

Edward Hasted
The history and topographical survey of the
county of Kent, second edition, volume 6
Canterbury
1798

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THE
HISTORY
AND
TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY
OF THE
COUNTY OF KENT.

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

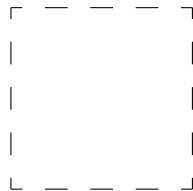
THE SECOND EDITION,
IMPROVED, CORRECTED, AND CONTINUED TO
THE PRESENT TIME.

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

Ex his omnibus, longe sunt humanissimi qui Cantium incolunt.

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

VOLUME VI.

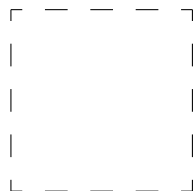


CANTERBURY
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TO
THOMAS ASTLE, ESQ. F. R. S. AND F. S. A.
ONE OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM, KEEPER OF THE
RECORDS IN THE TOWER, &c. &c.

SIR,

THOUGH it is certainly a presumption in me to

offer this Volume to your notice, yet the many years I have been in the habit of friendship with you, assures me, that you will receive it, not for the worth of it, but as a mark of my grateful respect and esteem, and the more so I hope, as to you I am indebted for my first rudiments of antiquarian learning. You, Sir, first taught me those rudiments, and to your kind auspices since, I owe all I have attained to in them; for your eminence in the republic of letters, so long

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established by your justly esteemed and learned publications, is such, as few have equalled, and none have surpassed; your distinguished knowledge in the various records of the History of this County, as well as of the diplomatique papers of the State, has justly entitled you, through his Majesty's judicious choice, in preference to all others, to preside over the repositories, where those archives are kept, which during the time you have been entrusted with them, you have filled to the universal benefit and satisfaction of every one.

Permit me, Sir, to join in this universal opinion, and just tribute to your merit, to acknowledge my sentiments of it thus publicly, and at the same time, to express my obligations to you, for the many marks of permanent friendship, which you have continually favored me with, who am, with the greatest truth and respect,

SIR,

Your most obliged
and faithful servant,

EDWARD HASTED.

LONDON,
SEPT. 1, 1798.

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York, Richard, duke of, 137;
James, duke of, 256.

York Herald, John Water,
429.
Young, James, clerk, present cu=
rate of Leeds, A. 569.

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

DIRECTIONS TO THE BINDER.

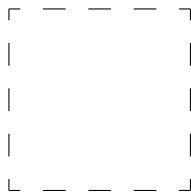
1. To face title, ... Seal of FAVERSHAM ABBEY.
2. To face p. 1. ... Map of MILTON, &c. HUNDREDS.
3. To face p. 317. ... Ditto of FAVERSHAM HUNDRED.

The two Maps of BRENCHLEY, &c. and of EYHORNE
HUNDREDS, delivered with this Volume, are to face pages 280
and 323 in volume the fifth of this History.

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THE LATH OF SCRAY.

THIS lath is called SHERWINHOPE in antient re=
cords, and in the book of Domesday, the lath of Wi=
warlet. It lies the next adjoining eastward from that
of Aylesford last described, and contains within its
bounds, the following hundreds:

1. MILTON, alias MIDDLE=
TON.
2. TENHAM.
3. FAVERSHAM.
4. BOUGHTON under Blean.
5. MARDEN.
6. CRANBROOKE.
7. BARKLEY.
8. GREAT BARNFIELD
9. ROLVENDEN.
10. SELBRITTENDEN.
11. TENTERDEN, and
12. BLACKBORNE.

It has also within its bounds the township of Newenden, which is
not in any hundred.

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The hundreds of Felborough, Wye, Calehill, Chart,
and Longbridge, and the township of Ashford, were once
esteemed all within this lath, but they have been long

since separated from it, and are now accounted as part of the lath of Shipway.

The hundred of Bircholt barony is in antient records stiled the neutral hundred of Bircholt barony, from its being exempt from the jurisdiction of any lath whatsoever; but as it lies surrounded by those parishes which are included in the lath of Shipway, an account of it will be given when those adjoining to it in that lath come to be described.

- - -

THE
HUNDRED
OF
MILTON, ALIAS MIDDLETON.

THE hundred of Milton, as it is usually called, but more properly Middleton, lies the next hundred northward from that of Eyhorne last described.

It is an appendage to the manor of Milton, and was formerly stiled the court of antient demesne, held for the hundred of Milton; the jurisdiction of which includes the several parishes of the Isle of Shepey within its bounds, excepting Harty, which is in Faversham hundred.

It has the manor and hundred of Marden annexed as an appendage to it, which has been so from time immemorial.

In the pleas of the crown, taken before the justices itinerant, anno 21 Edward I. it is noted, that the hundred of Middleton was the king's hundred, with

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that of Marden; and further, that John de Shorne and Daniel de Burgham, whilst bailiffs of Middleton, held pleas weekly for five days, wherever they thought fit throughout that hundred; in which roll, mention is likewise made of one Lucas de Gare, Camerarius de Middleton.

In the 25th year of the above reign this hundred had a distinct coroner of its own, and was then farmed of the king by John de Northwood, and anno 7 Edward III. when queen Philippa had a grant of it, the return of writs was granted to her within it.

In the tower records, among the clause-rolls of the 1st year of Richard II. No. 33, the men of this hundred were exempted from all watch and ward on the sea-coasts, excepting in the island of Shepey.

Though the manor and hundred of Milton was granted, for lives and for terms of years, at different times, a more ample account of which, and of its several privileges, will be given in the description of the manor itself hereafter, yet the fee of it remained uninterrupted in the crown till king Charles I. in his 10th year granted it in fee to Sir Edward Browne and Christopher Favell, since which it has passed in like manner as the manor of Milton, of which a more ample account will be given hereafter, to the present owners of it, the right hon. Sophia, countess dowager Wenman, and her sister Mrs. Anne Herbert, who are now jointly possessed of this hundred and manor, with that of Marden appendant to it.

THIS HUNDRED CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDS THE PA=

RISHES AND CHURCHES OF

1. RAINHAM.
2. HARTLIP.
3. UPCHURCH.
4. HALSTOW THE LOWER.
5. NEWINGTON.
6. BORDEN.
7. TUNSTALL.
8. BREDGAR.
9. MILSTED.
10. KINGSDOWNE near Sittingborne.
11. RODMERSHAM.
12. BAPCHILD.
13. TONG.
14. MURSTON.
15. SITTINGBORNE.
16. MILTON, alias MIDDLETON.

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17. BOBBING, and
18. IWADE.

And in the Island of Shepey, which is usually stiled Shepey Liberty, the parishes and churches of

1. MINSTER.
2. QUEENBOROUGH.
3. EASTCHURCH.
4. WARDEN.
5. LEYSDOWN, and
6. ELMLEY.

And likewise part of the parishes of BICKNOR and STOCKBURY, the churches of which are in another hundred.

This hundred is under the jurisdiction of three constables, one of which is appointed for the liberty of the Island of Shepey.

RAINHAM,

CALLED in antient deeds Renham, lies the next parish northward from Bredhurst, and the next eastward from Gillingham.

The whole of this parish is in the division of East-Kent, which begins here, the adjoining parish of Gillingham westward, being wholly in that of West Kent. Its situation is for the most part low and unpleasant, and from its nearness and exposure to the marshes very unhealthy, it contains upwards of 2,100 acres of land, beside woods, which are about five hundred and forty acres. The high road from London to Dover leads through it, on which, at a little more than the thirty-fourth mile stone from London, is the village called Rainham-street, having the church, with the parsonage and vicarage in it; at the east end of it there is a neat modern-built house, belonging to John Russell, esq. of Greenwich, and about a quarter of a mile further eastward on the road, the hamlet of Moore-street. From the high road the ground rises southward to a dreary barren country among the woods, which is exceeding hilly, the soil

at places chalky and much covered with flints, over which it extends till it joins Bredhurst, its southern

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boundary. About the street, and northward of it, where the country lies more flat and even, though declining to that aspect, the soil too changes, and becomes a fertile and kindly land both for corn and fruit, insomuch that this parish has been noted for growing some of the best wheat that this kingdom has produced; and it had till within memory many plantations of cherries and apples, especially on the lands adjoining the high road, and to the northward of it, but the greatest part of them have been displanted some years since. About a mile below the street north-westward, situated on the road leading from Chatham through Gillingham and this parish to King's Ferry and the Isle of Shepey, is the hamlet of West, or Lower Rainham-street, on the south side of which stood the old mansion of Bloor's-place, mentioned hereafter, great part of which was pulled down a few years ago to adapt the size of it to that of a farmhouse, though what still remains of it, with the garden walls, offices, &c. shew it to have been of large size, well suited to the hospitality of those times, and to the rank which the founder of it held among the gentry of the county; about half a mile south-westward from hence is Berengrave, and at a less distance eastward the estate of Mackland, belonging to the charity of the chest at Chatham, the present lessee of which is Mrs. Nash. At a small distance below the last-mentioned road are the fresh marshes, and beyond the wall which incloses them a quantity of salts, the northern boundary of which, and of this parish, is Otterham creek, which joins the Medway at each end of it. In the return of the survey made of the several places in this county, where there were any shipping, boats, &c. by order of queen Elizabeth, in her 8th year, Rainham is said to contain houses inhabited eight, and three keys, the common key, Blower's key, belonging to John Tufton the younger, and Hastings key, belonging to Henry Laurence, and the

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heirs of Jeffry Empson; ships and boats thirteen, from one up to thirty-five tons, and persons occupied in carrying from port to port twelve.

In king Henry VIth.'s reign Sir John Pashley resided at Rainham, he married the widow of John Beaufitz, of the adjoining parish of Gillingham. The family of Norden resided in this parish for some generations, one of whom John Norden, died in 1580, and lies buried in the chancel of this church, their arms were formerly painted in the windows, and now remain at each corner of his grave-stone in brass.

In the 14th year of king Edward II. there were commissioners assigned to take a view of the banks and ditches lying on the banks of the Medway, near Rainham, which had received much decay from the fresh waters, and again, anno 50 Edward III. others were assigned for the view of those situated in Moteneye marsh, at the manor called Quenes-court, and to proceed according to the law and custom of the

realm./a

The paramount manor of Milton claims over this parish, subordinate to which is the manor of

MERE, alias MERES COURT, which lies in the borough of Mere, in the southern part of this parish, adjoining to Bredhurst, and was in very early times part of the possessions of a family who implanted their name on it, as well as on another estate near it, formerly called Merethorne, but now usually Maresbarrow, corruptly for Mere's borough.

Peter de Mere, and Walter and Geoffry de Meredale, were owners of these and other estates in this parish as early as the reign of king John. However, before the reign of Edward I. the manor of Mere, with Merethorne alias Meresborough, was become the property of Roger de Leyborne, whose son Sir William de Leyborne became possessed of it in the 2d

/a Dugdale's History of Embanking, p. 42, 45.

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year of Edward I. on his mother's death, and held it in capite, together with the manor of Mere, by the service of walking principal lardner at the king's coronation. His grand-daughter Juliana, called the Infanta of Kent, carried this manor and estate in marriage to her several husbands successively, by neither of whom she had any issue, and surviving them, died in the 41st year of Edward III. when no one being found who could make claim to any of her estates, as her heir, they escheated to the crown, where this manor, with Meresborough, seems to have remained till it was purchased from thence, in the beginning of the next reign of Richard II. by the feoffees in trust, for the performance of certain religious bequests in the will of Edward III. and was in consequence of it settled with Bredhurst manor and others, as already mentioned more amply before, on the dean and canons of St. Stephen's chapel, at Westminster, for the performance of the religious purposes therein mentioned./b

In which situation this manor continued till the 1st year of Edward VI.'s reign, when this free chapel was, among others, dissolved by the act of that year, and the lands and possessions of it were surrendered up into the king's hands, who in his 3d year granted the manor of Mere-court, with Meresborough, lately in the tenure of Sir Christopher Hales, deceased, to Sir Thomas Cheney, treasurer of his household, whose son and heir Henry Cheney, esq. of Todington, in Bedfordshire, together with Jane his wife, alienated these premises, held in capite, in the 12th year of that reign, by the description of the manors of Merecourt, alias Merescourt, Merethorne, and Bradhurst, with their appurtenances, to Richard Thornhill, grocer, and citizen of London.

/b Rot. Esch. an. 12 Richard II. N. 159. confirmed anno 21 ejus Regn. Pat. 1, m. 35, p. 3. See Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. pt. ii. p. 64 et seq.

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After which, Sir Henry Cheney, then lord Cheney of Todington, granted and made over to him all liberties, franchises, royalties, assize of bread, wine, and

ale, green-wax, and all other privileges within the above manors, which he had ever possessed, or had in any shape a right to; which liberties were claimed by Richard Thornhill, esq. and judgment was given for them in his behalf by the barons of the exchequer, on a trial had in Michaelmas term in the 17th year of that reign./c

From him they descended in like manner as Bredhurst down to Charles Thornhill, esq. who in the reign of king Charles II. alienated the manor of Merecourt, with that of Bredhurst, for Meresborough appears to have been sold elsewhere, to Sir John Banks, bart. whose daughter and coheir Elizabeth, then married to Heneage Finch, second son of Heneage, earl of Nottingham, entitled her husband to them, in whose descendants, earls of Aylesford, this estate has continued down to the right hon. Heneage, earl of Aylesford, who is the present possessor of it.

BUT MERETHORNE, called also Mereborough, and now usually Maresbarrow, was alienated by Charles Thornhill, esq. in the reign of Charles II. to John Tufton, earl of Thanet, whose descendant, the right hon. Sackville Tufton, earl of Thanet, is the present owner of it.

SILHAM, or Sileham-court, as it is now usually called, is a manor likewise, in the southern part of this parish, of which Walter Auburie died possessed in the 1st year of Edward I. After which it came into the possession of Peter de Meredale, in right of Agnes his wife, by whom he had two sons, William and Roger, who were possessed of it jointly, as heirs in gavelkind, in the reign of Edward II. After which it became

/c Mich. in Scacc. ex parte Rememb. Thesaur. rot. 81. See Coke's Entries, p. 104, &c.

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the property of Donet, which family increased its possessions in this parish by the purchase of the estate of Roger de Reynham, in the beginning of the reign of Edward III. At length it descended down to James Donet, who died in 1409, holding this manor in capite. He lies buried in the high chancel of this church, in one of the windows of which were formerly his arms, Argent, three pair of barnacles, gules. On his death without male issue, his sole daughter and heir Margaret carried this manor in marriage to John St. Leger, esq. of Ulcomb, sheriff anno 9 Henry VI. whose descendant Sir Anthony St. Leger, lord deputy of Ireland in king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign alienated that part of his estate here purchased of Reynham, and other lands late belonging to the priory of Leeds, (which had been given to it soon after its foundation, by John de Evesham, clerk, and were possessed by it at the surrendry of it) to Sir Thomas Cheney, treasurer of the king's household, whose son Henry Cheney, esq. of Todington, sold them again (together with Merecourt and Meresbarrow, in manner as has been mentioned before) to Richard Thornhill, esq. whose descendant Charles Thornhill, in Charles II.'s reign, passed them away to John Sackville, earl of Thanet, and his descendant the right hon. Sackville Tufton, earl of Thanet, the present possessor of them.

But the manor of Silham, or Sileham-court, was sold by Sir Anthony St. Leger to Christopher Bloor, esq. who rebuilt his seat in this parish, called

BLOORS-PLACE, in which his ancestors had resided for several generations. He procured his lands to be disgavelled by the act of 2 and 3 Edward VI. and died possessed of this manor and seat, having married the daughter of John Colepepyr, esq. of Aylesford, by whom he left no male issue; upon which Olym= pia, one of his daughters and coheirs, entitled her hus= band John Tufton, esq. of Hothfield, to the posses= sion of them. He is said, by the pedigrees of this fa=

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mily to have been descended from ancestors, whose original name was Toketon, and as appears by several deeds inserted in them, were possessed so early as the reign of king John, of lands lying near Meredale, and in the reign of Edward I. and II. of others near Sile= ham and in the borough of Mere and elsewhere in this parish, hence they removed to Northiam, in Sus= sex, and thence again in king Edward the VIth's reign, to Hothfield, in this county, where they have continued ever since./d

John Tufton above-mentioned, continued to re= side at Hothfield, and was created a baronet in 1611. His eldest son Sir Nicholas Tufton was first created lord Tufton, and afterwards earl of Thanet, and in his descendants, earls of Thanet, the manor of Sile= ham-court, with Bloors-place, and other estates in this parish, have continued down to the right hon. Sackville Tufton, earl of Thanet, the present pos= sessor of them. There is no court held for this manor.

THE MANOR OF QUEENS-COURT, with the farm called BERENGRAVE, in this parish, was part of the possessions of the crown, and continued so till queen Alianore, widow of Henry III. and mother to king Edward I. anno 1273, gave them, together with a mill in this parish, by the description of her lands and tenements, with their rights, liberties, and free cus= toms, in the parishes of Renham and Herclope, to the master and brethren of St. Katherine's hospital, near the Tower, to hold in pure and perpetual alms, free from all secular service whatsoever, which was confirmed by king Edward I. in his 20th year. Queen Philippa, wife of Edward III. greatly enlarged this royal hospital, which had been founded by queen Maud, wife of king Stephen, before the year 1148, and was augmented afterwards by the several queens

/d See more of them hereafter under Hothfield.

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of England, so that there was sufficient to maintain a master, three brethren chaplains, three sisters, ten poor women, with six poor clerks. In which state it continued in the reigns of king Henry VIII. and Ed= ward VI. when it escaped the general suppression of such foundation; so that the fee of this manor of Queens-court, with Berengrave, and other premises in this parish, remain at this time part of the possessions of it. Lady Sackville was lessee of it in 1653, and

afterwards Sir Richard Colepepyr.

Mr. John Fowle is the present lessee of this estate, which is held by lease for three lives.

CHARITIES.

TWO ACRES and twenty-five perches of land, planted with cherries, of the yearly rent of 2l. 10s. One acre, three roods, and fifteen perches of land, planted with pears, of the yearly rent of 3l. 10s. One acre, three roods, and twenty-four perches of land, planted with apples, of the yearly rent of 4l. Also one acre, or thereabouts, of wood-land in this parish, of the yearly value of 5s. are the gifts of persons unknown, to the poor of this parish.

AN ANNUITY of 4l. was given by John Colson, in 1593, by deed, to the industrious poor of this parish, payable out of an estate near Payton street, in Lower Halstow, vested in West Hyde, esq.

AN ANNUITY of 4l. payable yearly out of Mardale and Chapel-fields, in this parish, purchased with the sum of 50l. given by Frances, countess dowager of Thanet, and with the sum of 20l. raised by the contribution of the parishioners in 1653, vested in John Russell, esq.

TWO TENEMENTS in West Rainham were bought by the parishioners in 1677, now inhabited by the poor.

ONE POUND five shillings is payable out of the poors rates yearly, for the interest of money, for which the poors estate in Cliff was sold in the year 1700.

AN ANNUITY of 1l. was devised to the poor of this parish by the will of Mr. John Adams, in 1723, payable out of a cherry-garden, containing five acres, in Hydore-lane, in this parish, vested in John Russell, esq. All which gifts are disposed of by the minister and parish officers to such industrious poor as receive no alms, on Good Friday and St. Thomas's day yearly.

The poor constantly relieved are about thirty-six; casually, including vagrants and with passes about 200.

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RAINHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Margaret, is a handsome building, consisting of two very broad isles, and two chancels, with a high beacon tower at the west end of it, in which are six bells and a clock. There was formerly some good painted glass in the windows of this church, all which has been long since destroyed. Among it were the following coats of arms: Three lions passant, guardant, a label of three points; Azure, two bars, or, between nine cross-crosetts of the second; Or, a saltier engrailed, sable; Or, a cross pointed and voided, sable; Per pale, gules and azure, a cross moline, argent; Three pair of barnacles extended, for Donet; A chevron, between three attires of a stag, fixed to the scalps, for Cocks, and, On a fess, between three beavers, passant, as many cross crosetts fitchee, for Norden.

The high chancel belongs to the parsonage of Rainham. In it lie buried several of the family of Allen; John Norden, esq. as has been already mentioned; Thomas Norreys, esq. master of the Trinity-house, and commissioner of the navy. There is a small monument with the effigies of him and his wife kneeling at a desk, arms, Argent, billettee, a cross pattee

flore, sable. On the north side of the altar is a handsome tomb of Bethersden marble, the brasses gone. On the pavement a memorial in brass, for John Bloor, obt. 1529; near it are several others robbed of their brasses, some of which might probably belong to the same family. The north chancel belongs to the earl of Thanet. In it are two costly monuments, one of them having the effigies of a man in military attire, fitting on part of his armour, erected for George, sixth son of John Tufton, earl of Thanet, by Margaret, daughter and coheir of Richard, earl of Dorset, obt. 1670; the other having the figure of a person in his

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parliamentary robes, erected for Nicholas, earl of Thanet, obt. 1679. In the north west corner of the north isle, is a vault for the family of John Russell, esq. of Greenwich. Underneath this chancel are two large vaults, partly above ground, in which are deposited the remains of the family of Tufton. These vaults, and perhaps the chancel over them, were most probably built by Christopher Bloor, esq. whose remains are deposited in the easternmost of them. On October 20, 1791, the steeple was greatly damaged by a storm of thunder, the lightning of which split the wall of it for several feet in length.

Robert de Crevequer, the founder of Leeds-abbey, about the year 1137, gave to the canons there, in free and perpetual alms, all the churches of his estates, with the advowsons of them, and among them that of Renham, with eighteen acres of land in that parish, which gift was made in the presence of William, archbishop of Canterbury, and John, bishop of Rochester.^e

It was at the latter end of king Edward the III^d's reign, appropriated to that priory, and the parsonage of it was valued in 1384, anno 8 king Richard II. at 26l. 15s. 4d. which, with the advowson, continued part of the possessions of the priory till the dissolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was, with all its revenues, surrendered up into the king's hands.

This church, with the advowson of the vicarage, remained in the hands of the crown till the year 1558, anno 6 queen Mary, when the queen granted the advowson among others, to the archbishop of Canterbury, with whom it has remained ever since, his grace the archbishop of Canterbury being now patron of it.

But the parsonage of this church remained longer in the hands of the crown. Queen Elizabeth granted it, in her 10th year, to Dorothy Stafford, for the term

^e See the confirmations of it in Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 110.

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of thirty years, at the yearly rent of sixteen pounds. After which the fee of it was granted to Moyle, and captain Robert Moyle died possessed of it in 1659, whose grandson, John Moyle, esq. of Buckwell, left an only daughter and heir Mary, who carried it in marriage to Robert Breton, esq. of the Elmes, near Dover, and he died possessed of it in 1708. His eldest son Moyle Breton, esq. of Kennington, succeeded him in this estate, which he alienated to Sir Edward

Dering, bart. whose son Sir Edward Dering, bart. is the present possessor of it.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 14l. 4s. 7d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 8s. 5½d.

In 1640 it was valued at seventy pounds. Communicants one hundred. It is now of the value of about two hundred pounds per annum.

CHURCH OF RAINHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archbishop. Christopher Powell, S. T. B.

July 6, 1595, obt. Jan. 10,

1609./f

John Grime, A. M. Feb. 21,

1609

The King. The same, August 1, 1610.

The King, sede vac. Thomas Bladen, A. M. Nov. 9,

1646./g

Thomas Lambe, A. M. obt.

April 11, 1662./h

The Archbishop. John Campleshon, A. M. May 14,

1662.

William Walter, A. M. July 19,

1665, resigned 1676.

Thomas Cradock, A. B. Oct. 2,

1676, obt. Oct. 9, 1723./i

/f He lies buried in the high chancel.

/g This is the last induction in the Register-office of Canterbury, till the restoration in 1660, that office being in the intermediate time suppressed.

/h He lies buried in the high chancel; on his gravestone he is said to have been six years vicar.

/i Likewise rector of Frinsted. He lies buried in the south isle of this church. His son Thomas Cradock was M. D. and eminent in his practice at Rochester, where he died in 1781, and was buried here.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

The Archbishop. Henry Shove, Oct. 19, 1723,

obt. Dec. 8, 1771./k

William Taswell, A. B. 1772,

resigned 1777./l

James Richards, Nov. 7, 1777,

the present vicar.

/k And vicar of Doddington.

/l Before vicar of Brookland. He vacated this vicarage for that of Aylesham, in Norfolk.

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HARTLIP

IS the next parish south-eastward from Rainham. It is not so unhealthy a situation as Rainham, lying further from the marshes, the noxious vapours of

which are intercepted, in some measure, by the intervening hills, it contains about one thousand and forty acres of land, besides one hundred and sixteen acres of wood. The London road runs along the northern side of it, where the soil is very gravelly, whence the ground rises up to the village, which is situated, as well as the church, on the west side of it, on high ground, surrounded by frequent orchards of apple and cherry trees, which renders the view of it from the London road very pleasing, though several of these plantations being worn out and decayed, have been grubbed up. Notwithstanding the gravelly soil still continues, there is some fertile land, the hedge-rows of which, and throughout this and the other parts of the parish before-mentioned, being filled with rows of tall spiring elms; above the village the soil becomes chalky, extending over a poor and barren country, very hilly and much covered with flints, having a great quantity of coppice woods, interspersed over it. In this part of the parish is a long tract of waste ground, called Queen-down, which was for many years a noted warren for rabbits, but it has been disused for

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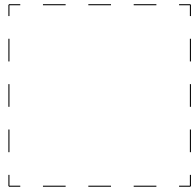
some time past. In the north-east part of the parish, about half a mile from the London road, there is a good old mansion, situated in the midst of fruit grounds, called Paradise, having a large farm belonging to it. In queen Elizabeth's time it was the property of Rowland Searle, gent afterwards it came into the name of Pitt; the widow of admiral Temple West was lately possessed of it.

William Brooke, escheator of this county in the reign of James I. resided at Hartlip. He was the eldest son of Cranmer Brooke, esq. of Ashford, the grandson of Thomas, the second surviving son of John, lord Cobham.

In and about this and the adjoining parishes, many lands are called by the name of Dane, as Dane-field, Dane-croft, Danoway, and the like, which shews that nation to have formerly had much intercourse hereabout. In one of these, called Lower Dane-field, belonging to Maresbarrow-farm, at the south-west corner of it, and about a mile's distance south-westward from the church of Hartlip, there were discovered about fifty years ago the ruins of a building, the top of which reached but even with the surface of the ground; a quantity of the earth within it was cleared away, in hopes, as usual, of finding hidden treasure. As it appears at present, the east end of it has been cleared of the earth, which filled it, about three feet deep, and thence gradually deeper, in length sixty feet, to the west end of it, where it is about ten feet deep. At each end of it, where the walls return as part of a square, they are plaistered over; in the narrow part, between these extremes, they are bare, and appear to be composed of large flint stones, laid regularly in rows; on the upper part, even with the surface of the ground, there are two rows of large Roman tiles, laid close together. They are of a very large size, and some of them are made with a rim at the end, to lap over the others. Great quantities of these tiles are scattered

round about the place, and many foundations of buildings have been from time to time discovered in different parts of the adjoining grounds.

Several bushels of wheat were found in the room at the western part of this building, which seemed, some of it, parched and scorched by the fire, and some of it was turned entirely into black ashes; and there were some tares likewise, but not so large a quantity. Nothing else whatever was found among the earth with which it was filled. Underneath is a sketch of the ground plot of it.



The manor of Milton claims paramount over the whole of this parish.

POPES-HALL is an estate situated in it, which had formerly owners of the surname of Pope, who resided at this seat till the latter end of king Henry VII.'s reign, when Richard Pope alienated it to Christopher Bloor, esq. of Rainham, whose daughter and heir Olympia carried it in marriage to John Tufton, esq. of Hothfield, and in his descendants, earls of Tha=

net, this estate has continued down to the right hon. Sackville, earl of Thanet, the present possessor of it./m

CROFT, alias YAUGER, is an antient mansion in this parish, which was formerly, as appeared by several old deeds without date, the patrimony of William de Elmsted, in whose family it did not continue long, for in the 13th year of Edward I. it was become the property of Roger de Northwood, in whose descendants it remained until the beginning of the reign of king Henry VI. when it was conveyed by sale to Norton, of Borden, from whom, in the 4th year of king Edward IV. one part of it was alienated to Champneys, as was the remainder of it, in the 8th year of that reign, from which name it was again reconveyed back again to Norton, in two parts likewise, in the 24th and 36th years of Henry VIII. in which name it remained till John Norton, in the 4th and 5th year of king Philip and queen Mary, conveyed his right in it to Gilbert Fremlin, who in the 15th year of queen Elizabeth sold it to John Palmer, who bore for his arms, Sable, a fess between three lions rampant, or. He was the eldest brother of William, of Snodland, and resided at Hartlip. His son, Sir Anthony Palmer, was knighted at the coronation of king James I. and left by his second wife Margaret, daughter of Thomas Diggs, of Chilham, three sons, of whom Dudley Palmer, esq. the eldest son, possessed this estate, which in the reign of king Charles I. he alienated to Sir Thomas Crew, one of the king's serjeants-at-law, descended from the antient family of Crew, in the county palatine of Chester, who bore for their arms, Azure, a lion rampant, argent. His son John Crew, esq. of Stene,

in Northamptonshire, was anno 13 Charles II. created lord Crew, of Stene. His eldest son, Thomas, lord Crew, left two daughters his coheirs, Anne, married to Mr. Jolliffe, of London, merchant, and Tempe=

/m See more of the earls of Thanet under Hothfield.

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rance, to Rowland Alston, esq. son and heir of Sir Rowland Alston, bart. of Woodhall, in Bedfordshire, the latter of whom in his wife's right became possessed of this estate of Croft, alias Yauger, which his son Sir Thomas Alston, bart. alienated in the present reign to Arthur Jones, esq. whose only daughter and heir carried it in marriage in 1780 to John Macnamara, esq. and he, in her right, is the present possessor of it.

GRAYNEY is a manor in this parish, corruptly so called for Graveney, by which name it is mentioned in old deeds, having been antiently the patrimony of a family of that surname, of which one of them, Stephen de Graveney, held it in the reign of king Edward I. and in his descendants the property of it continued till the reign of Henry VI. After which it came into the possession of John Maney, esq. of Bidenden, whose descendant Sir John Mayney, of Linton, in this county, possessed it in the reign of king Charles I. and was created a baronet in 1641.

How this estate passed after it was alienated from this family, I have not found, but that it came at length into the possession of Barrow, by virtue of a mortgage made to him. He left three sons, who settled at Borden, Newington, and Shorne, and his widow surviving, to whom he devised this estate by will. She afterwards married Jordan, and then Wildash; on her decease, this estate became divided into moieties, one of which became the property of her only surviving son by her first husband Barrow, and the other moiety of her son by her second husband Mr. Jordan. Mr. Barrow afterwards purchased the last-mentioned moiety, and so became possessed of the whole of this manor, which at his death he, by will, devised to his widow Mrs. Barrow, and she is at present entitled to it.

THE FAMILY of Osborne was seated in this parish before the reign of Edward IV. their seat here being

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called Hartlip-place, situated at Cruxhill, in the western part of this parish, so called from its having been formerly the residence of the family of Crux, the descendants of which afterwards removed to Sheldwich and Milton. They bore for their arms, Argent, on a pale, within a bordure, sable, an eagle displayed, between two crosses, formee of the first./n Here the Osbornes resided for several generations. The first of this family whom I have met with is William Osborne, who was of Hartlip, and died in 1464. He was succeeded by John Osborne, his son, who was one of the auditors of the queen's exchequer, and died in 1577, both of whom, as well as their several descendants, lie buried in the north chancel of this church, usually called the Osborne's chancel. They bore for their arms, Quar=

terly, argent and azure; in the first and fourth quarter, an ermine spot, over all, a cross, or, charged with five annulets, sable. At length it descended to John Osborne, esq. of Hartlip-place, who built for his residence a large house, about half a mile south-west from the church, in this parish, which he named Dane-house. He afterwards removed to Maidstone, on account of a most daring robbery committed on him whilst he resided at Dane-house, after which it stood many years uninhabited, and was at last entirely pulled down. He died in 1683, and was succeeded by his son Thomas Osborne, esq. major of the militia, whose two sons, John and Thomas, successively inherited his estates in this parish, and both dying s. p. were buried with their ancestors in Hartlip church; on which their two sisters became their coheirs, of whom Elizabeth was married to Richard Tylden, esq. of Milsted, and Mary to the Rev. Mr. Milway, of Borden; the latter of whom sold her share of these estates in which the scite of Dane-house was included, to Tyndale, of Gloucestershire, and of Bobbing, in

/n See Guillim's Heraldry, p. 211.

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this county, whose descendant William Tyndale, of North Certon, in Gloucestershire, is the present proprietor of them; but Hartlip-place, Queendown-warren, and the residue of the Osborne estates in this parish, were allotted to Mr. Tylden, who had one son the Rev. Richard Osborne Tilden, of Milsted, and three daughters, of whom, Hannah was married to Edward Belcher, esq. of Ulcomb; Mary, to the Rev. Thomas Bland, and the third, Philippa, died unmarried. His widow survived him, and becoming possessed of this estate, levied a fine of it, and died in 1766, having by her will devised the whole of her interest in it to her two daughters, Mary and Philippa. Hartlip-place was included in that part devised to the former, who died possessed of it in 1780; upon which, by the limitation in the above will, it descended to her two younger sons, Thomas and William Bland, but the former having before sold his interest in the reversion of it to his brother, Mr. William Bland, he became possessed of it, and is the present owner of it.

The other part of the Osborne estate, devised to Mrs. Philippa Tylden, which included the freehold part of Queendown, has been since alienated; but the remainder of Queendown, containing about seventy acres, being held of the master and brethren of St. Catherine's hospital, near the Tower, by lease, was renewed in the name of the Rev. Mr. Tylden, on whose death in 1766, his interest in it descended to his eldest son Richard Tylden, esq. of Milsted, who is now entitled to it.

CHARITIES.

MRS. MARY GIBBON, by her will in 1678, gave a house and six acres of land in Hartlip, of the value of about 12l. per annum, for the purpose of putting to school poor children inhabiting this parish, to be instructed in reading English; and, in case the estate should be more than sufficient for that purpose, then to put to school those inhabiting one of the adjoin-

ing parishes; and when such children should be able to read English so well as to read any chapter in the bible, then for

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them to have a bible bought and given to such child who should thereupon be taken from school. And she likewise charged it with the payment of 20s. yearly to the vicar of Hartlip. The land is now vested in Mr. William Danne, and the produce of it in trust, to be applied by the minister and churchwardens for the above purpose.

TWELVE BUSHELS of barley, one and a half of wheat, and 6s. 8d. in money, are yearly payable out of the parsonage of Hartlip to the poor of this parish, given by a person unknown.

The sum of 20s. is yearly payable out of a farm in this parish belonging to Richard Tylden, of Milsted, given likewise by a person unknown, and now vested in the churchwardens and overseers.

The number of poor constantly relieved are about seventeen; casually four.

HARTLIP is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and consists of three isles and three chancels, with a square tower at the west end of it, in which hang five bells.

King Henry III. in his 9th year, gave the church of Hertlepe, with its appurtenances, to the prior of St. Andrew's, in Rochester.

Stephen, archbishop of Canterbury, in 1225, admitted the monks into the possession of this church, to be possessed by them to their own proper uses forever: saving, nevertheless, a vicarage to be conferred on a proper person at their presentation, who should sustain the burthens of this church, reserving to him, the archbishop, the taxation of the vicarage. Which instrument was confirmed by John, prior, and the convent of the church of Canterbury./o

The church of Hartlip, together with the advowson of the vicarage, remained part of the possessions of the priory of Rochester till the dissolution of it in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when it was, together

/o See the confirmation of the appropriation in Reg. Roff. p. 185.

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with the rest of the possessions of it, surrendered up into the king's hands, who the next year settled it by his dotation-charter on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, where the parsonage and advowson of the vicarage remain at this time.

In the 8th year of Richard II. the church of Hartlip was valued at 13l. 6s. 8d.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 9l. 10s. 10d. and the yearly tenths at 19s. 1d. and is of the yearly certified value of 62l. 18s. 8d.

In the survey of ecclesiastical benefices within the diocese of Rochester, taken by order of the state in 1649, it was returned, that the parsonage of Hartlip, late belonging to the late dean and chapter of Rochester, consisted of a parsonage-house, barn, yard, &c. and the tithe within the said parish, at the improved rent of sixty-seven pounds per annum, and

sundry pieces of land, containing together twelve acres and one rood, of the yearly value, with the above, of 69l. 19s. 7d. which premises were let by the late dean and chapter, anno 15 Charles I. to Henry Barrow, at the yearly rent of nineteen pounds, and three couple of good capons, so there remained the clear rent of 50l. 7s. 7d. per annum, out of which lease the vicarage of Hartlip was excepted, worth forty-five pounds per annum./p

The parsonage is now leased out by the dean and chapter, but the advowson of the vicarage is reserved in their own hands.

CHURCH OF HARTLIP.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Prior and convent of Rochester Thomas, the last rector, resigned
in 1225./q

/p Parl. Survey, Lambeth-library,
vol. xiv.

/q Reg. Roff. p. 412.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Thomas, the first vicar, in 1225.

Dean and chapter of Rochester George Boyce, A. B. July 18,
1595, obt. 1609.

Edmund Hayes, A. M. Jan. 12,
1609, resig. 1622.

Gabriel Salisbury, A. M. Jan.
16, 1622, and in 1638

Edward Garland, obt.

John Lorkin, March 27, 1661.

Benjamin Crompe, obt. 1664.

John Edwards, A. M. Sept. 5,
1664, resigned 1676.

John Crew, A. M. Feb. 26,
1676, obt. 1704.

Robert Beresford, A. M. 1704,
resigned 1728./r

Walter Frank, A. B. Jan. 20,
1728, resigned 1747./s

Cæsar Curtis, A. B. August 25,
1747, resigned 1750./t

Charles Soan, LL. B. inducted
Aug. 3, 1750, obt. Sept. 5,
1755.

Archbishop, hac vice. Pierce Dixon, A. B. March 13,
1756, resigned 1759

John Pratt, Nov. 3, 1759.

Richard Hodgson, obt. Feb.
1792./u

T. G. W. Walker, 1795, the
present vicar.

/r He resigned this vicarage for that
of Goudhurst.

/s Son of Dr. Frank, archdeacon of
Bedford, he was curate of Loose and
of Chatham.

/t See Stockbury before.

/u He was unfortunately trampled

to death under the horses of a coach
in seeing the king pass to the parlia=
ment house, on Jan. 31, 1792.

- - -

UPCHURCH

LIES the next parish northward from that of
Hartlip, and is so named from its high situation.

This parish lies in a most unhealthy situation, close
to the marshes, and a large extent of some hundreds

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of acres of salts beyond them, as far as Standgate
creek, the river Medway its northern boundary, the
noxious vapours arising from which, subject the inha=
bitants to continued intermittents, and shorten their
lives at a very early period; it contains about 1760
acres of land, near one hundred acres of wood, and
about 1200 acres of fresh and salt marsh; the face of
the country is rather hilly, the land in general is very
thin and poor, having much gravel mixed with it, the
other soils throughout it are in some parts black sand,
in others a stiff clay, of which latter there is but a
small portion; the poorness of the soil occasions the
growth of much broom and fern, or brakes in it, with
which there are many fields entirely covered. The
southern part of the parish has much woodland in=
terspersed throughout it, which is in general but of
ordinary value, being mostly oak coppice; the soil is
much however adapted to the growth of the elm,
with which the hedgerows abound, but these conti=
nued groves of tall spire trees stop the free circulation
of air, and render this place much more unwholesome
than it would otherwise be. The village of Up=
church, called the street, (through which the high
road leads from Chatham to Kingsferry and the Isle
of Shepey) stands on high ground, nearly in the
centre of the parish, with the church close to it, the
spire of which is accounted a sea mark.

It seems to have been of much more consequence
as well for its craft in shipping, as in the number of
its inhabitants, than it is at present, both of which are
much diminished from what they were formerly, and
the latter are in general now in a state of poverty. In
the return made of those places where there were any
shipping, boats, &c. anno 8 Elizabeth. Upchurch
is said to contain forty inhabited houses, three lack=
ing habitations, twelve ships and boats, from one ton
to fourteen; and fourteen persons occupied in carry=
ing from port to port, and fishing. At the western

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boundary of the parish there is a key called Attrum,
or Otterham key, with a wharf for the landing and
shipping of corn, and the produce of the neighbour=
ing woods. The creek, called by the same name,
flows up by it from the river Medway. In the 17th
year of the above reign there was a common arrivage
place at Upchurch, called Karter's hythe, probably
the same as that before-mentioned. In the southern
part of the parish is a hamlet called Halywell, near
which there is much woodland, most of which be=

longs to the earl of Thanet; on the eastern side of it is situated in the valley, close to the sheere way to Newington, the manor of Gore, now only a mean farmhouse. In the northern part of it the land, which is very wet, stretches along a narrow space between the marshes, at the end of which is another hamlet called Ham. There is no commission of sewers for the repair of the marshes in this or the adjoining parishes, but the sewers, walls, &c. which defend them from the tides, are kept in repair by the respective owners of them, at no inconsiderable expence. At some distance from the uplands, across the marshes, lies one of notoriety, called Slayhills, containing five hundred acres, formerly belonging to the Leybornes, and given with the manor of Gore as before-mentioned, to the abbey of St. Mary Grace, Tower-hill./w After the suppression of which, king Henry VIII. granted it to Sir Thomas Wyatt, to hold in capite. Sir Warham St. Leger afterwards possessed it, whose daughter Anne carried it in marriage to Thomas Diggs, esq. after which it acquired the name of Diggs marsh, which it kept but a small time before it resumed its former name; but this estate, from its exposed situation, and the force of the tides, which from the walls of it being neglected, at length broke through them, and overflowed it, and it is now gone to sea, and

/w See Augtn. off. bundle, London, 299, 316.

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nearly the whole of it is become a tract of salts, which is covered by every spring tide. In the 49th year of Edward III. there was a commission issued for the viewing of the banks in the king's marshes of Slayhill, Greneberghe, &c. as far as the Isle of Shepey, and to do what was requisite to them according to the law and custom of the realm.

The paramount manor of Milton claims over this whole parish, subordinate to which is

THE MANOR OF GORE, otherwise UPCHURHH, formerly called De la Gare, which is held of the above manor, by a yearly suit and service. It is situated in a vale in the south-eastern part of this parish, over which, subordinate to that of Milton, it in great measure claims.

It was in very early times in the possession of a family, who took their name from it. Lucas de la Gare was returned a knight of the shire for this county, anno 25 Edward I. before which time however it was become the property of the Leybornes. Roger de Leyborne held it in the 51st year of Henry III. in which year he obtained a grant to hold in fee all his hereditaments and tenements in gavelkind, in Rainham, Upchurch, and Hereclop, of the king, by knight's service./x

After which this manor descended down to Juliana de Leyborne, usually stiled the Infanta of Kent, whose husbands successively became entitled to it, each of whom however she survived, and died in the 41st year of Edward III. when no one being found who could make claim to any of her estates, this manor and estate in Upchurch escheated to the crown, where it remained till the king, in his 50th year, granted it,

among other premises, to the abbey of St. Mary Graces, on Tower-hill, then founded by him, which was confirmed to the abbey in pure and perpetual

/x Pat. Rolls, No. 84. This grant was confirmed to Juliana de Leyborne, anno 14 Edward II.

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alms for ever, by king Richard II. in his 12th and 22d years.

It remained part of the possessions of the monastery till the dissolution of it in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered up into the king's hands, who soon afterwards granted this manor to Christopher Hales, esq. his attorney-general and master of the rolls, who died in the 33d year of that reign, leaving three daughters his coheirs, of whom Margaret, the second daughter, married first to West; secondly to Dodman, and thirdly to William Horden, gent. of the Weald of Kent, inherited this manor, which she entitled her three husbands to successively. At length it was alienated by William Horden, in the 9th year of queen Elizabeth to Mr. Richard Stanley, who, in the 22d year of that reign, passed it away by sale to Thomas Wardegar, or Wardacre, as he was commonly called, whose grandson William, son of George Wardegar, sold it, in the 17th of king James I, to Sir Nicholas Tufton, who was created earl of Thanet, in whose descendants, earls of Thanet, this manor has continued down to the right hon. Sackville Tufton, earl of Thanet, the present possessor of it.

A court baron is held for this manor.

HORSHAM is a reputed manor in this parish, situated at a small distance westward from the church. It seems formerly to have been possessed by a family of its own name, one of them, Stephen de Horsham, possessed it in king Edward the III's reign, how long they continued here I have not found, but that it in after times came into the possession of archbishop Chichele, who in the 26th year of Henry VI. settled it on the college of All Souls, in Oxford, then founded by him, mostly out of the estates of the suppressed

/y Rot. Esch. ejus an. See more of the Hales's under Tonstall hereafter.

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alien priories, of which probably this might have been a part, since which it has continued among the possessions of that college, being at this time the inheritance of the warden and fellows of it. There is no court held for this manor.

The lessee of this estate, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was Sir Cheney Colepeper, who alienated his interest in it to Clement Milway, and he passed the lease of it away to Mr. William Harding, whose descendant Mr. John Harding, of London, in 1715, alienated it to Joseph Hasted, gent. of Chatham, whose grandson Edward Hasted, esq. of Canterbury, afterwards became possessed of the lease of it, but Mr. Thomas Williams, gent. of Dartford, is the present lessee of it.

THE MANOR OF OTTERHAM, situated in the wes-

tern part of this parish, near the hamlet of Otterham, or Ottram, as it is now called, had formerly possessors of the same name, who, however, were extinct here before king Richard the 1st.’s reign, for John Peche, citizen of London, in the 4th year of it, died possessed of the manor of Otterham, in Upchurch, with its appurtenances, in right of Mary his wife, during her lifetime, the reversion of it belonging to Thomas de Alburton, when it was held of the king, as of his manor of Milton, by divers services, according to the custom of gavelkind. How it passed afterwards I have not found, but at the latter end of queen Elizabeth’s reign it was in the possession of Thomas Butts, gent. In later time it passed by sale into the possession of Mr. Thomas Best, of Chatham, whose grandson Thomas Best, esq. of Chilston, died possessed of it in 1793, s. p. and gave it by will among his other estates to his nephew George Best, esq. now of Chilston, the present owner of it./z

/z See Boughton Malherb before, p. 410.

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HAM, alias WEST-COURT, is a manor in the northern part of this parish, situated in the hamlet of Ham, which, with an estate called Sharpnash, alias Sharpness, belonged to the abbey of Boxley, as early as the reign of king John, and in the 33^d year of king Edward III. the abbot had a grant for free warren on their manor and estate here, which continued part of the possessions of that monastery till the dissolution of it in the 29th year of Henry VIII. when it was, together with all its revenues, surrendered up into the king’s hands, who granted it in his 31st year, to Thomas Greene, gent. to hold in capite by knight’s service. He was the natural son of Sir John Norton, of Northwood, in this county, for which reason he was frequently stiled in deeds of that time Norton, alias Greene. He died in the 6th year of Edward VI. being then possessed of the manor of West-court, with its appurtenances, held of the king, as of the duchy of Buckingham, by knight’s service; and the manors of Ham and Sharpnash, and lands, pastures, fresh and salt marshes, belonging to those manors in Upchurch and Halstow, held in manner as before mentioned. He left two sons, Norton and Robert, of whom Norton the eldest, left an only daughter and heir Mary, wife of Sir Mark Ives, of Essex, and Robert, the second son, was of Bobbing. They bore for their arms, Gules, a cross potent, ermine, within a bordure of the second./a Norton Green, the eldest son of William as before mentioned, inherited these manors, which he alienated to Thomas Aldersey, gent. of Bredgar, in whose descendants the manor of Ham continued till it was length alienated to Thomas Hous, who passed it away to Thomas Skip, after which it came at length to his grandson Thomas Skip Bucknal, who in 1792, with the royal licence, took the name of Dyot. He is now of Hampton-court, in Middlesex, esq. and is the present possessor of

/a Pedigree of Norton, in Suffolk pedigrees, marked Clopton.

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the manor of Ham, alias West-court, and its appur-

tenances. What became of the part called Sharpness, I know not, excepting it was the marsh called Harfleet, alias Sharpness, afterwards called New-marsh, from one Mr. Elfet's stopping up the breach, and new making the walls of it; but it has long since been swallowed up by the sea again. It lies between Bayford and Burntwick marshes, and contains about five hundred acres of land.

CHARITIES.

THERE is a yearly sum of 6s. 8d. paid on Michaelmas-day from the parsonage to the poor of this parish.

TEN SHILLINGS is paid to the like purpose, from Highfield in Mun-farm, vested in John Sharpe.

BENJAMIN TROWTES, gave by will in 1623, bread to the value of 10s. payable out of Stains-farm, is yearly distributed to the poor on Maundy Thursday, and the Saturday before Michaelmas day, vested in Luke Miles.

TWO ACRES of wood in Herst-wood, belonging to Gore-farm, situated on the south side of the sheere-way leading to Newington, was given by a person unknown, to the use of the poor, now of the annual produce of 40s.

The poor constantly relieved are about twelve; and casually fifteen.

UPCHURCH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a very large, handsome building, consisting of three broad isles and two chancels; the pews for the present decreased number of inhabitants taking up only a small part of the middle isle. In the north chancel there are several grave stones, all of which are robbed of their brasses. In the north windows of this chancel there are good remains of painted glass, for the most part well preserved; underneath is a vault, which, by the circular stair-case to descend into it, seems to have been made use of only as a charnel-house, having many bones laid up in it. The steeple at the west end of the

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church is very remarkable, being a tower on which is placed a square part of a spire for about ten feet, and on that an octagon for the remaining or upper part to the point of the spire at top.

There is an old monument in the wall of the north chancel, garnished about with acorns and oak leaves, which Weever says, was, by report, set up over the grave of one Woodokes, entombed there.

The church of Upchurch belonged antiently to the Premonstratensian Abbey de Insula Dei, or Lisle Dieu, in Normandy, founded by Reginald de Paveley, in 1187, who having lands in this county, might probably give this church for the better support of his new foundation.

This church appears to have been appropriated to it very early, for in 1369, anno 44 Edward III. a commission was issued by archbishop Wittleseye for the augmentation of the portion of the perpetual vicar of Uppechirche to the above-mentioned abbey for some time appropriated, to five marcs.

Upon the suppressing of these foreign houses, this

church was, in the 4th year of king Richard II. given to the hospital of St. Katherine, near the Tower, towards the founding of a chantry for three chaplains in it. But this seems to have been a grant only for a term of years, for king Henry VI. in his 17th year, on the foundation of All Souls college, in Oxford, granted this church, together with the advowson of the vicarage, to that college, part of the endowment of which it remains at this time.

The parsonage is leased out by the college of All Souls for a term of years, to Mr. Packman, of Upchurch; but the advowson of the vicarage the college reserve in their own hands.

The parsonage consists of a house, &c. eighty-one acres of arable, fresh, and salt marsh, being the glebe land of it, and the tithes of about five hundred acres of arable land in this parish, and is held at the yearly rent

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of 16l. 13s. 8d. in money, sixteen quarters of wheat, and sixteen quarters of malt. The lessee repairs the chancel of the parish church.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. this church was valued at 23l. 6s. 8d. then belonging to the abbey of Lisle Dieu, by which it should seem, that it was not divested of its property here then, though the hospital of St. Katherine's held the possession of it. It is valued in the king's books at eleven pounds, and the yearly tenths at 1l. 2s. In the reign of queen Elizabeth there were one hundred and thirty-nine communicants. In 1640, it was valued at 60l. Communicants forty.

The vicar of Upchurch holds of Milton manor one acre of land at Culvers valley, in Upchurch.

CHURCH OF UPCHURCH.

PATRONS, &c.

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

College of All Souls. Richard Jones, A. M. May 1, 1590, obt. 1609.

Thomas Long, resigned 1611.

William Bradenham, A. M. Aug. 3, 1611, obt. 1619.

Francis Webb, A. M. June 12, 1619, obt. 1630.

Christopher Collard, A. M. Nov. 20, 1630, resigned 1639.

Enoch Stephens, A. M. April 24, 1639, obt. 1640.

John Messenger, A. M. Feb. 6, 1640, obt. 1641.

Edward Vaughan, A. M. Nov. 30, 1641.

The Archbishop. John Campleshon, A. M. Oct. 14, 1664.

College of All Souls. Benjamin Phinnies, clerk, April 1, 1667.

Thomas Milway, July 2, 1685.

Henry Warren./b

/b See Reg. Roff. p. 770.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

College of All Souls. John Saunders, A. M. Dec. 20,
1708, obt. 1719.

James Brent, A. M. July 17,
obt. 1727.

Baynton Parsons, A. M. April
10, 1727, obt. 1742.

Archbishop, by lapse. Henry Piers, A. M. August 11,
1742, resigned 1746./c

College of All Souls. Francis Baker, LL. D. inducted
November 11, 1746, obt.
1749./d

Richard Jacob, A. M. 1749, re=
signed 1757./e

Richard Brereton, A. M. Feb. 4,
1758, resigned 1766.

Wolley Leigh Spencer, A. B. Fe=
bruary 12, 1766, the present
vicar./f

/c Presented by the archbishop, by
lapse.

/d Also vicar of New Romney.

/e Before vicar of New Romney,
which he resigned as well as this, on
being presented to the vicarage of East
Malling.

/f Fellow of All Souls college.

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HALSTOW

LIES the next parish eastward from Upchurch,
it is written in antient deeds Halegestow, and is usually
called Lower Halstow, from its low situation, and to
distinguish it from the parish of High Halstow, in the
hundred of Hoo.

It is a very obscure and unfrequented parish,
though the road from Chatham to the King's Ferry
leads through the lower part of it, across a branch of
the creek, here called the Stray, which is at high water
hardly passable with safety. The little streamlet which
rises southward near Newington church, runs on hi=
ther to the corn mill, belonging to All Souls col=
lege, situated on another branch of this creek, up to
which the tide flows likewise, the mill being turned
by it; below these the two branches acquire the name

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of Halstow creek, and soon afterwards joining, about
three miles below, that of Standgate creek, a little
further from which it flows into the river Medway, at
some distance above Sheerness. At the lower end of
Standgate creek, all vessels arriving from foreign coun=
tries, where the plague, or any other infectious dis=
temper is known to rage, are obliged by order of the
privy council and the king's proclamation to perform
quarantine for a limited time, and for the purpose of
airing the cargoes of them, there are two large hospital
ships, commonly called lazarettos, being the hulks of
forty-four gun ships stationed here constantly, on board
which the goods and merchandize are removed, for
the purpose of airing them, and a government cutter

attends to see this properly observed, and to prevent the crews getting on shore before the time is expired,

Halstow creek above this becomes so shallow, as to be used only by the small vessels belonging to the dredger men, who live here, and make up the principal part of the inhabitants of this parish, it is navigable in both branches as high up as the stray on the one, and the bridge built over the other, just above the church, where there is a wharf belonging to All Souls college, which, if in a proper condition, might be made of great use to the neighbouring country, which, as appears by the survey made in the 8th year of queen Elizabeth, by her order, was then called Halstow key, and that there were then in this parish houses inhabited twenty-four, ships and boats fourteen, from one ton to seven; and persons occupied in carrying from port to port and fishing fourteen. There are two small hamlets in the lower part of it, near the creek, the one built round a green, and called from thence Halstow-green, and the other at a small distance from it called Lower street. This part of the parish lies on a level, and open to the adjoining marshes, which render it most unpleasant, and at the same time unhealthy to an extreme, the look of which

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the inhabitants carry in their countenances; indeed, it seems so enveloped among creeks, marshes and salts, the look over which extends as far as the eye can see, that it seems a boundary, beyond which the traveller dreads to hazard his future safety.

The whole of this parish, excepting towards the marshes, has a woody appearance, the shaves and hedge-rows being very broad round the fields, it contains about twelve hundred acres of land, the soil of it is in general a very stiff and wet clay, a heavy tilage land, some few parts of it are gravel, and others, a black unfertile sand, with much broom and brakes, or fern on it. The clayey lands have of late years been much improved, by spreading them over with lime, brought at a heavy expence from the upper part of Hartlip, a distance of between three and four miles, by which means they produce a good crop of wheat. Near the stray there are some fertile meadows and orchards, the lands in general let at a high rent of fifteen and twenty shillings an acre, much of it throughout the parish belongs to All Souls college, as part of their manor farm of Horsham, in Upchurch. Towards the eastern part of the parish the hills rise pretty high, over much of which the adjoining manor of Norwood in Milton claims. In the north-east part is Basser farm, almost the whole of which is pasture, and some of it so fertile as to be good fatting land for beasts.

The paramount manor of Milton claims over this parish, subordinate to which is

THE MANOR OF BERKESORE, commonly called BASSER, which is situated in the north-east part of this parish. It was given to the monks of the priory of Christ-church, in Canterbury, to the finding of a light before the shrine of St. Anselm there, which gift was confirmed by Henry II. who added to it fifteen pounds of rent in this place likewise, as did

Reginald de Clere, certain land bounding to that of Roger de Wardun and William de Northwode.

King Edward II. in his 10th year, granted and confirmed to the prior and convent of Christ-church, free-warren in all their demesne land in Berkesore, held in the time of his grandfather king Henry III.

In which state this manor continued till the dissolution of the above-mentioned priory, in the 31st year of Henry VIII. when it was, with all the lands and possessions belonging to it, surrendered up into the king's hands, who settled this manor, by his donation-charter, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions it now remains.

The family of Darell, of Calehill, have for many generations been lessees of this manor under the dean and chapter. Sir Robert Darell held it as such in the 17th year of king James I. and in his descendants it has continued down to Henry Darell, esq. of Calehill, the present lessee of it. A court baron is regularly held for it.

CHARITIES.

A HOUSE, with a garden, and two acres of land, in this parish, occupied in 1775 by William Judson, at the yearly rent of 5l. were given by a person unknown, to the poor of this parish.

ONE ACRE of land in Southfield, in Halstow, belonging to West Hide, esq. in 1775 occupied by Samuel Buckland, at 10s. per annum, was given by a like person to the same purpose.

WILLIAM ROBINSON, of this parish, by will in 1632, gave 20s. in money, and two bushels of wheat, out of land now used with the Stray farm in this parish, to be distributed yearly on St. Thomas's Day for ever.

CATH. WOOTTON, of this parish, gave by will in 1678, a field called Budington, in Newington, of the annual produce of 20s. to be distributed yearly on Easter Monday to the poor of this parish for ever.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave a cottage and two tenements, with a garden, in the lower street, worth 4l. per annum, to the poor of it; all which gifts are vested in the minister and churchwardens.

The poor constantly relieved here are about eighteen; casually sixteen.

HALSTOW is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which stands close to the creek, is dedicated to St. Margaret; it consists of three small isles and one chancel, with a low pointed steeple, in which hang five bells, and has nothing remarkable in it. The church of Halstow was part of the ancient possessions of the priory of Christ-church in Canterbury, as appears by the instrument of archbishop Baldwin, who came to the see of Canterbury in 1184, who, at the presentation of the prior and convent, granted to his beloved son John de London, nephew of the then blessed martyr Thomas, the church of St. Margaret of Halegestowa, in perpetual alms; saving the pension of one marc, which the said John should

be bound to pay to the monks above-mentioned, twice in each year./g

King Henry III. in his 19th year, granted to the prior and convent of Christ-church, the privilege of a fair at the church of Halowesto.

In which situation this church continued till the dissolution of the priory in the 31st year of king Henry VIII. when it was, with all the lands and possessions of it, surrendered up into the king's hands.

The church of Halstow, with the vicarage of it, did not remain long in the hands of the crown, for the king settled it by his dotation-charter, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions it now remains, the parsonage being leased out by them for twenty-one years, but the advowson of the vicarage they retain in their own hands.

The yearly rent to the dean and chapter is 3l. 6s. 8d. who pay yearly to the archdeacon five shillings for procurations for it.

/g See the confirmations of this church in Reg. Christ church, Cant. cart. 91, 100, 151, 157.

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The vicarage is a discharged living in the king's books of the yearly certified value of forty pounds, the yearly tenths being 16s. 2¼d. In 1642 it was valued at sixty pounds per annum, first receipt. Communicants eighty-two.

Dr. Francis Walwin, prebendary of Canterbury, in 1770, but a short time before his death, paid into the hands of the Rev. John Tucker, of Canterbury, and rector of Ringwold, since deceased, ten pounds to be laid out for the benefit of this vicarage.

John White, vicar of this parish in 1696, presented a petition to archbishop Tenison, setting forth, that he had two vicarage-houses, one an old uninhabited house adjoining to the sea side, which every spring tide overflowed with salt water, and which the seamen and others had in a manner demolished; that the other is a house given by two maids, who died there, and bequeathed it to the vicar for ever; that it had been recovered by his predecessor by course of law, and that he himself had inhabited it for twenty years. He therefore prayed the archbishop to grant him licence to demolish the former, in regard that the vicarage was small, not being worth thirty pounds per annum. To which the archbishop assented, and granted his licence for that purpose in 1696.

The scite of the old house and garden was afterwards taken possession of by a dredgerman; a house has been since rebuilt on it, by a person who now claims it as his freehold, and the vicar has not as yet made any attempt to disposses him of it.

CHURCH OF HALSTOW.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Dean and chapter of Canterbury. George Atton, A. B. Feb. 13, 1595, obt. 1609.

John Warde, Jan. 30, 1609, obt. 1617.

PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Dean and chapter of Canterbury. William Tonstall, A. M. Nov. 27, 1617, resig. 1619.
 Thomas Parker, A. M. Nov. 1619, obt. 1632.
 Henry Dering, A. M. July 13, 1632, obt. 1666./h
 John White, A. B. Nov. 1, 1666, obt. 1706./i
 Ralph Milway, March 11, 1707, obt. 1759.
 Thomas Lamprey, jun. Jan. 1, 1760, the present vicar.

/h Also vicar of Newington. He was sequestered, and afterwards restored. See Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, pt. ii. p. 231.

/i See Ducarel's Repertory, p. 15.

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NEWINGTON.

THE next parish southward from Halstow is Newington, written in Domesday, Newetone, which certainly took its name from its having been raised on the scite of some more antient town, perhaps built in the time of the Romans, of whom there are many vestigia in and about this place. It has the addition of next Sittingborne, to distinguish it from a parish of the same name next Hyth.

THE PARISH of Newington lies for the most part on a flat plain, extending from east to west near two miles, at the edges of which, excepting towards the north, it is surrounded by a range of high hills, most of which are covered with woods, which reach as far eastward within the boundaries of it as the high road leading from Key-street to Detling. The parish is far from being unpleasant, but the unhealthiness of it, occasioned by its being exposed to the noxious vapours arising from the large tract of marshes covered of it, as far as Standgate creek and the Medway, which are blown hither uninterrupted, through the vale, and

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the unwholesomeness of the water drawn from the wells for culinary uses, throughout it, make it a far from eligible situation to dwell in, and keep it thin of inhabitants, especially of the better sort; in the centre of the above plain, though on a small rise is the village, called Newington-street, containing about fifty houses, most of them antient and ill built, it is encircled by orchards of apples and cherries. In the street almost opposite to the lane leading southward to Stockbury is the old manor house of Lucies, now inhabited by a shopkeeper, and in another part of it is another old-timbered building, much of it now in a decayed state, belonging to the estate here of Sir Beversham Filmer, bart. formerly of the Troughton's, and before that the residence of the Holbrook's.

Here was, as appears by a presentment made of the customs, &c. of the queen's manor and hundred of

Milton, in 1575, a market, held weekly on a Tuesday, but the disuse of it has been beyond memory. At a small distance northward is the vicarage, and a quarter of a mile further on the parsonage and church, and close to the church-yard the manor-house of Tracies. At no great distance north-west from hence there is a spring, which produces a fresh stream, and runs from thence northward, having a small breadth of swampy poor meadow or marshes on each side, till it empties itself into the creek at Halstow, as has already been mentioned in the description of that parish.

The high road from London to Canterbury and Dover, runs across this parish, and through Newington-street, at a small distance southward from which, in the road to Stockbury, is the manor house of Cranbrooke, and about half a mile further, the ground still rising to it, the hamlet of Chesley-street, corruptly so for Checheley-street, as appears by the will of Robert Bereforth, anno 13 Edward IV. who lies buried in this church, and stiles himself of Checheley-street, devising by it his principal tenement called Frognal, and his

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other called Patreches, in this parish, to his three daughters and coheirs. On a green close to this hamlet there is a handsome sashed house, built not many years ago by Robert Spearman, esq. lessee of the possessions of Merton college, in this parish, in which he resides.

The parish contains about thirteen hundred acres of land, exclusive of about two hundred acres of wood, great part of it, especially in the environs of the street, was formerly planted with orchards of apples, cherries, and other kind of fruit, but these falling to decay, and the high price of hops yielding a more advantageous return, many of them were displanted, and hops raised in their stead, the scite of an old orchard, being particularly adapted for the purpose, which, with the kindness of the soil for that plant, produced large crops of it, insomuch that there has been one particular instance here of an acre having grown after the rate of thirty-four hundred weight of hops on it, but these grounds wearing out, and hops not bearing so good a price, together with other disadvantages to the growers of them, orchards are again beginning to be replanted in Newington, to which these grounds afford a good nursery, till the trees by their increased size are less liable to hurt, though the hop grounds in it are still very considerable.

The soil of this parish on the plain, and towards Chesley, is very rich and fertile, consisting in general of a kindly loam, near and on the hills it is mostly a stiff clay, and to the northward of the street it becomes a sand, where on the hills it becomes poor land, and much covered with broom and furze. This tract of land called from thence Broomdown, belong most of it, as does much other land in this parish, to All Souls college, as part of their manor of Horsham, in Upchurch; in the parts near Chesley-street, at some depth, they come to the chalk, which by means of draw wells is obtained for the manure of their lands.

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On the continued chain of hills, from the north-east to the south-east boundaries of this parish, there are large tracts of woodland, in which are great plenty of chestnut stubs, no doubt the indigenous growth of them, these join to others of the like sort, reaching for several miles southward, those in this parish and its neighbourhood, being from the great plenty of the above wood in them, commonly known by the name of Chestnut woods, a large tract of them, within the bounds of this and the adjoining parishes, reaching as far as the turnpike road leading from Key-street to Detling, belong to the earl of Aylesford. The rents in general are high, great part of the lands being let from fifteen to twenty shillings per acre and upwards.

THE ROMAN ROAD, having crossed the river Medway at Chatham, is still visible on the top of Chatham-hill, the hedge on the north side of the great road from thence to Rainham standing on it, from which place hither it seems to run on the southern side of the road, till within a very small distance of Newington-street, where it falls in with the great road, and does not appear again till it has passed Key-street, a mile and a half beyond it.

The name of Newington, as has already been mentioned, implies its having been built on, or in the lieu of, some more ancient town or village; the names of places in and about it, plainly of Roman original, shew that nation to have had frequent dealings hereabouts. Keycol-hill at the 38th mile stone seems to be the same as *Caii Collis*, or *Caius*, Julius Cæsar's hill; Key-street beyond it, *Caii Stratum*, or *Caius's* street; and Standard-hill, about half a mile southward of Newington-street, seems to have taken its name from some military standard having been placed on it in those times.

On Keycol-hill above-mentioned, at a small distance northward from the great road, is a field, in which quantities of Roman urns and vessels have continually

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been turned up by the plough, and otherwise, and the whole of it scattered over with the broken remains of them, from whence it has acquired the name of Crockfield. The soil of it is mostly sandy, excepting towards the north-west part of it, where it consists of a wet and stiff clay.

The situation of this field is on an eminence, higher than the surrounding grounds, commanding a most extensive view on every side of it; a little to the south-west of it, in the adjoining field, there is a large mount of earth thrown up, having a very broad and deep foss on the south and west sides of it, from whence there seems to be a breast-work of earth thrown up, which extends in a line westward about forty rods, and thence in like manner again northward, making the south and western boundaries of the two fields next below Crockfield, above-mentioned.

The greatest part of the northern sides of these fields, and the eastern side of Crockfield, are adjoining to the woods, in which there are many remains of trenches and breast-works thrown up; but the coppice is so very thick, that there is no possibility of tracing their extent or form, so as to give any description of

them. These vessels have been found lying in all manner of positions, as well sideways as inverted, and frequently without any ashes or bones in them, quite empty; and this has induced many to think this place to have been only a Roman pottery, and not a burying-place, especially as some of them lay in that part which is a stiff, wet soil, and others in the dry and sandy part of it.

Notwithstanding which, several of our learned antiquarians, among which are Somner, Burton, archbishop Stillingfleet, Battely, and Dr. Thorpe, are inclined to fix the Roman station, called in the second iter of Antonine, Durolevum, at or near this place. Indeed most of the copies of Antonine make the distance from the last station Durobrovis, Rochester, to

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Durolevum xiii or xvi miles, which would place it nearer to Greenstreet, or Judde-hill, a little on the western side of Ospringe; but the Peutingerian tables make it only vii, in which Mr. Somner seems to acquiesce, and it answers tolerably well to this place. If this distance of miles is correct, no doubt but Newington has every circumstance in its favor, to fix this station here, if the number of xvi should be preferred, full as much may be said in favor of Judde-hill, or thereabouts; every other place has but mere conjecture, unsupported either by a knowledge of the country, or by any remains of Roman antiquity ever discovered in or near it.

The urns and vessels found here were first taken notice of in print by the learned Meric Casaubon, prebendary of Canterbury, whom Burton styles incomparable for his virtues and learning, who, in his notes on his translation of the emperor Marcus Antoninus's Meditations, gives an account of the remains found in Newington, which contains many curious particulars relating to the custom of burial, though of too copious a nature to be wholly inserted in this work.

Among other observations he says, that not only the great numbers of these urns, for he does not remember an instance of so many having been found, in so small a compass of ground, was remarkable, but the manner of their lying in the ground; for those who had been present at the digging of them up observed, that where one great urn had been found, several lesser vessels had been likewise, some of them within the great one, and others round about it, each covered either with a proper cover of the like earth as the pots themselves were, or else more coarsely, but very closely, stopped up with other earth. Hence he infers that the custom seems to have been, to appoint one great urn to contain the bones and ashes of all one household or kindred, as often therefore as any of them died, so often they had recourse to the common urn, which was as often uncovered for the purpose.

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Besides the great and common urn, it is likely that every particular person that died, had some lesser one particularly dedicated to his own memory, and it is not improbable, that there might be still another use of them, and that not an unnecessary one, which was, that

by them the common greater urns might be the better known and distinguished one from another, being so much alike in shape and size, in so small a compass of ground, and so near each other; and it seems more likely, as of the many hundreds of the lesser sort which have been taken up, scarce any have been found of one and the same making. What this place has been many would certainly be glad to know; thus much may at least be concluded, that from the multitude of urns, it was once a common burial-place for the Romans, and that from the situation of it, which is upon an ascent, and for some space beyond it hilly, not far from the sea, and near the highway, it may be affirmed with great probability, that this place was once the seat of a Roman station.^{/k} Thus far Mr. Casaubon.

The great numbers of urns, and the fragments of them, found at this place from time to time, have been dispersed among the curious throughout the county, many of whom have, through curiosity and a fondness for antiquarian knowledge, dug here for that purpose. The last earl of Winchelsea searched here several times for them with success, and had a numerous collection of them; among others, one of the larger ones, which was dug up here, and held twenty-four pints, came into the hand of Dr. Battely, who says, it was dug up among many urns here, being a vessel not to hold the bones, but to be filled with wine, being pitched on the inside, which was usually done for that purpose. It had four handles, by which it might be plunged into the earth, and raised up again whenever there was oc=

^{/k} See Casaubon's Notes on Antonine's Meditations, p. 32. Burton on Antonine's Itinerary, p. 179.

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casion, which was of no use to a sepulchral urn, which there was a religious dread of removing; it being their custom to extinguish the funeral pile with wine, to wash the bones, to sprinkle the sepulchres in their funereal sacrifices, and to pour it out as an offering to the funereal gods.

Another of these urns, which held near a bushel, came into the possession of John Godfry, esq. of Norton-court, and another into the hands of Mr. Filmer Southouse; the figures of each of which may be seen in an engraved plate in the folio edition of this history, vol. ii. p. 562.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over great part of this parish.

IN THE TIME of Edw. the Confessor this place was held of queen Editha, wife of that prince, by one Sidgar, with whom most probably it continued till after the death of king Harold, in 1060, when William, duke of Normandy, afterwards surnamed the Conqueror, having obtained the crown of England, seized on this estate, and then bestowed it on Albert, his chaplain, in whose possession it remained at the time of the taking of the general survey of Domesday, in 1080, in which it is thus entered, under the title Terra Alberti Capellani.

In the half leest of Mildetone, in Mildetone hundred, Albert, the (king's) chaplain, holds of the king Newetone. Sidgar held it of queen Eddid, and then, and now,

it was and is taxed at seven sulings and an half. The arable land is The arable land, which was in demesne, is let to ferme for sixty shillings. In the manor itself ten villeins, with forty-eight borderers, have five carucates. There are twelve acres of meadow, and four dennes of wood, sufficient for the pannage of thirty hogs. There is one fishery belonging to the Halimote, and two servants. A small coppice for the supporting of the fences.

To this manor there belong in Canterbury four houses, and two in Rochester, which yield twenty-four pence.

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And there is a custom of the manor of Mildentone paid in Neuuetone, that is, twenty eight weight of cheese; and of twenty-eight sulings belonging to Mildentone in Neuuetone, ten pounds and ten shillings; and of another part of nine sulings belonging to Middeltone in Neuuetone, twenty-eight weight of cheese and an half, and fifty-eight shillings of rent from these nine sulings; and of these nine sulings Sigar paid average at Mildetone.

Of this manor there are in the foreign three dennes, which were so in the time of king Edward the Confessor, as the hundred witnesses.

The whole manor, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, was worth forty pounds, and afterwards thirty-six pounds, now thirty-four pounds. The archbishop has from thence six pounds, and the bishop of Baieux has three dennes worth forty shillings.

Of the land of this manor Goisfrid de Ros holds one yoke, and it is worth ten shillings.

Adam, son of Hubert, holds as much wood as produces forty pence per annum.

Some time after the taking of this survey, THE MANOR OF NEWINGTON became part of the possessions of a priory founded here, the nuns of which held it of the king, of his manor of Middleton; but the prioress having been strangled in her bed, the king seized on this manor, and kept it in his own hands, and removed the remaining nuns to the Isle of Shepey. After which king Henry II. by the persuasions of archbishop Thomas Becket, placed in their room here seven priests as secular canons, and gave them the whole of the manor; and as a further increase of their maintenance, twenty-eight weight of cheese from his manor of Middleton.

After which, one of these canons having been murdered, four of his brethren were found guilty of the crime, and the two others acquitted. These last, with the king's licence, gave their portions or shares of the manor of Newington to the abbot of St. Augustine's, near Canterbury, who seems to have had possessions

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here long before, as will be further mentioned hereafter, and the other five parts of it, being seized into the king's hands, remained there till he granted them to Richard de Lucy, his chief justice, by which means this manor became divided; two parts of it remaining with the abbot of St. Augustine, as one manor; and the other five parts with the family of Lucy, as another separate manor, which from their continuing in the possession of it, acquired afterwards the name of Newington Lucies, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

After which, several disputes arising between the abbot and Almerie de Lucy, concerning their respective possessions here; they were afterwards settled, by the award of Sir Stephen de Penchester, who decreed, that the latter should give in exchange to the abbot and convent, among other annual profits, the several rents, reliefs, suits, services, and all other customs of the tenements, and holdings within the hundreds of Middleton, Marden, and Eihorne, to hold in free, pure, and perpetual alms. In consideration of which he decreed, that the abbot and convent should release, in exchange, the two parts of rents and cheese belonging to this manor, (which had been formerly given to them in alms by the king, who had divided them into seven parts) to Almerie de Lucy and his heirs for ever. /

In the iter of H. de Stanton, and his sociates, justices itinerant, anno 7 king Edward II. the abbot of St. Augustine's was summoned by quo warranto to shew why he claimed sundry liberties, therein mentioned, in the manor of Newyngton, among others; and likewise view of frank-pledge, and all belonging to it in this manor, and assize of bread and ale. And the abbot pleaded, that the liberties therein mentioned in this manor, among others, had been granted by king John and the succeeding kings to him and his convent in pure and perpetual alms; by the tenor of which he

/ Dec. Script. col. 1927. Regist. Sci Aug. cart. 136.

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claimed all of them; and further, that they had all been allowed in the last iter of John de Berewick, and likewise in the 7th year of king Edward II. before Henry de Stanton, and his sociates, justices itinerant, as before-mentioned.

King Edward III. by his charter of inspeximus, in his 36th year, confirmed to the monastery all the manors and possessions given to it by former kings. In this charter there is recited, one granted to the abbot and convent by the Conqueror, of eight prebends in Nyewynton, and the lands belonging to them, witnessed before archbishop Lanfranc, and others, in as ample a manner as their ancestors ever held them. What possessions these were is not now known. Thorn mentions them, and says, king Henry I. confirmed the gift of his father, of the eight prebends of Newenton. By the Conqueror's charter, these prebends appear to have belonged before his time to the monastery, and to have been wrested from it, and again restored at the famous assembly held at Pinenden-heath. What became of them afterwards does not appear, but most probably they were blended with the manor of Newyngton, after the abbot and convent became possessed of it, especially as by an antient dateless custumal of the manor or church of Newington, as it is there called, transcribed among Dr. Plot's manuscript papers, it appears formerly to have been of a very considerable account, and might well contain these prebends as parcel of it.

The manor of Newington remained part of the possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine, till its final dissolution, in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when this great abbey, with all its revenues, was sur-

rendered up into the king's hands. After which this manor remained part of the royal revenue till the death of king Charles I. in 1648, when the powers then in being, passed an ordinance, to vest them in trustees, in order to their being immediately sold to supply the ne=

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cessities of the state. Soon after which a survey was taken of this manor, by which it appears, that there were quit-rents due to the lords of it from the free-holders within the town or borough of Newington, within the borough of Otham, within the parish of Clapham; within the borough of Bedmanton, in Wormshill; within the borough of Wyarton, in Boughton Monchelsea; within the parish of West Farleigh; within the borough of Minster and Laysdown, in the Isle of Shepey, all severally holding in free socage tenure, and from Mr. Aldersey, of the parish of Bredgate, and Mr. John Allen, of Stockbury, in the like tenure; that there was a court baron and court leet, fines and amerciaments of courts, &c. all which quit-rents, together with the profits of the courts coibs annis, worth in total 16l. 18s. 9½d.

Soon after which this manor was sold by the state to Mr. John Brown, with whom it remained till the restoration of king Charles II. when it again became part of the revenues of the crown, where it seems to have remained till the 9th year of king William III. anno 1697, when the king having raised Sir John Somers, keeper of the great seal, to the office of lord high chancellor, and to the title of lord Somers, baron of Evesham, in Worcestershire, made him a grant, for the support of those honors and dignities, of the fee-farm rents of this manor, among others. In the year 1700 he gave up the seals, but queen Anne, in her 8th year, appointed him president of the council; two years after which, growing infirm in his health, he gradually decayed, till his death on April 26, 1716. Lord Somers bore for his arms, Vert, a fess dancette, ermine./m He died unmarried, leaving the greatest part of his estates by his will to his nephew, James Cocks, esq. of Worcestershire, son and heir of Mary, his eldest sister,

/m See the life of lord Somers, Biog. Brit. vol. vi. p. 3744, et seq.

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(the youngest sister married Sir Joseph Jekyll, master of the rolls) by Charles Cocks, gent. of the city of Worcester; one of whose daughters married Philip, earl of Hardwick, afterwards lord chancellor.

James Cocks, esq. before-mentioned, becoming thus possessed of these fee-farm rents, died in 1750, leaving one son James Cocks, esq. who was slain in the unfortunate expedition against St. Cas, in France, in 1759. He died under age and unmarried, so that these rents, among the rest of his estates, devolved on his father's younger brother, John Cocks, esq. of Castleditch, in Herefordshire, which estate he was possessed of, in right of his wife Mary, only daughter and heir of the Rev. Thomas Cocks, of that place, descended of the elder branch of this family, as he was likewise of Dumbleton, in Gloucestershire, on failure of the issue of Sir Robert

Cocks, bart. of Dumbleton, who was of the younger branch of it. He died in 1771.

Charles Cocks, esq. his eldest son, succeeded him both at Castleditch and Dumbleton, and in these fee-farm rents of the manor of Newington; of which he is the present possessor. He was created a baronet on Sept. 19, 1772, and by letters patent on May 17, 1784, lord Somers, baron of Evesham. He resides at Bruckmans, near Hatfield, in Hertfordshire, formerly the seat of the lord chancellor Somers. He married first, Elizabeth, third sister of Edward, lord Eliot, by whom he has a son John Somers, who married Margaret, only daughter of Dr. Treadway Nash, the Worcester-shire historian, and two daughters; secondly, Anne, sister of Reginald Pole Carew, esq. by whom he has had three sons and one daughter. Lord Somers bears for his arms, Sable, a chevron between three stags, at-tires, fixed to the scalps, argent, quartered with those of Somers as before-mentioned.

IT HAS BEEN ALREADY mentioned before, in the account of the manor of Newington, that in the reign of Henry II. five parts out of seven of it had escheated

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to the crown, and were given by the king to Richard de Lucy, his chief justice, and being afterwards ac-counted a separate manor, acquired from him and his descendants the name of NEWINGTON LUCIES, which it retains at this time.

He was a man much in that prince's esteem, as well for his prudence and just distribution of the laws, as for his piety, being not only chief justice, but the king's lieutenant of the realm during his absence, and consta-ble of the tower of London and castle of Windsor. Among other acts of piety, as they were then esteemed, he founded and liberally endowed the abbey of Lesnes, at Erith,^{/n} and having taken upon himself the habit of a religious there, he died in the 26th year of that reign.

After which, according to the account given in the register of St. Augustine's monastery, the manor of Lucies descended to Godfrey de Lucy, bishop of Win-chester, and after his death in 1204, it descended in equal moieties to Roesie, or Royce de Dover, and Maud de Lucy, his sisters; the latter of whom gave her part to her son, (by her second husband) Richard de Ripariis, or Rivers, whose descendants afterwards possessed it; and the former gave hers (which seems to have comprehended the manor itself) to her kinsman Geoffry de Lucy, each holding their respective parts of the manor of Milton.

What kindred Geoffry de Lucy was of to Royce de Dover, I cannot find, but it appears that he died pos-sessed of this manor, and was succeeded by his son Amery de Lucy, who was with king Richard I. at the siege of Acon, in Palestine, and in memory of some signal service performed in the holy war, added the cross-croslets to his paternal coat, which before was only three fishes, lucii, or pike-fish, in allusion to their name.

^{/n} See vol. ii. of this history, p. 231, 249. Dugd. Baronetage, vol. i. p. 563.

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These arms of the Lucys were formerly painted in the windows of this church, Gules, semee of croslets, three lucies hauriant, or; and again, Lucy, the same coat, without the seme of cross-croslets, being their original bearing. The former arms are likewise remaining on the roof of the cloisters of Canterbury cathedral, as they were formerly in the windows of Goodnestone church, near Wingham.

Geoffry de Lucy had a grant of free-warren for his lands in Newington, among others in different counties, in the 6th year of Edward III. in the 20th year of which reign he died. Sir Walter de Lucy had a confirmation of that charter in the 27th year of king Henry VI. in which year he died possessed of it, leaving one son William, and two daughters, Alianore, married to Thomas Hopton, and Maud, to Thomas Vaux, esq. of Northamptonshire./o

Sir William Lucy, the son, possessed this manor on his father's death, and died s. p. upon which this manor became divided into moieties, one of which became vested in Elizabeth, widow of Sir Robert Corbet, of Shropshire, only daughter, and at length sole heir of Alianore, wife of Thomas Hopton, esq. before-mentioned. The other moiety became vested in Sir William Vaux, son and heir of Thomas Vaux, esq. by Maud, the other sister and coheir of Sir William Lucy above-mentioned.

Lady Elizabeth Corbet, in the 8th year of king Edward IV. married John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, who being a firm friend to the house of York, was, on the restoration of king Henry VI. in the 31st year of that reign, beheaded on Tower-hill. He left a son by her, who was afterwards restored in blood by king Edward IV. but died s. p. anno 3 Richard III. Elizabeth, his mother, widow of John, earl of Worcester, after his death re-married with Sir William Stanley, of

/o Morant's Essex, vol. i. p. 340. vol. ii. p. 109.

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Holt-castle, knight of the garter, second son of Thomas, lord Stanley, who, though he was, as well as his elder brother, instrumental in setting the crown on the head of Henry VII. yet on pretence of his having engaged in the conspiracy of Perkin Warbeck, he was beheaded in the 10th year of that reign, leaving Elizabeth his widow surviving, by whom he had no issue. She died in the 14th year of that reign, as appears by the inquisition then taken, and possessed of a moiety of the manor of Newington Lucies, held of the king by knight's service.

Upon her death without issue, her moiety of this manor came to Sir Nicholas Vaux, the grandson of Thomas Vaux, by Maud, the other daughter and coheir of Sir William Lucy, who being owner of the other moiety before, became now as her heir and next of kin possessed of the entire manor of Newington Lucies. He bore for his arms, Chequy, argent and gules, on a chevron, azure, three roses, vert.

Having been a great assertor of the cause of the house of Lancaster, he received many marks of favor from Henry VII. and was by Henry VIII. in his 15th year, created lord Vaux, baron of Harrowden, in Nor-

thamptonshire. His eldest son Thomas, lord Vaux, about the 27th year of that reign, conveyed this manor to trustees, who passed it away by sale to Sir Roger Cholmeley, serjeant-at law, and recorder of London afterwards, chief justice of the king's bench, soon after which he died, leaving two daughters his coheirs, Elizabeth, first married to Leonard Beckwith, of Selby, in Yorkshire, by whom she had a son Roger, and two daughters, Elizabeth, married to William Vavasor, and Frances, to George Hervey; secondly, to Sir Christopher Kenn, of Somersetshire; the other daughter and coheir was married to Sir Thomas Russell, of Worcestershire.

/p See vol. ii. of this history, p. 148.

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Sir Christopher Kenn became possessed of this manor in his wife's right, and with her, in the 22d year of queen Elizabeth, levied a fine of it; soon after which, they passed it away to Sead, from which name it was sold, in the reign of king James I. to Osborne, and thence again to James Pagitt, esq. of Northamptonshire, whose grandson Justinian Pagitt, esq. of Grays-Inn, married Catherine, one of the daughters of Dr. Lewin, and sister of Sir Justinian Lewin, of Otterden, and bore for his arms, Sable, a cross engrailed, argent, in the dexter quarter, an escallop of the second; he together with Thomas Bedford, gent, of Doctors Commons, in the 32d year of king Charles II. anno 1680, alienated it, by the name of the manor of Newington, alias Newington Lucies, with its rights and appurtenances in this and other parishes, to Roger Jacson, of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, gent. He died in 1691, and left it by his will to his brother George Jacson, M. D. of Derby, who devised it in like manner to his son George Jacson, of Saffron Walden, in Essex, and he alienated it in 1712 to Mr. Edward Pemberton, of London, whose two sons, Mr. John Pemberton, of London, and Henry Pemberton, M. D. fellow of the Royal Society, and professor of physic in Gresham college, became successively entitled to it, but both dying unmarried, and the latter of them in 1791, he by will devised it to Mr. Henry Mills, of Rotherhithe, who had married his niece and heir at law, and he is now entitled to this manor. He bears for his arms, Ermine, a mill rind, sable, on a chief, azure, two marlions wings, or.

There has not been any court held for this manor within memory. The manor-pound was remaining till within these few years.

There is a borough in this parish, called the borough of Lucies, extending over this manor, the borsholder of which is annually chosen at the court of the paramount manor of Milton.

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FROGNAL, or more properly Frogenhall, is an estate in this parish, lying about a mile south-eastward from the manor of Lucies last-described, of which it was probably once accounted a part, and seems to have been given by Richard de Lucy, the owner of that manor, about the reign of king Henry III. to William de Frogenhall, whose ancestors were seated at Fro-

genhall, in Tenham.

He fixed his name on it, and transmitted the possession of it to his descendants, one of whom Richard Frogenhall, died possessed of this estate about the 34th year of Edward III. from whom it descended down to Thomas Frogenhall, who died in the reign of king Henry IV. without male issue, from him it passed by Elizabeth, one of his two daughters and coheirs, in marriage to John Northwood, of Northwood, in this county, which family ending in two daughters and coheirs, Joane, the youngest of them, carried this estate in marriage to Sir John Norton, who about the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, conveyed it to Thomas Lynacre, priest, and physician to that king, who was one of the most learned of that profession in England, or perhaps in Europe, and esteemed the most accomplished scholar of his age, especially for his knowledge of the two learned languages. He was born in the city of Canterbury, in 1460, and descended from the Lynacres, of Lynacre-hall, in Derbyshire. He died possessed of it in 1524, and was buried in St. Paul's cathedral, before the rood of the north door, where a monument was several years afterwards erected to his memory by Dr. Caius. By his will he devised it, with other estates, to the founding and endowing of three physical lectures, to be called Lynacre's lectures, two of which were to be in the university of Oxford, and one in that of Cambridge. Those in the former were, after some years, limited to Merton college there, by the survivor of his trustees, (Dr. Tunstall, the deprived bishop of Durham) and Frognal, as well as Tracies,

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another estate in this parish, which will be mentioned hereafter, were both settled in 1549 on that college, for the support and maintenance of them; for the performance of which trust, the warden and fellows of it still continue to own the inheritance of these estates.

John Trafford, gent. was lessee of Frognals and Tracies in 1649, and sold his interest in them to Nicholas Hurlestone, gent. of Redriff, who died in 1665, the rent to the college amounting coibs annis to about twenty-eight pounds per annum.

Robert Spearman, esq. of this parish, is the present lessee of these estates.

LEVENOKE was formerly accounted a manor, though even the name of it has long since fallen into oblivion. It was, however, certainly situated within the bounds of this parish, and is mentioned as such in several ancient deeds.

This manor, as appeared by an old court-roll, in the reigns of king Edward III. and Richard II. was in the possession of the family of Beaufitz, who were likewise possessed of estates in the neighbouring parish of Gillingham, in which it continued down to John Beaufitz, who died in the 12th year of Henry VI. by one of whose daughters and coheirs, Joane, it went in marriage to Robert Arnold, of Sussex, whose descendant William Arnold, of Rochester, in the reign of king Henry VIII. seems to have passed it away by sale to Thomas Knight, whose son of the same name was proprietor of it at the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth. His descendant alienated it in the reign of

king James I. to Goldsmith, as he did to Barrow, whose descendant having mortgaged it to Mr. Alston, of London, he, about the death of king Charles I. anno 1648, conveyed his interest in it to Mr. Lisle, of London. He afterwards gained possession of it under that title, and his heirs, though interrupted by several suits at law, still continued to enjoy the rents and profits of it; but the transfer of their interests in it has

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been, from time to time, so secretly managed, and the very name of this estate is so carefully concealed from every enquiry, that I have not, with the most industrious endeavours, been able to find out either the situation of this obsolete manor, or the owners of it, since those mentioned before.

TRACIES is an estate in this parish, situated almost adjoining to the south-west corner of the church-yard. It was formerly accounted a manor, though it has had for many years only the reputation left of having been one.

It was in very early times in the possession of owners of the name of Tracy, who settled their name on it; but whether they were of any, or what kindred to the family of Tracy, seated in Devonshire and Gloucestershire, I cannot find, though the coat of arms borne by these of Newington had a near affinity to those borne by the Tracys, of Gloucestershire. For Philipott says, that the Tracys of Newington bore for their arms, Argent, two bends, between nine escallops, gules, which has certainly an allusion to those borne by the Tracys, of Gloucestershire, viz. Or, two bars, gules, in the chief point an escallop, sable; the difference of the colours and the number of escallops being only a distinction, for this perhaps younger branch of the family. The above mentioned arms of Tracy were originally those of the elder branch of it, barons of Sudeley, who bore, Or, two bends, gules, to which William, the younger brother of Ralph, lord Sudeley, surnamed Tracy, as above-mentioned, added the escallop, as a distinction.

John de Tracy was possessed of Tracies, in Newington, in the reigns of king Henry III and king Edward I. and in the 26th year of the latter, Margery, late wife of John de Tracy, recovered against Sir John de Northwood, the elder, certain lands and rents in this parish, among which these of Tracys were in all likelihood included, to which he had made claim.

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In the 28th year of Edward III. Thomas, son of James Tracy, died possessed of this manor, with its appurtenances, in Newington, by the service of finding together with the manor of Lucy, one man and one horse, with a sack and a pack, viz. each by the moiety of the said service, for the carrying of the king's kitchen utensils, (*squillariam regis*; which I take to mean the furniture of the king's scullery,) as far as Wales, for his war there, as often as it should happen. Soon after which it seems this family became extinct here, though it seems to have remained elsewhere in this county, for the name of Tress, of Tresse, still remaining in it, is, with great probability supposed to be a corruption by length of time from that of Tracy. If so, it is not un-

likely but that the Tresses, settled for many years at Town Malling and Ofham, might be a branch of the Tracys, of Tracies, in Newington, before-mentioned; and the same coat of arms having been confirmed by Sir William Segar, garter, to Mr. Francis Tresse, gent. of Town-Malling, seems in some measure a confirmation of it.

This manor after this came into the possession of the family of Savage, for it appears by the escheat-rolls, that Sir Arnold Savage, of Bobbing, in this county, died possessed of it in the 49th year of Edward III. holding it by the like service.

From this time it had the like owners as the manor of Bobbing, till it came into the possession of Lewis Clifford, esq. sheriff anno 13 Henry VII/q. who passed away this manor by sale, in the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, to Thomas Lynacre, physician to that prince, as mentioned before, who died possessed of it in 1524, and by will devised it, with Frognall, in this parish, an estate which he likewise purchased about the same time, to trustees, towards the founding and endowing of physical lectures in the two universities of

/q See more of the Savages and Cliffords under Bobbing.

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Oxford and Cambridge, as has already been more fully mentioned before. Those in the former were after some years limited to Merton college, and both these estates of Tracys and Frognals, are now vested in the wardens and fellows of Merton college, for the above trust. Robert Spearman, esq. of this parish, is the present lessee of these estates.

AYINGTON is a manor in Newington, which has ever had the same owners as that of Bobbing, and as such is now the property of William Tyndale, esq. of North Cerney, in Gloucestershire.

THE MANOR OF WORNEDALE, alias Borden, lying in the southern part of this parish, and in Stockbury and Borden, had formerly possessors of the name of Wornedale; Richard de Wornedale owned it in the reign of Edward III. and left one son Thomas, and a daughter Maud, who on her brother's death unmarried, became his heir.

In later times it was owned by the family of Eve. Henry Eve, of Edwards, in Linsted, settled it in 1675, on his eldest son Henry, on his marriage with Dorothy, sister of James Ady, esq. of Barham, and their son Henry Eve, clerk, with Elizabeth his wife, sold it to Sir John Banks, bart. of Aylesford, one of whose daughters and coheirs, Elizabeth, marrying Heneage Finch, second son of Henry, earl of Nottingham, he became in her right, on the partition of her father's estates, entitled to it, and he was afterwards created earl of Aylesford. His son Heneage, second earl of Aylesford, becoming possessed of this manor on his father's death, alienated it in 1721, an act having that year passed for this purpose, to his next brother, the hon. John Finch, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Savile, esq. of Methley-hall, in Yorkshire, and having represented the town of Maidstone in several successive parliaments, died in 1740, possessed of this manor, in which he was succeeded by his only

son Savile Finch, esq. who died in 1788, and his heirs are now entitled to it.

CRANBROOKE is a manor, situated at a small distance southward of Newington-street, adjoining to the lane leading to Chesley-street and Stockbury.

It was formerly part of the possessions of Sir William Brooke, knight of the bath, son of George Brooke, third son of William, lord Cobham. He died about 1668, leaving four daughters his coheirs, of whom, Hill, the eldest, was married to Sir William Boothby, bart. Pembroke to Mathew Tomlinson, esq. Margaret to Sir John Denham, and Frances to Sir Thomas Whitmore, K. B.

Soon after which, Sir John Denham, and Margaret his wife, died s. p. and her share in this manor descended to her three sisters and their husbands.

After which it was sold to Sir John Fagg, bart. of Wiston, in Sussex, who died possessed of it in 1715, as did his son, of the same name, in 1736, leaving issue by Christian, daughter of Sir Cecil Bishop, bart. of Sussex, one son Robert, and four daughters, one of whom married Gawen Harris Nash, esq. of Petworth, in Sussex, and Elizabeth, another daughters, was the second wife of Sir Charles Mathews Goring, bart. of that county.

Sir Robert Fagg, bart. the son, succeeded his father in the possession of this manor, but dying in 1740 s. p. it became the property of his sisters, of whom, Elizabeth entitled her husband, Sir Charles Mathews Goring, bart. above-mentioned, to the possession of it. He left by her a son Charles Goring, esq. who sold it with the rest of his estates in this parish and Stockbury, to Edw. Austen, esq. of Rolling, the present owner of it.

KEYCOLE is an estate in this parish, lying on the high road about a mile eastward of Newington-street, which house stands at the foot of the hill, close to the

/r See Cowling, vol. iii. of this history, p. 520.

edge of the woods, and is become a place, noted for the Roman remains found on it. This estate formerly belonged to Sir John Garrard, knight and baronet, but it has been for many years past in the family of Westbrooke, and is now the property of John Westbrooke, esq. of Forest-hall, in Essex.

A branch of the family of Diggs, of Barham, in this county, was for several generations settled in this parish, to which Odomarus Diggs, younger son of John Diggs, of Barham, by Juliana his wife, sister and heir of James Horne, removed, being possessed of much land here, and in the neighbouring parishes, and in queen Elizabeth's reign the estate was in the possession of Christopher Diggs, gent. of Barham.

The family of Holbrooke was possessed of lands in Newington, one of whom, George Holbrooke, resided here in the reign of queen Elizabeth. His descendant Francis Holbrooke, lies buried in the south chancel of this church. The visitation of this county, anno 1619, in their pedigree, has their arms, Azure, a cross, or, fretty of the field, between four mullets, pierced of the first. But Edmondson, in his Heraldry,

says, they bore a chevron, between ten cross-crosetts, which is corroborated by the grave-stone over Francis Holbrooke before-mentioned, on which are the figures in brass of him and his two wives, with ten children behind the first wife, and three behind the second; on one shield of arms, On a chevron, a lion's head erased, between ten cross-crosetts; on another, quarterly, first and fourth, the same arms as above-mentioned; second and third, On a fess, three plates, between three bears heads, erased, and muzzled.

John Cobham, alias Brooke, third son of George, lord Cobham, and brother of Sir William Brooke, knight of the garter, and lord Cobham, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was owner of much land in this parish, and

/s Pedigree of Diggs, Vistn. co. Kent, 1619.

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dying in 1594, was buried under a monument in the high chancel of this church. He married Anne, daughter and heir of Cobb, and widow of Sir John Norton, who died in 1580, and lies buried here near her second husband.

CHARITIES.

THREE QUARTERS of wheat are payable yearly out of the parsonage to the poor of this parish, on Old Lady-day for ever.

MR. SIMON TOMLYN, by will in 1684, gave a barn and three yards of land to the minister, churchwardens, and their successors for ever, for the use of the poor, to buy twelve penny loaves, to be distributed on each Sunday in the year, to such as should be present at divine service, of the annual produce of 5l. 4s.

A PIECE OF LAND, containing near two acres, lying in the Playstool, alias Wellfield, in Halstow, called the clerk's piece, was given by a person unknown to the use of the parish clerk here for ever, vested in the churchwardens, and of the annual produce of 2l. 1s.

The poor constantly relieved are about thirty; casually, including vagrants and passes, near four hundred yearly.

NEWINGTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a handsome building, consisting of three isles and two chancels, with a square beacon tower at the west end. On the north side of the high chancel is the lower part of a square tower, which reaches at present no higher than the roof of the church, where it has a flat covering. There was some good painted glass formerly in the windows of this church, and among others, the arms of Leyborne, Azure, six lions rampant, three, two, and one, argent; of Northwood; of Lucy, as well with the crosetts as without; of Burwash; Diggs impaling Monins; Norton impaling Northwood; Beresford; Diggs; Horne; of the cinque ports; of the see of Canterbury; of archbishops Becket and Warham; of Holbrooke, and of Brooke.

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The south chancel of this church belongs to the parish, who keep it in repair. In it were, till within these few years, among many others now defaced,

memorials of Brian Diggs and his wife, anno 1490; of Thomas Holbrook, gent, anno 1587; of Francis Holbrook, gent. of this parish, in 1581, and a tomb for Sir John Norton. A stone, with the figure of a woman, and an inscription in brass for Mary Brook, alias Cobham, widow of Edward Brook, alias Cobham, esq. obt. 1600.

Against the north wall of this chancel is a monument for Joseph Hasted, gent. of Chatham, obt. 1732, possessed of a good estate in this parish. His remains, with those of his wife Catherine, daughter of Richard Yardley, gent. lie deposited in one coffin, in a vault under this chancel, in which are likewise the remains of their only son and heir Edward Hasted, esq. of Hawley, near Dartford, obt. 1740; of Anne, his only daughter, widow of captain James Archer, and of George Hasted, gent. obt. 1787, *adolescens optimæ spei*, the third son of the editor of this history.

The church of Newington was given in the 25th year of Henry II. anno 1178, to the abbey of Westwood, alias Lesnes, in Erith, then founded by Richard de Lucy, which gift was confirmed, among other possessions of that monastery, by king John, in his 7th year.

Notwithstanding which the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, to whom part of the manor of Newington had come in the above-mentioned reign, as has been already related, claimed this church from time to time, as having been given to their monastery by Richard de Lucy above-mentioned. After much dispute, during which Thorne, their chronicler, says, the abbey of St. Augustine kept possession of it, it was at last, by the interposition of their common friends, agreed between them, that the abbot of St. Augustine's should release to

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the abbot of Lesnes all right to the advowson of this church, for which the latter agreed to make a recompence in other matters, as mentioned in the agreement. The abbot and convent of Lesnes, having thus gained the firm possession of this church, obtained a confirmation of it from the several succeeding kings, and it remained part of the revenues of their monastery till the final dissolution of it, in the 17th year of Henry VIII. when, being one of those smaller monasteries which cardinal Wolsey obtained of the king that year, for the endowment of his colleges, it was surrendered into the cardinal's hands, to whom the king granted his licence next year, to appropriate and annex this church of Newington, among others, of the cardinal's patronage, to the dean and canons of the college founded by him in the university of Oxford, &c. But this church remained with them only four years, when the cardinal being cast in *præmunire*, all the estates of the college, which had not as yet been firmly settled on it, were forfeited to the crown.

How long this appropriated church, with the advowson of the vicarage, remained in the crown, I have not found; but at the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, it was become part of the possessions of the royal college of Eton, in Buckinghamshire, where it continues at this time.

The parsonage is leased out from time to time on a beneficial lease. The advowson of the vicarage, the provost and fellows keep in their own hands.

The glebe land belonging to the parsonage contains twenty-two acres, and upwards. The family of Short were for many years tenants of it.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 14l. per annum, and the yearly tenths at 1l. 8s. It is now of the clear yearly certified value of seventy-two pounds.

/t Decem. Script. 1930. Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 178.

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In 1578 the dwelling-houses in this parish were seventy-seven. Communicants two hundred and thirty-six. In 1640 it was valued at seventy pounds. Communicants two hundred and five.

The glebe land belonging to the vicarage, consists of only one acre, besides the homestall. The annual value of the vicarage is very precarious, owing to the income of it arising much from fruit and hops, the latter of which have of late years much increased the value of it.

CHURCH OF NEWINGTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Provost and fellows of Eton. Thomas Gathesende, March 14,
1583, obt. 1613.

Mathew Donatt, A. M. Jan. 5,
1613.

Henry Deering, November 24,
1626, obt. 1666./u

Adam Reve, A. B. Sept. 14,
1666, resigned 1684.

The Archbishop. James Stratton, A. M. Feb. 27,
1684, obt. 1693.

Provost and fellows of Eton. Thomas Milway, clerk, Feb. 26,
1693.

John Goodyer, A. M. Jan. 3,
1708, obt. 1715.

John Burman, A. M. May 5,
1715, obt. April 13, 1726./w

Robert Tyler, Sept. 19, 1726,
resigned 1740./x

The crown, by lapse Sir Hugh Burdett, bart. Feb. 18,
1742, obt. 1760./y

Provost and fellows of Eton John Saunders, A. M. Dec. 22,
1760, the present vicar./z

/u He was very studious in antiquity and a great friend of the learned Meric Casaubon.

/w Also vicar of Bobbing, and formerly fellow of University college, Oxford.

/x And vicar of Sittingborne. See St. Laurence in Thanet, of which he was vicar.

/y Second son of Sir Francis Burdett, bart. of Burthwaite, in Yorkshire.

/z In 1768 he was presented to the

vicarage of Farningham, which he holds with this vicarage.

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BORDEN

IS the next parish eastward from Newington. The name of which seems to be derived from the Saxon words Burg and dena, signifying a mansion or town among the woods.

THIS PARISH lies nearly midway between Newington and Sittingborne, and contains about 1550 acres of land, of which two hundred are wood. The high London road runs along the north side of it, whence the ground rises southward for about a mile, (leaving the house of Cryals at about half that distance) to the village of Borden, through which there is but little thoroughfare. It is plainly seen from the high road, encircled by orchards of fruit trees, with the church and Borden-hall standing within it, a little to the eastward is the vicarage, a neat pretty dwelling. The land about the village, and northward of it is very fertile, being mostly a hazely mould, the plantations of fruit here, though many are not so numerous as formerly, for being worn out, no new ones have been planted in their room, and several of them have been converted into hop-grounds. This part of the parish, though it may certainly be deemed pleasant, yet from the water from the wells not being good, is not accounted healthy; southward of the village the ground still rising, it grows very hilly, and the land poor and much covered with flint stones, and the soil chalky, which renders the water wholesome, and this part much more healthy; about half a mile southward from the village is the house of Sutton Barne, and a small distance eastward Wrens, now called Rains farm, and a small hamlet called Heart's Delight. On the opposite side from Sutton Barne is the hamlet of Wood, formerly called Hode-street, situated on high

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ground; at a small distance eastward from which is a long tract of woodland, in which there is a great plenty of chesnut stubs, whence they are usually known by the name of chesnut woods. These woods reach down the side of the hill to the Detling road, and the western boundary of this parish.

In 1695, in the sinking of a cellar by Dr. Plot, at Sutton Barne, several Roman bricks were found, with their edges upward, much like those, he says, which had been turned up at the antient Roman Sælonicæ, near Ellestre, in Middlesex; and near Hoad-street was, about the same time, found an antient British coin.

In the fields southward of the village, the stones affect a globular form, where there are numbers of them, of different magnitudes; but the biggest of them was ploughed up at Sutton Barne, by Dr. Plot's tenant, exactly globular, and as big as the largest cannon ball.

In 1676, Dr. Thomas Taylor found in Fridwood, in this parish, belonging to his uncle Dr. Plot, an oak,

which bore leaves speckled with white; such a one, Mr. Evelyn informs us, in his Discourse on Forest Trees, from Dr. Childrey, was found in Lanhadron-park, in Cornwall.

THE JURISDICTION of the paramount manor of Milton claims over this parish, subordinate to which is THE MANOR OF SUTTON, alias SUTTON BARNE, as it is corruptly now called, its antient name being Sutton Baron, which addition it took, undoubtedly, from the court baron of the manor held for it. It is situated about a mile southward of the church and village of Borden, and in the reign of Richard II. was in the possession of Angelus Christopher, who with Margaret his wife, passed it away, in the 17th year of that reign, by fine then levied, to Henry Vanner, ci=

/a Plot's MSS. See Camden's Brit. p. 359.

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tizen of London, who paid them one hundred marcs of silver for the purchase of it. He sold it that year to John Wotton, clerk, master of the college of All Saints, in Maidstone, who reserving an annual rent of ten pounds from it, for the term of his life, conveyed it, in the 10th year of king Henry IV. to William Bereford, by whom it was alienated in the 19th year of king Henry VI. to Mr. John Grangeman, of this parish, whose son Nicholas Grangeman, in the 29th year of that reign, passed it away to Stephen and John Norton, one of whose descendants, Alexander Norton, esq. by his will, in the 4th and 5th year of king Philip and queen Mary, devised his estates here, among which this manor was included, to John Coty and Alice his wife, Thomas Plot and Elizabeth his wife, Thomas and Alexander Pettenden, Norton Greene, Thomas and Edward Norton, and their heirs, who being afterwards much at variance concerning their respective portions in them, they were divided, according to the judgment of Ambrose Gilbert, and Roger Manwood, as appears by their award.

But the manor of Sutton Barne, not being so conveniently to be divided among so many, they finally agreed that year, to pass it away to William Cromer, esq. and John Dryland; the former of whom, in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth, sold it, together with a wood, called Fridd-wood, in this parish, to Mr. Robert Plot, of Borden, one of the sons of Mr. Alexander Plot, of Stockbury, in which parish his ancestors had been settled in the reign of Edward IV. and bore for their arms, Vert, three quaterfoils, argent, each charged with a lion's head, erased, sable. His great grandson, of the same name, resided here, and made great additions to this seat./b

He was born here in 1641, and became a most learned antiquarian, and excellent natural historian,

/b Taken from the MSS. account of Dr. Plot.

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of which his histories of Oxfordshire and Staffordshire are sufficient proofs. Being educated at Oxford, he commenced LL. D. and became fellow, and afterwards secretary of the Royal Society, historiographer to king James II. Mowbray herald extraordinary, and

lastly, register of the court of honor. He died in 1696, at Sutton Barne, and was buried in the church of Borden, where there is a handsome monument erected to his memory.

Dr. Plot left two sons, Robert and Ralph Sherwood, of Newington, the eldest of whom inherited this manor, and at his death gave it by his will to Mr. John Palmer, who had married his only daughter Rebecca. He survived her, and at his death devised it to his second wife, and Mr. John Lucas, of Milton, whose respective heirs, about the year 1767, joined in the sale of it to Abraham Chambers, esq. of London, who for some time resided at Sutton Barne, till he removed to Tonstall. He died in 1782, leaving by his wife, daughter of Mr. James, of London, four sons, and one daughter Maria Emely, who afterwards became jointly entitled to this manor, among his other estates in this county, and they, after some years possession of them, made a division of them, when this manor became the property of the eldest son, Samuel Chambers, esq. of Tonstall, who married one of the daughters of the hon. Philip Roper, and he is the present owner of this manor. A court baron is held for it.

CRIOLS, alias KYRIELLS, with an appendage to it, called Poyles, the very name of which has been long since forgotten, is a manor here, which in early times was in the possession of the eminent family of Criol, who fixed their name on it, as they did on other estates belonging to them in different parts of this county.

Bertram de Criol died possessed of it in the 23d year of king Edward I. anno 1294, whose son John de Criol dying in the 34th year of that reign, s. p. Joane

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his sister, married to Sir Richard de Rokesle, became his heir, and entitled her husband to this manor.

He left by her two daughters his coheirs, of whom Agnes, the eldest, married Thomas de Poynings, who in her right became possessed of it, and in his name and descendants it continued down to Sir Edward Poynings, governor of Dover-castle, and lord warden, and he died possessed of it in the 14th year of king Henry VIII. anno 1522, not only without legitimate issue, though he had several natural children, but without any collateral kindred, who could lay claim to his estates, so that this manor, among others, escheated to the crown./c

After which, king Henry VIII. granted this manor to Sir Thomas Wyatt, who in pursuance of an act passed for the purpose, in the 32d year of that reign, conveyed it back among other premises in the year following, in exchange to the king. After which it seems to have remained in the hands of the crown, till the year after the attainder and execution of his son Sir Thomas Wyatt, when queen Mary, in her second year, out of her royal bounty, granted it to his widow, the lady Jane Wyatt, to hold of her, as of her manor of Est Grenewich, by knight's service, and not in capite. This grant seems to have been only for the term of her life, and of her son George Wyatt, who was restored in blood in the 13th year of queen Elizabeth, during which time the reversion of it was

granted by king James, in his 16th year, to Thomas Hooker and John Spencer, gent. who joining in a fine levied for that purpose, settled it on the heirs of Geo. Wyatt, esq. above-mentioned. He died in the possession of it in 1624, when Francis Wyatt, esq. of Boxley-abbey, was found to be his eldest son and heir,

/c See more of the families of Rokesle and Poynings, under North Cray, vol. ii. of this history, p. 152.

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and accordingly succeeded to it. (fn. 4) He was afterwards knighted, and some years afterwards joining with lady Margaret his wife, conveyed it by sale to Mr. Isaac Seward, gent. from which name it afterwards passed into that of Baker, in which it remained till it was carried in marriage by Jane Baker to James Brewer, of West Farleigh, esq. who died in 1724, leaving an only daughter and heir Jane, who joined with her second husband, John Shrimpton, esq. in the conveyance of it, about the year 1750, to Mr. Robert Wollet, of Sheerness, who died in 1760, and his infant daughter, Sarah, afterwards marrying with Mr. Tho. March, entitled him to it. He rebuilt this seat, and afterwards resided in it. He died in 1797, leaving one son, Mr. Thomas Marsh, who is the present owner of it.

