

William Camden
Britannia (translated by Philemon Holland)
London
1610

BRITAIN,
OR
A CHOROGRAPHICALL
DESCRIPTION OF THE MOST
flourishing Kingdomes, ENGLAND,
SCOTLAND, and IRELAND, and the
Ilands adioyning, out of the depth of
ANTIQUITIE:

BEAVTIFIED WITH MAPPES OF THE
severall Shires of ENGLAND:

Written first in Latine by William Camden
CLARENCEUX K. of A.
Translated newly into English by Philémon Holland
Doctour in Physick:
Finally, revised, amended, and enlarged with sundry
Additions by the said Author.

LONDINI,
Impensis GEORGII BISHOP
& IOANNIS NORTON.
M. DC. X.

.....

323

<229>

CANTIUM.

Now am I come to Kent, which Countrey although master
William Lambard, a man right well endued
with excellent learning, and as godly vertues, hath so lively
depainted out in a full volume, that his painfull felicitie in
that kind hath left litle, or nothing for others, yet according
to the project of this worke which I have taken in hand, I
will runne it over also: and least any man should thinke,
that as the comicall Poet saith, 'I deale by way of
close pilfering,' I willingly acknowledge him, (and deserve he doth no lesse); to have
been my foundation, and fountaine both of all (well-neere) that I shall say.

Carion, cor=
rantly read in
Diodorus Si=
culus.

Time as yet hath not bereft this Region of the antient name, but as it was called
Cantium by Cæsar, Strabo, Diodorus Siculus, Ptolomee, and others,
so †that Saxons named it, as Ninnius witnesseth, Cant-guar-landt, that is, The
countrey of the people inhabiting Cantium, and wee Kent. This name
master Lambard deriveth from †Caine, which among the Britans, † a greene Bough,
because in old time it was shadowed with woods. But if it may Bee lawfull for mee to
put in my conjecture; whereas Britaine here runneth out with a mighty nooke, or corner
into the East, and I have observed, that such a kind of nook in Scotland, is called, Can=
tir; Again, that the inhabitants of another Angle in that part of the Iland, are by Pto=
lomee, termed Cantæ, as also that the Cangani in Wales, were possessed of another
corner, (to say nothing of the Cantabri, who likewise dwelt in an angle among the Cel=
tiberians, who as they came from one originall, so likewise they were of the same lan=
guage with our Britans) I would guesse, that the name was given by reason of the
forme and situation, and so much the rather, both for that our Frenchmen have used
Canton for a Corner, and that (as it is probable) from the old Language of the
Gauls: for it comes not from the Germane or Latine tongue, which together with that
old tongue, be the mothers of this latter French tongue; and also because this Country
by all the old Geographers is called Angulus. For it looketh full upon France with a
huge Angle, compassed with the æstuarie of Tamis, and with the Ocean sea, saving,
that Westward it hath Surrey, and southward Sussex to confine upon it.

Hereof com=
meth Canton
in Heraldrie,
for a corner;
and the Hel=
vetians coun=
treys, were by
the French
called Cantons.

<230>

KENT.

The Region which we call Kent, [extendeth it selfe, in length from West to East fifty miles, & from South to North 26.](#)

<Lambard 1596>

For situation, it is not uniforme as being more plaine toward the West, and full of shady woods; but higher Eastward, by reason of hills, mounting up with easie ascents.

The Inhabitants distinguish it as it lieth South-east-ward from the Tamis, into three plots or portions, they call them steps or degrees; the upper wherof, lying upon Tamis, they

say is healthfull, but not so wealthy: the middle they account both healthfull, and plentifull: the lower they hold to be wealthy, but not healthy: as which for a great part thereof is verie moist, yet it bringeth forth ranke grasse in great plentie.

Rumney Marsh.

Howbeit everie where almost it is full of meadowes, pastures, and cornfields: abounding wonderfully in apple-trees, and cherrie-trees also, which being brought out of Pontus into Italie, in the 608. yeere after the foundation of Rome, and in the 120. yeere after, translated from thence into Britaine, prosper heere exceeding well, and take up many plots of land: the trees being planted after a direct maner one

Pli. li. 15. ca. 25. Cheries were brought over into Britaine about the yeere of our Lord. 48. 236.

against another by square, most pleasant to behold. It hath villages and townes standing exceeding thicke, and well peopled, safe rodes, and sure harbours for ships, with some veines of iron [and marle](#): but the aire is somewhat thicke, and somewhere foggy, by reason of vapours arising out of the waters. [At a word, the revenues of the inhabitants are greater both by the fertilitie of the soile, and also by the neighbourhood of a great citie, of a great river, and the maine sea.](#)

The same commendation of civilitie and courtesie which Cæsar in old time gave the inhabitants, is yet of right due unto them: that I may not speake of their warlike prowesse, †whereas a certaine

Prowesse of Kentishmen.

Monke hath written, 'How the Kentishmen so farre excelled, that when our armies are ready to ioyne battaile, they of all Englishmen, are worthily placed in the Front,' as being reputed the most valiant and resolute souldiours. Which, Iohn of Salisburie, verifieth also in his Polycraticon. 'For good desert' (saith hee) 'of that notable valour, which Kent shewed so puissantly, and patiently against the Danes, it retaineth still unto these daies in all battailes the honour of the first and fore ward, yea, and of the first conflict with the enemye.' In praise of whom William of Malmesbury hath likewise written thus, 'The country people and towne-dwellers of Kent, above all other Englishmen retaine still the resent of their ancient worthinesse. And as they are more forward, and readier to give honour, and entertainment to others, so they be more slow to take revenge upon others.'

Iulius Cæsar.

Cæsar (to speake briefly by way of Preface, before I come to describe the particular places) when he first attempted the conquest of our Island; arrived at this country; but being by the Kentish Britans, kept from landing, obtained the shore not without a fierce encounter. When he made afterward his second voiage hither, here likewise hee landed his armie: and the Britans with their horsemen and wagons encountred them couragiously, but being soone by the Romanes repulsed, they withdrew themselves into the woods. After this they skirmished sharply with the Romane Cavallery in their march, yet so, as the Romans had every way the upper hand. Also, within a while after, they charged the Romans againe, and most resolutely brake through the mids of them, and having slaine Laberius Durus, Marshall of the field retired safe: and the morrow after set upon the Foragers, and victualers of the campe, &c. which I have briefly related before out of Cæsars owne Commentaries. At which time, Cyngetorix, Carvilius, Taximagulus, & Segonax were great commanders of Kent (whom he, because he would be thought to have vanquished Kings, termeth Kings) whereas indeed they were but Lords of the country, or Noble men of the better marke.

[See Romans in Britaine. Page 34.](#)

After the Romane Empire was heere established, it was counted under the jurisdiction of the President of Britannia Prima. But the Sea coast which they termed

Littus Saxonicum, that is, The Saxon shore, like as the opposite shore unto it, from the river Rhene to Xantaigne in France, had a ruler over it from Dioclesians time, whom Marcellinus calleth, 'Tractus †maritini Comitem,' that is, The Count, or Lieftenant of the Maritime tract: the booke of Notices, stileth him: The honorable, Earle or Lieftenant of the Saxon shore along Britaine,' whose office was with garisons set upon the shore in places convenient, to repress the depredations, and robberies of Barbarians, but of Saxons especially, who grievously infested Britaine. And he was under the

The Count or Comes of the Saxon coast.

The L. War=
den or Kee=
per of the
Cinque ports.

dispose of the Right Honorable Generall of the Footemen, whom they called Præsen=
talis, who besides the garisons lying at the Havens, assigned unto him for the defense
thereof at all assaies, Victores Iuniores Britannicianos Primanos Iuniores, and Secunda=
nos Seniores, (these are the names of certaine bands or Companies) this he had for
his vnder officers to it, 'Principem ex officio Magistri præsentium a parte peditum, Numera=
rios duos, Commentariensem, Cornicularium, Adjutorem, Subadjuvam, Regeendarium,
Exceptores singulares, &c.' Neither doubt I, but that our Ancestors imitated this
custome of the Romanes, when they placed over this coast a Governour or
Portreve, whom now they use to call Warden of the Cinque Ports, because as the Comes
or Earle of the Saxon shore aforesaid was governour of nine ports, so he is of fiue.

<231>

But when the Romanes were departed quite out of Britaine Vortigern, who bare so=
veraine rule in the greatest part of Britaine, placed over Kent a Guorong, that is to
say, a Vice Roy, or Freed man under him, and unwitting to him, he forthwith freely
granted this region, as Ninnius and William of Malmesburie write, unto Hengist the
Saxon, for his daughter Rowens sake: vpon whom he was exceedingly enamoured.
Hence it came, that the first Saxon Kingdome erected in Britaine in the yeere of our
Lord 456, was called by them Cant-wararic, that is, The Kingdome of the Kentish men,
which after three hundred and twenty yeeres, when Baldred their last King was sub=
dued, fell to be under the Dominion of the West Saxons, to whom it continued
subject untill the Normans Conquest: For then, if we may beleeeve Thomas Spot the
Monke, (for none of the more antient Writers have recorded it) the Yeomanrie of
Kent at Suanes-comb (a village this is where (they say) Suene the Dane sometime pit=
ched his campe) carrying before them in their hands every one a great greene bough
representing a farre of a moving wood, yeelded themselves unto William the Con=
querour upon this condition that they might retaine their antient customes unviola=
ted, and especially that which they call Gavelkind that is Give all kinne, by which they
are not so bound by Copyhold, customarie tenures, or Tenant-right, as in other
parts of England, but in maner euery man is a free-holder, and hath some part of his
owne to live vpon. For lands of this nature are equally diuided among the male
children, or if there be no sonnes, among the daughters. By vertue of this also, they are
at full age and enter upon their inheritance when they come to be fiftene yeres old:
and lawfull it is for them to alienate and make it over to any one, either by gift or by
sale, without the Lords consent. By this likewise, the †sonne though their parents
were condemned for felony, or murther, succede them neverthelesse in such kind of
Lands &c. which I leaue to Lawyers. So that, it is truly though not purely written in La=
tine in an old book thus: 'The County of Kent avoucheth, that this County ought by right to
be free from such kind of grievance: for it saith, that this County was never conquered, as
the residue of England was, but by concluding of a peace subjected themselves to the domi=
nion of the Conquerour, retaining to themselves all their liberties, immunities, and cus=
tomes, which they had, and used before time.' After this, William the Conquerour, that
hee might more firmly assure to himselfe Kent, which is the very key of England,
placed a Counstable over Dover Castle, and according to the ancient order of the Ro=
manes made him also Lord Warden of the Cinque ports. And these be they, Hastings,
Dover, Hith, Rumney and Sandwich, unto which, Winchelsey, and Rie are joined as prin=
cipall ports, and other small townes as Members. Which because they are bound to
serve in the warres by sea, enjoy many great immunities: as who are free from pay=
ment of Subsidies, and from Wardship of their children as touching the bodie, nei=
ther are they sued in any court, but within their owne townes; and of the inhabitants

326

therin, such as they call Barons, at the Coronation of Kings and Queenes support the
Canopies over them, yea and have a table by themselves that day spread and furnish=
ed on the Kings right hand, &c. And the Lord Warden himselfe, who is alwaies one
of the nobilitie of most approved trust, hath within his Iurisdiction the authority of
a Chancellour and Admirall in very many cases, and enioieth other rights besides.
But now returne we to the places.

Rauens=
bourn.
An old great
Campe.

The Northside of this Country, Tamis the soueraigne of all Rivers in Britaine run=
neth hard by, as I have said before, which having held on his course past Surrey,
forthwith being with a winding reach almost retired into himselfe, doth there ad=
mit †int his chanell †into the first limit of this shire Rauensburn a small water, and of
short course, which riseth in Keston heath hard vnder the pitching of an ancient
campe, strange for the height of double rampiers, and depth of double ditches, of all
that I haue seene: doubtlesse the worke of many Labouring hands. Of what capa=

citie it was I could not discover for that the greatest part thereof is now seuerall, and overgrown with a thicket, but verily great it was, as may be gathered by that which is apparent. We may probably coniecture that it was a Romane Campe, but I might seeme to rove, if I should thinke it that Campe which Iulius Cæsar pitched, when the Britans gaue him the last battaile with their whole forces, and then ha=

Depe-ford.

ving bad successe retired themselves, and gave him leave to march to the Tamis side. And yet certes Keston the name of the place seemeth to retaine a parcell of Ke=sars name for so the Britanes called him, and not Cæsar, as we doe. As for the other small intrenchment not farre of by W. Wickham, it was cast in fresh memorie when old Sir Christopher Heydon a man then of great command in these parts, trained the country people. This water having passed by Bromeley a mansion house of the Bi=shops of Rochester, when it hath gathered strength, the depth of his ford giveth

Maigniot.

name to Depe-ford: a most famous Ship-docke, where the Kings ships are built,

Green-wich.

and such as be decayed, repaired: there also is a goodly Store-house & a Colledge (as it were) or incorporation ordained for the use of the navie. The place was sometime called West-Greenwich, & at the conquest of England fell to Gislebert Mamignot for his share, whose Grand-child Walkelin, defended Dover Castle against King Stephen, and left behind him one onely daughter living, who when her brother was dead, by her marriage brought a rich inheritance called the Honor of Mamignot into the familie of the Saies.

