Peter and Vincula, in the 6th year of the reign of King Richard II, and that Elizabeth, daughter of the aforesaid Fulke and Elizabeth, is next heir of the same Fulke, and is of the age of 7 years and more.

Inquisition taken at Welyngton on Saturday next after the Feast of the Epiphany 6 Richard II. [13 Sept., 1392]

The jurors say that Fulke Corbet, Chivaler, held for the term of his life the manors of Wontenore, Yokelton, and Shelve, and a fourth part of the forest of Caus, of the demise of Robert de Harleye and Joan his wife, and after the death of the same Fulke the said manors and fourth part to remain to Roger Corbet and his issue male, as appears by two Fines (recited in full) &c.

INQUISITION P.M. RICHARD TALBOT, SON AND HEIR OF JOHN TALBOT, KNIGHT, OF CASTLE RICHARD, DECEASED, 1383. THE HAMLET OF WOLFERTON, PARCEL OF THE LORDSHIP OF CASTLE RICHARD.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem, 6 Richard II., No. 73, m. 6.

Inquisition taken at Shrewsbury, on Wednesday next, after the Close of Easter, 6 Richard II. [1st April A.D. 1383], by the oath of Henry Boulers, William Blethelowe, &c., who say upon their oath that Richard Talbot, son and heir of John Talbot, knight, of Castle Richard, deceased, held on the day that he died, in his demesne as of fee, the hamlet of Wolferton, with the appurtenances, which is parcel of the Lordship of Castle Richard. Which hamlet is of the Earldom of Shrewsbury. In which hamlet there is one carucate of land, which is called "Cleybill," which is worth 6s. 8d. by the year. And there is there a pasture which is called "Zongwode," which is worth 6s. 8d. by the year. And there is there a water-mill, called "Berwardismylne," which is worth 16s. by the year. And they say that there is there of rent of assize by the year of free tenants 6l. 14s. 5½d. Also they say that there is at Lentwardyn in the Marches of Wales, adjacent to the County of Salop, which is parcel of the Lordship aforesaid, 40s. by the year of rent of assize of free tenants. At Baggesore, in the County aforesaid, there is of rent of assize 4s. by the year. The lands and rents aforesaid are held of the King in chief by knight service, as parcel of the Barony of Borford.

All which said lands and rents came to the hands of the Lord Edward, late King of England, grandfather of the now Lord the King, by the death of the said John Talbot, knight, and were in the hands of the said King Edward by reason of the minority of the said Richard, and as yet are in the hands of the now Lord the King for that cause. The said Richard died 14th September last past, and John, son of the said John, is brother and next heir of the said Richard, and he was of the age of 8 years on the 25th day of September last past.

INQUISITION P.M. MARGARET, WIDOW OF EDWARD BURNELL, OF LANGLEY, DECEASED, 1377. THE MANOR & ADVOWSON OF LANGLEY, RENT AT OKES, &c.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem, 1 Richard II., No. 3.

Inquisition taken at Wenlok, before William de Walshale, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop, on the 20th day of November in the first year of the reign of King Richard the second, after the conquest, [20th Nov., A.D., 1377], according to the tenour of the writ of the Lord the King sewn to this Inquisition; by the oath of Henry de Campeden, William de Roulton, &c. Who say upon their oath that Margaret, late the wife of Edward Burnell, of Longeley, deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements in fee simple of the Lord the King in chief, or of any other, on the day she died, in the County aforesaid. But they say that the same Margaret held on the day she died the manor of Longeley, in the County aforesaid, for the term of her life, jointly with the aforesaid Edward, late her husband, deceased, with the advowson of the church of the same manor, of the Lord the King in chief by the service of the fourth part of a knight's fee, of the gift and feoffment of Reginald de Lygh and Robert de Longeley, Chaplain, by charter, by the King's licence. So that after the death of the aforesaid Edward and Margaret the said manor, with the appurtenances, and the advowson aforesaid should remain to Reginald, son of the same Edward and Margaret, and to the heirs issuing of the body of the said Reginald, son of Edward. To hold of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid for ever. And if the said Reginald, son of Edward, should die without heir issuing of his body, then, after the death of the said Reginald, son of Edward, the said manor, with the appurtenances, with the advowson aforesaid, should remain to Edward, brother of the same Reginald, son of Edward, and to the heirs issuing of his body

To hold of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services abovesaid for ever. And if the aforesaid Edward, brother of Reginald, should die without heir issuing of his body, then, after the decease of the aforesaid Edward, brother of Reginald, the said manor, with the appurtenances, and the advowson aforesaid should remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Edward Burnell. To hold of the Lord the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid for ever.