POSERS is a small manor in this parish, which was antiently the inheritance of a family of that surname, who continued owners of it till the reign of king Henry VIII. about which time they became extinct here. After which it became the property of the family of Wolgate, whose seat was at Wolgate, now called Wilgate-green, in Throwley, where they resided for several generations. At length it became the property of Mr. Ralph Wolgate, who died possessed of it in 1642, leaving an only daughter and heir, who marrying with Mr. William Gennery, entitled him to the fee of this manor, with other estates in this parish. After which it was sold to Grove, of Tunstall, one of whom, John Grove, esq. of Tunstall, died possessed of it in 1755, leaving by Catherine his wife, daughter of Mr. Pearce, of Charing, two sons, Pearce and Richard, and a daughter Anne. He devised this manor to his second son Richard Grove, esq. of the Temple, London, and of St. John's college, Cambridge, who dying unmarried in 1792, devised it among the rest of

/d See more of the Wyatts under Boxley and Allington, vol. iv. p. 337, 450.

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his estates to W. Jemmet, gent. of Ashford, and W. Marshall, of London, and they joined in the sale of it to W. Wise, gent. of this parish, who is the present possessor of this manor, with that of Vigo, alias Gorts adjoining to it.

THERE was antiently a family which took its name from their possessions in this parish. Philip de Borden is mentioned in the chartulary of the abbey of St. Radigund, as having given half a seam of peas yearly from his manor in Borden to that abbey, and Osbert de Borden is recorded in a charter of king Henry III. and another of Henry IV. as having given pasture for sixty sheep to the monastery of St. Sexburg, in the

Isle of Shepey.

There is A HAMLET in this parish, called Woodstreet, but formerly HOADE STREET, corruptly for Oade-street, the yoke of which in 1653, was held by William Genery, already mentioned before.

The family of Allen was formerly of good account in Borden, and resided at Hoad, or Oade street. John Allen resided here in the very beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, and then held among other premises in this parish, the yoke of Boxfield. His descendant John Allen, gent. of Oade-street, died in 1679, and was buried in this church, they bore for their arms, Or, a chevron, between three blood-bounds, passant, sable, collared of the first; which coat was granted to Christopher Allen, by Sir William Segar, bart. The Arms of Rochester, descended of the same stock, bore Parted per fess, a pale ingrailed, and three blood-bounds, passant, collared and counterchanged.

A younger branch of the family of Forster, of Eveleigh, in Shropshire, was settled in Borden in the reign of king James I. Thomas Forster then residing here; but this family have been long ago extinct here. They bore for their arms, Per fess, indented and pale, argent

/e See Guillim, p. 196. Vistn. co. Kent, 1619. Pedig. Allen.

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and sable, two bugle horns strung in the first and fourth quarters, counterchanged.

Thomas Seager held in this parish in 1653, the yoke of Corbett, containing a house, called Bansies, and other lands in this parish, lately belonging to Thomas Reader; which name of Seager remained here till of late years, one of them having but lately owned a house here, called Borden-hall, alias Borden-court belonging to the rectory, of which a further account will be given hereafter.

The family of Napleton, which was possessed of good estates in many parishes of this county, resided here for some generations; but they have been for some time extinct. Several of them lie buried in this church. They bore for their arms, Or, a squirrel sejant, gules.

There is an estate in this parish, formerly called WRENS, but now usually Rains farm, which in 1664 was held of Tunstall manor, by Richard, son of Christopher Allen, esq. from which name it was passed away to Mr. Butler Lacy, and his daughters now possess it.

CHARITIES.

THOMAS EVERARD, formerly vicar of this parish, gave by will in 1619, two pieces of land, containing about six acres, in Borden and Stockbury, for the use of the poor, of the annual value of 1l. 10s. and a silver cup for the use of the communion service.

MICHAEL GOODLARD, of Borden, gave a house, with an orchard and garden, to the use of the poor, of the annual produce of 4l.

A PERSON UNKNOWN, gave five seams of barley, to be paid yearly on a Good Friday out of the parsonage; and two bushels of wheat yearly on Easter-day, for the use of the poor farmers of this parish.

MR. JOHN KENWARD gave one seam of malt, to be paid yearly on Ascension Thursday, out of some tithe-free land belonging to a farm at Oade-street, late Mrs. Hendresse's.

A PERSON UNKNOWN, gave five groats-worth of bread, to be paid yearly on Easter day, out of a house and orchard called Iron-latche, late belonging to Mr. Stephen Chapman, of Sittingborne.

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MR. RALPH SHERWOOD, citizen of London, in 1700 gave a cushion and pulpit-cloth, and a cloth for the reading-desk.

MR. JOHN NAPLETON, and Elizabeth his wife, of this parish, gave a very handsome silver flaggon for the use of the communion.

MR. JOHN BROMFIELD, of Borden, in 1776, gave to the value of 10l. towards erecting the altar-piece.

MR. WILLIAM BARROW, of Borden, who died in 1707, devised the greatest part of his estates in this and many other parishes in this county, to four trustees, to the use of the poor widows and poor men of this parish, not entitled to receive alms, directing the rents of them to be distributed half yearly, the annual amount of them now being 609l. 17s. 6d.

The distribution of this charity was settled and established by a decree of the court of chancery, in the 8th year of queen Anne; by which it was ordered, that the income of this estate should be distributed half yearly to the poor men and poor widows of this parish, the poorest of it next above those who ought to be entitled to relief by the poor's rate; that the proportion of the distribution ought to be equal to all, and not less than 5l. in one year to each; that the trustees should account annually to a vestry of this parish, who should pass and allow the same, and should be allowed their costs and expences in the managing of it. According to which decree this charity is now managed.

Two of the trustees act yearly, one of whom makes the Lady-day distribution, and the other that at Michaelmas. The total annual rents now amount to the sum of 584l. 16s. besides forty acres of woodland, and the clear sum distributed, after all payments and deductions, amounts to about 200l. per annum.

The poor relieved annually, (exclusive of those by Mr. Barrow's charity) are about 28, casually 30.

BORDEN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a handsome building, consisting of three isles and three chancels, with a square tower at the west end of it, in which there is a clock, and six bells. It is built mostly of flint, but as a mark of its antiquity, it has a Roman brick or two interspersed among them, and the mortar is composed of cockle-shells. What is very remarkable, in the steeple there are the remains of a chimney, which seems coeval with it. The door-case on the western side of the steeple is of

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Saxon architecture, with zigzag ornaments, as is that on the opposite or inner side, but of a much larger size. It is kept exceedingly clean and neat, and the greatest part of it has been lately ceiled, that part of it over the high chancel, at the expence of the lay proprietor. In the high chancel is a brass plate and effigies for William Fordinall, vicar, obt. anno 1490.

Several of the family of Plot lie buried in the south chancel, and there are monuments for Robert Plot, anno 1669, and his son Dr. Robert Plot, anno 1696; and there are among others in this church memorials for the Seagars, Barrows, Napletons, and Allens, all of whom have been mentioned before.

The church of Borden was part of the possessions of the priory of Leeds, to which it was appropriated before the 8th of king Richard II.^f In which situation it continued at the dissolution of it in the 31st year of Henry VIII. when it was, together with the other possessions of the priory, surrendered up into the king's hands.

It appears by the bailiff's accounts in the Augmentation-office, of the revenues of the late priory of Leeds, that this rectory with the lands in this parish belonging to it, was then of the annual value of 41l. 14s. 5d. Soon after which it was granted by the king to Greene, but it seems to have been only for a term, for king Edward VI. in his 6th year, granted it, with all messuages and woods belonging to it, to Sir John Norton, of Northwood, to hold in capite by knight's service. He alienated it to Margaret Roch, who died in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, and was succeeded in it by Elizabeth her daughter and heir, whose husband, Robert Colt, possessed it in her right. She survived him and died possessed of it, in the 13th year of that reign, at which time it appears to have been accounted a manor, and to have consisted of a

^f Thorn's Chron. Decem. Script. col. 2166.

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house called Borden-hall, with its appurtenances, and three acres of land, with the rectory, tithes, and glebe belonging to it, in Borden. Her son Roger Colt died three years afterwards, leaving his widow Mary surviving, who afterwards married John Norris, esq. His grandson, Sir John Colt, bart. left three sons, John, Rowland, and Henry, who became entitled to this rectory and advowson, with the manor and lands appertaining to it, as coheirs to their father, in gavelkind; the eldest son, John Colte, esq. was of Rickmansworth, in Hertfordshire, and left an only daughter and heir, Gentiles, who entitled her husband, Sir Benjamin Titchborne, (a younger son of Sir Benjamin Tichborne, bart. of Hampshire) to his undivided third part of them, and his son Colte Tichborne, esq. of Woodoaks, in Hertfordshire, (which had been the antient seat of the Coltes) conveyed it jointly with his sister Frances in 1743, to Joseph Musgrave, esq. Rowland and Henry, the two younger sons of Sir John Colte above-mentioned, in 1676 conveyed their respective thirds to Mr. Charles Seager, gent. of Tunstall, whose son and heir of the same name was of Borden-hall, gent. and dying in 1758, was buried, with others of his family in this church. They bore for their arms, Or, a chevron between three mullets, azure. He devised them by will to his sister Mrs. Mary Seager, who in 1765 conveyed her two undivided thirds to Joseph Musgrave, esq. son of Joseph Musgrave, esq. above-mentioned, who having inherited the other third part from his father, became possessed

of the entire fee of this rectory and advowson, with the manor of Borden-hall, and the lands and appurtenances belonging to it, of which he is the present owner. Joseph Musgrave, is of Kypier, in the bishopric of Durham, and is descended from Joseph Musgrave, esq. of that place, the eldest son of George, the youngest son of Sir Christopher Musgrave, by his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Frank-

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lyn, which Sir Christopher, by his first wife, was ancestor of the present Sir Philip Musgrave, of Edenhall, in Cumberland, and of Kempton park, in Middlesex, bart. and was younger brother of Sir Richard Musgrave, bart. grandson of Sir Richard, who was created a baronet anno 9 James I. He bears for his arms, Azure, six annulets, three, two, and one, or.

The vicarage of Borden is valued in the king's books at 8l. 10s. and the yearly tenths at seventeen shillings. It is now of the yearly certified value of 67l. 14s. Sir John Norton, and Alice his wife, gave an annuity of forty shillings, to be paid yearly out of the parsonage, to the vicar of Borden and his successors. In 1578 there were fifty-three dwelling-houses in this parish. Communicants one hundred and sixty. In 1640 it was valued at eighty pounds. Communicants two hundred and seven.

A part of the portion of tithes, already mentioned in the description of the parish of Stockbury, called Ambry Tanton, extends into this parish.

There seems to have been continual disputes between the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, and the prior and convent of Leeds, relative to the church of Borden, which at last was finally settled between them, about the year 1204; the prior agreeing to pay one marc of silver to the church of St. Augustine.

CHURCH OF BORDEN.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

John Norris, esq. in right of Mary
his wife, widow of R. Colte, esq. Richard Parteriche, ind. Feb. 22,
1593, obt. 1611.

The King, hac vice. Thomas Evered, A. M. Feb. 13,
1611, obt. 1619.

Michael Beresford, A. M. June
12, 1619, obt. 1648.

John Colte, esq. of Rickmansworth John Woodcock, obt. 1657.
Thomas Griffin, obt. 1670.

Thomas Haines, A. M. Sept. 24,
1670.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Anne Colte. Thomas Milway, A. B. May 26,
1673, vacated 1690.

The crown, by lapse. William Edward, A. M. Feb. 3,
1690, obt. 1704.

Sir Benjamin Titchborne. John Bland, A. M. 1704, obt.
1710.

Ralph Milway, A. M. May 16,
1710, obt. 1759.g

Mary Seager, of Borden, spinster. John Smith, A. M. April 15,
1760, obt. Nov. 11, 1768.

Joseph Musgrave, esq. Thomas Frank, LL. B. Nov. 30.
1768, obt. 1794./h

William Filmer, A. M. 1794,
the present vicar.

/g He died in the Isle of Scilly, this
vicarage having been sequestered for
the space of twenty-seven years.

/h And vicar of Stockbury by dis=
pensation in 1768, for which he re=
signed the vicarage of Darent.

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TUNSTALL

LIES the next parish eastward from Borden. It
is usually called by the common people Dunstall,
a name by which it is not unfrequently described in
antient deeds and writings, and which seems very ex=
pressive of its situation, dun, or dune, in the Saxon
language signifying a hill, and stealle, a place. Indeed
this seems to have been its original name, and the for=
mer, by which it is described in Domesday, a mistake
of the Norman scribes, who frequently, and perhaps
for the purpose, mistook the pronunciation of their
Saxon informers.

THE PARISH adjoins to Sittingborne northward,
whence towards the south it rises to high ground,
among the hills, and to a chalky barren country co=
vered with flints, the southern and eastern boundaries
extending among the woods, those in the latter being
still called from the former owners, Cromer woods.
It is in compass about five miles, and contains near

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nine hundred acres of land, of which about one hun=
dred and forty are wood. The village, with the
church and parsonage, a small modern house, stands
nearly in the centre of the parish, and near them Tun=
stall-house, which though not large, yet has the look
of some respectability. At no great distance from
the church stood the unfinished mansion of the Cro=
mer's, erected in the beginning of king James the 1st.'s
reign, as mentioned before, the materials of it were not
long afterwards purchased by Sir Robert Viner, and
used in the building of his house in Lombard-street,
now the General Post-office, and nothing was left re=
maining but the foundations and vaulted cellars,
which were afterwards known by the name of the
Ruins, and were for many years afterwards the rendez=
vous of thieves and beggars, who at last became so
great a nuisance to the neighbourhood, that these
vaults were blown up with gunpowder, and otherwise
destroyed, to prevent future resort to them. At the
east end of Tunstall-green stands the house built for
Sir John Hales's son during his minority, in the latter
end of king Charles the 1st.'s reign. He afterwards
resided in it, but after the family removed to St. Ste=
phen's, it was left uninhabited for many years, and in
the late Sir John Hales's time fell almost to ruins.
It has since been repaired, and being but a mean build=
ing, is let accordingly. About half a mile southward

from hence is Grove-end, the antient habitation of the Cromer's, now only a farm-house, but where the manor-court of Tunstall is still kept; and near a mile south-eastward Mr. Chambers's seat at Pistock, a neat modern built house, situated in a romantic country, almost surrounded by the woods. In the lower part of the parish near Sittingborne, is Gore-court, the house of which has been rebuilt in a costly manner by Mr. Harpur, and not far from it westward Upton manor. Almost the whole of the parish, but especially the lower part of it, must be called unhealthy,

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both as to air and water, and yet the number of inhabitants in the space of the last two hundred years have been nearly doubled, for in 1557 the number of households here were no more than sixteen, and the parishioners sixty; since which it appears they have so greatly increased, that in 1757 there were households twenty, and parishioners one hundred and seventy.

In 1738 several hundred broad pieces of gold were dug up in a small wood near the ruins mentioned before. They were casually discovered by a boy, but the person who gained possession of them not being able to keep the secret, he was afterwards obliged to refund six hundred and twenty four of these pieces to the crown, though Sir John Hales claimed the whole, not only as lord of the manor, but from their having been hid there by his ancestor during the civil wars, the fact of which was remembered by a person then living, together with a large quantity of jewels, which latter has been sought for, but without any success.

In the time of king Edward the Confessor, Tunstall was in the possession of Oswald, a Saxon, who probably continued owner of it till the great change of property made in this kingdom by the Conqueror, who gave it, with other great estates in this county, to his half-brother, the bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday, taken about the 15th year of that reign:

In the half lath of Middeltone, in Mildetone hundred, Hugo de Port holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Tunestelle. It was taxed at three sulings and an half. The arable land is four carucates. In demesne there are two, and nine villeins, with one carucate, and nine servants. Wood for the pannage of ten hogs, and a salt-pit of twelve-pence. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth seven pounds, now eight pounds. Osuuard held it of king Edward.

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Four years after which, on the bishop's disgrace, the king seized on all his possessions; upon which Hugo de Port, who before held the manor of Tunstall of the bishop, became immediate tenant to the king for it, as his supreme lord.

Of this family, as lords paramount, it was held in the reign of king Henry II. by Manasser Arsic, who, in the 12th year of it, held one knight's fee, of the old feoffment, of John, grandson of Hugh de Port be=

fore-mentioned. His grandson John Arsic, married Margaret, daughter of Richard de Vernun, and died s. p. about the 7th year of king John's reign, leaving Robert de Arsic, his brother, his heir, who alienated this manor to Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, and chief justice of England, a man as eminent as he was unfortunate, who tasted the vicissitudes of fortune oftener than any other person perhaps within the compass of our English annals. During his continuance in the king's favor, in the 12th year of Henry III.'s reign, he obtained that king's confirmation of this manor, among others which he had purchased, to himself and Margaret his wife, the king of Scotland's sister. After which, having, for upwards of sixteen years, gone through a variety of sufferings, and being wholly worn out with troubles, he was permitted at last to enjoy those possessions in peace, which the king had left him. But he survived this calm only a few years, and died at Bansted, in Surry, in the 27th year of that reign, anno 1240; and was buried in the church of the Friars Preachers, commonly called the Black Friars, in Holborne, to which convent he had been a munificent benefactor./i

He left two sons, John and Hubert, and two daughters, one of whom Margaret married Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester. After his death, Margaret his widow possessed this manor in dower. She died in the

/i See a full account of his life in vol. i. of this history, p. 136.

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44th year of king Henry III. when, as appears by inquisition, her eldest son John de Burgo became entitled to it, who afterwards obtained a charter of free-warren for this manor, among others.

He did not enjoy the title of earl of Kent, which seems to have disgusted him so much, that he attached himself to the confederated barons; for which he was pardoned by the general pacification at Kenelworth. When he died, I find no mention made, but that he left John his son and heir, who became possessed of this manor, and died in the 8th year of king Edward I. anno 1279, leaving three daughters his coheirs, of whom Margerie married to Stephen de Penchester, entitled her husband to it, whose second wife she was./k

He was then warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover castle, and the same year that he came into the possession of the manor of Tunstall, he claimed, and was allowed, all the usual privileges of a manor for it. He resided both at Allington and Penshurst, and dying soon after the 31st year of that reign, left his wife Margerie surviving, who died in the 2d year of king Edward II. having been remarried to Robert de Orreby, by whom she had a son, John de Orreby, clerk. By the inquisition taken after her death, at Dunstall that year, she was found to hold this manor for her life of John de St. John, by knight's service, and that Joane, the wife of Henry de Cobeham, of Rundale, and Alice, of John de Columbers, were her daughters and coheirs, by Sir Stephen de Penchester, her husband.

Alice de Columbers died about the 7th year of

king Edward III.'s reign, possessed of one moiety of this manor, and leaving two sons, Sir Philip de Colubers, and Stephen de Colubers, clerk; but she seems, sometime before her death, to have passed away

/k See Inquis post mortem ejusdem Margeriæ, anno 2 Edward II.

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her moiety to Sir Henry de Cobham, possessor of the other moiety, who then became possessed of the entire fee of it. He died in the beginning of the reign of king Edward II. leaving one son Stephen de Cobham, of Rundale, who was knighted anno 34 Edward I./l In the 7th year of king Edward III. Stephen de Cobham, of Dunstalle, claimed in his manor of Tunstalle, tumbrell, assize of bread and ale, and free-warren in all his demesne lands within it, as appears by the pleas of the crown of that year.

His son John seems to have alienated it to Sir Walter Manny, who in the 20th year of Edward III. paid aid for it, as one knight's fee. Sir Walter Manny was an alien born, and was lord of the town of that name in the diocese of Cambray, and rose to great honor and preferments by his military achievements. He bore for his arms, Or, three chevronels, sable, as they were painted in one of the windows of this church. He died in the 46th year of that reign, and was buried in the monastery of the Carthusians, of which he had laid the foundation that year. His death was much lamented by the king and the nation in general, so that his obsequies were performed with great solemnity, king Edward and all his children, with the great prelates and barons of the realm, being present at them.

He left by Margaret Marshal, countess of Norfolk and lady of Segrave, as she then stiled herself, who survived him, an only daughter Anne, the wife of John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, son of Lawrence, earl of Pembroke, who became possessed of this manor in his wife's right, and having before gained great reputation for his valour in France, was afterwards made lieutenant of Aquitaine; but being unfortunately taken prisoner by the Spaniards, at the siege of Rochel, he was kept a prisoner in Spain for

/l See Shorne, vol. iii. of this history, p. 448.

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some years, where he is supposed to have been poisoned, for on his release he fell sick in his way home, before he could reach Calais, and dying anno 49 Edward III. and being brought over was buried in the choir of the Friars Preachers, at Hereford. He was the first subject who bore for his arms two coats quarterly, viz. first, Hastings, and secondly, Valence. His son bore four coats quarterly, viz. first, Brotherton; second, Hastings; third, Valence; fourth, as the first./m

He was succeeded in this manor by John his only son, who was afterwards killed at a tournament at Woodstock, anno 13 Richard II. in the 17th year of his age, being a youth of a noble and most liberal disposition, which made his death to be much lamented. He had, some years before, though so very young, married Philippa, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, earl

of March, by whom he left no issue, upon which Reginald, lord Grey of Ruthin, was found by inquisition to be his cousin and next heir of the whole blood, and as such, at the coronation of king Henry IV. he carried the great golden spurs; after which, being taken prisoner in Wales, by Owen Glendowrwy, he was forced to obtain the king's licence for the sale of several of his manors and lands, to pay his ransom, which being settled for that purpose in feoffees, they soon afterwards conveyed this manor to John Drue, rector of Harpley, and John Seymour, citizen of London, and they seem soon afterwards to have conveyed it by sale to Sir William Cromer, or Crowmer, for his name was frequently spelt both ways, citizen and draper of London, and lord mayor in the years 1413 and 1423, who bore for his arms, Argent, a chevron engrailed, between three crows, sable.

He was son of John Cromer, of Aldenham, in Hertfordshire, in which county there was a manor of this

/m Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 578. Sandf. Gen. Hist. p. 209.

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name; but whether these Cromers had any connection with it, I find no mention. He married Margaret, one of the daughters and coheirs of Thomas Squerie, of Squeries-court, in Westerham, and dying in 1433, was buried on the south side of the church of St. Martin, in London, in a chapel he had built there. His widow afterwards married Robert, lord Poyning.

He was succeeded in this manor by his son and heir William Cromer, esq. of Tunstall, sheriff in the 23d year of that reign; but five years afterwards he was put to death by the rebel Jack Cade, and his followers, being beheaded as well for his opposition to them, as on account of his marriage with Elizabeth, the daughter of the lord Say and Seal, whom they massacred likewise in Cheapside, and their heads were fixed by them on London bridge. Elizabeth his wife surviving him, afterwards married Alexander Iden, esq. of Westwell, sheriff in the 35th year of that reign, who slew the rebel Cade, the murderer of her former husband. In whose descendants, resident at Tunstall, this manor continued down to William Cromer, esq. of Tunstall, who being afterwards, in the 1st year of queen Mary, concerned with Sir T. Wyatt's rebellion, he was that year attainted, and this manor, among the rest of his estates, became forfeited to the crown, where it remained till he was restored in blood, as well as in his possessions, by act of parliament anno 5 queen Elizabeth. After which he served the office of sheriff in the 9th and 27th years of that reign, and was a justice of the peace, and knighted.

Sir William Cromer died in 1598, and was buried among his ancestors in this church. By his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Guldeford, he left one son, Sir James Cromer, of Tunstall, sheriff in the 2d year of king James I. He neglected the antient seat of the Cromers, at Grove-end, in this parish, and began

/n Strype's Stow's Survey, book ii. p. 187.

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building another, about a mile eastward from it; but

undertaking it but just before his death, it was never finished, and even of what was, there has been nothing remaining for many years. He died in 1613, and was buried on the south side of the chancel of this church, where there is a costly monument erected to his and his second wife's memory, with their figures, and those of his four daughters. He was twice married; first to Frances, daughter and heir of John Somers, esq. by whom he had one only daughter Frances, afterwards married to Sir Mathew Carew, jun. secondly to the daughter of Sir Mathew Carew, senior, by whom he had three daughters.

Upon the partition of the estates of Sir James Cromer among his two surviving daughters and coheirs, (of whom Elizabeth the eldest, married Sir John Stede, of Stede-hill) the manor of Tunstall was, among others, allotted to Christian, the youngest daughter, who carried it in marriage to John Hales, esq. the eldest son of Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, of Tenterden. The family of Hales was originally seated at Hales-place, in Halden, whence they were usually called at-Hale. Nicholas at-Hale, or Hales, lived there at the latter end of the reign of Edward III. and left two sons, Sir Robert Hales, prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, and lord treasurer; and Sir Nicholas de Hales, who succeeded to his father's estates in this county. His son Thomas de Hales, of Hales-place, left three sons, the eldest of whom, John, was ancestor of the Hales's, of this county, and from the second son, descended those of Coventry, in Warwickshire, and those of Shitterfield, and Newland, likewise in that county, which two latter are both extinct, and from the third son those of Essex. John Hales above-mentioned, the eldest son, was of Hales-place, whose son Henry married Julian, daughter and heir of Richard Capel, of Tenterden, by whom he had two sons, John and Thomas, the latter of whom was A. M. and

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father of Sir Christopher Hales, attorney-general, and master of the rolls, in the reign of king Henry VIII. who left three daughters and coheirs. John Hales, the eldest son, was one of the barons of the exchequer, and was seated at the manor of the Dungeon, in Canterbury, and married Isabella, daughter and coheir of Stephen Harvy, by whom he had four sons, of whom Sir James Hales, the eldest, succeeded him at the Dungeon; which branch ended in a female, who died s. p. in the reign of king Charles II. Thomas, the second son, was of Thanington, whose descendant Robert was created a baronet in 1660, and was ancestor of the present Sir Philip Hales, bart. Edward, the third son, was of Tenterden; and William, the fourth son, was of Reculver and Nackington, and ended in a daughter and heir Margaret, married to Roger Manwood.

Edward Hales, the third son, of Tenterden, left two sons; John, the eldest, was of Tenterden, esq. and married Mary, daughter and coheir of Robert Horne, bishop of Winchester, but died s. p. Edward was of Tenterden, and his brother's heir; and William the third son, was of Chilham, which Edward Hales, esq. of Tenterden, the second son, was the father of Sir Edward Hales, created a baronet in 1611.

He was twice married; first to Deborah, only daughter and heir of Martin Herlackenden, esq. of Woodchurch, by whom he had four sons, of whom John the eldest, married Christian, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir James Cromer, as before-mentioned, and in her right became possessed of the manor of Tunstall, and other large estates, and Samuel the youngest, married Martha, daughter of Stephen Heronden, married to William Kenewick, and left an only son Edward Hales, esq. of Chilston.

Sir Edward Hales, bart. removed his seat from Tenterden to Woodchurch, in which parish he possessed the antient seat of the Herlackendens, in right of his wife, after whose death he married Martha, daughter of

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Sir Mathew Carew the elder, and relict of Sir James Cromer, by whom he had no issue, and dying in 1654, was buried in this church, where there is a handsome monument erected to his memory, with his effigies in white marble lying at length on it.

John Hales, esq. the eldest son of Sir Edward as before-mentioned, was afterwards knighted, but died in his father's life-time in 1639, and was buried in Tunstall church, leaving a son Edward, then about thirteen years of age, for whom, during his nonage, there was afterwards built a house in this parish, at the east end of Tunstall-green, in which he afterwards resided. He succeeded his grandfather in title and estate in 1654, but being most zealously attached to the royal cause, he risked his fortune as well as his person, in the support of it; by which means he ruined the former, and was obliged on that account to abandon his native country, to which he never afterwards returned, but died in France soon after the restoration of king Charles II. He married Anne, the youngest of the four daughters and coheirs of Thomas, lord Wotton, who died in 1654, by whom he had four sons, the eldest, Sir Edward Hales, bart. in the reign of Charles II. purchased the mansion and estate of St. Stephens, near Canterbury, where his descendants have ever since resided.

He was a person much in favor afterwards with king James II. who made him of his privy council, and lieutenant-governor of the Tower when king James left Whitehall in 1688, in hopes of escaping into France, he took with him only three persons, one of whom was Sir Edward Hales; but the vessel, in which they were, being discovered, the king was conducted on shore, with his three attendants, and Sir Edward Hales being well known, was made prisoner, and afterwards

/o MSS. pedigree of Hales. Kimber's Bar. vol. i. p. 94, and vol. ii. p. 60, 99.

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conveyed to the Tower. On his release from whence he went immediately to France, and was received with great marks of favor by king James, who created him earl of Tenterden and viscount Tonstall. He died there in 1695, and was buried in the church of St. Sulpice, in Paris, having married Frances, daughter of Sir Francis Windibank, of Oxfordshire, who died be-

fore him, by whom he had five sons and seven daughters. Of the sons, Edward, the eldest, was killed at the battle of the Boyne, in Ireland, and was buried here, and John became his heir, the others died s. p.

Sir John Hales, bart. his eldest surviving son, resided at his seat at St. Stepens, near Canterbury, where he died after several years recluse retirement in it, in 1743, having been twice married; first to Helen, daughter of Sir Richard Bealing; secondly to another Helen, daughter of Dudley Bagnall, esq. who died at Luckly, in Berkshire, in 1737.

He left by his first wife, two sons and one daughter Frances, married to George Henry, earl of Litchfield. Of the sons, Edward, the eldest, died at Canterbury, during his life-time, in 1729, and was buried at Tunstall, having married the relict of captain Bulstrode, who survived him, by whom he left a son Edward, who succeeded his grandfather in title and estate; and John, who died s. p. By his second wife he left three sons, James, Alexander, and Philip, who all died s. p.

Sir Edward Hales, bart. succeeded his grandfather in title and estate, and is the present possessor of the manor of Tunstall. He married first Mabella, daughter and heir of Sir John Webb, bart. who died in 1770, by whom he had one son Edward Hales, esq. who married a daughter of Henry Darell, esq. of Calehill, and three daughters, Anne, Elizabeth, and Barbara; and secondly, Mrs. Palmer, of Westminster, widow, by whom he has no issue. He bears for his arms, Gules, three arrows in pale, or, feathered and bearded, argent.

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A court baron is held for this manor, on the scite of the antient manor-house at Grove-end. It extends into the parishes of Bicknor, Bredgar, and Borden.

UFTON is a reputed manor, the house of which stands at the northern extremity of this parish, next to Sittingborne. It was antiently the property of the family of Shurland. Sir Robert de Shurland, of Shurland, in Shepey, possessed it in the reign of Edward I. having attended that prince into Scotland, to the siege of Carlaverock, where he was knighted, and in the 29th year of it, he obtained a charter of free warren for his manor of Ufton.

He left an only daughter and heir Margaret, who carried it in marriage to William de Cheney, afterwards of Shurland, who died possessed of it in the 8th year of king Edward III. His descendant Richard Cheney, of Shurland, left issue two sons, William, who was of Shurland, and ancestor of the lords Cheney; and Simon, who seems to have inherited the manor of Ufton. He married Eleonora, daughter and heir of John Nottingham, of Higham, in Milsted, at which place his descendants resided. The Cheneys bore for their arms, Ermine, on a bend, azure, three martlets, or, and quartered the arms of Shurland, Cralle, and Nottingham. They continued owners of this manor, (during which time William Maries resided here in the reign of king Henry VI. as their tenant; in the 21st year of which reign he was sheriff, and kept his shrievalty here) till John Cheney, esq. of Sittingborne, in the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, gave it in marriage with his daughter Frances to John Astley,

esq. of Norfolk, the only son of Thomas Astley, esq. of Hill Morton and Melton Constable, in Norfolk, by his first wife Anne; by whose second wife was de-

/p See Shurland, in Shepey, and Vistn. co. Kent, anno 1574 and 1619.

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scended Sir John Astley, of Maidstone./q He left by his first wife, Isaac his heir, and several other children, but he gave this manor in marriage with his eldest daughter Bridget, to Walter Herlackenden, descended from those of Woodchurch, and bearing the same arms. He afterwards resided here, and in his descendants resident at Ufton, all of whom lie buried in this church, this manor continued down to Silvester Herlackenden, who, about the year 1700, conveyed it by sale to Robert West, gent. who left two daughters his coheirs; of whom, Mary was married to John Hyde, esq. and Elizabeth to Samuel Hyde, esq. and the latter and his wife dying s. p. the whole of this manor became vested in the former, John Hyde, esq. of Blackheath, who had two sons, West and John; the eldest of whom, West Hyde, esq. is now possessed of it.

GORE-COURT is an antient seat in this parish, about half a mile distant eastward from Ufton, which gave name to the family who possessed it, called in old writings at-Gore. Henry at-Gore held Gore-court at his death in the 31st year of king Edward III. His descendants continued possessed of it for several generations, till at last James Gore sold it to Thomas Roydon, of East Peckham, whose son sold it to Mr. Christopher Wood, descended from those of Muston manor, in Hollingborne. His son Mathew Wood possessed it on his decease, as did his son Henry, whose son Christopher Wood, of Gore-court, in 1674, alienated it to Charles Seager, of Tunstall, who dying in 1679, left three sons, Charles, Henry, and William, and a daughter Jane, who married Mr. John Nethersole, of Barham, and they shared this estate among them. Of the sons, Henry died unmarried, and William parted with his interest in it to his elder brother Charles Seager, of Borden, who-joining with his sister Jane Nethersole, widow, conveyed the manor of Gore,

/q See an account of this family, vol. iv. p. 288, 452.

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in 1723, to Edward Mores, clerk, rector of this parish, descended of a good family, of Great Coxwell, in Berkshire. He bore for his arms four coats, Quarterly, first and fourth, Mores, argent, on a fess couped, gules, between three heathcocks, gules, a garb, or; second and third, Rowe, gules, a quaterfoil, or./r He died possessed of it in 1740, and was succeeded in it by his only son Edward Rowe Mores, who was of Low Layton, in Essex, M. A. and F. R. S. and published several tracts of antiquity and other subjects, and left several in MSS. unpublished, among which was, the history of this parish, since published by Mr. Nicholls. He died in 1778. Before his death he alienated this estate to Mr. Charles Stanley, who afterwards resided here. He died in 1791, and his heirs sold it to Gabriel Harper, esq. who rebuilt this seat at a great expence, and served his

shrievalty here in 1795, he continues the proprietor of it, and now resides at it.

PITSTOCK, usually called Pistock, is a small manor, situated in the south east part of this parish, adjoining to Rodmersham, which name has been for some years changed to that of Woodstock, by the present owner of it, as being of a more genteel sound.

In the reign of king Edward IV. this manor was in the possession of William Robesart, of Minster, in Shepey, who by his will, proved anno 15 Henry VII. devised it to Cicelie his wife, for her life, and afterwards to the Benedictine nunnery of Minster, in Shepey, for the use of a solemn obit, and other like services, and it continued part of the possessions of it till the general dissolution of religious houses in the reign of king Henry VIII. in the 27th year of which this nunnery was suppressed, in consequence of an act passed that year for the suppression of all such houses, whose clear yearly revenue did not amount to two hundred pounds.

/r See his life prefixed to his account of Tunstall, published by Mr. Nicholls.

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This manor becoming thus vested in the crown, the king granted it two years afterwards to Sir Thomas Cheney, treasurer of his household, to hold in capite by knight's service. His son and heir Henry Cheney, esq. of Todington, in the 13th year of queen Elizabeth, alienated the manor of Pistocke, and those woods, parcel of it, called Mynchyng-wood, to Richard Thornhill, citizen and grocer of London, whose son and heir Samuel Thornhill, upon his death gave it to his second son Sir John Thornhill, of Bromley, and his son and heir Charles Thornhill, esq. in the reign of Charles II. sold it to Mr. James Tong, whose ancestors had been resident here, and were possessed of lands in this parish for some generations before, for his ancestor William Tonge, resided at Pistocke in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, as tenant of it. In the visitation of this county, anno 1619, is the pedigree of Tonge, of Tunstall; their arms, Azure, a bend cotized, or, between six martlets of the second. In which name it continued till at length it was sold to Hayter, and Mr. William Hayter, gent. resided here, who passed it away by sale to Abraham Chambers, esq. of Bicknor, who built a new seat on this manor, at a small distance north-westward from the old house, in which he afterwards resided, till he removed to Totteridge, in Hertfordshire. He died in 1782, leaving four sons, Samuel, Abraham-Henry, James, and William, and one daughter, Anne-Maria-Emely, who married Mr. Foley; since which, on the sale and division of his estates by them, this manor is become the sole property of the eldest son Samuel Chambers, esq. who now resides in it.

TUNSTALL-HOUSE is a seat in this parish, situated at a small distance southward from the church, which was for several generations the property and residence of the family of Grove. It was most probably built by Mr. John Grove, gent. steward to Sir Edward Hales, bart. who resided in it, and died in 1678, as did his grandson John Grove, in 1755, and were both buried

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in this church, bearing for their arms, Ermine, on a chevron, gules, three escallops, argent. The latter left by Catherine his wife, daughter of Mr. Pearce, of Charing, two sons, Pearce and Richard, and a daughter Anne, married to John Putland, gent. of Stafford, one of the cursitors in chancery. His two sons before-mentioned, Pearce Grove and Richard Grove, esqrs. became entitled to this seat, among the rest of their father's estates, as heirs in gavelkind, and some years ago joined in the sale of it to the Rev. Thomas Bland, vicar of Sittingborne, who afterwards resided here, and died possessed of it in 1776. He left by Mary his wife, daughter of Richard Tylden, esq. of Milsted, three sons, Richard, afterwards in holy orders, who married Frances-Clara Kempe; Thomas, and Wm. who married Elizabeth, since deceased, daughter of the Rev. Brian Faussett, of Heppington, and two daughters, Harriet, married to the Rev. Henry Rowe, of Essex, and Elizabeth. His widow survived him, and died possessed of it in 1780, on which it came to their eldest son the Rev. Richard Bland, who died in 1794, but it is now made use of for a ladies boarding-school.

There are no parochial charities. The poor constantly relieved are about five, casually thirty.

TUNSTALL is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. John Baptist, consists of three isles and a chancel, to which has been added a small chapel on the north side of it. It has a tower steeple at the west end, in which there is a peal of five bells. In the windows are several coats of arms of Cromer quartering Squerie, and impaling several matches, but most of them are much broken and defaced. In this church was the burial place of the Cromer's, as it still is of the family of Hales, and there is in it a monument and effigies for Sir James Cromer, and another costly one for Sir Edward Hales, the first

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baronet, anno 1654; an altar tomb of white alabaster, but without inscription, most probably for one of the Cromers; a monument with effigies for Robert Cheek, D. D. 1647, and a cenotaph with a bust, for Edward Mores, 1740, both rectors; and a monument for John Grove, esq. 1755; and there are, among others, memorials for several of the Cromers, for Margaret Rycil, 1496, and a brass plate for Sir John Guildford, 1595; and another, with his effigies in brass, for Rauld Wulf, rector, 1525.

The rectory of it was formerly an appendage to the manor, and continued so till Hubert, earl of Kent, gave it, in the reign of king Henry III. to Richard, archbishop of Canterbury, which was confirmed by king Henry III. in his 13th year. Since which it has remained, as it does at this time, part of the possessions of the archbishop of Canterbury.

In 1557 it was estimated at fourteen pounds. Parishioners sixty. Families sixteen.

It is valued in the king's books at 14l. 8s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 11. 8s. 10d.

In 1640 it was valued at eighty pounds. Communicants forty-eight; and in 1740 at one hundred and

five pounds, then having about nine acres of glebe belonging to it.

CHURCH OF TUNSTALL.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Christopher Webbe, B. D. obt.

Jan. 7, 1610./s

Robert Cheke, S. T. P. January

18, 1610, obt. July 5, 1647./t

/s He became master of St. John's college, Cambridge, and was buried in the chancel here.

/t A prebendary of Rochester, and vicar of Hoo. He lies buried in the chancel here, under an handsome monument.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Robert Dixon, A. M. resigned

1676./u

Robert Dixon, A. M. Dec. 13,

1676, obt. March 1711./w

Edward Mores, collated May 7,

inducted 14, 1711, obt. April

8, 1740./x

Robert Tyler, A. M. collated

May 12, inducted 31, 1740,

obt. June 12, 1766./y

Thomas Pennington, S. T. P.

collated July 14, 1766, the

present rector./z

/u Of St. John's college, Cambridge, he was a great sufferer in the royal cause. After the restoration he became prebendary of Rochester, and resigning this rectory, became vicar of St. Nicholas, Rochester, and D. D.

/w Son of the former.

/x He rebuilt the parsonage-house, and gave some plate for the service of the communion. He was buried at Walthamstow, though there is a cenotaph for him on the north side of the chancel here, with a bust of him. See more of him before, as owner of Gore-court, in this parish.

/y And vicar of St. Lawrence, in Thanet, where he resided,

/z One of the six preachers in Canterbury cathedral, and rector of Kingsdowne, by dispensation, in 1766.

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BREDGAR.

OR Bradgare, as it was sometimes spelt, is the next parish southward from Tunstall.

ALTHOUGH the road from Sittingborne to Hollingborne-hill, and thence to Maidstone, passes through it

and the village of Bredgar, it is rather an unfrequented place, lying obscurely among the hills, and bounding eastward to the woods. It contains near 1300 acres of land, of which one hundred are wood-grounds. The village, which stands on high ground, nearly in the centre of the parish, having the church and college, or chantry in it, is a healthy and not unpleasant situation, being surrounded mostly by pasture grounds, but the remaining part of the parish is very hilly, the soil poor and chalky, and much covered with flints, being rather a dreary country. At the entrance of the village there

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is a good house, inhabited for many years by the Beales, the last of whom, Mr. John Beale, of Bredgar, dying s. p. in 1769, gave this among his other estates, among his relations, and this house is now owned by his sister's son, Mr. Pattison; a little distance from hence is a modern fronted house, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Marsh, rector of Bicknor, who resides in it.

The plant *Dentaria Major Metthiolo*, or the greater toothwort, is mentioned by Mr. Ray, as found by him in this parish.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over this parish, as do the subordinate manors of Tunstall and Bobbing likewise over some part of it.

IT APPEARS by antient records, that there was a family resident in this parish, who took their name from it. Robert de Bredgar, resided here in the reign of king Henry III. whose name appears in an antient roll of the benefactors to the monastery of Davington, and bore for their arms, Argent, a bend, gules, fretty, azure, between two lions rampant of the second; and in the reign of king Richard II. Robert de Bredgar, clerk, parson of this parish, founded a chantry or college in the church here, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

BEXON, or Baxton, is a manor, situated in the southern part of this parish, which gives name both to a borough and street in it.

It was antiently in the possession of a family, which assumed its surname from it; one of whom, John de Bexon, was resident there in the reigns of Edward II. and III. whose effigies was formerly painted in the windows of this church, with a scroll underneath. But in the next reign of king Richard II. this manor was become the property of the family of Tong, who were of some account in different parts of East-Kent, as well as in this neighbourhood; for it appears by some antient deeds, that Semanus de Tong, in the 16th year of that reign, was tenant to the Maison Dieu, in Ospringe, for

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lands at Lorinden, in Challock, and sealed with a bend cotized, argent, between six martlets, gules, in which name this estate continued down to John Tonge, gent. who about the latter end of the reign of king Charles I. alienated it to Mr. Thomas Fearne, who bore for his arms, Per bend, gules, and or, two leopards heads, counterchanged. One of his descendants, Mr. John Fearne, passed it away by sale to Mr. Thomas Best, of Chatham, whose grandson, Thomas Best, esq. of Chilston, dying in 1795, s. p. gave it by his will, among his other

estates, to his youngest nephew, George Best, esq. now of Chilston, who is the present possessor of it./a

SWANTON-COURT, now vulgarly called Swan court, is a manor likewise in the southern part of this parish, adjoining to Bicknor, which was formerly part of the possessions of the eminent family of Leyborne, of Leyborne, in this county, in which it continued till Juliana, daughter of Thomas, and heir of her grandfather William de Leyborne, dying s. p. by any of her husbands, all of whom she survived, this estate in the 41st year of king Edward III. escheated to the crown, there being no one found, who could claim it, as heir to her; and it remained there till the king, in his 50th year granted it, among other premises, to the abbey of St. Mary Graces, on Tower-hill, then founded by him, part of the possessions of which it remained till the dissolution of that monastery, in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered up into the king's hands, together with all the lands and revenues belonging to it.

Soon after which, the king granted this manor to Ralph Fane, esq. who as quickly afterwards parted with it to Sir Thomas Wyatt, who in the 33d year of that reign passed it away to the king, in exchange for other estates, pursuant to an act passed for that purpose the year before.

/a See more of the Bests, vol. v. of this history, p. 410.

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This manor thus coming into the king's hands, he granted in his 38th year, to Christopher Sampson, esq. to hold in capite by knight's service, who in the 5th year of king Edward VI. alienated it to Thomas Reader, of Bredgar, yeoman, and he having levied a fine of it in the 16th year of queen Elizabeth, afterwards sold it to William Terrey, who in the reign of king James I. partly by sale, and partly on account of alliance, settled it on Mr. William Aldersey, descended from an antient family of that name settled at Aldersey, in Cheshire, who bore for their arms, Gules, on a bend, argent, three leopards heads, vert, between two cinquefoils, or; in chief, a crescent, within a crescent, for difference./b He married Thomasine, daughter of Mr. Roger Terrey, and their descendants continued to reside here, till at length Hugh Aldersey, esq. dying in 1762, s. p. his heirs-at-law alienated it about the year 1767, to John Toke, esq. late of Goddington, in Great Chart, but now of Canterbury, who continues at this time the owner of it.

MANNS is an estate in this parish, which was formerly accounted a manor, and took its name from a family who were possessors of it; one of whom, John Mann, died possessed of it in the 50th year of Edward III. when it was found by inquisition, that he held it of the king, in capite, by knight's service, and that Joane was his daughter and next heir. How it passed afterwards I have not found; but the next that I find it in the possession of, is the family, of Isley, one of whom, Thomas Isley, possessor of this manor, left five daughters and coheirs, viz. Mary, married to Francis Spelman; Frances, to William Boys, esq. Elizabeth, to Anthony Mason, esq. Anne, to George Delves, esq. and Jane,

to Francis Haute, esq. After which, Francis Spelman, and Mary his wife, in 1583, alienated their fifth part to Robert and Thomas Whytfield, and their heirs male.

/b Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Aldersey.

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In the reign of king James I. William Hales, esq. of Nackington, was possessed of the principal messuage called Manns, with the lands belonging to it, and in 1640, together with his son William Hales the younger, passed it away by sale to Tho. Godfrey the younger, of Lid, esq. who seems to have parted with it to Clarke, whose family was possessed of lands here some time before this, for Humphry Clarke, alias Woodchurch, of Bredgar, esq. grandson of Humphry Clarke, of Kingsnoth, resided here in the reign of king James I. and dying in 1608, was buried in the north isle of this church, bearing for his arms, Paly, wavy of six pieces, ermine, and gules./c He alienated it to Reader, who bore for his arms, Three crescents, on a canton, a lion's head erased, all within a bordure, ermine, in whose descendants it continued down to Mr. John Reader, who died possessed of it, and his heir-at-law alienated it to Mr. James Chapman, gent. of Milton, the youngest son of Edward Chapman, esq. of Molash, and his grandson James Chapman, esq. is the present possessor of it.

In the 16th year of king Richard II. Robert de Bradgare, rector of this church, John Burbache, clerk, and others, founded, with the king's licence, A CHANTRY or SMALL COLLEGE in this church of Bredgar, in honor of the Holy Trinity, which consisted of a chaplain or secular priest, in holy orders, and two scholar clerks or confreers, who were to govern it, and celebrate divine offices, continually there in future, excepting at those times when the scholars should be employed in their studies: and they endowed it with different houses, rents, and lands, in this and the adjoining parishes, to hold to them and their successors for ever; and in 1398 the above-mentioned Robert de Bradagare, with the consent of archbishop Arundel, who then confirmed this foundation, gave them, under his seal, rules

/c See Vistn. co. of Kent, 1619, pedigree of Clarke.

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and statutes, for the better government of it. At which time there appears to have been a building already erected, called the college, for them to reside in, almost adjoining to the church of Bredgar.

In which situation this chantry or hospital continued, till the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered up with all its possessions, into the king's hands. Soon after which the scite of it, by the name of the chantry house of Bredgar, with sundry premises belonging to it, in Bredgar, Borden, and Bicknor, was granted by the king to George Harpur, esq. who afterwards, in the 33d year of that reign, exchanged it with the king for other estates in this and other counties. After which it seems to have remained in the hands of the crown, till queen Elizabeth, in her third year, having taken into her hands several manors, lands, &c. parcel of the see of Canterbury, by her let=

ters patent that year, granted to archbishop Parker, and his successors, several rectories, parsonages, and other premises, in lieu of them, among which was this dissolved college of Bredgar, then valued at 13l. 6s. 8d. Since which it has continued parcel of the possessions of the archbishopric, and remains so at this time. The tenths payable to the crown receiver from this dissolved chantry are 1l. 17s. 7³/₄d.

William Sherman, esq. was lessee in 1643, at the yearly rent of 13l. 6s. 8d. Edward Jeffrey is the present lessee, he new fronted and much improved the chantry-house, in which he resides.

CHARITIES.

THREE TENEMENTS and sixty-five perches of land, at the Bush, in Silver-street, in Bredgar, let to the overseers at 20s. per annum. was given for the repair of the church. One acre and an half of land in Hinkins croft, let at 12s. was given for the like purpose. A small piece of land, called the Playstool, let at 2s. 6d. per annum, was given for the like purpose.

AN ANNUITY of 10s. per annum was given for the use of the poor, to be paid out of a field called Whitebread, at Deans-hill, which now belongs to Messrs, Thomas and William May.

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AN ANNUITY of 20s. was given by Mr. Humphry Clarke, for the use of the poor, payable out of a house in Bredgar-street, belonging now to the heirs of Edward Chapman, gent.

WILLIAM TERRY, gent. by deed anno 17 James I. granted to Francis Clarke, and others, 31. per annum out of a house called Black-end, and an orchard belonging to it, and a piece of land called Mascalls, all in Bredgar-street, in trust, to be distributed among the poor inhabitants.

MR. THATCHER, citizen of London, in 1718 gave by deed 100l. which with that of 30l. added to it by the parishioners, was laid out in lands at Torry-hill, containing twenty-eight acres, lying in Milsted and Lenham, which were purchased in trust, for the minister and churchwardens to pay from thence 5l. per annum, for a master or mistress to teach eight poor children of this parish to read, and to instruct them in the church catechism; the overplus to be distributed to the poor of the parish. The children to be appointed by the minister; now of the annual produce of 6l. 10s. 4d.

The poor relieved constantly are about twenty-five; casually forty.

BREDGAR is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church is dedicated to St. John Baptist. It consists of three isles and one chancel, and has a square beacon tower at the west end, in which hang five bells. On the west side of the tower there is a fine Saxon door-case, with zig-zag ornaments; on the capitals of the pillars are carved two heads of a very ludicrous form. By the injudicious digging of a vault for Mrs. Murton of this parish, in 1791, two of the columns gave way, and the main arch between the body and chancel came down, but this damage has been since repaired.

In this church there are several memorials for the Tongs, and Fearnese of Bexon, particularly of John Fearnese, obt. 1713; of the Readers, as late as 1705.

In the north isle a monument for Humphry Clarke, alias Woodchurch, esq. obt. 1608. Memorials of the Alderseys, of Swanton, particularly of Hugh Aldersey, obt. 1762, and Mary Thurston his wife. In the church-

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yard, at the east end of it, are several tomb-stones of the Beales and Thurstons. There is a very antient tomb-stone near the south porch, on which was once a portrait in brass, on the east end of the stone there is carved a cross in relief.

King Henry III. gave this church in pure and perpetual alms, to the leprous women of the hospital of St. James, alias St. Jacob, at the end of Wincheap, near Canterbury, so that Mr. Firman, then master of it, should enjoy it for his life, but there was no vicarage endowed in it till archbishop Courtney, in the 15th year of king Richard II. endowed one in it.

After which this church appropriate, as well as the advowson, continued part of the possessions of the hospital, till the surrendry of it in 1551, anno 5 king Edward VI. at which time there appeared to be a manor called

FILCHER, alias FILTER, belonging to the rectory of Bredgar appropriate; all which, together with the advowson, seem to have remained in the hands of the hands of the crown, till queen Elizabeth granted them to Thomas Reader, who possessed them in 1578. He afterwards sold them to Mr. William Terrey, who in the reign of king James I. passed them away to his kinsman, William Aldersey, of Swanton-court, in whose descendants they continued till Hugh Aldersey, esq. of Bredgar, about the beginning of George II.'s reign, alienated them to Mr. John Tappenden, whose son, of the same name, sold them to Sir Edward Der=ing, bart. of Surrenden, whose son Sir Edward Dering, bart. is the present owner of this manor and rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage of the church of Bredgar.

In 1578, the communicants here were one hundred and fifty-five. Houses in this parish fifty. In the reign of queen Anne, the vicarage was worth thirty pounds per annum.

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It is now a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified valued of thirty-six pounds, the yearly tenths of which are eighteen shillings.

John atte-Vyse, one of the founders of the college, in 1398, ordained, that each year in future for ever, after his death, on the feast of the Holy Cross, there should be paid to the vicar of Bradgare, for the oblations of that day, six-pence; to the keeper to the goods of the church here, six-pence; to the parish-clerk and sacrist, four-pence, and 5s. 4d. to the poor parishioners of Bredgar.

CHURCH OF BREDGAR.

PATRONS, &c.

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Robert de Bredgate, in 1398./d

VICARS.

William Terrey, gent. of Bredgar Simon Seaman, A. M. July 15,
1595, obt. 1622.
John Lane, A. M. January 17,
1622.
Nathaniel Windsmore, obt. 1670.
Thomas Aldersey, gent. Edward Darbie, A. B. Feb. 20,
1670.
The crown, by lapse. Thomas Conway, A. M. Feb. 1,
1689.
Thomas Aldersey, gent. Edward Polhill, clerk, Sept. 24,
1690.
The crown, by lapse. Robert Elwicke, A. B. Sept. 16,
1699, obt. 1722.
William Aldersey, gent. Richard Tysoe, A. M. Sept. 20,
1722, resigned 1744.
John Tappenden. Richard Laurence, A. M. ind.
April 2, 1745, obt. August,
1772./e
Sir Edward Dering, bart. William Gurney, A. M. Nov.
21, 1772, resigned 1780./f
Thomas Scott, B. A. March 15,
1780, obt. 1794./g
Charles Cage, 1794, the present
vicar.

/d Principal founder of the college
here.

/e In 1763, by dispensation, vicar
of Lenham likewise.

/f Rector of Badlesmere with Leve=
land, and afterwards rector of Lud=
denham.

/g A younger son of Edward Scott,
esq. of Scotts-hall.

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MILSTED

IS the next adjoining parish south-eastward from Bredgar. It lies on high ground, obscurely among the hills, and surrounded by woods, there being no thoroughfare of any account through it; the situation is not much different from that of Bredgar adjoining to it. The parish is but small, containing about eight hundred acres of land, of which about fifty are wood. The soil in the upper or southern part is poor, consisting partly of chalk, and partly of a red cludgy earth, the whole of which is much covered with flints; in the centre and northern part it is something more fertile and kindly for tillage. The church stands nearly in the middle of the parish, having the mansion of Hogshaws almost adjoining the east end of the church-yard, at the west part of which the parsonage stands. At no great distance from hence northward, in the vale, is all that there is of a village in the parish; near the south-east boundary is Torry-hill, belonging to Mr. Osborne Tylden, who resides in it; near the western boundary is Broadoak forstall, and the hamlet called from it. On this forstall there stands a remarkable large juniper tree, being near fifteen feet high, and near eight feet before it has any branches,

THE MANOR OF MILTON claims paramount over the

greatest part of this parish, subordinate to which is THE MANOR OF MILSTED, which in the beginning of the reign of Edward I. was in the possession of Thomas Abelyn, who died possessed of it in the 4th year of that reign, then holding it as one messuage, and one carucate and an half of land, in Milsted, and pasture for three hundred sheep in the marsh of Elmele, of the king, in capite, by knight's service. He was succeeded in it by Nicholas Abelyn, who died two years

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afterwards, holding it by the like service. Soon after which it appears to have come into the possession of the family of Savage; one of whom, John le Sauvage, obtained a grant of free-warren in the 23d year of the above reign, for his lands in Milsted and other places; but before the 20th year of king Edward III. this name seems to have been extinct here; for at the making the black prince a knight, the heirs of John Savage paid aid for this manor. Indeed, it seems from the beginning of that reign, to have been in the name of Mocking, from which it passed into that of Hoggeshaw, and Elmeline, late the wife of Sir Thomas Hoggeshaw, died in the 50th year of it, possessed of the manor of Milsted, held of the king in capite, as one knight's fee.

Their son Edmund Hoggeshaw, succeeded to the possession of it, which had now, from their continuing owners of it, acquired the name of Milsted, alias Hoggeshaws, by which it has been known ever since. He died in the 12th year of king Richard II. s. p. upon which Joane, one of his sisters and coheirs, entitled her husband, Thomas Lovel, esq. to it, whose son Thomas, in the 12th year of king Henry IV. held a court for this manor; one of his decendants sold it to Robert Greaves, who died in the 9th year of king Henry VII. holding it in manner as above mentioned, Katherine, wife of George Sole, being his daughter and next heir. Soon after which, it became the property of Roger Wake, who died in the 19th year of king Henry VII. when this manor, with the advowson of the church of Milsted passed by his will to Margaret his daughter, whose husband, John Barnard, esq. entered into the possession of it. At length his grandson of the same name, dying an infant in the 14th year of king Henry VIII. it became vested, by the limitations in the will of Roger Wake above-mentioned, in his

/h See Rot. Esch. anno 10 and 46 Edward III.

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right heirs, who conveyed their interest in it to Sir Thomas Nevyle, and he passed it away by sale to Sir Robert Southwell, who in the 4th year of Edward VI. passed away, by fine then levied, the manor of Hoggeshaws, alias Milsted, and the advowson of the church of Milsted, then held of the king in capite, to Thomas Henman, senior, and his heirs. His son, Alan Henman, of Lenham, in the 12th year of that reign, sold it to Thomas Thomson, of Sandwich, jurat, for the use of Agnes, his daughter, who entitled her husband, John Toke, gent. of Goddington, to the possession of it. She survived her husband, and by her will in 1629,

devised it to her eldest son Nicholas Toke, esq. of Great Chart, who in 1631, anno 7 Charles I. passed away both manor and advowson to Edward Chute, esq. of Bethersden, whose son George had married Eleanor Toke, his eldest daughter, and he anno 9 Charles I. conveyed it by fine then levied to Richard Tylden, gent. of Great Chart, and William Tylden, then an infant, his son. The family of Tylden had antiently possessions in the parishes of Brenchley, Otterden, Kennington, and Tilmanstone, in this county; one of them William Tylden, paid aid for lands in this county, in the 20th year of king Edward III. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, a branch of them was settled in the parish of Wormsell, one of whom, William Tylden, died there in 1613. His direct descendant, Richard Tylden, esq. of Great Chart, who bore for his arms, Azure, a saltier, ermine, between four pheons, or, purchased this manor and advowson as above-mentioned, whose eldest son William Tylden, gent. was of Hoggeshaws, as was his son Richard, who dying in 1763, was buried with his ancestors in the Tylden chancel, in this church. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Osborne, esq. of Hartlip, he left one son Richard-Osborne, and three daughters, Hannah married to Edward Belcher, of Ulcomb; Mary to Thomas Bland, clerk, and Philippa, who died unmarried. Richard-

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Osborne Tylden, esq. succeeded his father in this estate, and left his widow surviving (who re-married the Rev. Edward Smith, rector of Milsted, and died in 1776) and by her four sons, Richard, of whom hereafter; Osborne, of Torry-hill, esq. in this parish, who married the only daughter of John Withins, esq. of Surry; the Rev. Richard Cooke, rector of Milsted and Frinsted, and Manby May; and one daughter Elizabeth married to Mr. Valyer Baker, surgeon, of Sittingborne. Richard Tylden, esq. succeeded on his mother's death to the possession of this manor, and now resides here; he married Miss Catherine Rolfe, of Ashford, who died in 1783.

The last court held for this manor, being a court-baron, was in the year 1632.

HIGHAM-COURT, now usually called Great Higham, is a manor in this parish, which was antiently the property of a family of the name of Nottingham, whence it acquired, as appears by antient writings, the name of Nottingham-court.

They resided at Bayford, in Sittingborne, so early as the reign of king Edward I. Robert de Nottingham, owner of this estate in the reign of Edward III. was sheriff in the 48th year of it, and kept his shrievalty at Bayford, in which year he died, and was found at his death to hold lands in Doddington, Tenham, Milsted, Tong, Bredgar, and Sittingborne, all which descended to his only son John Nottingham, who died s. p. leaving his daughter his sole heir, who marrying Simon Cheney, of Cralle, in Sussex, second son of Sir Richard Cheney, of Shurland, he became entitled to this manor. The Nottinghams bore for their arms, as Philipott says, Gules, two pales wavy, argent; which coat, impaled with Cheney, was in one of the windows of Milsted church. On the roof of the cloysters of

Canterbury cathedral, are carved the arms of Notting=ham, Gules, on a bend, argent, three escallops, azure; but of what kindred to these of Milsted, I have not

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found. In his descendants this manor continued down till Richard Cheney, esq. and his son John, in the year 1676, joined in the conveyance of it to Mr. Thomas Lushington, of Sittingborne, whose great-grandson, the Rev. Mr. James Stephen Lushington, is the present owner of this manor./i

CHARITIES.

JOHN WIATT, of Milsted, by will in 1722, gave a moiety of several pieces of land in Milsted, Frinsted, and Wormesell, containing about twenty acres, towards the teaching of four poor children of this parish to read and write, vested in the minister and churchwardens, and of the annual produce of 2l. 4s.

There are five alms-houses belonging to this parish, on the eastern side of it, next to Kingsdown.

The poor constantly relieved are about nine; casually forty.

MILSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS=DICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary and the Holy Cross is but small, and consists of one isle and one chancel, with a low square tower at the west end of it, in which hang three bells. On the north side is another small chancel, belonging to the Tyldens, in which many of them lie buried. On the south side there was another chancel, belonging to Higham-court, which was pulled down, by the mutual consent of the proprietor and parishioners in 1672.

In the church-yard, near the south porch, there is a very antient tomb-stone, having on it a cross botony, fitchee, carved in relief.

The church of Milsted was given by king John to Wydon the clerk, who held it, as appears by the Testa de Nevill, in the next reign of king Henry III. Whether he was lord likewise of Milsted manor I have not found; but from the next reign of king Edward I. to the present time, this church seems to have had the

/i See more of the Lushingtons under Rodmersham.

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same possessors, and as such, the advowson of it is now the property of Richard Tylden, esq. of Hoggeshaws.

In 1578 there were fifty-five communicants. In 1640 eighty-seven, when it was valued at fifty pounds per annum.

It is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty four pounds, the yearly tenths being 17s. 6d. The glebe land consists of only three acres.

CHURCH OF MILSTED.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS

John Toke, of Great Chart. William Potter, A. M. Nov. 25,
1595, obt. 1619.

John Toke, gent. John Toke, A. M. February 2,

1619.
 Richard Tylden, clerk, obt.
 1688.
 William Tylden, gent. of Milsted. William Batcheller, clerk, June
 16, 1688.
 William Batcheller, 1720, obt.
 1748./k
 Richard Tylden, esq. Richard Osborne Tylden, A. B.
 April 1, 1748, obt. Dec.
 1766.
 Edward Smith, LL. B. March
 10, 1767, obt. 1786./l
 Rich. Cooke Tylden, A. M. Apr.
 11, 1787, the present rector.

/k He was rector of Frinsted, like=
 wise.
 /l And rector of Frinsted, by dis=
 pensation in 1779.

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KINGSDOWN

LIES next eastward from Milsted, and is usually called Kingsdown, next Sittingborne, to distinguish it from a parish of the same name near Farningham.

It is situated obscurely among the hills, on high ground. The parish is very small, containing only six

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hundred acres of land, of which one half are wood. The lands in it are very poor, chalky, and much covered with flints; the church stands nearly in the centre of the parish, the woods are very thick throughout it, especially on the east and west sides; near the former is a hamlet called Dungate-green, and not far from it a good modern house, built by Mr. Stephen Allsworth, whose son John leaving an only daughter Anne, she carried it in marriage to Mr. Thomas Howe. Mr. Lushington Taylor now resides in it.

THE MANOR OF KINGSDOWN, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry III. was part of the possessions of Hubert de Burgo, earl of Kent, who, on his foundation of the hospital of St. Mary, otherwise called the Maison Dieu, in Dover, gave this manor to it. After which, anno 14 Edward I. the master of the Maison Dieu obtained a grant of free-warren for his lands here, among others.

In which situation this manor remained till the dissolution of the hospital, in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was surrendered up, with all its possessions, into the king's hands. After which, the manor of Kingsdown seems to have remained in the hands of the crown, till king Edward VI. in the last year of his reign, granted it, among other premises, to Sir Thomas Cheney, to hold in capite by knight's service, who in the 1st year of queen Mary, sold it to Thomas Finch, gent. who seems to have resided at Kingsdown at that time, as tenant of the manor under the master and brethren of the Maison Dieu. He was descended from John Finch, the second son of Vincent Herbert, alias Finch, of Netherfield, in Sussex, whose eldest son William was ancestor of the several branches of this family, of the name of Finch, eno=

bled by peerages at different times, whose arms he likewise bore. John, the second son, above-mentioned, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Richard Seward, of Sewards, in Linsted, of which seat

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he became possessed in her right, and afterwards resided there. He died in 1442, and was buried at Sevington. His grandson John Finch, of Linsted, left two sons; Herbert, who was of Linsted, from whom descended those of Linsted, Norton, Faversham, Wye, and other places, and Thomas Finch, who purchased this manor of Kingsdown as above-mentioned. He died anno 3 and 4 Philip and Mary, 1555. After which it continued in his descendants who resided here, down to Thomas Finch, esq. who dying s. p. by his will bequeathed the manor itself, and part of the demesnes belonging to it to his brother's daughter Judith Finch, who carried it in marriage to John Umfrey, esq. of Darent, who bore for his arms, Gules, across botony, argent, charged with five pellets; from whom it descended down to Finch Umfrey, gent. of Dartford, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Jarvis, of Dartford. He died without issue, and at his death gave this manor, with the part of the demesnes before mentioned, to his widow, who died in 1781, and by her will, which had been made near twenty years before her death, devised it to her next heirs, which at the time of her death were two persons named Brook, uncle and nephew, as coheirs in gavelkind, and they joined in the sale of it in 1782, to Mr. Thomas Smith, gent. of Dartford, upon whose death in 1787, it came by his will to his nephews, Thomas, William, and George Smith, since which it is become vested in Mr. Thomas Williams, gent. of South Darent, the present possessor of this manor and estate. A court leet and court baron is held for this manor.

BUT THE REST OF THE DEMESNES of this manor, which comprehended by far the greatest part of them, were sold by one of the Finch's to the family of Bartholomew, of Oxenhoath, in which name this estate

/m Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Finch.

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remained till one of them sold it to Cockin Sole, esq. of Bobbing, who died in 1750, and was succeeded in it by his son John Cockin Sole, esq. afterwards of Norton-court, who some years afterwards passed it away by sale to Mr. Evans, who is the present possessor of it.

There are no parochial charities.

The poor constantly relieved are about ten, and casually twenty-five.

KINGSDOWN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Catherine, is a very small mean building, consisting of one isle and one chancel; there is a tomb of Bethersden marble in the chancel, with a brass plate against the east wall, erected to the memory of Thomas Finch, gent.

though buried at Chichester, anno 1555, and to that of his son Ralph Finch, esq. who lies buried near it, a great benefactor to this church, obt. 1591. At the west end there is a small turret, with one bell. This church has always been an appendage to the manor, and continued as such, till after the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Umfrey, when her two heirs at law, and devisees under her will, of the name of Brook, sold it in 1782 to Thomas Pennington, D. D. late rector of this church, who is the present possessor of it.

In 1640 this rectory was valued at fifty pounds per annum. Communicants thirty six. It is now of the clear yearly value of sixty pounds.

It is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty five pounds, the yearly tenths of it being ten shillings and elevenpence.

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CHURCH OF KINGSDOWN.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Ralph Fynche, esq. Laurence Collinson, Sept. 20,
1581, obt. 1623.

The King. Christopher Batcheler, A. M. Oc=
tober 30, 1623./n

Nathaniel Godden, resigned

Thomas Finch, esq. Richard Tylden, clerk, March
10, 1661.

Thomas Allen, obt. 1668.

William Slaughter, A. M. Feb.
16, 1668, obt. 1699./o

Edmund Barrel, A. M. May 31,
1700, resigned 1712./p

Thomas Allen, A. M. 1717, ob.
Dec. 17, 1732./q

Finch Umfrey, esq. Tobias Swinden, May 31, 1733,
obt. March 1754./r

Elizabeth Umfrey. William Gardiner, B. D. pre=
sented April 1754, obt. May
1754.

Thomas Pennington, D. D. July
27, 1754, resigned 1786./s

Thomas Pennington, D. D. Thomas Pennington, A. M. 1786,
the present rector./t

/n In 1627, by dispensation, vicar
of Tong.

/o He lies buried in Frinsted church.

/p Afterwards vicar of Sutton at
Hone and of Boxley, and prebendary of
Rochester.

/q Also rector of Murston.

/r And vicar of Lamberhurst.

/s And rector of Tunstall by dispen=
sation.

/t Son of the patron.

RODMERSHAM.

NORTH-EASTWARD from Kingsdown lies

Rodmersham. It lies at a mile southward from Bap=

child-street and the high Dover road, on high ground, the church being plainly seen from it. It contains about 1050 acres of land, of which not more than seventy-five are wood. The village, which is built straggling along the road, having the church in it,

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has at the lower or northern part of it two or three pretty modern houses; at the opposite end of it is New house, which has been for some years tenanted by the Taylors; at the south-east corner of the parish is the hamlet of Upper Rodmersham, and on the western side that of Rodmersham-green, which joins to a long tract of woodland, called Minchin wood. The land in the lower or northern part of this parish is rich and fertile for corn, and is let at a high rent, but higher up among the hills it becomes chalky and light, and much of it very poor. It is not an unpleasant situation, and considering its nearness to a very unwholesome country, is not so unhealthy as might be expected.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over it, subordinate to which is

THE MANOR OF RODMERSHAM, which was antiently the inheritance of the family of De la Pine, whose seat of residence was at Easthall, in the neighbouring parish of Murston.

John de la Pine was possessed of it in the 20th year of the reign of king Henry III. as appears by private evidences, whose grandson James de la Pine, about the latter end of king Richard II.'s reign, sold it to John de Podach, descended originally from John de Podach, who held lands of his own name in Devonshire in the reign of king Henry III. as appeared by an antient pedigree of this family. His descendants, possessors of this manor, from being usually called Pordage, at length wrote their names so. The antient arms of which family were, Argent, a fess chequy, or, and gules, in chief, three cross-crosets, sable; but this John Pordage altered the fess to plain sable, in which form his descendants have borne it ever since.

His descendant Sir William Pordage, as well as his ancestors, resided at Rodmersham, where he rebuilt the manor-house in the reign of king James I. naming it New-house, at whose request in 1615, the pedigree

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of Pordage was drawn up from old evidences, by John Phillipott, Somerset herald, by which it appears that he bore for his arms six coats, Pordage, Crowland, Gourly, Belton, Gisors, and Barrow; all which, except the first and last, were borne in right of the heir of Crowland, and in one of the windows of Faversham church were painted the arms of Pordage, impaling Crowland. He died s. p. and was succeeded by his brother and heir Thomas Pordage, esq. who resided here. His grandson William Pordage, or Porridge, as the name was then usually called, about the beginning of queen Anne's reign alienated it, with the seat, and all the rest of his estates in this parish and neighbourhood, to Stephen Lushington, esq. of Sittingborne, whose father Mr. Thomas Lushington, had been in the possession of them under a mortgage term

for some years before. He was the son of Mr. Augustine Lushington, gent. of Sittingborne, who bore for his arms, Argent, a fess engrailed, gules, between three lions heads erased, or. Of whose family was Thomas Lushington, a noted scholar of his time, born at Sandwich in 1589, and afterwards educated at Oxford, and preferred to a prebend of Salisbury, &c. He wrote several books, a list of which the reader will find in Wood's Ath. Oxon. At length retiring in his latter days to his relations at Sittingborne, he died there in 1661, and was buried in the south chancel of that church, having had a handsome monument, with his bust on it, set up to his memory, by his kinsman, Thomas Lushington, esq. of Sittingborne, whom he by will made heir to all he had.

Mr. Stephen Lushington was twice married, and left issue by both his wives, by his second he had several children, the eldest surviving son of whom was Henry, vicar of East Bourne, in Sussex, and D. D.

Among the Harleian MSS. in the British museum, is a pedigree of the family of Pordage, No. 14384.

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who left several children, of whom Henry, was massacred in the East Indies, and Stephen was a proctor of Doctors Commons.

Thomas Godfrey Lushington, esq. of Sittingborne, the only son of Stephen, by his first wife, succeeded him in this estate, and afterwards resided at Canterbury, where he died in 1757, and was buried at Sittingborne, having had by his first wife Dorothy, daughter of John Gisborne, esq. of Derbyshire, three sons, Thomas, who died before him unmarried; William, a captain in the army, who died unmarried in 1763; and James-Stephen, now in holy-orders; and likewise two daughters, Dorothy, who died unmarried, and Catherine, married to John Cockin Sole, esq. At his death he gave this manor, with the seat of New-house, and the rest of his possessions in this parish, to his second surviving son, the Rev. James-Stephen Lushington, of Bottisham, near Cambridge, who is the present possessor of them.

The Rev. Mr. Lushington is a prebendary of Carlisle, and has been twice married; first to Mary, one of the daughters of Edmund Law, lord bishop of Carlisle, who died in 1768, having had by her two sons and one daughter; and secondly to Mary, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Christian, of Norfolk; by whom he has three sons and two daughters.

There are no parochial charities. The poor constantly relieved are about twenty, casually fifteen.

RODMERSHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of three isles and two chancels; the southern chancel belongs to the family of Lushington, as lords of the manor, in it are several memorials for the family of Pordage. In the high chancel are four seats, with a kind of wooden canopy over them; perhaps made use of for the knights of St. John, when they

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visited their estate here. At the west end is a handsome tower steeple, built of squared flint, very neat, and of much superior masonry to the rest of the church. There are four bells in it. In the east window of the high chancel are these arms remaining, A cross, between four mullets; there was likewise, anno 1719, a scrole remaining in the windows of William Somptere and John Cheynestere, who had been good benefactors to this church. In the south chancel is a brass plate for William Pery, 1482.

A person unknown gave one acre of woodland to beautify the church, now of the annual produce of twelve shillings.

King Henry II. gave the church of Rodmersham to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, which was confirmed by king John in his 1st year.

About which time an agreement was entered into between Alanus, prior of the hospital, and the chapter of it, and the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, near Canterbury, that when their chapel of Rodmersham should be dedicated, and the cemetery consecrated, they granted to the abbot and the convent, that they would diminish none of the rights of the mother church of Milton, one of which was, the burial of housekeepers, male and female, w of Rodmersham, at Milton, which should never be withdrawn by them, and that neither in that, nor in any thing else, they should sustain any injury, &c. w

After which, this church was appropriated by the prior and chapter of the hospital, to their preceptory established in the parish of West Peckham; in which state it continued till the general dissolution of the hospital, in the 32d year of king Henry VIII. when this order of knights being suppressed, by an act specially passed for the purpose, their hospital, with all its

/u Husbondus et Huswifa in orig.

/w This instrument is in the archives of Christ-church, Canterbury. Regist. of St. Augustine, cart. 514.

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lands and revenues, was given by it to the king. After which the fee of the rectory of Rodmersham, with the advowson of the vicarage, seems to have remained in the crown, till the king, in the 36th year of his reign, granted it, with its appurtenances, to John Pordage, esq. of this parish, to hold in capite by knight's service. Since which they have continued with the manor down to the Rev. James-Stephen Lushington, the present owner of them.

In 1640 the vicarage was valued at thirty pounds per annum. Communicants one hundred.

It is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of thirty pounds, the tenths of it being 16s. 8d.

CHURCH OF RODMERSHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

William Pordage. John Mills, Sept. 10, 1580, ob.
1610.

William Bramiche, A. M. July
31, 1610.

William Jewell, obt. 1640.
 Sir Ralph Whitfield, king's ser-
 geant at law. James Wilkin, A. M. April 4,
 1640.
 The crown, by lapse. Thomas Conway, A. M. February
 1693, obt. 1713.
 Stephen Lushington, esq. Charles Holway, A. B. March
 14, 1713, resigned 1714.
 John Swanne, A. M. Dec. 11,
 1714, obt. 1722.
 The Archbishop. John Seale, A. M. January 4,
 1722, resigned 1751.
 Thomas Godfrey Lushington, esq. James Allet, A.M. Oct. 21,
 1751, obt. 1776.
 James-Stephen Lushington, clerk Thomas Edmundson, Oct. 25,
 1776, obt. Oct. 23, 1797.
 Wilfrid Clark, A. M. April 5,
 1798.

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BAPCHILD

IS the next parish northward from Rodmersham.
 It was antiently written Beccanceld, which name an=
 swers well to its situation, signifying in the Saxon lan=
 guage, one that is both moist and bleak.

IT IS a situation equally unpleasant as it is un=
 healthy, lying most part of it low, the water bad, and
 the air unwholesome from the noxious vapours arising
 from the marshes at no great distance northward
 from it. The village, called Bapchild-street, con=
 taining about twenty houses, (one of which in the
 middle of it is the vicarage, a small but neat modern
 building, and at the east end of it, adjoining to the
 same side of the road, in a kind of orchard, are the
 remains of the old chapel, which will be further
 mentioned hereafter, a small remnant of the walls of
 which, composed rudely of flints, are all that are left
 of it, being part of a barn, the remainder of the walls
 of which are built up with brick) stands on the high
 Dover road, about forty-one miles and an half from
 London, having the church at a small distance south=
 ward from it, whence the land rises gently to the
 southern boundaries of it, next to Rodmersham, ad=
 joining to which part of it, about a mile from the
 London road, though partly in Tong, there is a house,
 called Wood-street-house, built about the year 1776,
 by Mr. John May, of Sittingborne, who resided in
 it, and died in 1778, leaving a son John, and a daugh=
 ter Anne, since married to Mr. Ambrose Russell.
 It is now occupied by Mr. Edward Matson.

There is an antient and allowed fair held in the
 village, on the feast of St. Laurence, now by altera=
 tion of the style on August 21, for toys, pedlary, &c.
 the profits of which belong to the lord of Milton
 manor.

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The land in this parish, as well as the neighbouring
 ones, near the high road from Sittingborne as far as
 Boughton-street, is a fine loamy fertile soil, which,
 though it extends but a small way southward of the

road, yet it continues equally fertile on the lower or northern side of it, quite to the marshes.

The greatest part of this tract of land, is what in these parts is usually called round tilt land; being land that is continually tilled, without being made fallow, with the same succession of grain, viz. barley, beans, and wheat, year after year; of the latter of which in particular, the burthen is usually four or five quarters per acre, and the usual annual rent of the land 20s. a very considerable rent, considering the great burthen of parochial taxes, and the high rate of servants wages in this part of the county. These expences oblige the landholder to make the most of his land, and not to suffer it to be lessened by hedge-rows and small inclosures, by which means most of the farms are thrown into two or three, or perhaps only one field, several of which contain sixty, seventy, one hundred acres, or more, and this makes the country more open and champion than the other parts of this county usually are.

In the year 694, Withred, king of Kent, convened A GREAT COUNCIL of the nobility and clergy, in which he presided, and in which archbishop Britwald was present, at Becanceld, or Bapchild, as it is supposed to mean, by several learned men, among which are Camden, Dr. Plot, and Mr. Johnson, of Cranbrooke. Some few indeed have supposed it, from the similitude of the name, to have been held at Beckenham, at the western extremity of this county; but Bapchild has full as much similitude of name, especially as one copy writes it Bachanchild; and its being situated in the midst of the county, close to the high road, and so near to Canterbury, makes it much more probable to have been held here.

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The constitution of this council, by which several privileges were granted to the church, was drawn up in the form of a charter; and in so great esteem were the abbesses, for their prudence and sanctity, that there are the names of five subscribed to it, not only before the priests, but before Botred, a bishop, contrary to all precedent; which makes the genuineness of this charter much suspected.

Dr. Stillingfleet seems to think this was the first charter among the Saxons that was ever made. If so, all shewn, as granted before that time, must be spurious and counterfeit. However that be, he says, the year of the christian æra was never applied before that time to any public ones.

There are yet part of the walls of an oratory remaining, near the high road on the north side of it, almost at the east end of Bapchild-street, which is by some supposed to have been erected in memory of the celebration of this council, and in later times was made use of by the pilgrims, who, on their journey to Canterbury, to the shrine of St. Thomas Becket, here offered up their prayers for the success of their pilgrimage.

Another council was afterwards said to have been held at Beccanceld in 798, by archbishop Athelard in which, Kenulph, king of Mercia, presided; but both these are supposed, by some, to have been spu-

rious, the latter especially, and the former was thought to be so by the late archbishop Wake, as may be seen in his treatise on the state of the church.

Under the descriptions of Lenham and Newington, mention has already been made of the Roman station, called Durolevum, lying on the road from London to Dover; and the opinions of our learned antiquaries, where that station was. Camden's Continuator is the

/y See Spelman's Councils, vol. i. p. 189. Wilkins's Councils, vol. i. p. 56, 57, 158, 162.

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only one, that I have seen, who has even made a conjecture of its having been here at Bapchild, which he founds on the distance of it, and the convenience of its situation on the high road from Rochester to Canterbury, as well as from its having been a place of such consequence in the Saxon times, as to have a British council held at it.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over this parish, as being within that hundred, subordinate to which is

THE MANOR OF BAPCHILD-COURT, which was antiently part of the possessions of the family of Savage, seated at Bobbing in this neighbourhood; one of which, Arnold, son of Sir Thomas Savage, died possessed of it in the 49th year of king Edward III. and was succeeded in it by his son and heir Sir Arnold Savage, of Bobbing, who died in the 12th year of king Henry IV. leaving one son Arnold, and a daughter Elizabeth, who on her brother's death s. p. became his heir, being the wife of William Clifford, esq. who became entitled to this manor among the rest of her inheritance, and in his descendants it continued till Henry Clifford, esq. of Bobbing, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, alienated this manor to William Coting, who not long afterwards passed it away to Mr. John Bix, of Linsted, who afterwards resided at Bapchild-court, bearing for his arms, Vairy, argent, and azure. In whose descendants this manor continued down to William Bix, who sold it to Larkham, whose son the Rev. William Larkham, of Richmond, about the year 1757, alienated it to Mr. Thomas Matchin, of London, whose widow afterwards possessed it, since which it has been the property of John Fuller, esq. who has built a new house on it, and continues the present owner of it.

There is no court held for this manor, nor has been for many years.

MORRIS-COURT is a manor here, which lies at a

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small distance eastward from that last-described. It was formerly the property of a family of the same name, which seems to have been extinct here before the end of king Henry IV.'s reign, when it was alienated to Brown, and at the latter end of Henry VI.'s reign, it was in the possession of Sir Thomas Brown, treasurer of the king's household, who married Eleanor, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Fitzalan, alias Arundel, brother of John Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, by whom he had the castle of Beechworth, in

Surry. He had by her five sons, of whom Sir George Brown, the eldest, was of Beechworth-castle, and inherited this manor.

In the 1st year of king Richard III. he fell under the king's displeasure, and a proclamation was issued for apprehending him among others, for aiding and assisting that great rebel the late duke of Buckingham, as he was termed in it; and an act passed that year for his attainder, in consequence of which, all his estates were confiscated to the crown, and the king granted a commission to one Roulande Machele, to take possession for him in the manor of Morise, in the parish of Babechilde, late belonging to Sir George Browne, attainted, /z who died before the end of that reign; for in the 1st year of king Henry VII. another act passed for the restoration of his heirs, as well in blood as in estates.

How long this manor continued in his descendants, I have not found; but most probably it was alienated, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, by Sir Thomas Brown, of Beechworth-castle, to Wolgate, of a family which had been seated at Wolgate, now called Wilgate-green, in Throwley, for some generations. From this name it passed into that of Kempe, and from thence to Thomas Tilghman, descended of a younger branch of those of Snodland, in this county, and he quickly af=

/z See the commission, Harl. MSS. No. 433 1685-1698.

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terwards sold it to John Caslock, of Faversham, who as well as his father had been mayor of that town. In the grant of arms made to him by William Segar, esq. garter, dated in 1614, his name is written Castelock, and it is recited in it, that his ancestors came into Kent on account of their uncle, who was the lord abbot of Faversham. From him this manor was sold to Mr. Robert Master, gent. descended of ancestors who had for several generations been inhabitants of the same town, and bore for their arms, Argent, on a bend between two cotizes, sable, a lion passant-guardant of the field, crowned, or; who passed it away to Mr. John Knowler, of Faversham, in whose descendants it continued down to John Knowler, esq. recorder of Canterbury, steward of the town of Faversham, and barrister at law. He died possessed of it in the year 1763, leaving by his wife Mary, daughter and heir of Mr. Russell, of Hawkhurst, who survived him, and died in 1782, two daughters his coheirs, of whom Anne, the eldest, married Henry Penton, esq. of Winchester, and Mary, the youngest, to Henry Digby, lord, afterwards earl of Digby; and they joined afterwards in the conveyance of it to Mr. Thomas Gascoigne, the present owner, who resides in it.

PETTS-COURT, antiently called Potts-court, is another manor in this parish, the mansion of which has been long since in ruins. It was part of the possessions of the priory of Dartford, and is inserted in the list of the revenues of it, in a writ ad quod damnum brought against the prioress, in the 11th year of Edward IV. In which situation this manor remained till the dissolution of the priory, in the reign of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered up into the king's hands, with

all its lands and possessions; after which the manor of Petts-court, alias Pettis-court, seems to have remained in the crown till king Edward VI. in his last year, granted it, among other premises, to Sir Thomas Cheney, treasurer of his household, to hold in capite, by

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knight's service, whose only son and heir Henry Cheney, of Todington, together with Jane his wife, alienated it, together with the wood, called the Lord's wood, in Milsted, anno 14 Elizabeth, to Richard Thornhill, grocer and citizen of London.

After which, Sir Henry Cheney, then lord Cheney, of Todington, granted and made over to him all liberties, franchises, royalties, and all other privileges within this manor, among others which were claimed by Mr. Thornhill, and judgment was given for him by the barons of the exchequer, on a trial had in Michaelmas term, in the 17th year of that reign./a

In his descendants this manor continued down to Richard Thornhill, esq. of Ollantigh, who in the 4th year of queen Anne, anno 1704, having obtained an act for that purpose, sold it to Jacob Sawbridge, of London, late one of the directors of the South Sea company, who died in 1748, and his great-grandson, Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, in this county, is the present owner of it.

The house of this manor having been long since ruined, the barns and lands belonging to it have been for some years let with Radfield, adjoining to it.

RADFIELD is a hamlet in this parish, lying on the high Dover road, about half a mile distant eastward from the village of Bapchild. The principal estate in which, of that name, was in the reign of Henry II. part of the possessions of Adam de Tanges, who gave the moiety of it to the brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

After which, Gomerius de Neapoli, prior of that hospital, with the common consent of his chapter, by deed in 1190, under their common seal, granted to Turstan de Bakechild, and his heirs, their land in Kent, given to them as before mentioned, together with the

/a Rot. 81 in Scacc. ex parte Remem. Thesaurarii. See Coke's Entries, p. 109.

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whole service of their tenants residing there, and all its appurtenances, which Roger de Wurmedal held, to hold at the yearly rent of six marcs and an half of silver, for all services belonging to it; and further, that he and his heirs should maintain one chaplain and a priest, who on each Sunday should celebrate mass; and should preserve the edifices built at this chapel in a proper state for the reception of him and his brethren, when they made a progress into Kent; with liberty of re-entry on non-payment, &c.

How this estate passed afterwards I do not find; but it was in later times part of the possessions of the Thornhills; from which family it passed, in like manner as Petts-court before-described, in the 4th year of queen Anne, from Richard Thornhill, esq. to Jacob Sawbridge, of London, whose great-grandson Samuel

Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, is now entitled to it.

THE FREE CHAPEL before-mentioned, seems to have continued as such, till the general suppression of such religious endowments, by the act passed in the 37th year of Henry VIII. and the 1st of Edward VI. In the latter of them, on a survey taken of it, the return was, that the chapel was fallen down, that the founder was not known, and that the revenue of it consisted of a tenement, and two pieces of land, in Bapchild, then worth forty-two shillings per annum, beyond reprises: all which were sold by the general surveyors of the court of augmentations, in the 2d year of that reign, to Thomas Grene, esq./b After which it became the property of Bix, and afterwards of Bateman. John Bateman owned it in the reign of king James I. and was succeeded by his son of the same name, who by his will devised it to Mr. John Bateman, of Wormesell, and he possessed it at the

/b Survey of Chantries, Augtn. off In the year 1553, there was remaining in charge the pension of 2l. 19s. 9d. to John Mothram, the late incumbent of the free chapel of Radfeld.

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restoration of king Charles II. Since which it has been alienated to the family of May, in which it has continued to the present time.

CHARITIES.

MR. WILLIAM HOUSSEON gave by will in 1783, for the instructing of the poor children of the parishes of Tonge, Murs-ton, and Bapchild, to read and write the English language, in money 200l. the interest of it to be equally divided between those parishes, vested in the 4 percent. consolidated annuities, which sum was transferred next year to the incumbents of the three parishes, who are the present trustees; it is now of the annual produce of 10l. 13s. 6d.

BAPCHILD is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Rochester, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church is dedicated to St. Laurence. It is a small building, and by the size and capitals of the pillars and other parts of it, appears to be of some antiquity. It consists of two isles and two chancels. In the south chancel is a brass plate for John Kendall and Margaret his wife, anno 1529. The northern chancel, formerly belonging to Bapchild-court, has been deserted by the owners of it for many years, and is now repaired by the parish. The steeple, which stands on the south side of the church, has a tall spire on it, covered with shingles. It has but one bell in it.

It appears by the Testa de Nevil, that in the time of king Richard I. this church was part of the possessions of the crown, and was given by that king to one master Oliver: what interest he had in it, or how long he continued possessed of it, is not mentioned; but king John, in his 5th year, at the instance of Simon de Wells, granted to the church of Chichester, and him and his successors, bishops of Chichester, this church which was of his gift, with the lands and woods, and all other its appurtenances, to hold in free, pure and perpetual alms, to the endowment of that church, as he had promised at the dedication of it.

After which it seems to have been allotted to that part of the revenue of this church, which was for the maintenance of the dean and chapter of Chichester, to whom the church of Bapchild was appropriated by archbishop Weathershed, in 1229,^{/c} and they now continue owners of the parsonage, and the advowson of the vicarage of it, the former of which is demised by them on lease from time to time, but the latter they reserve to themselves.

There is a pension of forty shillings yearly, payable to the vicar from the dean and chapter of Chichester, by the endowment above mentioned.

In 1640 this vicarage was valued at fifty pounds per annum. Communicants sixty-five. In the reign of queen Anne, the communicants were eighty-two.

It is now a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of twenty-seven pounds, the yearly tenths of it being sixteen shillings.

This vicarage has been augmented by queen Anne's bounty, with which some land in this parish has been lately purchased.

CHURCH OF BAPCHILD.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Dean and chapter of Chichester George Jetter, Feb. 26, 1593,
obt. 1600.

Richard Kitson, jun. A. B. va=
cated 1605.

John Marson, A. B. Sept. 9,
1605.

The King, by lapse William Branch, A. M. Nov.
24, 1606.

Dean and chapter of Chichester Francis Skinner, A. M. May 2,
1626.

The crown, by lapse William Sale, A. B. March 14,
1689.

John Goodyer, A. M. Sept. 1,
1697, resigned 1709.

^{/c} Ducarel's Repertory, p. 2, wherein these instruments are said to be among the Lambeth MSS.

PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Dean and chapter of Chichester Thomas Morland, A. B. Sept. 19,
1709, resigned 1716.

The crown, by lapse George Thompson, Nov. 7, 1716,
obt. 1744.

William Marsh, July 17, 1751,
resigned 1759.^{/d}

Dean and chapter of Chichester Samuel Bickley, Oct. 23, 1759,
deprived 1764.^{/e}

Thomas Gurney, A. B. March 9,
1764, resigned 1765.^{/f}

Charles Allen, inducted May 10,
1765.

Edward Penry, Nov. 7, 1765,
obt. March 7, 1798.

^{/d} He was also rector of Bicknor. ^{/e} Deprived by the archbishop in 1764.

He assumed the title of baronet whilst vicar here. /f See Seasalter.

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TONG.

NORTHWARD from Bapchild lies Tong, called in the Saxon language Thwang, which took its name, by antient tradition, from the following circumstance:

After the arrival of the Saxons in this kingdom, and their victory over the Scots and Picts, at Stamford, in Lincolnshire, Vortigern, king of Britain, highly satisfied with the conduct of the two Saxon chiefs, Hengist and Horsa, expressed himself very desirous of rewarding them for their services; when Hengist requested, as a pledge of the king's affection, only as much land as an ox-hide could encompass; which being readily granted, he cut the whole hide into small thongs, and inclosed within them a space of ground, large enough to contain a castle, which he accordingly built on it, and named it from thence Thwang-ceastre, i. e. Thong-castle; whence the parish itself afterwards took its name.

Writers differ much in the situation of this land, Camden, and some others, place it at Thong castle,

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near Grimsby, in Lincolnshire, others place it at Doncaster; whilst Leland, Kilburne, Philipott, and others, fix it here, with the same old trite story to each place, which rather casts a shew of doubt on the whole of it. Indeed it seems but an imitation of Virgil's story of Dido's building of Byrsa, Æneid 1, l. 369, where, speaking of that queen and her companions, he says,

Devenere locos, ubi nunc ingentia cernes
Mœnia, surgentemque novæ Carthaginis arcem.
Mercatique solum, facti de nomine Byrsam,
Taurino quantum possent circumdare tergo.

They came where now you see new Carthage rise,
And yon proud citadel invade the skies.
The wand'ring exiles bought a space of ground
Which one bull-hide inclos'd and compass'd round,
Hence Byrsa nam'd.

This castle was most conveniently situated for Hengist's purposes, close to the great high road on the one side, and not far distant from the water, called the Swale, on the other, through which it is supposed, the usual passage was for the shipping, between the main land and the Isle of Shepey, in former times.

At this castle, Hengist, some years afterwards, led on by his unbounded ambition, resolved to attain that by fraud and treachery, which he could not accomplish openly by force of arms. Accordingly, there being a good understanding between the Britons and the Saxons, he invited Vortigern, the British king, whose attachment to pleasure he was well acquainted with, to a splendid entertainment at this castle, who, unsuspecting the treachery, attended the summons, being accompanied by three hundred of his chief nobility, unarmed, who were all of them, towards the end of the feast, perfidiously massacred by the Saxons, Vortigern only being spared, and detained as a prisoner, who was at last forced, as a ransom for his li-

berty, to surrender up to the Saxons a large tract of land, which Hengist added to his former territories.

This happened in the year 461, and Vortigern being set at liberty, retired into Wales. It was at a feast held at this castle in 450, that the story is told of Vortigern's being so enamoured with the beauty of Rowena, Hengist's daughter, that he repudiated his wife, and married her, and in recompence to Hengist, gave him up the sovereignty of Kent. That such a marriage did take place, is very certain; but the story of the king's falling in love with her at such a feast here, and the circumstances of it, are not much credited. Indeed Bede and Gildas mention nothing of it, and Malmsbury tells it only as a report.

THE HIGH DOVER ROAD crosses the centre of this parish, at the eastern boundary of Bapchild, just beyond Radfield. It extends on the southern side of it as high up as Kingsdown, in which part of the parish are the estates of Newbarrow and Scuddington, and part of Wood-street; on the northern side of the road it extends to the marshes, which are bounded by the waters of the Swale, flowing between the main land and the Isle of Elmley, in Shepey. It contains about 1300 acres of land, of which not more than ten acres in the southern part of it are wood; that part of the parish on the northern side of the road is a flat and low country, almost on a level with the marshes, and is equally unhealthy as Bapchild, perhaps more so, even to a proverb, as lying lower, and rather more exposed to the marsh vapours; however the lands are exceedingly fertile for corn, being the same kind of round tilt land which extends along this plain. There is no village, the church stands about a mile northward from the road; the scite of the old castle is three fields only from the north side of the road, and is plainly seen from it. It consists of a high mount, containing about half an acre of ground, thrown up out of a broad and deep moat, which surrounds it,

the north-west part of which is nearly dry, but the springs which rise on the south-west side of it, and formerly supplied the whole of it, now direct their course into a very large pond on the eastern side of the moat, and produce so plentiful a supply of water there, as to afford sufficient to turn a corn-mill, belonging to the lord of the manor, and afterwards flow from hence northward into the Swale; a large cutlas sword, with a buckhorn handle, was dug up within the scite of this castle about thirty years ago.

There was formerly an hospital situated in this parish. Leland in his Itinerary says, 'There was a poor hospital a mile beyond Sittingborne, called Pokeshaulle. King Henry the VIth gave it to Linche, his physician, and Linche gave it to a son of his, I suppose. It is now (that is in king Henry the VIIIth's reign) quite down.' This is, I should suppose, the same house mentioned in the Harleian MSS. where there is a commission signed by Richard III. in his 1st year for suffering Arnold Childre, to occupy the almox house beside sittingborne, which the king had given to him

for life. Queen Mary, in her 4th year, granted this hospital of St. James, of Puckleshall, late in the tenure of Richard Newton, to Sir John Parrot.

There was a family of good account formerly, which took their name from this parish. Semanus at Tong was so considerable a man, that in the 21st year of king Richard II. he lent the king twenty pounds, no small sum in those days. He possessed lands at Bredgar, Tonstall, and other places in this neighbourhood and elsewhere, and at Bredgar, his descendants remained till within memory.

THE CASTLE OF TONG, most probably fell to ruin during the time of the Saxon heptarchy, and, with THE MANOR OF TONG, came in that situation into the hands of William the Conqueror, on his obtaining the crown, who gave both castle and manor to his half-brother Odo, bishop of Baieux, among other

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great possessions; accordingly it is thus described in the book of Domesday, under the general title of the bishop's lands:

The same Hugo (de Port) holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Tangas. It was taxed at two sulings. The arable land is two carucates. In demesne there are two, and five villeins with one carucate. There is a church, and four servants, and one mill of eight shillings. Wood for the pannage of four hogs.

In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth seven pounds, now ten pounds. Oswald held it.

Of these sulins, which Hugo de Port held, Oswald held five, at a yearly rent; and three sulins and one yoke and an half, which he took from the king's villeins.

On the bishop's disgrace about four years afterwards, the king confiscated all his possessions, and this estate among them probably reverted to the crown, and was afterwards held by the above-mentioned Hugh de Port, who then became the king's immediate tenant for it, being held by him as two knight's fees, parcel of the fourteen knight's fees and a quarter, of which all, but two, which were in Herefordshire, lay in this county, making up together the barony of Port, being held by barony of the castle of Dover, by the service of performing ward there for the defence of it. Of his descendant John de St. John, this manor was again held in the 22d year of king Edward I. by Ralph Fitzbernard, who died in the 34th year of king Edward I. leaving a son Thomas, who died s. p. and a daughter Margaret, married to Guncelin de Badlesmere, whose son Bartholomew de Badlesmere at length succeeded to this manor and castle, as part of his mother's inheritance.

He was a man much in favor with king Edward II. who made him constable of the castle of Leeds, Tunbridge and Bristol, and granted to him the manors and castles of Chilham and Leeds, with several other

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estates in this county and elsewhere; besides which, he obtained many liberties and franchises for his different manors and estates, among which was a grant

of a fair to be held yearly at this manor, on the eve, day, and morrow, after the feast of St. Giles the abbot, and also for free-warren in the demesne lands of it. Being afterwards executed for rebellion in the 16th year of that reign, this estate became forfeited to the crown, but in the 2d year of king Edward III. the process and judgment against him being reversed, the manor of Tong, among others, were then restored to his son Giles de Badlesmere, who died in the 12th year of the same reign, s. p. so that his four sisters became his coheirs, and upon a partition of their inheritance, this manor fell to the share of his third sister Elizabeth, then the wife of William Bohun, earl of Northampton, who in her right became entitled to it, holding it by the like service as before-mentioned.

Though he left issue by her, yet this manor did not descend to them, but to the issue of her first husband Edmund Mortimer, by whom she had one son Roger, who, in the 28th year of that reign, had obtained a reversal in parliament of the judgment given against his grandfather Roger, late earl of March, as erroneous and utterly void; upon which he thenceforth bore the title of earl of March.

His son and heir, Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, died possessed of it in the 5th year of Richard II. being then possessed of the toft of the castle of Tong, together with the castle annexed to the said toft, with the manor appurtenant to it, held of the king in capite, as of his castle of Dover, by the service as before-mentioned. At length his descendant, Roger, earl of March, dying anno 3 Henry VI. Richard, duke of York, son of Anne his sister, was found to be his next heir, and accordingly became possessed of this estate.

/g See more of the Badlesmeres, vol. v. of this history, p. 482.

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After which, endeavouring to assert the title of the house of York to the crown, he was slain in the battle of Wakefield, anno 39 Henry VI. being then possessed of the manor of Tong, as was found by the inquisition, which, by reason of the confusion of those times, was not taken till the 3d year of Edward IV. when the king was found to be his eldest son and next heir.

Notwithstanding the duke of York is said by the above-mentioned inquisition to have died possessed of this manor, yet the year before his death, a long attainder had passed against him and others, with the forfeiture of all their hereditaments in fee or fee tail; upon which this manor was granted by Henry VI. to Thomas Browne, esq. of Beechworth-castle, afterwards knighted, and made comptroller and treasurer of his household, who soon afterwards obtained a grant of a fair at this manor, on St. James's day yearly, and another for liberty to embattle his mansion, and to impark his lands here. His eldest son Sir George Browne, in the 11th year of king Edward IV. surrendered up all his right and title to it, to Cicely, duchess of York, the king's mother, who was then in possession of it. She died anno 10 Henry VII. upon which it came to the crown, where it continued till king Edward VI. granted it in his 1st year to Sir Ralph

Fane, afterwards created a banneret, for his signal behaviour at the battle of Musselburgh, in Scotland, that year, to hold in capite by knight's service./h

He alienated this manor soon afterwards to Sir Rowland Clerke, who in the 4th and 5th year of king Philip and queen Mary, alienated it to Saloman Wilkins, who was succeeded by his son David Wilkins, who resided at Bex, or Bexle court, in this parish, an estate which had formerly belonged to the Nottinghams, of Bayford, in Sittingborne. He alienated this

/h Rot, Esch. ejus an. pt. 6. Inrolments, Augtn. off.

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manor, with the scite of the castle to William Pordage, of Rodmersham, who purchased likewise some lands which had formerly belonged to this manor and had been sold off to Norden some few years before; in whose descendants it continued till it was at length sold to the Iles's, by a daughter of which name it passed in marriage to Hazard, whose son Richard Hazard, esq. died in 1784, after which it came into the name of Shard, and William Shard, esq. owned it in 1791, since which it has passed to Richard Seath, esq. of this parish, who is the present proprietor of the scite of this castle, and the manor annexed to it. There is a court baron held for this manor.

CHEEKS COURT is situated in this parish, though great part of the estate belonging to it lies in the adjoining parish of Murston. It was antiently written Chicks-court, and was once the property and residence of a family called At-Cheek, and sometimes de Cheeksell, as appeared from antient deeds; but in the reign of king Edward II. William de Ore was become intitled to it, with whom however, it did not remain long, for in the 9th year of that reign, Fulk Peyforer, who had been knight of the shire for this county in the 6th year of that reign, died possessed of it.

From the name of Peyforer it passed into that of Potyn, one of which family was possessed of it in the reign of king Richard II. and left an only daughter Juliana, who carried it in marriage to Thomas St. Leger, second son of Sir Ralph St. Leger, of Ulcomb, who afterwards resided in her right at Otterden, and was sheriff anno 20 Richard II. He left an only daughter Joane, who marrying Henry Aucher, esq. of Newenden, entitled her husband to the possession of it. She survived him, and afterwards married Robert Capys, to whom Henry Aucher, esq. her only son and heir by her first husband, in the 19th year of

/i See Otterden, vol. v. of this history, p. 535.

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king Henry VI. confirmed a life estate in Cheekscourt, Elmley, and other parts of her former inheritance. He afterwards, on her death, became possessed of it, and then sold it to Sir William Cromer, of Tunstall, sheriff in the 2d year of king James I. who alienated this estate to Mr. Christopher Allen, whose descendant the Rev. Thomas Allen, rector of the adjoining parish of Murston, died possessed of it in 1732, and devised it by will to his first cousin Mrs. Finch Allen, married first to the Rev. Mr. Mills,

and secondly to Thomas Hooper, gent. of Stockbury, by whom she had three sons, Walter, Thomas, and Finch, and two daughters; Jane, married to William Jumper, esq. of Stockbury, and Catherine to the Rev. Theodore Delafaye. Walter Hooper, the eldest son, became possessed of this estate on his father's death, and left only two daughters his coheirs, of whom, Sarah married first Steed, and secondly William Huggessen, esq. of Stodmarsh, and Dorothy married Mr. Robert Radcliffe, who entitled their husbands to their respective shares of this estate, as devised to them by their father's will. At length William Huggessen, esq. about the year 1764, purchased the other part, and so became possessed of the whole fee of it, of which he continues owner at this time.

NEWBURGH, commonly called Newbarrow, is another estate in the southern part of this parish, adjoining to Linsted, which was formerly accounted a manor, though the reputation of its ever having been one is now almost forgotten. It was antiently owned by a family which assumed its surname from it, after whom it came into the possession of the family of Apulderfield, whose antient seat was at Challock, in this county.

Henry de Apulderfield died possessed of it in the reign of king Edward I. in whose descendants it continued down to William Apulderfield, esq. who died in the reign of king Henry VI. leaving his two daughters

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his coheirs, one of whom, Elizabeth, carried this estate in marriage to Sir John Phineux, chief justice of the king's bench, and he too leaving only daughters and coheirs, one of them, Jane, entitled her husband John Roper, esq. of Eltham, to the possession of it. He was attorney-general to Henry VIII. and died in 1524, leaving by her two sons and several daughters; of the former, William succeeded him at Eltham, where his descendants continued till of late, and Christopher was of Lodge, in the adjoining parish of Linsted, and by his father's will inherited this estate. His son Sir John Roper, anno 14 James I. 1616, was created lord Teynham, and died in 1618, possessed of this estate, which continued in his descendants till Henry Roper, lord Teynham, in the year 1766, alienated it to Mr. William Chamberlain, gent. of London, the present possessor of it.

CHARITIES.

MR. WILLIAM HOUSSON gave by will in 1783, for instructing poor children of this parish, Murston and Bapchild, to read and write, 200l. now vested in the 4 per cent. consolidated annuities, a further account of which may be seen before under Bapchild.

SIR WILLIAM STEDE, of Stede-hill, gave by will in 1620, 10l. per annum, to be paid out of lands in Sandhurst, for binding out yearly the children of the poorest people in this parish, Harrietsham, and Milton by Sittingborne, for ever, to be nominated by the owners of Stedehill-house, now vested by deed of settlement in trustees.

The poor constantly relieved here are about sixteen, casually sixty-five.

TONG is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Giles, consists of one large and two narrow side isles, and has a tower steeple on the south side, in which are three

/k See more of the Apulderfields, under Challock.

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bells. It was given by king Edward I. to the abbey of West Langdon, to which it was appropriated by archbishop Walter Reynolds, in 1325, and it continued part of the possessions of that monastery till the surrendry of it, anno 27 Henry VIII. This house being one of those lesser monasteries, whose revenues were not above the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds, which were suppressed by the act passed that year.

The parsonage of the church of Tong did not remain long in the hands of the crown, for the king granted it in his 29th year, with the monastery, and the lands and possessions of it, to the archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange for other premises; but all advowsons were excepted out of this grant.

Soon after which, this parsonage was demised on lease by the archbishop at the yearly rent of six pounds, and in this state it still continues parcel of the possessions of the archbishopric of Canterbury.

But the advowson of the vicarage, by virtue of the above-mentioned exception, still remained in the crown, where it continued till it was sold anno 1557, to Salomon Wilkins; but in the next reign of queen Elizabeth, it was become vested in William Potter. It afterwards become the property of Mr. Daniel Pawson, of Harrietsham, and then of the Stede family. Since which it has had the same possessors as Harrietsham manor and place, and as such, is now become vested in Wm. Baldwin, esq. of Harrietsham-place.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 8l. 6s. 8d. the yearly tenths being 16s. 8d. and is of the yearly certified value of 55l. 3s.

In 1640 it was valued at fifty pounds. Communicants seventy-five.

In 1661 archbishop Juxon augmented this vicarage, in conformity to the king's letters of recommendation, ten pounds per annum out of the great tithes.

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CHURCH OF TONG.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The archdeacon. Daniel Pawson, A. B. July 3,
1593, obt. 1593.

John Bungey, preb. of Canterbury William Potter, A. B. March
22, 1593, obt. 1620.

Mr. Dan. Pawson, of Harrietsham Henry Pawson, A. M. June 7,
1620, obt. 1627.

Daniel and Thomas Pawson. Christopher Batcheler, A. M.
March 27, 1627./l

The Archbishop. William Pell, A. M. Aug. 22,
1662, obt. 1672.

Edwin Stede, esq, Thomas Cradocke, A. B. June 14,
1672.
John Napleton, A. M. Jan. 26,
1676, obt. 1712.
Dutton Stede, esq. Richard Coliere, A. M. Nov. 17,
1712. resigned 1716.
Daniel Prat, A. M. Feb. 10,
1716, resigned 1723./m
The Archbishop, by lapse Jude Holdsworth, A. M. Sept.
28, 1723, resigned 1750./n
Elizabeth, daughter of Jude Holds=
worth, clerk. Benjamin Longley, LL. B. Dec.
12, 1750, obt. 1783./o
Sir Charles Booth. Robert J. Moreton, 1783, the
present vicar.

/l In 1627 by dispensation rector of
Kingsdown near Sittingborne. See
Rym. Fœd. vol. xviii. p. 1007.
/m Likewise rector of Harrietsham.

He was the son of dean Prat, and lies
buried in Rochester cathedral.

/n He resigned this for the rectory
of Rucking, which he held with that
of Hinxhill, by dispensation. He
died in 1759.

/o Likewise vicar of Eynsford, and
perpetual curate of Ash near Sandwich

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MURSTON.

THE next parish westward from Tong is Murston,
usually called Muston, which takes its name from its
vicinity to the marshes.

THE PARISH is almost all of it situated on the
north side of the high Dover road, to the left of the
hill next beyond Sittingborne, a very small part of it

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only extending southward of the road, where, near the
boundaries of the parish is the parsonage, with the
glebe belonging to it, and the only small wood within
it. It extends northward across the marshes and salts,
as far as the waters of the Swale, which separates the
main land from the Isle of Shepey. The village is
situated midway between the London road and the
marshes, and the church and court-lodge at no great
distance from it. The parish contains about one thou=
sand acres of land, of which about thirty are wood.
Its situation is most unpleasant as well as unhealthy,
even in the highest grounds of it, but the greatest part
lying so exceeding low and watry, enveloped by
creeks, marshes and salts, the air is very gross, and
much subject to fogs, which smell very offensive, and
in winter it is scarce ever free from them, and when
most so, they yet remain hovering over the lands for
three or four feet or more in height, which, with the
badness of the water, occasions severe agues, which
the inhabitants are very rarely without, whose
complexions from those distempers become of a dingy
yellow colour, and if they survive, are generally af=
flicted with them till summer, and often for several
years, so that it is not unusual to see a poor man, his

wife, and whole family of five or six children, hovering over their fire in their hovel, shaking with an ague all at the same time; and Dr. Plot remarks, that seldom any, though born here, continuing in it, have lived to the age of twenty-one years. This character of unhealthiness extends to the neighbouring parishes on the northern side of the road, which, however, is not peculiar to this county, as all other parts of the kingdom in a like situation, are subject to the same fatality. The lands in this parish, like those of Tong and Bapchild before-described, are very rich and fertile for corn, and there is some good hop-ground in it; was it not for this prospect of gain, and high wages given for the hazard of life itself, these situa-

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tions would probably be nearly deserted of inhabitants, but this temptation draws them hither in preference to the healthy country among the poor and barren hills, but a few miles distance from them.