The same that Danes.

From hence the Tamis goeth to Green-wich, that is, the Green Creeke, for the creeke of a river in the old English tongue was called Wic, a place in times past famous for the Danish Fleet that lay there often at Rode, and for the Danes crueltie shewed unto Ealpheg Archbishop of Canterbury, whom in the yeere of our Lord a thousand and twelve, they cruelly executed with most exquisite torments. Whose death together with the cause thereof Ditmarus Mersepurgius, who about the same time lived, hath thus in the eight booke of his Chronicles described. 'I understood' (saith he) 'by the relation of Sewald, a pitifull deede, and therefore memorable: namely, That the perfidious crew of * Northman soldiours under Thurkil as yet their Capitaine, tooke that excellent prelate, Archbishop of the Citie of Canterburie named Ealpheg with the rest, and them after their wicked maner emprisoned and bound, yea and put him to endure famine and unspeakeable paines. This good man mooued with humane frailty promiseth unto them a summe of money, and for the obtaining thereof did set downe a time betweene, that if in this space he could not by some acceptable ransome escape this †momentary death, he might yet in the meane while purge himselfe with many a grone, to be offered as a lively sacrifice unto the Lord. But when all the time and space appointed were come & gone, this greedy gulfe of Pirats called forth the servant of the Lord, & in threatning wise demands this tribute promised unto them to be speedily and out of hand paid. Then he, as a meeke Lambe, Heere am I, quoth he ready to undergoe euen for the love of Christ whatsoever yee presume now to doe against me, that I may deserve to become an example of his servants. And nothing am I troubled at this day. And whereas I seeme unto you a lier, it is not mine owne will but great neede and poverty that hath done it. This body of mine, which in this exile I have loved overmuch, I present

327

<232>

as culpable unto you, and I know it is in your power to doe with it, what yee intend: but my sinfull soule that regardeth not you I humbly commend to the Creatour of all things. As he was thus speaking, the whole rable of these prophane wretches hemmed him round about and getteth together divers and sundry weapons to kill him. Which when their leader Thurkill saw a farre off, he came quickly running and crying, Do not so in any wise I beseech you: and heere, with my whole heart I deliver unto you all my gold and silver and whatsoever I have heere, or can by any meanes come by, save my ship onely, that yee would not sinne against the Lords annoited. But this unbridled anger of his mates, harder than yron and flint was nothing mollified with so gentle words and faire language of his, but became pacified by shedding his innocent bloud, which presently th<e>y altogether confounded and bleanded with Ox-heads, stones as thicke as haile and billets hurled at him. And to the memorie of this Saint Ealpheg is the Parish Church heere consecrated.' But now is the place of very great name, by reason of the Kings house, which Humfrey Duke of Gloucester built and named Placence; which also King Henry the Seventh most sumptuously enlarged: who adjoined thereto a little house of observant Friers, and finished that towre famous in Spanish fables, which the said Duke of Gloucester begun, on an high hill, from whence there is a most faire, and pleasant prospect open to the river winding in †an out, and almost redoubling it selfe, the greene meddowes and marshes vnderlying, the Citie of London, and the Countrie round about. Which being now enlarged and beau=

Placence.

tified by the L. Henrie Howard Earle of Northampton, [Lord Privie Seale, &c.](#) cannot but acknowledge him a well deserving benefactor. But the greatest ornament by farre that graced this Green-wich, was our late Queene Elizabeth, who heere most happily borne to see the light by the resplendent brightnesse of her roiall vertue enlightned all England. But as touching Green wich haue heere these verses of Le=land the Antiquarian Poet:

Ecce vt iam niteat locus petitus
 Tanquam sydereæ domus cathedræ.
 Quæ fastigia picta? quæ fenestræ?
 Quæ turres vel ad astra se efferentes?
 Quæ porro viridaria, ac perennes
 Fontes? Flora sinum occupat venusta
 Fundens delicias nitentis horti.
 Rerum commodus æstimator ille,
 Ripæ qui variis modis amœnæ,
 Nomen contulit eleganter aptum.

How glittereth now this place of great request,
 Like to the seat of heavenly welkin hie?
 †With gallant tops, †with windowes of the best.
 What towres that reach even to the starry skie:
 What Orchards greene, what springs ay-running by.
 Faire Flora heere that in this creeke doth dwell,
 Bestowes on it the flowres of garden gay;
 To judge no doubt of things he knew ful well,
 Who gave this banke thus pleasant every way,
 So fit a name, as did the thing bewray.

Nothing els have I heere to note (but that, for I would not have the remembrance of well deserving benefactors to miscarrie) William Lambard a godly good Gentleman built an Almehouse here for the sustentation of poore persons which hee named The Colledge of Queene Elizabeths poore people, [and as the †prieng aduersaries of our religion then observed, was the first Protestant that built †and Hospitall.](#)

Eltham.

At the backe of this, as ye turne out scarce three miles off, standeth Eltham, a retyring place likewise of the kings, [but vnholsofly by reason of the moote.](#) Antony Becke Bishop of Durrham, and Patriarch of Ierusalem built this in a maner new, and gave † unto Queen Æleonor wife to King Edward the first, after hee had crafti=

328

The Booke of Durrham.

ly conveied unto him selfe the inheritance of the Vescyes, unto whom this place before belonged. For that Bishop, whom the last Baron of Vescy had made his feofie for trust, of all his inheritance to the use of William Vescy his little base sonne, dealt not so faithfully, as hee should with this orphan and ward of his, [but dispoiled him of Alnwick Castle, this, and other faire lands.](#)

The Breach. 1527. Liesnes.

Beneath Greenwich, the Tamis having broken downe his bankes, hath by his irruption surrounded and overwhelmed many acres of land. For the inning whereof diverse have as it were strugled with the waters now many yeares; and yet with great workes, and charges cannot overmaster the violence of the tides, [which the Chanons of Leisnes adioyning kept sound and sweet land in their times. This Abbay was founded 1179. by Lord Richard Lucie chiefe Iustice of England, and by him dedicated to God and the memorie of Thomas of Canterburie, whom hee so admired for his pietie, while other condemned him for peticacie against his Prince, as hee became here a devoted Chanon to him. Heere in the marshes groweth plentifully the herbe Cochlearia, called by our Countrie men Scurvi-grasse, which some Physicians would haue to bee the same which Plinie calleth Britannica, by which name I have alreadie made mention thereof: but heere what Plinie saith.](#)

Scurvy-grass. 1527

The herbe Britannica.

‘In Germany, when as Germanicus Cæsar had removed his campe forward beyond Rhene, in the maritime tract there was one fountaine and no more, of fresh water, where= of if a man dranke, within two yeares his teeth would fall out of his head and the ioynets in his knees become loose and feeble. Those diseases the Physicians tearmed Stomacace and Sceletyrbe. For remedie hereof, there was found an herbe called Britannica, holsome not onely for the sinewes and maladies of the mouth but also against the Squincie and sting= ing of serpents &c. They of * Frisia, what way our camp lay, shewed it unto our souldiours.

* Friseland.

See [afterward](#) in the British Isles, concerning the Arrenat or Armory of the Britains.

Sevenoke.

Knoll.

Otford.

<233>

Dartford.

And I mervaille what should be the cause of that name, unlesse peradventure they that confine upon the Ocean, dedicated the name thereof to Britaine, as lying so nere unto it.' But that most learned Hadrian Iunius in his booke named Nomenclator, bringeth another reason of the name whom you may have recourse unto if you please: For, this word Britannica hath here diverted me a side from my course.

From thence the Tamis beeing contained within his bankes meeteth with the river Darent, which falling downe out of Suthrey runneth with a soft streame not farre from Seven-oke (so called as men say of seaven exceeding great Okes [now cut down](#)) which commendeth [Sir William Sevenok an Alderman of London, who beeing a foundling and brought up here; and therefore so named, built here in gratefull remembrance an Hospitall and a schoole.](#) On the East side of it standeth Knoll so called for that it is seated upon an hill, which Thomas Burchier Archbishop of Canterburie purchasing of Sir William Fienes, Lord Say and †Zeale, adorned with a faire house: and now lately Thomas Earle of Dorset Lord Treasurer hath fourbished and beautified the old worke with new chargeable additaments. Darent then passeth by Otanford, now Otford, a place famous [in former ages](#) for an overthrow and slaughter of the Danes which happened there in the yeare 1016. and [lately](#) by reason of the Kings house, which William Warrham Archbishop of Canterburie built, for himselfe and his successours so sumptuouslie, that for to avoide envie, Cranmer who next succeeded him was constrained to exchange it with King Henrie the Eighth. Somewhat lower hard by Darent standeth Lullingston, where there was sometime a Castle the seat of a family of the same name, [but now of Sir Percival Harte, descended from one of the coheires of the Lord Bray.](#) Then Darent giveth name unto Darentford, commonly Dartford a great mercat towne well frequented, [and well watered, where king Edward the Third built a Nunnery, which King Henrie the Eighth converted into a house for himselfe and his successours:](#) Here the riveret Crey, [anciently called Crecan](#) intermingleth it selfe †which Darent, [when in his short course he hath imparted his name to fiue townlets which hee watereth as, Saint Marie Crey, Pauls Crey, Votes-Crey, North Crey, and Crey-ford, in former ages Crecanford,](#) where Hengest the Saxon the eighth yeare after his arrivall, ioyned battaile with the Britains, and after hee had slaine their captaines, brought them under with so great a

329

slaughter, that afterwards hee never stood in feare of them, but established his kingdome quietly in Kent.

[Swane-scomb](#) that is K. Swanes Campe.

Graues-end.

[Inquis. 35. E. 3.](#)

Barones of Cobham.

From the river Darent or Dart unto the mouth of Medwey, the Tamis seeth nothing about him but little townes pleasantly seated, which to passe over in silence were no prejudice either of their fame or any thing els. [Yet amongst them is Swans-combe \(of which I have heretofore spoken\) of honorable memorie among the Kentish men, for obtaining †their the continuance of their ancient franchises, afterward it was well knowne by the †Montcheusies, men of great Nobility the owners thereof who had †there Barony here-about. And by it Graues-end so called \(as Maister Lambert is my authour\) as the Gereves-end; that is, the limit of the Gereue or Reue.](#) A towne as well knowne as any other in England, for the usuall passage by water betweene it and London, since the Abbat of Grace by the tower of London, to which it appertained, obtained of [King Richard the Second that the inhabitants of it and Milton onely, should transport passengers from thence to London.](#) King Henrie the Eighth when he fortified the sea coast, raised two Platformes or Block-houses here, and two other opposite on Essex side. Beyond Graues-end is Shorn held anciently by Sir Roger Northwood by service to carry with other the kings tennants a white ensigne fortie daies at his owne charges when the king warred in Scotland. Somewhat more within the land, lieth Cobham, the habitation for a long time of the Barons of Cobham; of whom Iohn Cobham the last of that name, founded a Colledge here and a castle at Cowling: who left one onely daughter wife to Sir Iohn de la Pole knight: Shee likewise bare but one daughter, though married in her time to many husbands. But by Sir Reginald Braibrooke onely had shee issue. As for her husband Sir Iohn Old Castle, whiles hee endeavoured to bring in innovation in religion, † was both hanged, and burnt. loane her onely daughter by Sir Reginald Braybrooke, was wedded unto Thomas Broke of Somersetshire, [from whom six Lord Cobhams have lineally descended, and flourished in honorable reputation untill our time.](#) From Graues-end a little country called Ho, lying as a demy Island between the rivers Tamis and Medwey stretcheth it selfe into the East, and is for situation but unholosome. [At the entry hereof is Cowling Castle built by Iohn Lord Cobham in](#)

[a moorish ground](#), and Cliffe a good bigge towne, so called of a cliffe upon which it standeth. But whether it bee that Clives at Ho, so famous in the tender age and infancie of our English church, by reason of a Synode there holden I dare not as others doe, affirme: considering, that in regard of the site it is a place inconvenient for such an [†]assemble; and besides that Clives at Hoo seemeth to haue beene within the Kingdome of the Mercians. As for the river Medweg, now called Medway, and in the British tongue, (unlesse I misse of the truth), Vaga, whereunto afterward was added Med, hath his spring head in the wood Anderida which is tearmed the Weald, that is a Woodland country; and taketh up the South-part of this region farre and wide. At first, whiles it carrieth but a slender streame [it receiveth the Eden](#) by Penshurst [the seat anciently \(as it seemeth by the name\) of Sir Stephen de Penherst who also was called de Penshester a famous Warden of the Cinque-ports; but now](#) the house of the Sidneies who deriue their race from William de Sidney Chamberlaine to king Henrie the second: out of which came Sir Henrie Sidney that renowned Lord deputy of Ireland, who of the daughter of Iohn Dudley Duke of Northumberland, and Earle of Warwick, begat Philip and Robert. This Robert, lames our soueraigne King, made right honorable, first by the title of Baron Sidney of Pensherst and afterwards, of Vicount Lisle. But Sir Philip, whom I cannot passe over in silence, beeing the glorious starre of this familie, a liuely paterne of vertue, and the louely ioy of all the learned sort, fighting valerouslie with the enemy before Zutphen in Gelderland died manfully. This is that Sidney, whom, as Gods will was he should be therefore borne into the world, even to shew unto our age a sample of ancient vertues: so his good pleasure was before any man looked for it to call for him againe, and take him out of the world as beeing more worthy of heaven then earth. Thus wee may see, Perfect vertue sodainly vanisheth out of sight, and the best men continue not long.