And they say that the said manor of Longeley, with the advowson aforesaid, is worth by the year in all issues-- 8li. 2s. 1d.

And they say that the said Margaret held on the day she died, at Okes, in the same County of Salop, 20s. of rent of assize of free tenants, jointly with the aforesaid Edward, late her husband, now deceased. To have and to hold to them and to the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, of the gift and feoffment of William Burnell, of Longeley. And they say that the said rent is held of the Lord of Bykedon by the service of one pair of white gloves by the year for all services.

Also they say that the same Margaret held on the said day she died, 2 carucates of land, with the appurtenances, at Adelescote, in the same County, jointly with the aforesaid Edward, late her husband, in fee tail, as above; which are worth by the year in all issues 8s. 4d. And they say that the aforesaid carucate of land are held of Fulke de Waryn by the service of one sparrow-hawk by the year for all services.

Also they say that the same Margaret held on the day she died 13s. 4d. of rent by the year, with the appurtenances, in Brokton, in the same County, jointly with the aforesaid Edward, late her husband, and to the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten, of she gift and feoffment of William Burnell, of Longeley. And they say that the aforesaid rent is held of the lord of Borewardesley by the service of one rose by the year for all services, &c.

And they say that the same Margaret died on the 6th day of November last past. And they say that after the death of the aforesaid Margaret the aforesaid manor of Longeley, with the advowson aforesaid, ought to remain to Joan who is the wife of Roger de la Lee, one of the daughters of the aforesaid Edward and Margaret (which Roger and Joan have a son (fil') begotten between them) and to Katherine who is the wife of John de Stepleton (who have not issue between them) another of the daughters of the said Edward and Margaret,

and to Hugelina, who is the wife of Robert Le Koyne, the third of the daughters of the aforesaid Edward and Margaret (who have issue between them) as next heirs of the aforesaid Edward Burnell, by the form of the gift and grant aforesaid, because the aforesaid Reginald and Edward, his brother, died without heir begotten of their bodies.

Also they say, &c., that the said Joan, Katherine, and Hugelina are next heirs of the aforesaid Margaret begotten of the body of the aforesaid Edward Burnell. And they say that the aforesaid Joan is of the age of 28 years and more, the said Katherine is of the age of 26 years and more, and the said Hugelina is of the age of 22 years and more, &c.

INQUISITION P.M. OWYN SON OF THOMAS RETHERYK, DECEASED, 1382-3
THE MANOR OF DYNAS.

Chancery Inquisition Post Mortem, 6 Richard II., No. 61.

Inquisition taken at Shrewsbury before Robert Swynfen, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Salop and the Marches of Wales adjacent to the same county, on Friday next before the Feast of St. Cedde the Bishop, in the 6th year of the reign of King Richard II. [28th Feb., A.D. 1382-3], by virtue of the writ of the Lord the King to the same Escheator directed and sewn to this Inquisition; by the oath of Thomas Marchald, Ralph de Forde, William Mascot, William Lynleye, &c. Who say upon their oath that Owyn, son of Thomas Retheryk, deceased, named in the writ, held before he was an adherent of the enemies of the Lord King Edward, grandfather of the Lord the King who now is, in the Marches aforesaid, the manor of Dynas, with the appurtenances, to himself and the heirs of his body lawfully begotten, as appears by the following Fine levied in the Court of the Lord the King, in these words.

This is the final agreement made in the Court of the Lord the King, at Westminster, in 15 days from the day of Holy Trinity, 15 Edward III. [June 1341].

Between Thomas Retheryk, chivaler, and Cecilia his wife, plaintiffs, by Richard Russell put in the said Cecilia's place, and William Atte Lake and Robert Blakenhale, Chaplains, deforciants of the manor of Dynas, with the appurtenances. Whereupon a plea of covenant was summoned between them. That is to say that the said Thomas acknowledged the said manor to be the right of William and Robert, for which William and Robert granted it to Thomas and Cecilia. To

have and to hold to them and to the heirs issuing of the bodies of the said Thomas and Cecilia, in default to remain to John de Cherleton, the elder, and Hawise his wife, and to the heirs issuing of their bodies, in default to remain to the right heirs of the said Hawise for ever. And this agreement was made by the said King's command.