In Frid wood, southward of Murston parsonage, and likewise in the neighbourhood of Faversham, there are several hollow caves dug in the ground, much like those at Crayford, mentioned in the second volume of this history, p. 266, which seem to have been hiding places in the time of the Saxons, where the inhabitants secured their wives, children and effects, from the ravages and cruelty of their enemies.

A small part of this parish, consisting of some acres of arable and wood, lies at some distance from the rest of it, entirely surrounded by the parish of Luddenham, several other parishes intervening; it seems formerly to have been of some account, and in antient records to have been mentioned by the name of the manor of Herst-hall, in Herst; part of it in Bizing wood belongs to the glebe of this rectory.

THE MANOR, after William the Conqueror had seized on the bishop of Baieux, his half-brother, for his seditious and turbulent behaviour, in the year 1084, with his other estates became confiscated to the crown, after which the king granted this manor to Hugh de Port, who held it of the king in capite by barony, as of the castle of Dover, by the tenure of castle-guard for the defence of it, of him and of his descendants, the St. John's, this manor was again held by a family which took their name from their residence at it.

Bartholomew de Murston is in the list of those Kentish gentlemen, who assisted king Richard I. at the siege of Acon, in Palestine; and his descendant John de Murston held it in the reign of king Edward III. in the 20th year of which he paid aid for it, as one knight's fee.

But before the end of the next reign of Richard II. this family was become extinct here, when Walter, lord

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Fitzwalter, was become the possessor of it, whose descendant Walter, lord Fitzwalter, likewise possessed it in the reign of king Henry VI. bearing for his arms, Or, a fess between two chevrons, gules.

He seems to have alienated this manor to Sir William Cromer, lord mayor in the years 1413 and 1423, and he died possessed of it anno 1433. After which

this manor continued in his descendants in like manner as Tunstall before-described, till it came with that manor, by a female coheir, in marriage to John, eldest son of Sir Edward Hales, of Tenterden, knight and baronet. In whose descendants this manor continued down to Sir Edward Hales, bart. of St. Stephen's, near Canterbury, who sold it some few years since to Rebecca, the widow of Sir Roger Twisden, bart. of Bradbourn, and she is the present possessor of it.

EAST-HALL is an estate in this parish, which was once accounted a manor. It was in early times possessed by a family which assumed its surname from it; one of whom, Joane de Easthall, is recorded in the leiger book of Davington priory, as having been a good benefactor to the nuns there, in the reign of king Henry III. After this name was extinct here, it came into the possession of the De la Pines, who bore for their arms, Sable, three pine apples, or. One of whom, James de la Pine, was sheriff of Kent in the 26th, and part of the 27th years of king Edward III. and died possessed of this manor in the 37th year of that reign, then holding it of the king in capite, by the tenth part of one knight's fee.

His son and heir Thomas de la Pine, about the beginning of king Richard II.'s reign, conveyed this manor to Thomas St. Leger, second son of Sir Ralph St. Leger, of Ulcomb, who resided at Otterden. He left a daughter Joane, who marrying Henry Aucher, esq.

/p See a further account of the families of Cromer and Hales, under Tunstall. /q See East Malling, vol. iv. p. 514.

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of Newenden, entitled her to the possession of it. She survived him, and afterwards married Robert Capys, to whom Henry Aucher, esq. her only son and heir by her first husband, in the 19th year of Henry VI. confirmed a life-estate in East-hall and other places.

From him it passed into the name of Eveas; for Humphry Eveas was found by inquisition to die possessed of the manor of Esthall in the 32d year of king Henry VI. as did his son John Eveas in the 4th year of king Henry VII. and was buried with his wife in the north chancel of this church. His wife Mildred, daughter of Bartholomew Bourne, seems to have survived him, and afterwards to have married Lewis Clifford, esq. of Bobbing. She died in the 20th year of king Henry VII. possessed of this manor with its appurtenances, in the parishes of Murston, Tong, Bapchild, and Elmele, held in capite by knight's service. At length her grandson, Humphry Eveas, dying in the 27th year of Henry VIII. leaving four daughters his coheirs, one of them Alicia, carried it in marriage to Thomas Hales, whose son Christopher Hales, in the 5th year of Edward VI. alienated it to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden, who the next year passed it away by sale to Thomas Gardyner, and he, in the 10th year of queen Elizabeth, transmitted it by sale to Mr. John Norden, who in the 17th year of that reign, levied a fine of it; and afterwards alienated it to William Pordage, esq. of Rodmersham, in whose descendants it continued till it was at length sold to Iles, by a daughter of which name it went in marriage to Hazard, from

which name it passed into that of Shard, and thence again to Seath, in which it still continues, Rich. Seath, esq. being the present owner, who resides in it.

MERE-COURT is an estate in this parish, once esteemed a capital mansion, and seems to have been so named from its low watery situation, near the marshes; for it does not appear to have had any owners of that surname.

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Thomas Abelyn held this manor in the reign of Edward I. in the 4th year of which he died, holding it of the king in capite. His grandson Thomas Abelyn, at length succeeded to it, and left his widow Isolda surviving, who, in the 21st year of that reign, married Henry de Apulderfield, which being without the king's leave, he paid his fine, and had then possession of his wife's land here and elsewhere.

This manor afterwards came into the possession of the family of Savage, of Bobbing, one of whom, Sir Arnold Savage, of Bobbing, died possessed of it in the 49th year of king Edward III. anno 1374. His grandson of the same name dying s. p. his sister Eleanor became his heir, she married William Clifford, esq. and entitled him to this estate, among the rest of her inheritance, and in his descendants it probably continued till it was alienated to Crofts, whose descendant Mr. Daniel Crofts died in the 22d year of queen Elizabeth, leaving one son John, and two daughters, Helen and Margaret, and they, upon the death of their brother, who was an idiot, becoming joint heirs to this estate, sold it, in the 42d year of that reign, to Mr. Stephen Hulks, whose descendant Mr. Nathaniel Hulks dying without issue male, devised it by will to his two daughters and coheirs, Mary and Anne; the former of whom carried her part of this estate in marriage to Mr. John Austen, of St. Martin's hill, near Canterbury, who died possessed of it in 1770. She survived her husband, and again became entitled to this share of Mere-court in her own right, and afterwards, by the death of her sister Anne, who died unmarried, to her share of it likewise, of both which she died possessed in 1781, since which it has been sold by her heirs to Mr. John Lemmey, the present owner, who now resides in it.

/r Rot. Esch. ejus an. Philipott, p. 241.

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CHARITIES.

WILLIAM HOUSSON, gent. gave by will in 1783, for the instruction of poor children of this parish, Tong, and Bapchild, the interest to be equally divided between them in money, 200l. vested in the 4 per cent. consolidated annuities, trustees the incumbents of the three parishes, now of the annual product of 10l. 13s. 6d.

The number of poor constantly relieved are about eighteen; casually about fifteen.

MURSTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a large building, of three isles and three chancels, having a

square tower, with a wooden turret, in which are three bells.

The advowson of Murston was always an appendage to the manor, and as such continued in the same owners, till Sir Edward Hales, bart. sold it to Thomas Leigh, clerk, rector of this parish, whose son the Rev. Egerton Leigh, likewise rector, died possessed of it in 1788, and his heirs are now entitled to it.

It is valued in the king's books at 10l. 14s. 2d. the yearly tenths of which are 1l. 1s. The value of it is now computed to be about two hundred and sixty pounds per annum. In 1578 there were forty-two communicants, and ten houses in this parish.

There are about forty acres of glebe land, the greatest part of which lie in Bizing-wood, near Ospringe, entirely surrounded by Luddenham.

CHURCH OF MURSTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

William Cromer, esq. Gawin Hyereck, inducted June 6, 1583, obt. 1614./s

/s He was afterwards rector of St Mary's, Hoo, and minister of Bredhurst, where he lies buried. He died in 1657.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Robert Russel, and others, hac vice. Richard Hay, A. M. inducted January 23, 1614, resigned 1630.

The King. John Tray, A. B. inducted Feb. 20, 1530, obt. 1640.

George Bonham, A. M. June 23, 1641.

Richard Tray, obt. 1664.

Samuel Symons, A. B. inducted Nov. 25. 1664.

Family of Hales. John Symonds, obt. 1694.

Mark Hildesley, A. M. inducted April 26, 1694, resig. 1710./t

Thomas Allen, A. M. Aug. 26, 1710. obt. Dec. 17, 1732./u

Thomas Leigh, A. M. inducted Jan. 9, 1732, obt. April 19, 1774./w

Himself, patron. Egerton Leigh, inducted Oct. 18, 1774, obt. April 13, 1788./x

J. H. Standen, the present rector.

/t Also vicar of Sittingborne. He was father of Dr. Mark Hildesley, born in this parish in 1698, afterwards bishop of Sodor and Man, who died in 1772. See his life in Gent. Mag. 1781, p. 106.

/u Likewise rector of Kingsdown, near Sittingborne.

/w And rector of St. Margaret's, in

Canterbury, and curate of Iwade.

/x Then rector of St. Mary's, Sandwich, and vicar of Tilmanstone, the former of which he resigned for this rectory.

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SITTINGBORNE.

THE next parish westward from Murston is Sittingborne, antiently written Sedingbourne, in Saxon, Sædingburna, i. e. the hamlet by the bourne, or small stream.

THE PARISH and town of Sittingborne is situated about forty miles from London, the high road from thence to Dover leading through it. The parish, though rather above the level of the marshes, which bound the northern side of it, from which the ground

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rises to the town, is still a damp situation, and both from the air and water is not accounted a healthy one, though much more so than several of the neighbouring parishes equally northward, than which it has a more chearful and populous aspect; from the town the ground still keeps rising southward till it joins Tunstall, in the road to which about a quarter of a mile from the town is a good modern house called Glovers, which lately belonged to Thomas Bannister, esq. who resided in it, and died in 1791, and his widow, Mrs. Bannister, now owns it; eastward from which, at about the same distance, are the estates of Chilston and Fulston, and Hysted Forstall, with Golden-wood at the boundary of the parish, part of which is within it, adjoining to Bapchild and Rodmersham. The parish, which is but small, contains little more than eight hundred acres of land, consisting of arable, pasture, orchards, hop ground, and woods. In the upper and western parts it is much inclined to chalk and thin land, but the rest of it is in general a fertile loam, especially about the town, which was formerly surrounded by orchards of apples and cherries, but many of them have been destroyed to make room for plantations of hops, which, however, are not so numerous as formerly, and several of those which remain are kept up only as nurseries for young plantations of fruit trees, to which they must soon in their turn give place. Northward from the town the grounds are entirely pasture and orchards, lying on a descent to the town of Milton and the creek, both about half a mile distant from it; on the latter is a key called Crown key, of great use to this part of the country for the exporting of corn and wood, and reloading the several commodities from London and elsewhere. At a small distance north-west from the town is Bayford-court.

It appears by a survey made in the 8th year of queen Elizabeth, that there was then in this parish houses inhabited eighty-eight; lacking inhabitants five; keys

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two, Crown key and Holdredge key; ships and boats three, two of one ton, and one of twenty-four tons.

THE town of Sittingborne is built on each side of

the high road at the fortieth mile-stone from London, and stands on a descent towards the east. It is a wide, long street unpaved, the houses of which are mostly modern, being well built of brick, and sashed, the whole having a chearful aspect. The principal support of it has always been from the inns, and houses of reception in it for travellers, of which there are several.

The inhabitants boast much of John Northwood, esq. of Northwood, having entertained king Henry V. on his triumphant return from France, at the Red Lion inn, in this town; and though the entertainment was plentiful, and befitting the royalty of his guest, yet such was the difference of the times, that the whole expence of it amounted to no more than 9s. 9d. wine being then sold at two-pence a pint, and other articles in proportion. The principal inn now in it, called the Rose, is perhaps the most superb of any throughout the kingdom, and the entertainment afforded in it equally so, though the traveller probably will not find his reckoning near so moderate as that of John Northwood before-mentioned. About the middle of the opposite side of the town there is a good family seat, which was once the residence of the Tomlyn's, and then for many years of the Lushingtons, several of whom lie buried in this church, of whom a further mention has already been made under Rodmersham manor, which they possessed. At length Thomas Godfrey Lushington left it to reside at Canterbury, and his second son the Rev. James-Stephen Lushington, becoming possessed of it afterwards, sold it to Mr. John May, who resided in it for some time. Since which it has been converted into an inn. At this house, whilst in the possession of the Lushingtons, king George the 1st. and 2d. constantly lodged, whenever they travelled through this town, both in their way to, and return from visiting their German dominions.

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The church and vicarage stand almost at the east end of the town, near which there rises a clear spring of water in the high road, which flows from thence northward into Milton creek.

Queen Elizabeth, by her charter, in her 16th year, incorporated the town of Sittingborne, by the name of a guardian and free tenants thereof; and granted to it a market weekly on a Wednesday, and two fairs yearly, the one at Whitsuntide, and the other at Michaelmas, with many other privileges: which charter was used for several years, and until the queen was pleased, through further favor to grant to it another more ample charter, in her 41st year, by which she incorporated this place, by the name of a mayor and jurats, and re-granted the market and fairs, with the addition of a great number of privileges, and among others, of returning two members to parliament.

This charter does not appear ever to have been used, or the privileges in it exercised. The market, after having been used for several years, was dropped, and only the two yearly fairs have been kept up, which are still held on Whit-Monday and the two following days, for linen and toys, and on October 10, and the four following days, for linen, woollen, cloaths, hardward, &c. and on the second day of it, for the hiring of servants, both

in the town, and in a field, called the Butts, at the back of it.

Lewis Theobald, the poet, made famous by Mr. Pope, in his *Dunciad*, was born at Sittingborne, his father being an attorney at this place.

SOME FEW of our antiquarians have been inclined to fix the Roman station, called, in the second iter of Antonine, *Durolevum*, at or near Sittingborne; among which are Mr. Talbot, Dr. Horsley, Baxter, and Dr. Stukeley in his comment upon his favorite Richard of Cirencester; but they have but little to offer in sup-

/y Burt. on Anton. p. ix. 179. Horsley's Rom. Brit. p. 425.

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port of their conjecture, except the distances made use of in one or two copies, which are so different in many of them, that there is no trusting to any one in particular; consequently each alters them as it suits his own hypothesis best. The reader will find more of this subject under the description of both Lenham and Newington.

In the year 893, the Danes having fitted out a great number of ships, with an intention of ravaging the coasts of this kingdom, divided them into two fleets; with one of which they sailed up the river Limene, or Rother, and with the other, under the command of Hastings, their captain, they entered the mouth of the river Thames, and landed at the neighbouring town of Milton. Near Milton they built a castle, at a place called Kemsley-down, about a quarter of a mile north-east from where the church of Milton now stands, which being overgrown with bushes, acquired the name of Castle rough. King Alfred, on receiving intelligence of these depredations, marched his forces towards Kent, and in order to stop their incursions, some time afterwards built on the opposite or eastern side of the creek, about a mile from the Danish intrenchments, a fortification, part of the ditches of which, and a small part of the stone-work, is still to be seen at Bayford-castle, in this parish.

GERARDE, the herbalist, found on the high road near this place,

Tragoriganum Dodonæi, goats marjorum of Dodonæus.

Ruta muraria sive salvia vitæ, wall rue, or rue maidenhair; upon the walls of the church-yard here.

Colutea minima sive coronilla, the smallest bastard sena; on the chalky barren grounds near Sittingborne, and lately likewise by Mr. Jacob.

/z Johnson's Gerarde's Herbal, p. 668.

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Hieracium maximum chondrillæ folio asperum; observed by Mr. John Sherard, very plentifully in the road from this place to Rochester.

Lychnis saponaria dicta, common soapwort; by him on the same road.

Tithymalus Hybernicus, Irish Spurge; between this place and Faversham.

Erysimum sophia dictum; found by Mr. Jacob, on the road sides near Sittingborne, and on the Standard Key.

Oenanthe cicutæ facie Lobellii, hemlock dropwort, found by him in the water lane between Sittingborne and Milton./a

THE MANOR OF MILTON is paramount over this parish, subordinate to which is

THE MANOR OF GOODNESTON, perhaps so called from its having been the property of Goodwyne, earl of Kent, who might have secured himself here at Bayford-castle, in the year 1052, when having taken up arms against king Edward the Confessor, he raised an army, and ravaged the king's possessions, and among them the town of Milton, which he burnt to the ground.

On his death it most probably came to his son king Harold, and after the battle of Hastings into the hands of the crown, whence it seems to have been granted to the eminent family of Leyborne, of Leyborne, in this county. William, son of Roger de Leyborne, died possessed of it in the 3d year of king Edward II.

His grand-daughter Juliana, daughter of Thomas de Leyborne, who died in his life-time, became her grandfather's heir, and succeeded in this manor, to which she entitled her several husbands successively, all of whom she survived, and died s. p. in the 41st year of king Edward III. when no one being found, who could make claim to any of her estates, this manor, among the rest of them, escheated to the crown.

/a Jacob's Faversham Plants, p. 36, 73.

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After which this manor of Goodneston, as it was then called, seems to have been granted by the crown to Robert de Nottingham, who resided at a seat adjoining to this manor, called

BAYFORD-CASTLE, where his ancestors had resided for several generations. Robert de Nottingham lived here in the reign of king Edward I. and dates several of his deeds apud castellum suum de Bayford, apud Goodneston. Robert de Nottingham, his successor, who became possessed of the manor of Goodneston as before-mentioned, was sheriff in the 48th year of king Edward III. and kept his shrievalty at Bayford, bearing for his arms, Paly, wavy of two pieces, gules and argent, in which year he died, and was found by the inquisition to die possessed of lands at Sharsted, Pedding in Tenham, Newland, La Hirst, Higham in Milsted, Bixle, now called Bix, in Tong, and lastly, Goodneston, with Bayford, in Sittingborne; all which descended to his only son John Nottingham, who died without issue male, leaving Eleanor his daughter his sole heir, who marrying Simon Cheney, of Crall, in Sussex, second son of Sir Richard Cheney, of Shurland, he became, in her right, entitled to it. His grandson Humphry Cheney alienated both Goodneston and Bayford, at the latter end of king Henry VI.'s reign, to Mr. Richard Lovelace, of Queenhyth, in London.

His son Launcelot Lovelace was of Bayford, and purchased the manor of Hever in Kingsdown, near Faversham, under which a more ample account of him and his descendants may be seen. His second son William, heir to his eldest brother Sir Richard, who died s. p. at length became possessed of Goodneston, with Bayford, at which he resided, and dying anno 17 king

Henry VII. left two sons, John and William Lovelace, esqrs. who possessed this manor and seat between them; the former of whom resided at Bayford, where he died in the 2d year of Edward VI. holding the moiety of this manor in capite, by knight's service, and

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leaving seven sons, of whom Thomas Lovelace, esq. his eldest son, inherited his interest in this manor and seat. He procured his lands to be disgavelled, by the act passed anno 2 and 3 Edward VI. and afterwards in the 10th year of queen Elizabeth, together with his cousin William Lovelace, by a joint conveyance, alienated Goodneston, with Bayford, to Mr. Ralph Finch, of Kingsdown, in this neighbourhood, whose son Mr. Thomas Finch, of that place, passed it away by sale to Sir William Garrard, who had been lord mayor in 1555, whose ancestors had been of this parish for several generations before, and perhaps were seated at Fulston in it, as many of them lie buried, in the chancel belonging to that seat, in this church./b

He died in 1571, and was buried in St. Magnus's church, in London, bearing for his arms, Argent, on a fess sable, a lion passant of the field; which arms, borne by his ancestors, are carved on the roof of the cloysters at Canterbury. After which it descended down to his grandson Sir John Garrard, or Gerrard, as this family now began to spell their name, who was of Whethamsted, in Hertfordshire, and was created a baronet in 1621. He was succeeded in it by his eldest son of the same name (at which time Bayford was become no more than a farm-house, being called Bayford-court farm). He died in 1700, leaving an only daughter and heir Mary, who carried the manor of Goodneston, with Bayford, among the rest of her inheritance, in marriage to Montague Drake, esq. of Shardeloes, in Agmondesham, in Buckinghamshire, who bore for his arms, Argent, a wivern, with wings displayed, and tail mowed, gules. In whose descendants it continued down to William Drake, esq. M. P. for the borough of Agmondesham, as his ancestors had been, some few intermissions only excepted, ever since its being restored to its privilege of sending members to parliament, as a

/b See the Heraldic Visitation, co. Bucks, anno 1634.

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borough, anno 21 James I. He died possessed of this estate in 1796, and his heirs are at this time possessed of it.

A court baron is held for the manor of Goodneston, with Bayford.

CHILTON is a manor situated in the south-east part of this parish, which was formerly accounted a manor, and had owners of that surname, who held the manor of Chilton in Ash, near Sandwich, both which William de Chilton held at his death in the 31st year of king Edward I. one of whose descendants, in the beginning of king Edward III.'s reign, passed it away to Corbie, whose descendant Robert Corbie, of Boughton Malherb, died possessed of this manor of Chilton, alias Childeston, in the 39th year of that reign./c After which it passed by a female heir of this name in like

manner as Boughton Malherb, to the family of Wotton, and from them again to the Stanhopes, in which it continued till Philip, earl of Chesterfield, about the year 1725, alienated it to Richard Harvey, esq. of Dane-court, whose grandson, the Rev. Richard Harvey, died possessed of it in 1772, leaving his widow surviving, since which it has been sold to Balduck, and by him again to Mr. George Morrison, who now owns it, and resides in it.

FULSTON, called antiently Fogylston, was a large mansion, situated at a small distance southward from Chilton last-described, which, from the burials of the Garrards in the chancel belonging to this estate in Sittingborne church, seems to have been the early residence of that family in this parish. However that be, in the reign of Henry VIII. it was become the estate and residence of John Cromer, esq. the third son of

/c Rot. Esch. ejus an. N. 9. Philipott, p. 311. See more of the Corbies, vol. v. of this history, p. 400.

/d See a more ample account of the descent of this manor and more of the Wottons and Stanhopes, under Boughton Malherb, vol. v. p. 400.

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Sir James Cromer, of Tunstall, who died in 1539, and was buried in this church, leaving his three daughters his coheirs; and in one of the windows of this church were the arms of John Cromer, esq. of Fulston, and his two wives, Guldeford and Grove, and their several quarterings.

Probably, by his will, or by a former entail, on his dying without male issue, this seat descended to his nephew Sir James Cromer, of Tunstall, whose grandson, of the same name, dying without male issue in 1613, Christian, one of his daughters and coheirs carried it in marriage to John Hales, esq. eldest son of Sir Edward Hales, of Tenterden, knight and baronet, as has been already more fully mentioned before under Tunstall, and in his descendants it has continued down to Sir Edward Hales, bart. of St. Stephen's, near Canterbury, the present owner of it. The greatest part of this mansion has been pulled down within memory, and a neat farm-house has been erected on the ruins of it.

CHARITIES.

JOHN ALLEN, of Sittingborne, by his will in 1615, gave 40s. per annum for repairing the alms-houses in Crown-key-lane, and firing for the poor in them, to be paid out of Glovers, now Mrs. Bannister's.

ROBERT HODSOLE, by will in 1684, gave 10s. per annum to the poor, payable every Christmas-day yearly, out of Mrs. Rondeau's land.

JOHN GRANT, by will in 1689, gave 20s. per annum, to be paid in corn and bread on January 1, out of Mrs. Trott's farm.

FIVE SEAMS of boiling peas are yearly paid from the parsonage, to be distributed to the poor on every Christmas-day yearly.

KATHERINE DICKS, by her will, left the sum of 25l. to be put out on land security, the interest of it to be said out for ever in six two-penny loaves, to be given to six poor widows &c. who attend divine service, beginning every year on the first Sunday after Christmas-day, of the annual produce of 1l.

The poor annually relieved are about forty; casually eight hundred and fifty.

SITTINGBORNE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

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The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, is a large, handsome building, of three isles and two chancels, and two cross ones; at the west end is a tower beacon steeple, in which is a clock, a set of chimes, and six bells.

On the stone font, which is an octagon, are the arms of archbishop Arundel, a shield, having on it a cross flory; and another with the emblems of Christ's crucifixion on it.

On the 17th of July, 1762, the wind being exceeding high, a fire broke out on the roof of this church, occasioned by the plumbers, who were repairing the leads, having left their fire burning during their absence at dinner, which consumed the whole of it, except the bare walls and the tower. Next year a brief passed for rebuilding of it, which with the contribution of the inhabitants, and a gift of fifty pounds from archbishop Secker, they were enabled to set about.

This was stopped for some little time by the owners of the three chancels, belonging to the Bayford, Chilton, and Fulston estates, refusing to contribute to the rebuilding of them, and they were at length rebuilt at the same cost with the rest of the church; and the whole of it was afterwards completed and fitted up in a very handsome manner. By the fire the monuments against the walls were destroyed, and most of the gravestones broken by the falling of the timbers. The latter, in the rebuilding of the church, have, the greatest part of them, been most absurdly removed from the graves over which they lay, to other parts of the church, and some even from the church-yard, as it suited to make the pavement complete; so that there is now hardly a guess to be made, where the bodies lie, that the inscriptions commemorate, but the gravestones of the Lushingtons, I believe, were none of them removed. In the south cross chancel belonging to the estate of Fulston, is a monument for Thos. Bannister, gent. obt. 1750, arms, Argent, a cross flory, sable. The

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brass plate, on which the inscription was, for John Crowmer, of Fulston, and his two wives, in this chancel, being loose, there was found on the under side of it one in Latin, for Robert Rokele, esq. once dwelling with the most revered lady, the lady Joane de Bohun, countess of Hereford, Essex, and Northton, who died in 1421, an instance of œconomy which has been discovered at times in other churches.

The south-east chancel belonged to the Chilton estate; there are many gravestones of the family of Lushington in it. Dr. Lushington's monument was entirely destroyed at the time of the fire. In the upper part of this chancel is a vault, belonging to the Chilton estate, in which is only one coffin, of Mr. Harvey, who died in 1751, and a great quantity of bones

piled up at one end of it.

The archdeacon's court, in which he holds his visitation, is at the upper end of this chancel.

The coats of arms in the windows of the church, which were many, were entirely destroyed, and they have been since entirely refitted with modern glass.

The middle chancel is the archbishop's, and belongs to the parsonage; in which there is a memorial for Mathew, son of Sir John, and grandson of archbishop Parker, who died in 1645. The north chancel is made use of now as a vestry. The north cross chancel belongs to the Bayford estate. In the north wall of it there is the effigies of a woman, lying at length, in the hollow of the wall, with an arch, carved and ornamented, over her, and midway between the arch and figure, a flat table stone of Bethersden marble: the whole of it seems very antient.

In this church there was, before the reformation, a chantry, called Busherb's chantry.

The church of Sittingborne belonged to the Benedictine nunnery of Clerkenwell, to which it was appropriated before the 8th year of king Richard II. and 162

it remained part of the revenues of it till its dissolution, in the 31st year of king Henry VIII.'s reign.

This church thus coming into the king's hands, seems to have remained part of the revenues of the crown till queen Elizabeth, in her 3d year, granted the parsonage of it, with the advowson of the vicarage, the former being then valued at 13l. 6s. 8d. to archbishop Parker. Since which they have continued parcel of the possessions of the archbishopric, and remain so at this time.

The parsonage has been from time to time leased out on a beneficial lease, at the yearly rent of 13l. 6s. 8d. In 1643 John Olebury, gent. was lessee; in later times, Cockin Sole, esq. of Bobbing, whose son John Cockin Sole, esq. died possessed of it in 1790, since which this lease has been sold under the directions of his will.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. this parsonage was valued at 23l. 6s. 8d.

In 1578, on a survey of the diocese of Canterbury, it was returned, that this parsonage was impropriate to the queen's majesty; the vicarage also in her gift; dwelling-houses eighty; communicants three hundred; the tenths twenty shillings.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at ten pounds, the yearly tenths being one pound. In 1640, it was valued at fifty-six pounds. Communicants three hundred and eighty.

The vicarage is situated not far from the north side of the church-yard, adjoining to which is the only piece of glebe land belonging to it.

CHURCH OF SITTINGBORNE.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archbishop. Edmund Littleton, A. M. Sept.
21, 1593, obt. 1602.

William Covell, S. T. P. Feb.

1, 1602, resigned 1603.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

The Archbishop. Francis Foxton, S. T. B. Nov. 9,
1603, resigned 1623.

Edward Garland, A. M. Oct. 3,
1623.

The King, by lapse. George Jones, 1662, obt. 1705.

The Archbishop. Mark Hildesley, A. M. April 24,
1705, resigned 1710./e

John Swanne, A. B. May 1,
1710.

Shadrash Cooke, A. M. Feb.
1721, obt. 1722.

Robert Tyler, A. B. January 18,
1723.

— Norse, obt. June 10,
1736.

Robert Tyler, A. M. resigned
May 1740./f

Jonathan Monkton, A. M. May
23, 1740, resigned Nov.

1742./g

Thomas Bland, A. M. Nov. 26,
1742, obt. Aug. 23, 1766,/h

Richard Podmore, LL. B. Sep=
tember 19, 1766, resigned
1777./i

Samuel Evans, 1778, the pre=
sent vicar.

/e Also rector of Murston.

/f He seems to be the same person
mentioned next but one before, and
to have taken this vicarage a second
time. In 1726 he was presented to the
vicarage of Newington, which, as
well as this, he resigned in 1750, for
the rectory of Tunstall, and vicarage
of St. Laurence, in Thanet.

/g He resigned this vicarage for that
of Marden.

/h He was also rector of Little War=
ley, in Essex.

/i He resigned this vicarage for that
of Cranbrooke and Aplemore.

MILTON,

OR, more properly, Middleton, lies the next parish
north-westward from Sittingborne, last described, and
seems to have taken its name from the Saxon Midletun,
a name denoting its situation in the middle part of
this county.

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THE PARISH of Milton is most of it situated on low
flat ground, and extends from the high London road
as far as the waters of the Swale northward, adjoining
to which, the marshes in this parish are both fresh and
salt, of a very large extent. In the southern or upper

part of the parish, next to the London road, is a small hamlet, called from the soil Chalkwell, in which there are two modern-built houses of the better sort, the lower most of which has a large tan-yard belonging to it; near it there rise some springs, which fill several large ponds, the reservoirs for a corn mill below them, after which they run along the east skirts of the town, which are a continued swamp of watry bogs, into the creek below. The town, antiently called the king's town of Milton, as being part of the antient possessions of the crown, is situated about half a mile from the high London road, at the eastern boundary of the parish, the greatest part of it on the knole of a hill, extending mostly down the east side of it to the head of the creek, which flows north-westward from hence, and at two miles distance, after several meandrings, joins the waters of the Swale. It has a very indifferent character for health, owing both to the badness of the water, and the gross unwholesome air to which it is subject from its watry situation; nor is it in any degree pleasant, the narrow streets, or rather lanes in it, being badly paved, and for the most part inhabited by seafaring persons, fishermen, and oyster-dredgers.

Its commodious situation for navigation near the Swale, to which the town then stood much nearer than it does at present, caused it to be frequented by the Danes, in their piratical excursions into this county, particularly in 893, these pirates, who had been ravaging France and the Low Countries, being distressed for subsistence, turned their thoughts towards England, for the sake of plunder: for this purpose, with one of their fleets, they sailed up to Apledore, and with the other, consisting of about eighty ships, under the command of

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Hastings their captain, they entered the mouth of the river Thames, and landing in this parish built themselves a fortress or castle here. Asserius writes, anno 892, 'Hastengus fecit sibi firmissimum oppidum apud Mideltunam.' Sax. Chron. anno 893, interpreted, 'Arcem extruxit.' Simon Dunelm, coll. 151, H. Huntingdon, lib. 5, Florence of Worcester, p. 595, and Chron. Malros, 'Fecit munitionem.' Spelman, in his Life of Alfred, says, 'Dani castra validis operibus communiunt.' This fortress was erected at a place called Kemsleydowne, in the marshes, about midway between the town and the mouth of the creek, the scite of which is still visible, and being overgrown with wood and bushes, has obtained the name of Castlerough. It is of a square form, and is surrounded by a high bank thrown up, and a broad ditch. There is a raised causeway, very plainly to be seen, leading from it towards the seashore. From this fortress they not only made their excursions and plundered the neighbouring country, but secured themselves against such power as the king might send against them.

This town of Milton being part of the royal demesnes, was a cause of its being destroyed by earl Godwin, who being at variance with Edward the Confessor, came here, with a large force, in the year 1052, and burned this town, then of good condition, to the ground; and afterwards ransacked and spoiled many other of the king's estates throughout the county.

After which it does not seem to have been ever re= stored to its former state.

Its condition in the reign of queen Elizabeth may be seen by the survey, made by her order in the 8th year of her reign; by which it appears, that there were then in this town, houses inhabited one hundred and thirty, persons lacking habitations six, landing-places four, one called Fluddmill keye, appertaining to Sir

/k See an engraving of it p. 1.

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Henry Cheney; the second, Whitlock's key, now the Town key; the third, Reynolds's, now Page's key; and the fourth, Hamond key, appertaining to Thomas Hayward, now Huggins's key; ships and vessels twenty-six, of which twenty were under ten tons; the rest were of twelve, sixteen, and twenty tons; and per= sons occupied in trade and fishing twenty four.

Since which the town of Milton has considerably in= creased, as well in the number of its houses and inha= bitants, as in its wealth and trade. The number of houses at present is about two hundred and thirty, which are supposed to contain about twelve hundred inhabitants.

The trade of it chiefly consists in the traffic carry= ing on weekly at the four wharfs in it, where the corn and commodities of the neighbouring country are ship= ped for London, and goods of every sort brought back again in return; and in the fishery for oysters, a further account of which will be given hereafter. Besides which, the several mills here do not contribute a little to the benefit of this place; four of these are employed in the grinding of corn, and dressing it into flour; and the fifth, called Perrywinckle mill, was some few years ago applied to the manufacturing of pearl-barley, which used to be imported from Holland; and it was sup= posed to be the only mill in the kingdom where that article was brought to the same perfection as in Hol= land, but this manufacture for want of due encourage= ment has been since discontinued.

The town of Milton is governed by a portreve, who is chosen annually on St. James's day, by the inha= bitants of the parish paying church and poor's rates; whose office is, to oversee the market, and preserve good order within the town, and to execute the office of clerk of the market in all matters, within the hun= dreds of Milton and Marden; he likewise sets the price of all things which come to the keys, or any other

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creek within the hundred, being such things as head officers in other towns may set the prices on.

The market, which is a very plentiful one for all sorts of butchers meat, poultry, &c. is held on a Saturday weekly, at the shambles, in the center of the town. Adjoining to them is the market-house, having a clock, and a bell, which is rung not only for the purpose of the market, but for the calling of the parishioners to church, for funerals, and for occasional parish meetings. At a small distance northward from the shambles is a kind of court-house, being a very low old-timbered tenement, where the courts of the manor are kept, and

other meetings held; at other times it is made use of as the school house; underneath it is the town prison.

The school is endowed with the annual sum of nine pounds, an account of which may be seen hereafter, among the charitable benefactions to this parish. The master is appointed by the minister and churchwardens. Nine or ten poor boys are taught to read and write in it.

There is a fair, which used to be held on the feast of St. Margaret, July 13, now, by the alteration of the stile, on the 24th of that month, and the two following days.

The lands in this parish, near the town, and especially on the lower or northern part of it, are very rich and fertile. Adjoining to these are the marshes, which extend to the waters of the Swale. Below the hill westward there is another streamlet, which having turned a mill near the vicarage, runs on not far distant from the church, and court-lodge, situated about half a mile northward below the present town, near which the former one destroyed by Earl Godwin is supposed to have once stood.

In the north-west part of this parish, among the marshes, there is a decoy for wild fowl, the only one, that I know of, in this part of the county. The fowl caught in it, are much esteemed for their size and

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flavor. Great numbers of them are weekly taken and sent up to London.

In this parish, at a small distance northward from Bobbing-place, is a farm called the Quintin farm, which shews that diversion to have been formerly used in it./k

THE FISHERY belonging to the manor and hundred of Milton is of very considerable account. It seems to have been granted by king John, by his charter, in his 7th year, to the abbot and convent of Faversham, by the description of the fisheries of Milton, which the men of Seasalter then held by the yearly rent of twenty shillings, payable at his manor of Milton, and by doing therefrom the customs and service which were wont to be to it.

King Edward III. in his 4th year, confirmed this grant, as did king Henry VI. and this fishery remained part of the possessions of the abbey till its dissolution, in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it was surrendered up into the king's hands, together with all its possessions.

After which, the fee simple of this fishery remained with the manor in the hands of the crown, till the 10th year of king Charles I. when it was passed away, with it, by the words recited in the grant then made of the manor, to Sir Ed. Browne and Christ. Favell, as will be more fully mentioned below; after which, James Herbert, esq. coming into the possession of it, by the settlement of it from his father Philip, earl of Pembroke, he in the 26th year of king Charles II. obtained a fresh grant of this fishery, against which there was a quo warranto brought in the reign of queen Anne, on a petition of the fishermen of Rochester and Stroud, to shew by what authority they, the grantees, kept courts within their manor of Milton, and restrained the fishermen of those and the adjacent towns, from

/k See an account of this diversion, under Ofham, vol. iv. of this history, p. 533.

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fishing and dredging for oysters within this hundred and manor: but on a trial had at bar, a verdict was given in his favor. Since which it has continued down, in like manner as the manor of Milton, to the right hon. Philip, viscount Wenman, and Mrs. Anne Herbert, who are at this time proprietors of this fishery, together with the manor.

The company of Fishermen, or Dredgers, of this fishery, hold it by lease from the owners of the manor, at the yearly rent of one hundred pounds and four bushels of oysters. They are governed by their particular officers, under certain rules or bye-laws, made by antient custom at the court baron of the manor. There are now about one hundred and forty freemen belonging to it.

The oysters produced from these grounds, within the limits of this fishery, are usually called Milton Natives, and are esteemed the finest and richest flavored of any in Europe. They are supposed to be the same that Juvenal particularly describes, in his fourth satire, as being reckoned a delicacy even in his time, in these words, satire iv. l. 144:

— Rutupinove edita fundo

Ostrea, callebat primo dependere morsu.

The sum usually returned for these oysters is from 3000l. to 7000l. per annum. The Dutch have been supposed by many, to have engrossed this article of luxury; but they expend but a very small part of the above sums, and sometimes none, for the space of seven years together.

IN THE WESTERN PART of this parish there are several hundred acres of coppice-wood, which are adjoining to a much larger tract of the like sort, extending southward almost as far as Binbury pound, on the west side of Stockbury-valley, for the space of near five miles. These woods, especially those in and near this parish, are noted for the great plenty of chesnut stubs interspersed promiscuously throughout them, which,

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from the quick and strait growth of this kind of wood, makes them very valuable. These are so numerous in them, as to give name to most of these woods near Milton, which, besides their particular names to each of them, are usually called by the general name of Chesnut-woods. And in the presentment made of the customs of the manor of Milton in 1575, it is mentioned, that the occupiers of the three mills holden of the manor should gather yearly for the lord of it nine bushels of chesnottes, in Chestnott wood, or pay eighteen-pence by the year to the queen, who then had the manor in her own hands, and was possessed of three hundred acres of chesnut wood within this hundred.

These chesnuts are undoubtedly the indigenuous growth of Britain, planted by the hand of nature. They are interspersed throughout the whole tract, without any form or regularity, and are many of them, by their appearance, of great age; and by numbers of them,

which now seem almost worn out and perishing, being made use of as the termini or boundaries, as well of private property as of parishes, it is plain they were first pitched upon, in preference to others, for that purpose, as being the largest and most antient ones of any then existing; and as these are hardly ever cut down or altered, they must have stood sacred to this use from the first introduction of private property into this kingdom, and the first division of it into parishes. Four letters were printed in 1771, after having been read before the Royal Society, two of which were written by Dr. Ducarel, and the other two by Mr. Thorpe and Mr. Hasted, to prove that chesnut-trees were the indigenous growth of this kingdom, in answer to an idea of the hon. Daines Barrington, who had a wish to establish a contrary opinion.

DR. PLOT says, that *Herba Britannica*, which Twyne and Johnson think to be *bistort*, *Trisolium acetosum*, or *Oxys*; *Empetron*, *quæ est petrafindula Britannicæ* prope *peculiaris*, and *Crocus*, were found at Milton by

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Scribonius Largus, when he came into Britain with the emperor *Claudius*. And he further says, that *Crocus sativus*, saffron, was heretofore sown and gathered (as now at *Walden*, in *Essex*) at *Milton*, and quotes for his authority, a manuscript rental of the manor of *Milton*, in the library of *Christ-church*, *Canterbury*.

Polygonatum, *scala cæli*, or *Solomon's seal*, grows on *Chesnut-hill*, in this parish.

HENRY, youngest son of *Robert Sidney*, second earl of *Leicester*, was in 1689 created baron of *Milton*, and viscount *Sidney* of the *Isle of Shepey*; and in 1694, earl of *Romney*. He died unmarried in 1704, and was buried in *St. James's church*, *Westminster*; so that his titles became extinct./l

EVEN so early as the reign of king *Alfred*, when he divided this county into laths and hundreds, this place was in his own hands as part of the royal demesnes, and is therefore constantly mentioned by our antient historians, by the description of *villa Regia de Midleton*, i. e. the king's town of *Midleton*; on which account it seems likely, that he annexed the hundred to the manor of it, as to a place more eminent than any other within the bounds of it, and called it by the same name.

Milton continued part of the antient demesnes of the crown of this realm at the time of *William the Conqueror's* taking possession of it; accordingly it is thus entered in the general survey of *Domesday*, under the general title of *Terra Regis*, that is, the king's antient demesne:

In the half lath of *Middeltune*, in *Middeltune hundred*, king *William* holds *Middeltune*. It was taxed at twenty-four sulings; without these there are in demesne four sulings, and there are three carucates in demesne. In this manor there are three hundred and nine villeins, with seventy-four borderers, having one hundred and sixty seven carucates. There are six mills of thirty shillings, and

/l See *Coll. Peer. edit.* 2d, vol. ii. p. 152.

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eighteen acres of pasture. There are twenty-seven salt-

pits of twenty-seven shillings. There are thirty-two fisheries of twenty-two shillings and eight pence. Of toll forty shillings; of pasture thirteen shillings and four-pence. Wood for the pannage of two hundred and twenty hogs; and the tenants of the Weald pay fifty shillings for trap-pings and horses. In this manor there are ten servants. In the whole, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth two hundred pounds by tale, and as much when Haimo, the sheriff, received it, and the like now.

Of this manor, Hugo de Port holds eight sulings and one yoke, which, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, were, with the other sulings, at a yearly rent. There he has three carucates in demesne.

This land, which Hugo de Port holds, is worth twenty pounds, which were reckoned in the two hundred pounds of the whole manor. He who holds Middeltun pays one hundred and forty pounds by assay and by weight, and likewise fifteen pounds and six shillings, all but two pence, by tale. The reeve pays Haimo the sheriff twelve pounds.

Of the king's woods, Wardard has as much as pays sixteen-pence per annum, and holds half a denne, which, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, a certain villein held; and Alnold Cild took away two parts by force from a certain villein.

The abbot of St. Augustine holds the churches and tithes of this manor, and forty shillings of the king's, four sulings are payable to him.

The manor of Milton, with the hundred annexed to it, continued part of the royal demesnes for several centuries after this; and though several grants for terms of years, and for the lives of different persons, were made of it, yet the fee of it was never parted with, but remained uninterrupted in the crown till the reign of king Charles I. as will be mentioned hereafter. Indeed it was usually granted from time to time to the several queens of this realm, as part of their dowers, or to

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others of the royal blood, and they procured many exemptions and privileges to it, most of which it now enjoys.

In the reign of king Stephen it continued in the king's own hands, as appears by his exchange of land belonging to it, among others, for the manor of Faversham, to found the abbey on there; and it did so in the reign of king John, in the 6th year of which the inhabitants of Middleton gave the king ten marcs, to use the same liberties as they had done in the time of king Henry I. Hugh de Montfort, nephew to king Henry III. had the custody of this manor and hundred, for the king's use, in the 42d year of that reign. In the 1st year of Edward I. William de Heure had the custody of it, to hold during the king's pleasure; as had John de Burgo, senior, the year after, who held it for a few years only; for the king, in his 9th year, granted it for life to queen Elianor, his mother, who held it at her death in the 20th year of that reign. At which time this town seems to have had a coroner distinct from those of the county. After which he settled it in dower on his second wife queen Margaret, on his marriage with her in the 27th year of his reign. She survived him, and died possessed of it in the 10th year of king

Edward II. during which time she claimed, and had a further allowance of several liberties and privileges for it. The next year the king granted it to his queen Isabella, in dower, who, in the 13th year of the same reign, obtained a grant of a market, weekly, on a Thursday, at this manor; and a fair there yearly for four days, viz. on the eve and day of St. Margaret, and the next two days following.

She does not seem to have continued in the possession of this manor long after her husband's death, which happened in 1327, for king Edward III. made a grant of it to his queen Philippa, in dower, in the 7th year of

/m Sandford, book iii. p. 134. Rym. Fœd. vol. ii. p. 856.

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his reign. About which time, the mill within this manor, called South Milne, was the king's prison, and he granted the custody of it accordingly.

After which she obtained the confirmation of several different liberties and privileges to it, and then, in the 19th year of Edward III. she demised this manor, with the hundred, and all liberties belonging to it, except royalties, to William de Clinton, earl of Huntington, for a term of years, at the yearly rent of two hundred pounds.

Queen Philippa died in 1369, most probably in the possession of this manor, which seems to have remained in the hands of the crown, during the whole of the succeeding reign of king Richard II. It certainly was so at the death of that prince, for on the accession of king Henry IV. he granted it in his 1st year, to Hugh de Watterton, constable of Queenborough-castle, and again in his 7th year to his fourth son, Humphry, afterwards duke of Gloucester, and protector of the realm, and for his love of his country, and many amiable qualities, surnamed The Good. He was possessed of it at his death, in the 25th year of Henry VI. anno 1446.

On his death s. p. the possession of this manor reverted to the crown, king Henry VI. being found by inquisition to be his cousin and next heir. Immediately on which, the king granted this manor and hundred to Margaret his queen, to hold during her life, without any rent or account whatsoever, and she possessed it till the 1st year of Edward IV. when she was attainted in parliament, together with Henry VI. their son the prince of Wales, and others. After which, king Edward IV. in his 4th year, granted this manor, with the hundred, to his youngest brother George

/n See Pat. Henry IV. an. 1, pt. 4, m. 17, and an. 7, pt. 1, m. 1. and pt. 8, m. 1, where the lord of this manor had wreck of the sea.

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Plantagenet, duke of Clarence, who, in the 18th year of that reign, falling under the king's displeasure, was attainted of high treason; upon which the possession of it reverted again to the crown, where it continued during the remainder of that reign. After which I have not met with any further grants of it, but in the 17th year of queen Elizabeth, anno 1575, it was in the queen's own possession, when a solemn inquisition,

by virtue of a commission issued to Sir R. Manwood, justice of the common pleas, and others for that purpose, was had by a jury, sworn to enquire concerning the customs, bounds, and rights of her manors and hundreds of Milton and Marden, a very curious and interesting record; and in a patent or deputation, granted that year to the lord Cobham, warden of the five ports, by the lord admiral Howard, empowering him to claim such wreck of the sea as was not claimed by any particular grant, there is an exception made of this place of Middleton, and the sea adjoining to it./o

At length king James I. by patent in his 7th year, granted this manor, with the hundred of Milton, to Philip Herbert, earl of Montgomery, for the term of sixty years, and his successor Charles I. by patent, in his 10th year, granted the fee of it to Sir Edward Browne and Christopher Favell, who soon afterwards conveyed their interest in it to Sir Edward Leach and Edward Taverner, and they passed it away by sale to Philip, earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, before-mentioned, who then became entitled to the fee as well as the possession of it. He had been, by letters patent, anno 3 James I. created lord Herbert, of Shurland, in Shepey, and earl of Montgomery. In the year 1630, being the 6th of Charles I. on the death of his eldest brother William, earl of Pembroke, without surviving issue, he succeeded him in titles and estates. In the 6th year of king James I. he had been elected

/o Harris's History of Kent, p. 207.

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knight of the garter, he was lord chamberlain of the household to king Charles I. chancellor of the university of Oxford, and constable of Queenborough castle./p

By Susan his first wife, daughter of Edward, earl of Oxford, he had seven sons, of whom two only survived him; Philip, who succeeded him in his honors, and the hon. James Herbert, on whose marriage, in 1645, with Jane, daughter and sole heir of Sir Robert Spiller, of Laleham, in Middlesex, his father, the earl, settled this manor and its appendages. He left two sons, of whom Thomas, the eldest, died s. p. and James Herbert, esq. the other son, succeeded at length to this manor, and was of Kingsey, in Buckinghamshire, whose son James Herbert, esq. of Tythorpe, in Oxfordshire, died possessed of it in 1709. He left two sons, James and Philip, and two daughters, Sophia, married to Philip, viscount Wenman, of the kingdom of Ireland, and Anne.

James Herbert, esq. of Kingsey, the eldest son, succeeded his father in this manor, and served in parliament for Oxfordshire. He died in 1721, s. p. on which it descended to his surviving brother Philip Herbert, esq. of Tythorpe, afterwards M. P. for the city of Oxford, who died likewise s. p. in 1747; on which this manor, among his other estates, devolved to his two sisters above-mentioned.

Philip, viscount Wenman, in right of Sophia his wife, accordingly became possessed of a moiety of this manor, with its appendages, of which he died possessed in 1760, leaving two sons, Philip, lord viscount Wenman, who married Eleanor, daughter of Willoughby,

late earl of Abingdon; and Thomas-Francis, LL. D. regius professor of civil law in the university of Oxford, who was unfortunately drowned there in 1796,

/p See Dugd. Bar. vol. ii. p. 255. Coll. Peer. vol. iii. p. 22 et seq. and a character of him, and likewise of his elder brother, in Wood's Ath. Oxon. vol. i. fasti, p. 172.

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dying s. p. and one daughter Sophia, married to William Humphry Wickham, esq. of Swalecliff, in Oxfordshire. On the death of lord Wenman, his widow became entitled to his moiety of this manor for her life. Since whose death in 1787, it has descended to her only surviving son the right hon Philip, viscount Wenman, the present possessor of it; but the other moiety of this estate still continues in the possession of Mrs. Anne Herbert, (the other sister, and at length coheir of Philip Herbert, esq. of Tythorpe) who now resides at Oxford, and is at present unmarried. Lord Wenman bears for his arms, Party per pale, gules, and azure, a cross patonce, or, over it, an escutcheon of pretence, for Herbert, Party per pale, azure, and gules, three lioncels rampant, argent, with a proper difference, supporters, Two greybonds, gules, gorged with plain collars, or./q

There is a court leet and court baron held for this manor and hundred, at Easter and Michaelmas annually, which is usually stiled in records, the court of antient demesne, for the manor and hundred of Milton.

NORTHWOOD CHASTENERS, usually called Norwood, is an eminent manor here, which took its name as well from its situation in the western part of this parish, as from the large tract of wood-grounds close beside it; and these woods having large quantities of chesnuts growing throughout them, gained this manor the additional name of Chasteners. Lambarde, in his Perambulation, says, that this manor was of such account in the days of king Edward the Confessor, that one hundred burgesses of the city of Canterbury owed their suit to it, as appeared by the book of Domesday, but he has mistaken the description of Little Barton manor, near Canterbury, which is called Norwood in that record, for this manor of the same name in Milton.

/q See Willis's Buck. p. 329. Irish Peer. vol. ii. p. 365.

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Stephen, son of Jordan de Shepey, who lived in the reigns of Richard I. and king John, obtained a grant of this manor from the crown, and built a mansion here, which he moated round, and encompassed it with a park, well wooded, and stored with plenty of deer and wild boars. Hence he assumed the name of De Norwood, which all his descendants continued to use.

Stephen de Norwood above mentioned, lived to a very advanced age, and a little before his death gave two acres of land, in Northwode, for building a chapel here, and ten acres for the maintenance of a chapel, who should pray for the souls of king Richard and king John, who had given him that land for his services; and he assigned as a proper maintenance for

the chaplain, all his small tithes, as well of his tenements, as of his mills, &c. and half an acre of land about the latter.

His son Roger de Northwood is in the list of those Kentish gentlemen, who were engaged with Richard I. at the siege of Acon, in Palestine, and lies buried in the church of Minster, in Shepey, as does the lady Bona his wife. Their son Sir Roger de Northwood, in the 41st year of king Henry III. procured the tenure of his lands to be changed from gavelkind to knight's service; before which he had, in the 32d year of it, entered into a composition with the abbot, and convent of St. Augustine's, for the prosecution of his father's purpose of the endowment of the chapel before-mentioned, which he had before converted to his own use; and for the providing for the indemnity of the mother church of Milton, of the abbot and convent's patronage.

In the 1st year of king Edward I. writs were issued to several of the principal gentry and their wives, of this and other counties, to be present at the coronation at Westminster, on the Sunday next after St. Valentine's day, one of these writs was directed, Johi

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de Northwode et Consorti suæ, Johi de Northwode, jun. &c. &c. et Consortibus suis.

He died in the 13th year of that reign, then holding this manor in capite by knight's service, and in his descendants, men eminent in their time, who received summons to parliament from time to time, (many of whom lie buried in Milton church, who bore for their arms, Ermine, a cross engrailed, gules, which arms of Northwood, and likewise impaling Norton, were formerly in several places in this, as well as other churches in this county, and in the cloysters of Canterbury cathedral; and of Northwood in the chapter-house there,) this manor continued down to John de Northwood, esq of Northwood, who married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of John Frogenhall, by whom he had a son of the same name, who dying s. p. his two sisters, one of whom married John Barley, of Hertfordshire, and the other Sir John Norton, became his coheirs, and on the division of their estates, the latter became, in his wife's right, possessed of this manor. He was descended from Nicholas de Norton, who lived in the reign of king Stephen, and was possessed of much land in the neighbourhood of Norton and Faversham, as appeared by the chartulary of the monastery of St. Augustine. His descendants, by the marriage of a female heir of the family of at-Leeze, became possessed in her right, of Sheldwich, some of whom lie buried at Faversham. At length Reginald Norton, esq. left two sons, John, who married the daughter and coheir of John Northwood, esq. as before-mentioned, and William, who was ancestor of the Nortons, of Fordwich, in this county. He had likewise an illegitimate son, named Thomas Norton, alias Grene, which latter name all his descendants took.

John Norton, esq. above-mentioned, in the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, attended Sir Edward Poynings, knight-banneret, when he went to the assistance of Margaret, duchess of Savoy, governess of

the Low Countries, sister to the emperor, against the duke of Guelders; and for his good services there, was, with others, knighted by Charles the Young, king of Castile, who was afterwards emperor. In the 5th year of that reign, he served the office of sheriff, and dying in 1534, was buried in the Northwood chancel in Milton church, where his tomb still remains. His descendants, who bore for their arms, Gules, a cross potent, ermine, continued to reside at Northwood, down to Thomas Norton, of Northwood, where he kept his shrievalty in the 17th year of James I. and was knighted; but in the 20th year of that reign he alienated this manor to Manasses Northwood, esq. of Dane-court, in Thanet, descended of a collateral branch of those already mentioned, as the early possessors of this manor, and bore for their arms the same coat as the Northwoods, before-mentioned, with the addition, in the first quarter, of a wolf's head erased, gules. He died in 1636, holding this manor in capite by knight's service, whose son Richard Northwood, esq. quickly after his father's death, passed it away by sale to Sir William Tufton, knight and baronet, of Hothfield, a younger brother of Nicholas, the first earl of Thanet, who had been governor of Barbadoes, and afterwards resided at Vintners, in Boxley.

On his death, Sir Benedict Tufton, bart. his eldest son, succeeded to the manor of Northwood, but dying s. p. his next brother, Sir Charles Tufton, bart. became his heir and possessed of it, and he by deed, in 1661, alienated it to Gilbert Roope, of Vintners, and George Charlton, of Boxley, tanner, who in 1664 sold it again to Capt. Stephen Mitchell, of Rotherhithe, in Surry, whose heirs instituted a suit in chancery, to determine the property of it; and it was ordered, by a decree of court, anno 30 Charles II. to

/r MSS. pedigree of Norton. Vistn. co. Kent, 1619.

be sold: in consequence of which, it became vested, about the year 1680, in Mr. Matthew Crover, gent. of Rotherhithe, who, with others, joined in the conveyance of it to Mr. Thomas Houghton, gent. of Islington, for the term of his life; remainder to Susan, then the wife of Mr. John Marsh, in tail general. She left an only daughter by him, of her own name, who carried this manor in marriage to Mr. Richard Davenport, gent. She survived her husband, and suffered a recovery of it anno 6 George I. and afterwards by will, in 1731, devised it to her son John, in tail; with divers remainders over.

Mr. John Davenport levied a fine of this manor in 1742, and afterwards, in 1753, conveyed it by sale to Mr. John Le Grand, gent. of Canterbury, descended from Julian Le Grand, a native of Bailleu, who left the low countries, with many others, on account of his religion, in queen Elizabeth's reign. He died unmarried in 1794, and it has since become by his devise, the property of Robert Rushbrooke, esq. of Canterbury, the present possessor of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

GROVEHURST, now usually called Grovers, is a manor situated somewhat less than a mile northward from the town of Milton. It was once the inheritance of a family of that name. Sir William de Grovehurst possessed it in the reigns of king Edward I. and II. as did his descendant Sir Richard Grovehurst in that of king Henry VII. At length Thomas Grovehurst, esq. in the reign of Edward VI. alienated it to Clement Fynche, a branch of those of Netherfield, in Sussex, who were descended from Vincent Herbert, alias Finch, and ancestors of the several branches of this family from time to time created peers of this realm, whose arms they likewise bore.

/s Deed inrolled in chancery anno 26 Geo. II. Hilary roll 89.

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It appears by the escheat-rolls of the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, that he then held this manor in capite. He died in the 38th year of that reign, and lies buried in the great chancel of this church, where is a monument erected to his memory, with the effigies of him, his two wives, and his son John Fynche, on it. His descendants continued for many generations afterwards in the possession of it, and till it was at length alienated by one of them to Keat, and Sir Jonathan Keat, bart. died possessed of it in 1700, whose arms were, Argent, three cats a-mountain, in pale passant, sable, which Guillim says, was the bearing of Sir Jonathan Keat, of Paul's Walden, in Hertfordshire, and of Grovehurst, in Milton, bart. His heirs sold it to Peachy, of Petsworth, in Sussex, whose descendant Sir Henry Peachy, was in 1733 created a baronet. He died in 1737, without issue male, and was succeeded in title and estates by his next brother Sir John Peachy, bart. whose son of the same name dying s. p. in 1765, was succeeded in title according to the limitation of the patent, by Sir James Peachy, bart. of Titleworth, in Sussex, who bore for his arms, Azure, a lion rampant, double queued, ermine, on a canton, or, a mullet pierced, gules. He died in 1771, and was succeeded by his only son Sir James Peachy, bart. of West Dean, in Sussex, who in August 13, 1794, was created lord Selsey, he is the present possessor of this manor.

MANOR OF OWRE, usually stiled in antient records, the manor of the court of Owre, is situated on the edge of the marshes on Kemsley down, at a small distance eastward from the last described manor of Grovehurst. This manor, in the reign of Edward I. was in the possession of the family of Savage, one of whom, John le Sauvage, in the 23d year of it, had a grant of free-warren, and other liberties in his manor of Ore, near Middleton. In the 1st year of king Edward II. John de Handlo was owner of it, and had

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then a like grant to him and his heirs in this manor. But in the 1st year of king Richard II. this manor was come into the hands of the crown, and was that year granted to Alice de Preston, and her heirs. It afterwards passed into the family of Monins, and John Monins, esq. of Swanton, died possessed of it in 1568,

holding it in capite by knight's service. On his death without issue, his brother Sir Edward Monins, of Waldershare, became his heir, and possessed of this manor, which his son Sir William Monins, bart. afterwards alienated to John Finch, esq. who held it in 1653; at length one of his descendants sold it, together with the manor of Grovehurst before-mentioned to Keat, and Sir Jonathan Keat, bart. died possessed of it in 1700. His heirs sold it to Peachy, in whose family it has continued down, in like manner, to the right hon. James, lord Selsey, who is the present possessor of it.

But a part of this estate, which comprehended Owrehouse, in Charles the 1st.'s reign, was become the property of Ambrose Tomlyn, and came afterwards into the possession of Samuel Hunt, in right of his wife, whose only daughter carried it in marriage to the Rev. Charles Hinde, vicar of this parish, whose daughters becoming owners of it, pulled down the antient house, in 1768, and about two years afterwards conveyed the scite of it, with the land belonging to it, to their brother Mr. John Hinde, gent. of Milton, the present possessor of it. There is no court held for this manor.

COLSALL, alias CHICHES, now most usually called Colson, is a reputed manor, the mansion of which is situated in the north-west extremity of this parish, though great part of the lands belonging to it extend into that of Iwade. This seat has been eminent for having owners of both those names, who resided here successively, the former of them as early as the reign

/t Rot. Cart. No. 20. See Dugd. Bar.

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of king Edward III. and continued owners of it for several generations, bearing for their arms, Chequy, or, and sable, a chief argent, guttee de sang. At length the daughter and heir of this name carried it in marriage to Ralph Chiche, whose sole daughter and heir Margaret entitled her husband Thomas Alefe, to the possession of it, who rebuilt this seat, and he died possessed of it in 1529, anno 21 Henry VIII. and lies buried, with Margaret his wife, in the south chancel of Milton church. On his monument were, till within these few years, his arms, Per fess, a lion rampant, between three crosses pattee, fitchee, impaling Chiche, three lions rampant, which latter are still remaining. In the hall of this seat, in several places, there is the rebus of his name, being the large letter A, and then a leaf. He likewise died without issue male, leaving an only daughter Catherine, who carried it again in marriage to Richard Monins, esq. of Saltwood-castle, whose grandson Sir William Monins, created a baronet in 1611, seems to have alienated it to Sir Justinian Lewin, of Otterden, who died in 1620, leaving an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, who entitled her husband, Richard Rogers, esq. of Brianston, in Somersetshire, to it. He likewise dying without male issue, his daughter Elizabeth carried it in marriage to Charles Cavendish, lord Mansfield, who died without issue by her, and secondly to Charles Stuart, duke of Richmond and Lenox, who, with his duchess, in the 14th year of Charles II. alienated this estate to Thomas Lushing-

ton, gent. of Sittingborne, whose grandson Thomas Godfrey Lushington, of Canterbury, died possessed of it in 1757, and by will gave this estate to his eldest son Capt. William Lushington, who dying unmarried in 1763, it came to his only surviving brother the Rev. James Stephen Lushington, of Bottisham, in Cambridgeshire, prebendary of the church of Carlisle, and he is the present owner of it.

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CHARITIES.

THOMAS BRADBURY, gent. late of this parish, by will in 1601, gave the yearly profits of four acres in Sawyers fields, to be distributed to the poor by the minister and churchwardens on St. Thomas's day, now of the annual produce of 5l.

FULKES TAYLOR, late of this parish, yeoman, gave by will in 1616, the yearly sum of 5l. to be distributed to the poor on the same day.

THOMAS KNOTT late of this parish, mariner, by will in 1673, gave the yearly sum of 1l. 2s. to be laid out in bread, and distributed by the churchwardens to the poor on twenty-two Sundays yearly, beginning on the third Sunday after the feast of St. Michael.

THOMAS KIPPS, gent. late of the city of Canterbury, by will in 1680, gave 20s. per annum, payable out of a tenement in Great Chart, and the lands called Chillmash there, to be distributed to the poor by the overseers on Christmas-day.

ELIZABETH MORLEY, spinster, late of St. Andrew's, Holborne, by will in 1714, gave to the churchwardens 100l. the interest of it to be given towards the teaching of three poor fatherless children to read and write, now of the annual produce of 5l.

JOHN KNOTT, late of this parish, baker, by will in 1718, gave the yearly sum of 5l. for the teaching of poor children to read and write, payable out of an estate, now Mr. Tho. Grant's, vested in the churchwardens and overseers.

CATHERINE ANNE DICKS, widow, late of this parish, by will in 1731, gave 25l. the interest of it yearly to be laid out in bread, in six two-penny loaves, each Sunday to be distributed by the churchwardens to six poor widows, beginning on Christmas-day, now of the annual produce of 16s. 10½d.

JOHN KNOTT, of this parish, gave 21 penny loaves for 22 Sundays, to begin on the third Sunday after Michaelmas, to such poor old people as should be at church, and took no alms of the parish.

MRS. MARY SIMMS, widow, of this parish, by will in 1772, devised the residue of her personal estate, after her debts and the legacies therein mentioned were satisfied, to the minister and churchwardens of Milton, to be put out to interest, and to be laid out in bread for the poor, to be distributed for so many successive Sundays yearly as they should think proper, to begin the first Sunday after Christmas-day, the amount of which in money was 87l. 6s. 8d. and now of the annual produce of 2l. 19s. 5½d.

MILDRED CHAPMAN, widow, by will in 1778, gave the sum of 20l. the yearly produce to be equally divided among ten

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poor widows, on St. Andrew's day yearly, vested in the minister and churchwardens, and now of the annual produce of 1l.

The poor constantly relieved are about eighty-five, casually one hundred.

MILTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church is dedicated to the Holy Trinity. It is a large handsome building, consisting of two isles and two chancels, the southernmost of which belongs to the manor of Northwood. It has a well built tower at the west end, in which are five bells. In this church, among others, were formerly the arms of Barry, Diggs, Finch, of the Five Ports, of Norwood and Norton, with their several crests, trophies, and banners; of Marten quartering Boteler; one coat, Barry, argent and azure, on a canton of the first, a bird of the second; Argent, three bends azure, within a bordure, eight mullets; Gules, a fess or, between three mullets, argent; and in one of the windows, a man kneeling, with a coat of arms, Six lions rampant, three and three, and underneath, Orate paia Guliel Savage Armigi.

Mauricius ap John, rector of St. George's, in Exeter, was buried in the choir of this church, as appears by his will, anno 1499.

In the year 1070, being the 5th year of his reign, William the Conqueror gave to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, the church of Middleton, and the tenths of all the products accruing from that manor, and the tenths of all its appurtenances, of the land, wood, meadows, and water, excepting the tenths of honey, and rent paid in money./u

Pope Lucius XI. in 1144, at the petition of abbot Hugh de Trottesclive, confirmed the annual pension of ten marcs from this church to that abbey.

/u See the confirmations of this gift in Decem. Script. Chron. W. Thorn, col. 1788, 1796, 2123.

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In 1168, the conventual church of St. Augustine was the greatest part of it burnt; on which account this church was allotted to the sacristy there, for the repair of it./w But they did not keep it long, for in 1178, at the king's instance, they gave it up, and lost all property both in the church, and the advowson of it. A composition was entered into between the archbishop and the abbot in 1182, concerning the privileges and exemptions of the latter; when it was agreed, that the archdeacon, or his official, should receive his accustomed dues and procurations from the churches of St. Augustine, excepting those of Minister, Northborne, and Chistelet, and from this church likewise, when the monks should again get possession of the appropriation of it.

Four years after which, the abbot demised to the prioress of St. Sexburg of Shepey, the tithes which his monastery possessed, in right of this church, in Bobbing, at the yearly rent of ten shillings, on condition that all housekeepers, which should be on the estates from which they arose, should yearly repair to this the mother church, with their oblations, on Christmas-day, the Purification, and Easter day. And in 1188, the abbot demised to the prioress there, the tenths of Westlonde, within her parish, for the rent of fourteen shillings, payable yearly to the sacrist of St. Augustine.

About the year 1198, the abbot and convent re-covered this church, which was then become vacant by the death of one Franco, the person to whom they had given it up, at the instance of king Henry. But they had kept it but a small time, before the archbishop disturbed them in their possession of it. However, by the mediation of mutual friends, and at the king's request, that he would not molest them in

/w Decem. Script. Chron. col. 1815. Archbishop Theobald likewise confirmed this church to the monastery. Col. 2091.

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their appropriation of it; he out of respect to the king, ratified this church to them, to be possessed by them for ever./x

There was a pension of forty shillings payable yearly from this church, with the chapel belonging to it, to the above monastery, which, with the other pensions from their several churches, was given up by agreement in 1242, for a compensation out of the profits of the church of Preston.

The abbot and convent, among the extensive privileges from the papal see, had obtained an exemption from all archiepiscopal authority, and about the year 1295 made an institution of several new deaneries, and apportioned the several churches belonging to his monastery, to each of them, according to their vicinity; one of these was the deanry of Lenham, in which this church was included. This raised great contests with the several archbishops, and after more than five years altercation, the abbot was stripped of these exemptions, and was declared, by the pope's bull, to be subject to the archbishop's jurisdiction, in like manner as before; which entirely dissolved these new deaneries, and that of Lenham among them./y

Notwithstanding the abbot and convent seem to have held the appropriation of this church almost from the first grant of it, and though there had been vicars instituted to it long before this time, for Robert de Wikes, who stiles himself vicar of Middelton, by his deed in 1247, granted seven deywerks of land, with the houses built on it, for the habitation of the vicar of Middelton, for the time being; and the abbot and convent had in 1286, assigned a portion for the maintenance of the vicar here; yet there does not appear to have been any regular endowment of a vicarage to

/x See the confirmations of this church to the monastery, in Dec. Script. Chron. col. 1185, 1838, 1840, 1882.

/y See Lenham, vol. v. of this history, p. 442.

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it, till the reign of king Edward III. when archbishop Stratford, in 1345, anno 20 Edward III. by his instrument, decreed, that the vicar of the church of Middelton, and his successors, should have the usual mansion of the vicarage, with the garden adjoining to it, together with one acre of the glebe of the same; and that he should have, in the name of the vicarage, all manner of oblations in the church of Middelton, and in all places, situated within the bounds and limits or titheable places of it; and that they should have in the name of the vicarage, all tithes of sylva

cædua, wool, lambs, calves, pigs, ducks, geese, swans, pigeons, cheese, milk-meats, herbage, apples, pears, and other fruit, growing in gardens and orchards, pulse, flax, hemp, eggs, rushes, merchandizes, and of all mills built, or which might in future be built, within the bounds and limits or titheable places of the church, and all other small tithes whatsoever belonging to it, and all legacies left in future to it, which the rectors or vicars of it might of right or custom take; also, that the vicars, in right of the vicarage, should have of the religious, the annual pension of 4s./z sterling, one seam or quarter of corn, and three quarters or seams of barley, on the feast of St. Michael, at Middelton, by them to be yearly paid, on pain of the sequestration of the fruits and profits of the church, belonging to the religious, to be laid on as often and whenever they should cease in the payment of the pension or barley, or should not pay either of them in the time above-mentioned.

But that the vicars should undergo the burthen of serving by themselves, or some other fit priest, the

/z In the Decem Scriptores the annual pension is said to be 40s. but it is a mistake. For, in the original endowment of this vicarage, which is in the British Museum (Cotton MSS. FAUSTINA, A. i. fol. 231. b.) it is clearly only the sum of four shillings a year, which error is here corrected accordingly, the vicar receiving no more at this time.

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church in divine services, in the finding of one lamp, to burn before the altar of St. Mary there, and the ministering of bread, wine, lights, and other things, which should be necessary for the celebration of divine rights in the church. The burthen likewise of the payment of tenths and other impositions, whenever they might be imposed on the English church, or incumbent on the church, for the taxation of twelve marcs, beyond the burthens allotted to the religious underneath, they should undergo at their own costs and expences.

But the burthen of the reparation and rebuilding of the chancel of the church, both within and without, and also the finding and repairing of books and vestments, and ornaments of the church, which were wont or ought of right or custom, to be found and repaired by the rectors of churches, and all other burthens, ordinary and extraordinary, incumbent on the church, the religious should undergo and acknowledge for ever, &c./a

The church and vicarage, after this, remained part of the possessions of the monastery, till the final dissolution of it, in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it was, with all its revenues, surrendered up into the king's hands, who by his dotation-charter, in his 33d year, settled both the appropriation of this church, and the advowson of the vicarage, among other premises, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Christchurch, Canterbury, with whom the inheritance of the parsonage still remains, the interest in the lease of it being now in the heirs of John Cockin Sole, esq. deceased, but the advowson of the vicarage the dean and chapter retain in their own hands, and are the

present patrons of it.

The vicarage of Milton is valued in the king's books at 13l. 2s. 6d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 6s. 3d.

/a Decem. Script. Chron. W. Thorn. col. 2093.

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In 1578, there were here, dwelling-houses one hundred and eight, communicants three hundred and seventy-four. In 1640 this vicarage was valued at eighty pounds. Communicants five hundred and twenty-nine.

The antient annual pension of four shillings, one quarter of wheat, and three quarters of barley, stipulated to be paid by the religious as before-mentioned, still continues to be paid by the lessee of the parsonage, by the covenants of his lease.

The agreement made between the prior of the brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem and the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, about king Henry the 11d.'s reign, that whenever their chapel of Rodmersham should be dedicated, and the cemetery consecrated, they would diminish by it none of the mother church of Middleton's rights; has already been more fully mentioned in the account of that parish before./b

CHURCH OF MILTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Dean and Chapter of Canterbury Anthony Kingsmill, A.M. Sept. 8, 1585, obt. 1616.

Isaac Colfe, A. M. October 10, 1616.

The King, by lapse The same, July 3, 1624.

Dean and chapter. John Hurt, A. M. July 6, 1661, obt. 1672.

Thomas Turner, A. M. March 14, 1672. obt. 1695.

William Turner, A. B. March 21, 1695, obt. 1711.

John Smith, A. M. Sept. 28, 1711, obt. 1718./c

Charles Hinde, A. M. Oct. 10, 1718, obt. 1751./d

/b This agreement is among the archives of Christ-church, in Canterbury.

/c See Preston by Wingham, of which he was likewise vicar.

/d And curate of Iwade.

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PATRONS &c. VICARS.

Dean and chapter. Francis Gregory, A. M. July 23, 1751, resigned 1764./e

Osmund Beauvoir, S. T. P. April 1, 1765, obt. July 1, 1789./f

The Archbishop, by lapse John Rose, A. M. July, 1790, vacated 1792./g

Dean and chapter. Henry John Todd, A. M. 1792,

the present vicar./h

/e He had been before rector of Brooke, and resigned this vicarage for the rectory of St. George and St. Mary Burgate, in Canterbury, united.

/f And by dispensation in 1764, vicar of Littleborne. He was likewise curate of Iwade, and head master of the king's school of Canterbury. He was formerly fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge, and vicar of Calne, in Wiltshire, and in 1782 was created S. T. P. by the archbishop.

/g He was presented to the rectory of Mepall, with the vicarage of Sutton, in the Isle of Ely, when he vacated this vicarage.

/h And minor canon of Christchurch in Canterbury. He published in 1793 an authentic and well-written account of the lives of the deans of that church; a gentleman to whose courtesy the Editor of this history is highly indebted for his continual assistance during the publication of it, which he is happy of having this opportunity of acknowledging publicly.

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BOBBING.

LIES the next parish south-westward from Milton last-described, at a very small distance northward from the high London road at Key-street.

THE PARISH of Bobbing lies almost the whole of it on the northern side of the high London road, nearly at the 39th mile stone. It is not an unpleasant situation, though at the same time it has not the character of being very healthy. It contains about seven hundred and eighty acres of land, of which forty are wood, the soil is in general poor, much of it on the high ground is either a gravel sand, or a mixture of clay, but in the lower parts, especially in the northern towards Milton, there is some good fertile level land. The high road runs along the southern boundaries of it, excepting at Key-street, where it extends some

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way up the Detling road; hence the hill rises to high ground, on which, about half a mile from the road, is the church, and close to the church-yard the ruins of Bobbing-court, with the few houses that compose the village on the other side of it. At a small distance from these ruins southward, on the brow of the hill, at the end of the toll of elms leading from the high road, Arthur Gore, esq. of the kingdom of Ireland, built on colonel Tyndale's land a few years ago, a small shooting seat, which has since been further improved by his cousin Sir Booth Gore, bart. of Sligo, in Ireland, being so created on August 30, 1760, and they both pretty constantly reside in it; the house commands the view of the London road, and a fine one southward beyond it; below the descent of the

hill, northward from the church, is Bobbing-place, a low situation near the boundaries of this parish next to Milton.

At the south-west corner of the parish, on the London road, is a small hamlet of houses called Key-street, corruptly probably for *caii stratum*, or Caius's-street, though the ale-house in it, the sign of which seems to have arisen from the name of the street, has raised a notion of the street's taking its name from thence. Here is a large house lately erected by Mr. William Boykett, who resides in it.

In this street there was antiently a spital-house for the use of the poor and diseased.

About a mile southward from hence on the high road to Detling, there is a gravel pit of an unusual depth and length, the hollowing of which must have been the work of great labour and length of time, insomuch that if I may be allowed the conjecture, I should suppose it was made by the Romans, who took their materials from thence to make their road, which still remains visible from Key-street to Sittingborne, the quantity of gravel with which that way is raised, being only to be supplied from so large a place as this is.

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There was formerly a quintin in this parish, the field in which it stood being still called from thence the Quintin-field.

There is an antient allowed fair here, held formerly on St. Bartholomew's day, now by alteration of the stile on Sept. 4, yearly, the profits of which belong to the lord of Milton manor.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over this parish, subordinate to which is the MANOR OF BOBBING, the mansion of which, called Bobbing-court, was the antient residence of the family of Savage, or Le Sauvage, as they were called in French, who were of eminent account, and possessed good estates in this part of Kent; and Leland, in his Itinerary says, this manor had before belonged to the family of Molynes.

Ralph de Savage, the first owner of this manor, of the name whom I have met with, was present with king Richard I. at the siege of Acon, in Palestine. His descendants Sir John de Savage, Sir Thomas de Savage, of Bobbing, and Sir Roger de Savage, were with king Edward I. with many other gentlemen of this county, at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, in the 28th year of his reign, and were all honored there with the degree of knighthood.

Roger le Sauvage possessed this manor in the next reign of king Edward II. and in the 5th year of it obtained free-warren, and other liberties for his lands in Bobbynges, Middelton, Borden, Newenton, and Stokebury.

In the descendants of this family, who bore for their arms, Argent, six lions rampant, sable, three, two and one, which coat is still remaining on the roof of the cloysters of Canterbury cathedral, and in the chapter-house there, men of eminent degree in the times in which they flourished, whose burial place was within the north chancel of this church, this manor continued down to Arnold Savage, esq. who died s. p.

in 1420, so that Eleanor his sister, who had been first married to Sir Reginald Cobham, by whom she left no issue, and was then the wife of William Clifford, esq. became his heir, as well in this manor as the rest of his possessions. The family of Clifford was descended from ancestors seated at Clifford-castle, in Herefordshire, as early as the beginning of Henry II.'s reign, several of whom were summoned to parliament, among the barons of this realm. At length Roger de Clifford, who married Matilda, daughter of Thomas de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, and died anno 13 Richard II. leaving three sons, of whom Thomas was the eldest, from whom descended the Cliffords, earls of Cumberland; the Boyles, lords Clifford, of Lonsborough; Thomas, earl of Thanet, lord Clifford, and his daughter the lady Margaret Tufton, lady Clifford, married to Coke, earl of Leicester.

Sir William Clifford, the second son, died s. p. and Lewis Clifford, the third son, was a man of note in the military line, as well as in state affairs, and in the 6th year of Richard II. was made a knight of the garter. He died anno 4 Henry IV. leaving one son William, who as before-mentioned, married the sister of Arnold Savage, esq. and in her right became possessed of Bobbing manor,ⁱ a younger branch of which family had been settled at Bobbing-place, in this parish, some time before. The Cliffords, of Bobbing, bore for their arms, Chequy, or, and sable, a fess and bordure, gules, on the fess, a crescent argent, for difference, which coat they quartered with that of Savage. These arms of Clifford are on the roof of the cloysters of Canterbury cathedral, and in St. Margaret's church, in Canterbury, impaled with Savage. The first lord Clifford of this family, bore Chequy, or, and azure, a bendlet, gules, which the elder brethren kept as long as they

ⁱ See Dugdale's Baronetage, vol. i. p. 335. Coll. Peer. 2d edit. vol. iv. p. 194.

continued; a second son turned the bendlet into a bend, and placed on it three lions, passant, or, from whom the Cliffords of Frampton are descended. Roger Clifford, second son of Walter the first lord, for the bendlet took a fess gules, which was borne by the earls of Cumberland, and others of that branch. Those of Kent added the bordure to the fess, and a crescent on it, for difference; and Sir Conyers bore the chequy, or, and sable, as appears by his coat of arms on an original picture of him, painted in 1595.

William Clifford, before-mentioned, was sheriff both in the 4th and 13th years of king Henry VI. and died in the 16th year of that reign, leaving two sons, Lewis, who succeeded him in his estates in this county, and John, who was ancestor to the lords Clifford, of Chudleigh.

Lewis Clifford, the eldest son, resided at Bobbing-court, whose son Alexander Clifford, esq. kept his shrievalty there in the 5th year of king Edward IV. and dying in the 10th year of Henry VII. left six sons, of whom Lewis Clifford, the eldest, succeeded him in this manor, and was sheriff in the 13th year of

king Henry VII. He left by his first wife Mildred, daughter of Bartholomew Bourne, esq. of Sharsted, two sons, Nicholas, who was of Sutton Valence, and left a sole daughter and heir, married first to Harpur, and secondly to Moore,^{/k} and Richard.

Nicholas Clifford, esq. the eldest son, possessed this manor of Bobbing on his father's death, but removing to Sutton Valence, or Town Sutton, as it is now called. He sold it presently afterwards to Sir Thomas Neville, but Richard Clifford, esq. the younger son, repurchased it of him, and died possessed of it, being succeeded in it by his son George Clifford, esq. who resided at Bobbing-court in the middle of the reign of queen Elizabeth, and left seven sons and three

^{/k} See Town Sutton, vol. v. of this history, p. 369.

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daughters, of whom Henry Clifford, esq. the eldest son, succeeded him in this manor, which he afterwards alienated to his younger brother, Sir Conyers Clifford, and dame Mary his wife, the daughter of Francis Southwell, esq. of Windham-hall, in Norfolk, and had been married first to Thomas Sydney, esq. of this county, and afterwards to Nicholas Gorge, esq. Her third husband was Sir Conyers Clifford, of Bobbing-court, above mentioned, who was governor of Connaught, in Ireland, and a privy counsellor of that kingdom, by whom she had two sons, Henry and Conyers. She survived him, and afterwards possessed solely this manor, to whom she entitled her fourth husband Sir Anthony St. Leger, master of the rolls in Ireland, and a privy counsellor there, who was third son of Sir Anthony St. Leger, of Ulcomb, lord deputy of Ireland. She had by him, who survived her, one son Anthony, and dying in 1603, æt. 37, was buried in St. Patrick's church, Dublin. By her will she devised this manor, in equal shares, to her two sons Henry and Conyers Clifford, and her son Anthony St. Leger, afterwards knighted, and of Wierton-house, in Boughton Monchelsea. They quickly afterwards joined in the sale of it to Sir Edward Duke, of Cosington, in Aylesford, who not long afterwards passed it away by sale to Sir Richard Gurney, alderman of London, who was afterwards in 1641 created a baronet, being then lord-mayor, who bore for his arms, Paly of six, per fess, counterchanged, or, and azure,^{/l} which coat was in allusion to that borne by Hugh Gorney, a Norman, created earl of Gorney by William Rusus, who bore Paly, six, or, and azure. He alienated it to his brother-in-law Henry Sandford, esq. who died possessed of it in 1660, bearing for his arms, Ermine, on a fess, gules, two boars heads coupéd, or.

^{/l} Strype's Stow's Survey, B. ii. p. 90. B. iii. p. 128. B. v. p. 144. Guillim. p. 194.

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He left by her four daughters his coheirs, Christian; Angelica, married to Henry Thornhill, esq. Mary; and Frances, the latter of whom carried this manor in marriage to Sir George Moore, bart. who had been so created in 1665, being stiled of Maids Morton, in Buckinghamshire, bearing for his arms, On a fess, three

fleurs de lis, between three mullets. He died possessed of it in 1678, and was buried in the north chancel of this church. He died s. p. leaving his widow surviving, and possessed of this manor, which she the next year carried in marriage to colonel Edw. Diggs, the fifth son of Thomas Diggs, esq. of Chilham-castle, who dying s. p. she again married colonel Robert Crayford, governor of the fort of Sheerness, who survived her, and became possessed of this manor, which he afterwards, in the reign of king William, sold to Thomas Tyndale, gent. of North Nibley, in Gloucestershire, who was descended of a family originally settled in Northumberland, whence a descendant of it removed to North Nibley, which estate Thomas Tyndale sold on his purchasing this manor. His son William Tyndale, esq. who pulled down this mansion, and dying in 1748, was buried in the south chancel of Bobbing church; leaving no issue, he by will devised this manor in tail male to his collateral kinsman, the Rev. William Tyndale, rector of Coats, in Gloucestershire, whose son Thomas Tyndale, esq. of North Cerney, in that county, died in 1783, having married Elizabeth, third daughter of Charles Coxe, esq. of Gloucestershire, whom he left surviving, and by her one son, lieutenant-colonel William Tyndale, the present possessor of this manor, and a daughter Anne-Catherine. He bears for his arms, Argent, a fess, gules, between three garbs, sable.

The mansion of Bobbing-court, which was situated exceedingly pleasant, having a fine prospect on every side of it, stood almost adjoining to the south side of the church-yard. It has been many years since pulled

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down, but by the foundations remaining, the walls of the garden, and the out-offices belonging to it, which are yet standing, it appears to have been a building of a very considerable size.

There is a court baron regularly held for this manor.

BOBBING-PLACE was an antient seat in this parish, situated at the northern extremity of it, adjoining to Milton, which seems to have been the antient residence of the family of Clifford, before they became possessed of the manor and court of Bobbing, as heir to the Savages.

A younger collateral branch of them, in the person of Robert Clifford, esq. of Bobbing, a younger brother of Richard, bishop of Worcester and London, successively, kept his shrievalty in this parish, both in the 1st year of Henry IV. and in the 2d and 3d years of Henry V. in the 8th year of which he was knight of the shire with Arnold Savage. He died in 1422, and was buried in the cathedral of Canterbury.

It afterwards passed into the name of Gorham, and thence into that of Tufton, and in the reign of king Charles I. this seat was the property and residence of Sir Humphry Tufton, the second surviving son of Sir John Tufton, knight and baronet, of Hothfield, and next brother to Nicholas, first earl of Thanet. He resided at times both here and at the Mote, in Maidstone, and in 1641 was created a baronet. He died at Bobbing-place in 1659, and was buried in this church.

Sir John Tufton, knight and baronet, his eldest surviving son, resided entirely at the Mote, and dying in 1685, s. p. was buried in Maidstone church. By his will he devised this seat to trustees, to be sold for the payment of his debts, and they accordingly, in 1687, conveyed it by sale to major Thomas Cooke, of Faversham, who alienated it in 1692 to Mr. Thomas Sole, of Milton, shipbuilder. He married in 1688, Mary Cockin, of that parish, by whom he left

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Cockin Sole, esq. barrister-at-law and recorder of Queenborough, who resided here, where he died in 1750, leaving one son, and a daughter Catherine, who married first Mr. Nowell, and secondly John Constantine Jennings, esq. He was succeeded in this seat by his only son John Cockin Sole, esq. who kept his shrievalty at it in 1756, bearing for his arms, Argent, a chevron, gules, between three soles hauriant, proper, all within a bordure, engrailed of the second. He continued to reside here till he removed to Norton-court, near Faversham, and afterwards, in 1766, pulled down almost the whole of this seat, leaving of it only sufficient for a mean farm-house. After which he alienated it to Mr. Thomas Colley, who is rebuilding this seat, in which he intends to reside.

THERE is a small manor in this parish called UPPER TOES, which formerly belonged to the family of Bartholomew, of Oxenhoath, from which it has, in like manner as that estate, become the property of Sir William Geary, now of Oxenhoath, the present proprietor of it, and there is another small manor here called NETHER TOES, which formerly was the estate of the Barrows, and was given by the will of Mr. William Barrow, in 1707, among his other estates, for the benefit of the poor of Borden, in the trustees of which charity it is now vested.

CHARITIES.

THOMAS WOLLETT, by will in 1688, gave to such poor as take no relief, lands and houses vested in the churchwardens and overseers, now of the annual produce of 1l.

MARY GIBBON gave by will in 1678, the sum of 50l. for the purpose of putting to school poor children in this parish, now of the annual produce of 4l. 5s.

The poor constantly relieved are about seven; casually ten.

BOBBING is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

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The church, which is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, consists of two small isles and two chancels, having a tall spire steeple at the west end of it, in which are five bells.

In the north chancel are several antient gravestones of the Savages and Cliffords, many of them entirely robbed of their brasses, and others only with remnants remaining, on one are the figures in brass of a man and woman, the former having the surcoat of Clifford, Chequy, a fess, with a bordure; a memorial for Sir George Moore, in 1678; a monument for

Henry Sandford, esq. 1660, and Elizabeth his wife, with their two busts in white marble. In the south chancel, memorials for William Tyndale, esq. obt. 1748, and for Darell, son of Nathaniel Darell, governor of Sheerness in Charles the 1st's reign. In the south aisle is a monument, having two busts of white marble on it, for Charles and Humphry Tufton, sons of Sir Humphry Tufton, of Maidstone, the former died 1652, the latter 1657, both unmarried; and memorials for Cobbes, Poole, and others.

The church of Bobbing was given by Henry III. in his 18th year, to the monastery of St. Mary and St. Sexburgh, in the Isle of Shepey; which gift was confirmed by king Henry IV. in his 1st year, by his letters of inspeximus, and it continued part of the possessions of it till the general dissolution of religious houses in the reign of king Henry VIII. in the 27th year of which, this nunnery was suppressed, as not being of the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds.

This church becoming thus vested in the crown, the king, in his 35th year, granted the rectory of it, with its appurtenances, to Thomas Green, to hold in capite by knight's service, who had been tenant of it at the dissolution, at the yearly rent of twelve pounds.

m Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 153. Kilb. Surv. p. 31.

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He was usually stiled Thomas Norton, alias Green, being the natural son of Sir John Norton, of Northwood, in Milton, and bore for his arms, Gules, a cross potent, ermine, within a bordure, argent, and sable. He died in the 6th year of king Edward VI. leaving two sons, Norton Green, who left an only daughter and heir, married to Sir Mark Ive, of Boxsted, in Essex, and Robert Green, gent. who was of Bobbing.

Norton Green, esq. the eldest son, on his father's death, became possessed of the rectory of Bobbing impropriate, with the advowson of the vicarage; on whose death it became the property of Sir Mark Ive, in right of his wife, and he presented to it in 1607. His son John Ive, esq. died in king Charles the 1st's reign, leaving an only daughter Anne, then an infant. In the next reign of king Charles II. Sir George Moore, of Bobbing-court, owner of the manor of Bobbing, was possessed of this rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage. Since which it has remained in the like succession of owners as that manor, down to lieutenant-colonel William Tyndale, of Gloucestershire, the present possessor and patron of it.

In the year 1578, here were communicants one hundred and eighteen. In 1640 the vicarage of it was valued at sixty pounds. Communicants eighty-eight. There is no valuation of this vicarage in the king's books.

In the year 1186, the abbot of St. Augustine's monastery demised to the prioress of St. Sexburgh, in Shepey, the tithes of this parish, which belonged to them in right of their church of Middleton, at ten shillings per annum for ever, as has been more fully mentioned before under that parish.

CHURCH OF BOBBING.

PATRONS,
Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Thomas Shawe, obt. 1607.
Sir Marcus Ive, of Boxsted. Francis Reynolds, A. M. May
20, 1607, obt. 1630.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

The Crown. John Reader, Sept. 7, 1635./n
William Scarlett, in 1663
Sir George Moore, of Bobbing-court Titus Otes, A. B. induct. March
13, 1672, resigned./o
The Crown, by lapse. Thomas Conway, inducted Dec.
14, 1689, resigned 1690.
Robert Crayford and dame Frances
Moore his wife. Robert Philpott, July 9, 1690,
obt. 1703.
William Tyndale, gent. John Napleton, A. M. Nov.
1703, obt. 1712.
John Burman, A. M. Feb. 10,
1712, obt. April 13, 1726./p
Richard Fletcher, A. B. induct.
1726.
Isaac Priest, inducted Aug. 5,
1753, obt. 1757.
William Tyndale, clerk. Joseph Parry, A. M. Oct. 21,
1757, the present vicar.

/n The crown presented, by reason
of the nonage of Anne Ive. Rymer's
Fœd. vol. xix. p. 624.

/o He resigned this vicarage and re=
moved into Sussex; after which he be=
came the famous discoverer of the Po=
pish plot. See Rapin, vol. ii. p. 689.

/p Also vicar of Newington near
Sittingborne, where he lies buried.

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IWADE,

COMMONLY called Warde, lies northward from
Bobbing last-described, the parish of Milton interven=
ing, the greatest part of which lies within that hundred,
over which that manor claims as paramount. The re=
maining, or eastern part of it is within the hundred of
Tenham, and the lands in it are held of that manor.

THIS PARISH lies very low, and on a level with the
adjoining marshes, the situation and look of it is not
unlike the sens in Lincolshire. It is hardly known, ex=
cepting to those who travel towards the Isle of Shepey,
to which the road leads through this parish over the
marshes to the King's ferry, from which the village,
with the church, stand at about a mile distance, and
about two from the town of Milton north-westward.

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There are sixteen houses in it, and about sixty or se=
venty inhabitants. The lands are very even and flat,
of a soft boggy nature, almost all of them are pasture
ground and marshes, which have great quantities of
sheep continually feeding on them. Dr. Plot remarks
that the sheep never rot in the marshes of this parish,

but that in those of Tenham they do, the sheep having in their livers little animals breeding in the shape of plaise, occasioned, as it is believed, by their feeding on the herb spearwort, which grows there plentifully among the grass. Its low and moist situation close to so large a tract of marshes and the waters of the Swale, which are its northern boundary, render it hardly ever free from fogs and noisome vapours, and in summer in dry weather, the stench of the mud in the ponds and ditches, and the badness of the water, contribute so much to its unwholesomeness, that almost every one is terrified from attempting to live in it, and it is consequently but very thinly inhabited. It has been remarked that the thatch on the roofs of buildings in this parish cannot be preserved long, the rooks and other birds continually carrying it away, which circumstance arises from the quantity of flies harbouring in it, owing to its situation, much more than in other places; and it is for the sake of these flies that the birds unthatch the buildings. There is some land in this parish called Swain's Down, a name plainly of Danish original, and there are still the vestigia of some antient fortifications or works thrown up, remaining on it.

HELMES, or Holmes, now vulgarly called Soames, is a manor which lies partly in this parish, and partly in Milton; the house of it being commonly called the Moated House, from a large moat having been formerly made round it.

This manor was antiently part of the possessions of the family of Savage, seated at Bobbing, one of which, Arnold, son of Sir Thomas Savage, died possessed of it in the 49th year of king Edward III. After which it

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continued in his descendants of the names of Savage and Clifford, in like manner as Bobbing, down to Alexander Clifford, esq. who resided at this manor of Holmes, during his father's life-time, at whose death he removed to Bobbing; at length his descendant Henry Clifford, esq. of Bobbing, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Thomas Thomson, of Sandwich, whose descendant, of the same name, leaving two sons, Thomas, of Kenfield in Petham, and Henry of Royton-chapel, in Lenham, the latter of them became by his father's will possessed of this manor. After which it passed in the same tract of ownership as Royton, till it was sold with that estate to Thomas Best, esq. of Chilston, who by will in 1795, gave it with his other estates in this county to his nephew George Best, esq. of Chilston, and he has lately sold it to Mr. Joseph Rond Davies, the present owner of it.

CHARITIES.

John Bunce, of Milton, linen-draper, by his will in 1681, left to the poor of this parish 40s. chargeable on an estate at Iwade, belonging to Mr. John Murton, of Goodnestone, to be distributed among them by the churchwardens on St. John's day.

The poor constantly relieved are about eight, casually not more than one or two.

IWADE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of

Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is a small neat building, consists of two isles and two chan= cels, having a low pointed steeple, in which are two bells. There is some good painted glass in the win= dows of it.

It was formerly esteemed as a chapel to the church of Tenham, and as such, was given and appropriated with it to the archdeaconry of Canterbury, by archbi= shop Stephen Langton, in 1227.

/q See vol. v. of this history, p. 425.

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George Hall, archdeacon of Canterbury, in his lease of this parsonage granted in 1560, reserved the sum of eight pounds per annum, to be paid by the lessee as an augmentation to this curacy.

The abbot and convent of St. Augustine was pos= sessed of the portion of tithes of Colesland, in this parish, which Thomas, curate of this parish, released all his right to, before Selfrid, bishop of Chichester, in the year 1202, anno 4 of king John./r

It is now a perpetual curacy, and is of the yearly certified value of eight pounds.

In 1730 it was augmented by lot, by the governors of queen Anne's bounty, with two hundred pounds, and again by them in 1766 with the like sum. It was af= terwards augmented with two hundred pounds more, on a distribution of the like sum from Mrs. Ursula Taylor's legacy, paid to them by Sir Philip Boteler, bart. which, with two hundred pounds since added, has been laid out by the present Incumbent in the freehold purchase, in the parish of Borden, about three miles from Iwade, the annual rent of which is now twenty= eight pounds./s

The archdeacon of Canterbury is patron and appro= priator of it.

CHURCH OF IWADE.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. CURATES.

The Archdeacon of Canterbury. Thomas Morland, admitted 1708.

Charles Hinde, A. M. ob. 1751./t

Thomas Leigh, A. M. 1751./u

Francis Gregory, A. M. 1751,
resigned 1766.

Osmund Beauvoir, 1766, S. T. P.
obt. 1789.

J. Lough, 1790, the pre=
sent curate.

/r Regist. Mon. St. Aug. Cart. 513.

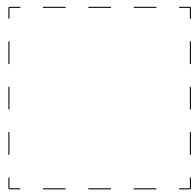
See Decem. Script. Chron. W. Thorn.
col. 2029.

/s Obligingly communicated by the
present Incumbent.

/t And vicar of Milton.

/u Also rector of Murston.

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THE ISLAND OF SHEPEY.

THE ISLAND OF SHEPEY is separated from the rest of the county of Kent by a narrow arm of the sea, called the Swale. It is not certain by what name it was known to the Romans. Ptolemy, in his geography, mentions two islands in this part of Britain, which he calls Toliapis and Counus. He describes the former of these islands in lon. 23. lat. 54. 15. the latter in lon. 24. lat. 54. 30. though what space he allowed to a degree is uncertain, but undoubtedly it appears to be much less than we do. The former of them is supposed by most of our learned men, among whom are Camden and Batteley, to be this island, though Lam-

/w Camd. Brit. p. 233. Battely Antiq. Rhutup. p. 41.

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barde, Leland, and some others, think the latter, merely from the etymology of the name.

It was called by the Saxons, SCEAPIGE or OVINIA, that is, the Island of Sheep, which name it took from the number of sheep continually feeding on it. Baxter, in his Glossary, under the word Malata, adds, 'Verecum Patria, or the Isle of Sheep, now named Shepey. This is corruptly called, by the book of Ravenna, Malaca, by the Britons Vervex.' In Chron. de Mailros, anno 832, it is called Peseiga.

Its circumference, including the little adjoining isles of Elmley and Harty, which lie at the south-east side of it, and include about two eighth parts of the whole of it, measures upwards of thirty miles. It is about eleven miles in length, and about eight at its greatest breadth.

The grounds of this island rise from the shores on the south, east, and west bounds of it towards its center; but on the north side, it seems, by the height of the cliffs, to have once extended much further. The cliffs are in length about six miles, and gradually decline at each end, the more elevated parts continuing about two-thirds as far as they extend, and they are, at the very highest of them about Minster, not less than thirty yards in perpendicular height above the beach or shore, and consisting of clay, and being constantly washed at their basis by the tides which beat against them, more especially when driven by strong easterly winds, they are continually wasting and falling down upon the shore, and so great is the loss of land at the highest parts, that sometimes near an acre has sunk down in one mass from that height upon the beach below, with the corn remaining entire on the surface of it, which has afterwards grown and increased to maturity, and been reaped in that state, with but a trifling loss to the owner of it.

The soil of the greatest part of the island is an exceeding stiff clay; by far the greatest part of it consists

of upland pastures and marshes, the latter are much of them rich and fertile fatting land, the former are covered with ant hills, very wet in winter, and in summer subject to burn and split open eight or nine feet in depth. The island, towards the north side, in the parishes of Minster and Eastchurch, is very fertile in corn, the inclosures of which are small, and surrounded with thick hedge-rows of elm, and the whole face of the country exceeding pleasant in fine weather, being interspersed with much small hill and dale, and frequent houses and cottages. The roads throughout the island are very good all the year, owing to the great plenty of the fine gravel of the beach pits in it, and the prospects are very pleasing and extensive on every side. There is hardly any coppice wood throughout the whole of it. Fresh water is very scarce and the greatest part of it brackish, tho' between Eastchurch and Minster there are a few springs, which, notwithstanding they rise near the sea, the waters of them are perfectly good and fresh. The air is very thick and much subject to noxious vapours, arising from the large quantity of marshes in and near it, and the badness of the water, which make it very unwholesome, insomuch, that few people of substance live in it, and in the low or marshy parts the inhabitants are very few indeed, and consist in general of lookers, bailiffs, and servants. Thearrison and dock of Sheerness, and its environs, the reader will however of course except from this observation, where there are many gentlemen employed in the government service, who are of property and substance constantly resident.

The water which flows between this island and the main land is called the Swale, and the two extremities of it, the East and West Swale, it reaches about twelve miles in length, and is navigable for ships of two hundred tons burthen. This water seems formerly to have been accounted a part of the river Thames, and to have been the usual (as being the safest) passage for

the shipping between London and the North Foreland; accordingly Sandwich is frequently stiled by our antient historians Lundenwic, or the Thames Mouth, being the name given to it by the Saxons, and the town of Milton is said by them to stand on the south bank of the Thames. Leland in particular says, in his Itinerary, 'that town stands on an arm of the Tamise;' and he speaks of the point against Quinborough 'entering into the mayne Tamys.'

The usual passage to it is by a ferry, called King's Ferry, for carriages, horses, cattle, and passengers. The ferry-boat is moved forward by a long cable, of about one hundred and forty fathoms or more, which being fastened at each end across the Swale, serves to move it forward by hand. On the side opposite to the island there is a small house of stone, in the room of one formerly erected by one George Fox, who having staid a long while in the cold, waiting for the boat, and being much affected by it, built it to shelter others from the like inconvenience.

This ferry, before the making of the statute of

highways, had been repaired and maintained, time out of mind, at the charge of all the inhabitants and land-occupiers within the whole island, by an assessment made at a court or law-day, holden yearly at Kingsborowe, within the island, in the king's name, only for the maintenance of this ferry.

To enforce which an act passed in the 18th year of queen Elizabeth, and another afterwards in the 28th year of that reign, with still further powers, that from that time for ever, between the feasts of Easter and Pentecost, any three justices of the peace, dwelling within eight miles of the town of Milton, should assess all lands and grounds lying without the island, and within four miles of the ferry, towards the repair and amendment of the usual highway leading from that town to it (which was in such decay that neither man nor beast could then pass it without great danger, and

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the parish through which it lay was not able to repair it) so that it exceeded not the usual proportion of one penny for each acre of fresh, or ten acres of salt marsh, the money to be employed in repairing such road, with power of distress in such manner and form as was limited to the Ferry-warden by the former statute, &c.

At the law-day before-mentioned, a ferry-warden, two ferrymen, and a constable are yearly chosen, who appoint a ferry-keeper, and with the homage make rules and orders for the good government of the ferry.

By these means and the rents belonging to it, the ferry has from time to time been maintained, as well as the highways through the marshes, together with the sea wall and wharf, and the ferry-keeper's house, and two large passage-boats and a skiff, with a cable to tow the boat from side to side. The passage is cost-free for all travellers, except on four days yearly, Palm Monday, Whit-Monday, St. James's day, and Michaelmas day, and on Sundays, and every night in the year after eight o'clock.

The ferry-keeper has a privilege to dredge for oysters, exclusive of all others, within the compass of the ferry-loop, which extends one tow's length, that is, sixty fathoms, on each side of the cable. Some years ago, he was disturbed in the enjoyment of it, by some of the Queenborough dredgers, who being called to account in law for the trespass, paid the charges, and submitted without coming to a trial.

For the space of more than eighty years after the last-mentioned act of parliament, there was little resort to this ferry, except from the private business of the inhabitants of the island; but since the building of a fort, and fixing a garrison at Sheerness, and the establishing of a dock-yard, a branch of the ordnance, and other appendages necessary to them, the traffic to and from the island has greatly increased, and with it the expence of maintaining this ferry, and the roads leading to it, of which there are three principal ones, the

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first to the south-eastward to the town of Milton, the second strait forward towards the south through Iwade and Bobbing into the great Dover road at Key-street, and the third towards the south-west through Halstow

and Upchurch towards Gillingham and Chatham.

There are two other ferries, of less account, to and from this island, one in the island of Elmley, and the other in that of Harty; but these are only for foot-passengers and cattle.

There have been several commissions granted from time to time to different persons to view and repair the banks and sea walls of this island, the earliest of which is in the 27th year of king Edward III. in the 12th year of which the king directed his writs to the bishop of Rochester, Roger de Northwode, the prior of Rochester, the abbot of Boxley, Thomas de Cobham, Stephen de Cobham, Philip de Pympe, Stephen de Ashburie, Humphry de Northwode, and Ralph de Savage, all landholders of this island, in which it is recited, among other matters, that, intelligence having been received that this island would soon be invaded by the enemies' fleets, he therefore commanded them to have ready their men-at-arms and archers, according to the quantity of lands and tenements, which each of them possessed in it, together with the men of the island, and others, landholders in it, for the safety of it against the impending danger. /x And afterwards, in the 46th year of that reign, writs of the like nature were directed to Richard at Lees, chivalier, John Normaud, chivalier, and Richard Cheyne.

King Richard II. in his 1st year, directed his writs to the sheriffs of Kent and Essex, commanding them to erect beacons on the most conspicuous places near the coasts of the two counties, opposite to each other, that by the firing of them, notice might be given of any sudden attempt of the enemy. In consequence of

/x Claus ejus an. p. 3, m. 33. Rym. Fœd. vol. v. p. 85.

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which, there were many of them erected, and one in particular here in Shepey, and at Showbery, in Essex, opposite to it.

The Isle of Shepey had formerly a court of Hustings belonging to it, wherein were heard all causes and pleadings, the laws, customs, rights, and franchises of this island, or whatever in any shape belonged or related to it.

The cliffs on the northern side of this island being composed of clay, and constantly washed at their basis by the tides, are continually wasting and falling down upon the shore, as has already been taken notice of. These cliffs belong to the three manors of Minster, Shurland, and Warden, the owners of which let them out to the different proprietors of the copperas works, who employ the neighbouring poor to collect the pyrites or copperas-stones upon the beach, which they deposit there in heaps, until a sufficient quantity is procured to load a vessel with to carry it away.

These cliffs produce besides, in their bowels, so great a variety and quantity of fossils, both native and extraneous, as are hardly to be paralleled, in a like space of ground, any where; these, the clay being continually washed away by the tides, are left exposed on the beach, and are usually picked up by the copperas gatherers who sell them to the curious; but those found here have been so much impregnated with pyritical matter,

that after some time the salts thereof shoot, and entirely destroy them.

The late Mr. Jacob, of Faversham, well known to the learned as a curious antiquarian and naturalist, printed at the end of his *Plantæ Favershamienses*, a concise view of the fossil bodies of this island, collected by him during the course of thirty years, and among the *Philosophical Transactions*, vol. 50, pt. i. p. 396, is an account of some fossil fruits and other bodies found by him in this island in 1757.

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The curious investigator of natural history, who travels into this island, will undoubtedly receive a further pleasure in the observations he will continually be induced to make on the variety of curious plants, which he will find growing over the whole face of it, but they are so very numerous as to well excuse the insertion of them here. Mr. Jacob has published a catalogue of such as he has observed in the long course of his searches.

Our antient herbalist Gerarde, mentions likewise in his *Herbal* several found by him here. Besides which, both Ray and Hudson make mention of several rare species of fucus, confervæ, corallinæ, ulvæ, potamogiton, ruppia maritima, bupleurum, frankenia, and some others, found in and about this island, which it would take up too much room to describe particularly in this place.

Dr. Plot observes, that there are very few rats or moles in the Island of Shepey, which, he says, is owing to the earth being full of copperas-stones, which are poisonous to them, and that this accounts for the number of mice in it, which are generally found in greater numbers where there are no rats.

The Bargander, or chenalopex, is frequently observed in it.

THE ISLAND OF SHEPEY, from its situation, was in antient times much exposed to the invasions of those nations which infested this kingdom. The Saxons indeed made the Isle of Thanet their principal resort; but the Danes in general made this island their landing-place, and frequently staid whole winters in it, so that it became their accustomed rendezvous whilst in this kingdom, and consequently it felt continued scenes of misery and plunder.

/y See Johnson's *Gerarde's Herbal*, p. 45, 280, 367, 411, 413, 523, 560, 562, 622, 838. *Raii Synopsis*, p. 136, 174, 188, 189, 286, 316, 329, 337, 351. *Hudsoni flora Anglica*, p. 134, 196, 266, 326, 431, 570.

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Though the Danes had infested and harassed the coasts of Britain for some years before the accession of Egbert to the English monarchy, yet these parts of it remained free from their piracies till the year 832, when landing in this island, and having no design of making conquests, they accomplished their purpose of plundering it, as well as the neighbouring country, and then returned again to their ships.

In the year 849, the Danes are said again to have wintered here, as they did again in 851, during the reign of king Athelstan, after having again invaded

this country.

In 854, they again wintered here; after which there is no further notice taken by our antient historians of their visiting it, which most probably they did from time to time, whenever they made their incursions into these parts, and that it shared in the general devastation made of this county by these piratical plunderers, till the year 1016, when king Edmund having encountered Canute, with the Danish army, at Otford, and gaining a victory over it, pursued them as far as Aylesford, in their retreat to this island, where they collected the scattered remains of their army.

Godwin, earl of Kent, being at variance with king Edward the Confessor, came into these parts in the year 1052, and having burnt the neighbouring town of Milton, afterwards ravaged many of the king's estates throughout the county, and among others several in this island.

In the lower or southern part of this island there are many large barrows, or tumuli, which the inhabitants call coterels, and are supposed to be the graves of several of the Danish leaders, who were slain during their invasions of this kingdom. Offa, king of Mercia, one

/z Flor. of Worcester, p. 582, and Asser, Ann. p. 155, say, this was the first time that the Danes wintered here. Simon Dunelm, col. 120.

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of the most powerful princes of the Saxon heptarchy, who died in 796, is thought by some to have died in this island on his return from Rome, where he had been on a pilgrimage, though he was buried at Bedford.

ELIZABETH, the widow of Francis Lennard, lord Dacre, who died in 1662, sister and coheir of Paul, viscount Banning, was by letters patent, in 1680, created Countess of Shepey, for her life. She died in 1686. Thomas Lennard, lord Dacre, her eldest son, had been in 1673, created Earl of Sussex.

Henry, youngest son of Robert Sidney, earl of Leicester, was in 1689, anno 1 William and Mary, created Baron of Milton and Viscount Sidney of the Isle of Shepey, and in 1694, Earl of Romney. He died unmarried in 1704, and was buried in St. James's church, Westminster; upon which his titles became extinct.

John de Shepey, LL. D. a native of this island, was first a prebendary, and then dean of the cathedral church of Lincoln, and dying in 1412, was buried there. He was a man of much note in the reigns of both king Edward III. and king Richard II. being employed by both those princes in their most weighty affairs both at home and abroad.

THE ISLAND OF SHEPEY is almost all of it within the hundred of Middleton, alias Milton, a very small part of it only in the parish of Eastchurch being within the hundred of Tenham, and the Island of Harty, which is within the hundred of Faversham, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

IT CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDS THE PARISHES OF

1. MINSTER, with the ville of Sheerness.
2. QUEENBOROUGH.

3. EASTCHURCH.
4. WARDEN.
5. LEYSDOWN.
6. ELMLEY, and its isle; and
7. HARTY, and its isle.

The churches of which parishes are all within the hundred of Milton, excepting the church of HARTY, which is within the hundred of Faversham. That part of the hundred of Milton within the Island of Shepey, is within the jurisdiction of one constable, appointed for it at the court-leet held for the manor and hundred of Milton, and is stiled in it the liberty of Shepey.

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MINSTER

IS the principal parish in the Island of Shepey. It lies on high ground near the middle of the north side of it.

The parish takes its name from the monastery founded very early within it, Minstre in the Saxon language signifying a monastery or religious house.

The manor of Newington claims over a small part of this parish, but the paramount manor over the whole of it is that of Milton.

THE PARISH of Minster is by far the largest of any in the island. The village is situated on high ground near the middle of it, with the church, and ruins of the monastery close on the northern side of it; of the latter there is little more than the gate-house remaining.

THE VILLE of Sheerness is situated at the western bounds, as well of this parish as of the whole island, a further account of which will be given hereafter. It was formerly accounted as part of this parish, but it has long since been made a ville of itself, and as to its civil jurisdiction, entirely separate from this parish.