330

Then the river Medway, [branching it selfe into five streamlets, is joynd with as many stone bridges, and thereof giveth the name of Tunbridge to the towne there situat, as the towne of Bridges.](#) This about King William Rufus his time Richard sonne of Count Gilbert, Grandchild to Godfrey Earle of Ewe, & Lord of Briony obtained in requitall for Briony in Normandie, when there had bin long debate about Briony. This Richard, (as William Gemeticensis writeth) 'in recompence for the same castle received in England the towne of Tunbridge for it. And the report goeth, that the * Lowy of Briony was measured round about with a line, & with the same line brought into England, he received so much ground measured out at Tunbridge.' [Shortly after, he built here a faire large castle fenced with the river, a deepe ditch, and strong walles; and albeit it is now ruinous and the Keepe attired with Ivie, yet it manifestly sheweth what it was.](#) His posteritie, who were Earles of Glocester, and surnamed De Clare, (for that they were Lords of Clare in Suffolke) built here a priorie for Chanons of Saint Augustines order, founded the parish Church which was impropriated to the Knights of Saint Iohn of Hierusalem, and compounded about the tenure of the Mannour, for which there had beene long suit, to hold it of the Archbishop of Canterburie by Knights fee, [and to be their high Stewards at their inthronisations.](#) From these Clares Earles of Glocester, it came by an heire generall to Sir Hugh Audley Earle of Glocester, and by his onely daughter to the Earles of Stafford, who were afterward Dukes of Buckingham, & from them by attainder to the Crowne. It hath in latter ages been beholden to [Sir Andrew Iude of London for a faire free-Schoole, and to Iohn Wilford for a causey toward London.](#) Three miles directly South from hence in the very limit of Sussex, and neere Frant, I saw in a white-sandy ground divers vastie, craggie stones of strange formes, whereof two of the greatest stand so close together, and yet severed with so straight a line, as you would thinke they had been sawed asunder, and Nature when she reared these, might seeme sportingly to have thought of a Sea. But to returne to the River.

From Tunbridge, Medway passeth by Haudelo, from whence came that Iohn Haudelo, who happily marrying the heire of the Lord Burnell, had issue by her a sonne, who was called Nicholas, summoned to Parliament among the Barons by the name of Burnell. Then Medway increased with another water, called Twist, which [twisteth about and insulateth a large plot of good ground, runneth on not farre from Mereworth, where stands a faire Castle like house, which from the Earles of Arundell came unto the Nevils Lords of Abergevennie, and Le Despencer: whose heire in the right line, is Marie, Ladie Fane, unto whom, and her heires King lames in the first Parlament that he held, 'restored, gave and granted &c. the name, stile, title, honour,](#)

and dignitie of Baronesse le Despencer: and that her heires successively should be Barons le Despencer for ever.' Now by this time Medway [having received a riveret, that looseth it selfe under ground, and riseth againe at Loose, serving thirteene fulling-miles,](#) hasteneth to Maidstone, which seeing the Saxons called it Medwegston, & Medweageston, I beleve verily it is the same Vagniacæ, which Antonine the Emperour mentioneth, and Ninnius in his Catalogue of cities, calleth corruptly, Caer Megwad, for, Medwag. Neither verily doth the account of distance disagree; From Noviomagus one way, and Durobrovis another, whereof I shall treat anone. Under the latter Emperours, as is to be seene in Peutegerus his table lately set out by M. Velserus, it is named Madus. Thus as yeeres by little and little turne about, so names likewise by little and little become changed. A large faire, and sweet towne this is, and populous: [for the faire stone bridge, it hath been beholding to the Archbishops of Canterbury. Among whom to grace this place at the confluence of the waters, Boniface of Savoy, built a small College, Iohn Vfford raised a palace for himselfe and successors, which Simon Islip increased, and between them, which it standeth in plight, William Courtney erected a faire Collegiat Church, in which he so great a Prelate, and so high-borne, lieth lowly entombed.](#) One of the two common Gaoles or prisons of the whole County is here appointed. [And it hath been endowed with sundrie priviledges, by King Edward the sixt, incorporated by the name of Major and jurates, all which in](#)

331

[short time they lost by favouring rebels. But Q Elizabeth amply restored them, and their Major,](#) whereas anciently they had a Portgreve for their head Magistrate. This I note, because this 'Greve' is an antient Saxon word, and as yet among the Germans signifieth, a Ruler, as Markgrave, Reingrave, Landtgrave, &c.

Here, a little beneath Maidstone Eastward, a pretty riveret joineth with Medway, springing first at Leneham: which towne by probable conjecture is the verie same that Antonine the Emperour calleth Duroleum, written amisse in some copies, Duroleuum. For Duroleum in the British language, is as much to say as The water Lenum. And besides the remaines of the name, the distance also from †Duroouenum, and Durobrouis proveth this to be Duroleum: to say nothing of the situation therof, nere unto that high rode way of the Romans which in old time (as Higden of Chester doth write) led from Dover through the mids of Kent.

Hard by, at Bocton Malherb hath dwelt a long time the family of the Wottons, out of which in our remembrance flourished both Nicholas Wotton, Doct. of the lawes, who being of the privy counsell to K. Henry the Eight, K. Edward the sixth, Q. Marie, and Q. Elizabeth, sent in embassage nine times to forrain Princes, and thrise chosen a Committee about peace between the English, French, and Scottish; lived a goodly time; and ran a long race in this life with great commendation of piety and wisdom: and also Sir Edward Wotton, whom for his approved wisdom in waightie affaires, Q. Elizabeth made Controller of her house, and K. James created Baron Wotton of Merlay.

[Here under is Vlcomb anciently a mansion of the family De sancto Leodegario, corruptly called Sentleger & Sellenger, & Motinden, where Sir R. Rockesly descended from Kriol, and Crevecur built a house, who held lands at Seaton by serjeantie to be Vantrarius Regis, when the K. goeth into Gascoin, 'donec perusus fuerit pari solutarum pretii 4. d.' which as they that understand Law Latin \(for I do not\) translate that he should be, the Kings fore-foot-man, until he had worne out a paire of shooes, prized 4. d.](#) Neither hath this

river any other memorable thing nere to it, but Leeds Castle, built by the noble Crevequers, who in ancient charters are named de Crevequer, & De crepito corde: afterwards it was the unfortunat seat of Bartholomew L. Badilsmer, who perfidiously fortified it against K. Edward the second, who had freely given it him, and after that payed the due price, of his disloialtie upon the gallowes. The whole matter you may read here if you list out of a briefe historie penned by Thomas de la More, a gentleman that lived at the same time, and which of late I did publish in print. 'In the yeere †1521.

Queene Isabel came to the Castle of Leeds, about the feast of Saint Michael, minding there to lodge all night, but was not permitted to enter in. The King offended hereat, as taking it to be done in contempt of him, called certaine of the neighbor inhabitants out of Essex and London, and commanded them to lay siege unto the Castle. Now, there held the Castle at that time Bartholomew de Badilsmer, who having left therein his wife and sonnes was gone himselfe with the rest of the Barons to overthrow the Hughs de Spencer. Meane while, when they that were enclosed within despaired of their lives, the Barons with their associates came as far as Kingston, and by the mediation of the Bishops of Canterburie and London, together with the Earle of Pembroch, requested that the King would remove his siege, promi=

sing to deliver up the Castle, into the Kings hand after the next Parliament. But the King considering well, that the besieged could not long hold out, nor make resistance, being highly displeased & angered at their contumacy, would not give eare to the Barons petitions. And when they had turned their journey another way, hee afterward forced the Castle with no small trouble and labour about it: and when he had hanged all the rest that he found therein, he sent the wife and sons of †Bartholemew aforesaid to the Tower of London.' Thus Medway having received this riveret from Leeds, fetching about through good grounds runneth by Ailington *somtime a castle, now lesse than a castellet*, where Sir T. Wiat the elder, a worthy learned knight, reedified a fair house *now decaied, whose son Sir Thomas enriched by an heire of Sir T. Haut, proposing to himself great hopes upon fair pretenses pitifully overthrew himself & his state*. Hence commeth Medway to Ailsford in the old English Saxon Eaglesford, which H. of Huntingdon, calleth Elstre, Ninnius Episford: who hath written, that it was named in the British tongue Saissenæg haibail of the Saxons there

Ailsford.

332

<235>

Horsted.

Catigern his Sepulchre.

vanquished, like as others in the verie same sense termed it Anglesford. For, Guortemere the †Britany, Guortigerns sonne, did heere set upon Hingist and the English Saxons, whom being disraied and not able to abide a second charge, he put all to flight: so as they had beene utterly defaied for ever, but that Hengist skill-full and provident to prevent, and divert danger, withdrew him selfe into the Isle of Tenet, until that invincible vigour and heat of the Britans was alliaied and fresh supplies came to his succour out of Germanie. In this battaile were slaine the generalls of both sides, Catigern the Britane, and Horsa the Saxon: of whome the one, †burned at Horsted not farre from hence, gaue name to the place: and Catigern honored with a stately and solemne funerall is thought to have beene enterred neere unto Ailsford where *under the side of a hill I saw* foure huge, rude, hard stones erected, *two for the sides, one transversall in the midst betweene them, and the hugest of all piled and laied over them* in manner of the British monument which is called Stone-heng *but not so artificially with mortis and tenents*.

Boxley.

Wrotham.

Malling.

Leibourn.

Baron Leibourn.

Birling.

Baron Say.

Durobrevis.

In an ancient table set forth by Welsar. Roibis.

Ceaster what it is.

Rochester.

Verily the unskilfull common people terme it at this day, of the same Catigern, Keiths or Kits Coty house. In Ailsford it selfe, for the religious house of the Carmelites founded by Richard Lord Grey of Codnor in the time of King Henrie the Third, is now seene a faire habitation of Sir William Siddey a learned knight painfully, and expensfully studious of the common good of his countrie as both his endowed house for the poore, and the bridge heere with the common voice doe plentifully testifie. Neither is Boxley neere adjoining to bee passed over †insilence, where William de Ipres, in Flaunders, Earle of Kent founded an Abbay in the yeare of our Lord 1145. and translated thither the Monkes, from Clarevalle in Burgundie. Medway having wound himselfe higher, from the East receiveth a brooke springing neare Wrotham or Wirtham, so named for *plentie of wortes*: where the Archbishops had a place *vtill Simon Islep pulled it downe*; leaveth Malling which grew to bee a towne after Gundulph Bishop of Rochester had there founded an Abbay of Nunnes, and watereth Leibourn which hath a Castle sometime the seate of a family thereof surnamed, out of which Sir Roger Leibourn was a great agent in the Barons warres, and William was a †Parlametary Baron in the time of King Edward the First. †Nare neighbor to Leibourn is Birling, now the habitation of the Lord †Abergeney, in times past parcell of the Baronie †of and from the Maminots, then of the Saies, whose inheritance at length by heires generall came to the families of Clinton, Fienes, and Aulton. Upon the banke of Medway Eastward somewhat higher, after it hath passed by Halling where Hamo Heath Bishop of Rochester built an house for his successors, there standeth an ancient Citie; which Antonine calleth Duro-brus, Duro-briuæ and in another place more truely Duro-Prouæ and Duro-Brouæ: Bede Duro-Breuis: and in the declining state of the Romane Empire processe of time contracted his name so, that it came to be named Roibis, and so by addition of Ceaster, which comming of the latin word Castrum, †betokend among our ancestors a city or Castle, was called Hroueceaster, and now with vs more short Rochester, and in Latin Roffa, of one Rhuffus as Bede guesseth: but it seemeth unto mee to reeteine in it somewhat still of that old name Durobrevis. Neither is there cause why any man should doubt of the name, seeing that by the account of journeies, or distance betweene places and Bedes authority, it is named expresly in the Charter of the foundation of the Cathedral church, there Durobrouis: yet thus much I wold advertise the reader, that in the printed bookes of Bede it is red Darueruum, whereas in the manuscript copies it is termed Durobrouis: seated it is in a botome, fortified

on the one side with a marsh, the river, and weake walles, and as William of Malmesbury saith 'pent within too streight a rowme:' whereupon, in time past it was counted a Castle rather than a Citie. For, Bede calleth it 'Castellum Cantuariorum,' that is, the Kentishmens Castle. But now it stretcheth forth with large suburbs on the West, East, and South sides. It hath passed through no few dangers and mischances. In the yeere of Christ 676. it was overthrowen and laid along by King Aetheldred the Mercian: and many a time afterward sacked by the Danes. Aethelbert King of

333

Kent erected there a sumptuous Church, which also he made more famous with the dignitie of a Bishopricke, ordaining Iustus to be the first Bishop of that Sie. But when it fell to decay for very age, Bishop Gundulph a Norman about the yeere 1080. reedified it, and thrusting out the Priests brought in Monkes in their rowmes: and when they were cast out, a Deane, six Prebendaries †an Scholars were substituted in their places. Neere unto the Church there standeth over the river an old Castle fortified both by art, and situation: Which, as the report goeth Odo Bishop of Bayeux and Earle of Kent built: But it was, no doubt, King William the first that built it: For, in Domesday booke we read thus, 'The Bishop of Rouecester holdeth in Elesford, for exchange of the land on which the Castle is seated.' Yet, certaine it is, that Bishop Odo when his hope depended of a doubtfull change of the State, held this against King William Rufus: *At which time there passed proclamation through England, that whosoever would not be reputed a Niding, should repaire to recouer Rochester Castle.*

Niding.
William of
Malmesbury.