Which said manor, with the appurtenances, is held of the Lord the King in chief by knight service. In which said manor there is a capital messuage which is worth nothing by the year beyond reprises.

And there is there one carucate of land which is worth 20s. by the year. And there is there a certain meadow which is worth 8s. by the year when it is mowed. And there are there two water-mills, which are worth 40s. by the year beyond the sustentation of the houses. And there is there a certain wood, called "le Frith Dynas," and the underwood is worth nothing by the year, but the herbage is worth 3s. by the year. And there is there a certain place of several pasture which is worth 5s. by the year. And there is there a certain other wood, called "Garthhoull," the pasture whereof is worth 4s. by the year. And there is there of rent of assize as well of free tenants as of bondmen 6li. And there is there 58s. 4d. of a certain rent of wheat *de viij.* to be paid at the term of St. Martin, the worth of a basket (*hopa*) 4d. And there is there 10s. of rent of oats for the lord's horses, to be paid at the Purification of the B. Mary. And there is there 10s. of rent of oats for the Steward's [horses] to be paid at the Feast of St. Martin. And there is there 10s. of rent of oats for the Steward's horses at the Feast of the Purification of the B. Mary. And there is there of rent 40 hens to be paid at Christmas, the worth of a hen 1½d. And there is there a certain rent of 20s. by the year, called "Kych'wyr," to be paid at the Feast of the Purification of the B. Mary. And there is there a certain rent of 10s. by the year, called And there are there 16s. of works of 100 reapers in the autumn, the worth of a work 2d. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth 100s. by the year beyond the Steward's expenses.

And they say upon their oath that the said Owen did not hold any other lands or tenements in the County and Marches aforesaid, of the Lord the King or of any other in demesne or in service.

And they say that the day of the same Owen's death does

not appear to them, because he was slain in foreign parts as an enemy and a rebel of the Lord the King three or four years past. And they say that the said Owen died without heir issuing of his body, whereby the manor aforesaid, with the appurtenances, ought to remain to John, son and heir of John, son and heir of John, son and heir of the aforesaid John de [Cherl]eton and Hawise, by the form of the Fine aforesaid. And that the aforesaid John, son of John, is of the age of 22 years and more. And they also say that John . . . hery, executor of the will of the aforesaid John, the father, occupied the manor aforesaid, with the appurtenances abovesaid, from the time of the death of the same Owen, by what title it is not known.

THE PARISH REGISTERS OF SHIPTON

BY THE HON. AND REV. G. H. F. VANE, M.A., RECTOR OF WEM

By the kindness of Mr. Jasper More, M.P., the patron of the donative of Shipton and the custodian of its ancient records, and with the help of Mrs. Jasper More, I have been enabled to examine these registers. They are by no means voluminous, nor yet of surpassing interest, except to a few families mentioned below. But they begin with the beginning of registers. For while Eyton observes that "an extraordinary antiquity is established for Shipton Church by the merest accident,"¹ the injunction of Thomas Cromwell which is the *fons et origo* of our modern registers was dated 29th Sept. 1538, and the first entry in the Shipton Registers records that on the 19th February 1538 "Edwardus Mounsloe filius Johannis Mounsloe "renuatus (sic) fuit."

Here we have an extraordinary antiquity indeed, nevertheless one not altogether unique. For Mr. John Southerden Burn² informs us that out of the 812 Parish Registers which regularly begin in 1538 forty contain entries prior to that date. Moreover vol. 1 of the Shipton Registers is not one of the very rare "Paper-bookes" but, as in most other cases, is a parchment copy made in 1604 from the original record.

Accordingly the entry from which we have quoted is preceded by two statements which crabbed caligraphy

¹ Vol. 3 p. 304.² History of Parish Registers in England, p. 16.

and "tempus edax" make very difficult to decipher. These however show the dates plainly enough and appear to read as follows:

"Liber regester Shiptini perscriptus (?) p. Ricard Churchmann clicum et curatorem (?) ibidem p. spatium quadraginta duorum Annorum scriptorem ad hunc annum diemque viz. vicesimo quarto dic Januarii Anno Dom. 1604.