The cliffs on the northern side of this island, are likewise the northern boundaries of this parish; Queenborough and Sheerness bound it towards the west, and the Swale and the island of Elmley southward.

In June 1756, a monstrous fish, thought to be a young whale, was driven on shore at this place. It measured thirty-six feet and upwards in length, twenty-two feet in circumference, and eight feet from the eyes to the tip of the nose. It was supposed to yield twenty hogsheads of oil.

King Edward III. in his 17th year, granted a fair to be held here on Palm Monday, which is still continued for toys and such like merchandize.

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SEXBURGA, one of the daughters of Annas, king of East Anglia, and widow of Ercombert, king of Kent, between the years 664 and 673, having obtained lands in this parish of her son king Egbert, founded A MONASTERY here, which she finished and got well endowed for seventy-seven nuns, whom she placed in it, king Egbert himself adding several lands to it, and she became herself the first abbess. Soon after which, about the year 675, she resigned her government of it to her daughter Ermenilda, who became the second

abbess, and then retired, in the year 699, to the Isle of Ely, to the monastery there, over which her sister Etheldred presided.^a

During the times of the Danish invasions, the religious of this monastery were subject to continual instances of cruelty and oppression, and at last their house was in a great measure destroyed by them, and the nuns dispersed. In which situation it seems nearly to have remained till the reign of the Conqueror, who, on the prioress of the nunnery of Newington near Sittingborne having been strangled in her bed, confiscated their possessions, and removed the few remaining nuns to this ruined monastery, which continued but in a very mean condition till the year 1130, when it was re-edified and replenished with Benedictine nuns, by archbishop Corboil, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Sexburg.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. anno 1384, the temporalities of this monastery were valued at 66l. 8s. and the spiritualities at 73l. 6s. 8d. Total 139l. 14s. 8d.

In the 27th year of king Henry VIII. an act having passed for the suppression of all religious houses, whose revenues did not amount to the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds, this monastery, whose revenues amounted to no more than 129l. 7s. 10½d. annual re-

^a Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 88. Wharton's Ang. Sacr. vol. i. p 595 et seq.

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venue, or 122l. 14s. 6d. clear yearly income, being then ten pounds less than they were near two hundred years before, was surrendered up to the king, at which time it was in so indigent a state, that there were but a prioress and ten nuns in it. To the former, Alicia Crane, the king granted a pension of fourteen pounds for her life, towards her proper support and maintenance.

The manor of Minster, alias Sexburg, was granted, together with the scite of the monastery, and all the lands and possessions belonging to it, by the king, in his 29th year, to Sir Thomas Cheney, lord warden, and treasurer of the household, to hold in capite by knight's service. He died in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, and was succeeded in his estates by his only son Henry, afterwards knighted, and created lord Cheney, of Tuddington,^b who in the 3d year of that reign levied a fine of all his lands, and quickly afterwards exchanged this estate with the queen for others elsewhere, though he afterwards remained possessed of much other lands in this parish, which as well as all the rest of his estates, through his profuse manner of living, he was obliged to alienate at different times.^c

After the above-mentioned exchange, the queen re-granted this manor, with the scite of the monastery, to Sir Thomas Hoby, of Bisham, in Berkshire, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Anthony Cook, of Giddy-hall, in Essex, by whom he had two sons, Edward, and Thomas-Posthumus, both afterwards knighted. He died at Paris, where he was ambassador, in 1566, leaving his wife with child of his second son there. She brought his body home, and having built a chapel on the south side of the church of Bisham,

laid him in the vault underneath. He was succeeded

/b See more of the Cheney's under Shurland in Eastchurch.

/c See the particulars of those in this parish in Rot. Esch. anno 19 Elizabeth, pt. 11. Ibid. anno 21, pt. 1. anno 22, pt. 12.

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in this manor and estate at Minster by his eldest son Sir Edward Hoby, who, as Camden styles him, was a famous and worthy knight, being made constable of Queenborough-castle, where he resided, and custos rotulorum of this county. The Hobys bore for their arms, Argent, three spindles in fess, gules, threaded, or, being the arms of Badland, the heiress of whom their ancestor had married; the antient arms of Hoby being Gules, three halberts in pale, argent, their staves, or, which they bore in the second place. Sir Edward Hoby's arms are in a window of the Middle Temple hall, with his quarterings. He was an officer at the taking of Cadiz, and was chosen to serve in parliament several times, at the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and on king James's coming to the crown was made a gentleman of his privy chamber. He was a person of learning, and wrote several books. He died at Queenborough-castle in 1616, not long before which he had sold this manor and estate to Mr. Henry Richards, who gave it by his will to Gabriel Levesey, esq. of Hollingborne, sheriff in 1618. He was descended from the family of Levesey, or Livesey, which was originally of Levesey, in Lancashire. His father, Robert Levesey, esq. was of Stretham, in Surry, sheriff of Sussex and Surry in 1592 and 1602, and left three sons, of whom Gabriel above-mentioned, was the youngest. They bore for their arms, Argent, a lion rampant, gules, between three trefoils slipt, vert. His son Sir Michael Levesey, about the year 1623, conveyed this manor, with the scite of the monastery, to Sir John Hayward, of Hollingborne-hill, second son of Sir Rowland Hayward, citizen and alderman of London./d Dying in 1636, s. p. he settled it by his will in 1635, upon his two feoffees, Richard Buller, esq. of Cornwall, and Mr. Sergeant Clerk, of Rochester, in trust for such charitable uses as they should think proportionate to the profits of the

/d See Hollingborne, vol. v. of this history, p. 471.

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estate from time to time. In which situation it still continues, the present trustees of it being John Buller, esq. of Cornwall, and his brother, Sir Francis Buller, one of the justices of the court of common pleas. The trustees of this charity in 1651, in pursuance of Sir John Hayward's will, settled fifty pounds per annum, for the relief of the poor of St. Nicholas's parish, in Rochester, to be paid out of this manor, and other premises in Shepey; and these estates still increasing in value, the residuary trustee of them, in 1718, purchased out of their profits 636l. South-Sea stock, which he transferred to the mayor and citizens of Rochester, for the perpetual support of three charity schools in that city and in Strood./e

NEWHALL, alias BORSTAL, is a small manor in this parish, which in the 9th year of king Edward II. was in the possession of Fulk Peyforer, who that year died

possessed of it; from which name it passed into that of Potyn, one of whom, Nicholas Potyn, was possessed of it in the reign of king Richard II. and left one only daughter Juliana, who carried it in marriage to Thomas St. Leger, of Otterden, second son of Ralph St. Leger, of Ulcomb, whose daughter and heir Joane, carried it in marriage to Henry Aucher, esq. of Newenden, and he seems to have passed away this manor before the end of king Henry the Vth.'s reign, to Sir William Cromer, lord mayor of London in the years 1413 and 1423, who died possessed of it in 1433. He, as well as his descendants, possessors of this manor, resided at Tunstall; one of whom, William Cromer, esq. engaging in the rebellion raised by Sir Thomas Wyatt in the 1st year of queen Mary, was attainted, by which this manor, among the rest of his estates, became forfeited to the crown, whence it was soon afterwards granted by the queen to Sir Thomas Cheney,

^e See vol. iv. of this history, p. 187.

^f See more of the Cromers under Tunstall before, p. 86.

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knight of the garter, treasurer of the household, &c. who died possessed of it in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, and was succeeded by his only son Henry, afterwards knighted, and created Lord Cheney, of Tunstall.

He levied fines of all his lands anno 3 and 17 Elizabeth, and in the 20th year of that reign, alienated the manor of Newhall to Richard Luck, whose son of the same name sold it to Mr. Henry Newton, as he did soon afterwards to Mr. Josias Gering, who was possessed of it at the restoration of king Charles II. After which it came into the name of Randal, the last of whom, Mr. Thomas Randal, devised it by his will to Mr. John Swift, who has rebuilt the greatest part of this seat, and resides in it.

RUSHINDON, formerly called Rossingdone, is a manor here, which in the reign of king Henry II. seems to have been in the possession of that prince, who gave to the church of the Holy Trinity, now Christ-church, Canterbury, fifteen pounds, rents in Rissendon, and other places in this neighbourhood; after which it came into the possession of the family of Savage, seated at Bobbing, in this county, one of whom, John le Sauvage, obtained a charter of free-warren for his lands here, among others, in the 23d year of king Edward I. Of one of his descendants it was purchased by queen Philippa, wife of king Edward III. who settled it, together with the farm of Dandeleay, in this parish, on the master and brethren of the royal hospital of St. Katherine, near the Tower, in London, and their successors, towards the enlarging and better endowing of that hospital, to hold to them in pure and perpetual alms.

By a survey remaining in the First Fruits office, taken in the 26th year of king Henry VIII. this manor

^g Strype's Stow's Survey, book i. p. 204. See pat. 15 Richard II. pt. 2, m. 15, pro maner de Rishindon et ten. in Minstre.

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of Rossingdone was valued at twenty-pounds, and the

farm of Dandelely at eight pounds yearly income.

This hospital escaped the suppression of such foundations in the reigns of king Henry VIII. and Edward VI. and consists at this time of a master, three brethren priests, three sisters, and ten beadswomen, with officers and servants, to whom the fee of this manor, with Dandelely and other estates in this parish, now belongs; but the possession of them is leased by them at an annual reserved rent for three lives to different tenants.

This estate was held of the hospital in the 14th year of king Richard II. by John of Gaunt, the king's uncle. In much later times it was held by Decroe for three lives, afterwards by Adam Edwards, since that by Caleb Banks, esq. of Maidstone, by one of the coheirs of whose son, Sir John Banks, bart. his interest in it went in marriage to Heneage Finch, created afterwards earl of Aylesford, whose eldest son Heneage, earl of Aylesford, in 1721, anno 7 George I. having procured an act for the purpose, passed away his interest in this manor to his next brother the hon. John Finch, whose only son Savile Finch, esq. died in 1788, and his heirs are now possessed of his interest in the lease of it.

THE FARM OF DANDELE above-mentioned is situated in the western part of this parish; in the reign of king Edward VI. it was in the possession of Sir Thomas Seymour, lord Seymour, and lord high admiral of England, who being attainted in the 3d year of that reign, this, among the rest of his possessions, became forfeited to the crown, whence it was granted that same year, being then in the tenure of Sir William Poultney, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. to hold in capite by knight's service. He was succeeded by his only son Henry, afterwards knighted, and created lord Cheney of Tuddington, who in the 3d year of that reign had possession granted of all his lands, and among them of a house, and three hundred acres of land and marsh, called Daunley, with their appurtenances,

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in Minster, parcel of the possessions of St. Katherine's, in the tenure of Thomas Harris and Thomas Horton, held of the king in capite by knight's service.

He levied a fine that year of all his lands, as he did again in the 17th year of it, and soon afterwards sold his interest in this estate to Levesey, who parted with it about the year 1604 to Sir Julius Cæsar, master of the rolls, under treasurer of the exchequer, and privy counsellor, who the next year settled it on his eldest son, Charles Cæsar, esq. He was afterwards knighted, and succeeded his father as master of the rolls, and was of the privy council both to king James and Charles I. He died in 1643, and was buried in the church of Benington, in Hertfordshire, having been twice married; first to Anne, daughter of Sir Peter Vanlore, by whom he had three daughters, Jacomina, wife of Henry Anderson, esq. of Pendley; the second of Henry Levingston, esq. of Hampshire, and Anne; secondly Jane, daughter of Sir Edward Barkham, lord-mayor of London, by whom he left two sons, Sir Henry, of Benington, and Charles, of Much Haddon, in Hertfordshire, esq. His lady survived him, and possessed his interest in this estate, of which she died possessed in 1661, this estate being at that time part of the possessions of St.

Katherine's hospital, of whom it was afterwards held by Garret, and Charles Garret passed away his interest in it to Philip Crespigny, esq. whose descendant Philip Champion Crespigny, esq. is the present lessee of it.

NEATS, alias Neats-court, is a manor in this parish, which in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign was in the hands of the crown, and was granted by that princess, in her 5th year, to Robert Merrywether, but it was only for a term, for in the 17th year of that reign it was again in the queen's hands, who then granted it, at the yearly rent of seventy pounds, for a term of years, to John Bode and Elizabeth his wife;

/h See Chauncy's Hertfordshire, p. 81.

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after which the fee-simple of it remaining in the crown, was by king Charles I. in his 1st year, settled, on his marriage with queen Henrietta-Maria, as part of her dower.

Her trustees afterwards granted a lease of the manor-house and lands belonging to it, in the 14th year of king Charles I. in consideration of 450l. fine, the surrender of a former lease, and 70l. 0s. 0½d. rent per annum, to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, for three lives; and there was reserved out of the grant, all courts-baron and leets, advowsons, mines, quarries, &c.

After the death of king Charles I. anno 1648, the powers then in being seized on the royal estates, and passed an ordinance to vest them in trustees, that they might be surveyed and sold. Accordingly, by the survey taken in 1650, it appeared, that the number of acres then belonging to this estate was 649, and the yearly annual improved rent of it amounted to 380l. 3s. and that the three lives above-mentioned were then subsisting. Soon after which the fee of this estate was sold by them to Edward Downton and Edward Finch, with whom it continued till the restoration of Charles II. anno 1660, when the inheritance of it returned again to the crown./i Since which it has come into the possession of the name of Edwin; Humphry Edwin, esq. lately owned it, and it is now the property of Mrs. Mary Edwin, of St. Albans, in Hertfordshire.

CALEHILL is another manor here, which in the reign of king Henry VIII. was in the possession of William Bury, who in the 37th year of it, conveyed it to that king in exchange for Culneham, in Oxfordshire.

This manor remained in the crown till the 2d and 3d years of Philip and Mary, when it was granted, with divers lands and pastures parcel of it, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. to hold in capite by

/i Parl. Surveys, Augtn. off. and Roll of Partic. H. 6.

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knight's service, whose only son and heir Henry, lord Cheney, of Tuddington, who, in the 3d year of that reign, had possession granted of his father's estates, and among others of this manor called Calehill, with its appurtenances, in this parish, and several parcels of land, called Notts, Mayotts, and Chetercroft, in Leysdowne, Estchurch, and Warden, held of the king in capite, late parcel of the possessions of William Bury, mer=

chant. After which he exchanged Calehill, with the lands above mentioned, with the queen, among other estates in this parish and neighbourhood, and the fee of it remained in the crown till king James I. in his 2d year, granted it to Philip Herbert, younger brother of William, earl of Pembroke, who was the next year created lord Herbert of Shurland, and earl of Montgomery, and on his brother's death, without surviving issue, succeeded him as earl of Pembroke. Since which it has descended down in like manner as Milton manor, to the right hon. Philip, viscount Wenman, and Mrs. Anne Herbert, who are the present possessors of it, but it has been long since so blended with the rest of their possessions here, that the very name of it is forgotten; nor is the exact situation of it at present known.

THE GOVERNORS of the Chest for sick and maimed seamen at Chatham, are possessed of lands here called Scockles, containing by estimation three hundred and forty acres, which formerly belonged to the family of Levesey.

CHARITIES.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave for the relief of the poor a house and some land, containing about three acres, it was last rented at 4l. per annum, but is now in the occupation of the parish.

The poor relieved constantly are about sixty; casually about fifty five.

MINSTER is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Sexburg, (as was the monastery) is supposed by some

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to have been the very church of it, but by others, that it only adjoined to it; at present it consists of two isles and two chancels. The steeple is at the west end, being a large square tower, with a turret at the top, in which there is a clock, and a ring of five bells. It was formerly higher than it is at present, as appears by the remains. There was formerly a building adjoining to the east end of the north chancel, as appears by a door-case and some ornaments on the outside of it. In the north chancel, on the south side, is the tomb of Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. who was buried with great state, in a chapel which had been the conventual church, adjoining to the north east part of this parish; but his son Henry, lord Cheney, having in 1581, anno 24 Elizabeth, obtained a licence to remove the coffins and bones of his father and ancestors from thence, he having sold the materials of the chapel to Sir Humphry Gilbert, and placed them in this parish church, the coffin of his father was, among others removed, and deposited in this chancel. On the north side, under an arch in the wall, on a grey marble, lies the figure of a man, habited in armour. In the south, or high chancel, against the south wall, is an antient tomb, with the effigies of a man lying at length cross-legged, and in armour; on his right side is the figure of a horse's head, carved alike in alabaster, and fixed to the tomb, concerning which many idle reports are current. On a stone in the middle of the chancel, are

the figures in brass of a man and woman; his in armour, cross-legged, with large spurs, his sword by his side, and this coat of arms, Ermine, a pale, engrailed, (perhaps it might have been originally a cross, the rest of it having been rubbed out); on her mantle, Three bars, wavy; under his feet a lion, under her's a talbot; the inscription underneath is gone, except the word Hic at the beginning of it. At the upper end of the

/k See an account of it under Eastchurch hereafter.

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north isle is a small stone, seemingly very antient, with a cross bottony on it.

In the year 1489, there was a chapel, dedicated to St. John Baptist, Situated within the cemetery of Minster, in Shepey.

The church of Minster seems to have been part of the endowment of the monastery at the first foundation of it.

This church was not many years afterwards appropriated to it, the cure of it being esteemed as a donative, in which state it continued at the time of the dissolution of the monastery, when it came, together with the rest of the possessions of it, into the king's hands, where it remained till the king granted the rectory of Minster, with its rights, members, and appurtenances, and the advowson of the church there, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. to hold in capite by knight's service, whose son Henry, lord Cheney, of Tuddington, alienated this rectory, with the advowson, to Robert Levesey, esq. in whose descendants it continued sometime afterwards, till at length it was sold to Gore, and William Gore, esq. of Boxley, died possessed of the rectory impropriate, with the advowson, in 1768. He died s. p. and by his will devised it to his relation Robert Mitchell, esq. who dying likewise s. p. in 1779, gave his estates to his three nephews, Robert, Christopher, and Thomas, sons of his brother Thomas, the eldest of whom, Robert Mitchell, esq. became afterwards the sole proprietor of them.

The parsonage at present consists of a house, barns, &c. and one hundred and eighty-eight acres of arable, meadow, and pasture belonging to it, together with all the great and small tithes of the parish, of all kinds whatsoever.

The ecclesiastical jurisdiction of this parish extends over the ville of Sheerness, the populousness of which

/k See the confirmations of it in Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 152.

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adds greatly to the burials in it, insomuch that in some years of late, they have amounted to between two and three hundred.

The church of Queenborough was formerly esteemed as a chapel to this church, but it has long since been independent of it. The cure of it is still esteemed as a donative, the yearly stipend of the curate being 16l. 13s. 4d. In 1578 the communicants were three hundred and eight.

In 1640 the stipend of the curate was 16l. 13s. 4d. Communicants two hundred and sixty-five. It is not in charge in the king's books.

Roger, abbot of St. Augustine's, in 1188 let to Agnes, prioress, and the convent of St. Sexburg, certain tithes within this parish, to hold in perpetual ferme at fourteen shillings yearly rent, &c. These tithes were those of Westlande, being those of Sir Adam de Shurlande, and of Adam Rufin/

CHURCH OF MINSTER.

PATRONS,
Or by whom presented. CURATES.

Joseph Mirthwaite, obt. 1758.

Egerton Leigh, LL. S. 1758,
obt. 1788./m

W. Philip Menzies, the present
curate./n

/l Reg. Mon. Sci Aug. Carta 506.

/m And rector of Murston.

/n A minor canon of Rochester, and
vicar of Frindsbury.

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SHEERNESS.

THE VILLE OF SHEERNESS lies at the western part of the parish of Minster, at the north-west point of the Isle of Shepey. It was once esteemed as part of that parish, but it has been long since created a ville of itself, and is entirely separate from it as to its civil ju=

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risdiction, though as to its ecclesiastical jurisdiction it still continues part of it.

This part of the Island of Shepey, in the reign of king Charles I. was no more than a watry swamp or morass, on the point of which, after the restoration of king Charles II. there was mounted a small fort of twelve guns to defend the passage up the river Medway. In which situation it remained till the Dutch war broke out in that reign, when the general discourse of the whole kingdom turned on the importance of this place, and the erecting a royal fort on it, which might preserve the navy, and at the same time be a great security to the river.

The king took this charge upon himself, and in the beginning of the year 1667, made two journeys hither in the depth of winter, taking an engineer and some officers of the ordnance with him, and having seen the work begun, he left at it his chief engineer Sir Martin Beckman, whom he designed for governor of the fort, and committed the overlooking of the whole, that every expedition might be used, to one of the commissioners of the ordnance; notwithstanding which, very little or nothing had been done towards it, when the Dutch, that year, made their memorable attempt upon the royal navy in the river Medway, which was then in a most defenceless state, there being at that time, besides the twelve guns here as before mentioned, only four that could be used at Upnor, and scarce so many at Gillingham, for the defence of it.

There was a company or two of soldiers indeed here, under excellent officers, but the fortifications were so weak and unfinished, and all other provisions so en=

tirely wanting, that though the best defence was made, yet the Dutch fleet no sooner appeared within distance, but with their cannon they beat the works flat, and drove the men from their ground, and then with their boats landed their men, as if they had resolved to fortify and keep it; after which, sailing up the river, they

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broke through every means made use of to oppose them, and having done considerable damage to the shipping, (a full account of which has already been given in a former part of this history/o) they fell down the river again without any further molestation, and having taken away all their men from Sheerness, they sailed away for the coasts of Essex and Suffolk.

This bold attempt gave such an alarm to the nation, as well for the safety of the royal docks and magazines at Chatham, as for the navy itself, from the defenceless state of the river Medway, and the easy access of the enemy to it, that this fort of Sheerness was immediately afterwards increased to a regular fortification, and became a royal fort, having a line of large and heavy cannon mounted on it. Besides which, there were other smaller forts built on each side of the river, higher up, for the future defence of it. Great improvements have been made from time to time to the fort of Sheerness, and of late years especially, it has been greatly augmented and strengthened, insomuch that no fleet, however formidable, can in future attempt to pass it, without the hazard of being torn to pieces, and lest any danger might in future happen to it, in 1782 an act passed for the more effectually securing of it.

The fort and garrison of Sheerness is under the command of a governor, a lieutenant-governor, a fort-major, and other inferior officers. The present governor is general Francis Craig, the lieutenant-governor Sir James Malcolm. The salary of the former is 300*l.* per annum, and of the latter 182*l.* 10*s.*

Some years since the building of a fort here, a royal dock has been made adjoining to it, intended chiefly for the repairing of ships which may have met with any sudden accident, and for the building of smaller ships of war, such as 5th and 6th rates, small frigates, yachts, and such like vessels, though sometimes ships

/o See vol. i. of this history, p. 279. vol. iv. p. 195.

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of a larger size have been built here, but this has not been often. This yard, in time of peace, is under the inspection of the commissioner of the navy residing at Chatham, who has a clerk of the cheque and a storekeeper resident here under him. But in time of war, from the great increase of business, an extra commissioner is always appointed, who constantly resides here; and the office of ordnance has a branch likewise established here.

The numbers of persons necessarily attendant both on the fort and dock-yard, has occasioned the building of a town of several streets in and near it, which is exceedingly populous, many of the buildings being crowded with several families together in one house;

but the great scarcity of fresh water had always been most severely felt by the inhabitants of this place, this induced government in 1782 to try if it could not be procured by the sinking of a well here; their trial at the neighbouring one of Queenborough some years before, giving them hopes of equal success here, nor were they disappointed, for when the workmen under the direction of Sir T. Hyde Page, of the corps of engineers, had dug to about the depth of twenty feet, the augur dropt in, and the water instantly flew up, and quickly rose to two hundred and sixty-five feet, which was within sixty-three feet of the top of the well. From the first, the taste of the water was soft and pleasant, and though at first very thick, yet it soon became clear and fit for use, and still continues so, affording, jointly with that of Queenborough, a constant and plentiful supply, not for only the inhabitants, but for the shipping, and various departments of government here, the former before trusting mostly to their savings of rain water, and the latter, (the well at Queenborough not being fully sufficient for the supply of the shipping) having it fetched weekly, at a very heavy expence to government, in vessels from Chatham for that purpose.

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The old ships of war stationed here are termed break-waters from their breaking the violence of the tides, the hulls are occupied by 60 or 70 families, and chimnies of brick are raised from the lower gun decks, which give them the odd appearance of a floating town.

There is a chapel erected here at the expence of government, for the use of the garrison, &c. but all christenings, marriages, burials, and other ecclesiastical rites, are performed at the mother church of Minster, which has the entire ecclesiastical jurisdiction over this ville. The chaplain is appointed by government to the cure of this chapel.

A market is held at Sheerness weekly on a Saturday.

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QUEENBOROUGH,

THE parish of which lies the next adjoining south-westward from that of Minster, on the western shore of this island, was so called in honor of Philippa, queen to Edward III.

THERE was an antient castle here, called the Castle of Shepey, situated at the western mouth of the Swale formerly, as has been already mentioned, accounted likewise the mouth of the river Thames, which was built for the defence both of the island and the passage on the water, the usual one then being between the main land of the county and this island.

This castle was begun to be new built by king Edward III. about the year 1361, being the 36th of his reign, and was finished about six years afterwards, being raised, as he himself says in his letters patent, in his 42d year, for the strength of the realm, and for the refuge of the inhabitants of this island.

This was undertaken under the inspection of William of Wickham, the king's chief architect, after-

wards bishop of Winchester, who considering the difficulties arising from the nature of the ground, and

/p See Lel. Coll. vol. i. pt. ii. p. 579.

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the lowness of the situation, acquitted himself in this task with his usual skill and abilities, and erected here a large, strong, and magnificent building, fit equally for the defence of the island, and the reception of his royal master. When it was finished, the king paid a visit to it, and remained here for some days, during which time he made this place a free borough, in honor of Philippa his queen, naming it from thence Queenborough, and by charter in 1366, he created it a corporation, making the townsmen burgesses, and giving them power to choose yearly a mayor and two bailiffs, who should make their oath of allegiance before the constable of the castle, and be justices within the liberties of the corporation, exclusive of all others; and endowing them with cognizance of pleas, with the liberty of two markets weekly on Mondays and Thursdays, and two fairs yearly, one on the eve of our Lady, and the other on the feast of St. James, and benefiting them with freedom of tholle, and several other privileges, which might induce men to inhabit this place. Three years after which, as a further favor to it, he appointed a staple for wool at it.

King Henry VIII. repaired this castle in the year 1536, at the time he rebuilt several others in these parts, for the defence of the sea-coast; but even then it was become little more than a mansion for the residence of the constable of it. And Mr. Johnston, in his book intituled *Iter Plantarum Investigationis ergo susceptum, anno 1629*, tells us, that he saw in this castle at that time, a noble large dining-room or hall, round the top of which were placed the arms of the nobility and gentry of Kent, and in the middle those of queen Elizabeth, with the following verses underneath:

Lilia virgineum pectus regale leonis
Significant; vivas virgo, regasque leo:
Umbra placet vultus, vultus quia mentis imago;
Mentis imago placet, mens quia plena Deo:

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Virgo Deum vita, Regina imitata regendo,
Viva mihi vivi fiat imago Dei.
Qui leo de Juda est, et flos de Jesse, leones
Protegat et flores, Elizabetha, tuos.

Lillies the lion's virgin breast explain,
Then live a virgin, and a lion reign.
Pictures are pleasing, for the mind they shew;
And in the mind the Deity we view:
May she who God in life and empire shews,
To me th' eternal Deity disclose!
May Jesse's flower, and Judah's lion deign
Thy flowers and lions to protect, great Queen.

A. D. 1593.

In this situation it continued till the death of king Charles I. in 1648; soon after which the state seized on this castle, among the rest of the possessions of the crown, and then vested them in trustees, to be sur=

veyed and sold, to supply the necessities of government, accordingly this castle was surveyed in 1650, when it appears to have consisted of a capital messuage, called Queenborough-castle, lying within the common belonging to the town, called Queenborough Marsh, in the parish of Minster, and containing about twelve rooms of one range of buildings below stairs, and of about forty rooms from the first story upwards, being circular and built of stone, with six towers, and certain out-offices belonging to it, the roof being covered with lead; that within the circumference of the castle was one little round court, paved with stone, and in the middle of that one great well, and without the castle was one great court surrounding it; both court and castle being surrounded with a great stone wall, and the outside of that moated round, the whole containing upwards of three acres of land. That the whole was much out of repair, and no ways defensive by the commonwealth, or the island on which it stood, being built in the time of bows

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and arrows. That as no platform for the planting of cannon could be erected on it, and it having no command of the sea, although near unto it, they adjudged it not fit to be kept, but demolished, and that the materials were worth, besides the charge of taking down, 1792*l.* 12½*d.*

The above survey sufficiently points out the size and grandeur of this building, which was soon afterwards sold to Mr. John Wilkinson, who pulled the whole of it down and removed the materials.

The scite of the castle remained in his possession afterwards till the restoration of king Charles II. when the inheritance of it returned again to the crown, where it has continued ever since. There are no remains of the castle or walls to be seen at this time, only the moat continues still as such, and the antient well in the middle of the scite within it, a further account of which will be given hereafter.

THE CONSTABLES of this castle were men of considerable rank, as appears by the following list of them:

Anno 36 Edw. III. John Foxley was the first constable.

Anno 50 Edw. III. John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster.

Anno 8 Rich. II. Robert de Vere, marquis of Dublin, and earl of Oxford, attainted anno 11 Richard II./q

Anno 16 Rich. II. Sir Arnold Savage, obt. 12 Henry IV.

Anno 20 Rich. II. William Le Scroope.

Anno 1 Henry IV. William de Watterton.

Anno 4 Henry IV. John Cornwall, baron of Fanhope, obt. 22 Henry VI./r

/q See an account of him in Collins's Hist. Coll. p. 242, &c.
/r Dugd. Bar, vol. ii. p. 212. Cott. Records, p. 614.

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Anno 10 Henry IV. Thomas Arundel, archbishop of Canterbury.

Anno 1 Henry V. Gilbert de Umfreville, obt. anno
 9 Henry V.
 Anno 28 Henry VI. Humphry Stafford, duke of Bucking=
 ham, obt. 27 July, anno 38
 Henry VI./s
 Anno 1 Edw. IV. John Northwood, esq.
 George, duke of Clarence, obt.
 17 Edward IV.
 Anno 1 Rich. III. Thomas Wentworth./t
 Anno 2 ejusd. regni. Christopher Colyns./u
 Anno 1 Hen. VII. William Cheney.
 Sir Anthony Browne, obt. 22
 Henry VII.
 Anno 2 Hen. VIII. Francis Cheney.
 Anno 3 Hen. VIII. Sir Thomas Cheney, K. G. obt.
 anno 1 Elizabeth.
 Anno 1 Elizabeth. Sir Richard Constable.
 Sir Edward Hoby.
 Temp. Jac. I. Philip, earl of Pembroke and
 Montgomery, the last constable
 of it.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth, the annual fee of
 the keeper of this castle was 29l. 2s. 6d./w

ALTHOUGH Queenborough was formerly, whilst
 the castle waas standing, a place of much more con=
 sequence than it is at present, yet as to its size and
 number of inhabitants, it was much less so; for in the
 reign of queen Elizabeth, as may be seen by the re=
 turn made of it in the 8th year of that reign, it ap=

/s Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 165. /t The docquet for his war=
 rant is among the Harl. MSS. No. 433-583.

/u The docquet for his warrant is among the Harleian MSS.
 No. 433-908; among which ibid. No. 2094, and No. 2139,
 are docquets of warrants for timber, &c. for the reparations at
 this castle, anno 2 Richard III.

/w Peck's Desid. Curios. book ii. p. 17.

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pears, that there were here houses inhabited only 23;
 persons lacking proper habitation one; boats and
 ships twelve, from four tons to sixteen; and a key and
 landing-place to the town; proper persons occupied
 in carrying things from port to port, and in fishing,
 forty-five. At present this town consists of one prin=
 cipal wide street, the houses of which are neat, and
 mostly well-built, in number about one hundred and
 twenty, or more. The market-house is a small antient
 brick building, in the middle of the street, with a
 room over over it. The court-hall is the upper part
 of a mean plaistered dwelling-house, close to the
 church-yard.

Notwithstanding the above-mentioned increase
 both of houses and inhabitants, it is, even now, but
 a poor fishing town, consisting chiefly of alehouse=
 keepers, fishermen, and dredgers for oysters; the
 principal source of wealth to it being the election for
 members of parliment, which secures to some of the
 chief inhabitants many lucrative places in the ord=
 nance, and other branches of government.

The corporation still subsists, consisting of a mayor,
 chosen on Sept. 29th, four jurats, two bailiffs, a re=
 corder, town-clerk, chamberlain, and other officers,

chosen annually by the free burgesses of the town and parish./x

The liberties of the corporation extend by water from the point of land joining to the river Medway to King's Ferry.

The arms of the town are, On a mount vert, a tower, with five spires on it, argent.

There is a copperas-work carried on in this place, which is the property of several different persons.

Though the water throughout the whole island of Shepey has been mentioned before to be in general exceeding unwholesome and brackish, yet the well be=

/x Among the Harleian MSS. No. 590, 10, are transcripts of many records relating to the town and castle of Quinborough in Kent, examined and attested by Thomas Heneage.

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fore-mentioned on the scite of the castle here, is one of the exceptions to it. This well has been useless for many years, having little or no water in it, though several attempts had been made to restore it, when in the year 1723 it was more effectually opened by order of the commissioners of the navy, a full account of which was communicated to the Royal Society by Mr. Peter Collinson, F. R. S./y The depth of it was then found to be two hundred feet, and artificially steamed, the whole of it with circular Portland stone, the mean diameter four feet eight inches, there was little or no water then in it; on boring down they brought up a very close blueish clay, and after three days endeavours the augur slipping down, the water flowed up very fast, and kept increasing for some days, till there was one hundred and seventy six feet and upwards depth of water; what was extraordinary, they bored eighty-one feet below the trunk they had fixed four feet below the curb at the bottom of the well, before they met with this body of water, which by comparison is one hundred and sixty-six feet below the deepest place in the adjacent seas. This water proved excellently good, soft, sweet, and fine, and in such plenty as in great measure, excepting in time of war, when there is a more than ordinary call for it, to supply the inhabitants, as well as the shipping and several departments of government, which, jointly with the new well at Sheerness before-described, it now fully does.

The corporation have taken upon themselves to repair this well for several years past, at their own expence; notwithstanding which, it still continues the property of the crown, there having never yet been any grant made of it.

Anno 7 George III. an act passed for the better and more effectual maintenance and relief of the poor of the borough and parish of Queenborough.

/y Phil. Trans. vol. xxxvi. No. 411, p. 192.

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Though Queenborough was made a borough by king Edward III. as before-mentioned, yet it had not the privilege of returning burgesses to parliament till the 13th year of queen Elizabeth's reign, in which year it made its first return of them.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST of those sent to par=

liament from that year to the present time.

IN THE TIME OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Years of the reign, &c. Names of the Burgesses in Parliament.

13th. Parliament at
Westminster John Cobham,
John Parker, esqrs.

14th. — John Cobham,
William Butler, esqrs.

27th. — John Cobham,
William Parry, LL. D.

28th. — Sir Edward Hoby,
Miles Sandys, esq.

31st. — William Boys,
Miles Sandys, esqrs.

35th. — John Cobham, esq.
John Baynham, gent.

39th. — Sir George Carew,
Michael Sandes, esq.

43d. — Miles Sandys, esq.
Nicholas Troughton, gent.

IN THE TIME OF KING JAMES I.

1st. — Sir Edward Stafford,
Sir Michael Sondes.

12th. — Sir Edward Hoby,
Thomas Culpeper, esq.

18th. — James Palmer,
William Freind, esqrs.

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Years of the reign, &c. Names of the Burgesses in Parliament.

21st. Parliament at
Westminster Roger Palmer, esq.
Sir Robert Pooley.

IN THE REIGN OF KING CHARLES I.

1st. — Roger Palmer, esq.
Edward Hales, gent.

Ibid. — Roger Palmer,
Robert Pooley, esqrs.

3d. — Roger Palmer, esq.
Sir John Hales.

15th. — Sir Edward Hales, knt. and bart.
Sir John Wolstenholme.

16th. — Sir Edward Hales, knt. and bart.
William Harrison, esq./z

IN THE TIME OF KING CHARLES II.

12th. — 1660. James Herbert, esq.
Sir William Wheler.

13th. — 1661. James Herbert, esq.
Sir Edward Hales, bart.

31st. — 1678. James Herbert, esq.

Sir Edward Hales, bart.

31st. — 1679. The same.

32d. At Oxford. William Glanville,
1681 Gerard Gore, esqrs.

IN THE TIME OF KING JAMES II.

1st. At Westminster. Sir John Godwin,
1685. Caleb Banks, esq.

/z They were turned out, and Sir Michael Livesey, bart. and
Augustine Garland, esq. chosen under the Commonwealth in
their room.

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IN THE TIME OF K. WILLIAM AND Q. MARY.

Years of the reign, &c. Names of the Burgesses in Parliament.

1st. — 1688. James Herbert,
Robert Crawford, esqrs.

2d. — 1690. Sir John Banks, bart.
Robert Crawford, esq.

7th. — 1695. Caleb Banks,
Robert Crawford, esqrs.

10th. — 1698. Robert Crawford,
Thomas King, esqrs.

12th. — 1700. The same.

13th. — 1701. The same.

IN THE TIME OF QUEEN ANNE.

1st. — 1702. Robert Crawford,
Thomas King, esqrs.

4th. — 1705. Sir John Jennings,
Thomas King, esq.

7th. — 1708. Sir John Jennings,
Henry Withers, esq.

9th. — 1710. Thomas King,
James Herbert, esqrs.

12th. — 1713. Thomas King,
Charles Fotherby, esqrs.

IN THE TIME OF KING GEORGE I.

1st. — 1714. Philip Jennings,
Thomas King, esqrs.

7th. — 1722. John Cope,
James Littleton, esqrs./a

/a On his death in 1723, David, lord Forbes, was chosen in
his room.

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IN THE TIME OF KING GEORGE II.

Years of the Reign, &c. Names of the Burgesses in Parliament.

1st. At Westminster. Sprigg Manesty,
1727. John Crowley, esqrs./b

7th. — 1634. Sir George Saunders,/c
Richard Evans, esq.

14th. — 1741. Richard Evans,
Thomas Newnham, esqrs.

21st. — 1747. The same.

28th. — 1754. Sir Percy Bret,
Charles Frederick, esq.

IN THE TIME OF KING GEORGE III.

1st. — 1761. Sir Percy Bret,
Sir Charles Frederick, K. B.

7th. — 1768. The same.

14th. — 1774. Sir Charles Frederick, K. B.
Sir Walter Rawlinson.

20th. — 1780. The same.

30th. — 1790. Richard Hopkins,
Gibbs Crawford, esqrs.

36th. — 1796. John Serjeant,
Evan Nepean, esqrs.

By the charter of king Charles I. in his 2d year, anno 1626, the burgesses in parliament were to be chosen by the inhabitants, in number about seventy; the returning officer to be the mayor. But it was voted by a resolution of the house of commons, on April 17, 1729, that the right of election for this bo=

/b He died anno 1728, and Sir George Saunders was chosen in his room. /c He died in 1735, and lord Archibald Hamilton was chosen in his room.

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rough is in the mayor, jurats, and common council only of this corporation.

The fair is now held here, by the alteration of the stile, on August 5, for toys, &c. but the markets have been many years since disused.

CHARITIES.

TWO GENTLEMEN, who escaped on shore at this place after shipwreck, gave 40l. to the corporation, to be laid out, first for an annual sermon in this church, and the remainder for the behoof of the poor of this parish.

JOSEPH SHIELD, ESQ. jurat, in 1690, bequeathed 50l. to the poor of this parish.

There was formerly AN HOSPITAL here, called the hospital of St. John of Queenborough, the patronage of which belonged to the archbishop.

QUEENBOROUGH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a handsome building, consisting of one isle and one chancel; it is decorated with a painted roof, and other ornaments, and very neatly kept. There is a high-raised seat in it, for the mayor and two bailiffs. The whole of it was raised, paved, and ceiled, and the gallery at the west end, erected by Thomas King, esq. the first time he was elected member of parliament in 1695. It has a square tower steeple at the west end, which seems much older than the church itself, and at the top of it there is a small wooden turret, in which

hang five bells. It was once accounted as a chapel to the mother church of Minster, and belonged with it to the monastery of St. Sexburg in that parish, but it has long since been independent of it.

It is now esteemed as a donative, in the gift of the corporation of this place, and is of the yearly certified value of 20l. 2s. 6d.

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CHURCH OF QUEENSBOROUGH.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. CURATES.

Edward Roberts, in 1706.

Robert Gunsley, in 1728.

David Williams, 1738./d

Theodore Delasaye, 1745, obt.

July 26, 1772./e

John Bonar, 1773.

Joseph Hatherhill, 1775, the
present curate.

/d And rector of Bicknor.

/e Rector of All Saints and St. Mildred's,
Canterbury.

EASTCHURCH

LIES the next parish eastward from Minster, from which situation it takes its name.

A small part of this parish was antiently accounted to lie within the hundred of Tenham, though the whole of it is now esteemed to lie within the hundred of Milton.

THE PARISH is situated on high ground, in the middle of the eastern part of the island, the village is nearly in the centre of it, with the church at a small distance; about half a mile eastward is the mansion of Shurland, which appears by the remains of it to have been very grand and spacious. The front of it, which is lofty, is built of hewn stone, and has a small octagon tower on each side of the principal entrance. It had embattlements till within these few years, when the high winds demolished several of them, and the rest were taken down. There was a quadrangle at the back of it, the north-west side of which, with the front above-mentioned, is all that is left standing of it. The garden walls of stone, and some few of the out-buildings, are still in being. The front is moder=

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nized and sashed, and though it is made use of now only as a farm-house, yet it is not inferior to many gentlemens seats in different parts of this county.

About the same distance in the valley southward is the parsonage; the upland pastures here are but poor, and almost covered with large ant hills, which look very slovenly; in the northern part of the parish the corn lands are very fertile, part of the parish extends southward into the island of Elmley.

A fair is held in this village on May 31, for ped= lary, toys, &c.

The scarcity of fresh water here and in this neigh=

bourhood, makes the inhabitants very careful to preserve such as falls from the clouds, for which purpose there are numbers of spouts leading from the leads of the church into large tubs set round it in the church-yard underneath, for conducting the water into them; these have lids to them, and are secured with locks for the use of those who are at the expence of putting them up; but they make a most grotesque and unsightly appearance.

PHILIP HERBERT, younger brother of William, earl of Pembroke, was by letters patent, in the third year of king James I. created Baron Herbert, of Shurland, in this parish; and likewise earl of Montgomery.^{/f}

The paramount manor of Milton claims over this parish, subordinate to which is the MANOR OF SHURLAND, which had antiently owners of this surname; the first of whom, that is mentioned as being of note, is Sir Jeffry de Shurland, who resided here in the reign of king Henry III. in the 9th year of which he was constable of Dover castle. His son was Sir Robert de Shurland, who was a man of eminent authority in the reign of king Edward I. under whom he was lord warden, and in the 28th year of it attended

^{/f} The patent is among the Harleian MSS. No. 66-13. See more of him under Milton before.

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that prince at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, where, with many other Kentish gentlemen, he received knighthood. In the 10th year of that reign he obtained a grant of liberties, among which was wreck of the sea, for his manor here, as he did of free-warren in it in the 29th year of it; soon after which he died, and was buried under a tomb within an arch in the south wall of Minster church, with his effigies in marble lying at length on it, and a horse's head carved on the tomb on his right hand. The figure of the horse's head (which seems either part of the marble on which it lies, or at least to have been firmly fixed to it when the tomb was put up) has given rise to a tale, which has been reported among the common people for many years, that Sir Robert having upon some disgust at a priest, buried him alive, swam on his horse two miles through the sea to the king, who was then on ship-board near this island, and having obtained his pardon, swam back again to the shore, where being told, his horse had performed this by magic art, he cut off his head. About a twelvemonth after which, riding a hunting near the same place, the horse he was then upon stumbled, and threw him upon the scull of his former horse, by which he was so much bruised, that it caused his death: in memory of which, the figure of a horse's head was placed by him on his tomb. The foundation of which story is with more probability supposed to have arisen from Sir Robert Shurland's having obtained the grant of wreck of the sea, as above-mentioned; which privilege is always esteemed to reach as far into the water, as upon the lowest ebb, a man can ride in and touch any thing with the point of his lance; and on this account the figure of the horse's head was placed by him.^{/g} He bore for his arms, Azure, five lions ram-

pant, argent, a canton, ermine; which arms are on the roof of the cloysters of Canterbury cathedral.

He left an only daughter Margaret his heir, who marrying with William, son of Sir Alexander Cheney, entitled him to this manor, of which he died possessed in the 8th year of king Edward III. anno 1323. His grandson Richard Cheney, of Shurland, married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Robert Cralle, of Cralle, in Sussex, by whom he had two sons, Sir William, of Shurland, and Simon, who was of Cralle, and ancestor of the Cheneys, of Higham, in this neighbourhood, and of Warblinton, in Sussex.

Sir William Cheney, the eldest son, possessed this manor, in whose descendants, who were at times knights of the shire and sheriffs of this county, it descended down to Sir Thomas Cheney, who was a man of great account in his time; in the 7th year of king Henry VIII. he was sheriff of this county, and served several times in parliament for it. He was elected a knight of the garter in the reign of king Henry VIII. in the 31st of whose reign, as well as in the 2d and 3d years of the succeeding one of king Edward VI. his lands in this county were disgavelled by the acts of those years. By king Henry VIII. he was appointed constable of Queenborough-castle, governor of Rochester, warden of the five ports, and treasurer of the household, in which office he continued in the next reign of Edward VI. of whose privy council he was one, and at his death espousing the cause of queen Mary, he was made again lord warden. Queen Elizabeth continued him treasurer of her household, and made him of her privy council. He new-built the mansion of Shurland with the materials of Chilham castle, where he before resided, and which he is said to have pulled down and brought hither, and he continued to reside here with great hospitality and sumptuous housekeeping, till the time of his death, which happened in the tower in the 1st year of that reign, and

was buried, with great pomp and magnificence, in a small chapel adjoining to the parish church of Minter. Henry Cheney, esq. his only son by his second wife, succeeded him at Shurland, among his other estates in this county, and in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth had possession granted of it among the rest of his inheritance; in the 5th year of it he kept his shrievalty at this seat, in which year he was knighted; in the 14th year of that reign, he was created lord Cheney, of Tuddington, in Bedfordshire. By his expensive method of living, he acquired the name of the extravagant lord Cheney, and before his death had dissipated the great possessions which his father had left him, and died s. p. in the 30th year of that reign, anno 1587. Sir Thomas Cheney seems to have had some fore-knowledge of his son's future extravagance; for by his will he devised his lands and manors to his son Henry, in tail general; remainder to Thomas Cheney, esq. of Woodley, in tail male, upon condition, that he or they, or any of them, should not

alien or discontinue; and it was a question, anno 33 and 34 Elizabeth, in the court of wards, between Sir Thomas Perot, heir-general to Sir Thomas Cheney, and several of the purchasers of the lord Cheney his son – if Sir Thomas Perot should be received to prove by witnesses, that it was the intent and meaning of the devisor to include his son and heir within those words of the condition – he or they – or only to restrain Thomas Cheney, of Woodley, and his heirs male. But Wray and Anderson, chief justices, upon conference with the other justices, resolved, that he should not be received to such averment out of the will, for that it ought to be concerning lands, in writing, and that construction of wills ought to be collected out of the words of the will in writing, and not by any averment out of it. By which resolution, the purchasers under the lord Cheney's title were established in their several possessions, which had been se=

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cured to them by fines levied by the lord Cheney, both in the 3d and 17th years of queen Elizabeth, of all his lands./h

The Cheneys bore for their arms, Argent, on a bend, sable, three martlets, or; which coat, on their marrying the heiress of Shurland, they bore in the second place, and that of Shurland, in honor of the alliance, in the first: but the lord Cheney bore his own coat in the first place, and that of Shurland second.

The lord Cheney long before his death, having removed to Tuddington, where he had built a most magnificent seat, exchanged the manor and seat of Shurland, with other estates in the neighbourhood of it, with the queen, who in 1593 granted a lease of Shurland, with other lands in Shepey, to Sir Edward Hoby, then of Queenborough Castle, and lady Margaret his wife, and Thomas-Posthumus, for their three lives./i Before which there had antiently been a park belonging to this seat, which was disparked when Lambarde wrote his Perambulation in 1570. The pales of part of it are still remaining. But the fee of this seat and estate remained in the hands of the crown till king James I. in his second year, granted it to Philip Herbert, younger brother of William, earl of Pembroke, who the next year was created Lord Herbert of Shurland, and Earl of Montgomery. On his brother's death without surviving issue, he succeeded him as earl of Pembroke. Since which this estate has continued in his descendants, in like manner as the manor of Milton and other estates in this neighbourhood, already described, down to the right hon. Philip, viscount Wenman, and Mrs. Anne Herbert, who are at this time the joint possessors of it.

/h See Coke's Reports, pt. 5th §68, p. 430.

/i Murdin's State Papers, p. 803.

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THE TITHES within this parish of the antient lordship of Shurlond, belonged to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, and their right to them was solemnly adjudged by sentence given, by Robert de

Malmayns, commissary-general to archbishop Walter Hubert, in the reign of king Edward II. and the whole of this manor claims an exemption from all kind of tithes at this time.

NORTHWOOD is an eminent manor in this parish, which was in very early times the inheritance of Jordan de Shepey, whose son Stephen having fixed his residence at the manor of Northwood, in the neighbouring parish of Milton, assumed the name of Northwood from it, which circumstance fixed that name on this manor likewise, as part of his possessions; these two manors being afterwards distinguished in antient records, by the names of the manor of Northwood, within Shepey, and the manor of Northwood, without Shepey.

Jordan de Shepey died possessed of this manor, and was buried in Minster church, where his tomb still remains, without any inscription or character, though it had once the coat armour, which this family afterwards bore on it.

Stephen de Northwood, his son above-mentioned, succeeded him in it, and resided at his manor of Northwood, in Milton, as most of his descendants did afterwards. His son Roger de Northwood lies buried in the south chancel of Minster church, with the figures of himself and of the lady Bona his wife, in brass, with their arms, on their grave-stone.

His grandson, Sir John de Northwood, of Northwood and of Shorne, was several times sheriff of this county, and was summoned to parliament among the peers of this realm. He died anno 14 Edward II. holding this manor of the king in capite, as of his manor of Middleton. His descendant, Sir John Northwood, appears to have been the last of this fa-

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mily who received summons to parliament, who died anno 2 Richard II. being then possessed of this manor held of the king in manner as before-mentioned.

At length one of his descendants, John Northwood, esq. of whom, and of this family, a more ample account may be seen, under the description of Northwood manor, in Milton, about the latter end of king Edward IV.'s reign, alienated this manor to William Warner, esq. whose grandson of the same name succeeding to it, in the beginning of king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign, soon afterwards sold it to Sir Thomas Cheney, afterwards knight of the garter, &c. whose only son Henry, lord Cheney, of Tuddington, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, having levied a fine of all his estates, quickly afterwards exchanged this manor with Shurland, and other premises, with the queen, and it remained in the hands of the crown till king James I. in his 2d year, granted it to Philip Herbert, younger brother of William, earl of Pembroke, created lord Herbert of Shurland, and earl of Montgomery./k

On his brother's death, without surviving issue, he succeeded him as earl of Pembroke, since which, this manor has continued down in his descendants, in like manner as Shurland and Milton manors before-described, and his other estates in this neighbourhood, to the right hon. Philip, viscount Wenman, and Mrs.

Anne Herbert, of Oxford, who now possess this manor in undivided moieties.

KINGSBOROUGH is a manor in this parish, which, as the name denotes, was always part of the possessions of the crown, and being situated in the very midst of the island, and as such most commodious for assembling the inhabitants of it, has ever been, and still continues to be, frequented for the holding of their

/k Philipott, p. 381. See more of the family of Herbert under Milton before.

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general court and law day, in the king's name yearly, before the steward, and homage there sworn, for the choice of the constable, who has jurisdiction over the island, and for the election of the bailiff, or ferrywarden, as he is usually called, and two ferrymen, and for the assessing of rates, and other matters relating to the ferry between this island and the main land, and the maintenance of that and the roads leading to it; all which was established and enforced by an act passed in the 18th year of queen Elizabeth, as has been already more fully mentioned under the description of the ferry itself.

BUT THE DEMESNE LANDS of this manor, called Kingsborough farm, lying in this parish and Minster, were granted by queen Elizabeth to Henry Cary, esq. afterwards created Lord Hunsdon, who in the beginning of the reign of king James I. passed it away by sale to Swaleman, in whose descendants it remained at the death of king Charles I. in 1648; soon after which it was sold by Mr. Thomas Swalman to Mr. Henry Allard, of Rochester, in whose name it continued till Sarah Allard passed it away to Benjamin Martin, as he did to Mr. Dansey Sawkins, in whose two daughters the present property of it is now vested.

Sir Brook Bridges is possessed of a good estate in this parish, as is Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of one called Swanley, in the northern part of it, being part of that purchased by his father of James West, esq.

STEPHEN OSBORNE, yeoman, devised by will in 1583, a legacy of 53l. the yearly produce to be distributed to the poor of Eastchurch and Leysdown, in equal shares, and to the poor of Warden, 8s. annually, with this sum was purchased an house and ten acres of land in this parish, the yearly produce of which is now 8l per annum.

ABOUT FOUR ACRES of meadow land, near the street, has been left to the poor of this parish, the rent of which is now 9l. 0s. 6d. per annum.

TWO ACRES adjoining to Barnland and Rayham, were left to it, formerly part of Sir John Hayward's estate, the rent of

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which is now 9l. 0s. 6d. per annum, and is distributed to widows on Old Christmas day yearly.

RICHARD FOSTER, D. D. vicar in 1721, gave for the instruction of poor children, to learn to read and write the catechism, an house, and one acre and one rood of land in Leysdown, the yearly produce of which is 2l. 2s. per annum. The master to be nominated by the minister and churchwardens.

MADARN DADE gave an annuity of 20s. to four widows receiving no alms, which money is paid out of Sir John Lade's

estate, formerly the Green Man, and is distributed yearly on Old Christmas day in money.

The poor yearly relieved are about thirty, casually fifteen.

EASTCHURCH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to All Saints, is a large handsome building, of three isles and three chancels, with a flat roof, leaded and surrounded with battlements. The inside of the roof is wainscotted and painted, and it is handsomely pewed with east country oak. The steeple, which is at the west end, is a square tower, in which are five bells.

The present church seems to have been erected subsequent to the 9th year of king Henry VI. for there is a patent of that year for a piece of land in this parish, to the abbot and convent of Boxley, for the building of a new church here./

This church was in very early times appropriated to the abbot and convent of Dunes, in Flanders, and confirmed to it by pope Cœlestine, in 1196; but at a general congregation of the monks of the Cistercian order, at which the abbot of Clarevall presided, it was agreed, in consideration of the great expence which the abbot and convent of Boxley were at, in entertaining the brethren of their order, as they went to, and returned from their general congregation beyond sea; and that the abbot and convent of Dunes, who

/I Tan. Mon. p. 214. Pat. 9 Henry VI. p. 2, m. 4. Claus 10 Hen. VI. m. 5, dorso.

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from their great distance from Eastchurch made little or no profit of it, to transfer this church to the abbot and convent of Boxley; for which purpose they obtained licence from king Henry III. in his 7th year, that they might give twenty-three acres of land in Shepey, and thirty-six acres of land in Eastchurch, and the advowson of the church there, which they appropriated to the abbot and convent, and the same was confirmed by archbishop Walter Reynolds, and the prior and convent of Christ church, in 1313.

After which the abbot and convent of Boxley obtained of king Edward II. in his 7th year, a licence of mortmain to appropriate this church to their monastery, and to take the advowson of it; in consequence of which, a perpetual vicar was endowed, and in the year 1472, anno 13 Edward IV. pope Sixtus IV. at the petition of the abbot, confirmed the vicarage likewise of this church to that abbey, giving licence for them to serve the cure of it by one of their own monks, amoveable at pleasure. In which situation it remained on the dissolution of the abbey in the 29th year of king Henry VIII. when this church, with the vicarage of it, together with the rest of the possessions of the monastery, was surrendered up into the king's hands.

The rectory of Eastchurch, as well as the vicarage, remained in the hands of the crown till the king in his 35th year, granted them to Sir T. Cheney, of Shurland, knight of the garter, &c. whose son Henry, lord Cheney, of Tuddington, levied fines of all his lands

in the 3d and 17th years of that reign, and in the 21st year of it alienated these premises, held in capite by knight's service, by the description of the church or rectory of Eastchurch, and the scite of the parsonage, with all houses and buildings on it, and one field of pasture, containing eighteen acres adjoining, and several other fields therein named; and by another indenture he alienated likewise all the tithes arising

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within this parish, excepting those of certain lands therein mentioned, and the vicarage of the church, to Robert Livesey, esq. whose son Gabriel Livesey, or Levesey, as he usually spelt his name, was of Holingborne-hill, esq. and sheriff of Kent in the 18th year of king James I. He died in 1622, and lies buried with his wife Anne, daughter of Sir Michael Sondes, of Throwley, in this church, under a handsome monument, on which are both their effigies lying at full length. His son Sir Michael Livesey, or Levesey, was created a baronet in 1627. He made this parsonage-house his residence, appointing from time to time a curate for the service of the church. He was a great republican in the reign of king Charles I. and was one of the king's judges at his trial, and one of those who signed the warrant for his execution, and afterwards served the office of sheriff in 1656 and 1657, and though he died before the restoration of king Charles II. yet immediately afterwards an act passed for the attainder of him, among others, and the forfeiture of all his lands, goods, and chattels.

This rectory and vicarage thus becoming forfeited to the crown, king Charles II. granted all Sir Michael Livesey's estates to his brother James, duke of York, with an exception of the advowson of the vicarage, the patronage or right of presentation to which he, in his 13th year, granted to Sir Henry Palmer, bart. of Wingham, and eleven other gentlemen of this county, and to the longest liver of them, and to the heir of the survivor of the grantees, in trust, that they should permit the vicar for the time being to enjoy all manner of tithes and profits belonging to it, and arising within this parish; and that they should from time to time present a fit person to the archbishop, to be instituted vicar of this church,

/m Rymer's Fœd. vol. viii. p. 985.

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By this grant were conveyed omnes domi terræque glebarum, but means were devised to convey them to another possessor, so that the vicar and his successors have never enjoyed them.

Sir Henry Palmer, bart. became the survivor of the other grantees, and consequently became possessed of the advowson of this vicarage, for the purpose before-mentioned, of which he died possessed in 1706. s. p. and by his will devised his interest in it to his nephew Sir Thomas Palmer, bart. who succeeded him both in title and estate. He died in 1723, having by his will given it to his natural son Herbert Palmer, esq. who died likewise s. p. leaving his widow, Mrs. Be-
thia Palmer, surviving, who on his death became pos-

sessed of this advowson, which she entitled her second husband, lieutenant-colonel John Cosnan, to; he died in 1778, and she again, in her own right became entitled to it; after which she alienated it to Mr. Barton, of Lancashire, who is the present proprietor of it.

In the 8th year of king Richard II. anno 1384, this church was valued at 33l. 6s. 8d. It is valued in the king's books at 13l. 6s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 6s. 8d.

In 1640 the stipend to the curate was twenty pounds. Communicants 156.

The antient valuation and tenths, rated in the king's books above-mentioned, the former as first fruits by the vicar on his institution, and the latter from time to time yearly, were directed by king Charles II. to be paid into the exchequer, by which means they do not belong to the archbishop, but are parcel of the fund called queen Anne's bounty, and are yearly paid to it accordingly.

The vicarage house, which is little more than a cottage, adjoins to the west end of the church-yard. There is no glebe land whatever belonging to it; such lands as the vicar is entitled to take tithes of, pay

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those of every kind to him; but there are several large farms and estates in this parish, such as Shurland, Little Bell farm, and some others, which claim an exemption from all tithes whatever.

In the 33d year of king Edward III. the abbot of Boxley obtained a charter of free-warren for his lands in this parish, among other places.

There seems to be no rectory or parsonage now; all that belongs to the parsonage-house is the before-mentioned adjoining pasture of eighteen acres, and some few other lands, but there are no kind of tithes whatever belonging to it. It was the property of vice-admiral Francis Hosier, who died in 1727, and his heirs conveyed it to Mr. Edward Chapman, the heirs of whose son Mr. James Chapman, at present own it.

CHURCH OF EASTCHURCH.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

John Eades, about 1640, sequestered.

The King. Robert Wilkinson, Clerk, March 4, 1660.

Anthony Wolrich, clerk, obt. 1684.

Sir Henry Palmer, bart, and others. James Jeffreys, S. T. P. July 2, 1684, obt. 1689.

William Mills, A. M. Jan. 8, 1689, obt. 1699./n

Sir Henry Palmer, bart. Richard Foster, A. M. April, 1699. obt. 1729./o

Herbert Palmer, esq. by his guardian Elizabeth Hey. Alexander Young, B. D. March 29, 1730, obt. March 21, 1755./p

Thomas Kinnaston, gent. Thomas Hey, S. T. P. May 29,

1755, the present vicar./q

/n Patrons, Henry Palmer, bart.
Anthony Aucher, and Wm. Rooke,
knt.

/o Also rector of Crundal. When
Mr. Foster came to take possession of
this vicarage, he was opposed in it by
another clerk, presented by a person
who claimed under the duke of York's
grant before-mentioned, who was af=
terwards obliged to give up his pre=
tensions to it.

/p Rector of Wickhambreux.

/q Prebendary of Rochester, rector
of Wickhambreux, and curate of
Swingfield.

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WARDEN

LIES the next parish northward from Eastchurch,
being usually called Warne by the inhabitants and
neighbourhood.

THE PARISH is situated on the northern side of the
island, the cliffs being the northern boundary of it.
The village, which consists only of two houses, stands
nearly in the centre of it, on high ground, having the
church adjoining to it, near which the lands are mostly
arable. In the south-west part of it, next to East=
church, there is a great deal of broom and furze, and
below that, in the vale, much good pasture. On the
south-east part, next to Leysdown, there is a deep
watry vale, of near a mile in width, a part of which is
salt-marsh, being overflowed at high water; across
which is the high road from Warden to Leysdown.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over
this parish, subordinate to which is the MANOR OF
WARDEN, which, in the reign of king Edward I. was
in the possession of the family of Savage, of Bobbing,
in this neighbourhood, one of which, John le Sauvage,
obtained a charter of free-warren for his lands here,
among others, in the 23d year of that reign.

In the 49th year of Edward III. Sir Richard atte
Lese was in the possession of it, and by his will anno
18 Richard II. devised it to Dionisia his wife, and after
her decease to Lucy Norton his niece, then the wife
of John Norton, who was afterwards, in his wife's
right, of Lees-court, in Sheldwich.

Their son William Norton, esq. of Sheldwich, left
two sons, Reginald, from whom the Nortons, of
Northwood were descended, and Richard, who inhe=
rited this manor by his father's will, in 1468,/r and

/r See Northwood in Milton before.

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was ancestor to those of Fordwich, in whose descen=
dants it continued down to Valentine Norton, gent.
of Fordwich, who in the reign of king Charles I. alie=
enated it to Edmund Tooke, of Dartford, the fourth
son of George Tooke, esq. of Bere-court, near Dover;
how long it continued in his descendants, I cannot

learn, but that after some intermediate owners, it was sold to Sir Thomas Stevens, high sheriff of Surry in 1727, in which year he was knighted. He afterwards resided at Eltham, in this county, where he died in 1738, leaving one son Thomas, and a daughter Sarah, married that year to James West, esq. of Lincoln's-inn.

Thomas Stevens, esq. succeeded his father in this manor, among the rest of his estates, and died s. p. in 1759, on which it devolved to his sister and heir-at-law, whose husband, James West, esq. in her right, became possessed of it. He was descended from a younger son of Thomas, lord De la War, who in the reign of Henry VIII. was a man of great note, and a knight of the garter, and was of Alscot, in Warwickshire, esq. He was recorder of St. Alban's, secretary to the treasury, and fellow of the royal and antiquarian societies, and bore for his arms those of the lord Delaware, his ancestor, Argent, a fess dancette, sable. He afterwards passed this manor away by sale to John Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, in this county, afterwards an alderman and lord-mayor of London, who died possessed of it in 1795, and his son Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. now of Ollantigh, is the present owner of it. There is not any court held for this manor.

Mr. Sawbridge is owner of this whole parish, except one tenement, and six acres of land belonging to it.

/s See Coll. Peer. vol. vi. p. 181 et seq.

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CHARITIES.

STEPHEN OSBORNE, by will in 1581, gave a sum of money to the parishes of Eastchurch and Leysdown, with which a house and land was purchased, as has been already more particularly mentioned before under the former of those parishes, 8s. out of the yearly produce of which, by the directions of the will, is paid to the use of the poor of this parish.

The number of poor relieved annually is only one, and usually the same.

WARDEN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which consists of one isle and a chancel, with a small turret at the west end, is a poor mean plaistered building. It is dedicated to St. James, and was for many years in a dilapidated state, insomuch that there had not been any divine service performed in it, except on the induction of a rector, for a long time, the parishioners usually resorting to the adjoining church of Leysdown for that purpose; but it has been, some years since, put into some kind of repair, and made but hardly fit for divine service; though the whole building seems so decayed by length of time, that it cannot stand many years.

This church was part of the antient possessions of the crown, and continued so till king Henry III. by his charter, in his 19th year, granted it to the hospital of St. Mary, commonly called the Maison Dieu, in Dover, and the brethren there, for ever, in free, pure and perpetual alms, which gift was confirmed by Henry VI.

in his 2d year, by his charter of inspeximus; before which this hospital was possessed of a manor and lands in this parish, by the benefaction of Simon de Wardune, who had given to it his whole messuage and park adjoining to it, and one hundred acres of land in the fields of Wardune, with the homage, suits and services, due to him from several persons, as mentioned in his deed of it, which gift was confirmed by king Henry III.

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in his 12th year, and afterwards by Henry VI. in his 2d year, when he confirmed likewise this church to it, by his charter of inspeximus./t

This church remained with the hospital till the dissolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was surrendered, with all its possessions, into the king's hands. After which this church was granted to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. whose son Henry, lord Cheney in the reign of queen Elizabeth, exchanged it with the crown for other lands, and the queen soon afterwards granted it to Sir Thomas Hoby, of Bisham, whose son Sir Edward Hoby gave it by his will to his son Peregrine Hoby, esq. who was possessed of it in the latter end of the reign of Charles I.

In the reign of king William III. it was in the possession of Godfrey Meynel, esq. and afterwards of Francis Hosier, esq. vice-admiral of the white, who died in 1727, on which it came to his widow, Mrs. Diana Hosier, and afterwards to their daughter Frances-Diana Hosier, who married Richard Hart, and he died possessed of the patronage of this rectory in 1761, leaving three daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, and Diana Hosier Hart, his coheirs, who are now entitled to it.

The church of Warden is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-five pounds, the yearly tenths of it being 9s. 6¹/₄d. which were formerly paid to the crown receiver.

In 1578, the communicants here were twenty; in 1640 they were only sixteen, and the yearly value of it thirty-six pounds.

/t Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. p. 86. Tan. Mon. p. 220.

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CHURCH OF WARDEN.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

James Barnard, June 20, 1595.

obt. 1617.

Peregrine Hoby, gent. Osmund Clutting, A.B. Oct. 31, 1617.

John ..edes, May 19, 1640.

The King, by lapse. John Tudor, clerk, March 16, 1674. obt. 1689./u

Godfrey Meynel, esq. Robert Eaton, clerk, July 2, 1689, obt. 1702./u

The Arcrbishop. John Cumberland, A.B. Jan. 1, 1703, obt. January 17, 1731./u

Joseph Adshead and John Sackfield William Owens, July 31, 1731,

obt. June 2, 1732./u
John Burdus, gent. John Fetherston, July 18, 1732,
resigned 1734./w
Diana, widow of Fr. Hoster, esq. John Woodroff, A.M. Sept. 26,
1734, resigned 1735.
Gilbert Allenson, A.B. Nov. 26,
1735.
The King, by lapse. John Kirby, June 21, 1776.
John Rice, 1783, the present
rector.

/u All these were likewise vicars of
Leysdown.

/w Vicar of Leysdown, and resigned
this vicarage for that of Bethersden.

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LEYSDOWN

LIES the next parish to Warden south-eastward. It was called in antient Latin deeds Lesduna, and in others Leysdon, and took its name most probably from the Saxon words Leswe, which signifies a pasture, and dune, an open high situation.

THE PARISH is situated mostly on high ground. It is bounded by the isle of Harty on the south, and the cliffs on the sea shore on the north. The lands are almost all pasture, but between this place and East=

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church, they consist of large uninclosed downs. There is no village, nor any thing further worth notice in it. The manor of Newington extends over a part of this parish.

In the year 1750, Mr. Jacob, of Faversham, discovered in this parish, the acetabulum of an elephant, sticking in the clay, which was partly washed away from the cliff, and at the same time other parts of one, as one of the spinal vertebræ, a thigh-bone four feet long, and numberless other fragments, too rotten to be taken up entire. Some time after which, on a further search, he found an elephant's tusk, and as it lay entire to appearance took its dimensions, which were, in length eight feet, and in circumference, in the middle, twelve inches; but it fell to pieces in endeavouring to raise it. He also found part of a scapula, its sinus almost entire, and three inches diameter, and some pieces of the grinders, and a larger one, at another time, in a different part of the island. The pyrites, however, abounded so much in the clay, wherein these bones were embedded, that it prevented their being found in a tolerable perfect state; but these fragments were sufficient to shew, that this elephant was as large as that mentioned by Fentzelius, in the Philosophical Transactions. Mr. Jacob's account of the above discovery was published in the above Transactions, vol. xlviii. pt. ii. p. 626. The remedy which has lately been applied to prevent the destruction of these fossil bones, &c. caused by their being so much impregnated with pyritical matter, is to coat them with a very thin solution of carpenter's glue dissolved, which has been found to answer the purpose well hitherto.

THIS PARISH is within the paramount manor of Milton, subordinate to which are the two manors of

Leysdown within it, the most eminent of which, stiled, without any addition or distinction to the name,

THE MANOR OF LEYSDOWN seems to have been given by king Henry II. to the church of the

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Holy Trinity, now Christ-church, in Canterbury, as of the value of twenty-five pounds yearly rent; accordingly, the prior of it, in the 7th year of Edward I. claimed, and was allowed, all the privileges of a manor here.

King Edward II. by his charter, dated July 14, in his 10th year, granted to the prior and convent free-warren in all the demesne lands which they were possessed of in this parish, among others, in the 30th year of his grandfather Henry III.^{/x} In which situation this manor continued till the dissolution of the priory in the 31st year of Henry VIII. when it was, with all the lands and possessions of it, surrendered into the king's hands.

The manor of Leysdown did not remain long in the hands of the crown, for the king settled it by his donation-charter, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions it now remains. A court-leet and court-baron is held for this manor.

In the 33d year of Henry VIII. Thomas Spylman was lessee of this manor, from which name, in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, the interest in the lease of it had become vested in Martin Purefoy; in the reign of king James I. it had passed to Thompson; after which it came to Harris, in which it remained till the reign of king George II. when the term of the lease of it not being renewed as usual, it was suffered to expire, and the dean and chapter, in 1742, vested it in trustees, for their joint uses, by whom it was the next year assigned to the Rev. Julius Deedes, a prebendary of their own body, and again afterwards by his heirs of Sir John Filmer, bart. of East Sutton, who married Miss Dorothy Deedes, his daughter. Sir John Filmer died in 1797, and by his will gave his interest in this estate to his surviving widow, who has sold

^{/x} Regist. Eccl. Christi, Cant. cart. 134. Tan. Mon. p. 201.

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it to the occupier of it, and he is now possessed of her interest in the lease of it.

Mr. Somner, in his Treatise on Gavelkind, p. 28, says, that there was antiently in this manor a customary rent paid, called weregavel, which was sometimes more, sometimes less, and that it was paid for the wears or kiddels, which the inhabitants of this place were privileged to pitch on the sea-coasts, for the catching of fish, until it was forbidden by Magna Charta, to set them in the Thames or Medway, or any place in England, excepting the sea-coasts.

THE OTHER MANOR in this parish, called also THE MANOR OF LEYSDOWN, was antiently part of the possessions of that branch of the family of Grey, seated at Rotherfield, in Oxfordshire, a descendant of which, John de Grey, of Rotherfield, was owner of it in the reign of king Edward I.^{/y} in the 25th year of which

reign he had summons to parliament among the barons of this realm. His son John died possessed of it, as appears by the inquisition taken after his death, in the 33d year of that reign, by the description of forty shillings yearly rent, with its appurtenances, in Leys= down, held of the king in capite by the service of pay= ing for it, for ward to Dover castle, and by the service of the tenth part of one knight's fee, in lieu of all other service.

Bartholomew de Grey, his descendant, died possessed of this manor in the 2d year of Henry IV. leaving Joane his daughter and heir, afterwards married to Sir John Deincourt, by whom she had one son and two daughters, Alice and Margaret, the former of whom married to William, lord Lovel, seems to have entitled her husband to the possession of this manor. His grand= son Francis, lord Lovel, was in the 22d year of king Edward IV. created viscount Lovel, and became af= terwards a great favorite of Richard III. on whose part

/y See the descent of the Greys, vol. i. of this history, p. 156.

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he was present at the battle of Bosworth, and after the loss of it fled beyond sea, but returning in support of Lambert Simnell, the counterfeit duke of York, he was slain in the battle of Stoke, near Newark, in the 3d year of Henry VII.

In the 1st year of which reign an act had passed for his conviction and attainder, among others, as did ano= ther for his attainder in particular, in the 11th year of it; before which, however, this manor had been granted by the crown to William Cheney, esq. of Shurland, whose grandson Henry, lord Cheney, exchanged it with queen Elizabeth for other lands. How it passed afterwards I have not found; but it was in later times possessed by Sir Thomas Stevens, since which it has passed in like manner as the manor of Warden before= described, down to Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, the present possessor of it.

NUTS, as it is vulgarly called, but in antient court= rolls written Notts, is a small manor in this parish, which was so named from a family of that name owners of it, who continued so for several generations; but about the beginning of king Edward IV.'s reign it was alienated from thence to Bartholomew, a family pos= sessed of much land about Linsted, Throwley, and other places in that neighbourhood; they implanted their name on part of this estate, which from thenceforward was called Bartholomew's farm, and continued proprie= tors of it till the reign of Henry VII. when it was alie= nated to William Cheney, esq. of Shurland, whose grandson Henry, lord Cheney, having in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth levied a fine of all his lands, soon afterwards alienated it to Christopher Sampson, esq. who bore for his arms, Argent, a castle triple towered, sable;/z he afterwards resided at Nutts, and left three sons, of whom Anthony the eldest, possessed this ma= nor, which he sold, with Bartholomew farm and Church=

/c Vistn. co. of Kent, pedigree of Sampson.

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field, another part of it likewise, to Stephen Osborne,

esq. afterwards of Nutts, descended from the family of that name seated at Hartlip, whose arms he likewise bore, and he was owner of it in the 21st year of queen Elizabeth, anno 1578; soon after which this estate seems to have been alienated in parcels to different persons, but THE MANOR OF NUTTS in particular, continued in the family of Osborne, and on the death of Stephen Osborne before mentioned, descended to his son John, whose grandson William leaving an only daughter and heir Anne, she carried this manor in marriage to Mr. Leonard Brandon, whose son Leonard Brandon, dying s. p. it came to his sister Margaret Brandon, who devised it to the four daughters of Sir John Hinde Cotton, bart. Jane, the wife of Thomas Hart, esq. Elizabeth-Stuart, of Thomas Bowdler, esq. and Frances and Mary Cotton, and they, about the year 1752, joined in the conveyance of it to Edward Jacob, esq. of Faversham, F. R. S. well known to the learned as an antiquarian and a naturalist, as well by his History of Faversham, his Plantæ Favershamienses, Fossilia Shepeiana, as other works. He bore for his arms, Or, on a canton gules, an eagle displayed of the first. He died in 1788, leaving his widow Mrs. Jacob surviving, and several sons and daughters, in whom by his will this manor is now vested.

BUT BARTHOLOMEW'S FARM was sold off by Osborne to Christopher Finch, from which name it was sold in the reign of Charles I. to John Crooke, and from thence again, about the year 1725, to Thomas Stevens, esq. afterwards knighted, since which it has passed in like manner as the rest of his estates in this parish and Warden, as before-described, down to Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, the present owner of it.

/a Records belonging to Rochester bridge.

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William Cheney, esq. of Shepey, owner of Nutts, and the other estates before-mentioned, anno 10 king Henry VII. 1411, granted to John Woley and Robert de Rowe, wardens of Rochester bridge, a moiety of four pounds annually as a rent-charge, out of lands and tenements, in the village of Leysdown, as well for the keeping of the bridge, as for maintaining three chaplains for divine celebration in the chapel-house near it, for ever, and for praying for the souls of all the deceased benefactors of it; which yearly rent-charge still continues to be paid to the wardens for the time being, and is applied, in like manner as the rest of the revenues of the bridge, towards the support and maintenance of it.

In the 37th year of king Henry VIIIth.'s reign, William Bury conveyed to that king by deed, a capital messuage, called Nutts, several marsh-lands, and other premises in Mynstre, in Shepey, but what connection it had with Nutts, in this parish, I do not know./b

LEYSDOWN is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Clement, was, till within these few years, in a most dilapidated state. The tower of it, which was of good workmanship, em=

battled, and very antient, hung over towards the south, more than seven feet out of the perpendicular line, like that of Florence; and the body of the church too, which appeared to have been formerly much larger, had many years since fallen down, so that divine service was for some time performed in a shed, built up for that purpose. In the room of this there has been erected a small neat building, of one isle, with a wooden turret at the west end, in which there is one bell. It seems not to extend so far westward as the former building, for there is the space of two or three yards between

/b See Augtn. off. Deeds of Purchase and Exchange, D. 84.

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the west end of it and the remaining part of the old tower, which joined to the former church. This tower has been taken down to within about eight feet from the ground; what remains, however, sufficiently shews the antiquity and costliness of it, and the tremendous posture in which it stood.

The church of Leysdown was given, with its appurtenances, by Robert de Arsic, to the priory of St. Radigund, alias Bradsole, near Dover, with the consent of archbishop Stephen Langton, which gift was confirmed by Henry III. and by Edward II. by his charter of inspeximus, in his 8th year.

This church was appropriated to that priory, and a vicarage endowed in it, anno 8 Henry III. 1223/c In which state it remained till the dissolution of it in the 27th year of that reign, in consequence of the act passed that year for the suppression of all such houses, whose revenues did not amount to the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds, by which this priory, the total annual revenues of which did not amount to that sum, was suppressed, and, together with all its possessions, became vested in the crown, whence the whole of them were, that very year, exchanged by the king with the archbishop of Canterbury, for other lands, who again, in the same year, exchanged them back again with the king for other premises, an act then specially passed for the purpose; but in this exchange, among other exceptions, was that of all churches and advowsons of vicarages, by which means the appropriation of the church of Leysdown, together with the advowson, of the vicarage, remained part of the possessions of the archbishopric, and continues so at this time.

It is now a discharged living, in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-eight pounds, the yearly tenths of it being 1l. 1s.

/c See Ducarel's Rep. edit. 2d, p. 72.

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In 1577 the communicants here were twenty-four; in 1640 the communicants were forty-six, and the annual value of the vicarage sixty pounds.

In 1643 the rectory appropriate was held in lease by Thomas Bradbridge, at the yearly rent of one pound.

CHURCH OF LEYSDOWN.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archbishop of Canterbury. John Cooper, Nov. 28, 1586,
resigned 1613.
John Lyeham, A. B. February 5.
1613.
The King. George Robertson, clerk, May 2,
1661.
The Archbishop. Onesephorus Paul, A. M. June
15, 1668.
John Tudor, LL. B. April 15,
1670./d
Robert Eaton, A. M. Jan. 23,
1689, obt. 1702./d
John Cumberland, Jan. 1, 1702,
obt. Jan. 17, 1731./d
William Owens, A. M. June 3,
1731, obt. June 2, 1732./d
John Fetherston, July 18, 1732,
resigned 1734./d
John Woodroofe, A. M. May 7,
1734./d
William Howdell, A. M. March
14, 1735, obt. 1756./e
John Russell, March 29, 1756,
resigned 1757.
John Taylor Lambe, Feb. 16,
1757.
Lisc. M. Stretch, 1762, re=
signed 1786./f
David Martin, 1786, the pre=
sent vicar.

/d Also rectors of Warden.

/e Also rector of Bircholt, by dis=
pensation.

/f He exchanged with his successor
for the vicarage of Bethersden.

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EMLEY,

OR Elmeley, as it is frequently spelt in antient re=
cords, is a small island adjoining to that of Shepey, of
which it is indeed, in general terms, accounted a part,
being separated from it only by a very narrow water,
called the Dray, on the north side of it, the south side
being bounded by the Swale, which flows between it
and the main land of the county. It is in length up=
wards of three miles, and in breadth about two miles.
It consists of one parish, of the same name as the island,
excepting a small tract of land on the northern side
of it, which is within the bounds of the parish of
Eastchurch.

THIS ISLAND contains about 4700 acres of land, of
which about 2600 are salt marshes, excepting which,
the whole of it, especially the southern hills, consists of
very rich pasture; there are generally feeding on it
upwards of 6000 sheep, the wool of which has in some
years sold for 1000l. It has been held for many years
in lease, by the family of Blaxland, of Graveney-court.
There is no village, and indeed only two houses in the
whole island, which, as well as the church near them,
stand on high ground near the centre of it, so as to be

plainly discernible from the adjacent parts of the county. There is a ferry for horses and other cattle from this island across the Swale towards the county, and a ford on the other side at low water into the Isle of Shepey. From its situation it is as unhealthy a place as any within that Island.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Milton claims over this island, as being within that hundred, subordinate to which the manor of Emley claims, as did formerly that of Milsted over part of it./g

/g See Rot. Esch. anno. 10, 37 and 46 Edward III.

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THIS ISLAND was, great part of it, the demesnes of the family of Peyforer, one of whom, Fulk de Peyforer, died possessed of this estate in the 5th year of king Edward I. from which family it seems to have passed into that of Potyn, one of which, Nicholas Potyn, was possessed of it in the reign of Richard II. and left an only daughter Juliana, who carried it in marriage to Thomas St. Leger, afterwards of Otterden, second son of Ralph St. Leger, of Ulcomb. He left an only daughter and heir Joane, who marrying Henry Aucher, esq. of Newenden, entitled him to the possession of it. She survived him, and afterwards married Robert Capys, to whom Henry Aucher, esq. her only son and heir by her first husband, confirmed a life-estate in Elmele and other places, in the 19th year of king Henry VI. After which he passed it away to Sir William Cromer, who was possessed of a large estate in this place before, which had antiently belonged to the Cobhams,/h and was sold by one of them, about the beginning of the reign of Edward III. to Sir Walter Manny, whose only daughter Anne married John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, who died possessed of it in the 49th year of it, leaving a son John, who succeeded him in title and estate, but was unfortunately killed at a tournament, in the 13th year of Richard II. being then only seventeen years of age. He died s. p. and this estate, which consisted of one thousand acres of land, became the property of his heirs, Reginald Grey and Richard Talbot, whose feoffee in trust, Sir Robert Knollys, by their direction, conveyed them in the 7th year of Henry IV. to Sir William Cromer, of Tunstall, whose son William Cromer, esq. afterwards purchased the manor of Elmele, as above-mentioned; his descendant Sir James Cromer, died in 1613, leaving by his second wife three daughters his coheirs, of whom Christian, the youngest, married John, eldest son of

/h Coll. Peer. vol. ii. p. 617. See Penshurst and Tunstall.

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Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, of Tenterden, and on the partition of their estates she entitled him to the possession of it. He was afterwards knighted, but died in his father's life time, leaving a son Edward, who succeeded his grandfather likewise in title and estate, in whose descendants this manor continued down to Sir Edward Hales, bart. of St. Stephen's,/i till 1789, when it was conveyed by purchase by Sir Edward and Mr. Hales, to George Gipps, Esq. of Harbledown, M. P. for the city of Canterbury, who is

the entire possessor of it, as well as of this whole island.

There are no parochial charities. The poor constantly relieved are about four; casually one or two at most.

EMLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is dedicated to St. James, has been many years in a dilapidated state, for though the walls and roof are entire, they are quite bare on the inside, without pavement or cieling, door or window, being made use of as a storehouse only; nor has there been any kind of divine service performed in it for many years, except at the induction of a rector, the duty afterwards being excused, by agreement between him and the occupier of it.

This church antiently belonged to the priory of Leeds, and John, prior, and the convent of Christchurch, confirmed it in 1278, as well as the former confirmations of the archbishops of Canterbury. How it happened that these religious were divested of their property in this church, I have not found; but in the 27th year of Henry VI. it was in the hands of the crown, for that year the king granted the patronage and advowson of it to the warden and fellows of All Souls college, in Oxford, and they continue patrons of it at this time.

/i See more of the Cromers and Hales's, under Tunstall, p. 86.

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There was a yearly pension of forty shillings payable out of this church to the abbot of St. Mary Graces, near the Tower./k

It is valued in the king's books at five pounds, and the yearly tenths at ten shillings. In 1578 there was only one dwelling-house here; communicants, six. In 1640 there were ten communicants, and the rectory was then valued at seventy pounds. The present yearly value is supposed to be about eighty pounds.

CHURCH OF EMLEY.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Warden and Fellows of All Souls

college. Thomas Creech, S. T. B. March

16. 1697, resigned 1699./l

Edward Digges, A. M. May 10,
1699, resigned 1700.

Peter Preaulx, S. T. P. Aug 13,
1700.

Francis Offley, resigned 1708.

Robert Bright, A. M. March 30,
1708, resigned 1723.

Milo West, A. M. May 23,
1723, resigned 1724.

Thomas Martin Fiddes, May 21,
1724, resigned 1725.

Thomas Leigh, A. M. May 21,
1725, resigned 1732.

Robert Chernock, A. M. July 26,
1732.

William Stephens, LL. D. re=

signed 1746.
Savage Tyndall, D. D. Dec. 20,
1746, resigned 1751./m
Thomas Bathurst, A. M. June
12, 1751, resigned 1765./n
Thomas St. Loe, LL. D. Aug. 6,
1765, obt. 1766.

/k Ext. from fee-farm rolls, temp.
interregni. Roll 3, N. 3.

/l The noted poet, who translated so
many of the classicks, and other books
both in verse and prose. See Wood ib.
fasti, p. 1104.

/m He resigned this rectory for that
of Barking, in Essex.

/n He resigned on being presented to
Welwyn, in Hertfordshire.

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Warden and Fellows of All Souls
college. John Long, D. D. Nov. 20,
1766, resigned 1788./o
John Montague, 1788, the pre=
sent rector.

/o In 1781 presented to the rectory of Chelsfield.

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HARTY

IS another small island adjoining to that of Shepey south eastward, opposite to Leysdown. It adjoins to the island of Emley towards the west, being separated both from that and the island of Shepey by a very small narrow water; on the south side of it is the water called the Swale, which flows between it and the main land of the county. It is about two miles in length, and one and an half in breadth, and consists of one parish, of the same name as the island itself. It is within the bounds of the hundred of Faversham, and a borsholder is annually chosen for the borough of it (which extends over the whole island) at the court-leet for that manor and hundred; but being in a manner part of the island of Shepey, the description of it seems more proper to be inserted here, than to be deferred to the description of that hundred hereafter.

It is called in antient records Harteigh, which name seems to be derived from the Saxon words Heord-tu, which signifies the island filled with herds of cattle, a name well suited to the antient and present state of it.

The island lies opposite to the parish of Ore on the main land of the county, the waters of the Swale flowing between them, over which there is a ferry for passengers and cattle, called Harty-ferry. The grounds are entirely pasture, on which are constantly feeding about 4000 sheep. The centre of it is rising ground. The church stands nearly in the middle of it. There is no village, and only six lookers cottages in the whole

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of it, these people, about twenty in number, being the only inhabitants, the unhealthiness of the air deterring all others from attempting to dwell in it. About two-

thirds of the island are the property of Mr. Sawbridge.

It appears by the pleas of the crown, in the 21st year of king Edward I. taken before the justices itinerant, that there was formerly a bridge leading from hence into Shepey, then called Tremseth bridge, which had been broken down by a violent inundation of the sea, and the channel thereby made so deep, that a new one could not be laid; and therefore the inhabitants of Shepey, who before repaired it, maintained in the room of it two ferry-boats, to carry passengers to and fro.

There is now no bridge here, and the fleet which divided this island from that of Shepey is become so very narrow, and has for several years past been so much filled up, that, excepting at high tides and overflow of the waters, Harty has ceased to have any appearance of an island. There is no highway duty, and scarce any roads in it.

THE MANOR OF HARTY, otherwise Saye's court, was, in the reign of king Henry III. part of the possessions of the family of Champion, who wrote themselves in Latin, De Campania, and were seated at Champions court, in Newnham. Robert de Campania held this manor in the above reign, as half a knight's fee, of John de St. John; his descendant John de Campania died possessed of it in the reign of Edward II. and king Edward III. in his 1st year, directed his writ to Robert de Kendal, late constable of Dover castle, &c. to restore to the lady of the island of Hertye, sister of Thomas Roscelyn, her lands forfeited in Kent, in the reign of his father, on account of the prosecutions of Hugh le Despencer, the elder and younger. They left three daughters and coheirs, of whom Catherine married Robert Corbet, and Thomasine married Thomas Che=

/p Book of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

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vin. They divided his estates among them, but to whom this manor passed, I have not found; but the next name that I have discovered to be possessed of it, was Whalley, whose heirs sold it to Cheney, in which name it continued to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. who died possessed of it in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

ANOTHER ESTATE in this island, called LE LONG HOUSE, was parcel of the possessions of the abbey of Faversham, of whom it was held as part of a knight's fee, by John de Criol, in the reign of Edward I. as it was afterwards by the family of Champion, or De Campania, one of whom, John de Campania possessed it in the reign of king Edward II. whose widow Mary paid aid for it in the 20th year of that reign, as parcel of the manor of Westwood.

After which this estate passed into the family of Poynings, whose heir-general, Alianore, daughter of Richard de Poynings, carried it in marriage to Sir Henry Percy, lord Percy, afterwards earl of Northumberland, in whose descendants it continued till at length it was alienated to Cheney, and Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. died possessed of it in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

THE MOTE was another part of Harty manor, and

was parcel of the estate in this island belonging to the family of Champion likewise, which was carried in marriage by Thomasine, daughter and one of the co-heirs of John de Campania or Champion, in the reign of king Edward III. to Thomas Chevin, of Sholand, in Newnham, in whose descendants it continued down to John Chevin, who, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth, by conveyance and fine, sold it to Mr. Thomas Paramour, by the description of a manor and lands,

/q Book of Aid, anno 20 Edward III. Mr. Petit Fœdary of Kent his book.

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in the parish of St. Thomas, in the isle of Harty, of the fee of William, marquis of Winchester, capital lord of it.

But it being alledged by John Chevin, that he was under age at the time of the before-mentioned alienation, the fine was reversed, and he having again passed it away in the mean time to John Kyne and Simon Lowe; they, in the 13th year of that reign, brought a writ of right for the recovery of it against Thomas Paramour, but they were nonsuited, and the defendant was confirmed in his possession of it by the court. Upon this writ of right a trial by battle was demanded by Paramour, and awarded by the court, of which a pompous account is given in our law books, much too long for insertion here. It is sufficient to inform the reader, that the champions of each party, properly accoutred, met, at the appointed time, in Tothill-fields, Westminster, before the justices of the court of common pleas, who were to be judges of the duel (when upwards of 4000 people were present); where, after much formal solemnity, and proclamation being made, the non-appearance of the demandants, Kyne and Lowe, was recorded, and a nonsuit prayed, which was made, and the land was adjudged to Paramour, with costs of suit: for the queen had so ordered, that they were not to fight; but every part of this form was adjudged necessary to ascertain the defendant's right; and the judges themselves would, no doubt, have been well pleased to have ousted the parties of this barbarous method of trial, had the custom warranted them so to do, and it shews how much the example of it was disliked, since the queen thought fit to interpose and accommodate the matter; and this is one of the last instances in our books of battle joined in a writ of right./r How

/r See a full account of it in Dyer's Reports, p. 301. Coke's Entries, p. 182. Speed's Chron. p. 1166. Spelman's Glossary, in verbo Campus. Robinson's Gavelkind, 259.

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long this estate continued in the name of Paramour, I do not find; but it seems to have been in the possession of Henry, lord Cheney, in the 12th year of queen Elizabeth, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

THE ABBOT AND CONVENT OF FAVERSHAM, besides the fee held of them as before-mentioned, were in the possession of an estate here called ABBATS-COURT, and in the reign of Henry VII. their tenant of it was Thomas Colepeper, esq. but it did not continue in the possession of that monastery till the final dissolution of

it, for king Henry VIII. in his 29th year, granted his licence to John, then abbot of Faversham, to alienate this manor of Abbots-court and its appurtenances, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. in this parish, and he died possessed of this estate in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, holding it at the yearly sum of forty shillings and eight-pence, in the name of tenths, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

THE DEAN AND CANONS of the collegiate chapel of St. Stephen, in Westminster, were possessed of an estate in this island called PERY MARSH, which they continued in the possession of till the 1st year of king Edward VI.'s reign, when this chapel being dissolved, among others, by the act then passed, all the lands and possessions of it were surrendered up into the king's hands, where it did not remain long, for the king in his 3d year, granted it, among other premises, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. before-mentioned, to hold in capite by knight's service, and he died possessed of it in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth's reign, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

The Benedictine nunnery of Davington was possessed of lands in this parish, as well as the church or parsonage of Harty; the former, in the 17th year of king Edward III. consisted of one hundred and forty

/s See a further account of this free chapel under Bredhurst.

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acres of pasture, which were then valued, over and above the chief rent paid for it, fifteen pounds yearly.

This nunnery being left without prioress or nuns, escheated to the crown in the 27th year of Henry VIII. and this estate in Harty remained there, till the king, in his 35th year, granted it, among other possessions of the nunnery, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. to hold in capite by knight's service, and he died possessed of it in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, as will be further taken notice of hereafter.

Sir Thomas Cheney dying possessed of all the before-mentioned manors and estates in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, as has been mentioned before, under the several descriptions of them, was succeeded in them by his son and heir Henry Cheney, esq. afterwards knighted and created Lord Cheney of Tuddington, who had possession granted of them in the 3d year of that reign, and that year levied a fine of all his lands.

After which he, together with Jane his wife, anno 12 Elizabeth, by conveyance and fine levied, alienated the manor of Harty, and the rectory of St. Thomas the Apostle, in the isle of Hartye, called Stanger, alias Stangarde, alias the parsonage of Hartie, together with the advowson and right of patronage of the vicarage; and the manor or farm called Abbattes court, with Pery marsh, and the farm called the Long House, and the tenement called the Mote, with all their lands and appurtenances in this island, and all other premises in it, which the above-mentioned Sir Thomas Cheney was possessed of in it, at the time of his death, or which Henry Cheney, or Jane his wife had a right to in it, to the use of Richard Thornhill, esq.

His grandson alienated that part of the above-mentioned premises called Abbats court, since known by the

name of Hall farm, with Pery marsh, and other lands, to Robert Cole, esq. who in 1662 settled this estate on his sole daughter and heir Jane, on her marriage with Sir Thomas Darcy, of St. Clere hall, in Essex,

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who had been created a baronet in 1660; he afterwards sold it to Mr. Thomas French, who by his will devised it to be sold, and it was purchased in 1701 by Thomas Clark, merchant, of London, whose heirs sold it in 1765 to Mr. Thomas Buck, of Faversham, on whose death in 1779, it became the property of his son of the same name, who is the present possessor of it. This estate claims an exemption from the payment of all kind of tithes.

BUT THE REMAINING PART of the several estates of Henry, lord Cheney, continued in the descendants of Richard Thornhill, esq. down to Richard Thornhill, esq. of Ollantigh, who in the fourth year of queen Anne, anno 1704, having obtained an act for that purpose, sold the manor of Harty, the rectory or parsonage of the church, and the advowson of the vicarage, the estate called the Long House, the Mote, since called the Church farm, a farm called Elliots, a parcel of marshlands called Napletons, with divers lands, marshes, &c. part of the above-described premises, to Mr. Jacob Sawbridge, of London, who died possessed of them in 1748, and his great grandson, Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, in this county, is the present possessor of them.

The company of oyster dredgers of Faversham hire of Mr. Sawbridge, the right or privilege of laying oysters on some part of the shore of this island, and the like of Mr. Buck on another part of it.

There are no parochial charities. The poor constantly relieved are about six, casually three.

HARTY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Sittingborne.

The church, which is a small building, consisting of a body, chancel, and two side chantries, with a pointed turret at the west end, is dedicated to St. Thomas the Apostle. It was formerly part of the possessions of the

See Morant's Hist. of Essex, vol. i. p. 396, 459.

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Benedictine nunnery of Davington, to which it was appropriated before the 8th year of king Richard II. anno 1384, and it continued part of the possessions of it at the time of its escheating to the crown in the reign of Henry VIII. when it was esteemed as a parsonage appropriated, with the advowson of the vicarage of the church annexed. It was afterwards granted to Sir Thomas Cheney, and by his son Henry sold to Richard Thornhill, esq. whose descendant sold it to Jacob Sawbridge, esq. whose great-grandson, Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, is now entitled to it, of all which a more ample account has already been given.

In the 35th year of Henry VIII. the yearly stipend to the curate of Harty was 6l. 13s. 4d.

This church is set down in the king's books as a rectory, and valued at 20l. 6s. 0¹/₂d. the tenths of

which, being 2l. 0s. 7¹/₄d. are paid to the crown receiver, and not to the archbishop. The cure of it has been many years esteemed as a vicarage; the vicar has a stipend of twenty pounds per annum paid to him, in lieu of tithes, and divine service is performed here, except in very severe weather, once in a fortnight.

In 1578 there were communicants here forty-seven; in 1640 communicants fifty.

CHURCH OF HARTY.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS

John Sawbridge, esq. Wanley Sawbridge, 1760, obt.
1796./u

Samuel Elias Sawbridge, esq. Mordaunt Leathes, 1796, the
present vicar.

/u Brother to the patron and vicar of Stalisfield.

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THE HUNDRED OF TENHAM.

HAVING described the whole of the Island of Shepey, and its appendages of Emley and Harty, I return to the main land of the county of Kent, where the next hundred adjoining to that of Milton, eastward, is the hundred of Tenham, which was so called in the 7th year of king Edward I. the archbishop of Canterbury being then lord of it.

THIS HUNDRED CONTAINS WITHIN ITS BOUNDS THE PARISHES OF

1. TENHAM.
2. LINSTED; and
3. DODDINGTON.

And the churches of those parishes, and likewise a small part of the parishes of HEDCORNE, IWADE, and EASTCHURCH, the churches of which are in other hundreds. Two constables have jurisdiction over it.

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TENHAM.

TENHAM, called in Saxon, Teynham, and now frequently written so, is the next parish south-eastward from Bapchild, and gives name to the hundred in which it is situated.

THE MANOR, which comprehends the hundred of Tenham, was given by Cenulph, king of Mercia, at the request of archbishop Athelard, by the description of twelve ploughlands, lying at Tenham, to the metropolitan church of our Saviour at Canterbury; and he made this gift chiefly on account of the archbishop's having given to him in recompence, twelve ploughlands lying at Cregesemeline, which king Offa formerly gave to one of his earls, named Uffa; and the

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king granted this land to the church of Christ, free from all secular service, except the repairing of bridges and the building of castles.

The above place, called Creges Emeline, has been

understood to mean the fleet, or pool of water between the islands of Emley and Harty, in Shepey, now and long since called Crogs-depe, which water parts the royalty of the Swale between Tenham and Faversham, and is likewise the bounds of the hundreds of Middleton and Faversham./w

This manor continued part of the possessions of the church of Canterbury when archbishop Lanfranc came to the see in the year 1070, being the 5th of the Conqueror's reign: and on the division which he soon afterwards made of the revenues of his church, between himself and his convent, Tenham was allotted to the archbishop and his successors, for their provision and maintenance.

After which the succeeding archbishops so far improved the buildings of this manor-house, as to make it fit for their frequent residence.

Archbishop Hubert Walter, a most magnificent prelate; the expence of whose housekeeping was esteemed nearly equal to that of the king, resided much at Tenham, where he died in the year 1205, and was carried from thence and buried in his own cathedral at Canterbury.

Archbishop Boniface, anno 44 Henry III. 1259, obtained both a market and fair for his manor of Tenham, the former on a Tuesday weekly, and the latter to continue for three days yearly at the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. Archbishop Walter Reynolds was resident here in the beginning of the winter of the year 1325, one of his instruments being dated from hence. Archbishop John Stratford, who filled the see in the reign of Edward III. entertained that prince here in the

/w Philipott, p. 336. See Battely's Somner, pt. ii. p. 67.

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month of February, anno 1345, being the 19th of his reign, several of his letters patent bearing date from Tenham in that time.

The manor of Tenham remained part of the see of Canterbury, so far as I have learned, till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when it was exchanged with the crown for other premises, where it lay till James I. in his 5th year, granted it to John Roper, esq. of the adjoining parish of Linsted, whom he afterwards, in the 14th year of his reign, knighted and created lord Teynham, in whose successors, lords Teynham, the property of this manor has continued down to the Right Hon. Henry Roper, the twelfth lord Teynham, who is the present possessor of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

There are several different customs of the tenants of this manor, principally in the Weald, mentioned in Somner's Gavelkind.

FROGENHALL, usually called Frognall, is a manor situated near the marshes, in the western part of this parish, about half a mile northward of the great London road. It is frequently written in antient records and deeds, Frogenball Valence, by which name Leland likewise distinguishes it in his Itinerary, stiling it in the margin, Frogenhale Valaunce, and says, 'The maner of Frogenhale, communely callid Frogenolle, yoinith to the quarteres of Thong castelle, in Kent, by Siding=

burne, and is of a XLV li. rent by yere: of this very auncient house was a knight that did great feates in France, and is written of – Frogenhalle, that is now, was sunne to one of the Saint John's daughters, the beste of that stokke: and this Saint John of Bedforde or Northamptonshir, had VI or VII daughters, that after were very welle married.' By this addition it

/x It appears by the Rolls in the Augmentation-office, that queen Elizabeth granted several parcels of the manor lands to different persons See Roll 1, No. 2. – Roll 3, No. 29, 51, 53. and Roll 4, No. 34.

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should seem once to have belonged to the respectable family of Valence, or De Valentia, two of whom were successively earls of Pembroke, from the reign of king Henry III. to that of king Edward II. when it became extinct. In the next reign of Edward III. it was come into the possession of a family, to which it gave both name and residence; for Richard de Frogenhall resided here, and died possessed of it in the 33d year of that reign. In whose descendants residents here, who bore for their arms, Argent, three bars, sable, as they are still remaining in the windows of the Frognall chancel, in this church, and are carved in stone on the roof of Canterbury cloysters, it continued down to Thomas Frogenhall, who leaving no male issue by Joane his wife, daughter and heir of William de Apulderfield, his daughter and heir Anne carried this manor in marriage to Thomas Quadring, of London, who bore for his arms, Ermine, a fess engrailed, gules, and he in like manner leaving one sole daughter Joane, his heir, she entitled her husband, Richard Driland, of Cooksditch, in Faversham, to the possession of it. By her, who was by his first wife, for by his second he seems to have left issue likewise, he had only one daughter Katherine, who became heir to her mother's inheritance, and marrying with Reginald Norton, esq. of Lees court, in Sheldwich, he in her right became possessed of it, at the latter end of the reign of king Henry VII./y His son, Sir John Norton, of Northwood, seems to have sold this manor to Sir Thomas Wyatt, who in the 33d year of king Henry VIII. passed away the manor of Froggynehale Valence, among other premises, to the king (who seems to have been in the possession of it two years before) in exchange for other manors and lands, pursuant to an act passed for that purpose the year before.

/y Attested pedigree in manuscript of Norton.

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It continued but a small time in the hands of the crown; for the king, in his 37th year, granted it to Thomas Green, to hold in capite by knight's service. He was usually stiled Thomas Norton, alias Green, being the natural son of Sir John Norton before-mentioned, the former possessor of this manor. He died in the 6th year of king Edward VI. leaving two sons, Norton Green, who left an only daughter and heir, married to Sir Mark Ive, of Essex, and Robert Green, gent. who was of Bobbing, whose descendants settled in Ireland; on his death this manor descended to his

eldest son Norton Green, and again by the marriage of his only daughter and heir to Sir Mark Ive, who was owner of it in the reign of king James I. Soon after which it was alienated to Ralph Clerke, esq. who resided at Frognall, where he died in 1619, and was buried in this church. His son, Ralph Clerke, esq. likewise resided here at the latter end of king Charles I.'s reign, being firmly attached to the king's interest, for which he suffered much, his estates in 1652 being declared by parliament to be forfeited for treason against the estate. However, at the reformation, he became again possessed of them, and this manor continued in his descendants until the 9th year of queen Anne's reign, when Geo. Clerke, esq. the possessor of it, having obtained an act for that purpose, sold it to Mr. Joseph Taylor, merchant, of London, who by his will devised it to his nephew Joseph Taylor, esq. of Sandford, near Great Tew, in Oxfordshire, who had been sheriff of that county, and he died possessed of it in 1733, having by his will given it to his brother William Taylor, esq. whose eldest son, James Taylor, esq. of Sandford, is the present owner of it. He bears for his arms, Quarterly, argent and sable, a cross story counterchanged, in the first quarter, a ducal coronet, gules. There is no court held for this manor.

Archbishop Hubert Walter, who sat in the see of Canterbury at the latter end of king Richard I. and

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the beginning of king John's reign, in his general confirmation of the possessions of St. Gregory's priory at Canterbury, confirmed to it the tenth of wine at Tenham, a kind of donation which appears by others of the like kind to other religious houses, to have been esteemed at that time of no small value.

TENHAM OUTLANDS, alias NEW-GARDENS, is an estate in this parish adjoining to the north side of the London road at Greenstreet, which was part of the demesne lands of the manor of Tenham, and part of the possessions of the Ropers, lords Teynham, but in 1714 it had been alienated from that family, and was become the property of Sir Robert Furnese, bart. of Waldersshare. After which it descended in like manner as his other estates in this county, as may be seen hereafter more at large under Waldersshare, to his daughter (by his second wife) Catherine, countess of Rockingham, who afterwards remarried with Francis North, earl of Guildford, by whom she had no issue, and dying in 1766, gave by her will this, among the rest of her estates, to him and his grandson, the right honourable George Augustus, earl of Guildford, the present possessor of it.

ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE of the London road, and at the south-east boundary of this parish, adjoining to Norton, is a small hamlet of houses, called LEWSON-STREET, in which there is a capital messuage called Lewson house, which was formerly the estate and residence of a branch of the family of Adye, and several coats of arms of them and their marriages, in painted glass, were remaining in the windows of it till within these few years. Nicholas Adye, esq. resided here in the reign of king James I. on whose death it became the property of his three daughters, by Jane his wife,

daughter of Thomas Sare, esq. of Provender, Sarah, wife of John Kennet, and Anne and Martha Adye, who in 1638, alienated this estate, by a joint conveyance, to Mr. James Tong, from which name it passed by sale, in 1676, to Sir James Bunce, bart. of Kemsing,

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whose eldest surviving son Sir James Bunce, of Kemsing, alienated it in 1714, to Mr. Joseph Hasted, gent. of Chatham, whose grandson, Edward Hasted, esq. of Canterbury, sold it in 1787, to Henry Prat, esq. of Harbledown. He died in 1794, leaving one daughter Mary, (who afterwards married John Scott, esq. of Newry, in the kingdom of Ireland) and his widow surviving; he by will devised it to his widow for life, and afterwards to his said daughter, and they have lately sold the same to Mr. Walker, of Sittingbourn, who is the present possessor of it.

THE LOWER SIDE of the hamlet of Greenstreet, at the 43d mile stone on the high London road, is within this parish, the whole of which, (excepting the small part at the south-east corner, which stretches up to Norton, as has been already mentioned before) lies on the northern side of the road, where about a mile northward of Greenstreet, on a small rise, is the church, and a little further below it the village of Tenham, not far from which are the marshes, which reach to the waters of the Swale, and are the boundaries of this parish on that side. On a small creek in these marshes is Conyers key, much used for the shipping of corn and goods from this part of the county, near which there is an oil mill established, lately belonging to the Best's. The air of this place is very unhealthy, for lying so low, and near so large a tract of marshes, it is much subject to unwholesome air arising from them, so that the inhabitants, are almost always subject to agues and intermittents, and are, in general, but very short lived. This has been the occasion of that well-known proverb in this part of the county,

He that will not live long,
Let him dwell at Murston, Tenham or Tong.

It is situated in a fine level country, the fields of which are large, and the land exceedingly rich and fertile, like that in the neighbouring parishes in this ex-

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tensive vale, most of it being what is called in these parts round tilt land, such as has already been described in the adjoining parishes of Bapchild and Tong. It was formerly noted for large plantations of fruit trees; but these are mostly displanted, many of them to make way for hops, of which there are several kindly plantations in different parts of it.

Lambarde says, that this parish, with thirty others lying on each side of the great road from Rainham to Blean-wood, was in his time the cherry-garden and apple-orchard of Kent, and such it undoubtedly continued till within memory. Tenham, he says, was the parent from whence the other plantations issued: for Richard Hayns, fruiterer to king Henry VIII. having observed that those plants, which had been brought over by our Norman ancestors, had lost their native excellence by

length of time, and that we were served from foreign parts with these fruits on that account, which he saw no reason for, as neither the soil nor climate here were unequal to the bringing of them to perfection, determined to try a plantation of them here; for which purpose, having, in 1533, obtained one hundred and five acres of rich land, then called the Brennet, and having, with great care, good choice, and no small labour and cost, brought plants from beyond the seas, he furnished this ground with them in rows, in the most beautiful order. These fruits consisted of the sweet cherry, from hence usually called the Kentish cherry; the temperate pippin, hence for the like reason called the Kentish pippin, and the golden renate; /z which sorts, especially the first and last, have been long propagated from these in great quantities, throughout the southern parts of this kingdom; but the Kentish pippin is now hardly to be met with, even in this county. Pliny, in his Natural History, book xv. chap. 25, says, cherries were not in Italy before L. Lucullus's victory over Mithridatus,

/z Lamb. Peramb. p. 263. See some observations on the above in Dr. Bulleyn's life, Biog. Brit. p. 1020, note [A.]

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king of Pontus; after which, in the year of Rome, 689, he first brought them out of Pontus thither, one hundred and twenty years after which they were transported into Britain.

In the year 1771 a commission of sewers passed the great seal, for the levels of Tenham, Tong, and Ludenham, which has since, in the usual course of such commissions, been again renewed.

Near the high London road on the left hand, about a quarter of a mile eastward from Greenstreet, there is a field called Sandown, which is encompassed with a bank, from which it rises to an hill, on the summit of which is a small coppice of wood, in which there is a tumulus or barrow, which, by the hollowness at the top of it, seems to have been plundered of its contents. Dr. Plot was of opinion, that this work was thrown up by the Romans. At a small distance westward is a green and hamlet of houses, called Barrow-green, most probably from this circumstance.

THE PARISH of Tenham, or Teynham, gives title of baron to the right hon. Henry Roper, lord Teynham, whose ancestor Sir John Roper, was created lord Teynham, baron of Teynham, by patent, on July 9, in the 14th year of king James I. anno 1616, of whom and his descendants, lords Teynham, a full account will be given in the description of their seat, at Lodge, in the adjoining parish of Linsted.

CHARITIES.

TEN SHILLINGS yearly, in lieu of corn reserved in the lease, are paid out of the great tithes to the poor of this parish, on St. Thomas's day.

THOMAS BROOKE, by his will in 1669, devised to the poor of this parish, the sum of 40s. to be paid yearly on Christmas-day, out of a farm at Deerston street, in Tenham.

The poor constantly relieved are about thirty, casually about seventy.

TENHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS=

DICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

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The church, which is large, is dedicated to St. Mary. It is built in the form of a cross, and consists of three isles, a high chancel, and a north and south chancel, having a square tower at the west end, in which are four bells. In the south cross or chancel, called the Frogal chancel, from its belonging to that manor, lie buried several of that family; over John Frogenhall, who died in 1444, there still remains a brass on his gravestone, with his figure habited in armour; several of the Clerks, owners of this manor, lie buried likewise in it. The north chancel is called the Hinkley chancel, from a family of that name, one of whom, John Hencliff, of Tenham, died in 1463, possessed of an estate in this parish, called Jonathan's garden, which he devised to his two sons, on condition that they should glaze a long window on the north head of this church. In this chancel is a stone, with an inscription and figure of a man in brass, for William Wreke, obt. 1533; a memorial for John Sutton, vicar, 1468, and Robert Heyward, in 1509. Weever says, there was a memorial in this church for William Mareys, and Joan his wife, but it has been long since obliterated. There are remains of good painted glass in the windows. Several of them have rich gothic canopies of beautiful coloured glass remaining in them, which had no doubt formerly figures of equal beauty, underneath. In the south window of the high chancel, is the portrait of a girl in blue, kneeling and pointing to a book, which is held by a man, who likewise points with his hand to it; at the bottom was an inscription, of which only remains, Sedis aplice pthonotarii. In the north chancel, in two windows near the vestry, is a figure in an episcopal habit, mitred, &c. with these arms, Ermine, three bars wavy, azure. In the window of the vestry room, a mitre and these arms, Per pale and fess, counterchanged, azure, and argent.