Textus Rof=
fensis.
An antient
Manuscript
booke of that
church.

Whereupon the youth fearing that name, as most reprochfull and opprobrious in that age, swarmed thither in such numbers, that Odo was enforced to yeeld the place, lose his dignitie, and abiure the realme. But concerning the reedification of this Castle about this time, listen what the * 'Text of †Rocester saith, when King William the second would not confirme the gift of Lanfranck as touching the †Manner of Hedenham in the County of Buckingham, made unto Rochester church, unlesse Lanfranck and Gundulph Bishop of Rochester would giue unto the king an hundred pound of deniers; At last by the interc^ession of Sir Robert Fitz Hamon and Henrie Earle of Warwick, the king granted it thus farre forth in lieu for the money which hee demaunded for grant of the Manour, that Bishop Gundulph, because h^e was verie skilful and well experienced in architecture and masonrie should build for the king at his owne proper charges a Castle of stone. In the end, when as the Bishops were hardly brought to giue their consent unto it before the king, Bishop Gundulph built up the Castle full and whole at his owne cost. And a little after, king Henrie the First granted unto the Church of Canterbury and to the Archbishops, the keeping thereof, and the Constablership to hold ever after,' (as Florentius of Worcester saith) yea and licence withall, 'to build in the same a towre for themselves.' Since which time it was belaid with one or two great sieges, but then especially, when the Barons with their Armes made all England to shake, and Simon Montford Earle of Leicester assaulted it most fiercely, though in vaine, and cut downe the wooden bridge, *which was after repaired.*

The French
called him
Canol.

<236>

The Kings
Navy.

But in the time of King Richard the Second Sir Robert Knowles by warlike prowes raised from low estate to high reputation, and great riches, built a verie goodly stone bridge of arch-worke with money levied out of French spoiles. At the end of the said bridge, Sir Iohn Cobham who much furthered the worke, erected a chapell (for our elders built no notable bridge without a chapell) vpon which besides armes of Saints, are seene the armes of the King & his three vncles then living. And long after Archbishop Warham coped a great part of the said bridge with iron bars. Vnder this, Medway swelling with a violent and swift streame strugleth and †breakth through roaring & loud; but forthwith running more still & calme becommeth a road at Gillingham and Chetham for a most roiall and warlike nauie of strong and serviceable ships, and the same most readie alwaies at a short warning: which, our late gracious Ladie Queene Elizabeth, with exceeding great cost built for the †safegard of her subiects and terror of her enemies; and for the defense thereof raised a castelet at Vpnone upon the river side.

Toliatias an
Isle.

Shepey.
lu-let.

Now Medway growne more full and †carring a greater bredth, with his curling waves right goodly and pleasant to behold, runneth a long by the fruitfull fields, untill that being divided by meeting with the Iland Shepey, (which we supposed to be Ptolemeis Toliatias) maketh his issue into the Æstuarie or Frith of Tamis at two mouths. Of which twaine, the Westerne is called West-Swale: the Easterne, that seemeth to have severed Sh^eppie from the firme land, is named East Swale: but by Bede, termed Genlad and Yenlet. This Isle, of the sheepe, wherof it feedeth mightie great flockes, being called by our ancestours Shepey, that is, The Isle of Sheep, passing plenti=

full in corne, but scarce of woods containeth twentie one miles in compasse. Upon

334

Queene
Borough.

the North shore it had a little Monasterie, (now they call it Minster) built by Sexbur=ga wife of Ercombert the King of Kent, in the yeere 710. Under which, a certaine Brabander of late beganne to trie by the furnace out of stones found upon the shore, both Brimstone and Coperas. It hath Westward in the Front thereof a very fine and strong Castle, which King Edward the third built, as himselfe writeth, 'Pleasant for site, to the terrour of his enemies, and solace of his people:' unto which he adjoined a Burgh, and in the Honor of Philip the Queene his wife called it Queene-borough, as one would say, The Queenes Burgh. The Constable whereof at this day, is Sir Edward Hoby, who hath polished his excellent wit with learned studies. Eastward, is Shurland seated, which belonged in late times to the Cheineies, and now to Sir Philip Herbert second sonne to Henrie Earle of Pembroch, whom King Iames in one and the same day created Baron Herbert of Shurland, and Earle of Mont-Go=merie.

This Isle appertaineth to the Hundred of Middleton, so named of Middleton the towne, now Milton. This was some time a towne of the Kings aboade, and of greater name by farre than at this day, although, Hasting the Danish pirate for to annoy it, fortified a Castle hard by in the yeere 893. Neere adjoining heereto Sitting=burn a towne furnished with Innes sheweth it selfe [with his new Maior and corpora=](#)[tion: the remaines also of Tong Castle, which as some write, was so called for that Hengist built it by a measure of thongs cut out of a beasts hide, when Vuortigern gave him so much land to fortifie vpon, as he could incompass with a beasts hide †out into thongs. Since the conquest](#) it was the seat of Guncelline of Badilsmer, of noble parentage, whose sonne Bartholomew begat Guncelline: and he by the †Inheretrie of Raulph Fitz-Barnard Lord of Kings-Downe was father to that seditious Sir Bartholo= mew [Lord Badilsmer](#) of whom I spake: he againe of Margaret Clare begat Sir Giles [Lord Badilsmer](#) that died without issue; also Margerie, wife to William Roos of Ham= lake; Mawde the wife of Iohn Vere Earle of Oxford; Elizabeth espoused to William Bohun Earle of Northampton, and afterward to Edmund Mortimer; and Margaret whom Sir Iohn Tiptoft wedded; from whom descended a goodly ofspring and faire race of great nobilitie.

Tenham.

Chery gar= dens.

Feuersham.

[Then saw I Tenham not commended for health, but the parent as it were of all the choise fruit gardens, and Orchards of Kent, and the most large and delightsome of them all, planted in the time of King Henrie the Eight by Rich. Harris his fruterer, to the publique good. For thirty Parishes thereabout, are replenished with Cherie= gardens, & Orchards beautifully disposed in direct lines. Amongst these is Feuersham](#) very commodiously situate. For, the most plentiful part of this country lieth round about it, and it hath a creeke fit for bringing in and carrying forth commodities; whereby at this day it flourisheth amongst all the neighbour townes. It seemeth also in former times to have flourished, considering that King Aethelstane assem= bled hether †an assembly the Sages of his Kingdome, and made lawes heere in the yeere of our redemption 903.

King Stephen also he that usurped the Kingdome of England, founded an Abbay heere, for the Monkes of Clugny; In which, himselfe, Mawde his wife, and Eustach his sonne were entombed. Nigh thereto, like as else where through this Countie, are found pits of great depth, which being narrow in the mouth and very spacious beneath have their certaine distinct rowmes or chambers (as it were) with their se= verall supporting pillers of chalke. Concerning these there are divers opinions. I for my part, cannot tell what to thinke of them unlesse they were those pits, out of which the Britans in old time digged forth chalke or white marle to dung their grounds withall, as Plinie writeth. 'For, they sound pits,' saith he, 'An hundred foote deepe, streight at the mouth, but of great capacity within:' like unto these very same of which we now speake.

And verily, nowhere else are they found but in a chalkie and marly soile. Un= lesse a man would thinke, that our English-Saxons digged such caves & holes to the same use and purpose, as the Germans did, of whom they were descended. For, they

335

Pits made
in Kent.

were wont as Tacitus writeth, 'to make holes and caves vnder the ground,' and those to charge a loft with great heapes of dung, as harbours of refuge for Winter, and garners of receipt for corne; because by such like places they mitigate

the rigour of cold wether: and if at any time the enemy commeth, he wasteth onely the open ground: but as for those things that lie hidden and buried under the earth, they are either unknown, or in this respect doe disapoint the enimies, for that they are to be sought for.

Reculver.
Regulbium.

<237>

Hadrianus
Iunius.

From aboue [Feuersham](#), the shoare runneth on, plentifull of shel-fish, but especi= ally oisters, (whereof there are many pits, or stewes) as far as Reculuer, [and farther](#). This Reculuer, is a place of ancient memory, named in the old English-saxon Rea= culf, but in elder times Regulbium. For so it is named, in the [Romane Office booke Notitia Provinciarum](#); which recordeth that the captain of the premier band of the Vetasians laie heere in garrison vnder the Lieuetenant of the Saxon shoare: (for so was the sea coast a-long this tract called) [who had the command then of nine Ports, as the L. Warden now hath of fiue Ports](#). And verily the Romane Emperours coines digged up there give testimony to this antiquity of the place: In it Aethelbert King of Kent when he had made a grant of Canterbury to Augustine the Monke, built him= selfe a Palace, and Bassa an English-Saxon beautified it with a Monastery, out of which Brightwald the Eighth Archbishop of Canterbury was elected. Of this Mona= stery, or Minster it was named Raculf-Minster, what time as Edred brother to King Edward the Elder gaue it to Christ-church in Canterbury. Howbeit, at this day it is nothing else but an uplandish country towne, and if it be of any name, it hath it [for the salt saury Oisters there dredged, and](#) for that Minster; the steeples whereof shoo= ting vp their lofty spires stand the Mariners in good stead, as markes, whereby they avoid certaine sands and shelues in the mouth of the Tamis. For, as he * versifieth in his Philippeis.

Cernit oloriferum Tamisim sua Doridi amaræ.
Flumina miscentem ——

It now beholds swann-breeding Tamis, where he doth mix his streame
With brackish sea ——

Stour riuier.

Ashford.
Wie.

Page 4157.

Chilham.

Fulbert of
Dover.

Now are we come to the Isle Tanet, which the riuier Stour, by Bede named Want= sum, seuereth from the firme land by a small chanell running betweene, which riuier made of two diuers riuierets in the woodland country called the Weald, so soone as it goeth in one entire streame, visiteth Ashford and Wye, two prety Mercat towns well known: Either of them had sometimes their seuerall Colledges of Priests: the one built by Iohn Kemp Archbishop of Canterbury, who was there borne: the other to wit of Ashford, by Sir R. Fogge knight. Wye also had a speciall fountaine, into which God infused a wonderfull gift and vertue at the instant praier of [Eustace](#) a Norman Abbot, if we may beleeeue Roger of Hoveden, whom I would advise you to haue re= course unto if you take delight in such like miracles. '[As how the blinde by drinking thereof recouered sight, the dumbe their speech, the deafe their hearing, the lame their limmes. And how a woman possessed with the deuill, sipping thereof vomited two toades which immediatly were first transformed into huge blacke dogs, and againe into asses;](#)' and much more no lesse strange than ridiculous, which some in that age as easily beleee ued, as others falsly forged. Thence the Stour leauing East-well the inhabitation of the family of the Finches, worshipfull of it selfe, and by descent from Philip Bel= knap, and Peoplesham: [goeth on to Chilham, or, as others call it Iulham, where are the ruines of an old Castle, which one Fulbert of Douer is reported to haue built: whose issue male soone failed, and ended in a daughter inheritrice, whom Richard the base sonne of King Iohn tooke to wife, and had with her this Castle and the lands there to belonging: Of her he begat two daughters; namely Lora the wife of William Marmion, and Isabell wife first to Dauid of Strath= bolgy Earle of Athole in Scotland, afterward to Sir Alexander Baliol who was](#)

336

1306.

* Fel-bo=
rough.

[called to Parliament by the name of Lord of Chilham](#): and mother to that Iohn Earle of Athole, who being condemned oftentimes for treason was hanged at the last upon a gibbet fifty foot high (as the King commanded because he might be so much the more conspicuous in mens eies, as he was of higher and nobler birth) and being cut downe halfe aliue, had his head smitten off, and the truncke of his body thrown in= to the fire, a very cruell kinde of punishment and seldome seene among vs. And af= ter his goods were confiscat, King Edward the first bounteously bestowed this castle together with * Felebergh Hundred upon Sir Bartholomew Badilsmer; who likewise quickly lost the same, for his treason, as I have before related. There is a constant

report among the inhabitants, that Iulius Cæsar in his second voiage against the Britans encamped at this Chilham, and that thereof it was called * Iulham, that is, Iulius his Mansion: and if I be not deceiued, they haue the truth on their side. For heere about it was when at his second remove, he in his march staied upon the intelligence that his ships were sore weather-beaten, and thereupon †returned and left his army encamped tenne daies while he rigged and repaired the decaies of his Nauy. And in his march from hence was encountered sharply by the Britans, and lost with many o=ther Laberius Durus a Marshall of the field. A little beneath this towne there is a prety hillocke to be seene apparelled in a fresh suit of greene sord, where men say, many yeeres agoe one Iullaber was enterred, whom some dreame to haue beene a Giant, others, a Witch. But I conceiuing an opinion that some antiquity lieth hidden under that name, doe almost perswade my selfe, that the foresaid Laberius was heere buried, and so that the said hillocke became named Iul-laber.