"Anno Dom. 1538."

"1538, De baptizatis, matrimonii, et sepultis omnibus in hoc Anno Dom. 1538."

On the inside of the cover follow six entries of 1538 and five of 1539, and thenceforward to the end of 1648, that is to the end of this volume, I have had the advantage of perusing also a translation made by Miss C. Rouse Boughton. That lady however, does not seem to have had this cover in her hands at all. I may note therefore here that the last page of the cover contains no entries of baptism, marriage, or burial, but three memoranda anent "xxs. of lawful englishe money which said twentie shelynge was given by the last will and testament of Thomas Churchman, Brother of him the said Richard, to be sett out for the use of the poor of the said pishe of Shipton for ever." Richard Churchman, then also (?) vicar of Longstanton, duly delivered the said shillings to the churchwardens of Shipton in 1605, and in 1610 they committed them "to the hand, custody, and keepinge of" other faithful men, while in 1617 "The above-named John Wedgwood redelivered the said sum of xxss. with account for the interest of the same for the time he had it into the hande," &c., &c. Here endeth the "twentie shelynge" so far as the registers are concerned; neither can I find that any old churchwardens' accounts exist to tell their later history.

To return, however. Richard Churchman signs each page up to 1607. And of each child that was baptized

he avers that it "renuatus (sic) fuit," and of each man woman and child that was buried he says "egit suprema." Now Sir Thomas Butler in his invaluable register of Much Wenlock¹ says in 1544 "Shipton ought to bury all in Wenlock." Shipton however appears to have buried all in Shipton. But what is the meaning of that ever-recurring "egit suprema?" There is little doubt, I think, that the phrase is merely a euphemism for "departed this life," like unto "diem clausit supremum."

Moreover the scholarship of Richard Churchman failed him occasionally, so that "joiner," "taylor," and "pedlar" in good manly English turn up occasionally in the midst of bad canine Latin. This makes it pretty certain that "wew" in like manner stands for "weaver," and not for Welshman, as has been thought. "Brodwev" too occurs once, and this Mr. Phillimore tells me means "Broadweaver." The strange phrase "the cutted owen" however beats us all. Probably it beat Churchman, when he transcribed in 1604, for he enclosed it in inverted commas, and left it as it is, while all around was Latin. One correspondent says it means "wounded," another "quarrelsome," or else "daft." A third suggests that the word is "Culled," and is a brief way of writing "Cudwalled" or "Cadwallader." A fourth with diffidence puts forward the theory that a "bird with striped or banded plumage, perhaps an eagle" is meant. Of these the contraction for Cadwallader seems to me as likely an explanation as any.

A few other items in the faithful Churchman's record attract attention. Thus "clicus Johannes oules" (1558) and "Willims Gower clicus" (1561) were each of them a parish clerk, I take it, though they may have held the donative. "Laurencius Lee rector de Upton

¹ M.S. Extracts from, made by Rev. Chas. H. Hartshorne in 1840.

et Whinton (qui) accepit sibi in uxorem ellinora Moore de Larden" (19 Feb. 1598), must have been rector of Upton Magna and Withington.

This is only one out of the very numerous entries relating to the families of More, Mytton, and Lawley, which make the Shipton register of great interest to some of our oldest county families.

Churchman too naively confesses ignorance sometimes. Thus "Eādem monetā . . . at ubi nescio" (1563), and "in quo die aut loco nescio" (1572), are followed later by "mendicus cuius nomen ignotum est," by "crepulus mendicus qui venit de brodston," and by "mendica decrepulis." The last strange phrase occurs in 1614, and it is possible that Churchman's years as Vicar extended beyond that, perhaps even to 1681, though the handwriting changes somewhat before this date.

And now, John Gough, minister, appears on the scene, discards "egit suprema" at once, and in his second year finds it easier to make his entries in his mother tongue. For six years John Gough sets his signature to his entries. Then "pallida mors æquo pulsat pede," and on 18th Feb. 1638-9 was buried "John Gough curat of this p'ish."