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Archbishop Stephen Langton, in 1227, on account of the slender income of the archdeaconry of Canterbury, and the affection he bore towards his brother Simon Langton, then archdeacon, united to it the churches of Hackington, alias St. Stephen's, and Tenham, with the chapelries of Doddington, Linsted, Stone, and Iwade, then belonging to it, which churches were then of the archbishop's patronage; and this was confirmed by the chapter of the priory of Christchurch directly afterwards; at which time this church was let to farm for one hundred marcs./a In which situation this church has continued to this time, the archdeacon of Canterbury being the present patron and appropriator of it.

The chapels above-mentioned, which are all belonging to the archdeaconry, have long since, excepting the chapel of Stone, become independent parish churches, and as such not subject to any jurisdiction of the church of Tenham.

In the 8th year of Richard II. anno 1384, this

church was valued at 133l. 6s. 8d. It is now of the annual value of about two hundred pounds, the yearly rent to the archdeacon is thirty-five pounds.

It is a vicarage, and valued in the king's books at ten pounds, and the yearly tenths at one pound, and is now of the yearly certified value of 63l. 13s. 4d. In 1640 it was valued at sixty pounds. Communi= cants one hundred.

This vicarage was augmented ten pounds per an= num, by lease in 1672, between archdeacon Parker and Sir William Hugessen, of Linsted, lessee of the parsonage.

The family of Furnese were afterwards lessees of the parsonage; Henry Furnese, esq. sold it to Henry, late lord Teynham, who, in 1754, alienated his in=

/a Somner's Cant. p. 156. Append. p. 65.

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terest in it to Mr. Kempe, the occupier of it, in whose family it still continues.

There was a chantry in this church, which was suppressed, among other such endowments, by the acts of 37 Henry VIII. and 1 Edward VI. In the 2d year of the latter reign a survey was returned of it, by which it appears, that the land belonging to it lay in Frogenhall manor, then the property of Thomas Green, and that the total yearly value of it was only 18s. 8d.

CHURCH OF TENHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Queen, during the vacancy. Charles Fotherby, S. T. B. Oct. 9, 1595, resigned 1600.

The Archdeacon. John Graye, S. T. B. Nov. 9, 1600, resigned 1600.

William Hull, S. T. B. March 24, 1600, resigned 1604.

Christopher Pashlye, A. M. Dec. 18, 1604, obt. 1612./b

Edward Hirst, S. T. B. Aug. 1, 1612, obt. 1618.

Isaac Colfe, A. M. May 20, 1618.

John Gooffe, A. M. March 4, 1635, resigned 1642.

Thomas Miller, A. M. Nov. 4, 1642, obt. 1660./c

Thomas Cator, A. M. Sept. 13, 1660, resigned 1663.

Henry Eve, S. T. P. August 11, 1663, obt. March 4, 1685./d

Jeremiah Taylor, obt. 1688./e

Thomas Stanton, A. B. Oct. 26, 1688, obt. 1708.

James Eve, A. M. July 29, 1708, obt. March 1743./f

/b And vicar of Linsted, as was his successor.

/c And rector of St. Mary's, Sand= wich.

/d He was likewise vicar of Linsted,
where he lies buried.

/e And rector of Buckland, near
Faversham.

/f And rector of Midley and of
Buckland.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

The Archdeacon. John Swinton, A. M. 1743, re=
signed 1753.

James Allet, A. M. Nov. 7,
1753, obt. July 15, 1776.

William Granger, A. M. Nov.
15, 1776, obt. May, 1778.

John Cautley, A. M. Oct. 1778.
obt. March 1, 1797./g

..... Owen, April, 1797, the
present vicar.

/g And rector of St. Rumbold's, in Colchester, and of the sinecure rectory
of Hollingborne.

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LINSTED.

THE next parish southward from Tenham is Lin=
sted, which lies adjoining the high London road, at
the 43d mile-stone at Green-street, the south side of
which is within the bounds of it, hence the ground
rises towards the south to the village, which, with the
church, is situated near the centre of it. It is a situa=
tion more pleasant than it is healthy, especially in the
lower part of it. The lands below the village are very
fertile, much like those of Tenham described before,
having several hop-grounds of a kindly growth, inters=
persed throughout them; but southward of the vil=
lage, the land lying still higher, approaches the chalk
and becomes stony and much less fertile, till it joins
Doddington, its southern boundary, not far from
which is Linsted-lodge, a fine old mansion of the time
of king James I. situated not very pleasantly, in a low
part of the park, which however has been for some
years disparked, and most of it let out in farms. On
the west side of it is a seat called Dadmans, formerly
Dodmannys, so called from a family of that name. It
was, in the reign of Henry VII. in the possession of
William Apulderfield, of Faversham. The fee of it

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has for many years belonged to the Ropers, lords
Teynham; it is occupied by the hon. Philip Roper,
uncle to the present lord Teynham. A little below
Dadmans is an estate, called Bumpit, belonging like=
wise to lord Teynham. On the opposite or north-west
part of the parish, close to the south side of the high
London road, near Radfield, is an estate called Clax=
field, which was the residence of the family of Green=
street, who were possessed of many good estates in this
part of the county, for several generations. After
which it became the property of Mr. George Smith,
whose daughter Jane sold it to John Sawbridge, esq.
of Ollantigh, and his son Samuel-Elias Sawbridge,

esq. is the present owner of it.

About half a mile from the London road, beyond Green-street, at the north-east corner of the parish, is a house called Nowdes, which was part of the possessions of the family of Greenstreet likewise, in which it continued till Peter Greenstreet, in 1703, alienated it to Mr. John Smith, gent. whose daughter having married Mr. T. Barling, gent. he resided here, and died in 1770, leaving two sons, John Smith, (to whom his grandfather, Mr. John Smith, bequeathed this seat) and Philip, of London, surgeon, and one daughter Dorothy, married to Mr. Edward Dering, of Dodington. John Smith Barling, gent. of Faversham, the son, on his father's death, took possession of this seat, in which he at times resided. He died in 1795, leaving one son and two daughters, (one of whom lately married Mr. Lushington Taylor, of Rodmersham,) and they are now jointly intitled to it.

At Greenstreet, on May 12, there is a fair annually for horses and cattle.

Bartholomew Fowle, alias Linsted, a native of this place, was the last prior of St. Mary Overie, London, being elected to that office anno 1513. He was a learned man, and wrote a book, De Ponte Londini.

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About thirty years ago a large chesnut tree was felled in Lodge park, which was sawed off close to the ground: in the centre of it, where the saw crossed, was a cavity, of about two inches diameter, in which was a live toad, which filled the space entirely. The wood of the tree was, to all appearance, perfectly sound all round it, without any the smallest aperture whatever. The tree itself was six feet in circumference.

THE MANOR of the hundred of Tenham claims over this parish, subordinate to which is THE MANOR OF BADMANGORE, with THE MANORS OF LODGE and NEWNHAM united, the former of which, though it is but little known at present, either as to its name or situation, yet in early times was eminent, by having for its proprietors successively, the Cheneys and Apulderfields, families of no small repute in this county.

Sir Alexander de Cheney, of Patixborne, the seat of this family, where they had been settled for some generations, was one of those Kentish gentlemen, who attended king Edward I. in his victorious expedition into Scotland, in the 28th year of his reign, and being present at the siege of Carlaverock, in that kingdom, was knighted by him there, with many other of the gentry of this county. His son William de Cheney died possessed of the manor of Badmangore, in the 8th year of Edward III. having married Margaret, daughter and heir of Sir Robert de Shurland, in whose right he became entitled to the seat of Shurland, with many other estates in this county. His son Sir Robert Cheney, sold it before the 27th year of that reign, to William de Apulderfield, who made it his chief residence, and kept his shrievalty here in the year above-mentioned, and in several years afterwards. He was descended from Henry de Apulderfeld, of Apulderfeld, in Cowdham, who, with his son Henry,

/h See vol. ii. of this history, p. 69.

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were, with other Kentish gentlemen, with Richard I. at the siege of Acon, in Palestine, where, on account of their bravery, they had granted to them an augmentation to their arms, which they and their descendants continued afterwards to bear, viz. Sable, a cross, or, voided of the field, their original arms being, Ermine, a fess vair, or, and gules. His great-grandson Sir William de Apulderfield was a man of much note in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. He left an only daughter Elizabeth, who became his heir to this manor, among the rest of his estates, which she carried in marriage to Sir John Fineux, chief justice of the king's bench in the reigns of king Henry VII. and VIII. He died in the 17th year of the latter reign, anno 1525,ⁱ leaving two daughters his coheirs, Jane, married to John Roper, esq. of Eltham, and Mildred, to James Diggs, esq. of Barham.

The origin of the family of Roper has been very fully treated of in the first volume of this history, p. 472, under the description of Eltham, where the eldest branch of it remained till within memory, and the descent of it is there brought down to the above-mentioned John Roper, esq.

On the division of their inheritance, this manor, among others, was allotted to John Roper, in right of his wife. He was prothonotary of the king's bench, and attorney-general to Henry VIII. and died in 1524, at his manor of Welhall, in Eltham, to which he had removed from St. Dunstan's, the antient seat of the family. He left two sons, William Roper, esq. clerk of the king's bench, who succeeded him at Eltham, and Christopher, ancestor of the lords Teynham, and six daughters.

Christopher Roper, esq. the second son, succeeded his father in the manor of Badmangore, and its ap=

ⁱ See Spelman's Glossary, p. 343, and more of the family of Fineux under Herne.

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pendages, at the manor-house of which he resided; it stood on the east side of the park, but on the family's removing their residence from it, it was suffered to decay and run to ruin. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter and coheir of Christopher Blore, esq. of Rainham, he had several children, of whom John Roper, esq. the eldest son, succeeded him in this manor. He was knighted in 1616, anno 14 James I. and on the same day created lord Teynham, baron of Teynham in this county, as a reward for his forward attachment to the king's interest, having been the first man of note who proclaimed the king in this county. He built the present seat of Linsted lodge, and inclosed a park round it, and afterwards made it his residence. He died in 1618, and was buried in the vault which he had made in the south chancel of this church.

His descendants, lords Teynham, continued to reside at Linsted lodge, all of whom lie buried in this church, down to Christopher, lord Teynham, the fifth in succession, who in 1687 was constituted lord-lieu=

tenant and custos rotulorum of this county. He died at Brussels next year, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Francis Brown, viscount Montague, by whom he had several sons and daughters, of the former, John, Christopher and Henry, became all three successively lords Teynham, the latter succeeding to the title and estate on the deaths of his two elder brothers unmarried, and became the eighth lord Teynham. He died in 1716, leaving by his first wife two sons, Philip and Henry, successively lords Teynham, and by his third wife the lady Anne, second daughter and coheir of Thomas Lennard, earl of Sussex, and widow of Richard Barret Lennard, lord Dacre, remarried thirdly to the hon. Robert Moore, he likewise left issue, whose descendant became afterwards, in her right, intitled to the fee barony of Dacre. He was succeeded by his eldest son Philip, lord Teynham, who died unmarried in 1727, upon which the title and estate de-

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volved to his next and only whole brother Henry, lord Teynham, who left by his first wife Catherine, daughter and coheir of Edward Powell, esq. of Sandford, in Oxfordshire, five sons and two daughters, of whom Henry the eldest son, on his death in 1781, succeeded him as lord Teynham, and married first Mary-Wilhelmina, eldest daughter of Sir Francis Head, bart. (whose second daughter and coheir married John his next brother) who died s. p. and secondly Betsy, widow of John Mills, esq. of the island of St. Christopher, and daughter of Mr. Webber, of Somersetshire, by whom he had two sons Henry and John, and two daughters. He died in 1786, and was succeeded by his eldest son Henry, being the present right hon. lord Teynham, and the twelfth lord, in succession from the first grant of the title. He has never resided at the Lodge, which has been for some years occupied by different tenants, and the greatest part of the park converted into farms of arable land. He is at present unmarried, and still continues the proprietor of these estates, with Colyers and Newnham farm, and others in this parish. He bears for his arms, Party per fess, azure, and or, a pale and three roebucks heads erased, counterchanged; for his crest, On a wreath, a lion rampant, sable, holding a ducal coronet between his paws, or; and for his supporters, on the dexter side, a buck, or; on the sinister, a tiger reguardant, argent. And he has likewise a right to quarter with those of Roper, the several coats of Apledore, St. Laurence, Tattersal, Apulderfield, the same for service, Twite, Parke, and Hugdon, as appeared by a pedigree in the possession of Edward Roper, esq. of Welhall, in Eltham, attested and collected by John Philipott, Somerset herald in 1629.

SEWARDS, is a manor which had an antient seat in this parish, and in very early times was the residence of a family of that name, in which it continued till about the reign of Henry V. when Richard Seward

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leaving an only daughter and heir Elizabeth, she carried it in marriage to John Finch, esq. second son of Vincent Herbert, alias Finch, of Netherfield, in Sus-

sex, whose eldest son William Herbert, alias Finch, was ancestor of the Finch's, earls of Winchelsea and Nottingham, and others of that name at different times enobled, all of whom bore the same coat of arms.

John Finch, esq. died possessed of Swards in 1442, anno 21 Henry VI. and was buried at Sevington. His grandson John Finch, esq. was of Swards, and left two sons, Herbert, who was of Linsted, from whom descended the Finch's, of Linsted, Norton, Faversham, and Wye, and other younger branches of that name; and Thomas Finch, the second son, who was of Kingsdown, from whom descended those of that parish and of Stalisfield.^{/k}

Herbert Finch, the eldest son, became possessed of Swards on his father's death, and from him it descended to William Finch, esq. who dying without issue male in the reign of queen Elizabeth, his only daughter and heir Catherine carried it in marriage to Sir Drue Drury, gentleman usher of the privy chamber, the fifth son of Sir Robert Drury, of Edgerly, in Buckinghamshire, who bore for his arms, Argent, on a chief vert, a Roman T between two mullets, or, and was descended lineally from John Drury, esq. of that place, son and heir of Drury, one of the Norman nobles, who came in with king William the Conqueror.^{/l} He built a large and handsome seat in this parish, opposite to the church, and resided in it. His son Sir Drue Drury, in the beginning of the reign of king Charles I. resided at the seat built by his father as before-mentioned, which he alienated to Mr. James

^{/k} Philipott, p. 224. Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Finch. Le Neve's MSS. papers.

^{/l} MSS. Pedigree, drawn by Ne Neve.

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Hugessen, merchant adventurer of Dover, who kept his shrievalty at it in the 17th year of Charles I. He was the son of James Hugessen, of Dover, merchant adventurer, who bore for his arms, Argent, on a mount vert, an oak proper, between two boars erect, sable, armed, or, as did his descendants afterwards. He died in 1646, and was buried in the chapel on the north side of the chancel of this church, which has continued the burial-place of his descendants to this time. He left six sons and one daughter, of whom William the eldest, succeeded him in this seat, and John the second son was a merchant adventurer of Dover, where a branch of this family remained many years afterwards in that line. After the restoration of king Charles II. William Hugessen, the eldest son, having removed his residence to Provender, in the adjoining parish of Norton, where he kept his shrievalty in 1671, in which year he was knighted, this house was pulled down, but the scite of it remained the property of his descendants, down to William Western Hugessen, esq. of Provender, whose two surviving daughters and coheirs, Mary, married to Edward Knatchbull, esq. who has since his father's death succeeded to the title of baronet, and Sarah, to Sir Joseph Banks, bart. since K. B. and privy counsellor, have entitiled their respective husbands to the possession of it. There are

still the garden walls, and some other such remains of this mansion left.

BUT THE MANOR AND MANSION OF SEWARDS, which is a large building, was alienated by Sir Drue Drury's heirs, about the year 1670, to William Finch, esq. though whether he was a descendant of the former owners of this name I have not found, and he died possessed of it, as appears by the court-rolls of Tenham manor, in 1672, whose heir, in 1677, alienated it to Mr. John George, in which name it continued till by a female heir, Jane George, it went in marriage to Vincent Underdowne, gent. of Dover, who was a distributor of stamps; but he becoming

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greatly in arrears on that account, an extent was issued from the exchequer, and this estate continued till about the year 1773, in the hands of government, when all debts being satisfied, which were due to it, it was ordered by a decree of that court to be sold, to satisfy the costs and expences, which had accrued by the proceedings on it, which it was accordingly soon afterwards to Mr. John Smith Barling, gent. of Faversham, who died in 1795, leaving one son and two daughters, who are now entitled to it.

Henry Eve, D. D. vicar of this parish and of Tenham, died in 1685, possessed of a capital house, called Edwards, in Linsted, where he resided; the heirs of whose grandson of the same name, some years afterwards sold it to John Sympson, esq. of Canterbury, whose widow Mrs. Mary Sympson afterwards possessed it, on whose death it came to Mr. Baptist Sympson, whose heir is the present owner of it, but it is now in the state of a mean cottage.

CHARITIES.

JOHN WESTON, of this parish, by his will in 1482, ordered, that his feoffees should make an estate to twelve of the most sufficient men of the parish, in a tenement called Goddys-house, with a garden and land adjoining, in this parish; the profits to be applied by them to find an obit yearly for ever, on the day of his anniversary, and the residue to the repair of the church for ever. And he ordered, that his feoffees should yearly permit the parishioners to occupy one piece of land, in a field called Chirchefielde, to the making a place called a pleying-place, on holy-days, and other fit days, for ever, on condition that the parishioners should keep the fence of it, and the profits of the pasture of the piece of land to remain to his house, called Weston tenement, yearly for ever. — This is still called the Playstool; being a meadow of between three and four acres, and is part of the estate of Mr. Baptist Sympson. It is situated opposite the vicarage-house. There is a house belonging to Mr. Tappenden, of London, situated at the end of the vicarage meadow, called the School house. The report of the parish is, that there was once a free school there, which by some means or other the parish has been deprived of.

TEN SHILLINGS, in lieu of corn, is yearly paid to the poor of this parish by the lessee of the parsonage, by covenant in his lease.

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THERE were 20s. per annum paid to the poor of this parish, out of a farm called Theobalds, near Erriot-wood. It was paid

in 1695, by Mr. Tong, of Sittingborne, as it has been several times since, though it does not appear by whom. This payment has been withheld for some years pa<st>.

LINSTED is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which stands on the south side of the village, is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It is a handsome building, and consists of three isles and three chancels. The steeple, which is a spired shaft, covered with shingles, stands at the north west corner of it: in it is a ring of five bells. William Apulderfield, of Faversham, was a benefactor to it by his will anno 1487, in which he directed his wife to repair the buttresses of the wall of the church-yard, on the east side of it, and to new shingle the chapel of our Lady in the church. In the Hugessen chancel are several brass plates and monuments likewise for that family, one of them an elegant one for William-Western Hugessen, esq. obt. 1764, æt. 29, and for his widow, obt. 1774, æt. 39; against the south pillar a tablet and inscription for Rodulph Wecherlin, esq. of Championcourt, obt. 1667; in the vault underneath lies his widow, remarried to Gideon Delaune, esq. obt. 1719; a monument on the north side of the chancel for Catherine, wife of Sir Drue Drury, obt. 1601. In the Teynham chancel are monuments for John Rooper, first lord Teynham, obt. 1618, and for Christopher, lord Teynham, obt. 1622, and no others, or even gravestones for this family. In the high chancel a brass for John Aiscough, esq. justice of peace, temp. Elizabeth, obt. 1601; another for John Worley, gent. of Skuddington, in Tong, obt. 1621, and his wife; in the east window, in a pane of glass of a lozenge form, is the figure of a venerable old man bearded, clad in purple, sitting in a gilt chair, holding a book open on

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his right hand, from which he looks forward as speaking or exhorting.

The church of Linsted was antiently esteemed as a chapel to the church of Tenham, as appears by the black book of the archdeacon of Canterbury, and was given and appropriated, with that church and its appendages, in 1227, by archbishop Stephen Langton, to that archdeaconry. It has long been independent of the church of Tenham, and still continues appropriated to the archdeacon, who is likewise patron of it.

It is a vicarage, valued in the king's books at 8l. 3s. 11½d. and is of the yearly certified value of 70l. 12s. 4d. the yearly tenths being 16s. 4¼d. In 1640 it was valued at one hundred pounds. Communicants two hundred and thirty-five.

Dr. Samuel Parker, archdeacon of Canterbury, at the instance of archbishop Sancroft, by lease, anno 27 Charles II. reserved the additional pension of ten pounds per annum to the vicar of Linsted and his successors. It pays no procurations to the archdeacon.

CHURCH OF LINSTED.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archdeacon of Canterbury. William Coste, obt. 1505./m
Christopher Pashley, A. M. April
28, 1589, obt. 1612./n
Edward Hirst, S. T. B. August
1, 1612, obt. 1618./o
Francis Fotherby, A. M. Sep=
tember 14, 1618, sequestered
1649./p
Henry Eve, S. T. P. obt. March
4, 1685./q

/m What is remarkable, he devised
by the name of Sir William Coste, vi=
car of Linsted, to Joane his wife, all
his lands, &c. as therein mentioned. –
The will was proved Dec. 18, 1505,
in Prerog. off. Cant.

/n And vicars of Tenham.

/o Ibid.

/p And also vicar of St. Clement's,
Sandwich. See White's Century, p. 4.
Walker's Suff. of the Clergy, pt. ii.
p. 244, 266.

/q And vicar of Tenham. He lies
buried in the chancel of this church.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

The Archdeacon William Wickens, A. M. obt.
Sept. 6, 1718./r

Charles Sturgis, A. M. Oct. 29,
1718, resigned 1729.

John Irons, A. M. August 7,
1726, obt. Nov. 1766./s

Henry Shove, A. M. Nov. 14,
1766, resigned 1767./t

Hopkins Fox, A. M. Oct. 20,
1767, obt. 1793./u

Stephen Tucker, A. M. 1793, the
present vicar./w

/r And rector of Easling, where he
lies buried.

/s He lies buried in this church.

/t He resigned this vicarage for the
rectory of Little Mongeham, as he
did that afterwards for the vicarage of
Doddington.

/u And rector of Rucking.

/w Before vicar of Limne.

DODDINGTON.

NEXT to that of Linsted south-eastward, is the
parish of Doddington, called in the record of Domes=
day, Dodeham.

THIS PARISH is about two miles across each way, it
lies the greatest part of it on the hills on the northern
side of the high road leading from Faversham through
Newnham valley over Hollingborne hill towards Maid=
stone. It is a poor but healthy situation, being much
exposed to the cold and bleak winds which blow up
through the valley, on each side of which the hills, which

are near the summit of them, interspersed with coppice woods, rise pretty high, the soil is mostly chalk, very barren, and much covered with flint stones. The village stands on the road in the valley, at the east end of it is a good house, called WHITEMANS, which formerly belonged to the family of Adye, and afterwards to that of Eve, of one of whom it was purchased by the Rev. Francis Dodsworth, who almost rebuilt it, and

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now resides in it. Upon the northern hill, just above the village, is the church, and close to it the vicarage, a neat modern sashed house; and about a mile eastward almost surrounded with wood, and just above the village of Newnham, the mansion of Sharsted, a gloomy retired situation.

Being within the hundred of Tenham, the whole of this parish is subordinate to that manor.

At the time of taking the above record, which was anno 1080, this place was part of the possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, the king's half brother; accordingly it is thus entered, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

The same Fulbert holds of the bishop Dodeham. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is In demesne there is one carucate and seventeen villeins, with ten borderers having two carucates. There is a church, and six servants, and half a fishery of three hundred small fish, and in the city of Canterbury five houses of seven shillings and ten pence. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth ten pounds. The bishop let it to ferm for ten pounds, when Fulbert received it, six pounds, and the like now. . . . Sired held it of king Edward.

Four years after which the bishop of Baieux was disgraced, and all his effects were confiscated to the crown.

PART OF THE above-mentioned estate was, most probably, THE MANOR OF SHARSTED, or, as it was antiently called Sahersted, the seat of which, called Sharsted-court, is situated on the hill just above the village of Newnham, though within the bounds of this parish.

This manor gave both residence and name to a family who possessed it in very early times, for Sir Simon de Sharsted died possessed of it in the 25th year of king Edward I. then holding it of the king, of the barony of Crevequer, and by the service of part of a knight's fee, and suit to the court of Ledes.

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Richard de Sharsted lies buried in this church, in the chapel belonging to this manor. Robert de Sharsted died possessed of it in the 8th year of king Edward III. leaving an only daughter and heir, married to John de Bourne, son of John de Bourne, sheriff several years in the reign of king Edward I. whose family had been possessed of lands and resided in this parish for some generations before. In his descendants this estate continued down to Bartholomew Bourne, who possessed it in the reign of Henry VI. in whose descendants resident at Sharsted, (who many of them lie buried in this church, and bore for their arms, Ermine, on a bend azure, three lions passant guardant, or)

this estate continued down to James Bourne, esq. who in the beginning of king Charles I.'s reign, alienated Sharsted to Mr. Abraham Delaune, merchant, of London, the son of Gideon Delaune, merchant, of the Black Friars there, who bore for his arms, Azure, a cross of Lozenges, or, on a chief gules, a lion passant-guardant of the second, holding in his dexter paw a fleur de lis; which was assigned to him by William Segar, garter, in 1612, anno 10 James I.

He resided at Sharsted, in which he was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir William Delaune, who resided likewise at Sharsted, where he died in 1667, and was buried in Doddington church. He was twice married; first to Anne, daughter and only heir of Tho. Haward, esq. of Gillingham, by whom he had an only daughter Anne, heir to her mother's inheritance. His second wife was Dorcas, daughter of Sir Robert Barkham, of Tottenham High Cross, (remarried to Sir Edward Dering) by whom he had a son William, and a daughter Mary, married to colonel Edward Thornicroft, of Westminster.

William Delaune, esq. the son, succeeded to this estate, and was knight of the shire for this county. He died in 1739, s. p. having married Anne, the widow of Arthur Swift, esq. upon which it passed by

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the entail in his will to his nephew Gideon Thornicroft, son of his sister Mary, widow of Edward Thornicroft, esq. by whom she had likewise three daughters, Dorcas, Elizabeth, and Anne. This branch of the family of Thornicroft was situated at Milcomb, in Oxfordshire, and was a younger branch of those of Thornicroft, in Cheshire. John Thornicroft, esq. of London, barrister-at-law, was younger brother of Edward Thornicroft, esq. of Cheshire, and father of John, created a baronet on August 12, 1701, and of colonel Edward Thornicroft above-mentioned. They bore for their arms, Vert, a mascle, or, between four cross-crosets, argent. Lieutenant-colonel Thornicroft was governor of Alicant, when that fortress was besieged in 1709, and perished there, by the explosion of a mine./x

Gideon Thornicroft, esq. possessed this estate but a small time, and dying in 1742, s. p. and being the last in the entail above-mentioned, he devised it by his will to his mother, Mrs. Mary Thornicroft, who dying in 1744, by her will devised to her two maiden daughters, Dorcas and Anne, this manor and seat, as well as all the rest of her estates, excepting Churchill farm in Doddington, which she gave to her second daughter Elizabeth, who had married George Nevill, lord Abergavenny, who died s. p. and lady Abergavenny, in her life-time, made a deed of gift of this farm, to her son Alured Pinke, esq. who now owns it.

They possessed this estate jointly till the death of Mrs. Dorcas Thornicroft, in 1759, when she by will devised her moiety of it, as well as the rest of her estates, except the Grange in Gillingham, to her sister Mrs. Anne Thornicroft, for her life, remainder in tail to her nephew Alured Pinke, barrister-at-law, son of Elizabeth, lady Abergavenny, her sister by her second husband Alured Pinke. esq. barrister-at-law, who had

/x See Tindal's Continuation of Rapin, vol. iv. p. 181.

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by her likewise a daughter Jane, married to the Rev. Henry Shove; upon this Mrs. Anne Thornicroft before-mentioned, became the sole possessor of this manor and estate, in which she resided till her death in 1791, æt. 90, upon which it came to her nephew, Alured Pinke, esq. before-mentioned, who married Mary, second daughter of Thomas Faunce, esq. of Sutton-at-Hone, by whom he has one son Thomas. He bears for his arms, Argent, five lozenges in pale, gules, within a bordure, azure, charged with three crosses pattee, fitchee. He resides here, and is the present possessor of this seat and estate. A court baron is held for this manor.

DOWNE-COURT is a manor in this parish, situated on the hill, about half a mile north westward from the church. In the reign of king Edward I. it was in the possession of William de Dodington, who in the 7th year of it did homage to archbishop Peckham for this manor, as part of a knight's fee, held of him by the description of certain lands in Doddington, called Le Downe. His descendant Simon de Dodington, paid aid for it in the 20th year of king Edward III. as appears by the Book of Aid; from him it passed into the family of Bourne, of Bishopsborne, whose ancestors were undoubtedly possessed of lands in this parish, so early as the reign of Henry III. for archbishop Boniface, who came to the see of Canterbury in the 29th year of it, granted to Henry de Bourne, one yoke of land, in the parish of Dudingtune, belonging to his manor of Tenham, which land he held in gavelkind, and might hold to him and his heirs, of the archbishop and his successors, by the service of part of a knight's fee, and by rent to the manor of Tenham.

His descendant John de Bourne lived in the reign of king Edward I. in the 17th year of which he obtained a charter of free warren for his lands in Bourne,

/y Rot. Claus. ejus an. N. 2. /z See Philipott, p.21.

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Higham, and Doddington, after which he was sheriff in the 22d and the two following years of it, as he was again in the 5th year of king Edward III. His son John de Bourne married the daughter and sole heir of Robert de Sharsted, by which he became possessed of that manor likewise, as has been already related, and in his descendants Downe-court continued till about the latter end of king Henry VI.'s reign, when it was alienated to Dungate, of Dungate-street, in Kingsdown, the last of which name leaving an only daughter and heir, she carried it in marriage to Killigrew, who about the beginning of Henry VIII. ending likewise in two daughters and coheirs, one of whom married Roydon, and the other Cowland, they, in right of their respective wives, became possessed of it in equal shares. The former, about the latter end of that reign, alienated his part to John Adye, gent. of Greet, in this parish, a seat where his ancestors had been resident ever since the reign of Edward III. for he was descended from John de Greet, of Greet, in

this parish, who lived there in the 25th year of that king's reign. His grandson, son of Walter, lived there in the reign of Henry V. and assumed the name of Adye./a This family bore for their arms, Azure, a fess dancette, or, between three cherubins heads, argent, crined of the second; which coat was confirmed by Sir John Segar, garter, anno 11 James I. to John Adye, esq. of Doddington, son and heir of John Adye, esq. of Sittingborne, and heir of John Adye, the purchaser of the moiety of this manor.

He possessed this moiety of Downe-court on his father's death, and was resident at Sittingborne. He died on May 9, 1612, æt. 66, and was buried in Doddington church, leaving issue by Thomasine his wife, daughter and coheir of Rich. Day, gent. of Tring, in Hertfordshire, one son John, and five daughters.

/a MSS. pedigree of Adye, in the hands of the earl of Radnor.

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John Adye, esq. the grandson of John, the first purchaser, succeeded at length to this moiety of Downe-court, and resided there, during which time he purchased of the heirs of Allen the other moiety of it, one of which name had become possessed of it by sale from the executors of Cowland, who by his will in 1540, had ordered it to be sold, for the payment of debts and legacies. He died possessed of the whole of this manor and estate, in 1660, and was buried in Nutsted church, of which manor he was owner. He left by his first wife several children, of whom John, the eldest, died s. p. Edward, the second, was of Barham in the reign of king Charles II. under which parish more of him and his descendants may be seen;/b and Nicholas was the third son, of whom mention will be made hereafter. By his second wife he had Solomon, who was of East Shelve, in Lenham, and other children.

Nicholas Adye, esq. the third son, succeeded to Downe-court, and married Jane, daughter of Edward Desbouverie, esq. Their eldest son, John Adye, succeeded to this manor, at which he resided till he removed to Beakesborne, at the latter end of Charles II.'s reign, about which time he seems to have alienated it to Creed, of Charing, in which name it continued till it was sold to Bryan Bentham, esq. of Sheerness, who devised it to his eldest son Edward Bentham, esq. of the Navy-office, who bore for his arms, Quarterly, argent and gules, a cross flory counterchanged; in the first and fourth quarters, a rose, gules, seeded, or, barbed vert; in the second and third quarters, a sun in its glory, or; being the arms given by queen Elizabeth to Thomas Bentham, D. D. bishop of Litchfield, on his being preferred to that see in 1559, the antient family arms of Bentham, of Yorkshire, being Argent, a bend between two cinquefoils, sable. Since his death this estate

/b See Nutsted, vol. iii. of this history, p. 353.

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has by his will become vested in trustees, to fulfil the purposes of it.

CHARITIES.

JOHN ADYE, ESQ. gave by will in 1660, 40s. to the poor of this parish, payable yearly out of Capel-hill, in Leysdown, the estate of Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq.

AN UNKNOWN PERSON gave 20s. per annum, payable out of an estate in Doddington, late belonging to the earl of Effingham, and now to the Rev. Francis Dodsworth.

TEN SHILLINGS are paid yearly at Christmas, to the poor of this parish, by the lessee of the parsonage by the reservation in his lease.

THE REV. MR. SOMERSCALES, vicar of this parish, by his will gave an Exchequer annuity of 14l. to be applied to the instructing of poor children in the Christian religion.

FORTY SHILLINGS are payable yearly at Michaelmas, out of a field formerly called Pyding, now St. John Shotts, belonging to Alured Pinke, esq. towards the repair of the church.

A PERSON UNKNOWN gave for the habitation of three poor persons, a house, now containing three dwellings.

The poor constantly relieved are about forty-five.

DODDINGTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. John Baptist, consists of a body and chancel, with a chapel or chantry on the south side of it, belonging to the Sharsted estate. At the west end is a low pointed steeple, in which are six bells. About the year 1650, the steeple of this church was set on fire by lightning, and much damaged. In this church are memorials for the Swalman's, Nicholson's of Homestall, and the Norton's, and in the south, or Sharsted chancel, there is a black marble of an antique form, and on a fillet of brass round the verge of it, in old French capitals, Hic Jacet Ricardus de Saherstada, with other letters now illegible, and memorials for the Bourne's and Delaune's.

The church of Doddington was antiently esteemed as a chapel to the church of Tenham, as appears by the Black Book of the archdeacon, and it was given

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and appropriated with that church and its appendages, in 1227, by archbishop Stephen Langton, to the archdeaconry. It has long since been independent of the church of Tenham, and still continues appropriated to the archdeacon, who is likewise patron of the vicarage of it.

Richard Wethershed, who succeeded archbishop Langton in 1229, confirmed the gift of master Girard, who whilst he was rector of the church of Tenham, granted to the chapel of Dudintune, that the tithes of twenty acres of the assart of Pidinge should be taken for the use of this chapel for ever, to be expended by the disposition of the curate, and two or three parishioners of credit, to the repairing of the books, vestments, and ornaments necessary to the chapel./c

It is valued in the king's books at fifteen pounds, and the yearly tenths at 1l. 10s. In the visitation of archdeacon Harpsfield, in 1557, this vicarage was returned to be of the value of twelve pounds; parishioners sixty, housholders thirty-two.

In 1569, at the visitation of archbishop Parker, it was returned, that the chapel of Doddington used to

be let to farm for forty pounds, and sometimes for less; that there were here communicants one hundred and thirteen, housholders thirty-five. In 1640 the vicarage was valued at thirty pounds; communicants one hundred and seven.

Archdeacon Parker, at the instance of archbishop Sancroft, by lease, anno 27 Charles II. reserved an additional pension of ten pounds per annum to the vicar. It pays no procurations to the archdeacon. It is now a discharged living in the king's books.

/c Ex archiv. Eccliae Christi, Cant. MSS. Wharton, p. 61. Ducarel's Rep. p. 35, edit. 2d.

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CHURCH OF DODDINGTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archdeacon of Canterbury. John Baker, A. M. May 7,
1585, obt. March 1, 1615./d

Osmund Clutting, A. B. April 19,
1615, resigned 1619.

Nathaniel Chambers, A. B. Aug.
30, 1619.

William Dunbar, A. M. July 30,
1661.

Daniel Somerscales, A. M. June
9, 1694, obt. June 20, 1737./e

Henry Shove, A. M. 1737, obt.
Dec. 8, 1771./f

Henry Shove, A. M. Oct. 31,
1772, obt. June 10, 1773./g

Francis Dodsworth, A. M. Dec.
31, 1773, the present vicar./h

/d And vicar of Newnham.

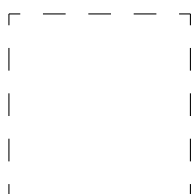
/e Ibid. He died, æt. 79, and was
buried in this church.

/f Likewise vicar of Rainham.

/g Son of the former. He had been
rector of Little Mongeham.

/h And vicar of Minster in Thanet,
by dispensation. He is treasurer of the
church of Salisbury, and a prebendary
of York.

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THE HUNDRED OF FAVERSHAM.

LIES the next eastward from that of Middleton.

It is written in the book of Domesday, Favreshant,
by which name it was called in the 7th year of king
Edward I. the king and the abbot of Faversham being
then lords of it.

The hundred of Faversham, as it has been long since
written, contains within its bounds the parishes of,

1. FAVERSHAM in part.
2. DAVINGTON.
3. ORE.
4. LUDDENHAM.
5. STONE.
6. BUCKLAND.
7. NORTON.
8. NEWNHAM.
9. EASLING.
10. THROWLEY.
11. STALISFIELD, with Bo=
resfield.

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12. BADLESMERE.
13. LEVELAND.
14. SHELDWICH.
15. OSPRINGE in part.
16. PRESTON.
17. GOODNESTON; and
18. HARTY, in the Isle of
Shepey.

And the churches of those parishes, excepting OSPRINGE, and likewise a part of the parish of SELLING and ULCOMB, the churches of which are in other hundreds. Two constables have jurisdiction over this hundred.

The town and part of the parish of Faversham has long since been made a separate jurisdiction from this hundred, being within the limits and liberties of the cinque ports, and a member of the town of Dover, and having its own constables and officers, under the jurisdiction of its own justices.

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THE PARISH AND TOWN OF FAVERSHAM.

CALLED, according to Lambarde, in Saxon, Fafresham, and Fafresfeld, in the record of Domesday, Favreshant, and in some few others, Fefresham.

THE PARISH lies adjoining to the high London road southward at the 47th mile-stone, and extends to the creek on the opposite side of the town, the houses on the south side of which reach to within two hundred yards of the road, whence there is a good view into it.

The parish includes the north side of the London road from the above mile-stone westward, almost as far as the summit of Judde-hill, and the liberties of the town extend as far of this space westward as the rivulet in Ospringe street. Thus this parish intervenes, and entirely separates that part of Ospringe parish, at the northern boundary of it, in which are the storekeeper's house of the royal mills, and part of the offices and gardens belonging to it, and some of the mills themselves, and in the town likewise, Ospringe parish again intervening, there is a small part of West-street which is within that parish. At the east end of Ospringe-street, though within Faversham parish, and the liberties of the town, close to the high London road, there is a

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handsome new-built house, erected not many years since

by Mr. Bonnick Lypyeatt, who resided in it till his death in 1789. He left two daughters his coheirs, one of whom married Mr. C. Brooke, of London, and the other Captain Gosselin, of the Life-guards. It is now occupied by John Mayor, esq.

The rest, or northern part of the parish lies very low, and adjoins the marshes, of which there is a very large tract. The country here is a fine extended level, the fields of a considerable size, and mostly unincumbered with trees or hedgerows, the lands being perhaps as fertile and as highly cultivated as any within this county, being part of that fruitful vale extending almost from Sittingborne to Boughton Blean, so often taken notice of before. The grounds adjoining the upper parts of the town are mostly hop plantations, of a rich and kindly growth, but several of them have lately given place to those of fruit. About twenty years ago the cultivation of madder was introduced here, and many induced by the prospect of great gains, made plantations of it at a very considerable expence, and a mill was erected for the purpose of grinding the roots, but from various disappointments, and unforeseen disadvantages, the undertakers of it were deterred from prosecuting the growth of it, and I believe they have for some time entirely discontinued it.

At the south-east extremity of this parish, as well as in other particular parts of this county, there are several chalk-pits, the most noted of these being called Hegdale pit, of a great depth, which though narrow at the top, yet more inward are very capacious, having, as it were, distinct rooms, supported by pillars of chalk. Several opinions have been formed concerning the intent and use of them, some that they were formed by the digging of chalk, for the building of the abbey, as well as afterwards from time to time, for the manuring of the neighbouring lands; others that the English Saxons might dig them, for the same uses

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that the Germans did, from whom they were descended, who made use of them, according to Tacitus, as a refuge in winter, as a repository for their corn, and as a place of security for themselves, their families, and their property, from the searches of their enemies./a

Near the west end of the bridge, opposite the storekeeper's house of the royal powder-mills, there is a strong chalybeate spring, which on trial has been proved to be nearly equal to those of Tunbridge Wells./b

In the year 1774, a most remarkable fish, called mola salviani, or the sun-fish, was caught on Faversham Flats, which weighed about nineteen pounds and a half, and was about two feet diameter. It is a fish very rarely seen in our narrow seas./c

MR. JACOB, in his *Plantæ Favershamienses*, has given the list of a number of uncommon plants, which he has observed within the bounds of this parish, but they are too numerous to insert in this place, besides which Dr. Merrett, Mr. J. Sherrard, Mr. Ray, and Mr. Hudson, mention several scarce ones found by them here./d

THIS PLACE has given TITLE to several eminent families.

SIR GEORGE SONDES, K. B. of Lees-court, in Sheldwich, was created by Charles II. in his 28th year, anno 1676, Earl of Faversham, viscount Sondes of Lees-court, and baron of Throwleigh, for the term of his life, with remainder to Lewis, lord Duras, baron of Holdenby. He left surviving issues by his second wife only, by whom he had issue two daughters his coheirs, Mary, married to Lewis, lord Duras,

/a Camden's Britannica, p. 236. See Crayford, vol. ii. of this history, p. 266.

/b Jacob's History of Faversham, p.26.

/c See a description and figure of it in Willoughby's Itchyography, p. 151, fig. I. 26.

/d See Merret's Pinax, p. 31, 86, 93. Huds. Flor. Ang. p. 112, 116, 210, 266.

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above-mentioned, and Katherine to Lewis Watson, lord Rockingham. He died in 1677.

Lewis de Durfort, marquis of Blanquefort, and brother to the duke de Duras, in France, lineally descended from the famous Galliard de Dureford, lord of Duras, whom king Edward IV. made a knight of the garter, was naturalized by parliament, anno 17 Charles II. and being then captain of the guard to the duke of York, attended him in the sea-fight against the Dutch in 1665, and in consideration of his behaviour there, and other services, was created in 1672, Baron Duras, of Holdenby, in Northamptonshire; and in 1678, on the death of George, earl of Faversham, his father-in law, he succeeded by entail to that title, and in the 1st year of king James II. was elected knight of the garter, and in 1688 made general of the king's army, in which post he continued at the revolution./e He died in 1709, s. p. and was buried in the Savoy church, in the Strand, on which the title became extinct.

Erengard Melusina Schuylenberg, duchess of Munster, in Ireland, was anno 5 George I. 1719, created Countess of Faversham, baroness of Glastenbury, and duchess of Kendall, and in 1723, princess of Erbestein in the empire of Germany, on whose death the titles became extinct.

Anthony Duncombe, only surviving son of Anthony Duncombe, esq. younger brother of Sir Charles Duncombe, lord-mayor in 1709, was created Lord Faversham, baron of Downton, in Wiltshire, in 1747, anno 21 George II. He died in 1763, without male issue, on which the title became extinct.

THERE HAVE BEEN several persons of note, natives of this place.

Hamo de Faversham, a learned and famous Franciscan friar, was born here, and became provincial of

/e Strype's Stow's Survey, book i. p. 205.

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his order, first in England and afterwards at Rome. He died, advanced in years, at Anagina, in Italy, in the year 1244./f

Simon de Faversham is mentioned as being the pastor of the British church in the county of Kent, but it is not said in what part of it. He wrote several

books./g

Adam de Faversham was archdeacon of Essex in 1271.

William de Faversham was commissioned by Edward I. to visit the royal chapel of Hastings.

Simon de Faversham was chancellor of the university of Oxford about 1304.

Thomas de Faversham is mentioned in a charter of king Edward II. anno 19, relating to Tunbridge.

Joane, the wife of Thomas Faversham, was assessed for two men at arms, for the ward of Grayston, anno 11 Edward III.

Richard de Faversham is called lord of Gravene in an inscription on a tomb in Graveney church, and John Faversham's name appears on a tomb in the same church, seemingly of the 13th century.

Stephen de Faversham, in 1324, was a monk of Christ-church, Canterbury, and the first of the sort who read divinity in that monastery.

There was a family of this name, several of whom lie buried in the church of Faversham; one of them, Sir John Faversham, had an annuity of forty marcs granted to him by Richard III. and Agnete, wife of John Faversham, was buried in it in 1417.

John Thornbury, of Faversham, was sheriff of Kent, anno 24 Henry VI.

Henry Page, esq. of Faversham, was commander in chief of the navy of the five ports in the reign of

/f Collect. Anglo Minorit. p. 10, 31, 35, 44, 49, 50.

/g Cat. of Oxford MSS. No. 759, pt. ii. Merton Coll.

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Henry IV. when he took one hundred and twenty French ships deeply laden. He died anno 13 Henry VI. and lies buried in this church.

John Wilson, the most noted musician in England, created doctor of music at Oxford in 1644, was born at Faversham anno 1595, and died in 1673, æt. 78, omnibus titulis et honoribus academicis in professione musicæ par, et in theoria et praxi musicæ maxime peritus, as he is called in the public register of convocation. He was buried in the little cloysters in Westminster abbey.

THE TOWN ITSELF, and so much of the parish as is within the bounds of the corporation, is subject to the liberties of it, and of the cinque ports, and is exempt from the jurisdiction of the hundred of Faversham; but the rest of the parish, together with the rectory, is within the liberties of that hundred, which has been always esteemed as appurtenant to the manor of Faversham.

Although from the several discoveries which have been made of Roman antiquities in this neighbourhood, it is plain, that it could not be unknown to that nation, during their stay in this island, yet there is no mention made of this place by any writer during that period; and it seems, even in the time of the Saxons, to have been a place of but little consequence, notwithstanding it was then a part of the royal demesnes, as appears by a charter of Cenulph, king of Mercia, anno 812, wherein it is stiled the king's little town of Fefresham; and in one of Athelwolf, king of the West

Saxons and of Kent, anno 839, where it is said to be made, only, in villa de Faverisham. However, it was of note sufficient, perhaps as being the king's estate, even in the time of king Alfred, at the first division of this county into those smaller districts, to give name to the hundred in which it is situated. Lambarde, Camden, and Leland say, that king Athelstan held a parliament, or meeting of his wise men at Faversham,

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about the year 903, (no doubt for 930) in which several laws were enacted./h

FAVERSHAM continued part of the antient demesnes of the crown of this realm at the time of the taking of the general survey of Domesday, in which it is entered, under the general title of Terra Regis, that is, the king's antient demesne, as follows:

In the lath of Wivarlet, in Favreshant hundred, king William holds Favreshant. It was taxed at seven suilings. The arable land is seventeen carucates. In demesne there are two. There are thirty villeins, with forty borderers, having twenty-four carucates. There are five servants, and one mill of twenty shillings, and two acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of one hundred hogs, and of the pasture of the wood thirty-one shillings and two pence. A market of four pounds, and two salt-pits of three shillings and two-pence, and in the city of Canterbury, there are three houses of twenty-pence belonging to this manor. In the whole value, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth sixty pounds all but five shillings, and afterwards sixty pounds, and now it is worth four times twenty pounds.

The manor of Faversham, with the hundred appurtenant to it, remained part of the possessions of the crown till about the beginning of king Stephen's reign, when it was granted to William de Ipre, a foreigner, whom, for his faithful services against the empress Maud, the king, in his 7th year, created Earl of Kent; but within a few years afterwards, resolving to found an abbey here, he, with his queen Matilda, about the year 1147, exchanged the manor of Lillechirch, and other premises, for this manor and hundred, where they, at the latter end of that year, or the beginning of the year after, founded an abbey at a small distance from the town of Faversham, on the north-east side of it, for the space where Court, or Ab-

/h See Chron. Joh. Bromton, Decem. Script. col. 848.

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bey-street now stands was then unbuilt, and this was therefore, in the reign of Edward III. distinguished by the name of the New Town, as the rest of it, built before, was by that of the Old Town, and they appointed Clarembald, the prior of Bermondsey, to be abbot of this new foundation, which was dedicated to St. Saviour, and for their support, the king granted to him and the monks of it, twelve of whom had been removed with Clarembald for this purpose from Bermondsey, which priory was of the order of Clugni, the manor of Faversham, with its appurtenances, and other premises, in perpetual alms, with many liberties,

as may be further seen in the charter itself./i

By the munificence of the royal founder, the building of this abbey was not long before it was completed, for the queen, anxious for the carrying forward of this work, frequently staid at the abbey of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, that she might be at hand to visit it, and give the necessary orders about it. The church of it at least seems to have been finished before the year 1151, when queen Matilda died, and was buried in it, as was Eustace, earl of Bologne, her eldest son, about fifteen months afterwards, and king Stephen himself at the latter end of the year 1154.

His successor, Henry II. at the request of his kinsman William, earl Warren, confirmed the manor, with its appurtenances, to them in perpetual alms, and several liberties to their tenants, as they had enjoyed them in the time of Henry I. his grandfather, and one fair for eight days yearly, to begin at the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula; and he confirmed to them all their other possessions, liberties and free customs, in as ample a manner as any church within the realm was possessed of any such, all which were again confirmed to them by king John in his 16th year, and Henry III. in his 11th year.

/i Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 687, 688.

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Soon after the above-mentioned period, these religious seem to have changed their order from that of Clugni, to the rule of St. Benedict, of which they certainly were in the next reign of Edward I. in the very beginning of which, though by what means does not appear, this abbey was sunk into an abject state of poverty, and the abbot and convent were become so greatly indebted, that the king, to preserve them from ruin, as their revenues would not for a long space of time be sufficient for the payment of their debts, by his patent, in his 3d year, took them and all their lands, goods, and possessions, under his special protection, and committed them to the charge and management of Fulk Peyforer and Hamon Doges, during his pleasure, for the discharge of their debts, and the affording them a necessary support during that time, and in one of the registers of the monastery of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, there is a most melancholy letter from one of the monks of this abbey to the sacrist there; in which he tells him, that having often represented to him the miserable poverty of his house, he then informed him, that for three weeks past, they had not had a grain of barley to support their household, nor could they make any malt, nor sow their lands; for that none of their neighbours would let them have any corn, upon the credit either of their words or bonds; and, what was still worse and disgraceful, to men of their profession, they were forced to procure drink either in alehouses, or such as was bought in the town among their enemies, and even that was in a manner taken by stealth. Therefore he earnestly entreats him to afford him somewhat becoming for his subsistence, that he might not perish, &c.

Notwithstanding this humiliating situation, the abbot of Faversham, holding his abbey and lands, consisting

of sixteen knights fees, of the king in chief, and by the tenure of barony, was a lord of parliament, and was obliged, on receiving the king's writ of summons, to

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attend it; accordingly Selden tells us, he was called to twelve several parliaments in the reigns of king Edward I. and II. but never after the 18th of the latter reign; and though there has been no discharge of his attendance found, yet it may well be supposed, that poverty, the length and trouble of the journey, and the expences attending it, might be the excuses alledged by him, and the reasons for his being omitted in all future writs of summons on this occasion. Coke, in his Comments upon Littleton, says, there were in England one hundred and thirteen monasteries founded by the kings of England, whereof such abbots and priors as were founded to hold of the king per Baroniam, and were called to parliament by writ, were lords of parliament, and had places and voices there; and of them in the time of Henry VIII. there were only twenty-seven abbots and two priors summoned. King Stephen founded this abbey, 'et dedit Abbati et Monachis et successoribus suis mon. de Feversham simul cum Hundredo &c. tenend per Baroniam, &c.' who, (as he says) albeit, he held by a barony, yet because he was never (that he found) called by writ, he never sat in parliament; and this foundation was so pleaded in chancery, in Easter term, anno 30 Edward I./k And Reyner says,/l that these abbots, who had not seats in parliament, yet were accounted among the spiritual barons of the realm.

King Edward I. in his 25th year, granted to the abbot and convent free-warren within all their demesne lands in their manor here, and king Edward II. in his 9th year, confirmed to them the manor, the fair, and other lands and liberties.

In the 8th year of Richard II. anno 1384, the spiritualities of this abbey within the diocese of Canterbury were valued at 78l. 11s. 2d. and the temporalities at 155l. 6s. 2d.

/k Instit. i. sect. 137, p. 97. /l Ibid. p. 21.

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King Henry VI. in his 20th year, granted to them a like confirmation of their possessions, together with the fishery of Middleton, with all liberties, &c.

CLAREMBALD, prior of Bermondsey, received his benediction as abbot of Faversham, from archbishop Theobald, on Nov. 11, 1147, at the high altar of the church of Canterbury, having first there made his profession of canonical obedience to the archbishop and his successors, at which were present queen Maud herself, with the bishops of Worcester, Bath, Exeter, and Chichester.

This profession of canonical obedience was afterwards constantly made by his successors, abbots of Faversham, to the several archbishops from whom they then received their benediction; and it was the office of the archdeacon, either in person, or by his official, to install the abbot for which his fees were the abbot's palfrey, and to stay at the abbey for two nights and a day, at the abbot's expence, and to have meat and

drink for ten of his suit if he chose it./m

THE LIST of the abbots of Faversham may be seen in the first volume of Browne Willis's *Mitred Abbots*, in his additions at the end of Tanner's *Monasticon*, and in Lewis's *History of Faversham*. They were all of them men of sanctity and exemplary behaviour, but as their conduct was in general confined to the internal government of their monastery, and the account of them, which would be little more than a series of their names, would be no ways interesting to the reader, it will be sufficient therefore to mention the last abbot of it, being the twenty-first in succession, since the first institution of them. This was John Shepey, alias Castelocke, who had the king's writ for the restoring of the temporalities of this abbey, on Feb. 17, anno 15 king Henry VII. The name of Castelock was his family name, though he changed it to that of Shepey, on his

/m Battely's *Somner*, pt. ii. p. 57.

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receiving the tonsure, as was usual on such occasions, and it continued in repute in this town for many generations after this, as appears by their monuments in the church of Faversham. His name (though erroneously stiled the prior of Faversham) is among those divines and others of both houses of convocation, who met in St. Paul's, in 1529, to give their opinion of the king's marriage, when the abbot did not appear in his own person, but by his proxy, the abbot of Hyde, and was of the number of those who pronounced the illegality of it./n

In the 26th year of that reign, 1534, the abbot of Faversham, the prior, the sacrist, and four monks, signed the act of succession, and the king's supremacy; which is the last public instrument I meet with relating to this monastery, preceding the dissolution of it, in the general storm which fell on the religious houses throughout the kingdom, when the abbot and his convent withstood for some time the threats and menaces of the king's power, and every art which was made use of to induce them to surrender their abbey and possessions; but as their characters and behaviour were irreproachable, the king's visitors had no pretence whatever to force them to it. Besides, the abbot, it is said, pleaded, that his abbey was of a royal foundation, and that the royal founder, with his queen, and the prince his son, lay all there interred, and that, according to the design of the foundation, continual suffrages and commendations by prayer were there used for their souls, and hospitality, alms, and other works of charity dispensed for the souls of the founders, their heirs, and all Christians whatever. If, therefore, they were found negligent and careless in those things, which they trusted would not be the case, the king, as their lord and heir of the founder, had a right to admonish them, and in case of want of reformation in them, to resume the pos=

/n Fiddes's *Life of Wolsey*, appendix, col. 90, p. 195.

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sessions and abbey into his own hands. Upon this pretence, at last, the abbot and convent were most unwillingly brought to comply with the king's emissaries, and

to surrender their abbey, of the order of St. Benedict, and all its manors, lands, possessions, immunities, and privileges, into the hands of Richard Layton, LL. D. one of the masters of chancery, commissioned for the purpose, for the use of the king and his heirs, by an instrument brought to them ready drawn up, to which they put their common seal, in their chapter-house, on July 8, in the 30th year of that reign, anno 1538, and it was signed by the abbot and eight more of the religious of it; and the same was afterwards confirmed by the general words of the act, passed the year afterwards for this purpose./o

The abbot had afterwards a pension of one hundred marks for his support and maintenance, to hold for his life, or until promoted to one or more benefices, of the same or greater yearly value. On the like terms, eight of the monks there had yearly pensions, the largest of which was one hundred shillings, several of them were remaining in charge in 1553.

In the 14th year of king Henry VII. the yearly revenues of this abbey were 253l. 16s. 10¹/₂d. It was endowed at its dissolution with 286l. 12s. 6³/₄d. clear annual income, or 355l. 15s. 2d. total annual revenue.

The arms of the abbey were, Gules and azure, three demi lions passant-guardant, conjoined to three demi ships hulls, a crosier erect in the middle, all, or.

Pope Innocent III. by his bull, in 1210, exempted the abbot and convent of Faversham from the payment of tithes of their lands, and therefore this is one of those religious houses which, by the statute of 31 king Henry VIII. is capable of exemption of tithes; for such being surrendered into the king's hands, in as free

/o This surrender is still remaining in the Augmentation-office, See a copy of it in Rym. Fœd. vol. xiv. p. 616.

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and ample a manner as the religious themselves held and enjoyed them, they were afterwards granted by the king to laymen, and others, with the like rights, immunities, and privileges./p Soon after the surrendry of the monastery the king ordered the principal part of the buildings of it to be pulled down, as appears by the king's bailiff's accounts in the Augmentation-office. What the state of the ruined buildings of this abbey were about one hundred years ago, may be gathered from Mr. Southouse, who tells us, in his Monasticon, that in the sacristy stood the abbey church, but that it was so totally demolished, that there was not so much as one stone left to inform posterity where it stood. There were two chapels belonging to it, one dedicated to St. Mary, the other the petie rood chapel. The refectory then remained entire, and was made use of as a storehouse, but Sir G. Sondes afterwards pulled it down. On the east part of this, stood the abbot's lodge, as it should seem, an antient chamber or two of which were ceiled with oaken wainscot, after the manner of some chancels. On the west side of the refectory stood a building of stone, which opened with two doors into it, and with another into the close northward, which he guessed to be the interlocutory, or parlour, to which the monks retired after meals. The kitchen, which is now totally rased, then stood conti=

guous to the well; in it there was a mantlepice of timber, thirty feet long; the foundation of it, of stone, was dug up in 1652, to help pave the broad street in the town, called Court-street; under it an arched vault was discovered, which served as a drain or sewer, to convey the sullage from the kitchen. There was likewise a calefactory, where the monks used to warm themselves. Besides these buildings there was a malthouse, bakehouse, brewhouse, and cellar, the tattered skeletons of which were then in being. The stables belonging to

/p See Burn's Ecclesiastical Law, vol. iii. p. 382.

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the abbey stood in the abbey-close, at some distance from the other offices, among which was one called the palfrey-stable, for the abbot's nags and geldings, which stood on the ground where Sir George Sondes afterwards built the present farm-house.

There are now hardly any, even of the ruins, of this abbey, and its numerous buildings left. The two gate houses remained till within these few years, but becoming dangerous through age, they were lately taken down. The oratory or chapel belonging to the almshouse is yet standing, in a little meadow, and converted into a dwelling-house, as is the porter's lodge.

Among the wills proved in the Prerogative-office, in Canterbury, there is mention of several persons buried in the abbey church, among others, Theobalde Evias, of Faversham, widow, by her will in 1479, ordered her body to be buried within this monastery, and among other bequests devised, to the new-making of a window in the chapter-house there twenty shillings, and to the monastery here great cloth of tapstre-works, to do worship to God in their presbytery, and on the sepulchre next the high altar there, on high days; and to the same likewise her vestment of green velvet embroidered, with its appurtenances, a chalice, two cressets, a bell, and a paxbrede, all of silver, to the intent that they should serve only in her chapel there; and she ordered that there should be embroidered on the said vestment, Orate pro Theobalde Evias; and she devised that her cross of gold, which she wore about her neck, be offered to the shrine of St. Richard, in Chychester; her beads of gold to St. John the Evangelist in Amyas, and her ring of gold with the ruby to the sepulchre of the three kings of Coleyne; and she ordered her executors to purchase lands to the value of ten pounds, above all charges or reprises, and with the yearly rents and profits thereof, she willed that the reparations of her almshouses be kept, the renewing of the bedding of the said house be made, and the reward

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of him that should have the governance and oversight of it to be yearly paid; and this ordinance touching the said almshouse to be made sure, as firm as by her executors and council could be.

Richard Goore, gent. of Faversham, by his will in 1504, ordered his body to be buried in this monastery, beside the chapel of St. Anne.

Robert Browne, esq. comptroller of the household of Thomas, earl of Arundel, by his will in 1509, ordered

his body to be buried in this abbey, before the rode of pity, in the overhande of the church, &c.

When the church of the monastery was demolished, the body of king Stephen, mentioned before to have been buried in it, was for the lucre of the lead in which it was coffined, taken out, and is said to have been cast into the neighbouring creek, /q and most probably those of the queen and prince met with the same usage, how= ever the report of the inhabitants has been, that the king's body was afterwards interred in the parish church, but whereabouts in it is not known.

THE ABBEY being thus, with the manor and all its possessions, surrendered into the king's hands, the scite and adjoining lands remained there but a small time, for the king, in his 31st year, granted the scite of it, with certain messuages, lands, meadows, &c. lately de= mised by him to John Wheler, to Sir Thomas Cheney, warden of the five ports, &c. to hold in capite by knight's service, by the twentieth part of one knight's fee, and he in the 36th year of the same reign, alie= nated them to Mr. Thomas Ardern, gent. of Faver= sham, who bore for his arms, Ermine, a fess chequy, or, and azure. He was basely murdered in his own house here, by the contrivance of Alice his wife and her ac= complices, on February 15, 1550, anno 4 Edward VI. for which they were afterwards executed at different

/q Speed's Chron. from Stow, p. 481.

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places./r He died possessed of this scite of the dissolved abbey, and the lands granted with it, leaving an only daughter and heir Margaret, who afterwards married Thomas Bradburne, who had possession granted of them in the 2d year of queen Elizabeth, and that year levied a fine of these lands, soon after which he died, for at the end of that year, his wife Margaret again possessed them in her own right. She died in the 18th year of that reign, holding them in capite by knight's service, when it was found that Nicholas Fathers, alias Bradborne, for so he is called in the inquisition, was her son and heir. He seems to have sold it in the 23d year of that reign to John Finch, gent. who resided in a house here, situated on the north side of the monastery. He was descended from those of Linsted, as already mentioned before, and bore the same arms as the Finch's, of Eastwell, and the other branches of that family. Several of those of Faversham lie buried in this church and that of Preston. John Finch before- mentioned, in the 25th year of the above reign, alie= nated these premises to Thomas and Robert Streyn= sham and Richard Dryland. After which they became the property of George Streynsham, who left two daughters his coheirs, one of whom married Sir Ed= ward Master, of East Langdon, and the other Apple= ford, the latter of whom, as her part of her inheritance, entitled her husband to this estate, which at length came to her descendant Edward Appleford, esq. of Winchester, who alienated it to Sir George Sondes, of Lees-court, in Sheldwich, who was become likewise the proprietor of the manor of Faversham, and its ap= purtenances, by purchase from John Diggs, esq. second son of Sir Dudley Diggs, of Chilham-castle, and master

of the rolls, who had settled it on his son soon after the

/r It is fully related in Hollingshed's Chronicle, in Lewis's Faversham, and in Jacob's History of Faversham, from the Wardmote-book.

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grant of it to him from the crown, in the reign of king Charles I. where it had remained from the time of the dissolution of the monastery./s

Sir George Sondes was afterwards created Earl of Faversham, and died without surviving male issue, leaving two daughters his coheirs, of whom Catherine, the youngest, married Lewis Watson, earl of Rockingham, who in her right became entitled to this manor and hundred, with the demesne lands, the scite of the abbey, and the other premises above-mentioned, all which have since descended down in like manner as Lees court, in Sheldwich, to the right hon. Lewis Watson, lord Sondes, who is the present owner of them.

There is a court leet and court baron still held for this manor, which extends over the whole hundred, and contains within its bounds, the town and parish of Faversham, the boroughs of Hartye, Ore, Ewell, Selgrave, Oldgoldyschelde, Chetham, Brinnystone, Baldysmere, Oldeboudysland, Rode, Graveney, and Bourdfeld, and the lands of Monkendane, in the parish of Monketon.

COOKSDITCH is situated almost adjoining to the east side of the town of Faversham. It was formerly the antient seat of the family of Dreyland, or as they were afterwards written, Dryland, who were of good account, and at times intermarried with some of the best families in this county. In king Henry the VI.th's reign, John Dryland was knight of the shire, and they were in the succeeding reigns several times mayors of Faversham. They bore for their arms, Gules, guttee de larme a fess nebulee, argent. An ancestor of them, John, son of Stephen Dreyland, resided here in the reign of king Edward III. in the 25th year of which he demised land in a place called Crouchfield, to William Makenade, and in the deed stiles himself of Cokes-

/s Lewis's History of Faversham Abbey, p. 23.

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ditch, and in his descendants Cooksditch continued down to Richard Dryland, who resided here at the beginning of king Henry VII.'s reign. He was twice married, and left by his first wife Joane, daughter and heir of Thomas Quadring, of London, only one daughter Katherine, who became heir to her mother's inheritance, which she carried with Cooksditch likewise, in marriage to Reginald Norton, esq. of Lees court, in Sheldwich, who had by her two sons, Sir John, who was of Northwood, in Milton, and William Norton, to whom by his will he devised Cooksditch. He afterwards resided at it, and married Margaret, daughter and heir of Matthew Martyn, by whom he was ancestor of the Nortons, of Fordwich, in this county, one of whom, about the reign of king James I. alienated it to Parsons, who not long afterwards conveyed it to Ashton, whose daughter and heir carried it in mar-

riage to Buck, who owned it at the time of the restoration of king Charles II. In his descendants this estate continued till the beginning of the present century, when it was, by one of them, alienated to Mr. Jenkin Gillow, who bore for his arms, Argent, a pale, sable, between four fleurs de lis, gules, whose nephew Mr. Stephen Gillow, of St. Nicholas, in Thanet, died possessed of it in 1774, and was succeeded in it by his son Mr. Stephen Gillow, who rebuilt the house, and resided in it. He died possessed of it in 1790, and in his family it still continues.

LANGDON is a manor in this parish, which in the reign of king Richard II. was in the possession of Nicholas Potyn, who seems by his will to have devised it to his widow Alicia, for her life; remainder to his feoffees, William Makenade and Stephen Bettenham, and their heirs, in trust, that they should give and amortise this manor, then of the yearly value of ten marcs, or 6l. 13s. 4d. above all reprises, to the wardens of Rochester bridge and their successors, for the use of the same; and king Richard II. granted his licence,

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by his writ under his privy seal, in his 22d year, for that purpose. Since which it has continued part of the possessions of the wardens and commonalties of the said bridge, for the repair and maintenance of it. Mr. John Murton is the present lessee of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

EWELL is a manor situated at the eastern extremity of this parish, next to Goodneston, which, in the reign of king Richard II. was in the possession of the family of Boteler, of the adjoining parish of Graveney, in which name it remained till Anne, only daughter and heir of John Boteler, esq. carried it in marriage to John Martyn, one of the judges of the common pleas, who died possessed of it in 1436, leaving his widow again entitled to it. She afterwards remarried Thomas Burgeys, esq. whom she likewise survived, and died herself in 1458. By her will she devised her manor of Ewell-court to her son Richard Martyn, in tail; remainder to her sons Robert and John. After which this manor became separated in the hands of different owners; one third part of it, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. appears to have come into the possession of John Cole, warden of All Souls college, who, in the 18th year of that reign, gave the part of this manor, which he was then possessed of, with the lands belonging to it, in Faversham and Goodneston, to the abbot and convent of Faversham, in trust, for the maintenance of the school, which he had then founded in this parish. At the dissolution of the abbey soon afterwards, in the 30th year of that reign, this estate, with the rest of the possessions of it, came into the hands of the crown, where this part of Ewell manor remained till queen Elizabeth, having at the petition of the inhabitants of this town, by her charter in

/t Archives of Rochester bridge. Among the Harleian MSS. No. 1006-37, is one De servitiis tenentium Man. de Langedone in Hundredo de Feversham, Fol. 208.

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her 18th year, again endowed the school, seems to have granted to the governors of it, for its support, all that was remaining in the hands of the crown of its former endowment, which had been, however, diminished by the several grants which had been at times made of different parts of it: but several of the lands belonging to this manor lying in a part of it, called Ewell field, intermixed and without boundaries, frequent disputes arose between the joint proprietors of them, which at last were ended in the 26th year of that reign, by a partition then made of these lands, by which it was agreed that the mayor, &c. as governors of the school, should hold their part of them, and Edward Fagge, the owner of the remainder of this manor, should hold his part of them in separate severalties; that part of Ewell manor, which was allotted to the former still continues vested in the mayor, jurats, and commonalty of Faversham, governors of the school, for the support and maintenance of it.

The other two-third parts of Ewell manor, which included the court lodge, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was the property of Mr. Edward Fagge, gent. of Faversham, before-mentioned, who died in 1618, leaving two daughters his coheirs. How this estate passed from them afterwards I have not seen; but in king Charles II.'s reign it was become the property of John Pennington, of Agmondesham, in Buckinghamshire, who, in the year 1691, suffered a recovery of it. His trustees under his will, sold it in 1723, under a decree of the court of chancery, to Mr. Thomas Gillow, of St. Nicholas, in Thanet, and it is now the property of Mrs. Gillow, widow of his grandson, Stephen Gillow, late of Cooksditch Gate.

THE MANOR OF KINGSMILL is a small manor situated in the south-west part of this parish, which, in the beginning of king George II.'s reign, belonged to Mr. John Ingham. In 1749 it was vested in Matthew Cox, esq. and afterwards in Richard Chauncy, esq. whose

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heirs some years ago sold it to the master general and principal officers of the board of ordnance, who are at this time possessed of the fee of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

THE TOWN OF FAVERSHAM is within the limits of the cinque ports, being esteemed as a limb or member of the town of Dover, one of those ports. Of what antiquity these ports and antient towns are, when enfranchised, or at what times their members were annexed to them, has not been as yet, with any certainty, discovered; and, therefore, they are held to enjoy all their earliest liberties and privileges, as time out of mind, and by prescription.

It is, however certain, that at the time of king Edward the Confessor, the five ports were enfranchised with divers liberties, privileges, and customs, peculiar to themselves; for the better conducting of which they had the establishment of one grand court, called the court of Shipway, from its being almost always held at a place of that name near Hyth; in which the general business relating to the whole community was transacted before the warden, as principal and chief over them. Nevertheless, though they acted here jointly,

like a county palatine as to the government, for the defence of the liberty of the whole, yet every particular corporation in each town acted severally and distinctly, according to its own privileges, charters, and customs within their own particular limits, without any controul or interference from this court, or the rest of the community./u

The five ports, as being from their situation most exposed to the depredations of enemies, were first incorporated for their own mutual defence, and were afterwards endowed with great privileges, for the public defence of the nation, and the king's service. The force they were enjoined to raise and keep in residence for

/u Jeake's Treatise on the Five Ports, p. 11, 22, 72, 121, 122.

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this purpose was fifty-seven ships, properly furnished and accoutred for a certain number of days, to be ready at the king's summons, at their own charge, and if the state of affairs required their assistance any longer, they were paid by the crown. But because the expence was in after times found to be too burthensome for these five ports, several other towns were added as members to them, that they might bear a part of the charge, for which they were recompenced with a participation of their privileges and immunities. All which were confirmed to them by Magna Charta, by the name of the barons of the five ports, and again by one general charter by king Edward I. which, by inspeximus, has received confirmation, and sometimes additions, from most of the succeeding kings and queens of this realm.

FAVERSHAM, stiled both a town and a port at different times in antient records, is a corporation by prescription. In the oldest charter now remaining, which is that of the 36th year of king Henry III. wherein the members of it are stiled, according to the usual language of those times, barons, that is freemen, there is contained a confirmation of all their former antient rights and privileges. In the 42d year of the above reign, which is as far as can be traced by evidence, the jurisdiction of this town was then in a mayor or alderman, and twelve jurats. In a charter of Edward I. the barons of it are acknowledged to have done good services to him and his predecessors, kings of England; and in the 21st year of that reign, there is an entry of the mayor and jurats assembling in their hallmote, or portmote-court, as it is elsewhere called, together with the lord abbot's steward, and there sealing a fine with the town's seal, of a messuage and garden in Faversham, according to the use and custom of the court, by which it is evident, that this court was of some antiquity at that time./w

/w Jacob's History of Faversham, p. 16, 17.

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This town has been favored by the different kings of this realm with no less than seventeen different charters, besides those granted from time to time to the cinque ports in general, confirming its antient privileges, and granting new ones. These were from king Henry III. Edward I. Henry V. and VI. Edward IV. Henry VIII. and Edward VI. King James II. con=

firmed the two last, with some variations; but as this charter was rather forced upon the town, at a considerable expence, than by their own application, and the revolution succeeding, no particular attention was ever paid to it.

Before the dissolution of the abbey of Faversham, this town seems to have continued under a mixed form of jurisdiction; the abbot, as lord of the manor, was entitled to the same ample privileges that the kings of England, formerly lords of it, had exercised within it, and which were by custom of long time become appurtenant to it; all these became vested in the abbot by the special grant of the royal founder king Stephen, and consequently, the town, as being within the manor, was alike subject to the lord's jurisdiction over it.

However unwilling the inhabitants were to submit to the abbot's exercising these privileges over them, and interfering in the government of their town, their endeavours to oppose it produced no other effect than continued quarrels, and a bitter enmity towards the religious, who, notwithstanding the contumelies they underwent, remained firm in the preservation of their rights.

In the reign of king Richard I. they obliged the inhabitants to compound with them for the liberty of sending their swine to pannage, and in the next reign of Edward III. there was a long contest, 'multis retroactis temporibus', saith the record, between them, which ended in favor of the abbot; for by it, the townsmen submitted to nominate annually three persons out of their body, to execute the office of mayor, and present

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them to the lord abbot in his court or hall of pleas, for him to appoint one of them to that office.

One great dispute between them seems to have been the naming their chief officer, mayor; for in an agreement made between the contending parties, in king Richard I.'s reign, that part which was executed by the abbot stiles him only alderman; and in another dispute, left to reference in Edward I.'s reign, the bond of each party still remaining, that on the abbot's part stiles him alderman, while that on the townsmen's stiles him mayor.

The extreme poverty of the abbey soon after this, left them in a most humiliating state, and totally unable to withstand the innovations of their adversaries; accordingly we find, in the reign of Edward I. the before-mentioned custom of chusing the mayor before the abbot broken through, and the freemen electing a mayor, and as soon as he had nominated the twelve jurats, by virtue of his office, immediately proceeding with him to the abbey for the abbot's approbation, which course seems to have been constantly pursued till the dissolution of the abbey.

The inhabitants of Faversham do not seem to have confined their opposition and dislike to the abbot and convent here only, the religious of St. Augustine near Canterbury, patrons of the church of Faversham, seem equally to have been partakers of both: for anno 28 Edward I. 1301, on a dispute concerning the burial of a person of the town in this church, the whole community here, of both sexes, with the mayor at their

head, with a great noise, and sound of horn, rose upon the few monks, and others, who were attending here on this account, and being armed with swords, hatchets, clubs, stones, and others such weapons, they beat, wounded, and maimed the monks and their attendants, broke open the church, destroyed the furniture in it, and then attempted to set fire both to that and the parsonage-house. But their unquiet and riotous behaviour

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at last cost them dearly, for in the 30th year of that reign they were amerced, not only in the king's court, but in that holden before Robert de Burghershe, war-den of the cinque ports, and upon a quo warranto they were found guilty of certain trespasses, which they had done to the king, in presumptuously usurping sundry royal liberties, without grant thereof from the king, by which their charter became forfeited; for the renewal of which, and pardon for the above amerciaments, they were fined in five hundred marcs,^{/x} the largeness of which sum was not in respect to the wealth of the place, but the enormity of the crime.

Notwithstanding there was a solemn agreement entered into, between the abbot and the commonalty of this town, in the 4th year of king Edward II. concerning the rights and privileges claimed by each party, yet the same incessant litigations continued between them, one being as resolute not to give up his right, as the other not to submit to them: but the opposition to the abbot's claims never ended with impunity to the townsmen, for the annual payment of a certain sum was always the result of the contest.

Though the mayor, as has been already mentioned, was obliged to have the abbot's approbation, and take an oath of fealty to him and his church, yet the abbot appointed a bailiff, or in his absence, another officer, called a seneschal, or steward, who accompanied the mayor in all his transactions, whose names were constantly placed after the mayor's, and before the jurats, and the chamberlains of the town were obliged annually to pass their accounts in the abbey. These claims and privileges, exercised by the abbot, seem, after the dissolution of the abbey, to have been kept up, and every part of them uniformly used, by king

^{/x} Madox's Exchequer, p. 290. Not able to pay the whole at once, and they were indulged in the payment of it by degrees into the exchequer, viz. 20l. at Easter, anno 32 Edward I. 20l. at Michaelmas following, p. 29l, note (x).

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Henry VIII. afterwards, as lord of the manor of Faversham, and they were quietly submitted to from that time, till his granting away many of them to the mayor and commonalty, by his new charter in the 37th of his reign; for the king in his 36th year, resting here one night, in his journey towards the siege of Bulleine, upon an humble prayer and application then made to him by the corporation and inhabitants, the ensuing year granted to the town a new and more ample charter, not only confirming by it all the former rights and privileges, but the additional ones of a court leet, the markets, and fair, and several others, which before ap=

pertained to the abbot, as lord of the manor; and he granted to them, to hold their town, and all the liberties therein mentioned, by the yearly fee-farm of eight pounds, which rent continues to be paid at this time, and by this charter the corporation is at present governed.

By this charter the corporation is made to consist of a mayor, eleven jurats, and twenty-four commoners; the mayor being elected yearly on September 30, who by his office is coroner within the liberties of the town; he holds likewise a court of clerk of the market, and a court of pie-powder, when requisite; he holds a court of portmote, in which fines and recoveries have been acknowledged, and all pleas and suits touching them; and all manner of pleas and suits, as well personal as mixed, have been therein determined, and much business used formerly to be transacted in it, but lately it has been but little attended to.

The court of general sessions of the peace and gaol delivery, together with the court leet or law day, is holden twice in a year, before the mayor and jurats, who are justices within their own liberties, exclusive of all others.

Besides which, by this charter, they are empowered to make laws for the governing of their town, and to alter them when necessary; to purchase lands, notwith-

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standing the mortmain act, and to alienate them again; to have two law days, with the profits of them; to have the goods and chattels of felons, and all deodand, waifs, and strays; and to have markets and fairs, and the profits of them, and a court of pie-powder, and to erect a gaol on any part of the waste of the manor, within the liberties of the town; all which privileges were enjoyed by the late abbot of this place. The arms of the town of Faversham are, Gules, three lions passant, guardant in pale, per pale, or, and argent.

It appears by the Tower records, anno 7 Henry IV. that the king then granted to the mayor to have a mace borne before him, with the arms of the five ports on the top of it. King Henry VI. in his 25th year, granted by his letters patent, that the inhabitants of Faversham should answer no where but in the court of Shipway, not before the admiral of England; and that they should be exonerated from all rent to the constable of Dover castle.

THE TOWN OF FAVERSHAM is situated close to the east side of the navigable creek, which runs from hence into the Swale. It consists of four principal streets, forming a somewhat irregular cross, the northernmost of which, called Court or Abbey-street, leading to the scite of the late abbey, is remarkably broad and handsomely built, and the southernmost leading to the high London road, and thence to the town of Ashford, is called Preston-street, from its being within the boundaries of that parish. In the center of the town stands the market-place, and guildhall over it, erected in 1574. The guildhall before this time was over the gaol in the Market-street, built in 1571, and used as such upon quitting the oldest guildhall upon Tanners-green. On the area before the present market-house were formerly three rows of sham-

bles, which were purchased of the proprietors and taken

/y Jacob's History of Faversham, p. 69.

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down by the corporation. The markets, which are plentifully supplied, are held weekly on a Wednesday and Saturday. The fairs are held annually on Feb. 25, and August 12, for three days each.

The fish-market is likewise kept under the market-house. The gaol, which indeed hardly deserves the name of one, is situated at a small distance north-eastward of the market-place; it was antiently situated on the opposite or west side of the river, the ruined walls of which still remain.

Leland, in his Itinerary, written in the time of Henry VIII. thus describes this place, 'The towne, he says, is enclosed yn one parochie, but that ys very large. Ther cummeth a creke to the towne that bereth vessels of xx tunnes, and a myle fro thens northeast is a great key cawled Thorn to discharge bygge vessels. The creke is fedde with bakke water that cummeth fro Ospring.'

The state of this place in queen Elizabeth's reign, appears by a return made of it by her command, in her 18th year, by which it appears, that there were then here houses inhabited 380, no person lacking habitation, ships or vessels, eighteen, from five tons to forty-five tons burthen; and persons occupied in merchandise and fishing fifty.

Upon comparing this with the present state of Faversham, though the houses may not perhaps have increased so much in number as might be expected, yet upon the whole it is greatly improved; for vessels of eighty tons burthen and upwards (of which size are the common corn hoys) come now up to the keys close to the town, at common tides, and even those which draw eight feet of water, at common spring tides. A constant attention has always been paid to the preservation and improvement of the navigation of this creek, by the corporation, who take the whole expence of it on themselves.

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To enable them to do this, was perhaps the origin of port-dues or tolls, granted by some of the kings whilst they were possessed of this manor, nor is it known when, but certain it is, they have been paid time immemorial, and upon a dispute of the right of the corporation to these droits, a trial was had at Maidstone in 1764, when they had a verdict in their favor, and by it the same was confirmed to them. There had been formerly, in 1578, a quo warranto issued to try the right of the corporation to droits for timber, which was tried in the exchequer, before chief-justice Manhood, next year, and a verdict was given in their favor.

There are three keys or wharfs belonging to this town, the antient and formerly the only key on this creek, was much lower down on it, at a place called Thorn, which has been disused for many years.

The principal shipping trade is now carried on from this port by six hoys, which go alternately every week to London with corn, amounting in very plentiful years

to 40,000 quarters of different sorts yearly. Colliers likewise, of one hundred tons burthen, which supply not only the town but the neighbouring country with coals, and larger vessels, which import fir timber and iron from Polish Prussia, Norway, and Sweden, frequently resort hither, the principal proprietors and merchants concerned in them being inhabitants of this town. Besides which, there are several fishing vessels, and others, employed in carrying wool, fruits, and other traffic to London and other parts. The following was the state of the shipping in 1774, being the annual average of the imports and exports for six years, coasting vessels, exclusive of fishing smacks, belonging to this port 29, from forty to one hundred and fifty tons; coals imported 12,154 chaldrons; oysters exported to Holland and Flanders, in thirty-one vessels, 11,456 bushels; packs of wool shipped for London and Exeter 2573. – Ships entered inwards from foreign parts: from France with oyster-brood, from four to seven;

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from Norway with deals and timber, from five to nine; from Sweden with the like, tar and iron, from one to three; from Polish Prussia with deals and timber, from one to three. But this account includes those vessels also belonging to Milton, Whitstaple, and Herne, which are under the controul of the custom-house here.

There is a branch of the customs established here, as one of the out-ports, under the direction of a collector, surveyor, &c. and of the excise-office, under a supervisor and other inferior assistants, whose authority extends likewise over Sittingborne, Milton, Herne, Whitstaple, and Reculver.

This town at present consists of about four hundred and sixty houses, which contain about 2500 inhabitants. Many of the houses are large and handsome, and the inhabitants of good condition, and wealthy in general. There are in it an assembly-room and a theatre, the former of which, exclusive of the inhabitants of the town, is numerously attended by most of the genteel families of the neighbourhood, and it is now in a very flourishing and increasing state.

Part of the town was first paved in 1549, and the rest of it in 1636. In 1773 the town was laid open to the London road, by a spacious avenue from thence into Preston-street, and a bridge was erected over the stream at the bottom of West-street; besides which, all the roads to this town have been widened and rendered more commodious, at a considerable expence, within these few years, and in 1789 an act was procured for the further improvement of the town, by the new paving, lighting, and watching of it.

Since the town has been paved, and the inhabitants, from their increase of wealth, have been enabled to afford better housekeeping, and a larger quantity of sea-coal has been burned by them, it has not been near so unhealthy as formerly; for no doubt but its low situation amidst the noxious vapours of so large a tract of

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marshes adjoining to it, cannot but render it at most times unhealthy.

The several kings and queens of this realm, and

other royal personages, seem frequently to have rested themselves at this town in their journeying to and fro, particularly Mary, widow of Lewis XII. king of France, and sister of king Henry VIII. on her return from that kingdom in 1515. King Henry VIII. in 1522, passed through here with the emperor, whom he was conducting, with a numerous train of nobles and others, to Greenwich, and that king lay here one night on his journey to the siege of Bullein, in 1545. King Philip and queen Mary passed by this town in 1557. Queen Elizabeth came here in 1573, and lay two nights in the town. King Charles II. on his restoration in 1660, visited this town, and dined with the mayor; and lastly, that unfortunate monarch king James II. was unwillingly brought to this town on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 1688, endeavouring to escape into France. An authentic account of which transaction, as given by Capt. Richard Marsh, of Faversham, who was an eye-witness of the whole of it, is printed in Mr. Jacob's History of Faversham, of which the following is an extract:

'The nation was already in a ferment, and every one upon his guard to secure suspicious persons, especially strangers; at which time the Faversham sailors observing a vessel of about thirty tons burthen lying at Shellness, to take in ballast, resolved to go and board her; accordingly they went in the evening, with three smacks and about forty men, and three files of musqueteers, and in the cabin of it they seized there persons of quality, of whom they knew only Sir Edward Hales; from them they took three hundred guineas, and two gold medals, and brought them all three on shore beyond Ore, on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 1688, about ten o'clock in the morning, where they were met by a coach, and about twenty gentlemen of the

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town on horseback, and brought to the Queen's Arms, in Faversham, where Capt. Marsh seeing the king come out of the coach, and knowing his person, told them, to their no small surprise, that they had taken the king prisoner, upon which the gentlemen owned him for their sovereign; then the king ordered the money taken from him to be distributed among them that took him, and wrote a letter to lord Winchelsea, to come to him, who arrived from Canterbury that night, at which the king was greatly rejoiced, as having one with him who knew how to respect his person, and awe the rabble and the sailors, who had carried themselves very brutish and indecently to him. He desired the gentlemen very much to convey him away at night, in the custom-house boat, and pressed it upon their consciences; for if the prince of Orange should take away his life, his blood would be required at their hands. But they would by no means admit of this, saying, they must be accountable for him to the prince, and it would be a means of laying the nation in blood. After which he was carried from thence into the mayor's house, where he continued, under a strong guard of soldiers and sailors, until Saturday morning following at ten o'clock.

'The king having, during that time, sent to the lords of the council, acquainting them, that the mob

had possessed themselves of his money and necessaries, and desiring them to supply him with more upon which the earls of Faversham, Hillsborough, Middleton and Yarmouth, with about one hundred and twenty horse guards, besides sumpter horses, &c. and coaches were sent to him. They were ordered, if possible, to persuade the king to return to Whitehall, but not to put any restraint upon his person, if he chose to go beyond the seas. The lords came to Sittingbourn on Friday evening, but were met by Sir Basil Dixwell, who commanded the horse-guards in town, under the earl of Winchelsea, with some other persons of quality,

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and persuaded the lords to leave the guards at Sittingbourn, and they would conduct his majesty there the next morning, which was done, with much order and satisfaction, both to the king and people. The king lay that night at Rochester, and went the next day to Whitehall.

'Sir Edward Hales, and the rest of the popish prisoners, were kept in the court hall, only Sir Edward was removed to Maidstone gaol, within a few hours after the king's departure.

'There were about ten popish priests and others, and three protestants, who remained prisoners at Faversham, under a strong guard, until Dec. 30, when some were conducted to the Tower, others to Newgate, and some were released.'

Another account of this transaction, from an eye-witness likewise, which in almost every material thing agrees with the above, is printed in Tindal's Continuation of Rapin.^{/z} There is another account among the Harleian MSS.^{/a}

THE OYSTER FISHERY here, by which upwards of one hundred families are principally supported, and the whole town greatly benefitted, ought not to go unnoticed. These oysters, which may well be called the only staple commodity of this town, are taken within the fishing-grounds belonging to the manor of Faversham, and are, no doubt, of the same kind, as are all those caught along this coast, quite from Queenborough to Reculver, as those which were so highly esteemed by the Romans as a great delicacy, under the names of Rhotupian, and British oysters, by which they are described by Juvenal, Pliny, Ausonius, and other antient writers.

But as these beds do not afford native oysters sufficient for the demands made for them, large quantities of small ones, called brood, are annually laid on these

^{/z} Vol. i. Introduction, 22, Note (1). ^{/a} No. 6852.

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shores, which are collected from different parts of the sea, even from the Land's End in Cornwall to Scotland and France, in order to increase and fatten, and be meliorated of their saltness, by the constant flow of the fresh waters from the Thames and the Medway.

The Dutch give a preference to these oysters of the Faversham grounds, before all others along this coast, and have, time out of mind, kept up a constant traffic here for them, never dealing with any others, whilst

they can purchase here those suitable for their consumption, at an equal price to those of the adjoining grounds, and generally laying out upwards of 3000l. annually for them.

These oyster-grounds, as they are termed, seem to have been granted as early as the reign of Henry II. by the yearly rent of 23s. 4d. which is still continued to be paid to the crown for them, to the company of free dredgers of this place, which still subsists as such, by the name of the free fishermen and free dredgermen of the hundred and manor of Faversham, under proper rules for their regulation and good conduct, each of whom, before he is admitted, having served seven years to a freeman, and being at the same time a married man. The company is under the jurisdiction and protection of the lord of the manor, as tenants of it, and he appoints a steward to hold two courts, called Admiralty-courts, or Water-courts, annually, where all matters relating to their good government are transacted.

It may not be improper to describe here the manner in which oysters are produced. Oysters are produced and grow in all seas and salt water; one oyster brings forth many thousands; the young or spawn of them are increased in numberless quantities, between May and August yearly, in which time none are taken or marketed. That season is called their sickness, in which they are not fit to be eaten. The spawn, or brood oysters, are not subject to destruction, as the eggs and fry

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of many other sorts of fish are, nor are they bait or food to any other fish, nor are they marketed for consumption if taken till of due size, but laid again in the fisheries to grow; and the oyster spawn is distributed all over seas, rivers, and waters, by the flux and reflux of the tide; for when the eggs, or spat, as the fishermen call it, are first shed, they rise in a very small bubble like oil, or glue, and float on the surface of the waters, and are moved to and fro till by the air, and sun, they are brought to maturity, and the shell formed, and then, by their natural gravity, they subside, and always remain at the place where they fall.

There is a branch of the ordnance established here, partly in this parish and partly in Ospringe and Davington. A manufactory of gunpowder has been established here ever since the reign of queen Elizabeth, which continued in the hands of private owners till Thomas Pearse, esq. about the year 1760, conveyed these premises by his trustees to Charles, duke of Marlborough, master-general of the ordnance, and others, for the use of the public; since which all the several numerous houses, buildings, and works belonging to this manufactory, have been rebuilt in the most substantial and expensive manner, so as to render it as complete and extensive as possible for the purpose; the mills being worked severally by the Ospringe rivulet, and the others by horses, and the whole under the direction of a storekeeper, clerk of the survey, master fire worker, and others; the three first of whom have handsome houses for their constant residence here. The powder manufactured is about one hundred barrels per week, each weighing about one hundred pounds.

The mills and several works and storehouses, are almost adjoining to the west side of the town, which has more than once severely suffered by the explosions of this dangerous commodity. Besides accidents which happened formerly, whilst these mills were in private hands, two dreadful ones have taken place since; one

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in 1767, when the stove, in which were twenty-five barrels of gunpowder, blew up, and the explosion was so great as to do great damage to the town; but the most horrid accident happened in 1781, when, the corning-mill and dusting-house, in which were about 7000 pounds weight of powder, were, by some unknown accident, blown up, and by the force of the explosion the buildings were scattered around in the air to a considerable distance, and the workmen were blown to atoms. A pillar of flame and smoke was caused by it, which ascended a considerable height in the air before it expanded, and was seen in the isle of Thanet. The air for near the space of a mile round was so impregnated with sulphur, as almost to prevent persons breathing in it, but with great difficulty. The noise of it was heard at twenty miles distance, and even at Canterbury, eleven miles off, it gave the sensation of an earthquake

The produce of the adjoining gardens were entirely blown away, and the ground left bare, and furrowed, as if ploughed up afresh; the boughs of the larger trees were torn off, and the trunks left bare, and scorched black. All the surrounding houses and buildings were in a great measure destroyed, and in many the furniture of them rendered useless.

The houses in the western part of the town, from the direction of the wind, suffered most, for had the wind set directly towards the town, the whole of it must have been inevitably destroyed. In short, the scene of ruin and desolation which presented itself on every side, with the terrors of the inhabitants in general, and the lamentations of the poor for the loss of their relations and friends, and of their little property, was beyond any adequate description, and perhaps was hardly ever before equalled in this kingdom. Five years afterwards parliament granted a sum of money to be paid to the sufferers, in part of their loss; and the widows and children of the workmen who lost their

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lives, had their pay continued to them for life; and an act passed for the better securing these powder works from the like catastrophe in future; in consequence of which the stoves were removed into the marsh, at a considerable distance from the town, and fortunately so, for in 1793 an explosion of forty barrels of powder happened in one of them, but from the distance of them, and the precautions taken to prevent the destructive effects of these dreadful shocks, the damage did not extend far beyond the building and its contents.

Dr. JOHN COLE, one of the chaplains of the royal chapel, and warden of All Souls college, by his indenture, anno 18 Henry VIII. conveyed to the abbot and convent of Faversham, lands and tenements in this and the neighbouring parishes of Goodneston, Hern-

hill, and Leysdown,^{/b} for the endowment and maintenance of a school, as has been noticed before, in which the novices of the abbey should be instructed in grammar; and he directed that the warden and fellows of that college should nominate the schoolmaster from time to time, and that the abbot should admit him, and allow him ten pounds a year wages, together with meat, drink, a gown, a chamber, and four loads of fuel.

It was not long after this endowment, that the abbey of Faversham was suppressed, and the school, as part of it, became involved in the same ruin; upon which the lands above-mentioned became, with the rest of its possessions, vested in the crown, and though several parts of them were granted away at different times, yet the chief of them remained in the crown till the reign of queen Elizabeth.

The inhabitants of the town, soon after the dissolution, had petitioned king Henry VIII. to re-endow the late school, but without success; but on queen Elizabeth's resting here for two nights in her 16th year, they

^{/b} See an account of them in Lewis's Hist. Faversham, p. 27.

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took that opportunity strongly to solicit the queen, by their humble petition, to erect and endow A GRAMMAR SCHOOL for the good education and instruction of their youth, and those of the neighbouring parts, according to the purpose and intention of Dr. Cole, in his foundation of one in the late abbey, and to settle upon it such of those lands as he had endowed it with, which were still remaining in the hands of the crown; to which the queen consented, and by her charter in her 18th year, granted, that the mayor, jurats, and commonalty of the town of Faversham, and their successors, should be governors of the revenues of the school, to be called the free grammar school of Elizabeth, queen of England, in Faversham, and that they should be a corporation for that purpose, and have a common seal for all matters relating to it; and further, that the warden, or sub-warden, and six senior fellows of All Souls college, should nominate the schoolmaster, and remove him from time to time; and that they, together with the mayor, jurats, and commonalty, should make rules and statutes for the government of it; and upon a vacancy of master, if one should not be appointed by the warden, &c. within two months, the archbishop should appoint one. According to this grant, orders were made and established, by Robert Hoveden, warden of All Souls, in 1604, by which the school is at present governed.

The lands belonging to it are now let at upwards of eighty-two pounds per annum, out of which the master is paid an annual salary of sixty pounds, and the residue, after repairs and others incidental charges are deducted, is reserved by the governors, and generally paid to him once in five years, the whole of the income being appropriated to the master, and the support of the school.^{/c}

^{/c} Jacob's History of Faversham, p. 53 et seq.

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In the year 1582, some years after this grant, the school-house was erected, on the north side of the church-yard, by a general benevolence, and an assessment upon the whole town. There is a library in it, first formed by Mr. Rawleigh, the master, and since increased by the gift of Mr. Mendfield, the mayor, and by such books as the governors and others have from time to time purchased. In the school-room is a whole length picture of the royal foundress, placed there by the late Edward Jacob, esq. F. R. A. the editor of the history of this town, *Plantæ Favershamienses*, and other curious and learned treatises of antiquity and natural history; and John Smith, esq. of Sturrey, gave the walk before it, which is well gravelled, and ornamented with a row of trees.

Joshua Childrey, D. D. was master of this school about the time of the great rebellion, and was here at the restoration afterwards. He was born at Rochester, and in 1663 became archdeacon of Salisbury, and prebendary of that church, being accounted a learned and religious divine, and a great virtuoso. He was author of several books, and among others of *Britannia Baccanica*, or the Natural Rarities of England. He died in 1670, at Upway, in Essex, of which he was rector, and was buried in the chancel of the church there./d

Francis-Frederick Giraud, B. D. is the present master of it.

TWO CHARITY SCHOOLS were established in 1716, for the cloathing and instructing of ten poor boys, and ten poor girls of this town, which have ever since continued to be supported by an annual subscription of the principal inhabitants, and by other different benefactions, as may be seen in the list of the charities to this town and parish.

/d Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 467.

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THE CHARITABLE BENEFACTIONS to this parish are very numerous, of which the following is a list:

ROBERT BELLESDEN, a considerable benefactor to the abbey, gave three small tenements in Church-lane for poor widow, to be nominated by the vicar.

ROBERT FALE gave by will, anno 21 Henry VIII. to the master and fellows of St. John's college, in Cambridge, as much of his lands as should be of the yearly value of 3l. for the finding of one scholar there for ever, who should be a man's son of the hundred of Faversham, such as the abbot and vicar of Faversham should appoint.

MR. HENRY HATCH, merchant adventurer and jurat of this town, by his will anno 25 Henry VIII. gave several estates in the counties of Kent and Sussex, to the mayor, jurats, and commonalty for ever, requiring them to obtain licence of mortmain, and to apply the rents and profits to the use and maintenance of the haven and creek, the highways within a mile of the town, and the ornaments of the parish church. – These estates, when they came into the hands of the corporation in 1574, on the death of Mr. Hatch's widow, were let at 66l. 13s. 4d. per annum; at this time they amount to upwards of 250l. yearly rents./e

THOMAS ARDERN, gent. by his will proved in 1550, gave some houses and lands to the corporation, to the annual value of 40s. appointing a sermon to be preached every year, in commemoration of the several benefactors to this parish, and for an en=

couragement for others to do the same, the residue to be expended in bread, to be distributed to the poor. – This charity produced a law-suit, which seems to have been compromised with Mr. Arden's daughter and heir, and the estates were sold; what recompence the corporation had I do not find, but the donor's intent is fulfilled at the expence of the corporation, to the annual value of 1l. 6s. 8d.

THOMAS STREYNHAM, gent. of Faversham, by his will in 1585, ordered his executor to distribute to the poor people of Faversham, the first half year's rent of a farm of 16l. per annum, in Luddenham, Buckland, and Murston; and he charged all the lands with a rent charge of 3l. per annum, to be distributed in wood, coals, or money, once every year for ever, to the poor, now vested in the corporation, and of that annual produce.

WILLIAM SAKER, jurat of Faversham, by will in 1594. gave a yearly rent of 15l. out of certain lands called Elliots, in the isle of Harty, 10l. of it to be applied to the relief of the poor of Faversham, and 5l. to the maintenance of a weekly lecture, now vested in the corporation, and of the annual amount, on an average, of 8l.

The will is in the Prerogative-office, Canterbury.

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ROBERT ALLEN, who was mayor in 1601, gave a house in Partridge-lane, now made into two tenements, for poor widows, and vested in the parishioners.

MR. ROBERT STONE, master of the school here, by will in 1604, gave a house and garden, behind the Middle-row, for a house of correction.

THOMAS MENDFIELD, Esq. who died in his mayoralty, by will in 1614, gave to the mayor, jurats, and commonalty, 20 marcs, to purchase a bell salt, of silver, for the mayor's table; 10l. to the vicar, &c. and also 1000l. towards erecting and endowing six alms-houses, for six poor widows, and appointed his executor to lay out 400l. on the buildings, and the residue in purchasing lands, within ten years after his decease, and to give security to the corporation for the due performance of the trust. These houses were erected in due time; but as no estate was purchased within the time appointed, the executor was called upon to fulfil the testator's bequest, when upon advice of council, the corporation accepted of 450l. in lieu of the 600l. the whole of it being become very precarious. Shortly after, no estate having been purchased, the money was lent upon bonds to different persons, and the whole is said to have been by that means lost; nevertheless, the corporation continues to pay the originally appointed annuity of 24l. to six poor widows, and keeps the houses in repair, the expence of which is always considerable; in 1760 it amounted to upwards of 100l.

CATHERINE LATCHFORD, of Davington, by will in 1615, gave 50l. to the corporation, the interest of it to be applied to the putting out a poor apprentice annually, vested in the corporation.

JOHN FOAD, by will in 1633, gave to the corporation, his house behind the Middle-row for ever, to be employed for an alms-house, for three widows to inhabit and dwell in for ever, now vested in the parishioners.

THOMAS MUSTARD, citizen of London, by will in 1635, gave three houses in this town, the rents of them to be expended in bread for the poor, to be distributed upon every Sunday or Friday after morning service, at 2s. 6d. each time, now vested in the corporation, and of the annual produce of 4l. 19s.

SAMUEL PRESTON, jurat, by will in 1640, gave 40s. per

annum for ever, towards the weekly lecture.

STEPHEN HAYWARD, gent. of Faversham, gave four silver flaggons, of the value of 120l. for the use of the communion-table.

JOHN CASTELock, ESQ. by will in 1651, gave lands in the isle of Harey, called Finners, the rents of which he ordered to be expended in putting out poor children apprentices, now vested in the corporation, and of the annual produce of 2l. clear of taxes.

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EDWARD SPILLET, jurat, by will in 1665, gave a piece of land called Allens, containing four acres, at the upper end of North-lane, in Boughton Blean, the profits of it to be distributed in bread. to 12 poor widows, every Sunday in the afternoon, at 12d. each Sunday, now vested in the corporation, and of the annual produce of 2l. 5s.

WILLIAM SPILLET, son of the last-mentioned Edward, by will in 1670, gave two messuages or tenements, and land, in Boughton-street, to the corporation, the yearly profits of it to be bestowed towards putting out poor apprentices, or for the relief of poor widows, now vested in the corporation, and of the annual produce of 4l. 1s.

JOHN TROWTS, jurat, gave by will in 1673, two annuities, to be paid out of his house and malt-house in Court-street, now vested in Edward Norwood, of Ashford, one to the vicar of this church, for the preaching of a sermon on Good Friday yearly; the other to be distributed to 40 poor widows, or other poor people of Faversham, who should come and hear divine service on that day yearly, unless prevented by sickness or old age, now of the annual produce of 2l.

MARK TROWTS, son of the said John, by his will in 1679, among other bequests, settled two annuities of 40s. per annum each, payable out of his estates in Faversham and Herne; one of them to the minister of Faversham, for his reading divine service, and preaching a sermon on St. Mark's day; the other to be distributed on the same day to the poor of Faversham, the premises are now vested in Richard Milles, esq. of Nackington.

MR. THOMAS KNOWLER, mayor in 1688, gave two almshouses, unendowed, for two poor widows, at the end of Tanners-street, in the presentation of the heirs of John Knowler, esq.

MRS. ELIZABETH THOMAS, by will in 1716, gave 20l. yearly, the interest of it to be applied to the use of the charity schools for ever.

DOROTHY, LADY CAPEL, baroness dowager of Tewksbury, by will in 1719, gave lands in Preston, in trust, for distributing the annual income of them to twelve charity schools, of which that in the town of Faversham to be one; the distribution to this school, consisting of the 12th part of the rents of a farm, called Perry-court, vested in the heirs of lady Capel, is of 11l. annual produce.

THOMAS NAPLETON, ESQ. by will in 1721, gave to the mayor and commonalty, all his lands and tenements in Faversham and Hernehill, in trust, to found an hospital at Tanners-green, for six poor old men, who should each of them have 5l. yearly in money, and every two years a new coat. This has been for many years increased to 10l. per annum, the yearly gross rent being 115l. coibs. annis.

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RICHARD ISLES, citizen and sailmaker of London, by will in 1721, gave out of his estates called Kingsfield lands, to the minister for preaching a funeral sermon on Feb. 11, 20s. to the

clerk 5s. to the sexton for making clean his tomb 20s. to the poor in two-penny and three-penny loaves 10s. and also of three yearly annuities of 5l. for ever, to three poor fishermen of Faversham, freemen of Harty shores, who do not take alms; and if either of the said poor men should have a wife, who should survive him, the said annuity should be paid to her during her life; the lands are now vested in Richard Isles Dimsdale, the proprietor, and the mayor and churchwardens.

MR. STEPHEN SMITH, by will in 1729, gave 200l. to purchase an annuity of 6l. or more, if that sum was not sufficient, to be applied, 20s. to the vicars for ever, for reading in the church on the evening of the day before Christmas, and 5s. a piece to the clerk, sexton, organist, and bell-ringers, for their services on that day, and the residue of the annuity to be disposed of after the service on Christmas day, in the afternoon, to poor people, each person to have not less than one shilling, nor more than two shillings. The above sum is vested in the funds, in the name of the vicar and churchwardens, and is of the annual produce of 4l. 15s.

JOHN MARSH, ESQ. by will in 1751, gave 2000l. for the benefit of the company of dredgers.

MARY, LADY DOWAGER GOWER, daughter of Thomas, late earl of Thanet, in 1771, by deed, settled 200l. in government securities upon Lewis, lord Sondes, lord of the manor of Faversham, and Mr. Richard Marsh, then vicar, and their successors in the manor and vicarage, in trust, for the benefit of the charity schools of this town; the sum is now 229l. 19s. 11d. 3 per cent. Bank consolidated annuities, now of the annual produce of 6l. 17s. 10d.

MR. JAMES BERRY, by his will in 1753, gave 60l. the interest of it to be equally divided in the support of the charity schools, and to the poor in bread.

BESIDES the charities before-mentioned, there have been made at times several small benefactions in money, by different persons, as well towards the charity schools, as the church and poor of this town, the sums of which being vested in the corporation, were laid out in N. S. S. annuities, to the amount of 137l. are now of the annual produce of 4l. 2s. 6d./f

The poor constantly relieved are about one hundred and twenty-five, casually about four hundred.

/f Taken from the Returns of the Parish Officers, according to the Act of Parliament, in 1786, and from Mr. Jacob's History of Faversham, p. 130 et seq.

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Faversham is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which stands close to the east side of the town, was dedicated to the assumption of our lady of Faversham. It is built in the form of a cross, of flints, with quoins of ashler stone. It had, until 1755, when it was taken down, a large square castellated tower in the middle of it, and there remains now another low tower at the north side of the west front, upon which is erected a frame of timber, covered with shingles. So long ago as king Henry the VIIth.'s reign, there seems to have been no steeple to this church, for in 1464, Edward Thomasson, of this town, gave sixty pounds towards the edifying of a new one to it; and of later time, James Lawson, esq. a wealthy inhabitant of this town, who died in 1794, gave by his will 1000l.

for the same purpose, with this sum, together with 500l. given by the corporation, and the remainder payable by a rate, a steeple, seventy-three feet high above the tower, with pinnacles at each corner of it, on the plan of St. Dunstan's in the East, has been erected, and is now nearly completed, at the expence of 2500l.

Behind the tower, within the outer walls, is a strong timbered room, formerly called the tresory, in which, before the reformation, were carefully deposited the goods and ornaments of the church; over it was the chamber for the sextons. On the south side of the west front is a room, formerly open to the church, in which was taught reading and writing; under it is a neat chapel, with stone arches, supported by three pillars in the middle. Over the south porch there is another stone room, the window of which is grated with strong iron bars.

Mr. Henry Hatch, whose extensive charity to this town has already been mentioned, by will in 1533,

/g Wills, Prerogative-office, Canterbury.

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gave a sum of money, at the discretion of the mayor, and his brethren, in making a new jewel-house for this church.

In 1440 there were placed in it five new bells, and in 1459 a sixth was added; these remained till 1749, when they were cast into a new peal of eight.

The church seems to have been built in the latter end of the reign of Edward I. or the beginning of the reign of Edward II. by a silver penny of one of those kings being found under the basis of one of the piers, which supported the middle tower. In the east window of the great chancel, were some time since remaining two shields of arms, viz. Gules, two lions passant-guardant, or a label of five points, azure; and Argent, a lion rampant, sable, within a bordure of the second, bezante.

In the year 1754, the body of the church, as well as the roof of it, on a survey, being deemed in a dangerous state, a faculty was obtained to pull it down, which was accordingly done, under the plan and directions of Mr. George Dance, of London, architect, at the expence of 2300l. besides which, 400l. was afterwards expended in an organ, and 100l. more in other ornaments, and ninety pounds in improving the great chancel, which through age was become very unsightly; so that the whole of it is now made equal to, if not the most elegant and spacious, of any parish church in this county, and is extensive and spacious enough to afford convenient room for all the parishioners of it.

When this church was new built, and the body and isles new paved, the grave-stones, many of which were antient, with brasses on them, were removed from the places where they lay, to other open and conspicuous parts of it. Among the monuments were those for Henry Hatche, merchant adventurer, 1533; Thomas Mendfield, 1614, John Fagg, esq. 1508, and one for Thomas Southouse, esq. 1558, who wrote the Monas-

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tion Favershamiense. Both monuments and epitaphs are by far too numerous to insert in this place, they may be found at large in Weever's Funeral Monuments, in Lewis's Appendix to his History of Faversham Abbey, and in Harris's History of Kent. Besides which there is in the Appendix to Jacob's History of Faversham, a chronological list of such persons as have been known to have been buried in it.

This church measures from east to west, including the chancel, one hundred and sixty feet, the width of the body sixty five feet; the length of the isles from north to south one hundred and twenty-four feet, and their width forty-six feet.

Before the reformation, besides the high altar in the great chancel, there were two chapels, one dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and the other to St. Thomas, and there were several altars in the isles and chancels.

James Dryland, esq. of this parish, settled an annual pension of 6s. 8d. for six chaplains to keep his obit, on every vigil of St. James the Apostle, in this church.

King William the Conqueror, in his 5th year, anno 1070, gave this church to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, and the tenths of all the products arising from that manor, and of all its appurtenances of the land, wood, meadows, and waters, excepting the tenths of honey, and rent paid in money./h

Sometime after which, in 1168, the conventual church of St. Augustine was, the greatest part of it, burnt; on which account the pope confirmed and appropriated this church, with the chapel of St. James of Sheldwich annexed, to the reparation of it.

Notwithstanding this king Henry the 2d. afterwards claimed the presentation to this church in his own right,

/h See the confirmations of it by the several kings, archbishops and popes, in Decem. Script. Chron. W. Thorn. col. 1788, 1796, 1838, 1840, 2123. See also col. 1882, 1960, 2002, 2013, 2018, 2039, 2146, and 2199. Tan. Mon. p. 205. Frag. Sprot. p. 131 et infra.

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as did king John in his 3d year./i This brought on much altercation, threatenings, and prohibitions, on the king's part, and in the course of them there happened many blows, and some bloodshed, as has been mentioned before, and it caused several appeals, and bulls of the pope, on the monks part, which continued till at length the king, by the archbishop's advice, who was now become mediator for them, seems to have relaxed from that firmness and resolution he had hitherto supported his claim with, and having admitted them to his presence, he at their humble intreaties restored all their possessions, and in recompence of the losses the monastery had sustained through his means, he confirmed to them the charters of his predecessors, as well of this church as of their several rights and liberties.