Five miles from hence the river Stoure dividing his Chanell, runneth swiftly by Durovernum. Durouernum the chiefe Cittie of this Countie and giveth it his name. For Durwhern in the * British tongue signifieth a swift river: Ptolome calleth it in steed of Durovernum, Daruernum, Bede and others Dorobernia, the English Sax=ons †Cant-para-byrig, that is, The Kentishmens cittie: Ninnius and the Britans Caer Kent, that is, the Cittie of Kent, wee, Canterbury, and the later writers in Latine Cantuaria. A right antient citie this is, and famous, no doubt in the Romans time: 'not over great' (as William of Malmesbury said, 400. years since) 'nor verie small: much renowned both for the situation, and exceeding fertility of the soile adjoining, as also for the walles whole and undecaied enclosing it round about, by reason likewise of the rivers watering it, and commodiousnesse of woods there about; besides the †vicinity of the sea, yeelding store of fish to serve it.' Whiles the Saxons Heptarchie flourished, it was the head cittie of the kingdome of Kent and the kings seat; untill such time as king Ethelbert passed a grant of it together with the roialty therof unto Augustine the Apostle as they called him, and consecrated Archbishop of the English Nation, who established heere his habitation for him selfe and his successours. And albeit the Metropolitan dignity, together with the honour of the Pall (that is an Episcopall vestiment that was comming over the shoulders, made of a sheepe skin, in memoriall of him that sought the stray sheepe, and having found the same laied it upon his shoulders, wrought and embrodered with crosses, first laied upon Saint Peters coffin or shrine) was ordeined by Saint Gregorie the Great then Pope, to bee at London, yet for the honour of Augustine it was translated hither. For, Kenulph King of the Mercians thus writeth unto Pope Leo. 'Because Augustine of blessed Memorie, the minister of Gods word unto the English Nation, and who most gloriously governed the Churches of English Saxonie, departed this life in the Cittie of Canterburie, and his bodie was there buried in the Minster of Saint Peter Prince of the Apostles, the which Laurence his †successours consecrated, it hath pleased all the wise men of our nation, that the Metropolitan honour should bee conferred upon that Citie where his bodie was entombed, who engrafted in these parts the veritie of Christian faith.' But whether the Archbishops See and Metropolitan dignity were here ordeined by authority of the wise men of our nation (that is to say) the States of the Parliament, (to speake according to our time) or by Augustine him selfe whiles hee lived, as others would haue it: the Bishops of Rome, who next followed established the same so, as they decreed, 'That to haue it severed and taken away from thence

337

was an abominable act punishable with Curse and hell-fire.' Since which time, it is incredible, how much it hath flourished, in regard both of the †Archipiscopal dignity and also of that schoole of the better kind of literature which Theodore the seaventh archbishop erected there. And albeit it was sore shaken with the Danish wars, and consumed for a great part thereof sundrie times by casualtie of fire, yet rose it up alwaies againe more beautifull and glorious then before.

After the Normans entrie into this land when King William Rufus, as it was recorded in the Register of Saint Augustines Abbay, 'Had given the City of Canterbury wholie in * fee simple unto the Bishops, which before time they had held at the Kings courtesey onelie,' it begun not onelie to get heart againe, what through the fame of the religious pietie of godly men there, and what through the bounty of the Bishops, and especially of Simon Sudbury, who rebuilt up the walls new; but grew also as it were upon a sodaine to such a state, that for beauty of private dwelling houses it equalled all the cities of Britaine, but for the magnificent and sumptuous building of religious places and the number of them, it surpassed even those that were most famous. A=

mong which, two especially surmounted all; Christs-church and Saint Augustines, both of them replenished with monkes of the order of Saint Benet. And as for Christ-church, it raiseth it selfe aloft neare the heart of the Citie, with so great a maiestie and statelinesse, that it striketh a sensible impression of religion into their mindes that behold it a farre off. This church built in old time, as Bede saith, 'by the faithfull and beleeving Romanes,' the same Augustine of whom I spake, got into his hands, consecrated it to Christ, and assigned it to bee the seat for his successors: wherein 73. Archbishops in a continued traine of succession have now set. Of whom Lanfranke, and William Corboyl brought the upper part of the Church, and they that succeeded, the nethermore, (where as that the more antient worke had beene consumed with fire) to that statelinesse which now we see not without exceeding great charges, which a devout perswasion in former times willingly disbursed. For, a number of high, of low, and of meane degree flocked hither in pilgrimage with very great and rich oblations to visit the tombe of Thomas Becket the Archbishop: who being slaine in this Church by Courtiers, for that in maintaining of the Ecclesiasticall liberties, he had stubbornly opposed himselfe against the King, was martyred a holy Martire by the Bishop of Rome, and worshipped as a Saint, and his shrine so looden with great offrings, that the meanest part of it, was of pure gold, 'So bright, so shining and glittering,' as Erasmus (who saw it) saith, 'was every corner, with rare and exceeding big pretious stons: yea and the Church all round about did abound with more than princelike riches:' and as though Christs name to whom it was dedicated, had beene quite forgotten, it came to be called Saint Thomas Church. Neither was it for any thing else so famous, as for his memoriall and sepulture, although it may justly vaunt of many famous mens tombs and monuments: especially, that of Edward surnamed The Blacke Prince of Wales, a most worthy and renowned Knight for warlike prowess, and the very wonder of his age: also of Henrie the Fourth, a most puissant King of England. But Henrie the Eight scattered this welth heaped up together in so many ages, and dispersed those Monkes: in lieu of whom were placed in this Christs-Church, a Dean, an Archdeacon, Præbendaries twelve, and Six Preachers who in places adjoining round about should teach and preach the word of God. The other Church that alwaies mightily strove with this for superiority, stood by the Cities side Eastward, knowen by the name of Saint Austines: which Augustine himselfe and King Ethelbert at his exhortation, founded and dedicated to Saint Peter and Paule: that it might be the Sepulture place, both for the Kings of Kent and also for the Archbishops; (For, as yet it was not lawfull to bury within Cities) and endowed it with infinite riches, granting unto the Abbat a mint house-with priviledge to coine money. And now, at this day, notwithstanding the greatest part thereof is buried under his owne ruins, and the rest was converted to the Kings house, yet it sheweth manifestly to the beholders how great a thing it was. Augustine himselfe was entered in the porch of the same, with this Epitaph, as witnesseth Thomas Spot.

338

Inclytus Anglorum præsul pius, & decus altum,
Hic Augustinus requiescit corpore sanctus.

The bodie of Saint Augustine doth heere entered lie:
A prelate great, deuout also, and Englands honor hie.

<239>

But, as Bede reporteth, who rather is to be credited, this was the more ancient Inscription of his tombe.

Hic requiescit dominus Augustinus Dorouernensis
Archiepiscopus primus, qui olim huc a beato Gregorio Romanæ urbis pontifice directus, et a Deo operatione miraculorum suffultus, et Ethelberthum regem ac gentem illius ab idolorum cultu ad fidem Christi perduxit, et completis in pace diebus officii sui defunctus est septimo Kalendas lunias, eodem Rege regnante.

Here resteth Dan. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury: who being in times past directed hither from blessed Gregorie the Bishop of Rome, and through the working of miracles supported by God, both brought King Ethelbert and his people from idolatry to the faith of Christ, and also after the daies of his function accomplished in peace,

died the seaventh day before the Kalends of lune, in the same Kings reigne.

Together with him in the same porch were buried six Archbishops next succeeding, and in memoriall of these seuen namely, Austen, Laurence, Mellitus, Iustus, Honorius, Deus-dedit, and Theodosius, were these verses (such as they are) engraven there in marble:

Septem sunt Anglis Primates et Protopatres,
Septem Rectores, septem cœloque Triones;
Septem cisternæ vitæ, septemque lucernæ;
Et septem palmæ regni, septemque coronæ,
Septem sunt stellæ, quas hæc tenet area cellæ.

Seven Patriarchs of England, Primates seven:
Seven Rectors, and seven Labourers in heaven.
Seven Cesternes pure of life, seven Lamps of light
Seven Palmes, and of this realme seven Crownes full bright,
Seven Starres, are heere bestow'd in vault below.

I may not forget another Church neere unto this, built as Bede saith, by the Romans and consecrated to Saint Martin, wherein, before Austens comming, Bertha wife to King Ethelbert, descended from the bloud Roiall of France was wont to frequent divine Christian service. Concerning the Castle on the South side of the Citie, the Bulwarks whereof now are decayed, it maketh no shew of any great antiquity, and there is no memorable thing therof come to my knowledge, but only that it was built by the Normans: as touching the dignity of the See of Canterburie, which in times past carried a great State, I will say nothing but this, that, as in former ages, during the Romane Hierarchie, the Archbishops of Canterbury were Primates of all Britaine, Legates to the Pope, and as Vrbane the second said, 'The Patriarches, as it were, of another world:' so when the Popes authority was abrogated, a decree passed in the Synode. Anno, 1534, that laying a side the said title, they should be stiled Primates and Metropolitanes of all England. Which dignity the right reverend Father in Christ D. Iohn Whitgift lately held, who devoutly consecrated both his whole life to God, & all his painfull labours to the Church, and in the yeere 1604. slept in the Lord a Pre=

339

late much missed of all good men: After whom succeeded Doctor Richard Bancroft, a man of singular courage and counsaile, in establishing and supporting the state Ecclesiasticall. For the Latitude of Canterbury, the Pole Arctick is elevated above the Horizon there fifty one degrees and sixteene minutes, and the Longitude is reckoned to bee foure and twenty degrees, and fifty one minutes.

Hackington.

Stour by this time having gathered his waters all into one streame runneth beside Hackington, where Dame Lora Countesse of Leicester, a most honorable Ladie in those daies, having abandoned all worldly pleasures, sequestred her self from the world devoutly, to serue God wholly. Afore which time Baldwin Archbishop of Canterbury beganne a church there in the honour of Saint Stephen, and Thomas of Canterbury. But beeing inhabited by the Bishop of Rome his authority, for feare the same might prejudice the Monkes of Canterburie, hee gave over the workes, Howbeit ever since, the name remained and the place is called Saint Stephens.

Saint Stephens.

of which Sir Roger Manwood knight L. cheife Baron of the Exchequer, a man of exquisite knowledge in our common lawes, (unto whom for his bounteous liberality the poore inhabitants are much beholden) was of late time a right great ornament: and even so is his son at this day Sir Peter Manwood knight of the Bath, whom I cannot but mention when as hee is a favorer of vertue, and learning. From thence Stour passeth by Fordich (called the little Burrough of Forewich in King William the first Coquerours booke) a place of note for excellent good trouts; & so in former time to Stoure-mouth, which it hath now forsaken a mile, and more; yet left and bequeathed his name to it. But now by Stoure mouth runneth a brooke which issuing out of Saint Eadburghs well at Liming (where the daughter to King Ethelbert first of our nation tooke the veile) while it seeketh the sea, seeth Elham a mercat towne of which I haue read nothing, but that the Mannour was the inheritance of Iulian Leibourn a Ladie of great honour in her time, who was mother of Laurence Hastings first Earle of Penbroke of that surname, & after wife to William Clinton Earle of Huntingdon. Then it holdeth his course by diverse villages, which therof receive the ad=

Fordich.

The first English Nunn.

Elham.

Inq. 2. E. 3.

dition of **Bourn**, as Bishops-bourn, Hawles-bourn, Patricks-bourn, and Beakes-bourn. This bourne is that river Stoure as Cæsar calleth it (as I haue observed travailing lately in these parts) which Cæsar came vnto, when he had marched by night almost twelue Italian miles from the sea-coast, and where hee had the first encounter, in his second expedition into Britaine; with the Britans, whome hee draue into the woods, where they had a place fortified both by nature, and mens labour, with a number of trees hewen downe and plashed to fore-close the entries, But yet the Romans forced an entrie, draue them out, and there about encamped. The place of campe as I heare, is neare Hardes, a place of ancient Gentlemen of that surname, descended from Esten graue, Herengod, and the Fitz-Bernards.

Hardes.