Then the record goes neatly on, though without the name of any priest, till "every battle of the warrior with confused noise and garments rolled in blood" wrought havoc throughout England. And now we are told that "From the year of our Lord God 1644 unto the year of our Lord God 1648 this Register Booke was taken out of Shipton Church and was not to be found: the Chest wherein it was kept being Broken up by Souldiers, whereby it cometh to passe that all Buryings, Weddings, and Children that were Baptized betwixt the yeare 1644 and 1648 in the parish of Shipton were not herein registered." What faithful Hilkiah or Shaphan found the book is

unhappily not recorded. Neither is the name of any lay register appointed under the Commonwealth. Nor yet any Justice of the Peace before whom godless marriages were contracted in that time when "things was godless." The sacrament of baptism, instead of the dates of births, was however recorded as well as administered. Unhappily vol. 2 begins with 1656, while vol. 1 ended with 1648. Here then besides the hiatus valde deflendus accounted for, is a second hiatus not accounted for, and once more "History slept, and all notice of public transactions was in a manner buried." These however are the only breaks in the record from its beginning up to the present day.

And this vol 2 is a very Zoar among registers, albeit it extends from 1656 to 1688. It has for its cover a portion of a parchment deed which has suffered as coin of the realm suffered of old at the hands of a "coin clipping Jew."

It is tantalizing to read on that diminished cover of the "three (?) and twentieth year of . . . our sovereigne ladye the Queene," and of "Her Highnes coorte of exchequer," and of Charles Fox, gent., occupier, and Edward Crowther, lessee, Freeman Yonge, leasor, &c., and of "edifice buylding barns stables dovehouses yarde," and the forest of Bowringwood¹ (?) and of "Maryeknolle." Evidently the deed refers to a small property leased for 21 years, for after £16 had been paid down, only ten shillings more was to be paid per annum.

However this little volume contains little of interest and its author says nothing of royal exile or of restoration, of death-dealing plague or of metropolis-destroying fire, and never subscribes his name.

Vol. 3 is another parchment, bigger than vol. 2, but so much discoloured that its outside and page following

¹ Bringewood, near Ludlow ? as in map in Camden's Britannia.

are scarcely legible. It covers nearly as much ground as vol. 1, for it contains all Shipton records from 1689 to 1792, including that of "a strange child accidentally found in the Church Porch," buried 6th Jan. 1699. It contains too all those names of clergy which are given below, and mentions affidavits of burials in woollen from 1748 to 1774 only. In 1783 "Tax commences," as might have been expected, and in 1790 "Thus far accounted for to the King" shows that said tax was pursuing its odious course. Said tax, or Stamp Act, was repealed in 1794, and our vol. 5 agrees thereto with the brief entry after July 13, 1794, "Paid King."

Banns published in 1797 on the "three succeeding Sundays" (sic) 24 Sep., 15 Oct., and 5 Nov., seem to show that at that dead period divine service was held in the ancient Norman church and its Elizabethan chancel, only on each third Sunday.

A few unusual names occur early in the 17th and 18th centuries, thus: 1623 Pamela, 1624 Crisogena, 1625 Alathia, 1700 Phanella, 1720 Mercy, 1746 Blastus. Of these Pamela is found in the Roddington register a hundred and sixty years later, while Chrisogona, with a sweet variety of spelling, is quite common in the Wem records after 1668. Alathia, or Aletheia, I do not remember to have seen elsewhere. Phanella too is curious. It can hardly be a variant of the name of "The beautiful Vanella," maid of honour to Queen Caroline, for that daughter of the second Baron Barnard does not appear to have been born until about a dozen years later. There is an "Ann fanella" in the Wem Register, baptized in 1769.

The first double Christian name occurs in 1760, when a son of Thomas Mytton was baptized Henry Edwards. Mr. Mytton had other children baptized with two names each, in each of the three years following.

In the attempt to compile a list of the clergy who have held the donative no help is obtainable from the

diocesan registry at Hereford, whose transcripts of registers are also none of them older than the year of the Restoration.

It is hard therefore to see how these names can be recovered except from the Parish Registers, and as the following list is compiled from this source alone it is necessarily exceedingly imperfect.

Richard Churchman, 42 years, perhaps to 1632.
1632, John Gough to 1638.