At the time that king John had this contention with the abbot and convent, the archdeacon of Canterbury claimed the custody of this church, as being vacant, and the profits of it for the time it was so; as such he, on the above-mentioned vacancy, took possession of it, and the monks entered their protest against it, and appealed to the pope, who referred this dispute to dele=

gates, but by the mediation of mutual friends, and at the king's request to the archbishop, that he would not disturb the abbot and convent in any shape, in regard to this church, he, through respect to the king, ratified it to them, to be possessed by them, as above-mentioned, for ever, and in the next reign of Henry III. anno 1238, a composition was entered into between archbishops Edmund and Roger, abbot of St. Augustine's, for the accommodating of all disputes concerning their respective privileges and jurisdictions.

In the next reign of king Edward I. a vicarage was endowed in this church by archbishop John Peckham, who by his instrument, in 1305, decreed, with the

/i Decem. Script. col. 1815, 1835, 1843, 2091.

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consent of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, patrons of it, that the then vicar Robert de Hoynton, and his successors, vicars in this church, should have the usual house of the vicarage adjoining to the churchyard, with its appurtenances, to hold freely and exempt from all rent and secular service, and that they should take, in the name of their vicarage, all manner of oblations in the church of Faversham, and in all places whatsoever situated within the bounds, limits, or tithings of it, made or to be made upon any account whatsoever, and all manner of oblations, of whatever sort, made in the first mass of the thirteen householders, inhabiting certain tenement in the hamlet of Schelwych, either whilst they were living or on their deaths, of whatever sort they should be made, in the chapel of that hamlet annexed to this church, and made within the tithing of that parish; the names of which tenements were therein specifically named.

And that they should take in the name of their vicarage, all tithes of hay, wool, lambs, pigs, flax, hemp, apples, pears, pulse, cheese, milkmeats, ducks, pigeons, merchandizes, eggs, and of all mills then situated, or which might afterwards be, within the parish, and also of beans and other seeds planted in orchards and gardens, or of such sown or increasing elsewhere; and also that they should have in the name of their vicarage, from the master of the Maison Dieu for the time being, five shillings for the small tithes arising from the close and orchard of that house, situated within this parish, according to an agreement between the vicar of it and the master, but that the vicar and his successors should undergo, at his and their own expences and charge, the burthen of serving by themselves, or two fit priests in the divine services of this church, the burthen also of ministering bread and wine, two wax processions, and other candles, which should be necessary for the celebrating of divine rights there, and also the finding of

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rushes, to strew the church with in summer, and the payment of tithes and other impositions, which might be laid on the church of England, at any time, or by any one, or which should be incumbent on the church of Faversham itself, for the taxation of ten pounds, but that the burthens of repairing and amending the chancel, both within and without, and the finding and re=

pairing of books, vestments, and ornaments of the church, which ought, either by right or custom, to be found or repaired by the rectors of churches, and straw to strew the church with in winter time, and all other burthens, ordinary and extraordinary, incumbent on the church, not assigned above to the vicars of it; the religious should for ever undergo and acknowledge, &c./k

The abbot and convent of St. Augustine, as appropriators, were entitled to the tithes of a field on the north side of the church, which, as they had no way of carrying them off, but through the grounds of the abbey of Faversham, were of little or no profit to them: this bred continual disputes between them, till at last, in the year 1293, an agreement, by the mediation of their mutual friends, was entered into, by which the abbot and convent of Faversham, granted licence to the abbot of St. Augustine, and his servants, to carry out, in the time of autumn, without any hindrance or impediment, the tithes of that field, through the gate of the abbot and convent of Faversham, which was on the north part of the field, until they should provide another fit and competent way for that purpose; nor should the abbot and convent of St. Augustine claim any right or property of going or returning through the said gate or way, when another was provided for them, but only free ingress and egress in the time of autumn, for the purpose above mentioned, as was therein expressed.

/k Decem. Script. col. 2091. Cotton Library in the British Museum, marked Faustina A. 1.

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It appears by a dispute, which was litigated anno 1297, being the 26th of king Edward I. that the church of Sheldwich was then esteemed as a chapel, annexed and belonging to this church, and it continued so in the 21st year of Richard II.

The abbot and convent of St. Augustine having obtained from time to time many grants and extensive privileges from the see of Rome, among which was an exemption from all archiepiscopal authority, about the year 1295, ordained an institution of several new deaneries, and apportioned the several churches belonging to their monastery to each of them, according to their vicinity; one of these was the deanry of Lenham, in which this church of Faversham was, among others, included. This proceeding raised great contests between the archbishops and abbots of St. Augustine, each appealing in his turn to the pope, who referred the settling of it to the abbot of Westminster, and others, who stripped the abbot of these exemptions, and he was declared by the pope's bull, to be subject to the archbishop's jurisdiction in all matter whatsoever, in like manner as before, which entirely dissolved the new deaneries, and that of Lenham among them./l

In the year 1307, there was an agreement entered into between the abbots of St. Augustine and Faversham, concerning certain tithes and customs in this parish and elsewhere, by which it was agreed, that the former should receive out of the manor of the latter, with its appurtenances in Faversham, six marcs of annual rent, and the benefit of two cows feeding with

their cows at Faversham, in manner as was therein expressed, and of seven heifers feeding with their's at the Blean, in like manner, and of six hogs, at the time of pannage, with their's in pannage yearly, and that they should receive seven carriage loads of brush fagots, each load drawn by two horses, in their wood of

/l Decem. Script. col. 1976 et seq.

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Blean yearly; all which, they acknowledge, the abbot and convent of St. Augustine had continually taken by the charter of Willam the Conqueror, which having inspected, they thereby ratified and confirmed. And they further released all right and claim, which they then, or at any time afterwards might have, in the advowson of the parish church of Faversham, with its appurtenances, canonically appropriated to the religious of St. Augustine, who released and quit-claimed to the abbot and convent of Faversham, all the right and title which they then had, in the tithes arising from Melefeld and Suthfeld, and certain fields but newly assarted at Lamberislonde, viz. Eastrete, Westrete, Muchefeld, and le Coumbe, whenever, and as long as those lands should be cultivated in their own hands; saving nevertheless, and reserved to themselves the tithes arising from one acre and an half in Melfeld, and one acre in Suthfeld, which those of Faversham had purchased, and of the lands lately tilled, assarted and to be assarted, purchased already and those in future to be purchased, so that their privileges, if any such they had at that time, should not be diminished in any thing.

It appears that the scite of the vicarage was given to the church by queen Maud, after the death of one Helvide, a nun, by the description of an acre of land, for the building of an house in alms, close to the cemetery, between the church of St. Mary, and the chapel of St. Gregory./m

The abbots of St. Augustine were frequently cited by the several archbishops at their primary visitations, to shew cause why they were not present, to perform their obedience there, on account of the churches appropriated to their monastery; upon which the abbots produced the several bulls, charters, and instruments, which exempted them from it, with which the archbi-

/m Regist. Mon. Sci Aug. Cart. 225, 230, 460.

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shop being satisfied, granted to them letters of exemption from such appearance./n

Upon a survey of the possessions of St. Augustine's monastery, about this time, there appeared to belong to this church, thirty-three acres of glebe land, and that thirty-eight acres belonging to the abbey of Faversham paid tithes to that abbot and convent.

In the 8th year of Richard II. this church was valued at 36l. 13s. 4d. yearly income.

The church and vicarage of Faversham, after this (the chapel of St. James of Sheldwich being separated from it, and having before this become an independent parish church) remained in the same state, and parcel of the possessions of the monastery of St. Augustine,

till the final dissolution of it in the 30th year of king Henry VIII. when it was, with all its revenues, surrendered into the king's hands.

After which the king, by his dotation-charter, settled both the church appropriate of Faversham, and the advowson of the vicarage, among other premises, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, with whom the inheritance of the parsonage still remains, the present lessee of it being Mr. John Bax, of London, but the advowson of the vicarage the dean and chapter retain in their own hands, and are the present patrons of it.

King Henry VIII. in his 36th year, granted to Anthony St. Leger, among other premises, a barn with its appurtenances, formerly belonging to the rectory of Faversham, and all those tithes arising from and within the borough of Rode, to hold in capite by knight's service. In 1646 the lady Darel was lessee of this parsonage, at the yearly rent of 32l. 6s. 8d. and fifty pounds fine every seventh year.

/n By archbishop Reynolds in 1313. Decem. Script. col. 2013. Archbishop Mephram, anno 4 Edward III. Ibid. col. 2039. Archbishop Arundel, anno 1397. Ibid. col. 2129.

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The vicarage of Faversham is valued in the king's books at 38l. 18s. 3d. and the yearly tenths at 2l. 13s. 9d. In 1578 the communicants here were eight hundred and forty five.

At the archbishop's visitation, anno 1630, it was returned, that there was a vicarage-house, and about forty rods of land about it, and an acre of pasture-ground.

In 1640 it was valued at one hundred pounds per annum, and in 1732, including the offerings at Easter, at the like sum. Communicants fifteen hundred.

CHURCH OF FAVERSHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. William Master, A. M. Aug.

30, 1605, resigned 1606./o

John Philips, A. M. instituted

April 19, 1606, obt. 1640.

Thomas Hurt, S. T. B. Dec. 8,

1640, obt. 1642.

John Jeoffray. S. T. P. inducted

February 27, 1642. sequest.

1643.

Nathaniel Wilmot, ejected 1662.

Francis Worral, A. M. Dec. 1,

1662, resigned 1665.

Giles Hinton, S. T. P. March 3,

1665, resigned

John Gamlyne, A. M. obt.

1715./p

Shadrach Cooke, A. M. July 22,

1715, obt. 1724.

Henry Archer, S. T. P. April 2,

1724, obt. Feb. 16, 1744.

Richard Marsh, A. B. July 14,

1744, obt. Aug 31, 1778.

William Chafy, A. M. inducted

Dec. 12, 1778, resig. 1780./q
Richard Halke, A. M. June 17,
1780, the present vicar.

/o And vicar of Ticehurst. He had
been chaplain to archbishop Abbot,
and had the character of being an ex=
cellent man. See Walker's Suff. of
Clergy, pt. ii. p. 282.

/p And vicar of Preston.

/q He resigned this vicarage on being
presented to that of Sturry.

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DAVINGTON.

THE next parish westward is Davington, which is
situated mostly on the summit of the hill, just above
the town of Faversham, on the opposite side of the
Ospringle rivulet. The church and priory stand on the
brow of the hill, on the south-east verge of it, and at a
small distance from them the little village of Daving=
ton, and the hall opposite to it, all which are conspi=
cuous objects from the London road and the neigh=
bouring country. It is even in this higher part, where
it is not an unpleasant situation, exceedingly unhealthy,
in which part of it the land is mostly pasture, lower to=
wards Ore the arable land is very good. To the west=
ward this parish stretches up the hill to Bizing wood,
mostly a poor soil, part of which, opposite to Judde=
house, is within the bounds of it. It has much swampy
wet land towards the north and east, where it is bounded
by the Ospringle rivulet, Ore, and Faversham creeks.

At the north-west boundary of this parish are Ore
mills, so called from their contiguity to that parish.
They formerly belonged to the priory here, and es=
cheated with it to the crown, in the 27th year of king
Henry VIII. after which, in the 35th year of it, they
were granted, by the description of a water mill, called
Ore Mill, and likewise twenty acres of land, being then
rented at 4l. per annum, to Sir T. Cheney, whose son
Henry, afterwards lord Cheney, succeeded to them.
The corn mill and land have been for some genera=
tions the property of a family of the name of Colegate,
and are now the joint property of the three sons of the
late Wm. Colegate, viz. Robert, William, and John,
and one daughter Mary-Ann, who married Mr. Wm.
Bristow, an alderman of Canterbury. Another portion
of land is the property of the heirs of Mr. Steph. Gil=
low, of Cooksditch. On these estates many mills and
buildings have been erected for the manufacturing of
gunpowder, by Miles Peter Andrews and Fred. Pigou,
esqrs. the present lessees of them, considerable quan=
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titles being made here for the use of the East-India
company.

On the brow of the hill, near the eastern bounds of
this parish, next to Faversham, there were discovered
some few years ago, in digging the foundations for
some offices belonging to the royal powder-mills, se=
veral of which are situated within it, more than twenty
Roman urns and other vessels, of various sizes and dif=
ferent coloured earths, and in the environs of this spot,

several single urns have been likewise dug up, as well as some coins of the Roman emperors, from Vespasian down to Gratian, which makes it probable, that this place was once a Roman burial ground, of which more will be said, under the description of the adjoining parish of Ospringe.

MR. JACOB, in his *Plantæ Favershamienses*, has enumerated a number of scarce plants, which he observed in this parish, to which, the list being by far too long to insert here, the reader is referred.

THE PARAMOUNT MANOR of Faversham claims jurisdiction over this parish, subordinate to which is THE MANOR OF DAVINGTON, which, in the reign of king Stephen, was in the possession of Fulk de Newnham, who in the 19th year of that reign, anno 1153, founded on the site of it A PRIORY for nuns of the Benedictine order, which was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and he at the same time gave to them this manor, among other lands, for their support and maintenance.

King Henry II. took this foundation under his patronage, from which he has been esteemed as the founder of it by some. King Henry III. on April 22, in his 39th year, confirmed to these nuns all their possessions, with sundry liberties and privileges, which charter was pleaded by their attorney, Richard de Roylaund, in their behalf anno 7 Edward I. at which time, as appears by the ledger-book of the priory, John de Da-

/r Lewis's *Hist. Faversham*, p. 77. *Ledger of Davington priory.*

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vington possessed lands in this parish in the reign of Henry III. and was a benefactor to the priory.

Their original number of nuns was 26, but in the reign of Edward III. from the scantiness of their revenues, they were reduced to fourteen. In the 17th year of the above reign, the prioress and nuns presented a petition to the king, representing, that from their great poverty they were unable to satisfy the king's public aids, without depriving themselves of their necessary subsistence; upon which the king directed his writ to John de Vielston, then sheriff, to make enquiry into the truth of it, who returned, that notwithstanding their reduced number, they had not a competent means of subsistence, nor could they live upon the revenue of the convent, but had the charity of their friends to supply them. From which representation, most probably, their petition had the desired effect; however that be, they, from their extreme poverty, afterwards acquired the name of the poor nuns of Davington.

To the above-mentioned petition they annexed a schedule of their possessions, which, so far as a mutilated paper contains, the rest being torn off, amounts to no more than 21l. 13s. which was nearly the whole amount of their income, as appears by a valuation taken in the 8th year of the next reign of Richard II. anno 1384, when their spiritualities, viz. the churches of Hercheghe, Nyewngham, and Davyngton, were estimated at twelve pounds per annum, the church of Burdefeld at 53s. 4d. and their temporalities at 14l. 6s. 8d. the whole being but 28l. 19s. 9d. yearly revenue.

About the year 1326, archbishop Walter Reynolds prescribed certain rules and ordinances for the better government of the nuns of this priory, which being in the French tongue for their better understanding, has

/s Rog. Dodsworth MSS. 5056, vol. cxv, 28. Inquis de terris et possess. Prioriss. et mon. de Davyngton anno 17 Edward III. f. 158.

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made it supposed by some that they were French women. As the necessaries of life increased in value, their poverty became more distressing; their little income, so far from being sufficient to maintain the original number of nuns prescribed at the foundation of the priory, became afterwards unequal to the support even of the fourteen, to which they were reduced in king Edward III.'s reign, and it appears that they afterwards continued diminishing in number, till at last, in the reign of Henry VIII. this priory was become quite deserted, so that it escheated to the crown, tanquam locum profanum et dissolutum, in the 27th year of it, it being then found, before the escheator of the county, that there were neither prioress nor nuns left in it, to perform the service of the foundation.

The priory, with all its possessions, coming thus into the hands of the crown, remained there till the 35th year of the above reign, when the king granted the scite and precinct of it, and all houses, buildings, gardens, and orchards, the manor of Fishborne, and divers premises in Fishborne, Faversham, and other parishes mentioned in the grant, all lately belonging to it, with all their appurtenances, liberties, and privileges, to Sir Thomas Cheney, who was then tenant of the whole of them under the crown, at the yearly rent of twenty pounds, to hold in capite by knight's service. He died in the 1st year of queen Elizabeth, leaving a son Henry, afterwards knighted, and created Lord Cheney of Tuddington, who had possession granted of them in the 3d year of that reign, and in the 8th year of it alienated the manor or capital mesuage of Davington, and the scite of the priory, with all buildings, lands, &c. belonging to it, in Davington, and sundry other premises, with their appurtenances, and all liberties, privileges, and immunities belonging to them, parcel of the possessions of it, to John Bradbourn, descended from those of Derbyshire, who two years afterwards sold them to Avery Giles, and his son Francis passed them away by sale,

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in the 20th year of that reign, to Mr. John Edwards, who resided here, and dying in 1631, was buried in this church. He left an only daughter Anne, by whom they went in marriage to Mr. John Bode, gent. of Rochford, in Essex, descended of a family which had possessed good estates in that county for several generations, and of which the Bodes of this county were the eldest branch; the youngest branch being settled at Rayley, where their descendants continued for several generations. They bore for their arms, Sauble, two chevronels between three escallops, argent. His grandson John Bode, esq. resided here, and died about the time of the restoration of Charles II. leaving his

widow, Margaret Bode, (who was his third wife) surviving, who became possessed of them, and held a court baron here in 1662. After which his daughter and heir Mary, by his first wife, daughter of Sir Edward Boys, of Fredville, became entitled to them, and died possessed of them about the year 1700, on which they came to the Rev. Mr. John Sherwin, rector of Luddenham, who died in 1713, and was buried in Davington church. He gave them by will to his nephew, Mr. William Sherwin, of Deptford, who died in 1725, whose grandson William Sherwin, gent. of Deptford, dying in 1786, this estate came to his aunt Margaret Wood, of Greenwich, widow, who gave it by will to Henry-Jeremiah Leuson Sayer, esq. of Lincoln's-inn, and he in 1790 sold it to Thomas Bennet, esq. of Faversham, who is at this time entitled to the manor and scite of this priory, with the other lands and premises in this parish, as above-mentioned. There is a court baron still held for this manor.

By the liberties granted as before-mentioned by Henry III. to this priory, of being quit from suit at all county and hundred courts, the proprietors have

/t Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree Bode. See Morant's Essex, vol. i. p. 280, 347.

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ever since claimed an exemption from serving the office of constable, if chosen at the leet or hundred court.

The priory joined to the south side of the church; great part of it is yet remaining, and is made use of as a farm-house. The west front is almost entire; the hall or refectory, (in which there is the frame of the organ, and a gallery at one end) and a part of the cloyster, neatly ceiled with chesnut wood, still remain. Several other buildings belonging to it were much shattered, by the blowing up of the stove of the powder-mills, some years ago, and were taken down; but there are ruins of them still to be seen round about it. The walls surrounding the court, orchard, and churchyard, built of flints and rag-stone, are partly entire, through in a very decaying state. The whole building was again much shattered, and some parts of it torn to pieces, in a surprising manner, by the terrible explosion of the powder-works in 1781.

DAVINGTON-HALL, or court, was once likewise accounted a manor, the ruins of the mansion of which yet remain, at a small distance south-westward from the church. In the reign of Edward III. this seat was part of the possessions of the Strabolgies, earls of Athol, and owners of the honor and castle of Chilham, one of whom was probably the builder of it, by their coat of arms, which remained fixed up in the stone-work of the great hall, when this seat was pulled down.

David de Strabolgie, the last earl of Athol of this name, died possessed of it in the 49th year of king Edward III. anno 1374, leaving by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Henry, lord Ferrers, two daughters his coheirs, of whom Elizabeth, the eldest, became the wife of Sir Thomas Percy, a younger son of Henry, lord Percy, and Philippa of John Halsham, of Halsham, in Sussex; the latter of whom became entitled

to this estate, as part of his wife's inheritance. She survived him, and died possessed of it in the 19th year

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of Richard II after which it at length descended to her grandson Sir Hugh Halsham, and he, in the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. passed it away by sale to Mr. James Dryland, whose daughter and sole heir Constance carried it in marriage, first to Sir Thomas Walsingham, of Scadbury, in Chesilhurst; and secondly to John Green, esq. and dying in the 16th year of that reign, was succeeded in it by her son by her first husband, Sir James Walsingham, who kept his shrievalty at this seat of Davington-hall, in the 12th year of Henry VII./u

His son Sir Edmund Walsingham, of Scadbury, in the beginning of the next reign, passed it away by sale to Ralph Symonds, who purchased afterwards of Richard Dryland, of Cooksditch, land in the manor of Fishbourne, in this parish, a manor, which so early as king Henry the 11d.'s reign, was held by owners of the same name, and afterwards passed into that of Dryland, but who are now owners of it, or where it is situated, is wholly unknown. Ralph Symonds above-mentioned, died possessed of Davington-hall, anno 33 Henry VIII. whose widow afterwards possessed it;/w his heirs, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, alienated it to Coppinger, whose son having, about the beginning of king James I.'s reign, mortgaged it to Freeman, they both joined in the conveyance of it to Mr. John Milles, of Norton, who was the son of Richard Milles, of Hothfield, and bore for his arms, Ermine, a fer de moline, sable, on a chief, azure, a pair of wings conjoined, or. He afterwards resided here. His only daughter Anne, in 1627, marrying with John Milles, esq. of Hampshire, son of Sir John Milles, (an early marriage, she being only twelve years of age, and he only twenty) entitled him to this

/u See Chesilhurst, vol. ii. of this history, p. 7.

/w This appears by a rental of the late priory, anno 35 king Henry VIII.

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estate, who was head customer of Sandwich, keeper of Rochester castle, and had been esquire of the body to king James I. He was of Davington-hall, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, pulled down this antient mansion, and at the same time fitted up a part of the outhouses adjoining to it, as a sufficient dwelling for the farmer, or occupier of it, which remains at this time, and afterwards passed it away by sale to Thomas Twisden, esq. of Bradbourne, in East Malting, sergeant-at-law, afterwards one of the judges of the king's bench, and created a baronet in 1666, and in his descendants this estate of Davington-hall continued to Sir Roger Twisden, bart. who died in October, 1779, leaving his lady Rebecca, the daughter of Isaac Wildash, esq. of Chatham, by Rebecca Tihurst his wife, big with child, which proved to be a daughter, born on Jan. 4, next year. He was succeeded at Bradbourne, and the principal part of his estates, by his next surviving brother, now Sir John

Papillon Twisden, bart. but this estate of Davington-hall, with other premises in this neighbourhood, was settled by Sir Roger on his lady Rebecca, and she is at this time entitled to the possession of it.

There are no parochial charities. The number of poor constantly relieved are about seven, casually 25.

DAVINGTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, is a small building of two isles. The west door of it is an elegant circular arch of stone, enriched with pillars on each side, and a variety of ornaments over it. The steeple, which is square, with a pointed top to it, tiled, stands at the south-west corner of it. It was built adjoining to, and indeed under one roof, with the priory, to which it likewise served as a conventual church. At the further end of the south isle, against the south wall, near the altar, was an antient tomb in

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the wall, which was opened, and among the bones inclosed in it, was a manuscript book, which being exposed to the air immediately crumbled to dust. On the north wall of the north isle, next the door, was another such tomb, which was opened a few years ago, and there were found in it many bones, which seemed of children about eight or nine years old.

Of this church and church-yard the prioress and convent were possessed in their demesne, as of fee, to their own proper uses, the same being so appropriated to them at their foundation, by which they were obliged to find three priests and two clerks, to perform divine services in it, and to pay them wages, and support them in their diet, by the year and week, sufficient for that purpose.

The priority having escheated to the crown, with all its possessions and appurtenances, in which this church was included, as has been already mentioned, the king, in his 35th year, granted the whole of it, with all its possessions, appurtenances, immunities, privileges, &c. by which this church passed likewise to Sir Thomas Cheney, who then became possessed of it in as ample a manner as the prioress and convent or the king had been before. From him the property of this church has continued in the same succession of owners that the priory itself has, and is now, with that, in the possession of Mr. Sherwin, the proprietor of it.

Divine service is performed in this church at the will of the proprietor, but generally once in a month, and he pays the clergyman for officiating in it.

The proprietor claims exemption for this church from the jurisdiction of the archdeacon, or any other ordinary, and accordingly regularly opposes their visiting of it.

It is certified as a curacy, of the clear yearly value of twenty pounds.

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CHURCH OF DAVINGTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. CURATES.

The King. Richard Mills, clerk, July 12,
1625./x

..... Bode, widow. Francis Worrall, inducted 1666.

John Sherwin, A. M. obt. Jan.
17, 1713./y

Thomas Lees, jun. A. M. March
9, 1713, obt. Sept. 1728./z

Robert Harrison, obt. 1755./a

Richard Halke.

Francis-Frederick Giraud, A. M.
1781, resigned 1794./b

George Nailor, 1794, the pre=
sent curate.

/x He was presented by the king's
letters patent to the rectory or chapel
of Davington. Rym. Fœd. vol. xviii.
p. 647.

/y He was rector of Luddenham,
and patron and proprietor of this
church, in which he lies buried.

/z Also rector of Goodneston.

/a And rector of Luddenham, and
perpetual curate of Ore.

/b And vicar of Preston, and curate
of Ore.

- - -

ORE

LIES the next parish north westward from Da=
vington, and is so called from the etymology of it
in the Saxon language, signifying a fenny or marshy
place.

This parish is a very low situation, at the very
edge of the marshes, it is consequently but little
known or frequented, its vicinity to the marshes, and
its low and watry situation, make it very unhealthy,
so that it is but very thinly inhabited, but the lands
are very rich and fertile, the waters of the Swale are
its northern boundaries; on its south it rises up to=
wards Bysing-wood, from which it is distant about a
mile. The village is occupied by a few fishermen and
oyster dredgers, situated near the middle of the parish,

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on a small ascent, having the church about a quarter
of a mile to the north-westward of it, and Ore-court
at the like distance, at the edge of the marshes. The
creek, which is navigable up to the village, whence it
runs north-east, and at a little more than half a mile's
distance joins the Faversham creek, and flows with it
about the like distance, till it meets the waters of the
Swale.

Several scarce plants have been observed in this pa=
rish by Mr. Jacob, who has enumerated them among
his Plantæ Favershamienses, to which book the reader
is referred for a list of them.

THE MANOR of Ore was part of the vast posses=
sions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, the
Conqueror's half-brother, under the general title of
whose lands it is thus entered in the general survey of

Domesday:

In Lest de Wiwarlet. In Favreshant hundred, Adam holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Ore. It was taxed at two sulings. The arable lands are four carucates. In demesne there is one, and ten villeins, with ten borderers, having two carucates. There is half a church, and one mill of twenty-two shillings, and two fisheries without tallage, and one salt-pit of twenty-eight pence. Wood for the pannage of six hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth four pounds, and afterwards sixty shillings, now one hundred shillings. Turgis held it of king Edward.

And a little afterwards there is another entry as follows:

Adam holds of the bishop one yoke in Ore, and it was taxed at one yoke. The arable land is one carucate. Four villeins now hold this to ferme, and pay twenty shillings, and it was worth so much separately. There is a church. Leuuold held it of king Edward.

Four years after the taking of the above survey, the bishop of Baieux was disgraced, and all his possessions were consiscated to the crown.

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Upon which the manor of Ore came to be held immediately, or in capite of the king, by the before-mentioned Adam de Port, of whose heirs it was afterwards again held by Arnulf Kade, who gave this manor, with that of Stalisfield, and their appurtenances, to the knights hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, and it was assigned by them to the jurisdiction of their preceptory, established at Swingfield.

The manor of Ore continued part of the possessions of these knights till the general dissolution of their hospital in the 32d year of Henry VIII. when this order was suppressed by an act then specially passed for that purpose.^c

This manor seems to have remained in the hands of the crown till king Edward VI. granted it in his 5th year, to Edward, lord Clinton and Say, who next year re-conveyed it back again to the king.^d

How it passed from the crown afterwards I have not found, but that at length it came into the possession of the family of Monins, and thence by sale to that of Short, one of which, Samuel Short, esq. owned it in 1722, and it continued down in his descendants to Philip Short, esq. who was succeeded in it by Mr. Charles Maples Short, who died a few years ago at Jamaica, on which it became vested in Mr. Humphry Munn, gent. in right of Lydia Short his wife. Hence it passed by sale to Mr. Bonnick Lipyatt, who died in 1789, leaving two daughters his coheirs, who married Mr. Charles Brooke, of London, and Mr. Gosselin, and entitled them respectively to this estate. A court leet and court baron is held for this manor.

There are no parochial charities. The poor constantly relieved here are not more than two; casually about six.

^c Rec. in. Scacc. anno 16 Henry VIII. pasch. rot. 1, pro libertat in man. de Ore. Tan. Mon. p. 300.

ORE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a small building, of one isle and one chancel, having a pointed steeple at the west end, in which are two bells.

This church, which was antiently accounted only as a chapel to that of Stalisfield, belonged to the priory of St. Gregory, in Canterbury, perhaps part of its original endowment by archbishop Lanfranc, in the time of the Conqueror, and it was confirmed to it, among its other possessions, by archbishop Hubert, about the reign of king Richard I.

In the 8th year of Richard II. there was a yearly pension paid from the church of Ore, of ten shillings to the priory of Rochester, and another of eight shillings to that of Leeds./e

This church remained part of the possessions of the priory of St. Gregory, till the dissolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. in the 27th year of which, an act having passed for the suppression of all such religious houses, whose revenues did not amount to the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds, this priory was thereby dissolved, and the scite of it, together with all its lands, possessions, and revenues, surrendered into the king's hands, by John Symkins, prior of it.

The church of Ore remained with the other possessions of the priory in the crown but a small time, for an act passed that year to enable the king and the archbishop of Canterbury to exchange the scite of the late dissolved priory of St. Radigund near Dover, with all its possessions, lately given by the king to the archbishop, for the scite of the late dissolved priory of St. Gregory, and all the possessions belonging to it, excepting the manor of Howfield, in Chartham.

/e Stev. Mon. vol. i. p. 40. Reg. Roff. p. 108.

After which the parsonage of this church was demised by the archbishop, as it has been since by his successors, among the rest of the revenues of the priory of St. Gregory, from time to time, in one great lease, (in which all advowsons and nominations to churches and chapels have constantly been excepted) in which state it continues at this time. George Gipps, esq. of Harbledown, M. P. is the present lessee of them to the archbishop, and Mr. John Hope, of Ore, is the present lessee under him for the parsonage of this church, at the yearly rent of thirty-four pounds.

It pays, procurations to the archdeacon five shillings, and to the archbishop at his visitation two shillings. When the church of Ore was separated from that of Stalisfield, I have not found, but it has long been an independent church of itself.

It was, long before the dissolution of the priory of St. Gregory, served as a curacy by the religious of it; since which it has been esteemed as a perpetual curacy, of the patronage of the successive archbishops of Can=

terbury, and continues so at this time. In 1640 the communicants here were forty-seven.

The lessee of the parsonage pays the curate, by the covenants of his lease, the yearly sum of fifteen pounds.

Before the year 1755, it had been augmented by the governors of queen Anne's bounty with the sum of two hundred pounds, and divine service was performed here only once a fortnight; since which it has been augmented with 1000l. more, and it is now performed here once a week. Of the above sum of 1200l. in the year 1764, 260l. were laid out in the purchase of an estate, of a house, buildings, and twenty-two acres of land, in Ospringe; and in 1770, another estate was purchased, consisting of a house, buildings, and thirty-three acres of land, in Boughton under Blean. The remaining 280l. yet remain in the governors hands.

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CHURCH OF ORE.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. CURATES.

Robert Harrison, obt. 1755./f

Archbishop of Canterbury. Francis-Frederick Giraud, A. M.
the present curate./g

/f Rector of Luddenham, and curate
of Davington.

/g Vicar of Preston, and master of
Faversham school.

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LUDDENHAM

LIES the next parish north-westward from Ore, and was, in the reign of the Conqueror, called Cildresham, by which name it is described in the survey of Domesday.

IT is situated about a mile northward of the high London road from Judde-hill, the southern part of it reaching up to Bizing wood, part of which is within it. It lies very low and flat; the arable lands in it, which consist of about three hundred and ninety-six acres, and the upland, meadow, and pasture, of about two hundred acres, are very rich and fertile; near one half of it is marsh land, which reaches to the waters of the Swale, which are its northern boundary.

The church stands nearly in the middle of the upland part of it, and the parsonage-house, which has a mote round it, near half a mile southward of it, close to Bysing-wood. There is no village, and not more than ten houses in the parish, the unhealthiness of its situation occasions its being but very thinly inhabited, those who risk their lives in it seldom attaining any great age.

THERE ARE some parts of this parish which lie at some distance from the rest of it, several other parishes intervening: in Perry-field, almost opposite the 47th mile-stone on the high London road, but on the other

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or south side of it, there are twenty-two acres of land,

and between Goodneston and Boughton under Blean, there are thirty-two acres of land belonging to this parish. There are many instances of the like in different parts of this county, and in this neighbourhood in particular there are several, for a part of the parish of Murston, near Sittingborne, lies within this parish of Luddenham, and entirely surrounded by it, several other parishes intervening between this part of Murston and the rest of it. Part of Preston parish lies near Davington-hill; Upleez farm, the property of lord Romney, which lies westward of Ore, is in Faversham parish; and part of Ospringe parish lies surrounded by the town of Faversham and its liberties.

MR. JACOB among his Plantæ Favershamienses, has given a list of a number of scarce plants found by him in this parish, to which the reader is referred for an account of them.

THIS PLACE was part of the vast possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday:

Ansfrid holds of the bishop of Baieux Cildresham. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is three carucates. In demesne there is one carucate and an half. There are five servants, and two acres of meadow. There is wood, but it pays nothing.

Upon the bishop's disgrace, about four years afterwards, this estate came to the crown, among the rest of his possessions, whence it was granted by the king, among other lands, to Fulbert de Dover, for his assistance, in the defence of Dover castle. These lands were held of the king in capite by barony, the tenant being bound by his tenure to maintain a certain number of soldiers, from time to time, for the defence of the castle.

Of Fulbert de Dover and his heirs, this place was held, as one knight's fee, of the honour of Chilham,

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which they made the caput baroniæ, or chief seat of their barony.

THE MANOR OF LUDDENHAM came afterwards into the possession of a family who fixed their name on it. William de Luddenham, in the 13th year of king John's reign, held it as one knight's fee, of the honor of Chilham, in manner as before-mentioned. His heirs, in the next reign of Henry III. sold this manor to the Northwoods, one of whom, Sir Roger de Northwood, in the 41st year of that reign, procured licence to alter the tenure of his lands from gavelkind to that of knight's service, of which there is a recapitulation in the Book of Aid, and among them mention is made of ninety acres of marsh land, which lay partly in his manor of Luddenham, and partly in Iwade.

From the family of Northwood this manor passed into that of Frogenhall; John de Frogenhall, at the latter end of king Edward the IIIrd.'s reign, died possessed of it, with an appendage called Bishopsbush. After which it at length descended in the beginning of king Edward the IVth.'s reign to Thomas Frogenhall, who married Joane, daughter and heir of

William de Apulderfield, and dying in 1576, being the 17th year of that reign, was buried with his wife in Faversham church; their daughter and sole heir Anne, carried this manor in marriage to Mr. Thomas Quadring, of London, and he in like manner leaving one sole daughter and heir Joane, she entitled her husband Richard Dryland, of Cooksditch, in Faversham, to the possession of it. He alienated the appendage of Bishopsbush above-mentioned, to Crispe, who passed it away to Mr. William Hayward, from which name it went in marriage to Mr. Thomas Southhouse, gent. who possessed it at the end of king Charles I.'s reign; but both the name and situation of the estate have been for some time so totally for-

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gotten, that the most diligent enquiries cannot trace out either of them.

But the manor of Luddenham itself went with Katherine, the sole daughter and heir of Richard Dryland, in marriage to Reginald Norton, of Lees-court, in Sheldwich, from which name it passed by sale, in king James I.'s reign, to Francis Cripps, esq. who sold it to Kirton, from which name it passed, in king James II.'s reign, to John Briant, esq. whose heirs passed it away, in king George I.'s reign, to Mr. John Blaxland, and his heirs alienated it, about the year 1753, to Beversham Filmer, esq. of London, a younger son of Sir Robert Filmer, bart. of East Sutton, and of Lincoln's-inn, barrister-at-law. He died unmarried, and full of years, in 1763, having by his will given this manor, among the rest of his lands in this county and elsewhere, to his eldest nephew, Sir John Filmer, bart. of East Sutton, who died s. p. in 1797, and by will devised this estate to his next brother, Sir Beversham Filmer, bart. the present owner of it. A court baron is held for his manor.

At the court held for the manor of Chilham, the tenant of this manor is constantly presented by the jury for default of service, as being held of it under the notion of one knight's fee, and he is always amerced at two shillings, the payment of which is never with-held by him.

HAM is a principal estate, adjoining to the marshes, at the eastern boundary of this parish, and partly in that part of Preston which is separated from the rest of it by Davington and Ospringe intervening, being within that appendage to the manor of Copton, called from hence Hamme marsh. This estate, for several generations, belonged to the family of Roper, lords Teynham, and was sold in 1766 by Henry Roper, lord Teynham, to Mr. William Chamberlain, of

/h See East Sutton, vol. v. of this history, p. 380.

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London, who sold it to Benjamin Hatley Foote, Esq. and his son George Talbot Hatley Foote, Esq. now owns it.

NASHES is an estate in this parish, which formerly belonged to the Coppingers; Ambrose Coppinger possessed it in the reign of queen Elizabeth, whence it passed to the Brewsters, who were owners of much

land at Linsted, Tenham, and other parts of this neighbourhood; from them it was sold to Mr. James Tassell, of Linsted; after which it became the property of Dr. David Jones, and afterwards of Mr. Anthony Ingles, gent. of Ashford, who in 1776 conveyed it by sale to Mr. James Tappenden, gent. of Faversham, the present owner of it, who is descended from those of this name, who were for several generations resident at Sittingborne, where several of them lie buried, and are said to be extracted from the Denne of Tappenden, in Smarden, and bear for their arms, Or, two lions passant, in chief, and one in base, rampant, azure.

CHARITIES.

THOMAS STREYNESHAM, gent. of Faversham, was possessed of a farm of 16l. per annum in this parish, out of the profits of which, by his will in 1585, he devised 3l. per annum for ever, to the use of the poor of that parish.

The poor constantly relieved are about twenty; casually twelve.

LUDDENHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, is a small building, consisting of one isle and one chancel, having a tower steeple on the north side of it, in which are three bells.

This church was formerly an appendage to the manor of Luddenham, and as such came into the possession of William de Luddenham before-men-

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tioned, lord of it, who, as appears by the leiger-book of the abbey of Faversham, gave this church to the abbot and convent there, which he did by placing his knife on the altar in the church of their convent, and this with the consent of his daughter and heir Matilda, and of Gysle his wife, in the presence of the convent, and many of the clergy and laity, which gift was confirmed afterwards by Sir William de Insula, who married his daughter; notwithstanding which, William de Insula their son, laid claim to it as part of his inheritance, and a suit was commenced in the beginning of king John's reign, by him, against the abbot and convent, to recover the possession of it, which seems to have been determined in his favor, and the religious were forced to be contented with the pension of 66s. 8d. to be paid to them yearly out of it. This pension they continued to enjoy from it till the time of their dissolution, in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it came, with the rest of their possessions, into the king's hands, who settled it, among other premises, in his 33d year, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, who continue to receive it from the rector at this time.

The determination of the above-mentioned suit against the religious, did not put them out of hopes of, some time or other, recovering the possession of this church, the appropriation of which they got to be inserted in a confirmation of some of their possessions by pope Gregory X. in 1274; but this did not avail them any thing, for this church still continued unappro-

priated, as it does at this time, being esteemed a rec= tory, the patronage of which has been for a great length of time in the crown.

The church of Luddenham is valued in the king's books at 12l. 8s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 4s. 10d. In 1578, here were communicants fifty-four. The crown patron.

/i Southouse Mon. p. 19, 54, 84.

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In 1640 there were communicants sixty-eight. The yearly value of it one hundred pounds. It is now esteemed of the same clear yearly value.

There is a modus claimed for five hundred and thirty-one acres of the marsh lands in this parish, almost all of which are at two-pence, though there are some few at four-pence per acre.

CHURCH OF LUDDENHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

The Crown. Peter Jackson, A. M. March 15,
1590, resigned 1604.

Joseph Davis, A. M. Oct. 29,
1604.

John Priestley, A. M. Jan. 16,
1618.

Samuel Wilkinson, A. M. Aug.
19, 1625./k

Edward Burton, S. T. P. Dec.
14, 1632, resigned 1638./l

James Gentleman, A. M. July
30, 1638./m

Nathaniel Newbury, A. M. May
8, 1645./n

Edward Archbold

James Cowes. A. M. April 10,
1661.

John Sherwin, A. M. Jan. 23,
1674, obt. Jan. 17, 1713./o

Robert Harrison, A. M. March
3, 1713, obt. 1755./p

Wheler Twyman, May 26, 1755.
obt. Nov. 25, 1779./q

/k Presented by the king's letters
patent. Rym. Foed. vol. xviii. p. 647.

/l By the resignation of the last in=
cumbent. Ibid. vol. xix. p. 343.

/m Ibid. vol. xx. p. 312.

/n He was presented under the great
seal. See Wood's Ath. vol. i. fasti,
p. 267.

/o And curate of Davington, of
which he was patron, where he was
buried.

/p Curate likewise of Davington and
Ore.

/q Also vicar of Sturry, by dispen=
sation in 1757.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

The Crown. William Gurney, Feb. 1, obt.
April, 1784./r

John Tucker, A. M. June, 1784,
the present rector./s

/r Also rector of Badlesmere with
Leveland, united by dispensation in
1780.

/s Rector of Gravesend by dispensa=
tion, and late master of the king's
school, in Canterbury.

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STONE,

CALLED in antient Latin deeds Stanes, and now
usually Stone near Faversham, to distinguish it from
two other parishes of the same name in this county, is
the next parish south-westward from Luddenham.

It is but a small obscure parish, hardly known to any
one, tho' situated close to the north side of the London
road, a little beyond the 45th mile-stone, between Bea=
con and Judde hills, whence it extends to the waters of
the Swale, its northern boundary. It lies in a low flat
country, what uplands there are are very good and fer=
tile, but by far the greatest part of the parish is marsh
land, at the beginning of which is the manor house of
Elverton, beyond which there is a large tract of them,
near two miles in length, as far as the Swale; much of
the lower part of the parish belongs to the family of
Brydges, of Wotton.

The manors of Selgrave and Copton, alias Hamme marsh,
claim over different parts of this parish, but THE PRIN=
CIPAL MANOR in it is ELWERTON, written in Domes=
day, Ernolton, and in antient deeds Eylwartone, by
which name it was given by king Edmund, son of queen
Ediva, to the monks of Christ-church, in Canterbury,
for the use of their refectory, and it was confirmed to
them in the time of king Stephen, and archbishop
Theobald, in the shrievalty of Ralph Picot, to be pos=
sessed by them without any additional burthens to be
laid on it.

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In the year 1227, anno 12 Henry III. archdeacon
Simon Langton, with the consent of his brother, the
archbishop, conveyed to the monks of Christ-church
all the tithes of Eylwarton, great and small, lying with=
in the precincts of the chapelry of Stone, which at this
time pass under the name of dominical or demesne tithes,
i. e. the tithes of the demesne of the manor.

King Edward II. in his 10th year, granted to the
prior and convent of Christ-church, free-warren in all
their demesne lands which they possessed in Eylwarton,
among other places, at the time of the charter granted
to them by his grandfather Henry III.

Robert Hathbrand, who became prior of Christ-
church in 1338, anno 13 Edward III. among other
improvements which he made to the possessions of it,
inclosed the marsh land, called Elwarton marsh, belong=
ing to this manor.

In which state this manor seems to have continued

till the dissolution of the priory in the 31st years of king Henry VIII. when it was surrendered, among the rest of the possessions of it, into the king's hands, where it did not remain long, for the king settled it, by his donation-charter, in his 33d year, on his new-created dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions it now remains.

When this manor came into the possession of the dean and chapter of Canterbury, it was demised by them from time to time for three lives, at the old rent of thirty-two pounds. The Clarkes held it in the reigns of queen Elizabeth and James I. the Sidneys in the reign of Charles II. and till that of George II. after which it was held by the Tenisons, Anne, widow of Dr. Edward Tenison, bishop of Ossory, in Ireland, held it at her death in 1750. By her will she left her interest in it, after the death of Margaret, wife of Peter St. Eloy her daughter, to her grandson Thomas Tenison, esq. afterwards of Sysonby, in Leicestershire, and he, in 1762, assigned it over to Samuel and William Smith,

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of London, merchants, who, in 1774, again assigned their interest in it to Mr. John Waller, gent. of Faversham, the present possessor of it.

There was a chapel here, called the chapel of our Lady of Eylwarton.

THE BISHOP OF BAIEUX, at the time of taking the general survey of Domesday, was possessed of an estate at this place, which is thus described under the general title of his lands in it:

The same Ansfrid holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Ernoltun. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is three carucates. In demesne there is one, and eight villeins, with two carucates and an half. There are two salt-pits, and in the city of Canterbury one house of twenty-one pence.

In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth four pounds, and afterwards forty shillings, now one hundred shillings. This manor Burnod held of king Edward. Of this manor Rannulf held ten acres, which lie near the city, and paid forty-two pence in the time of king Edward.

Four years after taking of the above survey, the bishop was disgraced, and all his estates were confiscated to the crown; but how that above-mentioned has passed since, or who now possesses it, I have not been able to learn.

STONE is within the ECCLESIASTIAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church was always accounted as a chapel to that of Tenham, as appears by the Black Book of the archdeacon of Canterbury, and was given and appropriated with that church, as an appendage to it, in 1227, by archbishop Stephen Langton, to that archdeaconry. In which state it continues at this time, the archdeacon being appropriator of it, and the great and small tithes of it, excepting those of Elverton as above-mentioned, included in the lease granted by him of the parsonage

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of Tenham, by the description of the chapelry of Stone, belonging to it.

The church or chapel of Stone has been for a long time desecrated; the foundations of it yet remain on the north side of the field, on the north side of the high London road, in the vale between Judde and Beacon hills. The shire or bridle road from Faversham to the top of the latter hill, goes close by the north side of it.

The walls of it have several Roman bricks mixed among the flints. The church seems to have been about thirty-two feet long, and the chancel twenty-four, and about twelve feet broad. By the remains of a piece of wall, the tower seems to have stood between the church and the chancel.

IT IS REMARKABLE, that in the dotation-charter to the dean and chapter of Canterbury, under the great seal, anno 33 Henry VIII. the rectory and vicarage of Stone, near Faversham, is granted to them instead of that of Stone, in the isle of Oxney, which is totally omitted, through they have enjoyed the latter ever since under that charter.

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BUCKLAND.

THE next parish westward from Stone is Buckland, called in Domesday, Bocheland, situated somewhat less than a mile northward of the great London road, at the 44th mile stone.

THIS PLACE took its name from the tenure of it, being so called from the Saxon words, boc, or book, and land, that is, land held by writing or charter, being free and hereditary, and passing by livery and seisin. It is usually called Buckland near Faversham, to distinguish it from a parish of the same name near Dover, in this county.

It is a very small parish, situated obscurely and little known, though adjoining the north side of the high

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London road, at the 44th mile-stone. It lies in a flat low country, much the same as that of Stone last-described, excepting that the parish of Tenham on the northern side of it intervenes, and cuts it off from the adjoining marshes. The soil is in general very good, there are but two houses in it, near to which is the church, the situation, like the adjoining ones, is very unhealthy.

THE MANOR of Buckland, at the time of taking the general survey of Domesday, was part of the possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, the king's half-brother, and earl of Kent, under the title of whose lands it is entered in it as follows:

Osbern holds Bocheland of the bishop (of Baieux). It was taxed at three yoke. The arable land is one carucate. In demesne there is one, and three villeins, with two borders having half a carucate. There are eight servants. Seuard held it of king Edward. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth four pounds, and afterwards three pounds, and now seventy shillings.

The same Osbern holds one yoke of the bishop, in the same manor, and it was taxed at one yoke. In the time

of king Edward the Confessor it was worth twenty shillings, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth ten shillings.

And a little further thus:

Turstin de Girunde holds in Bochelände one yoke of the bishop, and it was taxed at one yoke. There is one villein paying six shillings. It is and was worth always twelve shillings. Turgot held it of king Edward.

Four years after the taking of this survey, the bishop of Baieux was disgraced, and all his possessions were confiscated to the crown.

After which, one part of the above-mentioned estate in Buckland seems to have been granted to the family of Crevequer, of whom it was held by the Peyforers, who likewise held lands in it of the abbot of Faver-

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sham, by knight's service, the seignory of which had been granted to that abbey by some good benefactor to it.

These estates seem afterwards to have come into the possession of a branch of the family of Apulderfield, commonly called Apperfield, one of whom, William de Apulderfield, died in the 33d year of Edward III. possessed of the manor of Buckland, held of the king as of his castle of Leeds, as of the honor of Crevequer, by knight's service.

His son of the same name died in the 47th year of that reign, holding it as above-mentioned for the term of his life, the reversion of it being vested in Sybill, who was wife of Richard de Frognale, and it was found likewise that John de Frognale was her son and heir, and he died in the 49th year of it, possessed of this manor, with the advowson of the church of Bokeland, held in manner as above-mentioned, in whose descendants it continued down to Thomas Frogenhall, esq. who died possessed of this manor in 1505, holding it in capite by knight's service, and by his will, proved that year, ordered his body to be buried in this church, and devised this manor, with its appurtenances, and other lands lying in Linsted, Tong, Tenham, and Stone, to Joane his wife for her life, and afterwards to be disposed of by his executors in deeds of charity. After which I find Edward Northwood to have died possessed of an interest in this estate anno 2 Henry VIII. as did Thomas Godding in the 25th year of that reign, and his heir passed it away to Henry See, or At-See, as he was sometimes called, of Herne, in this county, who was possessed of the whole of this manor, with the advowson of the church, at his death, in the 30th year of it, in which name and family it remained for some time, and till at length Edward See, gent. of Herne, about the 10th year of king James I. alienated the ma-

/t Wills, Prerog. off. Cant. /u Inquis. post mort.

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nor, with the advowson, then holden in chief, to Thomas Mendfield and Dorothy his wife. He died in 1614, bearing for his arms. Argent, a fess engrailed, in chief, three fleurs de lis, sable, and his widow afterwards possessed it. Henry Saker, of Faversham, became af-

terwards possessed of it. He bore for his arms, Sable, a bend engrailed, between two bulls heads, erased, or./w His eldest son Christopher, sold it, before the end of that reign, to Sir Basil Dixwell, knight and baronet, who died in 1641, s. p. He left his estates to his nephew Mark Dixwell, esq. whose son Basil, in 1660, was created a baronet./x He in 1664 alienated this manor, with the advowson of the church, and Buckland farm, with other lands and appurtenances in this parish, to Richard Read, esq. who in 1676 conveyed them to Henry Eve, D. D. of Linsted, who died possessed of this estate in 1686, whose arms were, Quarterly, sable and or. His eldest son, Henry Eve, M. D. succeeded him in it, and dying in 1686, intestate, it became the property of his three sons, Henry, James, and Charles Eve, in equal thirds. Henry, the eldest son, died in 1702, leaving one son Henry Eve, of Riverhead, in Sevenoke, who purchased his uncle James's third part, and dying in 1726, his two thirds of it descended to his only daughter and heir Dorothy, who in 1753 carried them in marriage to her cousin Charles Eve, gent. of Hoxton-square, the youngest son of James Eve above-mentioned. He survived her, and in 1770, sold them to Mr. Thomas Gillow, of St. Nicholas, in Thanet, the present possessor of them.

The remaining third part of this estate, which was inherited by Mr. Charles Eve, attorney at-law, of Canterbury, the younger son of Henry Eve, M. D. as above-mentioned, was sold by him, in 1747, to trustees, for the use of John Taddy, druggist, of South

/w See Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Saker.

/x See more of this family under Fokstone and Barham.

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wark, whose widow Susanna, and only son Christopher Taddy, of Pater-noster row, London, are the present owners of it.

BUCKLAND is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which was dedicated to St. Nicholas, has been in ruins for many years. The steeple, which was a spire, was standing in 1719. The north and south walls of the church are now standing, and the west end, where was formerly the steeple, in which was one bell. The east end is quite down, and the whole roof of the church fallen in, and the inside a heap of rubbish.

It is a rectory, and valued in the king's books at 44l. 5s. and the yearly tenths at 11s. 4d. In 1678, there were only six communicants here.

The church of Buckland, as appears by the above account of the manor, passed from time to time as an appendage to it, till the family of Eve alienated the manor, with the farm and lands of Buckland, as before-mentioned, but they reserved the advowson of the church to themselves, and it continued in their possession till the year 1754, when two thirds of the patronage of this church, being two succeeding turns of the presentation to it, were sold to Mr. John Unwin, of London, who now possesses them; but the remaining third part of it, being the third turn of presentation,

remained with Mr. Charles Eve, and he is the present proprietor of it.

CHURCH OF BUCKLAND.

PATRONS,
Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Edward Hills, gent. Nicholas Goldsburgh, A. M. July
8, 1592, obt. 1610.

Edward See, gent. of Herne. John Hunt, A. M. Dec. 8, 1610,
obt. 1635.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Robert Ewell, clerk, for this turn
only. John Thompson, A. M. Aug. 20,
1636, resigned 1642.

Sir Basil Dixwell, bart. Edward Browne, A. M. Oct. 8,
1642.

Henry Eve, D. D. obt. March 4,
1685./y

Henry Eve, gent. Jeremiah Taylor, A. M. 1686,
obt. 1688./z

Dorothy Eve, widow. Edward Fisher, A. M. Feb. 19,
1688, resigned 1707.

Elizabeth Eve, widow. James Eve, A. B. Feb. 16,
1707, obt. 1743./a

William Burroughs, 1743, obt.
1754./b

Charles Eve, of Rotherhith. Mathias Unwin, Aug. 10, 1754,
obt. 1776./c

Charles Eve, esq. of Hoxton. William Lupton, A. M. May 18,
1776.

John Jenner, LL. D. the pre=
sent rector.

/y And vicar of Tenham. He re=
signed this rectory on his being insti=
tuted to that of Midley.

/z And vicar of Tenham.

/a Also rector of Midley, and vicar
of Tenham.

/b And rector of Midley, as were his
two next successors.

/c Also rector of Bonnington, which
he resigned for that of Midley.

- - -

NORTON.

SOUTHWARD from Buckland, but on the op=
posite side of the high London road, lies Norton, writ=
ten in antient records Northtune, that is the north
town, a name it took seemingly from its situation north=
ward of Newnham, both places belonging to the bi=
shop of Baieux, and held of him by the same tenant.

IT LIES close to the south side of the high London
road, a little beyond the 44th mile-stone, whence the
land rises southward to the hilly country, for about two
miles and an half, to Stuppington, a little beyond
which it joins to Newnham; its width is about a mile
and a half, it joins to Ospringe eastwards at Syndal bot=
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tom, near which it is mostly woodland. The land in the lower, or northern part of the parish, is very good, but as it extends to the high ground it becomes gradually less so, being both chalky and much covered with flints. The church, with the seat of Norton-court near it, stands at the western edge of the parish, close to Lewson-street in Tenham, a little more than a quarter of a mile from the London road; at the same distance from which, eastward of the church, is Provenders, a low indifferent house, situated close to the woods, though it is open in front, having a good prospect north-westward; at no great distance above it is Rushitt, once part of the demesnes of Norton manor, as such it now pays part of the rent of castle-guard to Rochester castle, it is now the property of Mr. Richard Mount, who resides in it; and still further on the hills are the estates of Loiterton and Stuppington, where the country, as it becomes poor, becomes, by degrees, tolerably healthy. A small part of the parish extends to the opposite side of the London road, where it adjoins to Stone and Buckland.

MR. JACOB observed the *Hypericum* and *rosæmum*, tutsan, or park leaves, in a hedge near Provenders wood, in this parish.

THE MANOR of Norton, in the reign of the Conqueror, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, the king's half-brother, accordingly it is thus entered in the survey of Domesday, under the general title of that prelate's lands:

Hugo de Porth holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Norton. It was taxed at four sulings. The arable land is four carucates. In demesne there are three carucates, and eighteen villeins, with six borderers, having five carucates. There are three churches, and three mills without tallage, and two fisheries of twelve pence. Wood for the pannage of forty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth eight pounds, and afterwards six pounds, now twelve pounds. Osuard held it of king Edward.

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Four years after the taking of this survey, the bishop of Baieux was disgraced, and all his possessions became confiscated to the crown.

Upon which Hugo de Port, who before held this estate of the bishop, became immediate tenant to the king for it, as his supreme lord. His descendant William, son of Adam de Port, assumed the name of St. John, of which family, as lords paramount, it was held by Hugh de Newenham, and afterwards by his son Fulk de Newenham, whose daughter Juliana, in the reign of Henry II. carried this manor of Norton in marriage to Sir Robert de Campania, or Champion, who resided at Champions court, in Newenham, as part of her inheritance. His descendant John de Campania held it at the latter end of king Edward the 1st's reign, and in the 31st year of it had a charter of free-warren granted to him for this manor, as did the lady Champion, or de Campania, in the 20th year of king Edward III. at which time there was a rent of thirty shillings paid from it, for ward to Rochester castle. After this family was become extinct here, which was soon afterwards, the Frogenhalls were become possessed

of it, one of whom, John de Frogenhall, died possessed of it, as appears by the escheat-rolls in the reign of king Henry IV. from which name it passed by marriage into that of Boteler, whence it was again carried in marriage by Anne, daughter and sole heir of John Boteler, of Graveney, to John Martin, one of the judges of the common pleas, who died possessed of it in 1436, and was buried in that church. One of his descendants sold this manor, in the reign of Henry VII. to Fynche, descended from those of Swards, in Linsted, whose descendant Nicholas Fynche left a son and heir George Fynche, esq. who resided at Norton-court, and died in 1584, leaving one daughter and heir Mary, who carried this manor in marriage to Sir Michael Sonds, of Throwley, who in the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, sold it to Mr. Thomas Milles, who afterwards

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resided here for some time, till he removed to Davington-hall, but dying without male issue, his only daughter and heir Anne carried it in marriage to John Milles, esq. of Hampshire, who afterwards conveyed it to his brother Dr. Milles, who in the reign of king Charles I. alienated it to his relation Mr. Thomas Milles, of Sussex, and he afterwards, in the next reign of Charles II. sold it to Mr. Baptist Piggott, gent. afterwards of Norton-court, who died in 1677, and was buried in this church. He left Mary, his sole surviving heir, married to Benjamin Godfrey, merchant, of London, who was the twelfth and last surviving son of Thomas Godfrey, esq. of Hodiford, in Sellinge, descended from the Godfreys, of Lyd, whose arms he bore, Sable, a chevron between three pelicans heads, erased, or. He became, in right of his wife, entitled to this manor, and resided at Norton court, and dying in 1704, was buried in this church; he left two sons, John and Baptist surviving, and a daughter Catherine, who married Stephen Lushington, esq. of Sittingborne, who died in 1700, leaving only one son Thomas Godfrey Lushington. Upon the death of Benjamin Godfrey, the fee of it became vested in John Godfrey, esq. the eldest surviving son, who resided here, and was a gentleman of literature, and well versed in antiquities, especially such as related to this county. He died in 1737, s. p. having by his will devised this manor to his nephew Thomas Godfrey Lushington, esq. above-mentioned, who afterwards resided at Canterbury, where he died in 1757, leaving by Dorothy his first wife, daughter of John Gisterne, esq. of Derbyshire, three sons, and one daughter Catherine, then the wife of John Cockin Sole, esq. of Bobbing, on whom he had settled this manor in 1754, on her marriage in his life-time./d

John Cockin Sole, esq. becoming thus possessed of Norton-court, removed hither about the year 1765.

/d See more of the Lushingtons under Rodmersham, p. 118.

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He died in 1790, leaving an only surviving daughter by his first wife. Soon after his death this manor and seat were sold under the directions of his will to John Bennett, esq. of Faversham, who now owns it.

Norton-court is charged with a rent of castle-guard

to Rochester-castle.

PROVENDERS is an antient seat in this parish, situated about half a mile eastward of the church, which was once the residence of a family of that name, one of whom, John de Provender, was possessed of it in the reign of Henry III. as appeared by an old dateless deed of about that time; but they were extinct here before the reign of Edward III. when Lucas de Vienna, or Vienne, was in the possession of it. His descendant Edward de Vienna paid aid for it, together with lands in this parish, called Viend-garden. From this name this seat passed into that of Quadring, who was possessed of it in the beginning of the reign of king Richard II. and thence again about the latter end of that of Henry IV. to the antient family of Goldwell, of Great Chart, and from them to the Drylands, of Cooksditch, one of which name alienated it, in the reign of Henry VIII. to Robert Atwater, esq. a justice of the peace of this county, and he sold it to Sir James Hales, one of the justices of the common pleas, and son of John Hales, of the Dungeon, one of the barons of the exchequer. He died anno 1555, 2 and 3 of Philip and Mary, whose descendant, in the next reign of queen Elizabeth, passed it away by sale to Thomas Sare, who afterwards resided here.

He was the eldest son of Laurence Sare, gent. of Lenham, and married Joane, daughter of John Adye, of Greet, in Doddington, by whom he had one son Adye, and three daughters. Adye Sare, esq. the son, likewise resided here, to whom William Camden, clarencieux, in the 10th of James I. confirmed the arms of his ancestors, being Gules, two bars ermine, in chief three martlets or. He had two sons, Thomas and

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Archdale, and three daughters, Susan, Sarah and Jane, who afterwards became his heirs./e

His heirs seem to have sold this seat to Mr. James Hugessen, merchant adventurer, of Dover, who died possessed of it in 1637, and was buried in Linsted church, in which parish his son Mr. James Hugessen resided, at Swards, where he kept his shrievalty for this county anno 17 Charles I. He died possessed of Provenders in 1646, and was buried in the chapel on the north side of Linsted church, which has continued the burial place of his descendants ever since./f

In them this seat continued down to William Hugessen, esq. who likewise resided at Provenders, where he died in 1719, having had three sons and three daughters; of the former, William became his heir, and John was of Stodmarsh, and ancestor of William Hugessen, esq. now of Stodmarsh Court.

William Hugessen, esq. the eldest son, resided at Provenders, and died there in 1753. He was twice married, first to Martha, daughter of Peter Gott, esq. who died s. p. and secondly to Dorothy, daughter of Francis Tyssen, esq. of Hackney, by whom he left an only son and heir William Western Hugessen, esq. who resided at Provenders, where he died in 1764, leaving by Thomasine his wife, second daughter of Sir John Honeywood, bart. three daughters his coheirs, Dorothy, Mary, and Sarah. His widow survived him, and possessed this seat till her death, in 1774, on which their

three daughters became entitled to the property of it; of whom Sarah, the youngest daughter, died in 1777, æt. 14, unmarried; upon which her two sisters, Dorothy and Mary, became jointly entitled to this seat, among the rest of their inheritance. Dorothy married in 1779, Joseph Banks, esq. of Reavesby-abbey, in Lincolnshire, since elected president of the royal so-

/e Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Sare.

/f Philipott, p. 256. Herald's office, D. 18, fol. 59.

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ciety, and created a baronet, and Mary, married Edward Knatchbull, esq. now Sir Edward Knatchbull, bart. of Mersham, who in right of their wives became jointly entitled to this seat, among the rest of their inheritance, and continue so at this time. Sir Joseph Banks is descended from ancestors who have resided for several generations at Reavesby-abbey, one of them Robert Banks, esq. was a younger son of the Banks's, of Banke Newton, in Yorkshire, who had been seated there ever since the beginning of Edward the III'd.s reign, when Sir Simon de Banke acquired that estate by marriage with the daughter and heir of Robert de Catherton, the arms of Banks being Sable, a cross between four fleurs de lis, argent, with which the family have since usually quartered the coat of Catherton, A chevron, between three annulets. Sir Joseph Banks was the first man of scientific education who undertook a voyage of discovery, and that the first, which turned out satisfactory to this enlightened age. He was in some measure the first who gave a turn to such voyages, or rather to their commander Capt. Cooke, as guided and directed, as well those which came after, as those in which he was personally concerned, and botany being his favorite science, he has since his last voyage been preparing for the public, with infinite pains and expence, an account of all the new plants discovered in his voyage round the world. In 1779 he was elected president of the royal society, and on March 24, 1781, created a baronet; since which, in 1797, he has been made a knight of the bath, and a privy consellor.

A further account of Sir Edward Knatchbull, bart. who is M. P. for this county, and at times resides at Provenders, and of his ancestors, may be seen under the description of their family seat at Mersham.

STUPPINGTON, antiently written Stependone, is an estate in this parish on the southern extremity of it, and about half a mile eastward of Lodge-house, which was formerly esteemed a manor, and of such account as to

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be recorded in the general survey of Domesday, at which time it was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose estates it is thus entered in it:

Hugo de Porth holds of the bishop of Baieux Stependone. Osuard held it in the time of Edward the Confessor, and then it was taxed at one suling all but one yoke. The arable land is two carucates. In demesne there is . . . with one servant and five borderers. It is worth thirty shillings.

Four years after which, the bishop was disgraced, and all his possessions were confiscated to the crown.

Upon which, Hugo, who had before been the bishop's tenant, came to hold it immediately, or in capite, of the king; of his descendants, who had assumed the name of St. John, it was held successively by the Cheneys/g and Apulderfields, in which latter it continued, till at length about the end of king Edward the IVth.'s reign, Elizabeth, only daughter of Sir William de Apulderfield, of Badmangore, in Linsted, carried this estate in marriage to Sir John Fineux, chief justice of the king's bench, who died possessed of it in 1525, leaving two daughters his coheirs, of whom Jane, the eldest, carried it in marriage to John Roper, esq. of Eltham, who gave it to his second son Christopher Roper, esq. of Badmangore, whose son Sir John Roper, removed his residence to his new-built seat of Lodge, and was created Lord Teynham, in whose descendants lords Teynham, this estate of Stuppington has continued down to the present right hon. Henry, lord Teynham, the present owner of it.

There are no parochial charities. The poor constantly relieved are about twenty, casually thirty.

NORTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

/g Rot. Esch. anno 8 Edward III. Post mort. Wi de Chene.

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The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, consists of one isle and a chancel, having a square tower at the west end, in which there is one bell. In it, in the chancel, there is a monument for Benjamin Godfrey, esq. of Norton-court; and among others, memorials for the Piggots, of the same place, and of the Sares, of Provenders.

The church of Norton was antiently an appendage to the manor, and as such was the property of the family of Newenham. Hugh de Newenham, lord of the manor of Norton, about the latter end of the reign of Henry I. gave, with the consent of his son, to the monks of St. Andrew, in Rochester, this church, with all the land belonging to it, and the half of the tithe of the demesne of the manor, and all other its appurtenances, in perpetual alms; which gift was made in the presence of archbishop Ralph, who confirmed it to them.

Fulk de Newenham confirmed this church, with its appurtenances, in perpetual alms, and the archbishop granted, that Nicholas his chaplain should pay them yearly, in the name of this church, ten shillings annual pension, and that after his secession the whole church of Norton should pass to the perpetual uses of the monks, which was confirmed by archbishops Theobald and Richard, among the rest of the possessions of that monastery. And there was a final concord made in the king's court of exchequer at Westminster, in the 29th year of Henry II. by which the gift made of the appropriation of this church by him and his heirs afterwards, was acknowledged. After which this church was again confirmed to the church and monks of St. Andrew, by the archbishops Richard and Baldwin.

/h Text. Roff. p. 180. Reg. Roff. p. 2, 116. In the Textus Roffensis above recited, it is, the half of the tithe of every thing within this parish, dimidiam decimam de omni re quæ ad vilam pertinebat.

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Archbishop Hubert, in the 1st year of king John, admitted and instituted Gilbert, bishop of Rochester, and the prior and convent of St. Andrew there, canonically into the parsonage of this church, so that they should always have a perpetual vicar in it, who should possess it with its appurtenances, and should pay to them yearly twenty shillings only, in the name of an annual pension; and every vicar, in order to his being instituted to it, should be elected and presented by the bishop and monks, and so to be instituted perpetual vicar in it by him and his successors, saving always to the church of Rochester the annual pension above-mentioned.

On bishop Gilbert de Glanville's coming to the see of Rochester anno 31 Henry II. he decreed, that in all such churches as belonged to the church of Rochester, situated out of the bishopric, the bishop should have the election of the person to be instituted, and after that the bishop and monks together should present him to the bishop of the respective diocese, saving the pensions in those churches to be paid to the monks, to the performance of which, the person instituted should take an oath in the chapter-house of Rochester; which pensions, and that of twenty shillings in particular from this church, he afterwards, by a separate instrument, confirmed to them.

It appears by several records, that from the time of the above-mentioned decree, the bishops of Rochester enjoyed the sole right of presentation to this church, exclusive of the prior and convent; and this appears further, among the rights and privileges of the bishopric of Rochester, taken in the year 1360, in which there is an account of those churches which belonged to the joint presentation of the bishop and the chapter, wherein it is said that the chapter had no other right, but only to affix their seal, the bishop nominating and presenting, and the chapter putting their seal; these churches were those of Rotherfield, in the diocese of

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Chichester, Mixbury and Henle, in the diocese of Lincoln, and Stourmouth and Norton, in the diocese of Canterbury./i

The church of Norton remained, after this, a repository, of the patronage of the bishops of Rochester, uninterrupted by any claims from the monks of St. Andrew's, and continues so at this time, the right Rev. the bishop of Rochester being the present patron of it.

The annual pension of twenty shillings before-mentioned, decreed to be paid from this church to the monks of St. Andrew's, seems, sometime before the dissolution of their monastery, to have been lessened to ten shillings, the original sum, as may be seen before. After that event, this pension came into the king's hands, among the rest of the revenues of it, and was, next year, settled by his dotation-charter, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rochester, who are now

entitled to it.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 10l. 18s. 4d. and the yearly tenths at 1l. 1s. 10d. In 1640 it was valued at one hundred pounds. Commu= nicants thirty.

One moiety of the tithes of the manor of Norton has been mentioned as having been given, with the church, to the monks of St. Andrew, by the family of Newenham. The other moiety of them seems to have been given by Juliana de Newenham, about the reign of Henry II. to the Benedictine priory of Davington, and were valued anno 17 king Edward III. at sixty shillings.

These tithes remained with the priory at the time of its escheating to the crown, anno 27 Henry VIII. and were afterwards, in the 35th year of that reign, granted to Sir Thomas Cheney, whose son Henry afterwards became possessed of them, among the rest of his inhe= ritage, in the 3d year of queen Elizabeth.

/i Kennett's paroch. Antiq. p. 419.

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These tithes at that time were compounded for at the yearly sum of 26s. 8d. which was paid to the pos= sessor of Davington priory by the rector of this parish, as appears by a rental of the late revenues of the priory made for that year. How the property of these tithes came to be vested in the rector, or the composition for them annihilated, I cannot find; but the rector of Nor= ton now enjoys the tithes of this whole parish, both great and small, without any exemption, and without any compensation or payment, made to or by him in lieu of any tithes whatsoever, the above pension of ten shillings only excepted.

CHURCH OF NORTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

The Crown, hac vice. Nicholas Goldsborough, A. M.
June 1, 1581, obt. Nov. 22,
1610.

Bishop of Rochester. William Laud, S. T. P. Dec. 5,
1610, resigned 1617./k

Edmund Jackson, S. T. B. Aug.
23, 1617.

John Goffe, S. T. P. admitted
March 4, 1660, obt. Nov.
20, 1661./l

Henry Parkhurst, S. T. P. May
14, 1662, obt. 1669./m

Edward Lake, A. M. Feb. 5,
1669, resigned 1683.

Richard Simpson, A. M. June 2,
1683, obt. Sept. 1734.

Thomas Robinson, LL. B. induct.
March 22, 1735, obt. May
23, 1761.

/k He resigned the rectory of Cuxton
on being presented to this of Norton,
to which he was inducted by proxy,
and held the vicarage of West Tilbury

with it. In 1617 he was inducted to the rectory of Ibbotstock, in Leicestershire, and resigned this of Norton. He was afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. See Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 55.

/l See Hackington, alias St. Stephens, of which place he was vicar, and Walker's Sufferings of the Clergy, pt. ii. p. 252. He was presented to this church on March 13, 1652, and again legally in 1660. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 261.

/m Wood's Ath. vol. ii. fasti, p. 146.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Bishop of Rochester. Thomas Taylor, A. B. June 6, 1761, obt. 1765.

John Derby, A. B. April 11, 1765, resigned 1767./n

William Strong, A. M. 1767, the present rector.

/n He was presented to the rectory of Southfleet in 1766, and was one of the six preachers of the church of Canterbury, as is his successor.

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NEWNHAM.

THE next parish south-eastward is Newnham, antiently written Newenham, which signifies the new town.

The high road through Syndal, or Newnham valley, over Hollingborne-hill towards Maidstone, leads through it. On this road, in the valley, is the village of Newnham, near the western boundary of the parish, adjoining to Doddington, having the church within it, and on the opposite side the parsonage-house, which is known by the name of the calicoe house, from the remarkable red and white colouring of plaister on the front of it. Sholand stands at a small distance further, nearer to Doddington. The parish contains near 1800 acres, of which about one third is woodland and pasture. It extends up the hills on each side the valley, where it is covered with woods to the brow of them. On the northern one, just above the village, is Champion, usually called Champyn-court. It is a cold but healthy country, the land is poor, part chalky, and the rest a red cludgy earth, both very much covered with flints; the woodlands, consisting chiefly of oak and beach, with some hazel, &c. interspersed among them, are but very indifferent, as are the oak trees in them, which seldom grow to a larger size than for carpenter's use. A fair is held in the village on St. Peter's day, June 29, for linen and pedlary.

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THE SCARCE PLANT *Potentilla argentea*, tormentil cinquefoil, grows in a road hedge near the village.

THE MANOR OF NEWNHAM, alias CHAMPION-COURT, was antiently part of the possessions of a family which assumed its surname from it. Hugh de Newnham was lord of it in the reign of king Henry I. and

then held it of the St. Johns, who were the king's tenants in chief for it.

He was a benefactor to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester, to which, among other premises, he gave the church of the adjoining parish of Norton. Thomas, son of Bartholomew de Newenham, was a benefactor to the abbey of St. Radigunds, near Dover, to which he gave one carriage load of hay to be taken yearly from his meadows in Newenham. Fulk de Newenham succeeded his father Hugh, above-mentioned, in the possession of this manor. In the 19th year of king Stephen, anno 1153, he founded the nunnery of Davington, in this neighbourhood, to which he gave lands in this parish, as well as the church of Newnham, which before this was appurtenant to the manor. His daughter Juliana carried this manor in marriage to Sir Robert de Campania, or Champion, as the name was afterwards called, who resided at the manor house, called from thence CHAMPIONS-COURT, which name it has retained to this time. His son Sir Robert de Campania, was one of those Kentish gentlemen, who attended king Richard I. at the siege of Acon, in Palestine, where he was, with many others of them, knighted. His descendant John de Campania, or Champion, was one of those knights, who were present with that king at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, in his 28th year, and in the 31st of that reign had a grant of a market, on a Thursday weekly, a fair yearly on the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul, in his manor of Newnham, and free-warren in Norton and Newnham, what

/o Regist. Sci Radig. cart. 1099.

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arms this family bore I have not found, but to an ancient deed of the 26th year of that reign, for the marriage of Julian, sister of Sir John de Chaumpaine, with Roger de Toketon, possessor of the manor of Sileham, in Rainham, and other estates in the hundred of Middleton, there is a seal appendant, with a coat of arms, viz. Vairy, and circumscribed, S. JOHIS DE CHAUMPAINE./p

In the 1st year of Edward III. Margery, widow of John de Champaigne, obtained the king's writ to the sheriff to restore to her all such estates as had been forfeited in his father's reign, on account of the prosecutions of Hugh le Despencer the elder and younger.

At length this family ended in three daughters and coheirs, of whom, Catherine was married to Robert Corbet, and Thomasine to Thomas Chevin; the former of whom, on the division of their inheritance, became, in right of his wife, entitled to this manor. He was descended from the Corbets, of Salop, whose ancestor of that name came in with the Conqueror, of which family there have been three summoned to parliament, and in later times, two branches raised to the dignity of baronets. The raven was the coat armour of all the Corbets, in general, though borne in different numbers, and with various distinctions. Robert Corbet above-mentioned, bore for his arms, as of the elder branch, Or, one raven, sable./q

This name at length terminated in two daughters and coheirs, Joane, married to Samuel Slapp, and Eli-

zabeth to Ralph Hart, whose arms were, Azure, three harts heads, caboshed, or, and they in right of their wives, possessed it in undivided moieties; but on the death of Joane, sole daughter and heir of Samuel Slapp, and his wife above mentioned, s. p. the whole fee of this manor came into the possession of Richard Hart,

/p Collins's Peerage, vol. iii. p. 277.

/q See Collins's Baronetage, vol. ii. p. 74, 312.

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son of Ralph Hart and his wife before-mentioned. His successor, about the beginning of king James I.'s reign, alienated it to Sir Henry Spiller, who, in the next reign of Charles I. conveyed it to Rodulph Wec=kerlin, esq. who resided at Champions-court, after hav=ing been a great traveller in different parts of the globe. He was descended of a good family of the duchy of Wirtemburgh, in Upper Germany, and married Anne, daughter of Sir William Hugessen, of Provenders, af=terwards married to Gideon Delaune, esq. whom she likewise survived. They bore for their arms, Sable, a bee-hive, or./r He died possessed of it in 1667, and was buried in the north chancel of Linsted church, from whose heirs it at length passed by sale, in the reign of queen Anne, to Jacob Sawbridge, of London, after=wards one of the South-Sea directors in the fatal year 1720. He died possessed of it in 1748, and his great-grandson Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. of Ollantigh, is the present owner of it.

A court baron is held for this manor, which extends over part of the parish of Newnham.

SHOLAND, commonly called Shulland, is an estate in the southern part of this parish, being situated about one field's distance on the east side of the high road of Newnham valley, just before you enter the village of Doddington.

In the reign of Edward I. Jeffry de Shonyngton was in possession of this estate, which he held by knight's service, of Robert de Campania, and he again of Robert de St. John, the king's immediate tenant, and his descendant Richard de Sconyngton paid aid for it, in the 20th year of Edward III. After which, this estate passed into the family of Bourne, seated at the almost adjoining seat of Sharsted, from whence it went again by sale to Chevin, descended from the Chy=veynes or Chevins, of Chevene-court, in Marden.

/r See Herald's office, D. 18. f. 60a.

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One of this family, of Sholand, Thomas Chevin, mar=ried Thomasine, daughter and coheir of John Cham=paine, of Champions-court, as has been already men=tioned. From the name of Chevin it passed by sale to Maycott, and Richard Maycott died possessed of it anno 30 Henry VIII. after which it came into the possession of the family of Adye, of the adjoining pa=rish of Doddington, in which it remained till Joane, daughter of John Adye, esq. carried it in marriage to Thomas Sare, esq. of Provenders, in Norton. He left issue a son Adye Sare, esq. of Provenders, who, in the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, sold it to Mr. James Hugessen, of Dover, from which name it passed

to that of Skeere, who bore for their arms, Argent, on a bend vert, between a lion rampant in chief, sable, and three oak leaves in base, of the second, as many escallop-shells of the first. Several of them lie buried in this church and that of Doddington. Here it remained till Mr. John Skeere dying without male issue, it descended by his will, in 1746, partly to Mr. Edward Dering, of Doddington, who had married Elizabeth, one of his daughters, and partly to his other daughter and coheir Barbara, then unmarried, who purchased the other part of Mr. Dering, and so became possessed of the whole of it, which she by marriage, in 1752, entitled her husband Thomas Godfrey Lushington, esq. to the possession of. He died in 1757, s. p. by her, on which she again became entitled to it in her own right, and afterwards sold it to Mr. William Loftie, gent. of Canterbury, the son of Mr. Paul Loftie, of Smeeth, by his wife Eleanor, daughter of Thomas Turner, esq. of Grays-inn, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir Edward Boys, of Fredville, and bore for his arms, Sable, a chevron ermine, between three trefoils slipt, argent. He died possessed of it in 1778, and by his will devised it to his second son Mr. William Loftie, who afterwards exchanged it, for other lands in

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Romney Marsh, with his brother Mr. Robert Loftie, of the kingdom of Ireland, the present owner of it.

THERE IS A MANOR, called SCHOLLAND, alias SHORLAND, extending over part of this parish and part of Doddington, which has for time out of mind belonged to the same owners as that of Sharsted, in the latter parish, and as such is now in the possession of Alured Pinke, esq. of Sharsted, but it has no connection with the estate of Sholand before-described.

THE HOMESTALL is an estate, situated on the hill near the northern boundary of this parish, though partly in that of Doddington, which was formerly the habitation of gentlemen. Robert Adye, gent. descended from those of Greet, in the adjoining parish of Doddington, resided here in the reign of Charles I. and married Elizabeth, one of the daughters of James Bourne, esq. of Sharsted. After which it became the property of the Nicholsons, who resided at it, several of whom lie buried in Doddington church. After which it became the estate of Mr. Allen, of Canterbury, whose widow afterwards possessed it, and it is now the property of her devisees.

CHARITIES.

JOHN HULSE, ESQ. gave a house in this parish, now the poor house, and about an acre of land, called the Alders, in Westwell, vested in the minister and churchwardens, and of the annual produce of 15s.

THERE is a small charity school here, for the teaching of the poor children of the parishes of Newnham and Doddington to read and write, but I cannot find it has any endowment.

The poor constantly relieved are about six, casually 35.

NEWNHAM is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter and St.

Paul, consists of three isles and a chancel. The steeple,
/s See Herald's office, D. 18. f. 55. 6.

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which is low and pointed, is covered with wood, in it are four bells. In the chancel are several memorials of the Hulkes's, or Hulse's, as they afterwards called and wrote themselves. In the body are several memorials of the Skeere's.

In one of the windows are these arms, Per chevron, sable, and ermine, in chief, two boars heads, couped, or; and another, being the like coat, impaling, Argent, on a bend, azure, three boars heads, couped, or.

Fulk de Newenham, lord of the manor of Newnham, with the church appurtenant to it, on his foundation of the Benedictine nunnery of Davington, in the year 1153, gave the church of Newnham as part of his endowment of it; but the abbot of Faversham afterwards claiming it by a like gift from the same donor, the prioress resigned it into archbishop Hubert's hands, who came to the see in 1193, for him to dispose of it as he might think fit. Upon which the archbishop, in consideration of their poverty, and prompted by charity, granted it to the nuns there, to be possessed by them as an appropriation for ever, paying yearly to the monks of the abbey of Faversham the pension of two marcs and an half, or 33s. 4d. which he assigned to the firmery of their abbey./t

It continued part of the possessions of the nunnery at the escheat of it to the crown, in the 27th year of king Henry VIII. at which time this parsonage, with the glebe-lands, was demised by indenture to Henry Bourne, esq. at the yearly rent of twenty pounds.

It continued in the crown till the 35th year of that reign, when the king granted it, among the rest of the possessions of the priory of Davington, to Sir Thomas Cheney, knight of the garter, &c. after whose death, his only son and heir Henry, afterwards lord Cheney, became possessed of it.

/t Lewis's Hist. Faversham, p. 36, append. p. 49, No. x.

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In 1578, William Lovelace, esq. sergeant-at law, was both impropiator and patron of this church, which was afterwards possessed in moieties, with the alternate presentation of the vicarage by Thomas Adye and Thomas Sare, gents. After which, one moiety, with the alternate right of presentation, together with the parsonage-house, became the property of Mr. John Hulkes, gent. who resided here, and dying in 1651, was buried in the chancel of this church. His son Mr. John Hulse, as he wrote his name, succeeded him in it, but dying in 1681, s. p. by his will devised it to his cousin John, son of Mr. Charles Hulse, late of Chart-ham, deceased, who bore for his arms, as appears by the gravestones of this family in this church, Sable, three piles, argent. His only son John dying under age, it came by his will in 1713, to his three brothers Edward, Nathaniel, and Strensham Hulse, from one of whom it was alienated to colonel William Delaune, of Sharsted, in Doddington; since which it has descended in like manner as that seat, to Alured Pinke, esq. of

Sharsted, the present possessor of this moiety of the parsonage, the parsonage-house, and the alternate presentation of the vicarage of this church.

The other moiety of the parsonage of Newnham, with the alternate presentation to the vicarage, is now become the property of Mr. William Hills, late of the borough of Southwark.

These moieties of the tithes of the parsonage are separated by metes and bounds, and have been so of long time by an antient agreement drawn up for that purpose.

It is a vicarage, of the clear yearly certified value of fifteen pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 11s. 3d. which used to be paid to the the crown-receiver, but now, from the above certified value, it is discharged both from first fruits and tenths.

In 1640 it was valued at twenty pounds. Communicants eighty-six.

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This vicarage has been augmented with the sum of 600l. now in the hands of the governors of queen Anne's bounty, of which sum 200l. was an augmentation from queen Anne's bounty, after which, in 1766, 200l. more was added from the same fund, on a distribution of the like sum from the legacy of Mrs. Ursula Taylor, paid to them by the hands of Sir Philip Boteler, bart, as executor to Dr. Quarles, who was executor to Mrs. Taylor, who by her will in 1722 devised the remainder of her personal estate, on certain events, which afterwards happened, to the governors of queen Anne's bounty, in addition to their augmentation of small livings, which residue of her personal estate Sir Philip Boteler paid into the governors hands, to be applied by them in sums of 200l. together with the like sum from their fund, for the augmenting of such small livings as should be named by himself, many of which were in this county, and it is now worth, exclusive of the above augmentation, about forty-five pounds per annum.

CHURCH OF NEWNHAM.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

William Lovelace, esq. John Hopton, resigned 1609./u
Abye Sare, gent. of Norton. John Baker, A. M. May 29,
1609, obt. March 1, 1615.

Thomas Mills, resigned 1623.

John Hulks, gent. of Newnham. Richard Ames, A. M. Sept. 10,
1623, resigned 1627.

Nathaniel Chambers, March 6,
1627./w

SEQUESTRATORS.

Daniel Somerscales, A. M. 1697,
obt. June 30, 1737./x

Samuel Allen, obt. 1759.

/u And vicar of Doddington, as was his successor, who lies buried in this church.

/w And vicar of Doddington, since whose death this vicarage has been

held by sequestration, to the time of the present vicar.

/x And vicar of Doddington, where he lies buried.

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PATRONS, &c. SEQUESTRATORS.

Henry Shove, A. M. obt. Dec. 8, 1771.

VICARS.

The King, by lapse. Sampson Steele, Dec. 23, 1771, the present vicar.

EASLING.

THE next parish south-eastward from Newnham, is Easling, written in old deeds likewise Esling, and Iseling.

It is situated among the hills, on very high ground, about five miles southward from Faversham, and a little more than a mile south-eastward from Newnham valley, in a healthy but cold and forlorn country, being much exposed to the north-east aspect. The village, with the church and parsonage in it, a neat pretty dwelling, stands on the road leading from Otterden to Newnham valley; in it there is a large well-timbered house, called Gregories, formerly of some account, and rebuilt in 1616, it formerly belonged to Hoskins, and then to Parmeter, in which name it still continues. — Though there is some level land in the parish, yet it is mostly steep hill and dale, the soil in general a red cludgy earth, poor, and much covered with flints. It is very woody, especially in the eastern parts of it.

A fair is held in the village on Sept. 14, yearly, for toys and pedlary ware. On Nov. 30, being St. Andrew's, there is yearly a diversion called squirrel hunting, in this and the neighbouring parishes, when the labourers and lower kind of people assembling together, form a lawless rabble, and being accoutred with guns, poles, clubs, and other such weapons, spend the greatest part of the day in parading through the woods and grounds, with loud shoutings, and under the pretence of demolishing the squirrels, some few of which they

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kill, they destroy numbers of hares, pheasants, partridges, and in short whatever comes in their way, breaking down the hedges, and doing much other mischief, and in the evening betaking themselves to the alehouses, finish their career there in drunkenness, as is usual with such sort of gentry.

THIS PLACE, at the time of the taking of the general survey of Domesday, was part of the extensive possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is thus entered in that record:

Herbert held of the bishop of Baieux Nordeslinge. The arable land is one carucate. It was taxed at half a suling. There two borderers pay two shillings. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth twenty shillings, now twenty-five shillings.

Turgod held it in the time of king Edward the Confessor.

These two manors, (one of which was Throwley, described immediately before in this record) Herbert, the son of Ivo, held of the bishop of Baieux.

And a little below,

Roger, son of Anschitil, held of the bishop, Eslinges. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is one carucate. There is in demesne . . . and one borderer has half a carucate. There is a church, and one mill of ten shillings, and two acres of meadow. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth sixty shillings, and afterwards twenty shillings, now forty shillings. Unlot held it of king Edward, and could go where he pleased with his land.

Fulbert held of the bishop, Eslinges. It was taxed at five suling in the time of king Edward the Confessor, and now for two, and so it did after the bishop gave the manor to Hugh, son of Fulbert. The arable land is six carucates. In demesne there are two carucates, and thirty villeins having three carucates. There is a church, and twenty-eight servants, and one mill of ten shillings. Wood for the pannage of thirty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth ten pounds, and when

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he received it six pounds, now four pounds, and yet the bishop had eight pounds. Sired held it of king Edward.

The three estates described before, included North Easling and its appendages, Huntingfield and Diven manors, with others estates in this parish, then esteemed as part of them.

On the bishop's disgrace four years afterwards, all his possessions were confiscated to the crown.

Fulbert de Dover, mentioned above as tenant to the bishop of Baieux for one of these estates, appears afterwards to have held all three of them of the king in capite by barony, the tenant of them being bound by tenure to maintain a certain number of soldiers from time to time, for the defence of Dover castle, in which there was a tower called *Turris dei inimica*, which he was bound by his tenure likewise to repair.

Of him and his heirs these estates were held by knight's service, of the honor of Chilham, which they had made the *caput baroniæ*, or chief of their barony./y That part of the above-mentioned estates, called in Domesday Nordeslinge, was afterwards known by the name of THE MANOR OF EASLING, alias NORTH-COURT, which latter name it had from its situation in respect to the others, being held of the lords paramount by a family of the name of Esling, one of whom, Ralph de Esling, died possessed of it in the 26th year of king Edward I. anno 1297, then holding it by knight's service of the honor of Chilham. He left an only daughter and heir Alice, who carried this manor, with that of Denton, alias Plumford, in marriage to Sir Fulk de Peyforer, who, with Sir William de Peyforer, of Otterden, accompanied king Edward I. in his 28th year, at the siege of Carlaverock, where, with many other

/y See inquisitions, anno 5 Edward II. of the possessions of Bartholomew de Badlesmere; anno 2 Edward III. after the death of Bartholomew de Badlesmere; and anno 12 of that

reign, after the death of Giles de Badlesmere his son.

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Kentish gentlemen, they were both knighted. They bore for their arms, Argent, six fleurs de lis, azure.

Sir Fulk de Peyforer, in the 32d year of the above reign, obtained a grant of a market weekly on a Friday, and one fair yearly on the feast of the exaltation of the Holy Cross at Esling, and free-warren for his lands there. Before the end of which reign, the property of these manors was transferred into the family of Leyborne, and it appears by an inquisition taken in the 1st year of Edward III. that Juliana, the widow of William de Leyborne, who died anno 2 Edward II. was possessed of these estates at her death, and that their grand-daughter Juliana, was heir both to her grandfather and father's possessions, from the greatness of which she was usually stiled the Infanta of Kent.

She was then the wife of John de Hastings, as she was afterwards of Sir William de Clinton, created earl of Huntingdon, who paid aid for the manor of Northcourt, alias Easling. She survived him, and afterwards died possessed of this estate in Easling, together with Denton, alias Plumford, in the 41st year of king Edward III. and leaving no issue by either of her husbands, these manors, among the rest of her estates, escheated to the crown, for it appears by the inquisition taken that year, after her death, that there was no one who could make claim to her estates, either by direct or even by collateral alliance.

These manors remained in the crown till the beginning of king Richard the 2d's reign, when they became vested in John, duke of Lancaster, and other feoffees, in trust for the performance of certain religious bequests in the will of Edward III. in consequence of which, the king afterwards, in his 22d year, granted them, among other premises, to the dean and canons of St. Stephen's college, in Westminster, for ever. /z In which

/z Dugd. Mon. vol. iii. pt. 2, p. 64 et seq. See a more ample account of these grants, vol. v. p. 587.

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situation they continued till the 1st year of king Edward VI. when, by the act passed that year, they were surrendered into the king's hands.

After which the king, by his letters patent, in his 3d year, granted these manors, among others lately belonging to the above-mentioned college, to Sir Thomas Cheney, privy counsellor and treasurer of his household, with all and singular their liberties and privileges whatsoever, in as ample a manner as the dean and canons held them, to hold in capite by knight's service. /a whose son Henry, lord Cheney, of Tuddington, had possession granted to him of his inheritance anno 3 Elizabeth, and that year levied a fine of all his lands.

He passed these manors away by sale, in the 8th year of that reign, to Martin James, esq. prothonotary of the court of chancery, and afterwards a justice of the peace for this county, who levied a fine of them anno 17 Elizabeth, and died possessed of them in 1592, being buried in the south chancel of this church, under a monument, on which are the effigies of himself and his

wife. He bore for his arms, Quarterly, first and fourth, vert, a dolphin naiant; second and third, Ermine, on a chief gules, three crosses, or. His great-grandson Walter James, esq. was possessed of them at the time of the restoration of king Charles II. whose heirs sold them in the latter end of that reign, to Mr. John Grove, gent. of Tunstall, who died possessed of them in 1678, after which they descended down to Richard Grove, esq. of Cambridge, but afterwards of the Temple, in London, who died unmarried in 1792, and by his will devised them to Mr. William Jemmet, of Ashford, and Mr. William Marshall, of London, who continue at this time the joint possessors of them.

THE MANOR OF HUNTINGFIELD, situated in the eastern part of this parish, was, at the time of the taking of the general survey of Domesday, part of the pos=

/a Rot. Esch. anno 3 Edward VI. pt. 3. Coke's Ent. p. 106.

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sessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, as has been already taken notice of before, and on his disgrace came, with the rest of his estates, to the crown, about the year 1084.

After which, Fulbert de Dover appears to have held it, with others in this parish, of the king in capite by barony, by the tenure of ward to Dover castle for the defence of it. Of him and his heirs it was held by knight's service, of the honor of Chilham, the head or chief of their barony.

Simon de Chelsfield held it of them, as lords paramount, in the reign of Henry III. but at the latter end of that reign, this manor was come into the possession of that branch of the eminent family of Huntingfield settled in this county, descended from those of Suffolk, in which county and in Norfolk they had large possessions. Hence this manor assumed the name of Huntingfield-court, and it appears by the roll of knights fees, taken at the beginning of the reign of Edward I. that Peter de Huntingfield then held it. He resided at times both here and at West Wickham, of which manor he was likewise possessed, though it seems when he was sheriff in the 11th, 12th, and 13th years of that reign, he kept his shrievalty at Huntingfield-court. In the 9th year of it he obtained a charter of free-warren for his lands at Eslynge and Stalesfeld, and in the 28th year of it attended the king at the siege of Carlaverock, in Scotland, for which service he, with others, received the honor of knighthood. He died in the 7th year of Edward II. anno 1313, leaving by the lady Imayne his wife, who was buried in the church of the Grey Friars, London, Sir Walter de Huntingfield his son and heir, who having obtained several liberties for his manor of Wickham, and liberty to impark his grounds there, seems to have deserted this place, which in the next reign of Edward III. was sold either by him or by his

/b See Wickham, vol. ii. of this history, p. 30.

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son, Sir John de Huntingfield, to one of the family of Sawsamere, and in the 20th year of that reign, the lady Sawsamere, Dna' de Sawsamero, as she is written in the book of aid, paid respective aid for it.

But before the end of that reign, it had passed into the name of Halden, for it appears by the escheat-rolls that William de Halden died in the 50th year of it, possessed of Easling manor, called Huntingfield, held of the castle of Chilham; soon after which it became the property of Sir Simon de Burleigh, who being attainted in the 12th year of Richard II. this manor, among the rest of his possessions, came to the crown. After which, anno 2 Henry IV. John, son and heir of Sir John de Burley, cousin and heir of Sir Simon de Burley, was, upon his petition, restored in blood, and the judgment against Sir Simon was revoked, and three years afterwards the king, with the assent of the lords, wholly restored him to all his hereditaments, except as to those excepted by him.^{/c} How long this manor remained in this name I have not found, but in the reign of Henry VI. it was in the possession of Sir James Fienes, who anno 25 of that reign, by reason of his mother's descent, was created Lord Say and Sele, and was afterwards made lord treasurer, but becoming unpopular, from his being so great a favorite, he was seized on in the insurrection raised by Jack Cade, and beheaded in the 29th year of that reign. He was at his death possessed of this manor, which by his will he devised to his son Sir William Fienes, who became likewise lord Say and Sele, but the unhappy contention which then subsisted between the houses of York and Lancaster, in which he risked not only his person, but his whole fortune, brought him soon afterwards into great distresses, and necessitated him to mortgage and sell the greatest part of his lands. How this manor was disposed of I have not found, but within a very few

^{/c} See Cotton's Records p. 408, 432.

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years afterwards it appears to have been in the hands of the crown, for king Richard III. in his first year, granted to John Water, alias Yorke Heralde, an annuity out of the revenues of his lordship of Huntingfield, and afterwards by his writ, in the same year, on the resignation of John, garter, principal king at arms, and Thomas, clarencieux, king at arms, he committed to Richard Champeney, alias called Gloucestre, king of arms, the custody of this manor.

But the fee of it seems to have remained in the crown till king Henry VIII. in his 35th year, granted it to John Guildford and Alured Randall, esqrs. to hold in capite by knight's service. John Guildford was the next year become the sole proprietor of it, and then alienated it to Sir Thomas Moyle; he sold it, in the 7th year of Edward VI. to John Wild, esq. of St. Martin's hill, Canterbury, with its members and appurtenances in Esling, Sheldwich, Whitstaple, Reculver, and Ulcombe. However, it appears that he was not possessed of the entire fee of it at his death in 1554, for he by his will devised his two thirds of this manor, (besides the third part due to the queen, after his wife's death) to his son Thomas Wild, then an infant, whose son John Wild, esq. of St. Martin's hill, alienated his share, or two thirds of it, which included the courts, fines, amerciaments, and other privileges belonging to it, to Martin James, esq. prothonotary of the court of

chancery, owner of the manor of North-court, alias Easling, as above-mentioned, whose great-grandson, Walter James, esq. possessed it at the restoration of Charles II. at the latter end of which reign his heirs sold it to Mr. John Grove, gent. of Tunstall, who died possessed of it in 1678, and his great-grandson Richard Grove, esq. of London, proprietor likewise of North-court above-described, died in 1792, having by his will devised these manors (which having been for many years united in the same owners, are now consolidated, one court being held for both, the stile of

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which is, the manor of Easling, alias North court, with that of Huntingfield annexed, in Easling, Ulcomb, and Sheldwich) among the rest of his estates, to Wm. Jemmet, gent. of Ashford, and William Marshall, of London, and they continue at this time the joint possessors of these manors.

BUT THE REMAINING THIRD PART of the manor of Huntingfield, in the hands of the crown in the reign of Philip and Mary, as before-mentioned, in which was included the mansion of Huntingfield court, with the demesne lands adjoining to it, continued there till it was granted, in the beginning of the next reign of queen Elizabeth, to Mr. Robert Greenstreet, who died possessed of it in the 14th year of that reign, holding it in capite by knight's service. His descendant Mr. Matthew Greenstreet, of Preston, leaving an only daughter Anne, she carried this estate in marriage to Mr. Richard Tassell, of Linsted, and he alienated it in 1733 to Edward Hasted, esq. barrister-at law, of Hawley, near Dartford, whose father Mr. Joseph Hasted, gent. of Chatham, was before possessed of a small part of the adjoining demesne lands of Huntingfield manor, which had been in queen Elizabeth's reign become the property of Mr. Josias Clynch.

The family of Hasted, or as they were antiently written, both Halsted and Hausted, was of eminent note in very early times, as well from the offices they bore, as their several possessions in different counties, and bore for their arms, Gules, a chief chequy, or, and azure. William Hausted was keeper of the king's exchange, in London, in the 5th year of Edward II. from whom these of Kent hold themselves to be descended, one of whom, John Hausted, clerk, or as his descendants wrote themselves, Hasted, born in Hampshire, is recorded to have been chaplain to queen Elizabeth, and a person much in favor with her, whom he so far displeased by entering into the state of marriage, which he did with a daughter of George Clifford, esq.

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of Bobbing, and sister of Sir Coniers Clifford, governor of Connaught, in Ireland, that he retired to the Isle of Wight, where he was beneficed, and dying there about the year 1596, was buried in the church of Newport. His great-grandson Joseph Hasted, gent. was of Chatham, and dying in 1732, was buried in Newington church, as was his only son Edward, who was of Hawley, esq. the purchaser of Huntingfield-court as before-mentioned. He died in 1740, leaving by his wife Anne, who was descended from the antient and respec-

table family of the Dingleys, of Wolverton, in the isle of Wight, one son, Edward Hasted, esq. late of Canterbury, who has several children, of whom the eldest, the Rev. Edward Hasted, late of Oriel college, in Oxford, is now vicar of Hollingborne. He bears for his arms the antient coat of the family of Halsted, or Hasted, as mentioned before, with the addition in the field, of an eagle displayed, ermine, beaked and legged, or, with which he quarters those of Dingley, Argent, a fess azure, in chief, two mullets of the second between two hurts, which colours Charles, the third son of Sir John Dingley, of Wolverton, in James the 1st's reign, changed from those borne by his ancestors and elder brothers, i. e. from sable to azure.

Edward Hasted, esq. of Canterbury, above-mentioned, succeeded his father in this estate, which he, at length, in 1787, alienated to John Montresor, esq. of Throwley, who continues the possessor of it.

The foundations of flint and stone, which have continually been dug up near this house, shew it to have been formerly much larger than it is at present. There was once a chapel and a mill belonging to it, the fields where they stood being still known by the name of chapel-field and mill-field, which answers the description of this estate given in Domesday.

DIVEN is A MANOR, situated almost adjoining to the church of Easling, which is so corruptly called for Dive-court, its more antient and proper name. This

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estate was likewise one of those described before in Domesday, as being part of the possessions of the bishop of Baieux, on whose disgrace it was, among the rest of his estates, forfeited to the crown; after which, Fulbert de Dover appears to have held it, with others in this parish therein-mentioned, of the king in capite by barony, by the tenure of ward to Dover castle, and of him and his heirs it was held, as half a knight's fee, of the honor of Chilham, the caput baroniæ, or head of their barony.

In the reign of Henry III. John Dive held this estate as before-mentioned, of that honor; and his descendant Andrew Dive, in the 20th year of king Edward III. paid aid for it as half a knight's fee, held of the above barony, when it paid ward annually to Dover castle. In this name the manor of Diven continued till the beginning of the next reign of king Richard II. when it was alienated to Sharp, of Ninplace, in Great Chart, in which it remained till the latter end of Henry VII. when it was conveyed to Thurston, of Challock, from which, some year after, it was passed by sale to John Wild, esq. who, before the reign of queen Elizabeth, sold it to Gates, and he alienated it to Norden, who conveyed it to Bunce, where it remained after the death of king Charles I. in 1648; soon after which this manor was sold to John Adye, esq. of Down court, in Doddington, who died possessed of it in 1660, and his two sons, Edward and Nicholas, seem afterwards to have possessed it in undivided moieties.

Edward Adye, esq. was of Barham, and left seven daughters his coheirs, of whom Susanna, married to Ruishe Wentworth, esq. son and heir of Sir George

Wentworth, a younger brother to Thomas, the noted but unfortunate earl of Strafford, entitled her husband to the possession of her father's moiety of this manor, with other lands in Doddington, upon the division of his estates among them. He left an only

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daughter and heir Mary, who married Thomas, lord Howard, of Effingham, who died possessed of this moiety of Diven-court in 1725, and leaving no male issue, he was succeeded in this estate by Francis his brother and heir, who was in 1731 created Earl of Effingham, and died in 1743. His son Thomas, earl of Effingham, afterwards alienated this moiety of Diven-court to Oliver Edwards, esq. of the six clerks office, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

The other moiety of this manor, which, on the death of his father, came into the possession of Nicholas Adye, esq. of Down-Court, in Doddington, was devised by him to his eldest son John Adye, esq. of Down court, who anno 23 Charles II. suffered a recovery of it./d

He left an only daughter and heir Mary, married to Henry Cullum, sergeant-at-law; but before that event, this estate seems to have been passed away by him to Thomas Diggs, esq. of Chilham-castle, whose descendant of the same name, in 1723, conveyed it, with Chilham-castle, and the rest of his estates in this county, to Mr. James Colebrook, citizen and mercer of London, who died possessed of this moiety of Diven-court in the year 1752, after which it passed in like manner with them, till it was at length sold by his descendants, under the same act of parliament, in the year 1775, to Thomas Heron, esq. of Newark upon Trent, afterwards of Chilham-castle, who about the year 1776, joined with Oliver Edwards, esq. the proprietor of the other moiety, as has been mentioned before, to Mr. Charles Chapman, of Faversham, who then became possessed of the whole of it, which, at his death in 1782, he devised by his will to his nephews and nieces, of the name of Leeze, two of whom are now entitled to the fee of it.

/d Treatise of Fines and Recoveries by Brown, 8vo. p. 351. vol. ii. Mich. 25 Car. 2 Regis Rot. 220 Kanc.

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THE MANOR OF ARNOLDS, which is situated about a mile eastward from the church of Easling, was likewise part of the estates of the bishop of Baieux, mentioned before, and on his disgrace came with the rest of them, to the crown, of which it was held afterwards in capite by barony, by Fulbert de Dover, by the tenure of ward to Dover castle, and of him and his heirs it was again held, as half a knight's fee, as of the honor of Chilham, the head of their barony.

Of them it was held by Arnold de Bononia, whence it acquired the name of Arnolds, alias Esling. His son John Fitzarnold afterwards possessed it in the reign of Edward III. after which Peter de Huntingfield was owner of it, but in the 20th year of Edward III. the lady Champaine, or Champion, and the earl of Oxford paid aid for it, as half a knight's fee, held of the

barony above-mentioned. How it passed afterwards I have not seen, but in the next reign of Richard II. it was become part of the endowment of the dean and canons of the collegiate free chapel of St. Stephen's, Westminster, with whom it remained till the suppression of it in the 1st year of Edward VI. when it came into the hands of the crown; after which it became the property of Gates, and after that of Terry, in which it continued several years, and by that acquired the name of Arnolds, alias Terrys, from which name it was sold, in the reign of queen Anne, one part to the Rev. William Wickens, rector of this parish, who bore for his arms, Party, per pale, or, and sable, a chevron coupee, between three trefoils, all counterchanged, whose son Mr. William Wickens, succeeded to it on his death in 1718. He died without male issue, and by his will devised it to his two daughters, one of whom marrying Elvy, he bought the other sister's share in it, and his widow surviving him now possesses both of them; another part was sold to Chapman, and a third to Avery. Since which it has become more inconsiderable, by the two parts last-mentioned

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having been again parcelled out, so that now it is sunk into that obscurity, as hardly to be worthy of notice, but the manerial rights of the manor are claimed by John Wynne and Lydia his wife.

CHARITIES.

EDWARD GRESWOLD, by his will in 1677, gave 20l. for the benefit of the poor not receiving alms, to be laid out in land or otherwise, by his executors, who in 1680 purchased a piece of land, called Pinkes-cross, in Easling, containing two acres, in trust, for this purpose, the rent of it is now 15s. per annum, vested in the minister and parish officers.

The poor constantly relieved are about twelve, casually twenty-five.

EASLING is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, consists of three isles and a south chancel, called St. Katherine's. The steeple, which is a low pointed one, stands at the west end; there are six bells in it.

Alicia de Esling, wife of Robert de Eschequer, and lady of the manor of Esling, with the consent of archbishop Theobald, in the reign of king Stephen, granted the church of Eslinges, situated on her estate, to the priory of Ledes, in perpetual alms, together with the temporalities, or appropriation of it, to be possessed by them for ever after the death of Gervas, then incumbent of it. Which gift was confirmed by archbishop Hubert, in the reign of Richard I.

Notwithstanding which, there was no vicarage endowed here, nor did the canons of Ledes ever enjoy the parsonage of it; but archbishop Stephen Langton, who succeeded archbishop Hubert, with the consent and approbation of William de Eslinges, patron of this church, granted to the canons of Ledes twenty shillings yearly, to be received from it in the name of a benefice; and he ordained, that beyond that sum,

they should not claim any thing further from it, but

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that whenever it should become vacant, the said William de Esling should present to it. But it should seem that after this, they had not given up all pretensions to it, for they obtained, seventy years after this, viz. in 1278, of the prior, and the convent of Christchurch, Canterbury, a confirmation of the archbishops Theobald and Hubert's charters to them, in which this church is particularly mentioned.^{/e} How long it continued in the hands of the family of Esling I do not find, or in those of private patronage; but before the 22d year of Edward III. it was become part of the possessions of the college founded by Sir John Poulney, in the church of St. Laurence, Canon-street, London, with which it remained till the suppression of the college, in the reign of Edward VI. when it came, with the rest of the possessions of it, into the hands of the crown.

After which it seems to have been granted to Sir Thomas Moyle, of Eastwell, whose sole daughter and heir Catherine married Sir Thomas Finch, of that place, and afterwards Nicholas St. Leger, esq. who in her right presented to this rectory in 1574; after which Sir Moyle Finch, knight and baronet, the eldest son of Sir Thomas and lady Catherine, succeeded to it, in whose descendants, earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, this advowson continued down to Daniel, earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, who died possessed of it in 1769, without male issue, leaving his four daughters his coheirs. He was succeeded in titles by his nephew George Finch, esq. only son of his next brother William; but this advowson, with Eastwell, and the rest of his Kentish estates, he gave by his will to his nephew George Finch Hatton, esq. only son of his third brother the hon. Edward Finch Hatton,^{/f} who is the present owner of it.

^{/e} Regist. of Ledes abbey. See Reg. Roff. p. 371.

^{/f} See more of the Finch's and Hattons under Eastwell.

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The pension of twenty shillings payable from this church to the priory of Ledes, at its suppression in the reign of Henry VIII. came into the hands of the crown; after which it was settled, among other premises, by the King, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Rochester, who are now entitled to it.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at sixteen pounds, and the yearly tenths at 1l. 12s. In 1587 the communicants here were eighty-seven.

In 1640 it was valued at 120l. Communicants one hundred. It is now worth upwards of 200l. per annum.

CHURCH OF EASLING.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Nicholas St. Leger, esq. John Walsall, D. D. May 15,
1574, obt. 1617.^{/g}

Lady Elizabeth Finch, widow. Edward Simpson, S. T. P. Jan.

2, 1517, obt. 1652./h
Samuel Jemmet, obt. 1677./i
Heneage, earl of Winchelsea. William Wickens, A. M. March
8, 1677, obt. Sept. 6, 1718.
Richard Bowes, LL. D. Oct. 20,
1718, obt. April, 1745./k
Earl of Winchelsea and Notting=
ham. Philip Twysden, ind. May 11,
1745, resigned 1745./l
Roger Mostyn, A. M. March 11,
1746, resigned 1752./m
Maurice Gleyre, May 8, 1752,
obt. Dec. 7, 1781./n
Edward Finch Hatton, esq. Anthony Shepperd, D. D. Oct.
1782, obt. June 15, 1796./o
Edward Cage, 1796, the pre=
sent rector.

/g He lies buried in this church.
See more of him under Apledore, of
which he was vicar.

/h See Granger's Biog. Brit. vol. ii.
p. 403.

/i See Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 607.

/k Also vicar of New Romney,

/l Youngest son of Sir William

Twysden, bart. of East Peckham.

/m A younger son of Sir Roger Mos=
tyn, bart. He resigned on being bene=
ficed in the county of Chester.

/n He was a native of Lausanne, in
Switzerland.

/o F. R. S. Plumian professor in the
university of Cambridge, and canon of
Windsor.

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STALISFIELD.

COMMONLY called Starchfield, adjoins to the
parish of Easling south-eastward. It is called in
Domesday, Stanefelle, which is the same as Stonefield,
a name well adapted to the flinty soil of it.

THE PARISH is an unfrequented and obscure
place, situated in a wild and dreary country, near the
summit of the chalk hills, just above Charing, its
southern boundary. It lies on high ground, exceed=
ingly bleak, and exposed to north and north-east
winds. The land in it is in general a red cludgy earth,
of very stiff tillage, very barren, wet and flinty, and the
inhabitants, as well as the country, are equally poor.
It has continued hill and dale in it, the greater part
of it is coppice wood, which is mostly beech and oak,
usually felled at sixteen and eighteen years growth,
and even then from its sort, and its out of the way
distance from markets, is not of any great worth; what
village there is stands round Starchfield-green, lying
near the summit of the hill, on the road to Charing,
at the south-west part of the parish, the church in the
opposite part of it, and the parsonage midway between
them. Near the north-east boundary of the parish,
next to Throwley, is an estate called Holborne, but

its proper name is Holbean, belonging to St. Bartholomew's hospital, in London; it is said formerly to have belonged to the north chantry of this church of Starchfield.