* Hides in English. An hides as it is thought consisteth of an hundred acres, called in latine in old time, Familia, Mansa and Manens. <240>

Belowe Stoure-mouth, Stoure dividing his streame taketh two severall waies, and leaving that name is called **In-lade and Wantsume**, making the Isle of Tenet on the West and South side: for on all other sides it is washed with the maine Sea. This Iland Solinus named Athanaton, and in other copies Thanaton: the Britans †luis Ruhin, as witnesseth Asserius: happily, for Rhutupin, of †Rhutupinæ a Citie adjoining. The English Saxons called it Tanet, and Tanetland, and we Tenet. All the Isle standeth upon a whitish †maile, ful of goodly corne fields, and being a right fertile soile, carrieth in length eight miles, and foure in Bredth: reckoned in old time to containe 600. * Families: in steede whereof, it is †corruply read in Bede Milliarium †Sexcentarum, for, Familiarum Sexcentarum. But whereas Solinus writeth 'that there is not a snake creeping in this Isle, and that the mould or earth carried from hence killeth snakes,' it is now proved to bee vntrue. That Etymologie therefore derived <apo tou thanatou>, that is, from the death of snakes, falleth quite to the ground. Here the English Saxons landed first: here by the permission of Guortigern they first seated them selves: here was their place of refuge; and here Guortimor the Britan made a great slaughter of them: when, at Lapis Tituli, (for so is that place named in Ninnius which we now call †Stouar almost in the same sense, and haven certainly it was) hee put them to

Lapis tituli.

340

flight and forced them with all the speed they might to take † their Pinnaces.

In which place also, he gaue commandement, saith hee, that him selfe should be buried to repress thereby, as hee thought, the furious outrages of the English Saxons: in like sort as Scipio Africanus did, who commanded that his tombe should bee so set, as that it might looke toward Africa: supposing that his verie tombe would be a terror to the Carthaginians. Here also at Wipped fleet, (so called of Wipped the Saxon there slaine) Hengest discomfited the Britans and put them to flight, after he had sore tired them with sundry conflicts. **S. Austin our Apostle (as they call him)** many yeares after landed in this Isle, unto whose blessing the credulous Clergie ascribed the plentiful fertility of the country: and the Monke Gotceline cried out in this maner: 'O the land of Tenet, happy by reason of her fertility, but most happy for receiuing and entertaining so many Divine in-commers bringing God with them, or rather so many heauenly citizens.' Egbert the third King of the Kentish-men to pacifie dame Domneva a deuout Lady, whom before time he had exceeding much wronged, granted heere a faire peece of land, wherein she erected a Monastery for 70. veiled virgins: the prioresse whereof was Mildred, for her holinesse canonized a Saint, and the Kings of Kent bestowed many faire possessions upon it, but Withred especially, who (that I may note the antiquity and maner of liuery of Seisin in that age out of the very forme of his owne Donation) 'For the full complement of his confirmation thereof, laied upon the holy altar a turfe of that ground which he gave **at Humantun.**' Heere afterward sundry times arrived the Danes who piteously empoverished this Iland by robbings and pillages, and also polluted this Monastery of Domneva with all kinde of cruelty, that it flourished not againe before the Normans gouernment. **Heere also landed Lewis of France, who called in by the tumultuous Barons of England against King Iohn,** published by their instigation a pretended right to the Crowne of England. For that whereas King Iohn for his notorious treason against King Richard his brother absent in the Holy-land, was by his Peeres lawfully condemned, and therefore after the death of King Richard the right of the Crowne was deuolued to the Queene of Castile sister to the said King Richard; and that shee and her heires had conueied ouer their right to the said Lewis, and his wife her daughter: Also that King Iohn had forfeited his †Kindome both by the murder of his Nephew Arthur, whereof he was found guilty by his Peeres in France, and also by subjecting his Kingdoms which were alwaies, free to the Pope, as much as in him lay, contrary to his oath at his Coronation, and that without the consent of the Peeres of the realme, &c. Which I leaue to

Now Elflet.

596.

Minster.

1217.
Lewis of France.

Chronicles of W. Thorn.

Historians, with the successe of his expedition, least I might seeme to digresse extraordinarily.

Neither must I passe over heere in silence, that which maketh for the singular praise of the inhabitants of Tenet, those especially which dwell by the roads or harbours of Margat, Ramsgate and Brodstear. For, they are passing industrious, and as if they were Amphibii, that is, both land-creatures, and sea-creatures, get their living both by sea and land, as one would say with both these elements: they be Fisher-men and Plough-men: as well Husband-men as Mariners: and they that hold the plough-taile in earing the ground, the same hold the helme in steering the ship. According to the season of the yeare, they knit nets, they fish for Cods, Herrings, Mackarels, &c. they saile, and carry fourth Merchandise. The same againe dung and mannure their grounds, Plough, Sow, harrow, reape their Corne and they inne it. Men most ready and well appointed both for sea and land: and thus goe they round and keepe a circle in these their labours. Furthermore whereas that otherwhiles there happen shipwrackes heere, (for there lie full against the shore those dangerous flats, shal=lowes, shelves, and sands, so much feared of Sailers, which they use to call, The Good=win sands, The Brakes, The four-foots, The whitdick &c.) these men are wont to be=stir themselues lustily in recouering both ships, men, and Marchandise endangered.

Rhutupia.
Portus Trutu=
lensis.

At the mouth of Wantsum Southward, (which men thinke hath changed his cha=nell) over against the Isle stood a City, which Ptolome called Rhutupiæ, Taci=tus, Portus Trutulensis, for Rhutupensis, if Beatus Rhenanus coniectureth

341

truely: Antonine, Rhitupis Portus, Ammianus Marcellinus, Rhutupiæ Statio, that is, the Road of †Phutupiæ, Orosius, The Haven and City of Rhutubus: the old English-Saxons as Beda witnesseth, Reptacester, others Ruptimuth, Alfred of Beuerly nameth it Richberge: we at this day, Richborow: Thus hath time sported in varying of one and the same name. Whence this name should arise, it is not for certaine knowen. But seeing the places neere unto it, as Sandwich and Sandiby haue their denomination of Sandi: I considering also, that Rhyd Tufith in the British-tongue betokeneth a sandy fould, I would willingly if I durst, derive it from thence. This City seemed to haue beene seated on the descent of an hill, the Castle there stood overlooking from an higher place the Ocean which is now so farre excluded by reason of sandy residence inbealched with the tides, that it comes hardly within a mile of it. Right famous and of great name was this City while the Romans ruled here. From hence was the usual passing out of Britan [to France & the Neatherlands](#), at it the Roman fleets arriued, here it was that Lupicinus sent by * Constantius the Emperour into Britaine for to repress the rodes and invasions of Scots and Picts both, landed the Heruli, and Batauians, and Mæsiian regiments. Heere also Theodosius the father of Theodosius the Emperour, to whom as Symmachus witnesseth, the Senate decreed for pacifying Britan armed Statues on horse backe, arrived with his Herculii, Iovii, Victores & Fidentes, for these were names of Roman regiments. Afterwards when the Saxon Pirates impeached entercourse of merchants and infested our coasts with continual piracies, the Second Legion Augusta, which being remooved by the Empe=rour Claudius out of Germany had remained many yeares in Garizon at * Isca Silurum in Wales, was translated hither, and had a †Provest of their owne heere under the great Lieutenant and Count of the Saxon shore. Which Provostship happily, that Clemens Maximus bare, who being heere in Britan by the soldiers saluted Emperour, slew Gratian, [the lawfull Emperour](#); and was afterwards himselfe slaine by Theodosius at Aquileia: For, this Maximus it was whom Ausonius in †the verses of Aquileia, called the Rhutupine robber.

* The yonger.

* [Caer Leon](#).

Clemens
Maximus.

<241>

* Maximus armigeri quondam sub nomine lixæ.
Fœlix quæ tanti spectatrix læta triumphî,
Fudisti Ausonio Rhutupinum Marte latronem.

* [See how these verses are englished in pag. 83.](#)

<Of Maximus, a base camp-Squire that sometimes knowen to be,
Had now usurped five yeeres past, and ruled with tyrannie.
Right happy thou, of Triumph such that had'st the joyfull sight,
Killing this Robber Rhutupine by maine Italian might.>

The same Poet also in his Poem Parentalia, preserved the memory of Flavius Sanctus another President or Governour of Rhutupiæ, concerning whom thus hee wrote.

Militiam nullo qui turbine sedulus egit,
Præsidi lætatus quo Rhotupinus ager.

His marshial service who discharg'd with care without all stur,
And Rutupin †reioyce in him, while there he gouerned.

There bee
that under
the name of
Rhotupine
would haue
all Britans to
be vnder=
stood.

Ausonius likewise in a lamentable funerall verse, setteth forth the praise of Claudius Contentus his Uncle, who being overtaken with death left behind him unto strangers a mighty stock of money which hee had put out to usury among the Britaines and encreased by interest; and was here also enterred.

Et patruos †Elegia meos reminiscere cantus,
Contentum, tellus quem Rhotupina tegit.

My dolefull Muse now call to minde the songs of Unkle mine,
Contentus, who enterred lies within mould Rhotupine.

This Rhotupinæ flourished also after the comming in of the English Saxons. For, writers record, that it was the Roiall Palace of Ethelbert King of Kent; and Bede gaue it the name of a City. But ever since, it beganne to decay: neither is the name of it read in any place afterward, as farre as I know, but in Alfred of Beverly, who hath put downe in writing, that Alcher with a powre of Kentish-men at this towne, then called Richberge, foiled and defaied the Danes encombered with the spoiles they had before gotten.

Now hath time razed out all the footings and tractes thereof, and to teach vs that Cities as well as men have their fatall periods, it is a verie field

342

at this daie, wherein when the corne is come uppe a man may see the draughts of streetes crossing one another: (For, wheresoever the streetes went, there the corne is thinne) which the common people terme Saint Augustins Crosse. And there remaine onelie certaine walles of a Castle of rough flinte, and long Britan brickets in forme of a quadrant, and the same cemented with lime, and a most stiffe binding sand, mightily strengthened by tract of time, so that the cement is as hard as the stone. Over the entrie whereof is fixed a head of a personage engraven in stone, some say it was Queene Berthas head, but I take it to bee a Romane worke. A man would deeme this to haue beene the Citadell or keepe of the City, it stands on such a height over-looking the low grounds in Tenet, which the Ocean by little and little shrinking away hath now left. Moreover, the plot whereon the Citie stood, being now plowghed up, doth oftentimes discover peeces of Romane coines as well gold † silver, evident tokens of the antiquity thereof: and a little beneath shee sheweth a daughter of hers, which the English Saxons of sand called †Sontbyc, and wee, Sandwich. This beeing one of the Cinque-ports, as they terme them, is on the North and West side, fortified with walles and on other parts fenced with a rampier, river and ditch. The haven by reason of sand choaking it, and a great shippe of burden belonging to Pope Paule the Fourth, which was accidentalie sunke in the verie chanell thereof, is not deepe enough to beare any tall vesells.

Sandwich.

Escaetria. 23.
E. 3. p. 2.

In auncient times it sundrie times felt the furious forces of the Danes, afterward King Canutus the Dane when hee had gained the Crowne of England, bestowed it upon Christs-Church in Canterburie with the roialtie of the water on each side, so farre forth as a shippe beeing a floate, a man might cast a Danish hatchet out of the vessell to the banke. In the Normane raigne it was reckoned one of the Cinque-ports, and to finde fiue shippes. In the yeare 1217. Lewis of France of whom wee spake lately, burned it. King Edward the first for a time placed heere the staple, and King Edward the Third by exchange reunited it to the Crowne. About which time there flourished heere a familie surnamed De Sandwico, which had matched with one of the †heire of Creue-cur, and Dauranches, Lord of Folkestone, and deserved well of this place. In the time of King Henrie the Sixth it was burned by the French. In our daies Sir Roger Manwood chiefe Baron of the Exchequer, natiue of this place, built, and endowed heere a free-schoole, and the Netherlanders haue bettered the towne by making, and trading of Baies, Saies and other commodities.

Cantium the
Promontory.

Beneath Rhotupinæ, Ptolomee placeth the Promontorie Cantium as the utmost cape of this Angle, which in some copies is corruptly written Nucantium and

The Fore-land.

Acantium: Diodorus as corruptly calleth it Carion, and we at this day the Fore-land of Kent. Now all these shores on every side, are of this Rhutupiæ by the Poets termed 'Rhutupina littora.' Hence it is, that Iuvenall satyrically inveighing against Curtius Montanus a dainty and delicious glutton, speaking of oysters carried from this shore to Rome, hath these verses.

— nulli major fuit vsus edendi
Tempestate mea, Circæis nata forent, an
Lucrinum ad saxum, Rhutupinoue ædita fundo
Ostrea, callebat primo deprendere morsu.

None in my time had more use of his tooth,
Whence oysters came, where they were bred, full well
He knew: at Circeie cape, at Lucrine rock, for sooth,
Or Rhutup * coast, at first bit he could tell.

* British sea.

And Lucan the Poet.

Aut vaga cum Thetis, Rhutupinaque littora feruent.

* Or boyle.

Or when unconstant waving sea, and British shores doe * rage.