- 1704. John Rogers.
- 1716. Edward Whitefoot to 1727 at least.
- 1730. Samuel Jones to 1731 "
- 1736. Charles Hicks to 1744 "
- 1746. John Pugh to 1747 "
- 1752. John Collier to 1761 "
- 1762. James Ingram to 1765 "
- 1767. John Collier to 1779 "
- 1780. Joseph Burngest to 1786 "
- 1788. Morgan Jones to 1792 "
- 1798. David Cadwallader to 1804 "
- 1822. Morgan Jones to 1826 "
- 1827. Robert Henry Gayer More to 1879.
- 1880. James Butler Wilkinson to 1887.
- 1887. Samuel Gracie Hayward to 1891.
- 1891. Robert Evered Haymes.

Ambrose Phillips, A.M., the ejected Rector of Westbury, in 1646 officiated for a short time at "Shipton in this county (i.e. Salop) worth 6^l per Annum¹."

Shipton, as a Donative, and that of small value, has almost invariably been held with some other living, as will be seen from the following notes on its chaplains.

John Rogers was the son of Thomas Rogers, of Wentnor, Salop. He matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford, 6 Feb., 1672-3, being then 17 years of age. He took his B.A. in 1676, and M.A. in 1679. He was vicar of Stantong Long from 1686 to 1717.

¹ Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, pt. ii., p. 333.

Edward Whitefoot was, I suppose, that son of Thomas Whitefoot of Plaish, Salop, who matriculated at Pembroke College, Oxford, 9 March, 1710-11, aged 18, and took his B.A. in 1714.

Samuel Jones was perhaps that son of Maurice Jones of Acton Reynald, Salop, who matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, 15 Oct., 1674, aged 17.

Charles Hicks. A man of this name, son of Charles Hicks of the town of Warwick, matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, 14 Mar., 1694-5, aged 17, and took his B.A. in 1698.

John Pugh was perhaps that son of Edward Pugh of Llangelynen, co. Merioneth, who matriculated at Jesus College, Oxford, 1 Dec., 1713, aged 19.

John Collier, who appears to have been at Shipton from 1752 to 1779, except from 1762 to 1765, may have been that son of the vicar of Penryn, Cornwall, who matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, 29 Feb., 1719-20, aged 17.

David Cadwallader was also rector of the neighbouring parish of Abdon.

Joseph Burngest was curate of Holdgate in 1796.

Morgan Jones, who like John Collier, seems to have been twice at Shipton, took his degree at Jesus College, Oxford, and was rector of Hughley.

Robert H. G. More was baptized at Shipton 22 June, 1798, became M.A. of Christ's College, Cambridge, was vicar of Acton Round and of Bourton, and died in 1880.

James Butler Wilkinson, vicar of Ditton Priors, though he never held the donative, ministered in Shipton until Samuel G. Hayward, also vicar of Monk Hopton, was appointed.

Robert E. Haymes, M.A., of Trinity College, Oxford, is the present chaplain of Shipton, and has also been rector of Holdgate since 1878.

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CONTENTS of SPECIAL EXHIBITION PART.

	Page	
List of Committees and Exhibitors, &c.	i--xiv
Original Catalogue of the Exhibition	1--123
List of Guarantors and Donors	127--130
Balance Sheet, &c....	131--134
Notes, Corrections and Additions	135--181

ILLUSTRATIONS.

				To face	Title	Page
Lord Kenyon, and R. Lloyd Kenyon, Esq.	...	...	...	"	Page	1
View of Armour on Orchestra	...	...	...	"	Page	1
Lord Hill's Grand Cross, and the Tong Crystal Cup	...	...	...	"	Page	31
Portraits in Old Museum Room	...	...	...	"	Page	45
Edward Corbett, Esq., Mayor of Shrewsbury	...	...	...	"	Page	53
Rev. T. Auden, Chairman ; H. R. H. Southam, Esq., Hon. Secretary ; and E. C. Peele, Esq., Hon. Treasurer	...	...	...	"	Page	135
General View of Music Hall	...	...	...	"	Page	137
The Corporation Insignia, &c., of Shrewsbury	...	...	...	"	Page	148
Ditto	Ludlow	...	...	"	Page	154
Ditto	Bridgnorth	..	..	"	Page	156
Ditto	Oswestry	...	...	"	Page	159
Ditto	Bishop's Castle			"	Page	161
Ditto	Wenlock	"	Page	162
Ditto	Montgomery	"	Page	163

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