THIS PLACE, at the time of the taking of the general survey of Domesday, in 1080, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is thus described in it:

The same Adam (de Port) holds of the bishop Stane-felle. It was taxed at two sulings. The arable land is four carucates. In demesne there is one carucate, and ten

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villeins, having two carucates. There is a church, and six servants, and two acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of sixty hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth sixty shillings, and afterwards forty shillings, now one hundred shillings, Turgis held it of earl Goduin.

On the bishop of Baieux's disgrace, about four years afterwards, this, among the rest of his possessions, came into the hands of the crown, so that Adam de Port before-mentioned, became the king's immediate tenant of it, of whose heirs it was again held afterwards by Arnulf Kade, who gave this manor, with that of Ore and its appurtenances, to the knights hospitalers, and it was assigned by them to the jurisdiction of their preceptory at Swingfield.

This manor continued part of their possessions till the general dissolution of their hospital, in the 32d year of Henry VIII. After which this manor did not remain long in the hands of the crown, for the king, in his 36th year, granted it to Sir Anthony St. Leger and his heirs male, to hold in capite by knight's service, who by the act of the 2d and 3d of Edward VI. procured his lands in this county to be disgavelled. After which, Edward VI. in his 4th year, made a grant of this manor to him and his heirs, to hold by the like service. He immediately afterwards passed it away by sale to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bishopsborne, whose son Sir Anthony Aucher, about the beginning of king James I.'s reign, sold it to Salter, whose descendant Sir Nicholas Salter, possessed it at the restoration of Charles II. They bore for their arms, Gules, ten billets, four, three, two, and one, a bordure engrailed, argent, charged with sixteen hurts and torteauxes, alternately. His son Nicholas Salter, esq. of Stoke Poges, in Buckinghamshire, died in the reign of king Wil-

/p Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 7. Augtn. off. deeds of purchase and exchange, box G. 21.

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liam and queen Mary, leaving one son John, who was of London, surgeon, and three daughters, towards the raising of whose portions, he by his will ordered this manor to be sold, which it accordingly was, in 1699, to Mr. Richard Webbe, of Eleham; he, in 1711, after some controversies at law for the possession of it, alienated all his right and title to it to the trustees, for the performance of the will of dame Sarah Barrett, widow of Sir Paul Barrett, serjeant-at-law, who had

died in the beginning of that year.

She was the only daughter and heir of Sir George Ent, M. D. of London, and president of the college of physicians, and widow of Francis Head, esq. eldest son of Sir Richard Head, bart. who died in his father's life-time. She had by her first husband one son, Sir Francis Head, bart. and a daughter Sarah, married to John Lynch, esq. of Groves, father of John Lynch, D. D. dean of Canterbury, who left issue Sir William Lynch, K. B. and John Lynch, LL. D. archdeacon and prebendary of Canterbury.

Lady Barrett, by the trusts of her will, devised this manor to her male issue by her first husband in tail male, remainder to the issue of Sarah her daughter by the same husband in like tail, remainder to her several daughters and their heirs in fee; by virtue of which limitation, her grandson Sir Francis Head, bart. at length succeeded to it, and on his death in 1768, without male issue, his next brother Sir John Head, bart. and archdeacon of Canterbury, became possessed of it, and died s. p. in 1769, leaving his widow lady Jane Head, sister of Dr. William Geekie, prebendary of Canterbury, surviving, on whom he had settled this manor in jointure; she died in 1780, on which the property of it, under the above will, became vested in lady Barrett's next heir male Sir William Lynch, K. B. of Grove, who was her great-grandson, being the eldest son of John Lynch, D. D. dean of Canterbury, the son of John Lynch, esq. by Sarah his wife,

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her daughter by Francis Head, esq. who, to bar all further remainders, with his brother Dr. John Lynch, suffered a recovery of this manor, and died in 1785, s. p. After which it was alienated to the Rev. Wanley Sawbridge, who dying unmarried and intestate in 1796, it came to his two nephews and heirs-at-law, Samuel-Elias and Wanley Sawbridge, esqrs. who are the present possessors of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

DARBIES-COURT, is a manor situated in the north-west part of this parish, which took its name from a family who resided at it, and were of the rank of gentlemen in very early times, for in the antient registers and rolls of Kentish gentry, their coat armour is thus described, Party, per chevron embattled, or, and azure, three eagles counterchanged. In the 20th year of king Edward III. Sara de Darbye paid aid for lands here, which William de Darbie and the heirs of Thomas Franklyn held before in Winfield, of Reginald de Cornhill, by knight's service; and there is a hamlet and valley adjoining to Darbies-court, once part of it, called at this time Wingfield, and Wingfield valley. Of this family was John Darbie, who was alderman of London, and sheriff in 1445, anno 24 Henry VI. who built the south isle of St. Dionis Backchurch, in that city, and was otherwise a good benefactor to it; in memory of which, the above-mentioned coat of arms was put up in the windows of it./q

But the manor of Darbies court was alienated by one of that family, in the beginning of the reign of Henry IV. to Sir Ralph St. Leger, of Otterden, who died in the 10th year of that reign, leaving a daughter

Joane, then the wife of Henry Aucher, esq. of New= enden, who entitled her husband to the possession of it. In whose descendants this manor continued till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when it was alienated to

/q Philipott, p. 301. Strype's Stow's Survey, book ii. p. 152.

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Sir Michael Sondes, then of Eastry, who was the se= cond son of Sir Anthony Sondes, of Throwley, and on his elder brother Sir Thomas Sondes's death, in 1592, without male issue, succeeded him in his seat at Throwley, as well as the rest of his intailed estates in this county. He afterwards resided at Throwley, where he died in 1617, anno 16 James I. Since which this manor has descended, in like manner as Throw= ley and Lees-court, in Sheldwich, both which the reader will find described in the future part of this volume down to the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, the present possessor of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

CHARITIES.

ROGER PAYNE, ESQ. late of Otterden, by his will in 1706, gave 20l. chargeable on his estate at Otterden, to poor house-keepers of this parish; which is placed out at interest at 4l. per cent. the yearly distribution of it being vested in the minister, churchwardens, and overseers.

The poor constantly relieved are about thirty; casually thirty-five.

THIS PARISH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS= DICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which stands near the centre of the parish, is dedicated to St. Mary. It is built in the form of a cross; the steeple stands in the middle of the south side. In the north wall of the north chan= cel is an antient tomb, with the effigies of a man in armour lying at length on it. In the east window are these coats of arms, Sable, a chevron gules, between three clothworkers handles, or; another, the coat broke, impaling, Quarterly, azure and argent, per fess indented, surmounted by a battune, or, and azure.

The church of Ore was antiently accounted as a chapel to this of Stalisfield, but it has been long since separated, and become a distinct church inde= pendent of it.

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The church of Stalisfield belonged to the priory of St. Gregory, in Canterbury, perhaps part of its ori= ginal endowment by archbishop Lanfranc, in the reign of the Conqueror, and it was confirmed to it, among the rest of its possessions, by archbishop Hubert, about the reign of Richard I./r

In the 8th year of Richard II. it was become ap= propriated to the above-mentioned priory, and a vi= carage endowed in it, the former being then valued at twelve pounds, and the latter at four pounds, on the taxation of them.

The church, with the advowson of the vicarage, re= mained part of the possessions of the priory till the dissolution of it in the reign of Henry VIII. when they

came into the hands of the crown, where they remained but a small time, for an act passed that year to enable the king and the archbishop of Canterbury to exchange the scite of the late dissolved priory of St. Radigund, near Dover, with all its possessions, lately given by the king to the archbishop for the scite of the late dissolved priory of St. Gregory, and all its possessions, excepting the manor of Howfield, in Chartham.

This church becoming thus part of the revenues of the see of Canterbury, was demised by the archbishop, among the rest of the revenues of the priory, in one grand beneficial lease, in which, all advowsons and nominations of churches and chapels were excepted, and it has been continued under the same kind of demise from time to time ever since, renewable in like manner as such leases usually are.

Philip, earl of Chesterfield, was lessee of this parsonage as part of the above premises, as heir to the Wottons, after whose death in 1773, the lease was sold by his executors to George Gipps, esq. of Canterbury, who is the present lessee under the archbishop

/r Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 374.

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for the parsonage of Stalisfield, among the rest of the possessions of the priory of St. Gregory, but Samuel-Elias and Wanley Sawbridge, esqrs. as heirs of their uncle the Rev. Wanley Sawbridge, late vicar of this parish, are the occupiers of it, at a yearly reserved rent under him. The parsonage consists of a house, buildings, yard, and small orchard, ninety-four acres of land, and nine acres of wood, let together with the tithes of corn, at 75l. per annum; besides which, there are sixteen acres of woodland more in the hands of the lessee of the parsonage, worth 3l. 10s. per annum. It pays 7s. 6d. procurations to the archdeacon, and 6s. 4d. to the archbishop at his visitations.

The vicarage of this church appears to have been endowed before the 8th of Richard II. by the taxation then made of it. It is valued in the king's books at 5l. 6s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 10s. 8d. and is now of the yearly certified value of 33l. 18s. 3d. In 1587 there were sixty-one communicants here. In 1640 it was valued at only 35l. and the communicants were the like number.

Archbishop Juxon, by indenture anno 13 king Charles II. and by another anno 28 of that reign, augmented it with 25l. per annum, to be paid by the lessee of the great tithes. The archbishop continues patron of this vicarage.

THERE WAS a portion of tithes in this parish, of the value of ten shillings, which was given soon after the conquest to the priory of St. Andrew, in Rochester, by Humphry Canute; and this gift was afterwards confirmed by D. de Monci, his descendant, to be holden in like manner as the same was held of his ancestors; and it was likewise confirmed to it by the archbishops Richard, Baldwin, and Hubert./s

/s Reg. Roff. p. 116, 620, 410, 46, 506.

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CHURCH OF STALISFIELD.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archbishop. Henry West, A. B. Jan. 2, 1597,
ob. 1629.

Phineas Cosby, A. M. Dec. 30,
1629, resigned 1641.

Robert Trott, A. M. August 13,
1644, ob. 1664.

Thomas Conway, A. M. April
28, 1665, ob. 1691.

Joseph Lupton, A. M. Aug. 4,
1691, ob. 1692.

John Symonds, A. M. Feb. 16,
1692, obt. Feb. 21, 1748./t

Benjamin Dawney, July 8, 1748,
obt. Oct. 23 1778.

Wanley Sawbridge, A. M. March
16, 1780, obt. July 5, 1796./u

Thomas Lamprey, A. M. 1796,
the present vicar./w

/t He was likewise rector of Ot=
terden.

/u He was likewise rector of Thun=
dersley, in Essex, to which he was
presented in 1757.

/w And vicar of Lower Halstow.

- - -

THROWLEY

LIES the next parish north-eastward from Stalis=
field. It is called in the record of Domesday, Treve=
lei, in later records Truley and Thruley, in Latin ones
Trulega and Truilla; it is now written both Throwley
and Throwleigh.

THROWLEY is mostly situated on high ground, it
is a more pleasant and open country than that de=
scribed, for though wild and romantic among the hills
and woods, it is not so dreary and forlorn, nor the soil
so uncomfortable, being much drier. Besides it has a
more chearful and brighter aspect from the width of
the principal valley which leads through it, from north
to south, whence the hills rise on each side, with smaller

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delves interspersed among them. There is a good
deal of wood-ground, mostly of beech, interspersed at
places with oak and hazel, with some good timber
trees of oak among them, especially in the northern
and southern parts; much of the former belongs to
the dean and chapter of Canterbury. The soil is
mostly chalk, the rest a heavy tillage land of red
cludgy earth, the whole mixed with quantities of flint
stones. There are some level lands, especially in the
disparked grounds of Throwley park, which are tole=
rably good, much more so than those in the other
parts of the parish; on the east side of the park are the
foundations of the antient seat of the Sondes's, with
the church close to them, the whole lying on high
ground, with a good prospect of the surrounding
country; not far from it is Town place, now only a

farm-house. There is no village, excepting the few houses in Abraham-street may be so called, the rest of the houses, which are mostly cottages, standing dispersed throughout it, either single, or built round the little greens or fostalls, of which there are several in different parts of the parish. On a larger one of these called Wilgate-green, there is a house belonging to the estate of Mr. Philerenis Willis's heirs, and another larger antient one, which with the estate belonging to it, was formerly the property of the Chapmans, and sold by them to Christopher Vane, lord Barnard, whose grandson William, viscount Vane, dying s. p. in 1789, gave it, with his other estates in this county, to David Papillon, esq. of Acrise, the present owner of it./x

There was a family named Wolgate, from whose residence here this green seems to have taken its name of Wolgate, or Wilgate-green. After they had remained here for some generations they ended in a daughter, for Mr. Ralph Wolgate dying in 1642, his

/x See Shipborne, vol. v. of this history, p. 50.

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daughter Anne married Mr. William Genery, and entitled him to her father's possessions here, at Posiers, in Borden, and other parts of this county. The Woodwards seem afterwards to have possessed their estate here, several of whom lie buried under a tomb in Throwley church-yard.

About half a mile distant south-westward from Wilgate-green, in Abraham-street, there is a seat, called, from its high situation and expensive prospect, BELMONT; it was built in the year 1769, by Edward Wilks, esq. storekeeper of the royal powder-mills at Faversham, who inclosed a paddock or shrubbery round it, and occasionally resided here, till he alienated it in 1779 to John Montresor, esq. the present proprietor, who resides in it.

THE BEECH TREE flourishes in the greatest plenty, as well single to a large size, as in stubs in the coppice woods, which consist mostly of them, as well in these parts as they do in general on the range of chalk hills throughout this county, in some places extending two or three miles in width, and in others much more. The large tracts of ground in this and other counties, overspread with the beech-tree, the random situation of their stubs, and other circumstances which occur in viewing them, are strong proofs of their being the indigenous growth of this island, notwithstanding Cæsar's peremptory assertion, in his Commentaries, of there being none here in this time. The Britons, he says, had every material for use and building, the same as the Gauls, excepting the fir and the beech. The former there is positive proof of his being grossly mistaken in, which will in some measure destroy that implicit credit we might otherwise give to his authority, as to the latter; indeed, the continued opposition he met with from the Britons, during his short stay here, afforded him hardly a possibility of seeing any other parts of this country than those near which he landed, and in the direct track through which he marched to=

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wards Coway-stakes; too small a space for him to form any assertion of the general products of a whole country, or even of the neighbouring parts to him. Of those he passed through, the soil was not adapted to the growth of the beech tree; from which we may with great probability suppose, there were none growing on them, nor are there any throughout them, even at this time, a circumstance which most likely induced him to suppose, and afterwards to make the assertion before-mentioned.

The flints, with which the cold unfertile lands in these parts, as well as some others in this county, are covered, have been found to be of great use in the bringing forward the crops on them, either by their warmth, or somewhat equivalent to it. Heretofore the occupiers of these lands were anxious to have them picked up and carried off from their grounds, but experiencing the disadvantage of it in the failure of their crops, they never practise it themselves, and submit to the surveyors of the highways taking them off with great reluctance.

In the parish there are quantities of the great whitish ash coloured shell snail, which are of an unusual large size; they are found likewise near Darking, in Surry, and between Puckeridge and Ware, in Hertfordshire. They are not originally of this island, but have been brought from abroad, many of them are at this time observed in different parts of Italy.

MR. JACOB, in this *Plantæ Favershamienses*, has enumerated several scarce plants observed by him in this parish, besides which, that scarce one, the *Orchis myodes*, or fly satirion, has been found here, growing on the side of the path, in a small wood, midway between the church and Wilgate green.

THIS PLACE, at the taking of the general survey of Domesday, about the 15th year of the Conqueror's reign, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, the king's half brother,

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under the general title of whose lands it is thus described in it:

Herfrid holds Trevelai. It was taxed at three sulings. The arable land is eight carucates. In demesne there is one, and twenty-four villeins, with five borderers having six carucates and an half. There is a church, and five servants. Wood for the pannage of twenty hogs, and in the city three houses of thirty-two pence. In the time of king Edward the Confessor it was worth seven pounds, and afterwards six pounds. Ulnod held it of king Edward.

On the bishop of Baieux's disgrace, about four years afterwards, this, among his other estates, became confiscated to the crown.

After which it was held of the king in capite, by barony, by Jeffry de Peverel, and together with other lands made up the barony of Peverel, as it was called, being assigned to him for the defence of Dover-castle, for which purpose he was bound to maintain a certain number of soldiers from time to time for the defence of it, and to repair and defend at this own charge a particular tower or turret there, called afterwards

Turris Gattoniana, or Gatton's tower.

In the reign of king Henry III. Robert de Gatton, who took his name from the lordship of Gatton, in Surry, of which his ancestors had been some time owners, was in possession of the manor of Thrule, and died in the 38th year of that reign, holding it by knight's service of the king, of the honor of Peveler, by reason of the escheat of that honor, &c./y He was succeeded in it by this eldest son Hamo de Gatton, who resided here, and served the office of sheriff in the 14th year of Edward I. His eldest son of the same name left one son Edmund, then an infant, who afterwards dying under age, his two sisters became

/y Rot. Esch. anno 39 Henry III. N. 39. See Lewis's History of Faversham, p. 28.

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his coheirs, and divided his inheritance, of which Elizabeth entitled her husband William de Dene to this manor, and all the rest of the estates in Kent; and Margery entitled her husband Simon de Norwood to Gatton, and all the other estates in Surry.

William de Dene had a charter of free warren for his lands in Thruley, in the 10th year of Edward II. He died anno 15 Edward III. then holding this manor by the law of England, as of the inheritance of Elizabeth his late wife deceased, of the king in capite, as of the castle of Dover, by knight's service, and paying to the ward of that castle. His son Thomas de Dene died possessed of it in the 23d year of that reign, leaving four daughters his coheirs, of whom Benedicta, the eldest, married John de Shelving, and entitled him to this manor, on whose death likewise without male issue, his two daughters became his coheirs, of whom, Joane married John Brampton, alias Detling, of Detling-court, and Ellen married John de Bourne, the former of whom, in his wife's right, became possessed of this manor. He left only one daughter Benedicta his heir, who carried it in marriage to Thomas at Town, who was possessed of much land about Charing, and bore for his arms, Argent, on a chevron, sable, three cross-crosetts, ermine, which coat is in the windows of Kennington church, impaled with Ellis, of that place. He removed hither in the reign of Henry VI. and built a seat for his residence in this parish, about a quarter of a mile from the church, which he named, from himself, Town-place, soon after which he died, leaving his possessions to his three daughters and coheirs, of whom Eleanor was married to Richard Lewknor, of Challock; Bennet to William Watton, of Addington, and Elizabeth to William Sondes, of this parish and of Lingfield, in Surry, in which county his ancestors had been seated as early as the reign of Henry III. at Darking, where their seat was named, from them,

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Sondes-place./z Upon the division of their inheritance, the manor of Throwley was allotted to William Sondes, and Town-place, with the lands belonging to it in Throwley, to Richard Lewknor, who sold it to Edward Evering, the eldest son of Nicholas, third son of John Evering, of Evering, in Alkham, and his daughter and

heir Mary marrying in 1565, with John Upton, of Faversham, entitled him to this estate, which he very soon afterwards alienated to Shilling, from whom it as quickly afterwards passed by sale to Anthony Sondes, esq. of this parish, whose ancestor William Sondes, on the division of the inheritance of the daughters and coheirs of Thomas at Town as before mentioned, had become possessed of the manor of Throwley, and the ancient mansion of it, in which he afterwards resided, and dying in 1474, anno 15 Edward IV. was buried in the north chapel of this church, though he ordered by his will a memorial for himself to be put up in the church of Lingfield. The family of Sondes bore for their arms, Argent, three blackmores heads, coupéd, between two chevronels, sable, which, with the several quarterings borne by them, are painted on their monuments in this church.

His descendant, Anthony Sondes, esq. of Throwley, in the 31st year of Henry VIII. procured his lands in this county to be disgavelled, by the act then passed, and died in 1575, having married Joane, daughter of Sir John Fineux, chief justice of the king's bench, by whom he had two sons, Thomas and Michael, and two daughters.

He was succeeded by his eldest son Sir Thomas Sondes, sheriff anno 22 Elizabeth, who founded the school in this parish. He died in 1592, leaving issue only by his second wife, one daughter Frances, married to Sir John Leveson, so that on his death without male

/z Among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum, is the pedigree of Walter Sondes, temp. Hen. IV. No. 6111â$

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issue, his only brother Sir Michael Sondes, of Eastry, succeeded to this manor and seat of his ancestors, in which he afterwards resided. He was sheriff in the 26th year of queen Elizabeth's reign, and died in the 16th year of king James I. having had by his first wife Mary, only daughter and heir of George Fynch, esq. of Norton, six sons and six daughters.

Sir Richard Sondes, the eldest son, resided at Throwley, where he died in the 8th year of Charles I. having had by his two wives a numerous issue, of both sons and daughters. He was succeeded in this manor and seat, with the rest of his estates, by his eldest son Sir George Sondes, who was made a knight of the Bath at the coronation of king Charles I. soon after which he began to rebuild his seat of Lees-court, in Sheldwich, and fixed his residence there, under the description of which a more particular account of him and his descendants may be seen. Not long after which this seat was entirely pulled down, and the park adjoining to it disparked. The foundations of the former still remain, and the disparked lands still retain the name of Throwley park.

Sir George Sondes was afterwards created Earl of Faversham, Viscount Sondes, of Lees court, and Baron of Throwley, whose two daughters became his coheirs; Mary was married to Lewis, lord Duras, marquis of Blanquefort, and afterwards earl of Faversham, and Katherine to Lewis Watson, esq. afterwards earl of Rockingham, who each successively, in right of their

respective wives, inherited this manor and estate, which has since descended in like manner as Lees-court, in Sheldwich, to the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, and he is the present possessor of this manor, with Town-place and the estate belonging to it. A court baron is held for this manor.

The denne of Toppenden, alias Tappenden, in Smarden, in the Weald, is an appendage to the manor of Throwley, and is held of it.

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WILDERTON, alias Wolderton, called also in antient deeds Wilrinton, is a manor in this parish, which was once part of the possessions of the eminent family of Badlesmere, of which Bartholomew de Badlesmere was possessed of it in the reign of Edward II. of whom, for his services in the Scottish wars, he obtained in the 9th year of it many liberties and franchises for his different manors and estates, among which was that of free-warren in the demesne lands of this manor of Wolrington./a Having afterwards associated himself with the discontented barons, he was taken prisoner, and executed in the 16th year of that reign. By the inquisition taken after his death, which was not till anno 2 Edward III. at which time both the process and judgment against him was reversed, it was found that he died possessed of this manor, among others, which were then restored to his son Giles de Badlesmere, who died in the 12th year of Edward III. s. p. being then possessed of this manor. Upon which his four sisters became his coheirs, and upon a partition of their inheritance, this manor fell to the share of Margery, wife of William, lord Roos, of Hamlake, who survived her husband, and died in the 37th year of Edward III. possessed of it, as did her grandson John, lord Roos, in the 9th year of Henry V. leaving no issue by Margaret his wife, who survived him, and had this manor assigned to her as part of her dower. She afterwards married Roger Wentworth, esq. whom she likewise survived, and died anno 18 Edward IV.

On the death of John, lord Roos, her first husband, s. p. the reversion of this manor, after her death, became vested in Thomas his next surviving brother and heir, whose son Thomas afterwards became a firm friend to the house of Lancaster, for which he was attainted anno 1 Edward IV. and his lands were confiscated to the crown.

/a Rot. Cart. anno 9 Edward II. N. 57.

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On the death of Margaret, the widow of Roger Wentworth, esq. the manor of Wulrington, but whether by grant or purchase, I have not found, came into the possession of Richard Lewknor, of Challock, owner likewise of Town-place, as before-mentioned, who sold it to Edward Evering, already mentioned before, whose daughter and heir Mary marrying in 1565 with Mr. John Upton, of Faversham, entitled him to it. He joined with his brother Nicholas Upton, in 1583, in the sale of the manor-house, with all the demesne lands belonging to it, excepting one small piece called the manor-croft, and a moiety of the ma=

nor, which, from its situation, from that time was known by the name of NORTH-WILDERTON, to Anthony Terry, of North Wilderton, yeoman, upon whose death it came to his four sons, Arnold, William, Thomas, and George Terry, who in 1601 made a partition of their father's estates, in which this manor was allotted to Arnold Terry, and William his brother, from whom it descended to Anthony Terry, of Ospringe, who in 1689 sold it to Mr. Thomas Knowler, of Faversham, who devised it to his sister Abigail for her life, and after her death to John Knowler, gent. of Ospringe, in fee. She afterwards married John Bates, and they, together with John Knowler above-mentioned, about the year 1694, joined in the sale of it to Mr. Edward Baldock, of Aylesford, and Bennet his wife. He survived her, and by deed of gift in 1717, vested the fee of it in his son Edward Baldock, who passed it away to Mr. Thomas Greenstreet, of Norton, whose niece Elizabeth marrying with Mr. Thomas Smith, of Gillingham, entitled him to this manor, which has been since sold to John Montresor, esq. of Belmont, in this parish, the present owner of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

There was antiently a chapel at this manor of Wilrintune, as appears by a charter, dated anno 1217, lately in the treasury of St. Bertin's mona=

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stery at St. Omers, concerning the privilege of a bell to it.

BUT THE REMAINING MOIETY of the manor, with a small croft called the manor-croft, lying at the west end of Hockstet green, remained with John Upton, and thenceforward acquired the name of SOUTH, alias GREAT WILDERTON. After whose death it came to his eldest son John Upton, who died possessed of it in 1635, and was buried with his ancestors in Faversham church. They bore for their arms, Quarterly, sable, and or; in the first and fourth quarters, a cross flory, argent, each charged with a trefoil, azure./b

John Upton, his eldest son, inherited this manor, and at his death in 1664, by his will gave it to his daughter Anne, wife of Charles Castle, gent. who in 1688 devised it to her brother-in-law George Naylor, and George White, the former of whom becoming solely possessed of it, in 1705 devised it to his nephew Mr. John Dalton, gent. of St. Edmundsbury, for his life, and afterwards to his son Thomas Dalton, and his issue, in consequence of which it descended to Benjamin Shuckforth, of Diss, in Norfolk, who in 1741 sold it to Mr. Giles Hilton, of Lords, in Sheldwich, on whose death it descended to his three sons, John, William, and Robert Hilton, the youngest of whom, Mr. Robert Hilton, as well as by the devise of his two elder brothers, afterwards became the sole proprietor of this manor. He died in 1782, and his son Mr. John Hilton, of Sheldwich, as next in the entail, succeeded to it, and is the present possessor of it.

IN THE REIGN of king Stephen there was AN ALIEN PRIORY established in this parish, as a cell to the Benedictine abbey of St. Bertin, at St. Omers, the capital of Artois, in Flanders, William de Ipre, in 1153, having given this church, with that of Chilham, to it for

that purpose; which gift was confirmed by king Ste=

/b Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Upton.

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phen the same year, as it was by the several archbishops afterwards, and by the charters of Henry II. and III. The charter of this gift was till lately in the treasury of the monastery of St. Bertin, as were all the others hereafter mentioned relating to this church and priory.

There are very few formal foundations of these cells, the lands of them being usually granted to some monastery abroad, as an increase to their revenues, after which, upon some part of them they built convenient houses, for the reception of a small convent. Some of these cells were made conventual, having a certain number of monks, who were mostly foreigners, and removeable at pleasure, sent over with a prior at their head, who were little more than stewards to the superior abbey, to which they returned the revenues of their possessions annually; others were permitted to chuse their own prior, and these were entire societies within themselves, and received their revenues for their own use and benefit, paying perhaps only a yearly pension as an acknowledgment of their subjection, or what was at first the surplusage to the foreign house.

The cell at Throwley was of the former sort, for which reason, during the wars between England and France, as their revenues went to support the king's enemies, these kind of houses were generally seized on by the king, and restored again upon the return of a peace./c

In the 25th year of king Edward I. Peter, prior of Triwle, as it was spelt in the record, made fine to the king at Westminster, and had a privy seal for his protection, by which he had the custody of his house and possessions committed to his care, to retain them during the king's pleasure, answering to his exchequer for the profits of them, according to the directions of him and his council.

/c Tan. Mon. præf. p. xxvii. Dugd. Warw. p. 24, 25. See vol. i. of this history, p. 76.

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The scite of this priory was that of the parsonage of the church of Throwley, which, with that of Chilham, seems to have been all their possessions in this kingdom. These were valued in the 8th year of king Richard II. anno 1384, each at forty pounds annually, and their temporalities at 20s. 6d. at which time the parsonage of Throwley was become appropriated to this cell, and a vicarage was endowed in it. In which situation this priory remained till the general suppression of the alien priories throughout England, in the 2d year of Henry V. anno 1414, which was enacted in the parliament then held at Leicester, and all their houses, revenues, &c. were given to the king and his heirs for ever./d

This priory, with its possessions, seems to have remained in the hands of the crown till Henry VI. in his 22d year, settled them on the monastery of Sion, in Middlesex, founded by his father Henry V. with which they continued till the general suppression of religious

houses, this being one of those greater monasteries dissolved by the act of the 31st year of king Henry VIII. How this priory was disposed of afterwards by the crown, may be further seen hereafter, under the description of the parsonage of the church of Throwley.

The only remains left of this priory are some few foundations, and two walls of flint, which support a building, standing behind the parsonage-house and garden.

THERE IS A FREE SCHOOL in this parish, the house of which is situated adjoining to the church-yard, which was founded by Sir Thomas Sondes, who died in 1592, who by his will devised a house and six pounds per annum to the master of it, to dwell in, and as a recompence for his pains; but having charged his

Though this act is not in the statute book, it is mentioned among the patent rolls of the 3d year of king Henry V. See vol. i. of this history, p. 516.

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executors and not his heirs to the fulfilling of this bequest, and charged the payment of the above sum, among other charitable legacies, on several leasehold estates, the terms of which expired in his nephew Sir Richard Sondes's time, and the house having tumbled down for want of repairs, Sir George Sondes, son of Sir Richard above-mentioned, thought it unreasonable, as he had none of the estates, that he should be bound to maintain the school; however, he voluntarily paid the master his salary, and gave him a house to live in, both which have been continued by the possessors of Throwley manor to this time, as far as I can learn, as of their own free gift.

The present right hon. lord Sondes appoints the schoolmaster as such during pleasure, and pays him a salary of twelve pounds per annum, besides which, he allots him an house and garden, worth about six pounds per annum, which his lordship repairs from time to time, and for which no parochial or church-dues are paid. There are at present fourteen boys taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, gratis, in this school, which though taken mostly from the parishes of Throwley, Badlesmere, and Leveland, are not confined to those parishes.

CHARITIES.

CATHERINE, LADY SONDES, gave by will the sum of 40s. a year, to be received yearly on St. Barnabas's day, towards the relief of the poor, payable from a farm in it, called Bell-horn, now belonging to lord Sondes, and now of that annual produce.

THERE WERE three alms-houses in this parish, the gift of one of the Sondes family; one of them was some time since burnt down, and has not been rebuilt, but lord Sondes allows the person nominated to it the value of it in money yearly.

The poor constantly relieved are about thirty, casually double that number.

THROWLEY is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

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The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael,

consists of three isles and three chancels. The steeple is a square tower, and stands in the centre of the south side of it, in which there is a peal of six bells, given in 1781, at the expence of Mr. Montresor, of Belmont. In the south isle is a memorial for Francis Hosier Hart, gent. obt. 1761, leaving three daughters, Mary, Elizabeth, and Diana Hosier. In the middle isle is a small monument for Stephen Bunce, esq. of this parish, one of the Antients of New-Inn, who died there in 1634, and was buried in St. Clement's church, London. In the middle chancel there are two stalls of wood, which are not fixed, and in the north isle three more of the like sort, joined together, with a desk before them, which seem to have been removed from the chancel, and were both intended for the use of the religious of the priory here. In the middle of this chancel is a memorial for Dr. Thomas Horsemonden, patron and rector of Purleigh, in Essex, prebendary of Lincoln, &c. who died anno 1632. In the north and south chancel are several monuments for the family of Sondes, with their essigies, arms and quarterings; one of them in the latter, a plain altar tomb of black marble for Sir George Sondes, earl of Faversham, his lady and descendants; many more of this family, as appears by the parish register, are buried in the vault underneath, but the family of Watson burying at Rockingham, this vault has not been opened for several years. The north and south chancels above-mentioned belonged, one to the possessors of Throwley manor, the other to those of Town-place, but they both belong now to lord Sondes.

There were formerly in the windows the arms of Sondes, Finch, and Gatton, and in the north window this inscriptin, 'Pray for the good estate of Alice Martyn, the which did make this window, MCCCCXLV.'

In the church yard, at the west end of the north isle, there is a circular door-case of stone, having several bordures of Saxon ornaments carved round it. In the

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church-yard is an altar tomb for William Woodward, gent. of Wilgate-green, obt. 1681, and Anne his wife.

It appears by the will of William Sondes, esq. anno 1474, that this church had then constantly burning in it lights, dedicated to St. Michael, the Holy Trinity, the Holy Cross, St. Mary, St. Thomas, St. Christopher, St. George, St. Katherine, St. Margaret, St. Mary Magdalen, and St. Nicholas.

An account of the antient patronage of the church of Throwley has already been given, as first belonging to the alien priory here, and then to the monastery of Sion, to the time of the dissolution of the latter in the 31st year of Henry VIII. the year after which, the king granted the rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage of the church of Throwley, to the prebendary of Rugmer, in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, in exchange for lands belonging to that prebend, to be inclosed within the king's park of Marybone, in pursuance of an act then passed. Since which this patronage and advowson have continued part of the above-mentioned prebend. The former is leased out by the present prebendary to the right hon. lord Sondes, but the advowson of the vicarage he retains in his own hands, and is the present patron of it.

There was a rent of 4l. 18s. 4d. reserved from the parsonage by king Henry VIII. nomine decimæ, which was granted by queen Elizabeth, in her third year, to archbishop Parker, among other premises, in exchange for several manors, lands, &c. belonging to that see, which rent still continues part of the revenue of the archbishopric.

A vicarage was endowed here in 1367, anno 42 king Edward III. by archbishop Langham, at which time the chapel of Wylrington belonged to it./c

It is valued in the king's books at 7l. 11s. 8d. and the yearly tenths at 15s. 2d.

/e See Ducarel's Repert. p. 111, 2d edit.

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In 1578 there were one hundred and eighty communicants here. In 1640 it was valued at forty-five pounds, communicants two hundred and twenty.

CHURCH OF THROWLEY.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented.

VICARS.

Michael Sondes, esq. William Copell, S. T. B. Oct. 9, 1597, obt. 1605./f

Sir Michael Sondes. William Pulley, A. M. July 29, 1605./g

William Annand, induct.

July 15, 1649./h

Matthew Smallwood, S. T. P.

hac vice. George Robertson, A. M. Nov. 6, 1662, obt. 1688./f

The Crown, hac vice. Richard Sale, clerk, Sept. 11, 1688.

Benjamin Hollingworth, resigned 1696./i

Jonathan Bernard, Oct. 28, 1701, obt. Feb. 1, 1715.

James Barker, preb. of Rugmer. John Willis, LL. B. Aug. 27, 1715, obt. Feb. 1, 1757./k

Thomas Archer, preb. of the same. Johnson Lawson, A. B. March 5, 1757, obt. Nov. 25, 1778./l

John Hotham, D. D. preb. of the same. Walter Williams, A. M. March 12, 1779, the present vicar./m

/f He was buried in this church.

/g He was living in 1635.

/h And rector of Leveland. Wood's Ath. vol. ii. p. 833, fasti, p. 108, 122.

/i He was likewise vicar of Sheldwich, which he resigned, as well as this vicarage, for that of Stone, in Oxney.

/k And vicar of Sheldwich.

/l And dean of Battle, in Sussex.

/m Also vicar of Harrow, in Middlesex.

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LEVELAND

IS the next parish eastward from Throwley, being but little known, and having no traffic through it. It

is a very small parish, situated mostly on high ground, in a healthy country, much like that last described, only that it is more open, having less woodland, and a plainer surface. The soil is much less inclined to chalk,

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and it has some tolerable good level land towards the south-east part of it; the church stands towards the eastern side of the parish, with the court-lodge near it, all the other houses in it, excepting two, are, though within the bounds of it, on the west side of Badlesmere leas, over which, as well as along the eastern boundaries of this parish, at a small distance from the church, the high road leads from Faversham through Sheldwich to Ashford.

THE MANOR was part of the antient possessions of the see of Canterbury, being held of the several archbishops by knight's service.

Accordingly it is entered in the survey of Domesday, under the title of Terra Militum Archiepi, as follows:

In Faversham hundred, Richard, tenant/n of the archbishop, holds of him Lelevant. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is In demesne there is one carucate, and two villeins, with one borderer, having one carucate. There is wood for the pannage of five hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth thirty shillings, now twenty shillings.

This Richard had a grant of it from archbishop Lanfranc, to hold by knight's service, and his descendants, from their interest in this place, most probably assumed their surname from it.

In the reign of king Richard I. Nathaniel de Leveland held it of the archbishop, in the 9th year of which, he and his son Robert fined in sixty marcs to the king, to have the custody of the king's houses at Westminster, and of the Fleet-prison, which had been their inheritance ever since the conquest, and that they might not be hindered therein by the counterfine of Osbert de Longchamp. At length their descendant Margaret de Leveland carried this manor in marriage to Giles de Badlesmere, who was a justice itinerant at the begin-

/n Homo, in the original, which in antient records signified generally a homager, or one that owed fealty.

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ning of king Henry III.'s reign; but marrying her without the king's licence, he could not obtain his pardon till about three years before his death, and not then without great intercession. He was slain in a battle against the Welsh, in 1258, anno 43 of that reign, and she survived him, and afterwards remarried with Fulk de Peyforer, who had been sheriff in the 43d year of the same reign; he possessed this manor in her right, and died in the 5th year of the next reign of king Edward I.

She survived him likewise, and died without issue by either of her husbands, so that Ralph de Leveland was found by inquisition to be her next heir, and succeeded likewise to the custody of the palace at Westminster, and the Fleet. After his decease s. p. Stephen de Leveland his brother and heir held both those places, and

left an only daughter and heir Joane, who was first married to John Shenche, by whom she had a son John, and afterwards to Edward Cheyne, who in right of her inheritance became possessed of a life-estate in this manor, and likewise in the bailiwick of the custody of the king's palace at Westminster, and surviving her, died possessed of both in the 13th year of Edward III. upon which, John Shenche, her son and heir by her first husband as above-mentioned, succeeded as well to this manor as to that office, of both which he died possessed in the 23d year of Edward III. leaving Margaret his daughter his sole heir.

The above-mentioned estate in Leveland certainly did not contain the whole of it, for Bartholomew de Badlesmere had some property here in the beginning of king Edward II.'s reign, for in the 9th year of it he obtained, among other liberties for his estates, free-warren in his demesne lands in this parish; and the family of Northwood had likewise a considerable interest here in the next reign of Edward III. but whether from marriage with the family of Badlesmere, John de Northwood having married Joane, one of the daugh-

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ters of Guncelin de Badlesmere, brother to Giles before-mentioned, by his first wife, I have not found, but his grandson Roger de Northwood was found to die possessed of the manor of Leveland in the 35th year of Edward III. Before the end of which reign, Richard de Poynings was become possessed of all their joint interests in this parish, and he died possessed of the entire fee of the manor of Leveland in the 11th year of king Richard II./o On his death, Isabel his widow, daughter and heir of Robert, lord Fitzpain, held it in dower till her death in the 17th year of that reign; upon which, Robert de Poynings, their son and heir, succeeded to it, and died possessed of it in the 25th year of king Henry VI. being slain at the siege of Orleans; upon which Alianore, the only daughter of his son Richard, then the wife of Sir Henry Percy, lord Percy, was found to be his heir, and entitled her husband to this manor, among the rest of her inheritance, and in her right he was likewise summoned to parliament as lord Poynings, which title he bore, till he succeeded, on his father's death, to the title of earl of Northumberland, in whose descendants this manor continued down to Henry, earl of Northumberland, who dying in the 29th year of king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign, s. p. this manor, with the rest of his estates, as had been settled by an act in the 27th year of it, which was confirmed by a deed made by the earl next year, which was acknowledged in chancery, and inrolled in the Augmentation-office, became vested in the crown, where it remained till the king granted it to Sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls, who, in the 2d year of Edward VI. alienated it, with much other land in this neighbourhood, to Sir Anthony Aucher, and he not long after passed it away by sale to Anthony Sondes, esq. of Throwley, whose great-grandson Sir George Sondes, K. B. of Lees-court, in Sheldwich, was created Earl

/o Rot. Esch. anno 12 Richard II. N. 148.

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of Faversham. His two daughters became his coheirs, of whom Mary was married to Lewis, lord Duras, afterwards earl of Faversham, and Katherine to the hon. Lewis Watson, afterwards earl of Rockingham, each of whom successively in right of their respective wives, inherited this manor, which has since passed in like manner as Lees-court before-mentioned, to which the reader is referred, down to the right hon. Lewis-Thomas Watson, lord Sondes, who is the present possessor of it. /p A court baron is held for this manor.

The high turnpike road from Ashford through Challock and Sheldwich to Faversham runs along the east side of this parish, at a very small distance from the church eastward.

CHARITIES.

ARNOLD BONSE, of Trevlegth, by his will dated 1465, directed his feoffees to enfeoffe the wardens of the church of Lyvelonde, in two acres of land lying in the parish of Trowle, between the rectory of Lyvelonde towards the east, and the land of Thomas Easden south, and the lands of William Norton west and north, which land of old time belonged to the church of Lyvelonde, and was unjustly taken from it by his ancestors, and withheld to that time.

The poor constantly relieved are not more than two on an average, casually about forty.

LEVELAND is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Laurence, is a small mean building, consisting of one isle and a chancel, with a low pointed wooden turret on it.

Against the north wall of the chancel, there is a monument for Mrs. Katherine Rooper, married first to Thomas Herdson, esq. and secondly to Edward Rooper, esq. with her figure kneeling at a desk, behind her a man in armour, and these two escutcheons of arms, Argent, a cross, sable, between four fleurs de lis, gules,

/p See more of him and the Watsons, under Lees-court, in Sheldwich.

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impaling, Per chevron embattled, argent, and sable, in chief, two castles, in base, an escallop, or; the second, Paly of six, sable, and or, in the first, third, and fifth, a buck's head erased of the second, impaling as before.

Archbishop Lanfranc, in the reign of the Conqueror, on his founding the priory of St. Gregory, gave to it, among other premises, the tithes of the lordship of Leveland, which he had granted to Richard. /q How long these tithes remained with the priory, I have not found, but as they are not inserted among the possessions of it in archbishop Hubert's confirmation of them, in the reign of king Richard I. it is reasonable to suppose they did not belong to it at that time; /r and it appears that they were possessed by the said Richard's descendants, one of whom, Nathaniel de Leveland, lord of the manor of Leveland in the year 1206, gave the chapel of Leveland, with five acres of land, to the Benedictine monastery of St. Bertin, at St. Omers, the capital of Artois, in Flanders; but I think it could not be under the cognizance of their cell established at the

adjoining parish of Throwley, as there is no mention made of it in the several taxations and valuations of its revenues.

In the 7th year of king Henry III. anno 1222, this church having been newly erected, was consecrated, but how long it continued among the revenues of St. Bertin's, I have not seen, but it is probable, till the 2d year of Henry V. when the possessions of all the alien priories throughout England were given to the king. After which, I have not found any account of it till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when it was come into the possession of the family of Sondes, of Throwley, in the descendants of which the patronage of this rectory has continued, in like manner as the manor of Leveland, down to the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, the present patron of it.

/q Dugd. Mon. vol. ii. p. 373. /r Ibid. p. 374.

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This rectory is a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of thirty pounds, the yearly tenths of which are eight shillings.

In 1598 the communicants here were twenty-one; in 1640 they were thirty-six, and the yearly value of it forty pounds.

CHURCH OF LEVELAND.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Michael Sondes, esq. William Copel, S. T. B. June 28,
1597, resigned 1603.

Sir Michael Sondes. Thomas Taylor, A. B. May 27,
1603, obt. 1604.

Bartholomew Newman, A. M.
Feb. 21, 1604, resig. 1608.

William Pulley, A. M. June 14,
1608./s

William Annand, in 1651.

Sir George Sondes, knight of the Bath William Bagnall, A. M. May 6,
1662, obt. 1713.

Hon. Edward Watson. Edward Nicholls, A. M. Nov.
2, 1713, obt. March 10,
1726./t

Lewis, earl of Rockingham. James Bernard, A. M. Oct. 5,
1726, obt. 1763./u

Lewis, lord Sondes. William Gurney, A. M. May 6,
1763. obt. April, 1784./w

Henry Thomson, June, 1784, the
present rector./x

/s He was vicar of Throwley, as was his successor, who had been before vicar of Selling, which he resigned for the rectory of Badlesmere.

/t And rector of Badlesmere, as were his two next successors.

/u He had been before vicar of Selling. His two livings were sequestered in 1740, on his insanity, and continued so till his death.

/w He was vicar of Selling, which he resigned for the rectory of Lud-

denham, which he held with the above.

/x Also rector of Lower Hardres.

- - -

BADLESMERE.

THE next adjoining parish to Leveland, still further eastward, is Badlesmere, usually called Basmere.

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It is a parish but little frequented, and with hardly any thoroughfare, lying on the opposite side of the high road from Faversham to Ashford, which runs along its western boundaries; it is situated about six miles from the former, mostly on high ground, the soil of it in this part of it is tolerable good and level, much like the part of Leveland adjoining to it, but the eastern side of the parish is very hilly and chalky, a poor soil covered with flints, a very forlorn rough country, with much woodland in it. At a field's distance from the above road stands the court-lodge, called Basmere-court, a mean farm-house, with the church almost adjoining to it northward.

In the next field south-eastward of the church, the foundations of the antient seat of the Badlesmeres are easily traced out, by the different colours of the corn, and from the number of apartments in it appears to have been a very large and noble mansion; among them is a large pond, called the Cellar pond, which, as its name implies, was no doubt the place where the cellars of this seat were formerly. At the south-west extremity of the parish is Basmere-lees, over which the Ashford road passes. There are several houses round it, those on the north-east side only, one of which is the parsonage, are in this parish, the rest being in those of Leveland and Sheldwich.

A fair is held here on St. Leonard's day, now by the alteration of the stile on Nov. 17, yearly.

Sir Thomas Randolph, an eminent statesman in queen Elizabeth's reign, son of Avery Randolph, of Badlesmere, was born in this parish in 1523, and was much favored and distinguished by the queen, being employed in no less than eighteen different embassies. He died in 1590, and was buried in St. Peter's church, Paul's wharf, in London, leaving a numerous issue by one of his wives, a sister of Sir Francis Walsingham./y

/y See Wood's Ath. vol. i. p. 244. Biog. Brit. vol. v. p. 3490.

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BARTHOLOMEW DE BADLESMERE was by writ summoned to parliament, in the 3d year of king Edward II. among the barons of this realm, by the title of Bartholomew de Badlesmere, of Badlesmere, chevalier. This barony, by the death of Giles, lord Badlesmere, his son, s. p. devolved by the marriage of Maud, the eldest of his four sisters and coheirs, to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, and it continued in his descendants down to John de Vere, the fourteenth earl of Oxford, and baron of Badlesmere in king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign, who dying s. p. the earldom descended to the heir male of the Vere's, but the barony of Badlesmere descended to the three sisters of the earl John last-mentioned, viz. Ursula, married to George Windsor, and afterwards to

Edward Knightly, of Northamptonshire; Dorothy to John Nevil, lord Latimer, and Elizabeth to Sir Anthony Wingfield, but this dignity being entire, and not divisible, they became incapable of it, otherwise than by gift from the crown, and it in strictness of law reverted to, and was in the king's disposition, but the crown seemingly dispensed with this, for the four several earls of Oxford successively after this, assumed and used among their titles, that of baron of Badlesmere. At length, after the death of Henry, earl of Oxford, and baron of Badlesmere, in 1625, there arose a dispute concerning these titles, which was in 1626, by solemn adjudication of parliament, determined, that the earldom belonged to the heir male of the Vere's, and that the barony of Badlesmere was wholly vested in the king to dispose of at his pleasure, which judgment the king approved of, at which time the office of great chamberlain of England, which had for so many descents been vested in the Vere's, earls of Oxford, was claimed by Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, as heir male, and by Robert, lord Willoughby, of Eresby, as heir-general, and by the adjudication of the house of lords, though the earldom was adjudged to the heir male,

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yet the office of chamberlain was adjudged to the lord Willoughby./z

THIS PLACE, in the 15th year of the reign of William the Conqueror, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, the king's half-brother, accordingly it is thus entered, under the general title of that prelate's lands, in the survey of Domesday, taken about that time:

The same Anfrid holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Badlesmere. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is two carucates and an half. In demesne there is one, and ten villeins, having one carucate and an half. There is a church, and two servants, and a fishery of twelve-pence. Wood for the pannage of four hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth sixty shillings, and afterwards sixty shillings, now four pounds. The abbot of St. Augustine's claimed this manor, because he had it in the time of king Edward the Confessor, and the hundred witnessed for him, but the son of the tenant said, his father could turn himself over wherever he would, and this the monks did not deny.

Four years after this, the bishop of Baieux fell into disgrace, and the king seized on this estate among the rest of his possessions.

After which the manor of Badlesmere was granted by the king to Hamo de Crevequer, and together with other lands made up the barony of Crevequer, as it was called, being held of the king in capite by barony, as of his castle of Dover, for the defence of which he was bound by his tenure./a

Of his heirs this manor was held by the eminent family of Badlesmere, who took their surname from their possessing it. Guncelin de Badlesmere, with his brother Ralph, accompanied king Richard I. to the siege

/z See a full account of this claim and determination in Collins's Proceedings on Baronies.

of Acon, in Palestine. Guncelin de Badlesmere held this manor, as before-mentioned, in the reign of king John, and was a justice itinerant, as was his brother Giles de Badlesmere, who was slain in a conflict with the Welsh in the 43d year of Henry III. anno 1248. The former left one son Bartholomew, and two daughters, Joane, married to John de Northwood, and another to John de Coningsby.

Bartholomew de Badlesmere afterwards possessed this manor, and on his death was succeeded in it by his son Guncelin, who was chief justice of Chester in the 2d year of Edward I. He died in the 29th year of that reign, and was buried in Badlesmere church, where his effigies lying cross-legged, cut in wood, was remaining in Philipott's time, then holding this manor of the king in capite, as of the barony of Crevequer, by knight's service, and paying to the ward of Dover castle, and making suit to the king's court of Ledes. He left by Margaret his wife, heir of Ralph Fitzbernard, one son Bartholomew de Badlesmere, who from the greatness of his wealth and possessions, afterwards acquired the title of the rich lord Badlesmere of Ledes, of which castle, in the 5th year of Edward II. he was appointed constable, and obtained a grant in fee of the castle and manor of Chilham, among other lands; after which, in the 9th year of that reign, he obtained several more grants of lands, and a special charter of liberties within his manors, and free-warren in all his demesne lands in this manor of Badlesmere among others; in the 11th year of Edward II. he was once more made governor of Ledes-castle, two years after which he obtained the king's licence to found a priory within his manor here, which was held in capite, for canons regular; and that he might, of the demesnes of the manor, grant to them twenty-four acres, to be possessed by them in pure and perpetual alms, for their inhabiting and building there a church, and other buildings, with a non-obstante to the statute of mortmain. But by

the troubles which immediately after this ensued to the lord Badlesmere, nothing further was done towards it till the 4th year of Edward III. when the king confirmed this endowment, together with the advowsons of this church of Badlesmere, with those of Whitstaple, Redlingweld, Old Romney, Northfield, and Charleton, in this county; Northmymms, in Hertfordshire, and Luddington, in Huntingdonshire; notwithstanding which, it appears by their afterwards continuing in the possession of lay proprietors, and by no further mention being to be found of this priory, that the design of erecting it fell to the ground, and that nothing further was afterwards done towards it. The year after king Edward the 1st's granting this licence to Bartholomew de Badlesmere, he was constituted governor of Tunbridge castle, and having been for several years steward of the king's household, he had, in reward for his services, the grant of the castle of Ledes in fee, in exchange for other lands which he had purchased.

But this great and powerful baron, after having had

such continual favors heaped on him, and having been summoned to parliament till the 14th year of that reign, then withdrew his allegiance, and joined with the earl of Lancaster and the other discontented barons; for which he had a full pardon granted next year, but within a small time afterwards, queen Isabel being denied entrance into his castle of Ledes, the king became highly incensed against him, and immediately besieged and took it, with Margaret his wife, Giles his infant son, and all his children in it, who were sent prisoners to the Tower, and all his lands were seized into the king's hands.^{/b} After which, flying into the north, and being overtaken at Burrowbridge, he received a total defeat, and being sent to Canterbury, was hanged at

^{/b} See a full account of this transaction above under Leeds, vol. v. p. 483, and claus. 15, Edward, 2m. 26d. Pat. p. 1, m. 12. Rym. Fœd. vol. iii. p. 897, 898.

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the gallows of Blean, near that city, and his head being cut off, was set on a pole at Burgate, and his body buried in the White Friars church, in that city. The Badlesmeres bore for their arms, Azure, a fess between two gemelles, gules; which coat was afterwards quartered by the Veres, earls of Oxford, Manners's, dukes of Rutland, the lord Scroope, Nevill lord Latimer, the lord Wentworth of Nettlested, and other noble families.

The inquisition of his lands was not taken till the 2d year of Edward III. when the king directed his writs to the several sheriffs of Kent, and many other counties, (by which the wide extent of his possessions in different parts of the kingdom may be seen)^{/c} to restore to Margaret his widow, all manors, lands, &c. forfeited in those counties, &c. By this it appears that he died possessed, among others, of this manor of Badlesmere, leaving by Margaret his wife, sister and coheir of Richard de Clare, who survived him, and died anno 5 Edward III. a son Giles, and four daughters, Maud, married first to Roger Fitzpain, and secondly to John de Vere, earl of Oxford; Margery to William, lord Roos, and afterwards to Sir Thomas Arundel; Elizabeth first to Edmund Mortimer, and secondly to William Bohun, earl of Northampton; and Margaret to Sir John Tibetot.

Giles de Badlesmere, the son, the process and judgment against his father having been reversed, had his manors and lands restored to him, and having been much trusted and employed by the king in his wars, and having received summons to parliament, he died s. p. in the latter of them, and was buried near his father in the same church, being then possessed of this manor, and leaving his four sisters his coheirs; upon the division of their inheritance, this manor among others was assigned to Maud, the eldest sister, wife of

^{/c} Claus. 1 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 22. Rym. Fœd. vol. iv. p. 259.

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John de Vere, earl of Oxford, who in her right became possessed of it, and he accordingly paid aid for it, in the 20th year of Edward III. He was descended of a family which took its name from the town of Vere, in

Zealand, where they had flourished as earls of Guisne for several generations, of whom Alberic, or Aubrey de Vere, came over into England with William the Conqueror, as appears by the roll of Battle-abbey, and was rewarded by him with divers lordships, which are recorded in Domesday. After which he married Beatrix, the Conqueror's sister.^{/d} They bore for their arms, Gules, and or, in the first quarter, a mullet, argent; which arms are in several places on the roof of the cloysters, and in the windows of the cathedral of Canterbury.

He was a nobleman of high courage, and performed great and exemplary services in the wars in France, during which he died in the English army encamped before Rheims, anno 34 Edward III.

In his descendants, earls of Oxford, and barons of Badlesmere likewise, by their descent from Maud, the sister and coheir of Giles, lord Badlesmere, before-mentioned, men illustrious not only from their high birth and alliances, but from the noble actions they performed, and the highest offices of state which they held from time to time, among which was the hereditary office of lord chamberlain, this manor continued down to John, earl of Oxford and baron of Badlesmere, who in king Henry the VIth.'s reign, being firmly attached to the house of Lancaster, was, on Edward IV. attaining the crown, attainted in parliament, being then far advanced in years, and with Aubrey his eldest son, afterwards beheaded on Tower-hill.^{/e} By this act of attainder the manor of Badlesmere became vested in the crown, and it appears to have been granted by the king

^{/d} See a full account of this family in Collins's Hist. Coll. p. 214 et seq.

^{/e} Collins's Historical Coll. p. 268. See a full account of this family, Biog. Brit. vol. vi. p. 4017, 3998.

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next year, being the second of his reign, to Richard, duke of Gloucester, his uncle, on whose obtaining the crown by the title of king Richard III. it became part of the royal possessions. After which the king having in his first year, constituted John Howard, duke of Norfolk, lord high admiral, granted to him, among many others, in special tail, the manor of Badlesmere; but the duke did not long enjoy those great possessions, for next year he was slain, with the king, at the battle of Bosworth, on August 22, 1485, from whence he was conveyed to Thetford, and there buried, after which he was attainted in parliament, in the 1st year of the next reign of Henry VII.^{/f}

After which the manor of Badlesmere having been granted in special tail as before-mentioned, came into the possession of the duke's only son and heir Thomas Howard, earl of Surry, who after having been confined in the tower for near four years, was in the 4th year of that reign restored in parliament to the title of earl of Surry, and wholly to the king's favor, and having served him with great honor and fidelity, he had, in the 22d of that reign, a special grant of all the manors and lands of which the duke of Norfolk his father died possessed. In the next reign of Henry VIII. he continued highly in the king's favor, and in the 4th year of that reign, having by his prudence and valour, gained

the memorable victory over the Scots at Floden-field, he had for that eminent service an augmentation added to his arms, to him and his heirs male, and was advanced to the title of duke of Norfolk, with a grant of divers lands in special tail. He died in the 16th year of that reign, and was succeeded in titles and estates by his eldest son Thomas, who had been in his life-time created earl of Surry, and was intrusted by the king in great and high offices of state, but notwithstanding his

/f See a full account of the duke of Norfolk, and of the family of Howard and its several branches, under Wickham, vol. ii. of this history, p. 191. See Collins's Peer. vol. i. p. 60.

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performing signal services both as a soldier and a statesman, he was through the king's jealousy of his greatness, which was not a little fomented by several of the new raised nobility, in the 38th year of that reign, committed to the Tower, and both he and his son the earl of Surry were attainted by special bills in parliament; the earl was soon afterwards beheaded, and a warrant was signed for the execution of the duke, but the king dying the same day, his executors did not venture to enforce the sentence at so critical a juncture.

This manor, thus coming to the crown, among the rest of the duke's possessions, seems to have been granted to Sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls, whose brother Sir Richard had been the chief accuser of the late earl of Surry. This family of Southwell, according to Mr. Camden, takes its name from the town of Southwell, in Nottinghamshire, where they were first seated; the descendants of which in king Henry the VIth.'s reign had spread themselves into Norfolk, Suffolk, and other counties, at which time John Southwell, M. P. for Lewes, in Sussex, had two sons, John, of Norwich, who was ancestor of the lords Southwell, of the kingdom of Ireland, and of those seated at Kings-Weston, in Gloucestershire; and Robert, who was ancestor of Sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls above-mentioned, who bore for his arms, Argent, three cinquefoils, gules, charged with six annulets, or. He immediately afterwards, anno 2 king Edward VI. alienated this manor of Badlesmere, with 2000 acres of land in Badlesmere, and the adjoining parishes, to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Otterden, who died anno 4 and 5 king Philip and queen Mary, possessed of this manor, held in capite by knight's service. His eldest son John Aucher, of Otterden-place, by his first wife, daughter of Sir William Kellawny, left an only daughter and heir Anne, who in queen Elizabeth's reign marrying with Sir Humphry Gilbert, entitled him to the possession of this manor. Sir Humphry Gilbert

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was equally distinguished in the reign of queen Elizabeth, by his eminent abilities and great courage, being usually stiled in the Latin writers of that time egregius Miles. He was descended of an antient family in Devonshire, and was second son of Otho Gilbert, esq. of Greenway, by his wife Katherine, daughter of Sir Philip Champernon, of Modbury, in that county, who afterwards married Walter Raleigh, esq.

of Fardel, and by him was mother of the famous Sir Walter Raleigh. They bore for their arms, Argent, on a chevron, sable, three roses of the first, seeded, or. Sir Humphry's genius led him to the studies of cosmography, navigation, and the art of war. He by his merit acquired the honorable post of commander in chief, and governor of the province of Munster, in Ireland; but what rendered him most famous was his great skill in mathematics, which induced him to undertake a voyage for the discovery of the north-west passage to the East-Indies, and to plant unknown countries, to facilitate which, he published more than one discourse; for these adventurous designs he procured a patent from the queen in 1578, wherein he had full powers to undertake such discoveries, and to inhabit and possess any lands which were at that time unsettled by Christian princes, or their subjects. With this view he made two voyages to Newfoundland, and made several discoveries; but whilst in those seas, the vessel in which he was being too small to resist the swell of them, about midnight on Sept. 9, 1583, she was swallowed up and never seen more, Sir Humphry and all the crew perishing in her. Before his death however, he sold this manor in the 23d year of that reign to Sir Michael Sondes, afterwards of Throwley, whose grandson Sir George Sondes, of Lees-court, in Sheldwich, K. B. was in the reign of king Charles II. created earl of Faversham. He left two daughters his

/g British Biog. p. 2191. /h Rot. Esch. ejus an.

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coheirs, of whom Mary was married to Lewis, lord Duras, afterwards earl of Faversham, and Katherine to Lewis Watson, earl of Rockingham, each of whom successively, in right of their respective wives, inherited this manor, which has since descended in like manner as Lees-court, in Sheldwich, (to the account of which the reader is referred) down to the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, who is the present possessor of it. A court baron is held for this manor.

WOODS-COURT is a manor in the north-east part of this parish, which was antiently, from the possessors of it, called Godislands. William de Godisland held it in the reign of Edward I. by knight's service, as did his descendant Richard de Godisland at his death in the 19th year of Edward III. then holding it of the king in capite, by the service of one sparrow-hawk, or two shillings at the king's exchequer yearly. He was succeeded in it by his son and heir William de Godisland, but before the end of that reign, this family seems to have been extinct here, for Robert at Wood died possessed of it in the 6th year of Richard II. anno 1382, as was then found by inquisition, at which time it had acquired from him the name of the manor of Atwoods, and was held of the king in capite, as of his castle of Dover, by rent to the ward of that castle yearly, and that William Attwood, his uncle, was his next heir.

Guido atte Wode, of the parish of Bocton, was possessed of it in the reign of Edward IV. in the 6th year of which he died, and was buried in Bocton church, before the high cross. By his will he gave this

manor, called Woodys court, to his wife Joane for life, and afterwards to his brother Thomas atte Wode, except one piece of land called Geroldysdane, which he ordered to be sold. Thomas atte Wode above-mentioned was of Ickham, and died possessed of this manor three years afterwards, as appears by his will that year.

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After this name was gone from hence, this manor was become the property of Sayer, one of whom, John, son of Henry Sayer, of Faversham, in 1517, conveyed it to John Cheney, gent. of Eastchurch, in Shepey, who in the 14th year of that reign, sold it to Reynold Snode, gent. of Sheldwich, descended of a family of good account in these parts of Kent so early as king Henry III.'s reign. Isabella de Snode is mentioned, among the gentry of this neighbourhood, as living at that time, in the leiger-book of Davington priory, and there is yet, not far from hence, a hamlet of houses, called from them, Snode-street. His son Samuel Snode became possessed of it on his father's death in the 11th year of queen Elizabeth; he sold it to Gabriel Giles, of Sheldwich, who in the 25th year of it alienated it to Thomas and Henry Unkle, the former of whom, in 1591, conveyed it to Mildred, widow of the latter, and sister of Nicholas Pemble, and she, in the 41st year of queen Elizabeth, marrying with Arthur Franklyn, gent. of Badlesmere, he, in her right, became possessed of it, and by fine levied in 1599, settled it upon their issue, which was Arthur Franklyn, from whom it descended to Mr. John Franklyn, who dying intestate it came to his kinsman Mr. James Franklin, who in 1743 devised it by his will to his eldest son Mr. Arthur Franklyn, gent. who resided in it, and in the year 1764 passed it away by sale to Lewis, lord Sondes, whose son the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, is the present owner of it.

BADLESMERE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Leonard, is but a very small mean building, consisting of one isle and one chancel, with a small turret at the west end, in which is one bell; there were formerly three bells here, but two were taken down and sold many years ago, towards the repair of the church.

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In the chancel is a memorial, in old English letters, for Barbara, late wife of John Writhe, alias Dict, garter king at arms, daughter and heir of John Castlecombe, of Cricklade, in Wiltshire, who died in 1483.

There was formerly a small chapel adjoining to the south side of it, the foundations of which still remain, but it was fallen to ruin before the middle of the last century; in this chapel or chancel, which had a door opening into the middle of the isle of the church, were the tombs of several of the family of Badlesmere.

This church has ever been an appendage to the manor of Badlesmere, for though Bartholomew de Badlesmere, and his son Giles, assigned it as part of

the endowment of the priory they intended to erect in this parish, yet as that design never took place, this church has continued in the possession of the several proprietors of the manor from that time to the present, and as such is now become vested in the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes.

It is a rectory, and a discharged living, of the clear yearly certified value of forty-six pounds, the yearly tenths being 10s. 2¹/₄d.

In 1578 there were communicants here thirty-four; in 1640 it was valued at eighty pounds per annum, communicants forty.

CHURCH OF BADLESMERE.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

William Aucher, gent. Richard Yate, March 31, 1579,
obt. 1630.

Sir Richard Sondes, of Throwley. Robert Yate, S. T. B. Feb. 22,
1630.

William Bagnall, obt. 1713/i

Hon. Edward Watson. Edward Nicholls, A. M. Nov 2,
1713, obt. March 10, 1726./k

/i Likewise rector of Leveland. /k Likewise vicar of Selling.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Lewis, earl of Rockingham. James Bernard, A. M. Oct. 26,
1726, obt. 1763./l

Lewis, lord Sondes. William Gurney, A. M. May 6,
1763, obt. April, 1784./m

Henry Thomson, June, 1784, the
present rector./n

/l Likewise rector of Leveland; his
two livings were sequestered in 1740,
and continued so till his death.

/m He resigned the vicarage of Sel=
ling for this rectory, which he held
with the church of Leveland; in 1780
he was presented to the rectory of Lud=
denham, which he held with the above.

/n And rector of Lower Hardres.

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SHELDWICH.

THE next parish northward from Badlesmere is Sheldwich, which is written in antient charters, Schyldwic.

The high road from Faversham to Ashford leads through this parish, from the former of which it is distant between five and six miles, it lies mostly on high and even ground, to which the land rises from the London road, in rather a pleasant and healthy country, the greatest part of it on a chalky soil, having much poor land in it, and that covered with flints, though in the northern part of it, where the chalk prevails less, there is some tolerable fertile land; in the eastern part, where the hill rises, there is much rough ground, and adjoining woodland. The church stands close to the Ashford road, along which the houses are

dispersed, as they are in that leading to Sheldwich lees, and round it mostly neat chearful dwellings. The Lees, which is about a quarter of a mile distance on the left side of the Ashford road, has a pleasant look from the trees planted on it, leading to Lees-court, at the further part of it, not unpleasantly situated, for though the fine front of it faces the east, with no great prospect, except towards a rough and

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barren hill, which rises at no great distance, yet towards the north and north-east it has a beautiful view over its own planted grounds, towards a wide extent of fertile country, and the channel beyond it. At the boundary of the parish, next to Badlesmere, on the Ashford road, is the manor house of Lords, which has been modernized and made a neat genteel residence by the present possessor of it.

There is yearly a running match on Sheldwich lees, which first took its rise from the will of Sir Dudley Diggs, in 1638, who left by it twenty pounds, to be paid yearly out of the rent of Selgrave manor, to two young men and two maids, who on May 19, should run a tye at Old Wives lees, in Chilham, and prevail. In pursuance of which the two young men and maids run at Old Wives lees yearly, on the 1st of May, and the same number at Sheldwich lees on the Monday following each by way of trial, and the two of each sex which prevail at each of those places, run for the ten pounds at Old Wives lees as above-mentioned, on the 19th of May./o

MR. JACOB, in his *Plantæ Favershamienses*, notices several scarce plants in this parish, to which the reader is referred.

THIS PLACE was given by the name of Schyldwic, in 784 by Alcmund, king of Kent, to Wetrede, abbot, and the convent of Raculf Cestre, or Reculver, as twelve plough-lands, with all its appurtenances, free from all secular service and all regal tribute, excepting the repelling of invasions, and the repairing of bridges and castles.

This monastery seems in 949 to have been annexed to Christ-church, in Canterbury, by king Edred; but this estate of Sheldwich does not appear ever to have come into the possession of the latter, no notice being

/o See Selgrave in this parish, and Chilham, vol. vii. of this history.

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taken of it in any of the charters or records relating to it, nor have I seen how it passed afterwards, till the time of its becoming the property of the family of Atte-Lese, in the reign of Edward I. when this estate, which seems to have comprehended the manor of Sheldwich, became the property of that family which, from their residence at the Lees here, had assumed the name of At-Lese, their mansion here being called Lees-court, a name which this manor itself soon afterwards adopted, being called THE MANOR OF LEES-COURT, alias SHELDWICH. Sampson Ate-Lese was possessed of it in the 27th year of the above reign, and bore for his arms, Gules, a cross-croslet, ermine. His son,

of the same name, left several children and Lora his wife surviving, who afterwards married Reginald de Dike, who in her right resided at Lees-court, where he kept his shrievalty in the 29th year of king Edward III.'s reign.

Sir Richard At-Lese, the eldest son, at length succeeded to this manor, and resided at Lees-court. He served in parliament for this county in the 40th year of that reign, and the next year was sheriff of it. He died in 1394, anno 18 Richard II. and was buried, with Dionisia his wife, in the north chancel of Sheldwich church, where their effigies and inscription in brass still remain. He died s. p. and by his will gave his manor of Lese, among others, to John, son of Richard Dane, and his heirs male, remainder to the heirs male of Lucy his niece, one of the daughters and coheirs of his brother Marcellus At-Lese, then the wife of John Norton, esq. the other daughter Cecilia married Valentine Barrett.

By the above will, this manor at length came into the possession of their son William Norton, esq. who resided both at Lees-court and at Faversham, where he died in the 9th year of king Edward IV. and was buried in the church of Faversham, leaving two sons, Reginald, who by his will became his heir to this ma-

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nor, and Richard, who was likewise of Sheldwich, and dying anno 1500, was buried in Faversham church. /p Reginald, the eldest son, of Lees-court, left two sons, John, who succeeded him in this manor, and William, who was of Faversham, and ancestor to the Nortons, of Fordwich. Sir John Norton, the eldest son, lived in the reign of Henry VIII. and resided at first at Lees-court, but marrying Joane, one of the daughters and coheirs of John Northwood, esq. of Northwood, in Milton, he removed thither, whose grandson Sir Thomas Norton, of Northwood, about the reign of king James I. alienated this manor to Sir Richard Sondes, of Throwley, whose son Sir George Sondes, K. B. succeeding him in it, pulled down great part of the old mansion of Lees-court, soon after the death of king Charles I. and completed the present mansion of Lees-court, the front of which is built after a design of Inigo Jones, to which he afterwards removed from the antient mansion of his family at Throwley.

He was a man of great power and estate in this county, being a deputy-lieutenant, and sheriff in the 13th year of Charles I. in which year the difficult business of ship-money was agitated, in the levying of which he conducted himself with such justice and moderation, as gained him much reputation and esteem of the gentry. /q Being a man strictly loyal in his principles, he underwent during the usurpation much persecution, as well in regard to his person as estates, all which may be learned from the Narrative which he printed in 1655, on the death of his two sons, which is rather an apology for his own conduct on some accusations of immorality, brought against him by the fanatic ministers of those times in it, says, he had three

/p See Jacob's Hist. of Faversham, p. 118 et seq. and more of

the Nortons, under Milton, vol. vi. p. 179.

/q MSS. Twysden, in which a full account is given of his proceedings in this business.

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fair houses in his own hands, all well furnished, and at least 2000*l.* per annum about them, his lands all well stocked; that he had at least one hundred head of great cattle, half an hundred horses, some of them worth 40 or 50*l.* a piece, besides five hundred sheep and other stock, about 1000 quarters of wheat and malt in his garners, and ten barnes, none of the least, all full of good corn, and great quantities of flax and hops; that as to his housekeeping, his house was open at all times to rich and poor, twenty poor people at least were relieved in it weekly, the lowest proportion in his house, whether he was there or not, was every week a bullock of about fifty stone, a quarter of wheat, and a quarter of malt for drink, which made about a barrel a day for his houshold; that he had employed for near thirty years labourers and workmen continually, to the amount of at least 1000*l.* a year.

He says, that in the time of the troubles he had been injured in his goods and estates near 40,000*l.* in value, all that he had as above-described having been seized and taken at one time, together with his plate and jewels, and the rents and profits of his estates for seven years together, during the two first years of which neither himself nor his children had any thing out of them, and at last to prevent his estates being sold he was forced to compound for them, by paying the sum of 3500*l.* for his delinquency; besides which, he suffered much in his person, being imprisoned for several years, at first on shipboard, and afterwards, with many other royalists, in Uppor castle, near Rochester.

After the restoration, he was, in recompence of his former sufferings for the royal cause, created by king Charles II. in his 28th year, anno 1676, earl of Faversham, viscount Sondes, of Lees-court, and baron of Throwley, for his life, with remainder to his son-in-law Lewis, lord Duras, and his heirs male, the year after which he died at Lees-court, and was buried in the family vault in the south chancel of

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Throwley church. Sir George Sondes had been twice married; first to Jane, daughter and heir of Sir Ralph Freeman, of Aspeden, in Hertfordshire, lord mayor of London anno 9 king Charles I. by whom he had two sons, George and Freeman, who were both in 1655, whilst youths, cut off by untimely deaths, the youngest murdering the eldest whilst asleep in his bed in this house, for which horrid deed he was tried at the assizes then holding at Maidstone, and being convicted, was executed for the crime at Pennenden-heath on the day fortnight afterwards, and interred in the neighbouring church of Bersted./r

Sir George Sondes married secondly Mary, daughter of Sir William Villars, bart. of Brokesby, by whom he had two daughters, who became his coheirs, of whom Mary, the eldest, married Lewis de Duras, marquis of Blanquefort, in France, and baron of Holdenby, in this kingdom, and Catherine, the youngest,

married the hon. Lewis Watson, afterwards on his father's death, lord, and then earl of Rockingham.

On Sir George Sondes's death, this manor, with the rest of his estates in this county, descended to Lewis, lord Duras, in right of his wife Mary. He had been naturalized by parliament in 1664, and created in 1672 baron Duras, of Holdenby, in Northamptonshire. He bore for his arms, quarterly, first and fourth, Argent, a lion rampant, gules; second and third, Argent, a bend, azure. On the death of his father-in-law without male issue, he succeeded, by limitation of the patent, to the title of earl of Faversham. In the 1st year of James II. he was elected a knight of the garter, and in 1688 made general of the king's forces, in which post he continued at the revolution. He survived his wife some years, and died in

r A narrative of his life and death was published by the Rev. Mr. Boreman, who attended him at his execution; Sir George Sondes himself likewise published a narrative of the life and death of his two sons as above-mentioned.

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1709, s. p. and possessed of this manor, for on his wife the countess's death who died in 1687, the house of lords had adjudged the estates of the Sondes's to her surviving husband, the earl of Faversham, though she had never been with child. The late Daniel, earl of Winchelsea, a man as wise and experienced as most of his time, used to affirm, that there were but two instances on the journals of that house, which could cast the least imputation on the honor of it, and that this was one of them. Upon which this manor, with Lees-court, and the rest of the estates in this county, late belonging to Sir George Sondes, became the property of Lewis, lord Rockingham, by virtue of the limitation made of them on his second daughter Catherine, on failure of issue by his first daughter Mary, which Catherine was afterwards married to lord Rockingham, but had deceased in 1695 as above-mentioned. The family of Watson was originally of Cambridgeshire, a branch of which settled at the latter end of king Henry the VIIIth.'s reign, at Rockingham-castle, in Northamptonshire. Sir Lewis Watson, of Rockingham-castle, was created a baronet anno 19 James I. and afterwards, for his loyalty and services to the king in his troubles, was created lord Rockingham, anno 20 Charles I. By his second wife Eleanor, sister of George, earl of Rutland, he left one son Edward, and six daughters; which Edward, lord Rockingham, married Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Wentworth, earl of Strafford, and died in 1691. By her he had four sons and four daughters; of the former, Lewis was created earl of Rockingham, and married Catherine, youngest daughter of Sir George Sondes, as above-mentioned; Thomas was heir to his uncle William, earl of Strafford, by his will, in pursuance of which he assumed the name and arms of Wentworth, whose son was created earl of Malton, and afterwards marquis of Rockingham, the two other sons died young.

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Lewis, lord Rockingham, resided afterwards at Lees-court, in 1705 he was made lord-lieutenant and custos rotulorum of this county; and on king George's accession he was in 1714, created earl of Rockingham, viscount Sondes, of Lees-court, and baron of Throwley. He died in 1724, and was buried at Rockingham, having had two sons, Edward and George, the latter of whom died s. p. and four daughters; of the latter, Mary married Wrey Sanderson, of Lincolnshire, grandson and heir apparent of viscount Castleton; Anne died young; Arabella married Sir Robert Furnese, bart. and Margaret in 1725 John, lord Monson, ancestor of the present Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, as will be further mentioned hereafter.

Of the sons, Edward, viscount Sondes, the eldest, died in 1721, in his father's life-time, and was buried in Throwley church, having married in 1708 Catherine, the eldest of the five daughters and coheirs of Thomas Tufton, earl of Thanet, by whom he left three sons, and a daughter Catherine, married in 1729 to Edward Southwell, esq. of Kings Weston, in Gloucestershire.

Lewis, the eldest son, succeeded his grandfather in the possession of his estates and as second earl of Rockingham, and in 1737 was made lord-lieutenant and custos rotulorum of this county. He died in December, 1745, having married in 1736 Catherine, daughter of Sir Robert Furnese, bart. of Waldershare, afterwards remarried in 1751 to Francis, earl of Guildford, by whom he had no issue, upon which this manor, among the rest of his intailed estates, descended to his next and only surviving brother Thomas, (Edward the youngest having died before unmarried) who became the third earl of Rockingham, and succeeded his brother likewise as lord-lieutenant and custos rotulorum of this county. He enjoyed his honors but a short time, for he died in the February following, 1746, unmarried, upon which the title of earl, &c. became extinct,

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and the barony of Rockingham descended to his kinsman Thomas Watson Wentworth, earl of Malton, afterwards created Marquis of Rockingham.

But this manor, with the seat of Lees-court, and the rest of his estates in this county and elsewhere, were devised by him to his first cousin Lewis Monson, second son of John, lord Monson, by Margaret his wife, youngest daughter of Lewis, first earl of Rockingham, and aunt to earl Thomas above-mentioned, whom he enjoined to take on him the surname, and use the arms of Watson.

The family of Monson, or Munson, as they were antiently written, were seated in the county of Lincoln as early as the reign of king Edward III. when they were denominated of East Reson, in that county, soon after which they were seated at South Carlton, near Lincoln, in which church there are several memorials of them. A younger son of this family was Sir William Monson, an admiral of the English navy in the reigns of queen Elizabeth and king James I. a man of untainted reputation for conduct and bravery, who lived till the year 1642, but his issue is extinct in the male line. He compiled large Tracts on Naval Affairs, in

six books, which are published in a collection of voyages, printed in 1703 and 1745.

At length the principal line of this family, of whom several had been from time to time knighted, and had served in different parliaments, descended down to Sir Thomas, eldest surviving son and heir to Sir John Monson, and brother of the admiral above-mentioned, who was created a baronet in 1611, and had the character of a person of fine breeding and a most accomplished gentleman. He died in 1641, and was buried with his ancestors at South Carlton, having married Margaret, daughter of Sir Edmund Anderson, chief justice of the common pleas, by whom he had issue four sons and three daughters; of the former, Sir John Monson, bart. the eldest son, became in 1645 possessed

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of Burton, in Lincolnshire, which became the family residence of his descendants; one of whom, Sir John Monson, K. B. was in 1728, anno 1 George II. created lord Monson, and afterwards made a privy counsellor. He died in 1748, having married the lady Margaret Watson, youngest daughter of Lewis, first earl of Rockingham, who survived him, and dying in 1752, was buried beside her husband, at South Carlton, in Lincolnshire. They left three sons, John, who succeeded him as lord Monson; Lewis, possessor of Lees manor and court, created lord Sondes, as before-mentioned; and George, who was a general in the army, and died some years since in the East-Indies./s

Lewis Monson Watson, before-mentioned, thus becoming possessed of this manor and seat, was in 1754 chosen to represent this county in parliament, in which year he was appointed one of the auditors of the impost, and by letters patent, bearing date May 20, 1760, anno 33 George II. was created Lord Sondes, baron of Lees-court, to him and his heirs male. In 1752 he married Grace, second surviving daughter of the hon. Henry Pelham, who died in 1777, by whom he had four sons, Lewis-Thomas, born in 1754; Henry now in the army; Charles, who died young; and George, in holy orders. Lord Sondes died in 1795, having before his death settled this manor and seat on his eldest son the hon. Lewis-Thomas Watson, who afterwards resided here, and in 1785 married Mary, only daughter and heir of Richard Milles, esq. of Nactington, by whom he has several children. On his father's death he succeeded to the title of lord Sondes, being the present possessor of this manor and seat, at which he resides. He bears for his arms, quarterly, first and fourth, Watson, argent, on a chevron engrailed, azure, between three martlets, sable, as many crescents, or; second and third, Monson, or, two chevrons, gules.

/s See Collins's Peerage, vol. vii. p. 237 et seq.

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For his supporters, on the dexter side, a griffin, argent, gorged with a ducal coronet, or; on the sinister, a bear, proper, gorged with a belt, buckled, with strap pendent, argent, charged with two crescents, or. For his crest, A griffin's head erased, argent, gorged as the dexter supporter above-mentioned.

COPESHAM SOLE, alias COPSHOLE-FARM, is an estate in this parish, which remained for several centuries in the possession of the family of Belk, written originally Bielke, and descended out of Sweden, who bore for their arms, Gules, a chevron between three leopards faces, argent. Stephen de Belk is mentioned in the Testa de Nevil, as having paid respective aid for land in this part of Kent at the marriage of Isabel, sister to king Henry III. in the 20th year of that reign. Valentine and John Belk were of Sheldwich in the reign of queen Elizabeth, in the 9th year of which they purchased of Edward Livesey several parcels of land in this parish and Selling.

John, the eldest son of Valentine Belk, gent. resided at Sheldwich, and died possessed of this estate in 1633, and was buried in the great chancel of this church. His son William Belk, D. D. was prebendary of Canterbury, and dying in 1676, was buried in that cathedral, leaving by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Hardres, a son Thomas Belk, D. D. who succeeded his father in that dignity, and married in 1677 Anne, daughter of Sir Henry Oxenden. He died in 1712, and was buried near his father, having by his will devised this estate to his niece May, daughter of his brother Mr. Anthony Belk, auditor to the chapter of that church. She in 1713 married Mr. Bryan Ben-

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tham, who alienated it, with Southouse lands in this parish likewise, in 1775, to Lewis, lord Sondes, whose son the right hon. Lewis-Thomas is the present possessor of it.

LORDS is a manor situated about a mile southward of Sheldwich church, on the Ashford high road, which had formerly owners of that name, in which it continued till Richard II. when it was come into the possession of Giles, a family who bore for their arms, Per pale, azure and gules, a griffin passant, or; one of whom, in the preceding reign, had been steward to the abbot of Lesnes, in which name this manor continued till the year 1678, when Christian Giles, marrying Mr. Thomas Hilton, gent. of Sheldwich, entitled him to it. He was the son of Mr. Thomas Hilton, gent. of Faversham, at which place his ancestors had been for some generations, as appears by the parish register, before which they resided at Throwley, in the register of which they are likewise mentioned, almost at the beginning of it in 1558, being the last year of queen Mary's reign. He afterwards resided here, and was succeeded in it by his son Mr. Giles Hilton, gent. who in 1702 married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Law, by whom he had three sons and three daughters; of the former, John succeeded him in this manor; William was of Faversham, and married Mary Oldfield, by whom he had no issue; and Robert was of Selling, and left by his wife Elizabeth Chambers, of the same place, two sons, Thomas Gibbs Hilton, of

Selling, who married Anne, daughter of Mr. Stephen Jones, of Faversham, by whom he has seven sons, and John, who married Eleanor, daughter of Mr. John Cobb, of Sheldwich, and two daughters, Elizabeth-Farewell and Christian. Mr. John Hilton, the eldest son, resided at Lords, where he died unmarried in 1780, being much noted for his generous house-keeping and old English hospitality. By his will he gave this manor to his brother Mr. Robert Hilton, for

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life, remainder in tail to his nephew Mr. John Hilton, second son of his brother above-mentioned, which Mr. John Hilton, since his father's death in 1782, is become the possessor of it, and now resides in it.

SELGRAVE, now usually called Selgrove, is a manor situated both in this parish and in that of Preston, but it has of long time been separated into moieties, and has become two distinct manors, of which that lying within this parish, at the north-east boundary of it, was formerly the property of the family of St. Nicholas, one of whom, Laurence St. Nicholas, paid aid for it in the 20th year of Edward III. being then held of the honor of Gloucester. After which it seems to have come into the possession of Roger Norwood, of Northwood, in Milton, in whose descendants it remained for several generations, and till it came at length by one of the two sisters and coheirs of John Northwood, in marriage to John Barley, esq. of Hertfordshire, from one of which name it was alienated to Clive, of Copton, in the adjoining parish of Preston. Soon after which, this manor seems to have come into the hands of the crown, and king Charles I. in his 7th year, granted it to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, of Tunstall, in fee, who soon afterwards conveyed it to Sir Dudley Diggs, of Chilham-castle, who died possessed of it in 1638, and by a codicil to his will devised the sum of twenty pounds yearly for a running match at Old Wives lees, in Chilham, to be paid out of the profits of the lands of that part of this manor, which had escheated to him after the death of lady Clive, and by purchase from Sir Christopher Clive, these lands being in three pieces, lay in the parishes of Preston and Faversham, and contain about forty acres, and are commonly called the running lands. After Sir Dudley Diggs's death the manor of Selgrave descended to his two sons, Thomas and John Diggs, esqrs. who about 1641 alienated it to Sir George Sondes, K. B. since which it has descended, in like manner as Lees-court, in this parish,

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described before, to the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, the present owner of it.

A borsholder is chosen yearly for this part of the manor of Selgrave, by the name of the borsholder of the borough of Selgrave, at the court leet holden for the hundred and manor of Faversham.

The sheerway, called Portway, alias Porters, alias Selgrave-lane, leading from Copton to Whitehill, in Ospringe, seems to separate this moiety of the manor from the other.

HUNTINGFIELD is a small court held in this parish, which seems to be an appendage to the manor of that

name in Easling, and to have continued with it part of the possessions of the free chapel or college of St. Stephen, in Westminster, till its dissolution in the 1st year of Edward VI. since which it has continued in the like chain of ownership as that in Easling, to the family of Grove, of Tunstall, in which it continued down to Richard Grove, esq. of London, who at his death in 1792 s. p. devised it by his will to William Jemmet, gent. of Ashford, and William Marshall, of London, who are the present possessors of it.

THE MANOR OF LITTLES, antiently called Lydles, which is situated in the north-west part of this parish, and in those of Throwley and Preston adjoining, was formerly owned by the family of At-Lese, one of whom, Richard At-Lese, possessed it, as appears by the chartulary of Knolton manor in the 49th year of king Edward III. How long it continued in his descendants I have not found, but in much later times it came into the possession of the Chapmans, of Molash, from which it was alienated, with other estates in this neighbourhood, by Edward, Thomas, and James Chapman, to Christopher Vane, lord Barnard, who died in 1723, leaving two sons, Gilbert, who succeeded him in title and in his estates in the North of England, and William, who possessed his father's seat of Fairlawn, and the rest of his estates in this county, having been in his

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father's life-time created viscount Vane, of the kingdom of Ireland. He left an only son William, viscount Vane, who dying in 1789 s. p. gave it by his will to David Papillon, esq. of Acrise, who is the present owner of it./t

SHEPHERDS FORSTAL is an estate in the north-east part of this parish, which takes its name from the green or fostal of that name near which it is situated, and was for many descents in the possession of the family of Ruck, one of whom lies buried at Rye, and was a person of some note in the reign of Henry VIII. being bow-bearer to that prince, and bore for his coat armour, as appears by his grave-stone, Sable, a plain cross, argent, between four fleurs de lis, or. The last of this name, who possessed this estate, was Nicholas Ruck, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign dying s. p. gave it to his nephew Mr. Nicholas Oliver, who soon after the death of Charles I. passed it away, with other estates in the adjoining parishes of Selling, to the president and fellows of Corpus Christi college, in Oxford, in whom it still continues vested.

A BRANCH of the FAMILY OF SOUTHOUSE, of Selling, resided for some generations in this parish. Robert, son of Henry Southouse, of Selling, by his will in 1475, anno 16 Edward IV. devised it to John his son his tenement in Sheldwich, remainder to his son Robert; in after times, Henry, son of Henry Southouse, of this parish, died in 1705, and was succeeded in his estates here by his eldest son Henry, who died in 1720, leaving one son and four daughters; several of this name, descendants of this branch of the family, yet remain in these parts. Part of their lands called Southouse, came afterwards into the possession of Mr. John Hilton, of Lords, who sold them to Lewis, lord Sondes, whose son the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes,

is the present possessor of them. Another parcel of

/t See Shipborne, vol. v. of this history, p. 50.

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them, called Southouse-lands, came into the hands of the owners of Copersole farm, in this parish, and were owned with it by Mr. Brian Bentham, whose grandson Edward William Bentham, in 1775, passed them away to Lewis, lord Sondes, whose son the right hon. Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, is the present possessor of them.

CHARITIES.

THERE is the sum of 40s. a year, payable on St. Barnabas's day, out of a farm called Bellhorn, in Throwley, towards the relief of the poor of this parish, the donor of which is unknown.

SHELDWICH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. James, is a handsome building, consisting of one isle and one chancel, with a chapel in the middle of the south side of the isle, and a small chapel on the north side of the chancel. The steeple, which is a tower, stands at the west end, having a beacon-tower on the top, on which is a small leaden spire and vane. There are four bells in it. In the south chancel are two arches in the south wall, which seem to have been for tombs. On the pavement is a brass plate, with the figures, for John Cely and Isabel his wife; he died in 1429; there is only one part of a coat of arms left, being a coat full of eyes, impaling a coat gone. In the isle are memorials for Southouse, and in the great chancel for Belk, and one with a brass plate, having the figure in brass for Joane, once wife of William Marrys, obt. 1431, under her a coat nebulee, and at one corner a coat per pale, and fess, indented. In the north-east chancel, a stone with the figures in brass, with a lion under his feet, for Sir Richard Atte-Lese, and Dionisia his wife; he died in 1394. Near it is a large stone, with very old French capitals round the edge of it, but mostly obliterated. The coat of arms of

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Atte-Lees is in several places of the north windows of the isle, and there were formerly in the windows of this church several other shields of arms, all which have been defaced.

The church of Sheldwich, or Cheldwich, as it was antiently written, was once accounted only as a chapel to the church of Faversham, as an appendage to which it was given, with it, by William the Conqueror in his 5th year, to the abbey of St. Augustine, and was included in the several confirmations made afterwards of that church to the abbey. When this chapel became an independent church, I have not seen, but it was certainly before the 8th year of Richard II. when it was rated as a distinct vicarage, to the tenth and the patronage of it, was become appropriated to the above-mentioned abbey, to which the patronage of the vicarage likewise belonged. In which state this church continued till the general suppression of religious houses,

when it came with the rest of the possessions of the abbey, anno 30 king Henry VIII. into the hands of the crown; after which, the king, by his dotation charter, in his 33d year, settled both the church appropriate of Sheldwich, and the advowson of the vicarage, among other premises, on his new-founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, with whom the inheritance of the parsonage remains, the present lessee being the right hon. lord Sondes; but the advowson of the vicarage the dean and chapter retain in their own hands, and are the present patrons of it.

It appears by the endowment of the vicarage of Faversham, in 1305, that the vicar of that parish was entitled to all manner of oblations to be made by the thirteen inhabitants of certain tenements in the hamlet of Schelwych, in the chapel of that hamlet annexed to the above-mentioned church, and to be made within the tithing of Schelwych parish, the names of which tenements have been already specifically named before,

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under the description of the church of Faversham, to which the reader is referred.

It is a vicarage of the clear yearly certified value of forty pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 13s. 8d. In 1587 the communicants here were 120; in 1640 it was valued at forty pounds, communicants 160. The vicar receives an annual payment of five pounds, from the dean and chapter of Canterbury, in augmentation of his vicarage. It is exempt from the payment of procurations to the archdeacon.

CHURCH OF SHELDWICH.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. William Cowell, 1582, obt.
1624.

Abraham Bromidge, A. M. March
18, 1624.

Percival Ratcliffe, 1666, obt.
1667.

Isaac Bates, A. M. Dec. 4,
1667.

The Crown, by lapse. William Sale, A. B. March 14,
1689.

Dean and Chapter. Francis Greene, May 14, 1691,
resigned 1694.

Benjamin Hollingworth, A. M.
June 15, 1694, resig. 1696./u

John Nichols, resigned 1714.

John Willis, LL. B. Jan. 25,
1714, obt. Feb. 1, 1757./w

John Tucker, A. M. Nov. 17,
1757, obt. Dec. 12, 1776./x

Benjamin Symonds, May 31,
1777, obt. 1781.

Matthias Rutton, Dec. 1781,
the present vicar.

/u Likewise vicar of Throwley,
which he resigned with this, for that
of Stone, in Oxney.

/w And vicar of Throwley. He was

suspended ab officio, and the profits sequestered, in 1750.

/x Rector of Ringwold, and second master of the king's school, Canterbury.

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OSPRINGE

LIES the next parish north-westward from Sheldwich. It is usually written in antient records Ospringes, and takes its name from the spring or fresh stream which rises in it.

The town of Ospringe, as it is called, is a franchise separate from the hundred of Faversham, having a constable of its own, but the rest of the parish is within the jurisdiction of that hundred.

The borough of Chetham, in this parish, was given to the abbey of Faversham by Richard de Lucy, and confirmed to it by king Henry II. king John, and king Henry III./y It still continues an appendage to the manor of Faversham, at which a borsholder is chosen yearly for this borough, and extends over Beacon farm on the south side of the London road, at the 45th mile-stone in Ospringe and Stone, and very little besides. There is another small borough in this parish, called the borough of Brimstone, for which a borsholder is elected annually at the same manor. It extends over the Red Lion inn, in Ospringe-street, and some land, an house and oast behind the bowling-green, northward of it.

The parish of Ospringe is of large extent, being near five miles from north to south, though it is not much more than two miles in breadth. The village, or town of Ospringe, as it was formerly called, and now usually Ospringe-street, stands on the high London road, between the 46th and 47th mile-stone, but the north side of the street, as well as of that road, from the summit of Judde hill, as far eastward as the 47th mile stone, is within Faversham parish, the liberties of which town begin from the rivulet in Ospringe, and extend eastward, including the late Mr. Lypeatt's new-built house. Thus that parish intervenes, and entirely separates from

/y Dudg. Mon. vol. 1. p. 687.

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the rest of it that part of Ospringe parish, at the northern boundaries of it, in which are the storekeeper's house, part of the offices, &c. and some of the royal powder mills, and in the town of Faversham, that parish again intervening, there is a small part of West-street within this parish. The grand valley, called Newnham bottom, through which the high road leads to Maidstone, lies at the western boundary of the parish, on the summit of the hill eastward of it is Juddehouse, built after a design of Inigo Jones, a fine situation, having a most beautiful prospect eastward, over a most fertile extent of country, to the Boughton hills, and the channel north eastward of it, but the large tract of woodland, of many hundred acres, which reach up close to the gardens at the back of it, render it rather an unhealthy situation. About a quarter of a mile east-

ward of Ospringe-street is a good house, called from the antient oratory or chapel formerly adjoining to it, but pulled down within these few years, chapel-house. This oratory was dedicated to St. Nicholas, and erected for a priest to say mass in it, for the safety and good success of passengers, who left their acknowledgments for his pains in it. It belonged lately to Mr. John Simmons, whose son sold it to Isaac Rutton, esq. and he alienated the house to Mr. Neame, the present owner; but on a part of the land adjoining he built an elegant villa, naming it Ospringe Place, in which he now resides.

In Ospringe-street there is a tolerable inn, and the remains of the Maison Dieu on each side of the high road close to the small rivulet which crosses the street. This stream rises at Westbrook, at a small distance southward of the hamlet of Whitehill, at the back of which it runs, and at about a mile and an half distance, passing by Ospringe church, and the mansion of Queen-court, now a respectable farm-house, it turns a mill, erected some years ago for the manufacturing of madder, though now used for the grinding corn, and having crossed Ospringe-street, it turns a gunpowder

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mill not far from it, occupied by government, but belonging to St. John's college, in Cambridge, and having supplied the storekeeper's gardens, it afterwards turns a corn-mill, close to the west side of Faversham town, after which it supplies the rest of the government mills and works, and runs from thence into Faversham creek, to which it is a very necessary and beneficial back water. There is a nail-bourne, or temporary land spring, such as are not unusual in the parts of this county eastward of Sittingborne, which run but once perhaps in several years, their failing and continuance having no certain periods, the breaking forth of them being held by the common people to be a forerunner of scarcity and dearness of corn and victuals. This at Ospringe, when it breaks out, rises about half a mile southward of Whitehill, near Kennaways, in the road to Stalisfield, and joining the above-mentioned rivulet, which it considerably increases, flows with it into Faversham creek. In February, 1674, it began to run, but stopped before Michaelmas. It broke forth in February, 1712, and run with such violence along the high road, that trenches were cut through the lands adjoining to carry the water off, but it stopped again before Michaelmas. It had continued dry till it broke out afresh in 1753, and continued to run till summer 1778, when it stopped, and has continued dry ever since.

About a mile southward of Ospringe-street is the hamlet of Whitehill, mentioned before, situated in the vale through which the rivulet takes its course. There are two houses of some account in it, formerly owned by the family of Drayton, who had resided in this parish for many years. Robert Drayton resided here anno 7 Edward IV. in which year he died, and was buried in the church-yard of Ospringe, being then possessed, as appears by his will, of a house called Smythes, with its lands and appurtenances, at Whitehill. After this family had become extinct here, one of these

houses came into the possession of Ruck, and escheated,

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for want of lawful heirs, to the lord of the manor, and now as such belongs to the earl of Guildford, but Mr. James Foord resides in it. The other, after the Draytons were become extinct here, came into the name of Wreight, one of whom, Henry Wreight, gent. died possessed of it in 1695, and was buried in Faversham church. His son of the same name resided here, and died in 1773, and his grandson Henry Wreight, gent. of Faversham, sold it to John Montresor of Belmont, esq. who now owns it, but John Smith esq. resides in it. About a mile westward on the hill, near Hanslets Fostall and the parsonage, is a new-erected house, called the Oaks, built not many years since, on the scite of an antient one, called Nicholas, formerly belonging to the Draytons, by Mr. John Toker, who resides in it; the wood-grounds in the upland parts of this parish are very extensive, and contain many hundred acres. The soil of this parish, from its large extent, is various, to the north and north-east of the church the lands are level and very fertile, being a fine rich loam, but as they extend southward to the uplands, the soil becomes more and more barren, much of it chalky, and the rest a cludgy red earth, stiff tillage land, and very stony. A fair is held in Osprunge-street on the 29th of May.

Much has already been said in the former parts of these volumes, of the different opinions of learned men where the Roman station, called in the second iter of Antonine Durolevum, ought to be placed. Most of the copies of Antonine make the distance from the last station Durobrovis, which is allowed by all to be Rochester, to the station of Durolevum, to be xiii or xvi miles, though the Peutongerian tables make it only vii. If the number xvi is right, no place bids so fair for it as Judde-hill, in this parish, which then would have every probable circumstance in favor of it. The Romans undoubtedly had some strong military post on this hill, on the summit of which there are

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the remains of a very deep and broad ditch, the south and east sides are still entire, as is a small part of the north side at the eastern corners of it, the remaining part of the north side was filled up not many years since. The west side has nothing left of it; close within the southern part of it is a high mount of earth thrown up to a considerable height above the ground round it, the scite of Judde house, and the gardens are contained within it. The form of it seems to have been a square, with the corners rounded, and to have contained between three and four acres of ground within its area, the common people call it king Stephen's castle, but it is certainly of a much older date. At a small distance from it, on the opposite, or north side of the high road, there are several breast works cast up across the field facing the west. At the bottom of the hill, in the next field to this, are the ruins of Stone chapel, in which numbers of Roman bricks are interspersed among the flints, and in the midst of the south wall of it, there is a separate piece of a Ro-

man building, about a rod in length, and near three feet high, composed of two rows of Roman tiles, of about fourteen inches square each, and on them are laid small stones hewed, but of no regular size or shape, for about a foot high, and then tiles again, and so on alternately.

When the new road from the summit of Judde hill westward was dug down, quantities of fragments of Roman culinary ware, and a coin of Vespasian were found intermixed with many parcels of oyster shells and in the gardens of Judde house, at different times, coins of Adrian M. Aurelius, Arcadius, and others, have been discovered. And at about a mile distance north-eastward, on Davington hill, almost adjoining to the town of Faversham, within these few years, a Roman burial place has been discovered, and many Roman coins, urns, and other relics of antiquity dug up there, as there have been at different times at Fa=

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versham, and places adjoining to it, especially along the London high road./y

Besides this, the vicinity of this place to the stream at Ospringe, is a strong argument in its favor, and still more its nearness to Faversham, for Bede notes in several places, that the villæ regiæ of the Saxons were mostly placed on or near where in former ages the Roman stations had been before.

And yet notwithstanding all these circumstances in favor of the Durolevum, having been here, there has been so much urged in favor of Newington likewise, that it will be but candid to leave the preference of either to the reader's option, to place this station at which ever place he thinks proper.

MR. JACOB has given a list among his Plantæ Faveshamienses, of a great number of scarce plants found by him in this parish, among which in particular, most of the curious kinds of orchis.

THIS PLACE, at the taking of the general survey of Domesday, in the year 1080, was part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the title of whose lands it is thus described in it:

In Favreshant hundred, Hugh, grandson of Herbert, holds of the bishop (of Baieux) Ospringes. It was taxed at seven sulings and an half. The arable land is twenty carucates. In demesne there no two carucates.

There are twenty-nine villeins, with six borderers, having eleven carucates. There is a church, and one mill of eleven shillings and eight pence, and a fishery of ten-pence, and a salt-pit of four pence, and thirteen acres of meadow. Wood sufficient for the pannage of twenty hogs.

Of the land of this manor, Herbert holds half a suling and three rods, and has there in demesne one carucate, and one villein, with ten borderers, having one carucate.

Richard de Maris holds half a suling of this manor, and has there six villeins, and one borderer, with one ca=

/y See under Lenham, vol. 5, p. 417. and Newington, p. 43.

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rucate, and one Thurstan holds one yoke, which pays five shillings. The whole manor in the time of king Edward the Confessor, was worth twenty pounds, when Herbert

received it fifteen pounds, now twenty pounds. To this manor there belonged in Canterbury one mansion of thirty pence. The manor held . . .

Four years after which, on the bishop of Baieux's falling under the king's displeasure, this among the rest of his estates was confiscated to the crown; after which it remained for some time part of the royal demesnes; king Henry II. held it in demesne, in the 14th year of whose reign it paid aid at the marrying of the king's daughter, by the hands of the sheriff, as was certified by the justices itinerant.

King John was at his manor of Ospringe in the month of October, both in his 15th and 17th years; in the former of which master Richard de Marisco, archdeacon of Richmond and Northumberland, delivered the great seal to him there.^{/z} But Henry III. in his 9th year, having raised his great favorite Hubert de Burgh to the dignity of earl of Kent, at the same time granted to him and Margaret his wife, in fee, this manor among others; upon his death however, it returned to the crown, and the king, the year being the 19th of his reign, granted it to the trustees of his intended queen Eleanor, daughter of Raymund, earl of Provence, among other estates, by the name of the ville of Ospringe, as a dower, (nomine dotis) for so long time as the queen Isabella his mother should survive him, and at her death the same to return to his heirs, which it had done before the 27th year of Edward I. anno 1299,^{/a} when that prince assigned, among other

^{/z} See Madox's Exchequer, p. 46. Rolls in the Tower, N. 49. In the Testa de Nevil is a long custumal of the manor of Ospringe, taken in the reign of king Henry III.

^{/a} King Edward I. was here in August, in his 9th year, anno 1281, as appears by his letters patent dated from hence. Rym. Fœd. vol. ii. p. 177.

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premises, as a dower to his queen Margaret, sister of the king of France, this manor, with its appurtenance, being then of the yearly value of sixty pounds.

From the queens of England continuing in the possession of this manor, it acquired the name of THE MANOR OF OSPRINGE, alias QUEEN-COURT. Queen Margaret surviving the king her husband, died anno 10 Edward II. soon after which this manor and the court-lodge, with other demesnes of it, called Queen-court, seem to have been separated by grants made of them to different persons, and to have become two distinct manors; the former appears to have been that year granted to Sir John Pulteney, to hold of the crown, by the service of a rose, together with the advowsons of all churches which formerly belonged to it, to hold in socage by the former acknowledgment. He was a person of no small account, who was afterwards much in favor with king Edward III. and celebrated by our historians for his piety, riches, and magnificent manner of living, He was four several years lord-mayor of London, and besides this manor was possessed of that of Penshurst, and several others in this county and elsewhere.^{/b} He died in the 23d year of Edward III. and by the inquisition taken after his death, he was found to hold for the term of his life

the manor of Ospringe of the king, in manner above-mentioned, and that William de Pulteney was his son and heir, by Margaret his wife, who was afterwards married to Sir Nicholas Lovaine./c

Sir William Pulteney, the son above-mentioned, died s. p. in the 40th year of that reign, having before vested all his estates in feoffees, and they afterwards, in pursuance of their trust, conveyed the manor of Ospringe, together with all other estates, of which Sir John Pulteney died possessed, to Sir Nicholas Lo=

/b See more of him under Penshurst, vol. iii. p. 231.

/c See Collins's Peer. edit. 3d. vol. iii. p. 614 et seq.

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vaine and Margaret his wife before-mentioned, and their heirs for ever. He was succeeded in this manor by their son Nicholas Lovaine, who married Margaret, the eldest daughter of John de Vere, earl of Oxford, and widow of Henry, lord Beaumont, by whom he had no issue. She survived him, as she did likewise her third husband Sir John Devereux, and died in the 10th year of Henry IV. being then possessed of this manor, in which she was succeeded by Margaret, sister and heir of her second husband Nicholas Lovaine, who was twice married, first to Richard Chamberlain, esq. of Oxfordshire, and secondly to Sir Philip St. Clere, of Aldham St. Clere, in Ightham, who becoming entitled to it in her right, died possessed of it in the reign of Henry V. as did Margaret his wife anno 1 Henry VI. upon which Thomas St. Clere, their son, succeeded to it, and died in the 12th year of Edward IV. leaving an only daughter and heir Eleanor, who married Sir John Gage, ancestor of the lord viscount Gage, and Sir Thomas Gage, bart. of Suffolk.

Soon after which it was alienated to William Hunge, who, as appears by the escheat rolls of that year, died anno 3 Henry VII. possessed of the manor of Ospringe, alias Queen-court, held of the king in capite, by the service of one rose yearly, if it should be demanded. Not long after which it was become the property of William Cheney, esq. of Shurland, younger brother of Sir John Cheney, of Shurland, sheriff in the 17th year of Edward IV. and again in the first year of Henry VII. whose son Thomas, by his second wife, became at length heir both to his father and uncle above-mentioned, and was afterwards knighted.

Sir Thomas Cheney, who was of Shurland, and possessor of this manor, was a man of great account in his time, being, among other honors and preferments, knight of the garter, lord warden of the five ports, and treasurer of the household to Henry VIII. and after=

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wards, in the reign of Edward VI. a privy counsellor, in the 3d year of whose reign he obtained the manor and mansion of QUEEN-COURT, for it seems to have been esteemed a manor from the time of its being separated from that of Ospringe above-described in the reign of Edward II. with the demesne lands belonging to it in Ospringe and the adjoining parishes, which in the above-mentioned reign of Edward II.

had been granted to Fulk Peyforer, from which name it soon afterwards was transferred into the family of Leyborne; and in the 20th year of the next reign of Edward III. Sir William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, husband of Juliana de Leyborne, paid aid for it. His widow Juliana surviving, died possessed of it in the 41st year of the same reign, and leaving no issue, this estate, among the rest of her demesnes, escheated to the crown, for it appears by the inquisition taken that year after her death, that there was no one who could make claim to her estates, either by direct or even by collateral alliance.

After which this manor of Queen-court seems to have remained in the hands of the crown till the beginning of the next reign of Richard II. when it was purchased by the feoffees in trust, for the performance of the last will of Edward III. towards the endowment of St. Stephen's chapel, in Westminster, which was afterwards, anno 22 Richard II. completed and made collegiate, for a dean, canons, and other ministers, at which time Nicholas Potin was lessee of Queen-court, and resided here, the year before which he was sheriff of this county, and kept his shrievalty at it. Part of the possessions of this foundation of Queen-court remained till the 1st year of Edward VI. when by the act passed that year, this collegiate chapel and its revenues were surrendered up into the king's hands.

/d See more of him and the family of Cheney, p. 248.

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After which the king, in his 3d year, granted Queen-court, with its appurtenances, to Sir Thomas Cheney as before-mentioned, to hold in capite by knight's service, with all and singular their liberties and privileges whatsoever, in as ample a manner as the dean and canons before held it, so that he then became possessed of the entire fee of both these manors, which from that time became consolidated as one manor, with the mansion of Queen-court, and the whole of the demesne lands and other appurtenances belonging at any time to either of them. His son Sir Henry Cheney, of Tuddington, afterwards lord Cheney, sold this manor of Ospringe, alias Queen-court, with the mansion and lands belonging to it, in the 14th year of queen Elizabeth's reign, to Richard Thornhill, citizen of London, for which purpose a fine was then levied of it, and the lord Cheney afterwards granted and made over to him all liberties, franchises, royalties, &c. within it, which he had ever possessed or had in any shape a right to; and they were claimed by Richard Thornhill, esq. and judgment was given for them in his behalf by the barons of the exchequer, on a trial had in the 17th year of that reign, whose descendant of the same name sold it, in the reign of king Charles II. to Henry Mellish, of London, turkey merchant, afterwards of Sandersted, in Surry, esq. who died possessed of this manor about the year 1697, leaving Elizabeth his widow surviving, who enjoyed it till her death, which happened in 1707, when it descended to their only daughter and heir Mary, then the wife of Sir John Stonehouse, bart. of Radley, in

Berkshire, who in her right became entitled to it, and in 1712 alienated it to Sir Robert Furnese, bart. who died possessed of it in 1733, leaving by his second wife Arabella Watson, one of the daughters of Lewis, lord, afterwards earl of Rockingham, one son Henry,

/e Coke's Entries, p. 107 et seq. See vol. v. p. 588.

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his successor in titles and estates, and a daughter Catherine, afterwards married to her first cousin Lewis, earl of Rockingham.

Sir Henry Furnese, bart. survived his father but a short time, for he died abroad, under age and unmarried, in 1735; upon which he was succeeded in this manor by Catherine, countess of Rockingham, his sister, whose husband the earl died in 1745, s. p. and she afterwards remarried with Francis, earl of Guildford, by whom she likewise had no issue, and dying in 1766, gave this manor, among the rest of her estates, to her husband, whose grandson the right hon. George-Augustus, earl of Guildford, is the present possessor of it.

A court leet and court baron is held for this manor, at the former a constable and borsholder are chosen yearly, for the jurisdiction of the liberty of the town of Ospringe.

This manor extends into Ospringe, Graveney, Goodnestone, Cosmus Blean, Shottenton, in Chilham, Selling, Staplehurst, Frittenden, the dens of Blackingley and Hockeridge, in Cranbrooke, and the den of Hamwold, in Woodnesborough. A reeve is annually chosen at this manor.

PLUMFORD and PAINTERS are two estates in this parish, which were both formerly accounted manors, and belonged, like that of Queen-court last-described to the free chapel or college of St. Stephen, Westminster, on the suppression of which in the first year of the reign of Edward VI. the former of these manors was granted, among other premises, to Sir Anthony Aucher, who sold it to Thomas Colepeper, esq. and he soon afterwards alienated it to John Greenstreet, of Claxfield, in Linsted, who in the 8th year of queen Elizabeth, purchased of Sir Henry Cheney, the manor of Painters, which had been granted by Edward VI. in his 3d year, to his father Sir Thomas Cheney, two years after the suppression of St. Stephen's chapel as

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before-mentioned, to hold in capite by knight's service. He died possessed of both these manors about the 21st year of queen Elizabeth; his son Peter Greenstreet died in the 28th year of that reign, leaving two sons, John and Simon; to the former of whom, he by his will that year, gave his manor of Plumford, and lands mentioned in it; and to the latter his manor of Paynters, alias Bayefield. Several of this family lie buried in this church, they bore for their arms, Barruly of eight pieces, argent, and azure, on a canton of the second, an eagle displayed with two necks, or; which coat was confirmed to Peter Greenstreet, of Ospringe, with the charge on the canton altered from a martlet, by Sir John Borough, garter, in 1642.