From this Fore-land aforesaid, the shore runneth on Southward for certaine miles together, indented with a continued raunge of many hilles mounting up. But

343

Sandon.
Deale.
where Cæsar arrived.

when it is come as farre as Sandon (that 't is to say the Downe of Sand), and to Deale, and Walmer three Neighbour Castles, which King Henrie the Eighth within the remembrance of our Fathers built, it setleth low, and in a flat and open plaine lieth full against the sea. At this Deale, or Dole: as Ninnius calleth it (and that true lie in mine opinion: For, our Britans at this daie doe so terme a plaine lying low and open upon sea or river) the constant report goes that Iulius Cæsar did arrive: and Ninnius avoucheth as much, who in barbarous Latine wrote thus, 'Cæsar ad Dole bellum pugnavit,' that is, At Dole Cæsar fought a battaile. A Table likewise set uppe in Dover Castle confirmeth the same: yea and Cæsar him selfe verifieth it: who reporteth that hee landed upon an open and plaine shore, and that the Britans welcomed and received him with a hote and daungerous encounter. Whereupon, our Country man Leland in his Swans song

lactat Dela novas celebris arces,
Notus Cæsareis locus trophæis.

Deale famed much, vants of new turrets hie,
A place well knowne by Cæsars victorie.

Cæsars entry into Britanny.

For hee, (give mee leaue I pray you to digresse a while out of my course) having, (as Pomponius Sabinus reporteth out of Seneca) wonne all that was to be gotten by sea and land, cast his eye to the Ocean, and as if the Romane world would not suffice him, bethought him selfe upon another world: and with a fleete of a thousand saile (for so writeth Athenæus out of Cotas, either to be revenged of the Britans who ayded the Gaules, (as Strabo saith); or in hope of British pearles, as Suetonius reporteth: or inflamed with an ambitious desire of glorie, as others doe record, in the yeare before Christs nativitie fiftie foure, and once againe in the yeare ensuing, entred into Britan; having before hand sounded the havens by his espialles, as Suetonius, and himselfe doth testifie; and not, as Roger Bachon fableth, by setting certaine looking glasses upon the coast of Gaule, and by Art perspectiue, which by reflexion multiplieth hidden formes. What hee exploited heere, himselfe hath at large delivered in his Commentaries; and I likewise before haue summarily abridged out of him, and the writings of Suetonius concerning Scæva, whose valourous service during the civill warre was notablie seene aboute others at Dyrrachium: and whom our Poet Ioseph of Excester in his Antiocheis, and namelie in these his verses touching Britan, reported (I know not how truely) to haue been a Britan borne.

<242>

In his booke de Arte et Natura.

Hinc et Scæua satus, pars non obscura tumultus
Civilis, Magnum solus qui mole soluta
Obsedit, meliorque stetit pro Cæsare murus.

Here borne also was Scæva, he that bare no little sway
In all these civill broiles; the Fort that stood full in his way
Alone hee brake, Pompey besieged, was Cæsars strongest stay.

See page 34.
35. &c.

But what were the exploits of Cæsar in this our country, learne you may of him= selfe, and out of that which hath before beene written. For, neither as yet, haue I met with that old father a Britan, whom Marcus Aper, as wee read in Quintilian, saw in this Island; who avowed that hee was present at the battaile, in which they assaied to keepe Cæsar from landing, when hee came to warre upon them: neither is it any part of my meaning now to write an Historie, [but a Topographie](#).

Castra nava=
lia.
Cæsars ship-
camp.

Upon this shore, lie out with a long traine certaine heapes in manner of bankes or rampiers, which some imagine that the winde swept up together. But I suppose them to haue beene a fense and countermure, or rather the Ship-camp, which Cæsar raised with tenne daies and as many nights labour, to haile up thereto his sea-beatten and shaken Nauie, and to defend it, both against tempests and al= so the Britans, who in vaine did assaile it.

For, I understand by relation of the dwellers thereby, that this rampier is cal= led Romes-worke, as if it were A worke of the Romanes. And so much the rather beleuee I, that Cæsar arrived heere, because hee writeth, that seaven

344

Dubris.
Dover.
[Darell](#).

miles from hence, (for, so wee reade in the auncient bookes, corrected by Flavius Constantinus a man of Consul degree) the sea is kept in and compassed with such streight mountains that from the higher places a dart may be flung to the very shore: verily as soone as we are past Deale, a mighty ridge of steepe high Cliffs, Cice= ro termeth them 'moles magnificas,' that is, Stately cliffes bringing forth Sampier in great plenty, runneth for seaven miles or there about, as far as to Dover: where it openeth it selfe: and of that nature is the place, that, right as Cæsar writeth, betweene two hills it letteth in and encloseth the sea. Within this partition and seperation of the Clyffes lieth Dubris, which Antonine the Emperour mentioneth, the Saxons †name it Dofra, and wee Dover. This name was given unto it, as [Darell](#) out of [Ead= mer](#) writeth, because the place was shut uppe and hard to come unto. 'For, when as,' (saith he) 'in ancient times the sea there harborous spreaded, it selfe upon urgent ne= cessity to make it a more commodious haven, they kept it in with more streight bounds.' Howbeit, [William Lambard](#), with more probability fetched the reason of this name from the word Dufyrrha, which in the British language betokeneth a place steepe and upright.

[In Sussex](#).

Suffragane to
the Archbi=
shop of Can=
terburie.

The towne which is seated betweene high clyffs (whereas some-time the ha= ven was, when the sea more insinuated it selfe, as wee collect by the anchors and ship planks that are digged there up; is more famous for the commodiousnesse of the haven, (such as it is) and for readie passage into France, than for any elegancie, or great trade. For it is a place of passage of all other most haunted, and it was pro= vided in old time by a speciall Statute, that no man going forth of the realme in pilgrimage, should els where embark and take sea: more-over it is reckoned one of the Cinque-ports, and in times past it was charged to furnish and set out one and twenty ships unto the warres, in the same maner and forme as Hastings did, whereof I haue already spoken. Toward the sea (now somewhat excluded by Beach) it was fenced with a wall; whereof some part as yet standeth. It had a faire church conse= crated unto †Sant Martin, founded by Whitred King of Kent, an house also of the Knights-Templers, which now are quite gone, and nothing to bee seene of them: It yeeldeth like-wise a seat for the Archbishop of Canterburie †Saffragans, who when the Archbishop is busied in weightier affaires, manageth for him matters that per= taine to Orders onelie, and not to the Episcopall iurisdiction. From the toppe of a rough and craggie cliffe which mounteth up to a wonderfull height, where it looketh downe to the sea: a most stately castle like unto a pretie Citie fortified right stronglie with bul-warkes and many a Tower, over looketh and threatneth after a sort the sea vnder it: [Mathew of Paris](#) calleth it the Key and Locke, The Barre and Sparre of England. The common sort of people dreameth, that it was built by Iulius Cæsar, and verilie I suppose by the British Bricks in the Chappell there, that it was built by the Romans, who used such in their great buildings. What time as the Romane Empire declined, they placed heere a band or companie of the Tungricanes, who were accounted among the Aides-Palatine: out of whose ar= mourie and munition happilie were those bigge arrowes, which the Castel=

A band of
the Tungri=
canes.

lanes doe now shew for wonders, and were wont to bee discharged **then, and manie yeares after, before the invention of great Ordinance, out of engines called Balistæ like huge crosse-bowes bent by force of two or foure men.**

<243>

From the entrance of the English Saxons into this land, unto the expiration of their Kingdome, no where could I as yet reade so much as one bare worde of this Castle or the Towne; save onelie in certaine by-notes out of a Table, that was heere hanged uppon a wall; which reported that Cæsar, having arrived at Deale, and discomfited the Britans at Baramdowne (which is a plaine adjoyning, fitte for horse fight and meete to embattaile an armie in) beganne the Castle of Dover; and that Arviragus afterward fortified it against the Romans, and stopped up the haven. Also, that after him King Arthur and his knights vanquished I wot not what rebels heere. Howbeit a little before the Normans comming in, it was reputed the onelie defense and strength of England: and for that cause William Duke

345

Castlegard changed.

of Normandie, bound Harold by an oath to deliver up into his hands this Castle together with the well, what time as he aspired to the Kingdome: and after hee had settled his estate and affaires at London, thought it good before all other things to fortifie this peece and to assigne faire lands in Kent unto Gentlemen to be held in Castle-gard, with this condition to be in readinesse with certaine numbers of men for defense of the same: which service notwithstanding at this day is redeemed with a yeerely paiement of money. For, when Sir Hubert de Burgh was Constable of this Castle, (to use the words of an old writer) 'he weighing with himselfe that it was not safe for the Castle to have every moneth new warders for the Castle-gard, procured by the assent of the King and all that held of that Castle, that every one should send for the ward of one moneth tenne shillings: and that therewith certaine men elect and sworne, as well horse as foote, should be waged, for to gard the Castle.' It is written, that Philip surnamed Augustus King of France, when Lewis his sonne, went about to gaine the Crowne of England, had wonne certaine Cities **and Forts, and could not get this, being manfully defended by the said Sir Hubert de Burgh:** said thus. 'Verily my sonne hath not one foote of land in England, vntill he be Maister of Dover Castle:' as being in very deed the strongest hold of all England, and most commodious for the French. Upon the other cliffe which standeth over against it, and beareth up his head, in maner, even with it, are extant the remaines of a very auntient building. One, I know not upon what reason induced, said it was Cæsars Altar. But Iohn Twin of Canterbury a learned old man, who in his youth saw a great part thereof standing whole and entier, assured me, that it had beene a Watch-towre to give night light & direction to ships. Like as there stood another opposite unto it at Bologne in France, erected there by the Romanes, and long after reedified by Charles the Great (as Regino witnesseth, in whom Pharus, for Pharum, is falsly read, which at this day the French terme Tour de Order, and the English, The old man of Bullen. Under this cliffe, Henrie the Eighth, in our fathers daies with exceeding labour **and 63000. pounds charges,** by pitching huge posts fast within the very sea, and the same bound together with yron worke, and heaping thereupon a deale of timber and stones, brought up a mighty Pile which we call, The Peere, wherein the ships might more safely ride. But the furious violence of the raging Ocean soone overcame the laudable endeauour of that puissant Prince, & so the frame of this worke beaten continually upon with the waves, became disioined. For the repaire whereof, Queene Elizabeth laid out a great summe of money, and the Authority of Parliament imposed upon every English ship that carry forth or bring in merchandise a certaine toll vpon Tonneage for **certaine** yeares.

This Sea coast of Britaine is seperated from the Continent of Europe by a frete or streight, where, as some suppose the Seas brake in & made way between the lands. Solinus calleth it Fretum Gallicum, Tacitus, and Ammianus Marcellinus, Fretum Oceani, and Oceanum Fretalem, Gratius the Poet:

Freta Morinum dubio refluentia ponto.

The narrow Seas on Bollen-coast that keepe uncertaine tides.

The streight of Calais or narrow seas.

They of the Netherlands call it Dehofden, of the two Heads or promontories: we **the Narrow-sea,** and The strait of Calais, as the Frenchmen, Pas de Callais. For, this is the place as saith a Poet of our time.

— gemini qua ianua ponti
Faucibus angustis, lateque frementibus vndis

Gallorum Anglorumque vetat concurrere terras.

Where current of two seas
In gullet streight, wherein throughout, their billowes rage and fret
Keepes France and England so a part, as though they neuer met.

The narrow sea, as Marcellinus truly writeth, 'swelleth at every tide with terrible high flouds,' and againe at the ebbe becometh 'as flat as a plaine field: [if it not be raised with winds, & counter-seas](#) between † & too risings of the moone it floweth twice & ebbeth as oft.' For, as the Moone ascendeth toward the Meridian, and is set againe under the Hori=

346

zon in the just opposite point, the Ocean heere swelleth mightily and the huge bil=lowes rush upon the shores with so great a noise that the Poet might well say, 'Rhutu= pinaque littora fervent.' And Rhutup shore, doth boile & billow & D. Paulinus, where he speaketh of the County of Bulloigne, which he termeth 'the utmost skirt of the world,' not without cause used these words, 'Oceanum barbaris fluctibus frementem,' that is, The Ocean raging and roring with barbarous billowes.

Whether
Britannie
were in time
past joined
unto France.

<244>

Heere might arise a question beseeming a learned man that hath wit and time at will, whether, where this narrow sea runneth between France and Britaine now, there was a narrow banke or necke of land that in times past conioined these regions, and afterwards being broken either by the generall deluge, or by rushing in of the waves, or else by occasion of some earthquak, did let in the waters to make a through passage. Verily, as no man makes doubt that the face of the whole earth hath beene altered, partly by the said deluge, and partly by long continuance of time and other causes: as also that llands by earthquakes, or the shrinking backe of waters were layd and joined unto firme lands: so, most certainly it appeereth by authors of best credite, that llands by reason of †earthquake and the breaking in of waters were severed, disioined, and rent from the Continent. Whereupon Pythagoras in Ovid saith thus:

Vidi ego quod quondam fuerat solidissima tellus,
Esse fretum; vidi factas ex æquore terras.

My selfe haue seene maine ground sometime turnd into sea and sand,
And seene I haue againe the Sea, †became maine settled land.