The manor of Plumford and the other premises, at length descended down to Mr. Peter Greenstreet, gent. in whom the manor of Painters had likewise by descent become vested, and he alienated them both, with several other lands in this and the adjoining parishes, to Sir Henry Furnese, bart. of Waldershare, who died possessed of them in 1712, whose son Sir Robert Furnese, bart. died possessed of them in 1733, and was succeeded by his only son Sir Henry Furnese, bart. who survived his father but a short time, for he died abroad in 1735, under age and unmarried, and these manors among other estates, became vested in his three sisters and coheirs, and afterwards by a decree of chancery, at their instance, anno 9 George II. a writ of partition was agreed to, in which these manors of Plumford and Painters, with other lands adjoining were allotted to Katherine, countess of Rockingham, Sir Henry's whole sister, by Sir Robert's second wife Arabella, daughter of Lewis Watson, earl of Rockingham, and then the wife of her first cousin Lewis, earl of Rockingham, on whom, by the settlement on

/f Rot. Esch. ejus an. pt. 4. anno 3 Edward VI. p. 3. Coke's Entries, p. 105.

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her marriage in 1736, all her undivided third part had been limited, should she survive her husband without issue, which partition was confirmed by act of parliament passed the next year. The earl of Rockingham died in 1745 s. p. leaving his lady surviving, who then again became possessed of these manors in her own right; she afterwards married Francis, earl of Guildford, by whom she had no issue, and dying in 1766 gave them, among the rest of her estates, to her husband, whose grandson the right hon. George-Augustus, earl of Guildford, is the present owner of them /g

A PART of the above-mentioned estate of Painters, alias Bayfield, usually called BAVELL, situated near Bavells fostal, was alienated from the name of Greenstreet to that of Pordage, in which it continued some time, and until it was sold to Mr. Whatman, of London, whose heir sold it to Knowler, as he did to Dewy, of Surry, from thence by a daughter it went in marriage to Parker, the heirs of whose descendant John Dewy Parker, of Surry, are the present possessors of it.

BROGDAL, or Brokedale, is an antient seat situated in the eastern part of this parish, near Whitehill, which in early times gave name to a family who resided at it, one of whom, John de Brokedale, is mentioned as such by Southouse, in his Monasticon Favershamiense. After this name was extinct here, this seat came into the possession of the Clerks; John Clerk, of Brokedale, resided here anno 7 Richard II. 1383, as appears by a release given by Robert, abbot of Faversham, to him, in which he is so named, and is stiled Bedellus noster de Upland in Hund. de Faversham. How it passed afterwards, I have not found; but in the reign of James I. it was become the property of Head and Clive, who in that reign sold it to Mr. John

/g See more of him and of the Furneses under Waldershare, and of the Watsons under Sheldwich.

Knowler, of Faversham, who was mayor of that town in 1734, having married Mary, the eldest daughter of Francis Pordage, esq. of Rodmersham, by whom he had several children, and in his descendants, who resided at Brogdale, it continued down to Mr. John Knowler, gent. who died in 1676, and devised it by his will to his grandson Mr. John Knowler, son of Robert his son, who most probably died before him, and left besides a daughter Mary, married to Mr. Robert Lukyn, of Ospringe, by whom she had Mr. Robert Lukyn, late of Faversham. Mr. John Knowler, gent. the grandson, resided at Brogdale, and died in 1700, leaving one son John Knowler, esq. of Canterbury, barrister-at-law, recorder of that city, and steward of the town of Faversham, who died possessed of Brogdale, then converted into a farm-house, in 1763, leaving Mary his wife, daughter and heir of Mr. John Russell, of Hawkhurst, surviving, who died in the year 1781. They were both buried in Faversham church, as were most of his ancestors and relations above-mentioned, several of whom were from time to time mayors of Faversham, and bore for their arms, Argent, on a bend, between two cotizes, sable, a lion passant guardant, crowned, or. He left two daughters his coheirs, of whom Anne, the eldest, married Henry Penton, esq. M. P. for Winchester, and Mary, the youngest, Henry Digby, lord Digby, and they some few years since joined in the sale of it to John Bax, esq. of Prestonhouse, who is the present possessor of it.

BROOK, alias WESTBROOK, now usually called Brook-farm, is an estate in this parish, lying at Brookforstal, near Whitehill, which was so called from its nearness to the brook or stream which runs near it, on which there was a mill, which was given to the abbey of Faversham as early as the reign of Henry II. by William, that prince's younger brother, and the same was confirmed to it, among other estates, by that

king, but whether it continued with the abbey till its dissolution, I have not found.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth, this estate was come into the possession of the family of Drayton, in which it continued down to Wm. Drayton, gent. of Ospringe, who died in 1686, and lies buried in this church, having been by his will a benefactor to the poor of this parish, who bore for his arms, Guttee, a flying horse. By his will he settled this estate upon his kinsman, Drayton Roberts, the grandson of Joseph Roberts, gent. of St. Dunstons, by Elizabeth his first wife, daughter of Mr. Rich. Drayton, gent. and he alienated this estate in 1709 to Mr. Laurence Ruck, gent. of Whitehill, who bore for his arms, Sable, a cross, argent, between four fleurs de lis, or. He by his will in 1714 gave it to his kinsman Adam Ruck, of Folkestone, whose three grandsons and coheirs in gavelkind, Laurence, George, and Thomas Ruck, passed it away by sale to Mr. Thomas Buck, gent. of Faversham, who died in 1779, and his four daughters, Martha, Susanna, Mary, wife of Mr. John Toker, gent. of this parish, and Gracey, are now jointly entitled to this estate.

ELVYLAND, corruptly so called for Elverland, is a manor situated on the hills in the south-west part of this parish. It seems in early times to have been part of the possessions of the eminent family of Criol, for John, a younger son of Bertram de Criol, was owner of it in the beginning of the reign of Henry III. Nicholas de Criol was possessed of lands in Ospringe, so late as 21 king Edward I. and was then allowed to have free-warren in his lands there; and Elizabeth, daughter of Wm. Nowell, held lands there of the king that year, by the sergeancy of paying every year a pair of gilt spurs, as appears by the pleas of the crown, before the justices itinerant of that year. This estate of Elverland afterwards became part of the possessions of the hospital or Maison Dieu founded in that reign in this parish, at

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Ospringe-street, of which a further account will be given below.

In the roll of knights fees, taken in the next reign of king Edward I. the master of this hospital is charged with the fortieth part of a knight's fee in Everland, held of Nicholas de Girunde, and he paid aid for it accordingly, in the 20th year of Edward III. This manor continued part of the possessions of this hospital till the reign of Edward IV. in the 20th year of which it escheated to the crown, having become desolate, there being no members left in it. After which the king, by his letters patent, granted the custody or guardianship of it and its revenues to secular persons, in which state it continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when Fisher, bishop of Rochester, obtained the hospital, and the whole of its revenues in this parish and elsewhere, for the better endowment of St. John's college, in Cambridge, the letters patent for this purpose bearing date in the 11th year of that reign, which were confirmed by the archbishop, the archdeacon, and the prior and convent of Christ-church, in Canterbury./h

The manor of Elvyland becoming thus part of the revenues of St. John's college, has been leased out by it from time to time on a beneficial lease for a term of years, and continues so at this time.

The Wraytles were for years tenants of this manor, afterwards the Questeds, by a daughter of which name it went to Allen, since which the lease has been sold to Mr. Kemp, who now owns it. A court baron is held for this manor.

AT A SMALL DISTANCE north-west from the above manor is an estate called HANSLETTTS, which gives name to an adjoining green, usually called Hansells, or Hansletts forstal. This estate was antiently part of the possessions of the family of Greenstreet, owners of much land in this and the several adjoining parishes, one of whom, Thomas Greenstreet, gent. of Ospringe, was

/h See Lewis's History of Faversham, p. 83,

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owner of it in the reign of king James I. as appears by the will of John Brewster, of Tenham, in 1620, who devised an annuity out of this estate of Thomas Greenstreet, gent. of Ospringe, called Hansletts, to his son Thomas, from this name it passed by sale to Arthur

Whatman, esq. who in 1671 gave it by will to Ward and Sissill, and they joined in the sale of it in 1677 to Thomas Pierce, of Challock, whose descendant Thomas Peirce devised it to Thomas and Henry his sons, the latter of whom bought his brother's part, and then in 1744 left it by will to his sister Frances, wife of Mr. William Nethersole, for life, and afterwards to her children, Thomas, Richard, William, Frances, and Susanna; the eldest of whom, Mr. Thomas Nethersole, in 1763, purchased the other shares of it, and afterwards, in 1776, alienated the entire fee of it to Mr. John Hope, of Ore, the present owner of it.

CADES is a manor in this parish, situated on the hill, about a mile southward from Ospringe church, which was formerly called Lorendens, from the family of Lorenden, in Challock, who were once the possessors of it; after which it came into the name of Cade, and it appears by the Testa de Nevill, that Arnold Cade possessed it in the reign of Henry III. whence it acquired the addition of that name to it, being called Lorenden, alias Cades, by which it continued to be known so late as 1630. In the 10th year of queen Elizabeth this manor was in the possession of Thomas Wood, of Ospringe, who then alienated it by the above name to Mr. John Greenstreet, of Ospringe, who sold it in the 12th year of king James I. 1613, to Mr. John Platt. Arthur Whatman, esq. died possessed of it in 1674, and lies buried in this church, having by his will left a benefaction yearly from his two farms in Ospringe, called Cades and Cokes, to be paid for ever to the poor of Boughton Blean parish; after which it became the property of Richard Penner, and then of John Buller, esq. whose daughter carried it in marriage to John

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Dintry, of Wye, and he in 1685 alienated it to Thomas Turner, esq. of London, who in 1704 settled it on his eldest daughter Mary, in marriage with William Hammond, esq. of St. Albans, in Nonington; after which it descended down to William Hammond, esq. of Canterbury, who dying intestate, it came to his sister Elizabeth Beake, widow, who in 1750 sold it to Mr. Thomas Mantell, surgeon, of Chatham, and he in 1757 alienated it to Edward Jacob, esq. of Faversham, who died in 1788, leaving his widow Mrs. Jacob surviving, and she is the present possessor of it.ⁱ

PUTWOOD is an estate lying in this parish, which was once accounted a manor, though it consists at present only of a tenement and some woodland, being situated on the east side of the road leading through Sindalvalley to Hollingborne. It antiently belonged to a family who assumed their name from Vienne, in Dauphine, in the kingdom of France, one of whom, William de Vienne, or Vienna, held this manor by knight's service in the reign of king Edward I. His descendant Lucas de Vienna died about the 17th year of Edward III. and his widow paid aid for this estate in the 20th year of that reign, which she then held of the king at Putwood, in Ospringe; but in the 30th year of it John de Porkelswode, as appears by a release of that date, was become proprietor of it, and he, with Robert de East Dane, a place likewise in this parish, are recited as witnesses to another deed, of about the

same age; however, in the next reign of Richard II. the Quadrings were become possessed of it; from whence it went by sale, about the latter end of king Henry IV.'s reign, to the antient family of Goldwell, of Great Chart, one of whom, James Goldwell, who was consecrated bishop of Norwich in 1472, anno 11 Edward IV. becoming possessed of it, settled this manor on a chantry, which he then obtained licence to

/i See Leysdown before, p. 268.

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found in the south chancel of Great Chart church, in which he lies buried, though in the writ and inquisition mentioned hereafter, it is there said to be founded by Nicholas Goldwell, clerk.

This manor continued the estate for the support of this chantry till the dissolution of it in the 1st year of king Edward VI. by the act passed for the general suppression of all such foundations; but this manor, notwithstanding, never came into the hands of the crown, but was concealed by the possessors of it, upon which queen Elizabeth, in her 10th year, issued her writ to William Cromer, esq. the sheriff of this county, to cause enquiry to be made by inquisition concerning it; by which it appears, that the manor of Putwood, with its appurtenances, and eighty acres of land in Ospringe and the adjoining parishes, belonged to the chantry, in the church of Great Chart, called Goldwells chantry, founded by Nicholas Goldwell, clerk, and that it was worth in the whole beyond reprises 4l. 6s. 8d. and that the same then belonged to the queen, and had been unjustly with-held from her from the time of the dissolution of the chantry, but by whom they were wholly ignorant./k

What proceedings were afterwards had in relation to it, I have not found, but the crown seems to have taken possession of it, for the queen, in her 12th year, granted it to Hugh Townsell and Ralph Pistor, to hold by the like services, by which it was held before. It had been for some time before in the possession of the Hales's, as tenants of it, but at the latter end of queen Elizabeth's reign, it appears to have been alienated to Mr. Thomas Sare, of Provenders, in Norton, whose heirs sold it to Mr. James Hugessen, of Dover, who died in 1637, and by will gave this manor to his second son, whose descendant Mrs. Jane Hugessen entitled her

/k Pasch. 10 Eliz. in Scacc. ex parte Rem. Thes. Rot. 277. See Coke's Ent. p. 438.

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husband Mr. John Roberts, son of Sir John Roberts, of Canterbury, to it, but on his death s. p. the property of it, by the intail made of it, became vested in that branch of her family seated at Provenders, in Norton; after which it descended, in like manner as that seat, to William Western Hugessen, esq. of Provenders, since whose death in 1764 it has descended in like manner as that seat to his two surviving daughters and coheirs, Sarah and Dorothy, since married to Sir Joseph Banks, and Sir Edward Knatchbull, barts. who in right of their wives now possess it in undivided moieties./l

JUDGE-HOUSE, commonly called the Folly-house, is

an elegant seat, situated on a hill about a mile from Ospringe-street, on the south of the high road, to which the avenue from it leads.

The church or priory of Rochester was in very ancient times possessed of lands in this parish, and king John, in his 2d year, granted to Gilbert, bishop of Rochester, five acres of his demesne wood in Ospringe, to hold in free, pure, and perpetual alms; after which, Henry de Sandford, bishop of Rochester, in the reign of king Henry III. granted to Nicholas, son of Gervas de Osprenge, and Dulcia his wife, his land, with the wood he had in Ospringe, which was within that manor, and five acres of wood, which king John gave as above-mentioned to his predecessor bishop Gilbert, to hold to them and their heirs by hereditary right for ever.

The prior and convent of Rochester afterwards became possessed of land in Ospringe, which seem exactly to answer those above-described, but whether the same, I am not certain; however that be, they were possessed of lands here soon after the above time, and continued so at the time of the suppression of the priory in the 32d year of Henry VIII. when it was, with all the lands and revenues of it, surrendered into the king's

/I See more of the Hugessens under Norton.

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hands, who next year settled them on his new-founded dean and chapter of Rochester, with whom the inheritance of these lands still continue.

On the abolition of deans and chapters, soon after the death of king Charles I. and their lands being sold, this estate at Ospringe came into the possession of one Daniel Judde, a busy committee-man and sequestrator of the royalists estates during those unhappy times, who imagining his possession would continue firm to him and his heirs, built for his residence, about the year 1652, the present elegant seat; but the dean and chapter being re-established on the restoration of king Charles II. this man was ousted from this estate, which from thence acquired the name of Judde's folly. In later times it was held in lease, under the dean and chapter, by Clayton Milbourne, esq. M. P. in 1708, for the town of Monmouth, who bore for his arms, Argent, a cross-moline pierced, sable. They were originally of Frampton, in Gloucestershire. He died in 1726, leaving two sons and one daughter, and Eliza—beth his widow surviving, who afterwards possessed it, and about the year 1765 sold her interest in it to James Flint, esq. high sheriff in 1772, who bore for his arms, Vert, three flint stones, proper. He died in 1790, leaving a wife and several children surviving. Mrs. Flint, his widow, now resides here, and is the present lessee of it.

This estate pays a reserved rent of six pounds, and a couple of wild fowl to the dean and chapter.

SYNDAL is a house and estate, situated about half a mile westward from Judde-house, in the valley called Newnham, alias Syndal, but corruptly for Syndane-valley, on the road leading from Ospringe over Holingborne-hill to Maidstone, and at one field's distance from the high London road.

This estate, as well as others situated in Syndal valley, takes its name from thence. It was formerly the property of the Uptons, of Faversham, one of whom,

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Mr. John Upton, owned it in the 12th year of king James I. after which it became the estate of Mrs. Anne Hayward, who carried it in marriage to Mr. John Wood, who devised it to his only daughter Zutphania, and she entitled her husband Robert Owre, gent. to the possession of it. She survived him, and in 1662 alienated it to Onesephorus Rood, gent. of Ospringe, who left issue two sons, Onesephorus, who died unmarried in his life-time, and Emery, who became his heir, and died possessed of this estate in 1727; his sons successively possessed it afterwards, of whom Onesephorus, the eldest, dying unmarried, his younger brother Emery became his heir, and in 1753 devised it to his eldest son Mr. Emery Rood, who resided here, and sold this estate in 1781 to John Montresor, esq. of Belmont, the present owner of it.

THERE WAS AN HOSPITAL, or MAISON DIEU here, the principal house of which, as well as the church of it, was situated close to the stream on the north side of Ospringe-street, though there were two buildings or chambers belonging to it on each side of the stream, almost opposite.

This hospital was founded by king Henry III. about the year 1235, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It consisted of a master and three regular brethren, of the order of the Holy Cross, and two secular clerks, whose office was to celebrate mass for the soul of the founder, and the souls of his royal predecessors and successors, and also to be hospitable, and give entertainment to the poor and needy passengers and pilgrims; and there was a chamber in it, wherein the king used to repose himself when he passed this way, which from thence was called Camera Regis, or the king's chamber, and they were especially to relieve poor lepers, a distemper at that time, from the continued feeding on fish, exceedingly common among the lower people, and especially among the religious; for which purpose, and to prevent infection, there were apartments provided in ano-

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ther house, built on the other side of the lane over against the hospital./m

In the year 1245, Robert, abbot of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, granted to the brethren of this hospital wearing the habit, and the diseased who happened to die in it, but to none else, the right of burial, so that all emoluments on that account should be paid to the church of Faversham, and that no prejudice should arise from it in any shape to the vicar there, especially in relation to the resort to the mother church of Faversham, on the chief festivals yearly; for which privilege they were to pay yearly to the abbot there, twelve-pence free rent at Easter, and one wax taper of two pounds to the church of Faversham on the day of the Assumption. Notwithstanding the above restriction, I find that Alexander Roger, of Ospringe, by his will in 1474, directed to be buried in this church of St. Mary the Virgin of Mesyndew, and devised to the brothers of it,

for the burying of his body in the nave of it 6s. 8d.

Upon the death of the master, the brethren were to chuse one of their own body to be presented to the king for his consent, and afterwards to be instituted by the archbishop.

The revenues with which this house was endowed, lay at Elverland, and other parts of this parish, in Faversham, and several other parishes in this county.

In the 8th year of Richard II. anno 1384, on a taxation, the revenues of this hospital were valued, the church of Hedcorne at 13l. 6s. 8d. the temporalities at 51l. 5s. per annum.

In which state this hospital continued till the reign of Edward IV. when Robert Darrel, the master of it, dying, and one of the brethren very soon afterwards, the remaining two brethren surmising that their deaths were occasioned by the plague, forsook the house, and

/m Tan. Mon. p. 222. Southouse Mon. p. 148. Lewis's Hist. of Faversham, p. 81.

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took no order to chuse any other in their room; by which means the king became entitled to it by escheat, as was found by inquisition in the 20th year of his reign, after which he committed the custody of it to secular persons; and king Henry VIII. in his 6th year, granted the custody of it to John Underhill, clerk, to hold during his life; but John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, by his interest with the queen, and through cardinal Wolsey's means, obtained in the 7th year of that reign, a grant of it and its possessions, to the master and fellows of St. John's college, in Cambridge, and John Underhill, in consideration of his resignation of it, had forty pounds paid him, and a yearly pension of thirty pounds for life. This grant to St. John's college was afterwards confirmed by the king by other letters patent, in his 11th year, and likewise by the archbishop, the archdeacon, and the prior and convent of Canterbury, and it remains at this time, with all its possessions, part of the revenues of the above-mentioned college.

There are some remains still left of this hospital; the walls of the two chambers on the south side of Ospringe-street, which are the under part of two dwelling-houses; those of the hospital itself, on the opposite side, which now inclose an alehouse; and those of the church adjoining to it, now in ruins, are still remaining, being built of flint, with ashlar stone window and door cases. In a small window-frame of that part, on the south side of the street, were carved two shields, on one of which was a single, and the other a double cross, viz. one upright and two transverse pieces; but these are now so inclosed as hardly to be discovered.

CHARITIES.

THERE ARE 20s. payable at Lady-day yearly out of a house, now divided into two tenements, and an acre of land lying in Smarden.

WILLIAM DRAYTON, gent. of this parish, gave by will in 1686, the annual rent of 10s. to the Minister of Ospringe, for

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a sermon on Palm-Sunday, and 4l. 10s. yearly to the poor, to be distributed on that day, and to be paid out of a farm here called Nicholas, now belonging to Mr. John Toker.

JOHN GREENSTREET, gent. of Canterbury, by will in 1671, gave to the poor 40s. to be yearly paid upon Dec. 1, and to be distributed by his brother, his heirs and assigns, with the advice and assistance of the churchwardens and overseers, at Michaelmas, out of his farm, called Painters, in this parish.

ARTHUR WHATMAN, ESQ. by will in 1671, gave 50s. per annum, payable on Nov. 5, to the churchwardens and overseers, out of a farm in Doddington, called Upper-Greet, to be distributed to the poor at their discretion.

MRS. ELIZABETH THOMAS, in 1720, gave a large silver flagon, and two salvers, for the use of the communion.

MR. JOHN SMITH, cordwainer, by will in 1729, gave 50s. to be yearly paid to such poor persons as took no relief, at Michaelmas, out of a house lying in that part of the parish which was within the town and liberties of Faversham, now the sign of the Queen's Arms, to be distributed by the vicar and churchwardens every Christmas-day.

MRS. ELIZABETH HARRIS, in 1757, gave the brass branch now in the church.

The poor constantly relieved are about forty-eight; casually twenty-eight.

THIS PARISH is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe

The church stands within the jurisdiction of the town of Ospringe, about half a mile southward from Ospringe-street. It is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It is an antient building, consisting of three isles and a chancel. The steeple was formerly at the west end, and was built circular of flints, supposed to be Danish, with a shingled spire on it, of upwards of fifty feet high, in which were four bells; but in ringing them on Oct. 11, 1695, on king William's return from Flanders, it suddenly fell to the ground, providentially no one was hurt by it. There are no remains left of any painted glass in the windows of this church, though there was formerly much in most of them; particularly, in the window of the north isle was once the figure of a mitred bishop, on the rack, with a knife on the table by him,

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and of another person tied to a tree, and wounded with arrows. In another was a label to the memory of Robert Seton, and of a woman kneeling; and there was not many years ago remaining in the east window, at the end of the south isle, forming a kind of chancel, the effigies of a knight in his tabard of arms, with spurs on his heels, in a kneeling posture, looking up to a crucifix, painted just above him, of which there remained only the lower part. The knight's arms, Azure, three harts heads, caboshed, or, were thrown under him, and at a little distance some part of his crest, An hart's head, attired full, or, with a crown about his neck, azure, and underneath, 'Pray for the soul of Thomas Hart.' This Sir Thomas Hart was possessed of an estate in this parish, which he purchased of Norwood. The Greenstreets, of Selling, lately claimed this chancel, and several of them lie buried in it. There was a chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas, in this church.

In the east part of the church-yard there was once a chapel, said to have been built by Sir John Denton, of Denton, in this parish and Easling, the foundations of which are still visible.

It appears by the Testa de Nevil, taken in the reign of king Henry III. that the church of Ospringe was in the king's gift, and was afterwards given by king John to John de Burgo, who then held it, and that it was worth forty marcs. After which, in the 8th year of Richard II. anno 1384, it was become appropriated to the abbot of Pontiniac, and was valued at 13l. 6s. 8d. at which time there was a vicarage here of his parsonage likewise. It afterwards became part of the possessions of the hospital or Maison Dieu, in Ospringe-street, but by what means, or when, I have not found, and it continued so till the escheat of the hospital anno 20 Edward IV. after which, the parsonage appropriate of this church of Ospringe, together with the advowson of the vicarage, was by means of Fisher, bishop of Rochester, obtained of Henry VIII. in manner as has

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been already mentioned, for St. John's college, in Cambridge, the master and fellows of which are at this time entitled to them, the parsonage being let by them on a beneficial lease; but the advowson of the vicarage they retain in their own hands.

The lessee of this parsonage, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was Robert Streynsham, esq. who rebuilt the house and offices belonging to it, and afterwards resided in it. He had been fellow of All Souls college, LL. B. and secretary to the earl of Pembroke. He lies buried in this church, and bore for his arms, Or, a pale dancette, gules. He left two daughters and coheirs, of whom, Audrey, the eldest, carried her interest in it in marriage to Edward Master, esq. eldest son of James Master, esq. of East Langdon, who was first of Sandwich, and afterwards built a seat for himself and his posterity at East Langdon. He was twice married, and had fourteen children; at length worn out with age, he betook himself hither to his eldest son Edward, and dying in 1631, æt. 84, was buried in this church. Edward Master, the son, resided here, and was afterwards knighted, and on his father's death in 1631 removed to that seat, in whose descendants it continued till it was at length alienated to Buller, of Cornwall, whose son sold his interest in to Markham, as he did to Mr. Robert Lyddel, merchant, of London, brother of Sir Henry Lyddel, who in 1751 assigned his interest in it to Ralph Terrey, yeoman, of Knolton, whose son Mr. Michael Terrey, of Ospringe, devised it to his only daughter and heir Olive, who married Nathaniel Marsh, esq. of Boughton Blean, and the heirs of his son Terrey Marsh, esq. late of that parish, are the present lessees of it.

The vicarage of Ospringe is valued in the king's books at ten pounds, and the yearly tenths at one pound.

In 1640 it was valued at sixty pounds, when there were communicants here 226.

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The vicarage is endowed with all vicarial tithes,

woad only excepted, and also with those of hay, saint=foin, clover, and coppice woods. There are about twenty-seven acres of glebe-land belonging to it. The vicarage-house is situated in the valley, at a small distance eastward from the church, and the parsonage-house near a mile southward of that.

Osprunge was formerly the head of a rural deanry, of which institution it will be necessary to give some account here.

The office of rural dean was not unknown to our Saxon ancestors, as appears by the laws of king Edward the Confessor; they were called both Archipresbiteri and Decani Temporarii, to distinguish them from the deans of cathedrals, who were Decani Perpetui. Besides these, there were in the greater monasteries, especially those of the Benedictine order, such officers called deans, and there are deans still remaining in several of the colleges of the universities, who take care of the studies and exercises of the youth, and are a check on the morals and behaviour of such as are members under them.

The antient exercise of jurisdiction in the church seems to have been instituted in conformity to like subordinations in the state. Thus the dioceses within this realm seem to have been divided into archdeanries and rural deanries, to make them correspond to the like division of the kingdom into counties and hundreds; hence the former, whose courts were to answer those of the county, had the county usually for their district, and took their title from thence, and the names of the latter from the hundred, or chief place of it, wherein they acted; and as in the state every hundred was at first divided into ten tithings or friebourghs, and every tithing was made up of ten families, both which kept their original names, notwithstanding the increase of villages and people; so in the church the name of deanry continued, notwithstanding

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the increase of persons and churches, and the districts of them were contracted and enlarged from time to time, at the discretion of the bishop, the rural dean of Osprunge having jurisdiction over the whole deanry of it, consisting of twenty-six parishes. He had a seal of office, which being temporary, it had only the name of the office, and not, as other seals of jurisdiction, the name of the person also, engraved on it. The seal belonging to this deanry had on it, the Virgin Mary crowned, with the sceptre in her left hand, and her child, with a glory round his head, in her right, and round the margin, 'Sigillu Decani Decanatus de Ospreng.' He was in antient times called the dean of the bishop, because appointed by him, and had alone the inspection of the lives and manners of the clergy and people within the district under him, and was to report the same to the bishop; to which end, that he might have a thorough knowledge of the state and condition of his respective deanry, he had a power to convene rural chapters, which were made up of the instituted clergy, or their curates as proxies of them, and the dean as president of them, where the clergy brought information of all irregularities committed within their respective parishes. Those upon ordinary occasions

were held at first every three weeks, in imitation of the courts of manors, held from three weeks to three weeks, and afterwards each month, and from thence were called kalendæ, but their more solemn and principal chapters were assembled once a quarter, where matters of greater import were transacted, and a fuller attendance given. They were at first held in any one church within the district, where the minister of the place was to procure and provide entertainment and procurations for the dean and his immediate officers, and they were afterwards held only in the larger or more eminent parishes. The part of their office of inspecting and reporting the manners of the clergy and people, rendered them necessary attendants on the episcopal

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synod or general visitation, in which they were the standing representatives of the rest of the clergy within their division, and they were there to deliver information of abuses committed within their knowledge, and consult for the reformation of them; for which they were to have their expences, called from hence synodals, allowed them by those whom they represented, according to the time of their attendance. That part of their office, of being convened to provincial and episcopal synods, was transferred to two proctors, or representatives of the parochial clergy in each diocese; and that of information of scandals and offences, has devolved on the churchwardens of the respective parishes. Besides this another principal part of the duty of a rural dean was to execute all processes of the bishop, or of the officers and ministers under his authority; but by the constitution of the pope's legate, Otho, the archdeacon, in the reign of Henry III. was required to be frequently present at them, who being superior to the rural dean, did in effect take the presidency out of his hands; and these chapters were afterwards often held by the archdeacon's officials, from which may be dated the decay of rural deanries, for the rural dean was not only discouraged by this, but the archdeacon and his official, as might naturally be supposed he would, drew the business usually transacted there to his own visitation, or chapter, as it might be termed. By which interfering of the archdeacon and his officials, it happened that in the age next before the reformation, the jurisdiction of rural deans declined almost to nothing, and at the reformation nothing was done for their restoration by the legislative power, so that they became extinct in most deanries, nor did this of Ospringe survive the earliest decline of them. Where they still continue, they have only the name and shadow left, and what little remains of this dignity and jurisdiction, de-

/n See Burn's Eccles. Law, vol. ii. p. 106.

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pends greatly on the custom of places, and the pleasure of diocesans.

In the 31st year of Edward I. Richard Christian, dean of Ospringe, being sent to execute some citations of the archbishop at Selling, was set upon by the people there, who placed him with his face to his horse's tail, which they made him hold in his hand for a bridle,

in which posture they led him through the village, with songs, shouts, and dances, and afterwards having cut off the tail, ears, and lips of the beast, they threw the dean into the dirt, to his great disgrace; for which, the king directed his writ to the sheriff, to make enquiry by inquisition of a jury concerning it.

CHURCH OF OSPRINGE.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

Master and Fellows of St. John's college, Cambridge. Laurence Parkynson, August 4, 1582, obt. 1617.

John Snell, S. T. B. June 25, 1617, obt. 1623.

Thomas Smith, S. T. B. Jan. 13, 1623, resigned 1625.

William Martial, S. T. B. April 24, 1625.

Francis Blechenden, S. T. B. January 20, 1638, resigned 1639,

Thomas Mason, S. T. B. 1639, resigned 1640.

John Willington, S. T. B. Feb. 2, 1640, obt. 1643.

Peter Lane, A. M. March 7, 1643.

Thomas Cator, A. M. obt. 1678./o

Jonathan Barnard, A. B. April 1, 1679, obt. 1714.

Charles Bowtell, S. T. B. Nov. 3, 1714, obt. 1718.

John White, B. D. Oct. 17, 1718, obt. 1755.

/o Walker's Suff. of Clergy, pt. ii. 309.

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PATRONS, &c. VICARS.

Master and Fellows of St. John's college, Cambridge. Edward Barnard, S. T. P. April 19, 1756, resig. Jan. 1777./p

Jeremiah Jackson, A. M. May 24, 1777, the present vicar.

/p Rector of Pauls Cray, canon of Windsor, head-master of Eton school, and afterwards provost there. He died in 1781.

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PRESTON.

THE next parish eastward is Preston, written in antient records both Prestentune and Prestetone, which name it is supposed to have taken from its belonging to the church, that is to say, Priests town. It is now called Preston near Faversham, to distinguish it from another parish of the same name near Wingham.

THE HIGH ROAD from London to Canterbury runs through this parish, which is situated at the 47th milestone, from which the town of Faversham is distant not more than two hundred yards, great part of Preston-

street being within its boundaries, and may be said to form the village of it, for there is no other. The church and vicarage near it stand at a very small distance eastward of this street, and the like distance northward from the London road, and not far from them the new-built seat of Preston-house. The high road from Faversham to Ashford having crossed the London road, runs along the middle of this parish, eastward of which are the estates of Mackner, close to the London road, and a mile higher up Westwood and Copton, both respectable farm houses. Perry-court is situated likewise on the south side of the London high road, at a very small distance, and within sight of it, near Chapel-house, and the western boundary of the parish next to Ospringe. This parish, which lies on a descent to the northward, from its nearness and exposure to the

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marshes, though in a fine pleasant country, is far from being healthy, especially in the lower parts of it, where the land is very fertile, a fine loamy soil, the fields large and unincumbered with trees, a round tilt land, but as it rises higher to the southward, though healthier, yet the soil becomes gradually thinner, more inclined to chalk, and mixed with flints, and consequently much less productive.

Mention has been made before of a part of this parish being separated from the main part of it by others intervening; this is a part of the demesnes of the manor of Hamme-marsh, erroneously called in the donation-charter of the dean and chapter of Canterbury, Honymarsh, which lies at a distance from the rest of it near the marshes, northward of Davington-hill, which parish entirely separates this part from the rest of it. A part of the parish of Luddenham lies entirely surrounded by Preston, the east end of the great field before Perry-house being esteemed to belong to that parish.

MR. JACOB has noted in his *Plantæ Favershamienses* several scarce plants, found by him in this parish, and among them the *Lathyrus latifolius*, broad-leafed everlasting pea, and the *vinca minor*, or periwinkle.

PRESTON was given, by the name of the principal manor in it, called COPTON, antiently written Coppanstane, together with its appendage of Ham-marsh, by Cenulph, king of Mercia, after having made the kingdom of Kent tributary to him, in the year 822, to Wlfred, archbishop of Canterbury, L. S. M. that is, 'libere sicut Middleton,' endowed with the same liberties and franchises as Middleton originally was.

After which, by the contests which were then carried on by those petty kings, each of whom as he happened to grow superior in power, constantly dispossessed his neighbours of their dominions, this manor appears to have been wrested from the church of Canterbury, and to have been again restored to it in 941, under the

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name of Prestantun, by king Edmund, Edred his brother, and Edwy, sons of king Edmund, who gave it to the monks of Christ-church, for the use of their refectory, 'et est de victu eorum', as the record has it. In which state it continued at the time of the taking of

the general survey of Domesday, in the year 1084, when it was thus entered in that record, under the title of Terra Monachorum Archiepi, or lands of the monks of the archbishop, as all the lands belonging to that monastery were.

The archbishop himself holds Prestetone. It was taxed at one suling. The arable land is six carucates. In demesne there are three, and thirteen villeins, with fourteen borderers having three carucates. There is a church, and one servant, and one mill without tallage, and one fishery of two hundred and fifty eels. There are two acres of meadow. Wood for the pannage of five hogs. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was worth ten pounds, now fifteen pounds.

In the 22d year of king Edward I. anno 1293, there was a composition made between the prior and convent and Sir John de Rokesle, lord of Westwood manor, by which the several services due from him as such to the prior and convent, for their manor of Copton were released, on the payment of a small yearly rent in lieu of them.

King Edward II. in his 10th year, granted to the prior and convent, free-warren in all their demesne lands, which they possessed in Copton and Ham, among other places, at the time of the charter granted to them by his grandfather king Henry III. About which time the manors of Copton and Ham were valued at 25l. yearly income./r

In which state these manors continued till the dissolution of the priory in the 31st year of Henry VIII.

/q Dugd. Mon. vol. i. p. 21. Decem. Script. col. 2221.
/r Batteley's Sommer, pt. ii. append. No. xxiii. p. 50.

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when they were surrendered, among the rest of the possessions of it, into the king's hands, where they did not remain long, for the king settled them by his donation-charter, in his 33d year, on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, part of whose possessions they still remain.

A court leet and court baron is held for these manors, which extend into Davington, Luddenham, Stone, and Buckland; at which court a borsholder is chosen for the borough of Copton and Stone.

In the 29th year of Henry VIII. the prior and convent had leased their manors of Copton, Selgrave, and Hamme, with their appurtenances, near Faversham, to Thomas Harrington, at the yearly rent of twenty-two pounds, and forty-one quarters of good, heavy and sweet corn, of the rase measure, and forty-two quarters of barley, of the like sort and measure, excepting all escheats, strays, waifs, &c. This lease, after the dissolution of the priory, anno 32 Henry VIII. being surrendered into the king's hands, he granted to him another lease, at the yearly rent of forty-three pounds.

In the 17th year of queen Elizabeth, Thomas Elemeley was lessee to the dean and chapter for these manors; but in the 33d year of that reign Thomas Clive held them in lease, and resided at Copton, as did his son Sir Christopher Clive, who bore for his arms, On a fess, three mullets, between three wolves heads, erased./s

In the reign of king James I. Sir Humphry Tufton held them, as did his descendants till the middle of king Charles II.'s reign, when the lease of them was become vested in Dr. James Jeffreys, prebendary of Canterbury, who dying in 1688, was buried in that cathedral, in whose descendants the possession of these manors were continued down to James Jeffreys, esq. who parted with his interest in the lease to John Waler, esq. the present lessee of them.

/s See Vistn. co. Kent, 1619, pedigree of Clive.

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IT HAS BEEN MENTIONED before, under the description of Sheldwich, that THE MANOR OF SELGRAVE is situated both in that parish and this of Preston, but that it has been of long time separated into moieties. Of the moiety in Sheldwich, an account has been already given there; of the moiety in this parish, the family of Northwood seems to have been possessed, from one of whom, about the latter end of king Edward III.'s reign, it was alienated to Sir Ralph de Spigurnell, admiral of the king's fleet, both in the north and south parts of England. He lies buried in the Grey Friars church, in London. At his death he gave it to his wife Elizabeth, and she sold it, about the 19th year of king Richard II. to the prior and convent of Christ-church, in Canterbury, for three hundred and fifty marcs sterling, being the money given to them by Joane Burwash, lady Mohun, of Dunstar, on condition of their founding a perpetual chantry for her in the church of their priory, and that her tomb there should be honorably kept up. With the priory it continued till the dissolution of it anno 31 Henry VIII. when it was surrendered, among the rest of the possessions of it, into the king's hands, where it did not remain long, for the king, in his 33d year, settled it by his dotation-charter on his new-founded dean and chapter of Canterbury, whose inheritance it still remains. A court-baron is held for this manor.

It has been constantly held in lease under the dean and chapter, by the same lessees as the manors of Copton and Ham before-mentioned, under the description of which an account of them may be seen. John Waler, esq. is the present lessee of it.

The shyreway or lane, called Portway, otherwise Porters, otherwise Selgrave-lane, leading from Copton to Whitehill, in Ospringe, seems to separate this moiety of it from the other on the south side of this lane. At

/t Strype's Stow's Survey, book iii. p. 134.

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the entrance of it, next to Copton, under a yew-tree, is a hole, where the manor-court is called on, and this place appears to have been the scite of the antient manor-house.

WESTWOOD is an eminent manor in the south-east part of this parish, which was antiently part of the possessions of the family of Rokesle, by whom it was held of the barony of Crevequer, by the tenure of performing ward to Dover castle. In the reign of Edward II. Sir Richard de Rokesle became by inheritance the owner of it, holding it by knight's services of the be=

fore-mentioned barony. He died without male issue, leaving by Joane, sister and heir of John de Criol, two daughters his coheirs, of whom Agnes, the eldest, married to Thomas de Poynings, seems to have entitled her husband to it, who in the 2d year of Edward III. obtained a charter of free warren for all his demesne lands in this manor of Westwood among others.

In his descendants it continued down to Robert de Poynings, who died in the 25th year of king Henry VI. He had two sons, of whom Richard, the eldest, died in his life-time, leaving a daughter Eleanor, married to Sir Henry Percy, afterwards earl of Northumberland, and Robert de Poynings, the younger son, became entitled to this manor, and was succeeded in it by his son and heir Sir Edward Poynings, who was much in favor with king Henry VII. and VIII. being lord warden of the five ports, and knight of the garter. He died in the 14th year of the latter reign, 1522, not only without legitimate issue, but without any collateral kindred, who could make claim to his estates, so that this manor, among his other estates, escheated to the crown, and was afterwards granted to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, whose lands were disgavelled by the act of the 31st of that reign, on whose attainder and execution the year afterwards, they reverted again to the crown; after which the king, in his 36th year, granted this manor to John Limsey, to hold in capite by knight's

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service. He died in the 38th year of that reign, and his son Edward Limsey, in the 38th year of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to John Gerard, who was afterwards knighted, and was lord-mayor of London in 1601, and on his brother Sir William Gerrard, or Garrard's death in 1607, without male issue, succeeded to his estates at Sittingborne, and died in 1625, of his sons, the eldest, Sir John Garrard, inherited this manor, and being of Whethamsted, in Hertfordshire, was created a baronet; at length his descendant Sir John Garrard, bart. of Whethamsted, in Hertfordshire, dying in 1700, and leaving an only daughter and heir Mary, she carried this manor, with his other estates in this county, in marriage to Montague Drake, esq. of Shardeloes, in Buckinghamshire, whose grandson William Drake, esq. of Shardeloes, in Amersham, died possessed of this manor, with the adjoining one of Ovens, in 1797, having had by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of John Raworth, esq. four sons and two daughters, of the former, William Drake, esq. was M. P. for Amersham, and died s. p. in 1795. Thomas took the name of Tyrwhit, and is now M. P. for that borough; John Drake is LL. D. rector of Amersham, and vicar of Deptford, and Charles Drake, esq. who has taken the name of Gerrard, is likewise M. P. for Amersham, in whom, as heirs to their father, this manor, and the rest of the estates in this county are now vested.

A court baron is held for this manor, which extends into the parishes of Faversham, Selling, Sheldwich, Ospringe, Badlesmere, Hernhill, Chilham, Charing, Ewell, near Dover, and into the island of Harty.

MACKNAR, corruptly so called for Makenade, is a manor at the eastern boundary of this parish, which was

at the time of the taking of the general survey of Domesday, part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, under the general title of whose lands it is described in it, by the name of Machehevet, as follows:

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The same Ansfrid holds of the bishop of Baieux, Machehevet. It was taxed at one yoke. The arable land is half a carucate. There are two villeins, paying fifty-pence. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, it was worth fifty pence, now it is worth sixty pence. Seuold held it in the time of king Edward.

Four years after which the bishop of Baieux was disgraced, and all his estates were confiscated to the crown.

After which this manor was held by a family who resided at it, and took their surname from it. Peter de Makenade resided here in the 9th year of Edward II. and left several children; on the partition of whose inheritance, made anno 14 Edward III. William de Makenade seems to have succeeded to this estate, and was sheriff in the 33d year of that reign, in which year he died, and was succeeded by John de Makenade, his eldest son, who inherited Makenade, and died s. p. leaving this manor by will to William, son of his brother William, who died in the 8th year of Henry IV. without male issue, so that Constance, his only daughter, became his heir, who carried it in marriage to John Watership, by whom she had two daughters, Margaret, married to Henry London, and Joane to Thomas Mathew; the latter of whom, on the division of their inheritance, became possessed of this manor. His heirs sold it to Bryanstone, and Thomas Bryanstone, alias Brumston, gent. of Makenade, by his will, vested it in feoffees, who in pursuance of it, by deed anno 5 king Henry VI. settled it on John Brumston his son, whole eldest son Thomas at length succeeded to it, whose heirs conveyed the manor of Makenade by deed, anno 26 Henry VIII. to Christopher Hales, gent. of Canterbury; after which it became the property of Tho-

Pedigree of Makenade, in 1587, in the possession of Martin James, then the possessor of this estate, now in the British Museum. Harl. MSS. No. 245-25.

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mas Colepeper, esq. of Bedgbury, who anno 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, sold it to Randolph Johnson, gent. who died possessed of it in the 10th year of queen Elizabeth. His son Ralph Johnson, by deed three years afterwards, conveyed this manor to Martin James, gent. prothonotary of the court of common pleas, who died in 1592, and was succeeded in it by his eldest son Henry James, esq. whose son Sir Henry James, in 1637, joined in settling it on his brother John James, whose son Walter James, esq. of Maidstone, in the 12th year of king Charles II. conveyed it to Richard Garford, stationer, of London. He left an only daughter and heir Mary, who married first Sir Samuel Sterneil, alias Starling, and alderman of London, after whose death, on her marriage in 1670 with George Villiers, viscount Grandison, she made a settlement of this manor, which in 1704 was become

vested in Mary White, of Boughton Blean, who married Fleetwood Tildesley, gent. who the next year alienated it to Edward Giles, yeoman, of Gisbourne, in Selling, who resided there, on an estate purchased by his ancestor John Giles, of Throwley, of John Norton, of Northwood, in the 37th year of king Henry VIII. Edward Giles dying intestate, this manor descended to his two sons and coheirs in gavelkind, George and Edward, the latter of whom, in 1716, sold his moiety to his brother George, who died at Maidenhead in 1753, leaving an only daughter and heir Mary, then the widow of John Morgan, gent. of Faversham, whose son, Mr. George Morgan is the present owner, and having rebuilt this house, now resides in it.

PERRY-COURT, called in Domesday, Perie, is an estate in this parish, which at the time of the taking of that survey, was part of the possessions of Odo, the great bishop of Baieux, under the general description of whose lands it is thus entered in it:

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The same Ansfrid holds of the bishop of Baieux, Perie. It was taxed at one yoke. There is one borderer, paying five-pence. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, and now, it was and is worth sixteen shillings. Wluf held it of king Edward.

The same Ansfrid held of the bishop, Perie. It was taxed at half a suling. The arable land is one carucate. There are three borderers, and one mansion in the city of sixteen-pence. In the time of king Edward the Confessor, and now, it was and is worth twenty-four shillings. Ulveva held it of king Edward.

The two descriptions above-mentioned seem designed for two different estates, for in the beginning of the record mention is made of 'Piria et alter Piria', i. e. of one Piria and of another Piria; which of them relates to this, I am not able to distinguish, but one of them certainly does.

On the bishop of Baieux's disgrace, four years afterwards, this manor, among the rest of his estates, was confiscated to the crown. After which it was granted to the eminent family of Crevequer, who held it with other lands, of the king in capite by barony, by the service of maintaining a certain number of soldiers for the defence of Dover-castle.

Of them this manor was held, by the like service, by a family who took their name from it. Randal de Pirie held it, as one knight's fee, in the 13th year of king John, as appears by the scutage then levied. William de Pirie held it in like manner in the reign of king Edward II. of Nicholas de Selling, and he of Hamo de Crevequer. /w John Perie, his descendant, afterwards held it, but in the 20th year of king Edward III. it seems to have passed into other hands, for that year, as appears by the book of aid, the heirs of John de Barrett, William de Apulderfield, the lady Sawsamere, the heirs of Robert de Okmanton, and

/w Roll of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

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their coparceners, were charged for one knight's fee,

which John de Pery before held in Pery, of Nicholas de Sellinge.

By the above entry it appears, that this manor was then divided in the hands of different owners, but the manor of Pery itself, with the mansion and demesne lands round it, descended to Robert Barret, esq. who died in the 9th year of king Richard II. possessed of Perry-court, and of lands likewise at Hawkhurst, leaving two sons, Valentine and John, the latter of whom, by marriage with Alice, sister and coheir to her brother John de Belhouse, became possessed of Belhouse, in Essex, where his descendants continued for some generations afterwards, one of whom, Edward Barret, was created Lord Newburg in 1627, and dying s. p. in 1645, by will devised his estates to his kinsman Richard Lennard, who took the name and arms of Barret, whose grandfather Henry Lennard, lord Dacre, had married Chrysogona, grand-daughter of Sir John Baker, of Sissinghurst, by Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir of Thomas Dyneley, of Wolverton, in Hampshire, and widow of George Barret, the direct ancestor of Edward, lord Newburg, above-mentioned; which Thomas Dyneley was descended from Robert, son of William Dyneley, alias Dingley, of Wolverton, who lived afterwards at South Foscott, in Berkshire, which he had in right of his wife Margaret daughter and heir of Foscott, by whom he had Robert above-mentioned, and Stephen, ancestor of the Dingleys, of Wolverton and Swaston, in the Isle of Wight, of whose descendants some notice has already been taken under Easling.

Richard Lennard, who took the name and arms of Barret, was ancestor of the late Thomas Barret Lennard, lord Dacre, who died s. p.

This family of Baret, Barret, or Barrett, as the name is variously spelt, is of a very antient and respectable account in this kingdom. The ancestor of it is re-

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corded in the Battle abbey roll, as one of those who came over with William, duke of Normandy, and was present at the battle of Hastings in 1066. His descendants afterwards spread themselves over almost every part of Britain, and into Ireland. Valentine Barret before-mentioned, of Perry-court, bore for his arms, Argent, a fess dancette, gules, in chief, three mullets pierced, sable; his brother John bore Barry, of four pieces, argent and gules, counterchanged, per pale; which latter might perhaps be the elder brother, as his arms appear by the antient pedigrees to have been those of his father and ancestors. To one or other of these coats those of the several branches of the Barrets, settled in different counties of England, seem in general to bear some allusion, viz. either mullets with a chief, or fess dancette; or a fess, or bars counterchanged, per pale, as appears by the several books of heraldry, and different local histories, in most of which there is some mention made of the name of Barret, and in the British Museum, among the Harleian MSS. there are several pedigrees of them.

Valentine Barret, the eldest son of Robert as before-mentioned, inherited Perry court, where he resided, and dying in 1440, anno 19 Henry VI. was

buried in the chancel of Preston church, where his portraiture in brass, habited in armour, with his sword and spurs on, still remains, as does that of Cicele his wife, who died two years afterwards. She was the youngest daughter and coheir of Marcellus at Lese, and coheir likewise to her uncle Sir Richard at Lese, of Lees-court./x Their only daughter and heir Joane, married John Darell, esq. of Calehill, whose first wife she was. Their grandson Sir John Darell, of Calehill, left two sons, Sir James Darell, and John Darell, gent. who divided this estate between them; the latter of whom, in the 1st year of king Henry VIII. alie=

/x See Lees-court, in Sheldwich.

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nated his part of it to Stephen Jennins, and he, in the 6th year of it, conveyed it to Thomas Michell, who two years afterwards alienated it to Robert Dokket, and he in the 10th year of that reign, conveyed it to Allan Percy, who sold it to Richard Parke, esq. of Malmaims, in Stoke, who having purchased the other moiety of it that year of Sir James Darell, became the sole proprietor of this manor, which his daughter and sole heir Elizabeth carried in marriage to John Roper, esq. of Linsted, afterwards created lord Teynham, who in the 25th year of queen Elizabeth, settled it on his son Christopher Roper, esq. and he afterwards alienated it to William Finch, esq. of Sewards, in Linsted, who dying without male issue, his only daughter and heir Catherine carried it in marriage to Sir Drue Drury, gentleman usher of the privy chamber to queen Elizabeth,/y who in king James I.'s reign alienated it to Thomas Bennet, esq. who bore for his arms, Gules, a besant between three demi lions, rampant, couped, argent. His eldest son Richard Bennet, of Kew, in Surry, leaving an only daughter Dorothy, by his second wife, she carried it in marriage to Sir Henry Capel, second son of Arthur, lord Capel, and afterwards himself, in 1692, created lord Capel, of Tewksbury, whose arms were, Gules, a lion rampant, between three croslets fitchee, or, with a proper difference. She survived him, and died possessed of this estate, which had then lost even the reputation of a manor, in 1721, at her house at Kew-green, in Surry, leaving no issue by him. By her will in 1721 she devised this estate, by the description of her farm and lands, called Parry, alias Perry court, with the lands belonging to it in Preston, and the adjoining parishes, to trustees, for the benefit of twelve charity schools, in several different counties, of which Faversham in this county was one, the clear profits of it to be paid

/y See Sewards, in Linsted, before, p. 302.

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by her trustees and their heirs yearly to them, in equal proportions, according to the rules and directions set down in her will, the money to be paid yearly in the chapel of Kew green on May 12, immediately after divine service is ended; and in case no such schools should be set up, she directs the twelfth part of Kew school (one of those mentioned in her will) to be applied to the putting out apprentices the children of

the poor inhabitants of that parish, and the other eleven parts, in default of any one or more of the said schools being set up, to be divided among such as are, and if there are no such, then to the support of six widows of clergymen of the church of England; and when her trustees should be reduced to two or one surviving, that then they or he should convey this estate to eight or ten other new trustees, and their heirs, upon the like trusts, to be nominated out of the most wealthy and substantial inhabitants of Kew, the person who should enjoy her mansion and estate of Kew, and the minister of the said chapel to be two of them: and she directed that the like method should be observed of appointing and making new trustees for her intended charity for ever afterwards, and to this trust and use this estate continues appropriated at this time. John Waller, esq. is the present occupier, and resides in it.

There was a family named Hart, who were settled in this parish so early as the reign of king Edward III. one of whom, Thomas le Hert appears to have been mayor of Faversham in the 2d year of that reign, whose arms, as appears by the seal appendant to a deed, in the Surrenden library, were Quarterly, in the first quarter a mullet, in the second, and in base a stag's head, caboshed.

PRESTON-HOUSE is a seat situated about a field's distance northward of the London road, and not far from the church; it formerly belonged to the Finch's, descended from Vincent Herbert, alias Finch, of Ne-

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therfield, in Sussex, and a younger branch of those of Eastwell. They resided here in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and several of them lie buried in this church. At length, about the latter end of king Charles II.'s reign, this seat, with the estate belonging to it, was sold by one of this family to John Brinkhurst, esq. of Great Marlow, in Buckinghamshire, whose son Thomas Brinkhurst, esq. resided here, and afterwards alienated it to Onslow Burrish, esq. who parted with it to Stephen Beckingham, esq. whose son of the same name still owns the farm or estate formerly part of it. But Preston-house itself, with the gardens and appurtenances belonging to it, was sold by him to Thomas Dawes, esq. who resided here; after whose death his only surviving son Medley Darcy Dawes, and Sarah his sister, (who had a life-estate in it) together with Stephen Philpot her husband, joined in the sale of it, in the year 1769, to Thomas Smith, jun. esq. who resided at it. He left two sons John and George Smith, the latter of whom sold it a few years ago to John Bax, esq. of London, who pulled down the old house, and on the scite of it built a large handsome seat, in which he now resides. In 1790 he married Miss Jane Bonham, of Warley-place, in Essex.

THE NOBLE FAMILY OF BOYLE was once seated in this parish, and, as I conjecture, at Preston-house above-mentioned, before the Finch's purchased it; however that is, Roger, second son of Roger Boyle, the second son of John Boyle, of Herefordshire, resided at Preston, and married Joane, daughter of John

Naylor, gent. of Canterbury. He died at his house here in 1576, and was buried in the high chancel of this church, to whose memory, and that of his descendants, a most sumptuous monument of statuary marble was erected in 1629, by his second son Richard Boyle, earl of Cork.

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CHARITIES.

A HOUSE and an acre of land near Kilngrove, or the Stone-steps, was given to the poor, but by whom is unknown. It was let in 1697, for 99 years, at 15s. per annum, for the use of the poor.

MR. THOMAS SMITH, late of Westwood, left by will in 1730, to the poor, 30l. the interest of it to be applied to put poor children of the parish to school; and John Smith, esq. of Faversham, to enlarge the charity of his brother, in lieu of that sum, gave a piece of land, containing half an acre, on which there is a dwelling-house and hop-oast. These premises were let in 1736 for 99 years, at 50s. a year, which rent is applied towards that purpose.

MRS. ELIZABETH SYKES, widow of Dr. Sykes, brother to the vicar of this parish, in 1762 left by will the interest of 200l. to be placed in the public funds, with which was bought 209l. 19s. 1d. Red. Bank Ann. to be applied to put out poor children to school in this parish, now of the annual produce of 61. 3s. 6d.

THE REV GEORGE SYKES, A. M. late vicar of Preston, left by will in 1766, 100l. to raise out of the public funds an annual sum, to be given in bread annually to the poor, vested in the 3 per cents. and of the annual produce of 3l.

MRS. MARY SIMMONS, of Perry-farm, by will in 1780, left 100l. to be placed in the public funds, and the produce of it to be disposed of in bread to the poor, which sum is vested in the 3 per cent. reduced annuities, and amounts to 169l. 12s. the annual produce of which is 5l. 1s. 10d.

The poor annually relieved are about thirty-six, casually thirty.

PRESTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Catherine, is small, consisting of an isle and a chancel, with another chancel on the south side. The steeple, which is a low pointed one, in which are three bells, stands in the middle of the south side. There are some few remains of painted glass in the windows of the chancel, and several grave-stones in it, the brasses of all which are missing, excepting those of Valentine Baret and Cicele his wife, 1440; William Mareys, esquire to king Henry V. and afterwards to Henry, cardinal of England, 1470, and for Emmola Lee, 1440. At

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the east end of the isle is a monument, with their effigies kneeling at a desk, for Thomas Finch, esq. and Bennet Maicott his wife. He died in 1615, her grave-stone, with figure in brass, is near it, obt. 1612; it was erected by John Finch, of Grovehurst, his nephew. On a large handsome tomb on the south side of the high chancel, in full proportion, lie the effigies of Roger Boyle, esq. and his wife Joane, whose bo-

dies are buried near it. At the east end, is the figure of a bishop, in his robes kneeling, being that of his eldest son Dr. John Boyle, bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, in Ireland. At the west end is the figure of his second son Sir Richard Boyle, earl of Cork, kneeling in his robes, who was born in Canterbury in 1566; on the other parts of the tomb are inscriptions for others of the family, who were buried here likewise.

His descendants were afterwards ennobled by the several titles of earls of Burlington, Cork and Orrery, viscounts Carleton and Boyle, of Kinelmeaky, and lords Carleton and Clifford. Michael Boyle, next brother to Roger Boyle, was first of London, but he afterwards seems to have resided at Canterbury, for two of his children were born within the precincts of the cathedral church there. This monument is now in a most ruinous state, the decayed fragments, both of the figures and inscriptions, lying scattered over every part of it, so that unless it has the assistance of a speedy repair, it will very soon be beyond the power of art to recover it. On the opposite side is a mural monument for Silvester, wife of John Borough, eldest daughter of Robert Denne, gent. of Denne-hill, obt. 1609. In the chapel, on the south side of the church, there are several memorials of the Hulses, of Chart-ham. At the east end of the vicarage-house, adjoining to the church-yard, was a small chapel, now converted into part of the dwelling-house, in the east window of which were painted the figures of St. Anthony with his pig, and of St. Catherine, under whom

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was the portraiture of a vicar of Preston, habited in a purple cope, and kneeling, with a label from his mouth, on which were these words, 'Virgo Katharina peccantibus esto benigna,' and underneath him, 'Dus Johns Sturrey, Vicarius de Preston.' Above the figures of the two saints, were the two coats of Archbishop Arundel, and of the Drylands./z

The church was part of the antient possessions of the see of Canterbury, and remained so till archbishop Stratford, in the 14th year of king Edward III. exchanged it, together with that of Boughton under Blean, with the abbot and convent of Faversham, for the manor of Tring, in Hertfordshire. After which the archbishop appropriated this church to that abbey, with a reservation of the advowson of the vicarage, and a portion of the great tithes of Mackenade and Westwood farms, towards the endowment of it, and a pension out of it of two marcs and an half sterling yearly to the sacrist of Christ-church, towards the repair of the church there; which was confirmed soon afterwards by a bull of pope Boniface I.

In which state this church remained till the dissolution of the abbey in the 30th year of Henry VIII. when it came, with the rest of the revenues of it, into the king's hands, where it remained but a short time, for that prince, in his 33d year, settled it on his new-erected dean and chapter of Canterbury, with whom the inheritance of it remains at this time. John Waller, esq. is the present lessee of the parsonage.

This parsonage had been let to ferme by the abbot and convent some time before, at the yearly rent of

13l. 6s. 8d. but at the time of the dissolution of the abbey it was in their own hands.

The advowson of the vicarage, according to the reservation of archbishop Stratford as above-mentioned, remained part of the possessions of the see of

/z See Lewis's History of Faversham, appendix, p. 28.

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Canterbury, and does so at this time, his grace the archbishop being the present patron of it.

It is valued in the king's books at 8l. 12s. 6d. and the yearly tenths at 17s. 3d. and is of the yearly certified value of 77l. 17s. 11d. In 1640 it was valued at seventy pounds. Communicants sixty.

Seventy-four acres of land in this parish, belonging to the manor of Plumford, the property of the earl of Guildford, are tithe-free.

CHURCH OF PRESTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. VICARS.

The Archbishop. Peter Jackson, A. M. April 15, 1595, obt. Jan. 24, 1617./a

John Ridley, Feb. 12, 1617.

Nathaniel Wilmot, ejected 1662.

Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. Francis Worrall, A. M. Dec. 31, 1662, obt. Oct. 1671./b

The Archbishop. John Crocker, April 15, 1672, obt. Dec. 1683.

John Gamlin, A. M. June 7, 1684, obt. 1715./c

George Sykes, A. M. Oct. 15, 1715, obt. June 9, 1766./d

Francis Frederick Giraud, A. M. presented 1766, the present vicar./e

/a He lies buried in the chancel of this church.

/b Likewise for some time vicar of Faversham.

/c And vicar of Faversham.

/d Likewise rector of Hawkswell, in Essex, by dispensation in 1736. In 1757 a dispensation passed for his holding Raley, in that county, with Preston.

/e Perpetual curate of Ore, and master of the grammar-school of Faversham.

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GOODNESTON

LIES the next parish eastward from Preston, and is the last to be described in this hundred. It should seem by its name once to have belonged to Godwin,

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earl of Kent, being termed in antient writings Goodwinstune, i. e. Godwin's town, or village.

It is a very small parish, lying on the north side of the high London road, at the 48th mile-stone, about

half a mile's distance from it. The village and church are situated in the middle of the parish, which does not extend more than half a mile from them each way. It lies low in a flat and open country, and from its nearness and exposure to the marshes, very unhealthy, the lands in it are exceeding rich and fertile, like those in the same tract in Faversham and Preston described before, the fields are very level, large, and but little encumbered with trees or hedge-rows, what trees there are are elm, and there is no woodland.

A fair is held yearly on Sept. 26, for toys, pedlary, &c.

THIS PLACE was held in the reign of Henry III. by Simon de Turville, of the earl of Leicester, as lord paramount, who held it again of the king in capite by knight's service. /f Of his successor Nicholas de Turville this estate was again held in the reign of king Edward II. by one of the family of Chiche, which had been seated at the Dungeon in Canterbury for some generations, in which city they were of eminent account, being possessed of the fee of the aldermanry of Burgate there.

In the 20th year of king Edward III. Thomas Chiche, of the Dungeon, paid respective aid for the manor of Goodneston, then held by knight's service. Thomas Chiche, his son, was sheriff of Kent in the 15th year of Richard II. and was grandfather of Valentine Chiche, esq. of the Dungeon, who left three daughters his coheirs; Margaret, first married to Clovill, of Essex, and secondly to John Judde, of Tunbridge; Emelyn, to Sir Thomas Kempe; and another married to Martyn, who on their father's

/f Roll of Knights Fees in the Exchequer.

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death became jointly entitled to this manor. The two former of them alienated their interest in it, about the beginning of king Henry VIII.'s reign, to Oxenbridge, as the latter did to Pordage, of Rodmersham. Soon after which, the whole property of it, excepting the third part of the advowson of the church of Goodneston, seems to have become vested in the name of Finch, and John Finch having, anno 17 Elizabeth, levied a fine of it, passed it away to Mr. Robert Fagge, descended from the Faggess, of Willesborough. in which parish they held lands so early as the reign of king Edward III. He died possessed of this manor, and was succeeded in it by his son Mr. Edward Fagge, gent. of Faversham, who died in 1618, and lies buried in Faversham church, having married Anne, daughter of Richard Theobald, esq. of Seal, widow of Thomas Nevison, esq. of Eastry, by whom he had one son Michael, killed abroad in the Dutch wars, and buried at Utrecht, and two daughters, who became his coheirs, Mary, married to Sir Edward Partrich, of Bridge, whose first wife she was, and Anne, to Sir John Proude, being his second wife. The former died without issue, and the latter left by Sir John Proude, who was killed in 1628, at the siege of Groll, in Guelderland, being in the service of the states of Holland against the Spaniards, one son Edward, and a daughter Anne, who on the death of her brother

without issue became entitled to this manor. The Proudés bore for their arms, Azure, three otters in pale, or, each holding in its mouth a fish, argent./g Many of of this family lie buried in St. Alphage's church, in Canterbury, where they resided for several generations. Anne Proude above-mentioned first married Sir Wil= liam Springate, and afterwards Mr. Isaac Pennington, eldest son of Sir Isaac Pennington, lord-mayor in 1643, a most atrocious republican, who bore for his

/g Vistn. co. Kent, anno 1619. Pedigree Proude.

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arms, Argent, five fusils in fess, azure,/h who in her right became possessed of this manor, which continued in his descendants till at length Mr. Pennington, of Philadelphia, becoming entitled to it, conveyed it by sale, about the year 1748, to Michael Lade, gent. of Canterbury, who was descended of a family originally spelt both Lad and Ladd, who were of good anti= quity in this county, in several parts of which they were possessed of lands as early as Edward the 1st.'s reign, which still bear their name. In king Edward the IVth.'s reign a branch of them was settled at El= ham, one of them, John Ladd, of that place, died in 1527, whose youngest son Thomas settled at Barham, where many of his descendants lie buried. His grand= son Vincent Lad, for so he spelt his name, died in 1625, leaving several sons, of whom Robert the eldest, who first spelt his name Lade, was of Gray's-inn a barrister-at-law, and recorder of Canterbury, to whom Segar, garter, granted the arms of Argent, a fess, wavy, between three escallops, sable. He was ancestor of the Lades, of Boughton, as Thomas, a younger son, was of the Lades, of Warbleton, in Sussex, from whom Sir John Lade, who was created a baronet in 1730, and the present Sir John Lade, bart. are descended. The former of whom still bear the above coat of arms, but the latter have changed the field for distinction, to or.

Michael Lade, the purchaser of this estate as be= fore-mentioned, afterwards retired to Faversham, where he died in 1778, and was buried in Boughton-Blean church. He left two sons, John, of whom here= after; and Michael, barrister-at-law, who married Sophia, lady dowager Cranston; and one daughter Elizabeth, married to Mr. Benjamin Browne. John Lade, esq. of Boughton-Blean and Canterbury, the eldest son, is the present possessor of the manor of Goodneston, and married Hester, sole daughter and

/h See Strype's Stow's Survey, book v. p. 144.

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heir of Mr. Hills Hobday, gent. of Faversham. She died in 1778, by whom he has three sons, John Hob= day, now an officer in the militia; William, A. M. and rector of Knolton; and Charles, late an officer in the army; and one daughter Hester, married to William Stacey Coast, esq. now of Sevenoke.

A court baron is held for this manor.

There are no parochial charities. The poor con= stantly relieved are four, casually not more than one or two at most.

GOODNESTON is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURIS=

DICTION of the diocese of Canterbury, and deanry of Ospringe.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, consists of one isle and a chancel, with a small wooden spire at the west end, in which there is one bell. In the porch lies buried William Benet, rector of this church, 1490.

It appears by the Tower records of 1279, anno 8 Edward I. that Richard le Dagh, and Eleanor his wife, sold their lands here, and the advowson of the church, to Stephen Chiche, citizen of Canterbury, with a part of Blean wood, and some land lying below it.ⁱ

After which the patronage of it seems to have followed the like succession of owners that the manor did, till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when it became vested with it in Judde, Kempe, and Martyn; at the latter end of which, the two turns of presentation to it, which had belonged to the two former, became vested in Fagg, and the third turn in the Pordages, of Rodmersham, successors to the Martyns at Graveney-court; in which state they continued in 1640. In 1678 the Penningtons, owners of the manor, possessed two turns, and the Whites, of Vintners, in Box-

ⁱ Harris's History of Kent, p. 133.

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ley, who had become possessors of Graveney-court, the other turn, from which name it passed to that of Blaxland, of Graveney-court, where it still continues. But the two turns belonging to Pennington were sold with the manor, about the year 1748, to Michael Lade, gent. of Faversham, whose son John Lade, esq. of Boughton, owner of Goodneston manor, is at this time entitled to them.

This church is a rectory, and a discharged living in the king's books, of the clear yearly certified value of thirty pounds, the yearly tenths of which are 10s. 3d.

In 1578 there were communicants here thirty-three; in 1640 twenty-four only, the value of it being then forty pounds per annum.

This rectory is endowed with all tithes whatsoever. There is a house and three acres of glebe land belonging to it.

An acre of land, called the Church Acre, belongs to the church, but it is not known who gave it.

CHURCH OF GOODNESTON.

PATRONS,

Or by whom presented. RECTORS.

Edward Fagge, esq. of Eastry. John Shepperd, Oct. 22, 1599,
resigned 1608.

Edward Fagge, esq. of Faversham John Hunt, A. M. Jan. 30, 1608,
obt. 1635.

Maria and Anna, daughters and
heirs of Edward Fagge, esq. Michael Hunt, A. B. May 21,
1636, obt. 1641.

The King, hac vice. James Oxenden, A. M. Dec. 30,
1678.^k

Thomas Cater, clerk, obt.
1678.

Daniel White, esq. of Vintners. Thomas Lees, A. M. Dec. 28,

1678, obt. Nov. 25, 1724./l
Thomas Lees, obt. Sept. 1728.
Thomas Pisle and Mary his wife. Richard Eliot, June 13, 1729,
obt. 1731.

/k See Boys's Sandwich, pt. i. p. 273.
appendix.

/l Also curate of Davington.

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PATRONS, &c. RECTORS.

Daniel White, esq. Charles Norris, A. B. Feb. 12,
1731, obt. 1767./m

Michael Lade, esq. Athelstan Stevens, A. B. May 18,
1767, the present rector./n

/m In 1733 he was presented to the vicarage of Braborne, and the perpetual
curacy of Nackington. /n And vicar of Graveney.

THE ISLAND AND PARISH OF HARTY is within this
hundred of Faversham, but lying contiguous and
almost as part of the island of Shepey, the description
of it has already been given before, p. 276, in the
account of that island.

THE BOROUGH OF RODE, in the parish of Bough=
ton Blean, is likewise in this hundred, an account of
which will be given in the description of that parish,
at the beginning of the next volume.

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APPENDIX.
CONTAINING
ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS,
TO THE
FIFTH AND SIXTH VOLUMES.

TO VOLUME V.

WROTHAM.

PAGE 8.

LINE 8. Dele gent. as improper after the word Mr.

PAGE 8, last line but one, add which after name.

PAGE 21, line 10 from the bottom. For Francis Motley
Austen, esq. of Wilmington, read then of Wilmington, but now
of Sevenoke.

IGHTHAM.

PAGE 33, line 13. For lands read land.

SHIPBORNE.

PAGE 53. Vicesimus Knox, the present curate, is D. D.

WEST PECKHAM.

PAGE 56, last line but four. For Yaldham read Yalding.

PAGE 60, line 14. Add after that seat, and is now by the
will of the late William-Daniel Master, esq. of Yokes, come
into the possession.

MEREWORTH.

PAGE 84. THE SEAT OF YOKES is now in the possession
of Mrs. Master for her life, remainder to the right hon.

George, viscount Torrington.

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EAST PECKHAM.

PAGE 102, line 10. Read thus, the manor of East Farleigh, which extends into this parish, includes within its bounds.

WATRINGBURY.

PAGE 106, last line but four. Since Mr. Style's having quitted the vicarage of Watringbury it has been inhabited by several different tenants. Admiral Gambier lately resided in it, and since the Rev. Dr. Foster, who is the present occupier of it.

PAGE 107, line 4. For and read which.

Line 5. Add the Rev. Mr. Cooper keeps a boarding-school in this village for young gentlemen.

TESTON.

PAGE 136, note p. Read thus, he resigned this vicarage for that of West Farleigh, where he afterwards resided, and dying in 1675 was buried in that church.

WEST FARLEIGH.

PAGE 137, line 16. After river, dele the semicolon and add a comma.

PAGE 141, line 22. For William Perrin, read William-Philip Perrin.

HUNTON.

PAGE 147, line 4. After house, dele the semicolon, and add a comma; and after 1745, dele the comma, and add a semicolon.

Line 7. For Davies read Davis.

YALDING.

PAGE 155, line 9. For the method read this method.

PAGE 157, line 6. For asserts read assarts.

Line 13. For Betsurn read Betsum.

Line 20. For rain read main river.

PAGE 161, line 17. For Philip read Philp.

PAGE 162. THE MANOR OF LODINGFORD, called in antient deeds Laddingford, extends over a considerable part of

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the parishes of Brenchley and Mereworth, taking its name from the little stream called Ladding, which rising under Brenchley hill leads through some space of country, and then falls into the Medway at Twyford bridge, about a mile above which there was formerly a ford, though now there is a small stone bridge; from this ford the manor took its name. From Fane this manor was alienated to one of the family of the Austen's, baronets, of Tenterden and Bexley, a younger son of whom, John Austen, esq. of Bexley, grandson of the first baronet, became possessed of it, whose coheir Elizabeth gave it by will to her near relation Mrs. Piggot, one of the sisters of that Sir Robert Austen, bart. who died in 1743, and then the wife of Richard Symes, esq. of Mount Pleasant, in Bexley, whose only daughter and heir entitled her husband Grano Piggot, of Abington Piggotts, in Cambridgeshire, an estate which he inherited by direct lineal descent from his ancestor Picottus, one of those who attended the Conqueror

from Normandy, and had this estate afterwards granted to him. Mr. Pigott left an only daughter Mary, who at length became his heir, and marrying the Rev. William Foster, D. D. now of Watringbury, he is in her right the present possessor of this manor.

PAGE 169. The earl of Thanet is possessed of a manor called MOORLANDS, in this parish.

PAGE 172, line 8. For Ward read Warde.

Among the vicars dele Oliver North, who was vicar of West Farleigh, not of this parish, and lies buried there.

HADLOW.

PAGE 177, line 21. Dele the words called the Sheet.

Ibid. The hop-grounds in this parish are about two hundred acres.

PAGE 183, line 6 from the bottom. For GOODWIS read GOODWINS.

PAGE 187, line 16. THE MANOR OF GOLDWELL, alias COLDWELL, after Mr. Burges's death, came to his widow Mrs. Elizabeth Burges, who remarrying James Harbroe, esq. he is in her right possessed of it.

PAGE 188, line 2. Mr. Jonathan Chilwell sold the manor of Peckhams to Mr. William Barton, the present owner of it.

PAGE 193. For Richards, vicar, read George Richards.

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TUNBRIDGE.

PAGE 196, last line but one. Notwithstanding these overflowings, the lands near the Medway are for the most part, when the waters are off, found and dry.

PAGE 197, line 12. In this borough there is A SCHOOL, which was founded and endowed by a Mr. Holmes, with 30l. per annum, for a schoolmaster to instruct poor children, from the age of six to twelve years, to read and write. By him it was devised in trust to the celebrated Mr. Westley, by whom it was at his death consigned to trustees, who visit it annually, so that it is both a school and a Methodist meeting-house, and entirely under the patronage of that sect, and I am informed, that the schoolmaster must be a Methodist teacher, otherwise not eligible by the trustees.

Last line but 3. The gunpowder mills are the property of Thomas Hooker, esq. and others.

Line 7. Dele These.

PAGE 200, line 19. Thomas Hooker, esq. sold this house to Mr. Goodchild, who alienated it to Mr. William Simmons, the present possessor of it.

PAGE 212, note l. For Baronetage read Baronage.

PAGE 213, note m. Ibid.

PAGE 219, line 22. For that read next.

PAGE 221, line 15. Dame Elizabeth Dashwood is now owner of them.

PAGE 224, line 8. The Rev. Thomas Harvey, of Redlease, married Amelia, daughter of John Bachelor, esq. of Hackney, deceased; William-Thomas married Anne, daughter of Mr. Staples, of Tatisfield, deceased; Charlotte is unmarried; Sophia married the Rev. Cayley Illingworth, of Scampton, in Lincolnshire; and Frances married Mr. Bartholomew Brown, of the India-house.

PAGE 218, line 21. After 1792, dele that line and the four following ones, and read thus:— After his death in 1792,

this among other estates devolved to Sir Richard-Vander-Bempde Johnson, bart. of Hackness, in Yorkshire, he having been so created on July 6, 1795, the son of the Marchioness of Annadale, by her second husband, and he is the present possessor of it, and this I believe, &c.

PAGE 219, line 25. For that read next.

Line 24. THE HOUSE begun to be built by Mr. Hooker, is situated close to the eastern side of the tower, at the great

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gateway of the castle, it fronts the south, looking over the area of the castle. It was, with the castle, settled in marriage on William-Francis Woodgate, esq. by his father William Woodgate, esq. the purchaser of it, and he now resides in it.

PAGE 236, line 3. The Rev. John Templer sold this estate to William Woodgate, esq. of Somerhill, the present owner of it.

Last line but one. Mr. Woodgate has a third son Stephen.

PAGE 238. There are TWO MORE MANORS in this parish, besides those above described, one in the northern part of it, midway between Hilden and Shipborne, the proper name of which is TILNEY'S LODGE, but now most commonly Horn's lodge, being one of the lodges once belonging to the North Frith chase; it belonged some years since to John Smith, esq. from whom it descended to his son Mathew Smith, esq. of the tower of London, the present owner of it. The other, called NONSUCH MANOR, is situated on the opposite side of this parish, a little beyond Southborough and the 23d mile-stone, on the road to Tunbridge-Wells; it lately belonged to John Whitaker, gent. of Barming, and is now possessed by his trustee Mr. Richard Hollaway, gent.

PAGE 254, line 14. Thomas Hooker, esq. has since sold these titheries of Haysden and Little Barden, to the Rev. Johnson Towers, the present owner of them.

Line 16. The postern tithery now belongs to the Rev. John Weller Poley.

Line 18. For Barn read Bourn-mill tithery.

Line 19. Southborough tithery, containing the divisions of Tunbridge-Wells; Southborough forest and park, containing the tithes of 6799 acres, now belongs to John Broadhurst, esq. of Duffield, in Derbyshire.

PAGE 255. For J. R. Papillon, the present vicar, read John Rawstorne Papillon.

TUDELEY.

PAGE 260. line 10. Oliver North, vicar, was likewise vicar of West Farleigh, where he died in 1675, and was buried in that church, he should therefore be placed before Vanderlure, who must have succeeded him in 1675.

PAGE 264. Halkwell has been since purchased by William Woodgate, esq. of Somerhill, the present owner of it.

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BIDBOROUGH.

PAGE 275, line 26. The church is remarkably small, it is a venerable old gothic building, kept in excellent preservation, and very neat; in the body of it is a large blue gravestone of granite, which has the marks of having been once richly ornamented with brass, no part of which now remains. The arms of archbishop Warham were till within these few years in the east window of the chancel. The gridiron of St. Laurence, its tutelary saint, is placed on the top of the

steeple, the church being placed on the summit of a rock, is a very conspicuous object to the adjacent country for a number of miles.

ASHURST.

PAGE 278. line 23. For Harbroc read Harbroe.

PAGE 279. Thomas Winterbottom, rector, was buried at Bromley, in this county, in 1717.

BRENCHLEY.

PAGE 282, line 7 from the bottom. The estate of Mr. Thomas Outeridge has been since sold to John Hooker, esq. of Broadoak, the present owner of it.

PAGE 293, line 4 from the bottom. Mr. George Courthope is since dead, and his eldest son of the same name mentioned before, is now the possessor of this rectory and the advowson of the vicarage.

LAMBERHURST.

PAGE 301, last line but four. Sir John Filmer, at his death devised this manor of Hodleigh to his lady for her life, remainder to his next brother and heir Sir Beversham Filmer, bart. now of East Sutton.

HORSEMONDEN.

PAGE 320, line 13. Add to the CHARITIES – Sir Charles Booth, of Harrietsham place, by his will in 1792 devised, among other like charities, the sum of 1000l. to his trustees, to be invested by them in the funds, the interest to be applied towards the providing of a schoolmaster and mistress to instruct poor boys and girls, inhabitants of or near this parish,

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to read and write, in such manner as the trustees should think proper.

HEDCORNE.

PAGE 325. THE PARISH, though the church is within the hundred of Eyhorne, extends into five different hundreds, viz. Eyhorne, Cranbrooke; Teynham, Barkley and Calehill, by which the four bridges in it are respectively repaired. The farms in it are but small, the lands of which are let from ten to twenty shillings an acre, the produce being from two seams and an half to four seams of corn per acre. There are about ninety acres of hop-ground, and but little woodland, the principal wood in it being little more than thirty acres. There is neither spring nor well in the parish, the inhabitants obtaining their water from large ponds or reservoirs digged near their dwellings. In rainy seasons the meadows are flooded to a great extent, owing to the many streams which run in different directions across the parish towards the river, as well as to their low and flat situation.

PAGE 329, line 22. Mr. Jeremiah Curteis, gent. of Rye, afterwards sold this estate in different parcels, that part of it called Mottenden farm, on which was the antient scite of the priory, of the buildings of which there are now no remains, was sold to Mr. James Buss, of Smarden. Sir John Filmer, bart. purchased all that part of it which lies in the Two Suttons, and one Loudwell bought another part of it, being a farm called the Four Oaks.

PAGE 332, line 19. Rushford is now in the possession of his widow Mrs. Wade.

Line 20. SOUTHOLMENDEN MANOR is now called

SOUTHALBANS.

PAGE 334. The church-yard in which the church stands is remarkably large.

Last line. This sum is still paid to the vicar by the possessors of the rectory.

PAGE 335, line 27. The Rev. Samuel Whiston, vicar, gave by his will in 1716, to his successors, vicars of this church, as long as they continued such, the present vicarage-house, with a garden and an orchard, containing not quite an acre, being all the glebe land belonging to the vicarage, though there is fifteen acres belonging to the parsonage, and he gave likewise by his will to them, as long as they should continue vicars, 5l. yearly, to be paid out of a farm in Biddenden.

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BOUGHTON MONCHENSIE.

PAGE 340, line 11. After Sir Martin Barnham, of London, read by his first wife, who was Ursula Rudston, his sister, and delete the two next lines.

PAGE 341, line 2. Ingram Rider, esq. married Margaret, daughter of Ralph Carr, esq. of Cocken, in Durham, by whom he has had ten sons and five daughters, of whom are now surviving only four sons, Thomas, Ralph-Carr, Ingram, who married Jane Shields, and William-Barnaham, and one daughter Mary-Anne.

Last line but one. For Wierton read Wiarton.

PAGE 334, line 18. For Smith read Smyth.

LANGLEY.

PAGE 350, line 22. The mansion of this manor has been demolished many years since, in the room of which Mrs. Bouverie erected about forty years ago the present farmhouse, belonging to the estate.

PAGE 351. line 25. The church is small, it is in tolerable good condition, it was new pewed with wainscot by the Rev. Mr. Waterhouse the son, who gave handsomely towards the spire which is covered with oak shingles. The church consists of one isle and chancel, and a treaspit or two cross isles. It was till lately very dark and gloomy, but Mrs. Bouverie has lately improved it with new windows. It has no antient monuments: Mrs. Berkeley, relict of the bishop of Cloyne, lies in a vault built by her son the Rev. Dr. George Berkeley, prebendary of Canterbury, under the chancel.

CHART SUTTON.

PAGE 359, line 24. For inheritanbe read inheritance.

PAGE 364. Henry Jones, vicar, was succeeded in 1783 by James Williamson, A. M. who held it by dispensation with the vicarage of Woodnesborough, near Sandwich; he resigned both in 1785, and was succeeded in them by the Rev. John Smith, A. M. the present vicar of both parishes.

EAST SUTTON.

PAGE 380, last line. Mrs. Filmer lies buried in a vault in the church-yard, to whose memory there is a handsome monument erected by her husband the present Sir Beversham Filmer bart.

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ULCOMB.

PAGE 385. The name of this parish is, as I am since informed, usually spelt ULCOMBE, which should be observed

throughout the several volumes.

PAGE 386, line 1. The village is near the bottom, or as it is termed, under the hill.

Line 6. Of the three houses mentioned as belonging to the family of Belcher, that at Knowle-hill belongs to William Belcher, M. D. of Maidstone, who occasionally resides in it. Mr. Edward Belcher's house, and that of Mr. Thomson, are both occupied by the tenants of the lands belonging to them. Opposite the house late Mr. Thomson's, is one which has been the property and residence of the family of Handfield, of which there is a pedigree in the heraldic visitation of Kent, anno 1619, it is now the property and residence of Stephen Handfield, esq.

PAGE 387, line 16. The mill at Chegworth is turned by the river Len, which rises at Ewell, in Lenham, and some springs which join it at Harrietsham, whence it passes through Leeds-castle park to Maidstone, where it joins the Medway. The several small streamlets which rise on the side of the hill, one of which turns a mill just below the parsonage, whence watering the lower part of this parish they join the larger stream of the Medway, a little above Hockenbury-bridge.

PAGE 394, line 2 from bottom. On the division of Mr. Jemmett's and Mr. Marshall's estates in 1793, this manor was allotted to Mr. Marshall, who is now the possessor of it.

BOUGHTON MALHERB.

PAGE 397, line 24. For the high road runs, read the high road till lately run, but since the improvements made by the new Turnpike Act, it is made to run further north by a shorter cut through the towns of Charing and Lenham, as will be further mentioned in the latter parish.

LENHAM.

PAGE 416, last line. The market formerly held at Sandway has been for some years disused.

PAGE 417, line 6. The high road from Ashford, which till lately went over Charing and Lenham, otherwise Royton heaths, by Chilson park pales, through Sandway, and over

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Biggin-heath is entirely disused as to the general communication between Ashford and Maidstone, since the new turnpike road has been completed, with several new cuts, shortening the distance between the two towns to not more than twenty miles, through those of Charing and Lenham, by Harrietsham church, and thence by the front of Milgate, and the Mote, lord Romney's, to the town of Maidstone.

PAGE 417, line 12. The Ham estate belonged to the Briant's, and was sold by one of them in 1795, to Mr. Richard Groombridge, the present possessor, who resides at it.

PAGE 423, line 3. The different spellings of the name of Colepeper and Culpeper throughout these volumes cannot escape the reader's notice, not only books of history, but records, and even deeds and registers of parishes vary in it continually, even in the spellings of the same person's name, as such, it is spelt throughout these volumes as it occurs in the several books and records from whence the subject is taken.

PAGE 427, line 21. Mrs. Crompt, widow of the Rev. Mr. Crompt, is now possessed of it.

PAGE 436, fifth line from the bottom. The manor of East Shelve, alias Cobham, is the only one of the Shelve's, for which a court is now held.

In this parish is a manor called WHITE'S, the property of Thomas Gillow, esq. of St. Nicholas, in Thanet.

PAGE 445, line 4. Thomas Scott, vicar, died in 1792.

HARRIETSHAM.

PAGE 445, four lines from the bottom. The high road from Ashford, by the new improvement of it, is made to go in a strict line from Lenham, by Harrietsham church, and so on by Leeds park pales.

PAGE 446, line 6 and 7. For Holme-mill read Polhill and Farborne; Holme-mill is now only a cottage.

PAGE 450, line 4 from the bottom. Mr. Baldwin's arms are Gules, a griffin, rampant, or.

PAGE 452. There is an estate called LITTLE FARBORNE, alias Little Harrietsham, situated here, to the south-west of Lower-street, within the manor of East Farborne, which was attempted a few years ago to have been accounted a manor, and two courts, or what were called so, were held for it, but not answering the purpose, the design has been dropped; it belonged formerly to Mr. James Tapley, afterwards to Mr.

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Cable, of Strood, and now by purchase to Mr. Webb, of Harrietsham.

PAGE 459. Add to the charities, the three pieces of land divided between the poor of this parish and Hollingborne, were given by the widow of Francis Colepeper, esq. of Hollingborne.

Sir Charles Booth, by his will in 1792, gave 1500l. to be invested in the funds, in the name of his executors, the owner of Harrietsham-place, and the rector of this parish for ever, the interest to be applied to provide a schoolmaster and mistress, to teach poor boys and girls, inhabitants, or near to this parish, to read and write, as the trustees should think proper; also the sum of 500l. to be invested in like manner, and in the like trust, the interest of it to be divided into fifty-two equal portions, and laid out in bread for ever, to be distributed each Sunday in the year by the churchwardens and overseers, to such poor persons resident in the parish as they and the trustees shall think proper, such poor, if not disabled by age or sickness, attending divine service; and he gave besides 100l. for the benefit of the poor of the parish.

Line 10 from bottom. The church is now ceiling, and a handsome new altar-piece putting up at the joint expence of the parish and Mr. Baldwin, who in 1786 gave a handsome suit of furniture, of scarlet cloth trimmed with gold lace, for the use of the desk and pulpit.

HOLLINGBORNE.

PAGE 461. In the present state of Hollingborne read as follows: The parish is about twenty-three miles round, and contains about 5000 acres of land, and is assessed to the poor's rate at 2500l. per ann. at the bottom of the chalk hills runs the Pilgrim road, continuing in a like direction throughout the county. The well-looking brick mansion mentioned as of the time of queen Elizabeth, is the parsonage-house, which being leased out, the rector has some rooms in it reserved for his use, when he chuses to reside in it; it is reported to have been built by one of the Colepeper family. Sir Martin Barnham bought the lease of this parsonage in 1576, of which there were then near forty years unexpired, for 1100l. and shortly after came and resided in it, which he continued to do till his death in 1610, when he left the lease

to his children by his second wife.

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The two good houses mentioned, one belonging to Robert Salmon, esq. was only rented by him of lord Fairfax, who demised it in 1793 to Mr. Daniel Newman, who now resides in it. The other, built by Mr. Weeks, was sold by his heirs in 1790 to Richard Thomas, esq. who now resides in it.

The high Ashford road does not now lead through Bersted, it has been lately turned to go by the front of Mr. Cage's house at Milgate.

The south part of the parish, though sandy, bears good corn, and there are some fine meadow grounds. The north part is now much improved by generally thinning the hedges, cutting down the coppice wood, and by a much better cultivation than formerly. Eyhorne-green joins to Eyhorne-street; in the latter a fair is held on June 16, yearly, for pedlary, toys, &c.

PAGE 462, line 8. Dele or as it is commonly called Broadstreet; the latter, usually called Brad-street, lies about a mile north-west from Eyhorne-street, near the hills.

PAGE 464, line 14. There seems to be no manor-house, the court for the manor is usually held at a public-house in Eyhorne-street.

PAGE 468, line 13. The whole of the property once belonging to the Colepeper family, is now held in trust by Dent and Keysal, for lady Sarah Robert Fane, second child of the earl of Westmoreland, by his wife, the only daughter and heir of Robert Child, esq. who left all his estates to the second child of the earl, by his daughter, provided such child was christened Robert, intending (as he disapproved of the marriage) that his estates, and those of the earl's, should not be consolidated in the same possessor; thus the word child, instead of son, whether intentionally inserted or not by the framer of the will, entitles lord Westmoreland's second child, although a daughter, but named according to the will, to all Mr. Child's estates, and those in Hollingborne among them. Greenway-court house becoming ruinous, was taken down in 1786, and a convenient brick farm-house erected on the scite of it.

Line 13. Ripple manor-house is situated at the western boundary of this parish, towards Thurnham.

PAGE 469, line 10. Sir Francis Barnham resided at the parsonage-house in Hollingborne-street till his death in 1610, his seat on Hollingborne-hill being new-built by him, and just finished before his death. He left this manor to his el-

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dest son (by his first wife, daughter of Robert Rudstone, esq.) Sir F. Barnham, &c.

PAGE 469, line 6 from the bottom. Murston manor; the house on it, which is a very respectable one, is called Snagsbrook.

PAGE 471, line 17. Sir Francis Barnham resided at Hollingborne parsonage, this seat on Hollingborne-hill being but just finished by him in the year he died. His son Sir Francis afterwards resided in it.

PAGE 478. William Hassell, vicar, died Dec. 19, 1789. The present vicar was collated June 11, and inducted June 14, 1790. The sinecure rectory is still vacant.

PAGE 472, last line. Mr. Duppa is now rebuilding this seat, during the time of which he resides at Downe-court,

in Doddington.

On the summit of the hill, at the south-east boundaries of this parish, next to Harrietsham, is a small hamlet, consisting of only three houses, belonging to farms of but small rents, which, however insignificant it may seem now, seems antiently to have been of some account, having been thought of sufficient consequence to be entered in the survey of Domesday, under the title of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Baieux, as follows:

Richard holds of the bishop Rongostone, it was taxed at one suling. The arable land is There are two villeins, having one carucate, and it paid six shillings in the time of king Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, and now it is worth forty shillings. Ulviet held it of king Edward.

After the forfeiture of the bishop's estates to the crown, this of Ringlestone came into the possession of the family of Gerund, and afterwards of the Chalfhunts,^{/a} and the Hadde's, of Frinsted, whence a part of it in queen Elizabeth's reign was alienated to Buck, and in king Charles the 1st.'s reign was in the possession of the Finch's, of Kingsdown.

But that part of it which remained in the possession of the family of Hadde, after some intermediate owners, came by marriage into the name of Giles, whose widow in king Charles the 2d.'s reign, alienated it to Francis Barrell, esq. serjeant-at-law, and recorder of Rochester, whose grandson Francis Barrell, esq. of London, left two daughters his co-heirs, Anne, married to the Rev. Francis Dodsworth, treasurer of Salisbury, prebendary of York, vicar of Minster, in

^{/a} Rot. Esch. anno 22 Edward I. Ibid. 45 Edward III. No. 14.

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Thanet, and of Doddington, in this county; and Catherine to the Rev. Frederick Dodsworth, canon of Windsor, brother to the former, who in right of their respective wives are now become entitled to this estate. They bear for their arms, Argent, a bend engrailed, sable, between three annulets, gules.

LEEDS.

PAGE 479, line 14. For Bersted read Milgate, in Bersted.

PAGE 498, line 6 from the bottom. There is a small manor in this parish called Burgess, which belonged lately to Mr. Joseph-Paul Ash, whose nephew of the same name now owns it.

PAGE 502. Dr. Fairfax resigned the curacy of Leeds with Bromfield in 1793, and was succeeded by the Rev. Charles Cage, who resigned in 1795, and was succeeded by the Rev. James Young, A. M. the present curate.

BERSTED.

PAGE 505, last line but two. The high road from Ashford to Lenham, and thence to Maidstone, by the improvements made in consequence of the late Turnpike Act, is now altered and instead of going over Bersted green, now goes by the front of Milgate-house, and so by lord Romney's to Maidstone.

PAGE 509, last line. Otteridge is now become by purchase the property of Mr. John Russell, of Maidstone.

OTHAM.

PAGE 516, line 21. William Henley, esq. died lately at Gore-court, s. p.

THURNHAM.

PAGE 527, last line but two. I am informed Dr. Marsham is only tenant of Aldington-court.

OTTERDEN.

PAGE 544, line 3. Hall-place now belongs solely to Samuel-Elias Sawbridge, esq. who has quitted Ollantigh, and now resides in it.

FRINSTED.

PAGE 557, line 26. Miss Henrietta-Maria Crompton married the Rev. Thomas Jordan, rector of Hickling, in Nottinghamshire.

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PAGE 558, line 4. James Chapman, esq. sold Meriams, alias Madams-court, in 1797, to Mr. John Hudson, of Frinsted, the present possessor of it.

PAGE 559, line 10. Yokes-court is now divided, Mr. Henry Bing having in 1794, sold 112 acres of the demesnes of it, lying on the north-east side of the church, to Mr. Edward Brenchley, of Sittingborne, the remainder, with the manerial rights, continue with Mr. Bing.

PAGE 560, line 11. Mr. Henry Bing, in 1789, sold this advowson to the Rev. Richard Cook Tylden, rector of this church, who is the present owner of it.

BICKNOR.

PAGE 566, line 14. The estate of Northwood is partly in this parish and partly in Wormsell, it was sold from the Chambers's to John Hudson, the present owner of it.

STOCKBURY.

PAGE 573, line 25. The manor of Southdean belonged formerly to the Callant's, of Rochester, and then to John Lemors, after which it was sold to Mr. John Hudson, the present owner.

Last line but three. The several estates held of the manor of Milton are in the rolls of it in general called Yokes.

PAGE 578, line 15. Mr. Jumper has sold Yelsted manor and Hill-green-house, to Flint Stacey, esq. the present proprietor of them, but he still resides in Hill-green-house.

PAGE 579, last line. Edward Austen, esq. is of Rolling, in Goodnestone.

BREDHURST.

PAGE 588, last line. After iii. add pt. 2.

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ADDITIONS, &c.
TO VOLUME VI.

MILTON HUNDRED.

PAGE 3, line 27.

LADY Wenman died in 1787, and her son Philip, viscount Wenman, and Mrs. Anne Herbert, are now jointly possessed of it.

RAINHAM.

PAGE 4, line 7 from the bottom. After John Russell, esq. add Mr. John Marsh, surgeon, resides in it.

Line 5 from the bottom. At the east end of Moore-street

is a new-built genteel farm-house, belonging to Moorestreet-farm, the property of Leonard Bartholomew, esq. of Ad-dington.

HARTLIP.

PAGE 19, last line but three. It is now become the property of Mr. Francis Barrow.

NEWINGTON.

PAGE 40, line 3 from the bottom. For covered read northward.

PAGE 62, line 3. Wormedale is now in the possession of Mrs. Mary Finch.

PAGE 63, line 6. Mr. Westbrook is dead, and his widow now possesses Keycole farm.

BORDEN.

PAGE 68, line 20. There are several plantations of young fruit trees, and those of hops are now very few.

Last line but three. Heart's Delight cannot be deemed an hamlet, there being but two houses in it.

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PAGE 73, line 15. For Marsh read March. Criols is now in the possession of Mr. Thomas March's executors, till his daughter Sarah comes of age, to whom he devised it, and not to his son Thomas.

PAGE 74, line 3. Jemmett and Marshall afterwards, in 1793, divided the estates left to them by Mr. Grove, and this of Posiers, with Uigo, alias Gorts manor, became the property of Mr. Marshall solely, who sold it to Mr. Henry Wise, who resides at Posiers.

Last line but seven. The farm in Wood, or Hoad-street, formerly the Allen's, afterwards became the property of Mrs. Susanna Hendress, of Rochester, after whose death it came to the Messrs. Sutherlands, who sold it to Mr. John Vinson, the present owner, who resides at it.

PAGE 75, line 20. The estate of Wrens continued in the name of Allen, of Boley-hill, in Rochester, a different family from those of Hoad-street, till Mr. Netter Lacy, who by will in 1756, gave it to his son-in-law Mr. Robert Lacy, of Maidstone, and afterwards to his three daughters, from whom and their heirs it was sold in 1788, to William Wise, gent. of Borden, who has since fitted up the house, and his son Mr. John Wise resides at it.

PAGE 78, line 5. Borden-hall is now occupied by Mr. Robert Matson, a descendant of the Seager family.

TUNSTALL.

PAGE 93, line 16. West Hyde, esq. was lieutenant-general in the army, and died in 1797, and his heirs now possess Ufton manor.

PAGE 94, line 18. Gore-court is at present occupied only by servants.

PAGE 96, line 21. Tunstall-house now belongs to the Rev. Mr. Richard Bland's widow and his two sons. Mr. Whitfield Breton at present resides in it.

PAGE 98, note /z. Mr. Pennington resigned Kingsdown in 1786, and being patron of that rectory presented his eldest son to it.

BREDGAR.

PAGE 98. The road through this parish to Sittingborne

and Milton, which passes through this village, has a tolerable thoroughfare, and a considerable traffic is carried on through it by carriages of various descriptions, from below the hill to the keys of Milton and Sittingborne, loaded with

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corn, hops, wood, &c. for London and other parts; and coals, ashes, coke, and other materials are conveyed back again in them to the different villages below Hollingborne-hill. The land in this parish is very much improved of late, by being laid down with various kinds of seeds, and spread with coal ashes from London, as well as by the flocks of sheep folded and fed on them.

PAGE 99, line 5. Mr. Samuel Wood now resides in the house belonging to Mr. Pattison.

Line 7. After the Rev. Mr. Marsh, rector of Bicknor, add he greatly improved the house, and afterwards resided in it. He died in 1797, and left his estate in fee to his only daughter Sarah Marsh.

PAGE 99, line 25. BEXON, or Baxton, is now called CROMPS, alias Baxton.

PAGE 100, line 12. CROMPS, alias Baxton, was sold in 1797 by George Best, esq. to Mr. William Wise, senior, of Borden, the present owner of it.

THERE is another manor in this parish, stiled THE MANOR, or YOKE OF PETER DODSWELL, alias BAXON, which was formerly possessed by the Watts's, and afterwards by the Grayling's; it is now the property of Thomas Fagge and Mildred his wife.

THERE IS HERE likewise a small manor, called BUTTERS, which formerly belonged to George Isles, esq. of Deptford, who devised it to admiral Evans, and he sold it to Mr. Thomas Pye, the present owner of it.

PAGE 102, line 20. James Chapman, esq. died at his estate called Petts, in Bredgar, in 1797, and devised this, among other estates, to trustees, for the benefit of the ten children of Mr. William Dyne, of Milton, near Sittingborne, to be equally divided between them. See further of them under Eastchurch, p. 575.

PAGE 103, line 27. Edward Jeffery was succeeded in his interest as lessee of the chantry, by his son Thomas Jeffery, who sold it to Mr. Robert Matson, of Borden, the present lessee of it.

PAGE 106. The Rev. James Downes is the present vicar of Bredgar.

MILSTED.

PAGE 107, line 20. Mr. Tylden has much enlarged the house at Torry-hill, where he resides.

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PAGE 110, line 12. Hogshaws, the seat of Richard Tylden, esq. is the court-lodge of the manor of Milsted.

KINGSDOWN.

PAGE 113, line 1. For are wood read is wood.

Line 10. For i t read it.

PAGE 116. Thomas Pennington, the present rector of Kingsdown, was in 1798 presented to the rectory of Thorley, in Hertfordshire, which he holds with this rectory.

TONG.

PAGE 134, line 19. Scuddington is now the property of

Mr. John Stunt, and Mr. Edward Blaxland, jun.

PAGE 140, line 19 and 23. For Huggessen read Hugessen.

MURSTON.

PAGE 150. The present rector's name is John Hargrave Standen.

SITTINGBORNE.

PAGE 158, line 2. Mr. Drake left three surviving sons and two daughters, in whom, and the daughters of his eldest son William Drake, esq. jun. of Amersham, deceased, the interest in his several Kentish estates is now vested. See Preston, near Faversham.

After will, add to Mr. Valentine Simpson, of this parish. <relates to p 162>

PAGE 163. To note e add he lies buried at Bromley, in this county.

MILTON.

PAGE 167, line 20. Add the Rev. Mr. J. Lough, perpetual curate of Iwade, but resident in the town of Milton in 1782, established a grammar-school for young gentlemen here, and though the prospect of success was very hazardous, yet, by his attention and perseverance, greatly to his praise, succeeded in it to the utmost of his wishes. His school is now in such good repute, that it consists of between forty and fifty boarders, and as many day scholars, and is continually increasing in number.

PAGE 190, line 5 from the bottom. The lease of the parsonage was sold to Mr. George Rigden, of Wingham, whose executors are now possessed of it.

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BOBBING.

PAGE 193, line 13. After house, add, which they have named GORE-HILL.

PAGE 202, line 7 from the bottom. Add, This portion of tithes, arising from a part only of this parish, including Bobbing-court, &c. and a farm belonging to it, called Parsonage-farm, was the property of the late Cockin Sole, esq. and was sold in pursuance of his will in 1796, to Mr. Valentine Simpson, of Sittingborne, who is the present owner of them.

MINSTER.

PAGE 223, line 23. The representatives of the late Savile Finch transferred their interest in it to Mr. John Swift, of this parish, the present lessee of it.

PAGE 224, line 9 from the bottom. The interest of this lease became vested in Claude Crespigny, esq since whose decease it is become vested in his representatives.

PAGE 228, line 9 from the bottom. The rectory or parsonage of Minster has since been sold to Mr. William Hopson, who now owns it, but the advowson still remains as before.

EASTCHURCH.

PAGE 258, line 15. Mr. James Chapman, at his death in 1797, gave this estate, now called Little Shurland, alias the Parsonage, among others in this county, by will to trustees, for the benefit of the ten children of Mr. William Dyne, of Milton, by his sister Effield, deceased, viz. William, John, Chapman; Mary, wife of Nicholas Woollett; Effield, of the Rev. Joseph Messeter; Eleanor, of William Castle; Mar-

garet, Sophia, Jemima, and Amy.

WARDEN.

PAGE 262, line 10 from the bottom. The daughters of Richard Hart, afterwards married, Mary to John Bristow, jun. gent. of Sussex; Elizabeth to James Jell, gent. of the same county, and Diana-Hosier to Thomas Bennett, esq. of Faversham; and on the division of their estates, the patronage of this rectory was allotted to the two latter in right of their wives, and they now continue joint owners of it.

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LEYSDOWN.

PAGE 266, line 1. After occupier of it, add, Mr. James Foord, of Whitehill, in Ospringe.

PAGE 268, line 18. For F. R. S. read F. S. A.

Line 10 from the bottom. Mrs. Jacob is now possessed of this estate.

EMLEY.

PAGE 274, line 8. Read, it was conveyed by sale by Sir Edward and his eldest son Edward Hales, esq. to George Gipps, esq.

HARTY.

PAGE 282, line 7. Thomas Buck, esq. is now of Acton, in Middlesex.

TENHAM.

PAGE 288, line 6 from the bottom. Frogenhall has been since sold to Mr. William Fairman, the occupier, who is the present owner of it.

PAGE 292, line 19. Eastward of Barrow-green, near the boundaries of this parish, adjoining to Buckland, is a hamlet, called Dearson-street.

PAGE 295, line 2. Tenham parsonage has been sold by the Kempe's to Mr. Gillow, of St. Nicholoas, in Thanet, but Mr. Kempe still occupies it.

LINSTED.

PAGE 297, line 7 from the bottom. Mr. John Barling, son of the late Mr. John Smith Barling, now resides at Nowdes.

PAGE 301, line 19. Filmer Honywood, esq. is the present tenant of Lodge house.

PAGE 305, line 10. Sir John Roper, the first lord Teynham, who died in 1618, lies buried in the vault made by him under the south chancel. In the chancel is a noble altar tomb of marble, with the figures of him and his lady lying at full length on it. His son Christopher, lord Teynham, lies buried in it likewise; and in the chancel is an handsome tomb of marble, with his effigies in armour on it, in full proportion, and that of his wife, who survived him, both kneeling

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before an open book on a reading desk. Several of the family of Greenstreet lie buried in the middle isle.

DODDINGTON.

PAGE 314. Mr. Duppa, of Hollingborne, resides at Downe-court, during the rebuilding of his house at Hollingborne-hill.

FAVERSHAM.

PAGE 319, line 2. For Lypyeatt read Lipyeatt.

PAGE 335, line 12. After Lewis add Thomas.

PAGE 336, line 28. Mr. Stephen Gillow left three daughters his coheirs, Elizabeth, Catherine, and Anne. His widow Mrs. Gillow now resides in it, who has since her husband's death much improved the house of Cooksditch, by adding two handsome wings to it.

PAGE 338, line 6 from the bottom. Ewell manor, after the death of Mr. Thomas Gillow, of St. Nicholas, who had purchased it in 1723, descended jointly, among other estates, to Thomas Gillow, of St. Nicholas, and the Stephen Gillow, of Cooksditch; and on the division of their property, it became the sole property of the latter, whose widow Mrs. Gillow now possesses the whole of it.

PAGE 371. The Rev. Mr. Halke, the present vicar of Faversham, holds the vicarage of Selling with it by dispensation.

DAVINGION.

PAGE 372, line 6 from the bottom. After alderman of Canterbury, add, and late mayor of that city.

PAGE 376, line 10 from the bottom. For Bennet read Bennett.

PAGE 380, line 10 from the bottom. Add, from the Sherwins the church of Davington has since passed in like manner as the manor and priory, to Thomas Bennett, esq. the present owner and patron of it.

LUDDENHAM.

PAGE 389, line 10 from the bottom. The Ham estate is divided into Great and Little Ham, of the former, which is freehold, part of it only lies in this parish, and the remainder, being the greatest part of it, as well as all Little Ham, lies in the parish of Preston. The latter belongs to the dean and

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chapter of Canterbury, and was lately held, together with Copton, in Preston, by the late James Jeffrys, esq. who sold his interest in the lease of it to John Waller, esq. of Perry, who now possesses it.

STONE.

PAGE 393. There is no village in it, only nine houses interspersed in different parts of it, though there is some good corn land, there is yet some very light in it, Mrs. Brydges's farm is called Little Buckland.

PAGE 395, line 3. Mr. Waller now resides at Perry, in Preston.

BUCKLAND.

PAGE 396. It is a very small parish, irregular in shape, about half a mile across each way, and contains only about 150 acres.

NORTON.

PAGE 401. The parish is about a mile and an half across each way, it contains between 7 and 800 acres of arable, and about 50 of woodland.

PAGE 402, line 16. RUSHITT now belongs to Mrs. Bennet's children.

Line 17. The estates of Loiterton and Stuppington both belong to lord Teynham.

PAGE 405, line 4. NORTON COURT is at present occu=

pied by Captain Finlay.

NEWNHAM.

PAGE 413. The parish contains by computation near 1800 acres, one third of which is woodland and pasture. It extends from the valley towards Easling about half a mile, and towards Otterden about a mile and an half.

PAGE 418, line 22. After devises, add, who have since sold it to Mr. Ashbye, the present occupier of it.

PAGE 420. After last line, add, there is only one acre and an half of glebe belonging to the vicarage.

Eight acres of land in this parish, now part of Mr. Pinke's estate, claim an exemption from tithes, they are said to have formerly belonged to the priory of Davington.

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EASLING.

PAGE 426, line 4. Mr. William Jemmett and Mr. William Marshall afterwards, in 1793, made a division of these estates, in which this of North-court was allotted Mr. Marshall, and he is now sole owner of it.

PAGE 430, line 6. On the division of their estates in 1793, this manor of Huntingfield, with its appendages in Uicombe and Sheldwich, were allotted to Mr. Marshall, who is now the sole possessor of them.

BADLESMERE.

PAGE 479, line 10. I am informed that only those manors and estates, which came by the will of the earl of Rockingham to the late Lewis, lord Sondes, descended to his eldest son the present Lewis-Thomas, lord Sondes, and that those which the late lord had at any time purchased, were again bought by the present lord Sondes of the devisees, under his father's will, and that the purchase money of them went to his younger brothers.

SHELDWICH.

PAGE 492, line 4. This estate of Copsole farm was purchased by the present lord Sondes, of the devisees of his father's will.

PAGE 494, line 22. See additions above to Huntingfield, in Easling.

PAGE 496, line 6. Southouse lands were purchased by the present lord Sondes, of the devisees of his father's will.

OSPRINGE.

PAGE 511, line 18. Mr. P. Greenstreet sold the mansion only, with the demesne lands, or farm of Plumpford, and the manor, with the demesne lands or farm of Painters, to Sir Henry Furnese, which descended down as there mentioned, to the Earl of Guildford, the present owner of them; but THE MANOR OF PLUMPFORD, with those of DENTON and SCOOKS, alias SCROOKS, in this parish likewise, passed into the name of Grove, in which it continued till Rich. Grove, esq. of London, dying s p. in 1792, devised them to Mr. William Jemmett and Mr. William Marshall, who next year made a partition of the estates left to them by Mr. Grove, in

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which these above-mentioned in Ospringe, were allotted to Mr. William Jemmett, who is now the sole possessor of them.

PAGE 512, line 21. BAVELL, or Bayfield farm, was pur=

chased of the assignees of Dewy Parker, esq. by John Montresor, esq. the present owner of it.

PAGE 514, line 22. Mr. John Toker is now, in right of his wife, wholly entitled to this estate.

PAGE 526, line 6 from the bottom. Mrs. Marsh, of Boughton-street, widow of Terrey Marsh, esq. is the present possessor of the lease of this parsonage, and occupies it herself.

PRESTON.

PAGE 537, line 27. After, as heirs to their father, add, and the daughters of William Drake, jun. deceased, this manor and the rest of his estates in this county are now vested.

END OF VOL. VI.