Strabo gathering of things to come by those that are past, concluded that such Isthmi neckes, or narrow bankes of land, both have beene, and shall be wrought and pierced through. 'You see,' saith Seneca, 'whole regions violently removed from their places, and now to lie beyond the Sea, which lay before bounding vpon it and hard by. You see, there is separation made both of Countries and nations, when as some part of nature is provoked of it selfe: or when the mighty wind beateth strongly upon some sea: the force whereof, as in generall, is wonderfull. For, although it rage but in part, yet it is of the vniuersall power that it so rageth. Thus hath the sea rent Spaine from the Continent of Africke: Thus by Deucalions flud so much spoken of by the greatest Poets, was Sicilie cut from Italy. And heereupon Virgil wrote thus,

Hæc loca vi quondam, & vasta conuulsa ruina
(Tantum æui longinqua valet mutare vetustas)
Dissiluisse ferunt, cum protinus vtraque tellus
Vna foret, venit medio vi pontus & undis,
Hesperium Siculo latus abscidit, aruaque & urbes
Littore diductas angusto interluit æstu.

These lands whilom by †violenee of †bretch and ruins great,
(Such change makes time, and what is it that long time doth not eate?)
A sunder fell (men say) where as they both in one did growe,
The Seas brake in by force, and through the mids did overthrow
Both townes and grounds. And Italie forthwith from Sicilie side
Did cut, and them with in-let streight doth still part and deuide.

Plinie sheweth likewise of Isles, that Cypres was rent from Syria, Eubæa, from Boeotia, Besbicus, from Bythynia, being parts before of the maine land: But none of the old writers was ever able to avouch, that Britaine was so severed from the Maine: onely those verses of Virgil and Claudian before cited by me in the very first entrance into this worke, together with the conjecture of Servius Honoratus doe insinuate so much. And yet, Dominicus Marius Niger, and Master Iohn Twin a right learned man, and

whosoever he was that wrested these verses made of †Scilia, unto Britaine, are of this opinion:

— Britannia quondam
Gallorum pars vna fuit, sed pontus & æstus
Mutauere situm, rupit confinia Nereus
Victor: & abscissos interluit æquore montes.

347

— Some time was Britannie
A part of France. But swelling tides on hie
Have changed the site: and Nereus he, as Conqueror hath torne
The confines quite, and runs betweene the cliffs a sunder worne.

Considering therefore, that in this matter there is no assured ground upon certaine authority; the learned, by laying and comparing the like examples in such narrow Seas as this, for searching out of the truth; propose these and such like points duly to be weighed and considered.

First, whether the nature of the soile in both shores be the same; which verily is found heere to be even so: For the shore of either side, [where the distance betweene is narrowest](#), riseth up with lofty cliffes, of the same matter, as it were, and colour, so as they may seeme to have beene riven a sunder.

Secondly, How great the bredth is of the sea or streight. Certes, the †streights heere is not much broader, than either the streight of Gibraltar, or of Sicilie: to wit, twenty foure miles over: so as at the first sight, one would imagine that these lands were seuered by the billowes of the raging counter-seas. For that the land sunke downward by earth-quakes, I hardly dare thinke, seeing that this our Northren climate of the world is seldome shaken with earth-quakes, and those when they happen, be never great.

Thirdly, How deepe the streight is. As the Streight of Sicilie is sounded in depth 80. paces, so this of ours exceedeth not 25. fatham, whereas the sea on both sides of it is much deeper.

* Frowen shoale.

Fourthly, Of what nature the ground is in the bothoms, stony, sandy, beachy, or else oasy, and muddy. And whether there be beds or shelves of sand lying scattered in the said narrow sea? I haue learned of Sailers that there lieth but * one banke, and the same in the very mid-channell, which at a low water is scarce 3. fatham deepe, [But within halfe a league to the South-ward it is 27. fatham deepe, and to the North-ward 25.](#)

* Welch. <245>

Lastly, Whether any place in either of the two shores taketh name in the ancient language, of a breach, a plucking away, division, separation or such like? as Rhægium which standeth upon the Sicilian Streight, is named of the Greeke word <Rhêgnumi> that is, to breake, because in that place, by the violent force of waues Sicilie was broken off from Italie. But thinking, as I doe, heereof, I can meet with none, unlesse one would suppose that Vitsan upon the French shore, had the name from Gwith, which in the * Brittonish tongue betokeneth a division or seperation.

They that would haue Britain to have been the very continent of Gaule after that uniuersall deluge, argue from the woules, whereof there were many among vs in old time, like as at this day in Scotland and Ireland.

De Civitate Dei lib. 16. c. 7.

How, say they, could there be any of them in Ilands considering that all beasts and liuing creatures perished which were not in the Arke? unlesse a long time after, the earth had beene passable throughout, and no Isles at all. This question busied Saint Augustine, but unto it he answereth thus, 'Wolves and other beasts may be thought to haue swome over the sea unto Ilands, yet onely to neare adioyning Ilands,' (as stags yeerely for their releefe and food swim out of Italy into Sicily). 'But some Isles there be so far remote from maine lands, that it is to be thought no beast could swim over. If it should be said, men caught them and so brought them over with them, it carrieth some credit, that this might well haue beene for the delight they had in hunting. Although it cannot be denied but by the commandement or permission of God euen by the worke of Angels they might have beene transported. But if so be they sprung out of the earth according to their first originall, when as God said, Let the earth bring forth a living soule, then it appeareth much more evidently, that all kinde of living creatures were in the Arke, not so much for the encrease and reparation of them, as to * figure out sundry Nations for the sacrament of the church, in case the earth, brought forth many creatures in those Ilands, whereto they can not passe.' Thus Philosophizeth he. Neither is any man able upon this argument to pro=

* As a type of the Gentiles calling.

nounce any thing more sufficiently and exquisitely. For me, it may suffice, that I have

348

propounded thereof, let the Reader thorowly waigh and examine it. And he that is able in this point to see deepest what is most true, verily I will report him a man right skilfull and deeply quick-sighted.

Morini.

* That is from Itius Portus.

The shortest passage between France and Britan.

Gessoriacum.

Tabula Peutingeriana, now set forth by M. Welsler. Bononia Gallia.

Pag. 272. in Basil edition and pag. 251.

On the other side in the Firme-land, inhabited the Morini, so called in the ancient Gaules tongue, as it were, Maritimi, siue Maris accolæ, men dwelling upon the Sea-coast, or hard by the sea. Their country is now tearmed Conte de Guines, and Conte de Bolonois, and had in old time two places of very great name, to wit Gessoriacum, and Itium, * whence, as Cæsar hath recorded, there was the best and most commodious passing out of Gaule or France into Britain, and most authours thinke it was that towne which now they call Callais. But that famous and learned man Hospitalius, Chancellour of France, a very skilfull Antiquary, avoucheth, that Callais is no ancient towne, but was only a smal village, such as the French-men terme Burgados, untill that Philip Earle of Bolen, walled it about, not very many yeares before the English won it. Neither is it red in any place, that men tooke shipping there for Brittain, before those times. I thinke therefore that Itium is to be sought some where else: that is to say, below, at †Vitlan, neere unto †Backnesse, which we call Whitsan, the word sounding not much unlike to Itium. For, that all men crossed ouer out of this lland thither, and embarked there to saile hither, we observed out of our owne histories: in so much as [certaine lands were held in Coperland neere Douer by service to hold the Kings head between Dover and Whit-sand when soever he crossed the Sea there, And Lewis the younger French King when he came in devout pilgrimage to visit Thomas of Canterbury, besought that saint by way of most humble intercession, that no passinger might miscarry by †shhipwarcke betweene Vitsan and Douer; as who would say, that at the same time, that was the vsuall passage to & fro: neither in truth, is this narrow sea else where more streightned: although it is to be supposed, that they who saile betweene, in passing ouer did not respect the neerer way and shorter cut in sailing, but the commodiousnesse of the hauens in the one shoare, and the other. For even so, albeit the sea be narrowest, betweene Blacknesse in France, and the Nesse in England, yet now the ordinary passing is between Dover and Callais: as in former ages, before that Vitsan haven was dammed up, the passage was betweene it and Dover: and before that time, between Rhutupiæ and Gessoriacum: From whence Claudius the Emperour and the other captaines, whom I haue spoken of, sailed over into Britaine. This Gessoriacum, Pliny seemeth to call, Portum Morinorum Britannicum, peradventure for the passage from thence into Britan Ptolomee, in whom it hath crept into the place of Itium, nameth it Gessoriacum Navale, in which signification also our Welsh-Britans commonly tearme it Bowling-long, that is, Bolloine the ship road.](#)

For that Gessoriacum was the very same Sea-coast towne, which Ammianus calleth Bononia, the Frenchmen Bolongne, the Low-country men Beunen, and we Bolen, I dare be bold to aver and maintaine against Hector Boethius, and Turnebus: grounding my assertion both upon the authority of Beatus Rhenanus, who saw an ancient military Map, wherein was written 'Gessoriacum quod nunc Bononia,' that is, Gessoriacum, now called Bolen: and also upon Itinerarie computation, or account of the miles, which answereth just to the distance that Antonine the Emperour hath put downe betweene Ambiani and Gessoriacum. But, that which may serve in steed of all proofes.

The rablement of Pyrates seruing vnder Carausius, which the Panegirick Oration, pronounced unto Constantius the Emperour, reported to have beene inclosed and shut up within the walles of Gessoriacum and there surprised: an other Oration unto †Constantius Maximus his sonne, relateth to haue beene vanquished at Bononia: so that Bononia, that is, Bolen, and Gessoriacum must needes be one and the selfe same place: and it may seeme, that the more ancient name was worne out much about that time. For it is not to be surmised, that so grave authors unto †the great Princes erred in the setting downe and naming of this place, the memorie thereof being then so fresh, [and that victorie so glorious](#). But, what have I to doe with France?

349

Verely, I have the more willingly ripped up the memorie of these matters, for that the prowesse and valour of our Ancestours shewed it selfe often in this coast; as who wonne and wrested both Calais and Bolen from the French. And as for Bolen, they

rendred it backe againe at the humble request of the French King after eight yeres, for a summe of money agreed upon. But Callais they held 212. yeere in despite and malgree of the French. Now returne we to Britaine with full sailes & a fauourable tide.

<246>

From (Dover, leaving the litle Abbay of Bradsole dedicated to S. Rad<e>gund, wher= of Hugh the first Abbot was founder) there runneth for fiue miles in length a con= tinued cheine of chalky cliffes standing in a row, hanging jointly one to another, as far as to Folkstone: which was a flourishing place in times past, as may appeare by the peeces of Romane coine and Britaine bricke daily there found: but under what name, it is uncertaine. Probable it is, that it was one of those towres or holds which in the reigne of Theodosius the younger, the Romans placed for to keep off the Saxons, as Gildas saith, 'At certaine distances along the shore, in the South part of Britaine.'

Famous it was and much frequented by the English Saxons, for †religion sake, by reason of a Monasterie that Eanswide daughter to Eadbald King of Kent consecrated there unto Nunnes: But now it is a small towne, and the greatest part thereof the Sea hath, as it were, pared away. Howbeit, it was the Baronie of the Familie de Abrincis or Aurenches: From whom it came to Sir Hamon Crevequer, and by his daughter to Sir Iohn of Sandwich, whose grand child Iulian by his sonne Iohn, brought the same as her dowry to Iohn Segrave.

From thence, as the shore turneth a front South West-ward Sandgate Castle, built by King Henry the Eighth defendeth the coast and vpon a Castle hill there= by are seene reliques of an auncient Castle. More inward is Saltwood a Castle of the Bishops of Canterbury which William Courtney Archbishop of Canterbury enlarged. And nere unto it is Osten-hanger, where Sir Edward Poinings Baneret a father of many faire bastards, and amongst them of Thomas Lord Poinings Lieftenant of Bollen, began to build a stately house but left it vnperfect when death had bereft him of his onely lawfull child which he had by his lawfull wife the daughter of Sir I. Scot his neigh= bour at Scots-Haul: where the familie of Scots hath lived in worshipfull estimation a long time, as descended from Pashely, & Serieaux by Pimpe. But to returne to the sea= coast: neere to Sandgate, Hith is situated, one of the Cinque ports, whereof it assumed that name, which in the English Saxons tongue signifieth an haven or harbour: al= though hardly it maintaineth that name now, by reason of sands, and the Sea with= drawing it selfe from it. And yet it is not long since it first made any shew, and that by the decay and fall of Westhyth, a neighbour-towne Westward, and which was some= time a Port, untill the Sea in our great grandfathers daies retired from it. So are Sea-townes subject to the vncertaine vicissitude of the Sea.

L. Poinings
by King
Henrie the
Eighth.

Hith.

This Hith, like as West-Hith also, had their beginning from † ruine of Lime standing hard by, which in times past was a most famous Port towne, untill the sands that the Sea casteth up, had choked and stopped the haven. Both, Antonine and the booke of No<t>ices called it Portus Lemanis, Ptolomee <limē> which being in Greeke a significative word, the Copiantes, or Copiers out of old bookes, because they would seeme to supply the defect, wrot it <Kainos limē> and the Latin Interpreters following them translated it 'Novus portus,' that is, New-port, or New haven: whereas, the pro= per name of the place was Limen or Leman, like as at this day Lime. Heere the Cap= taine over a company or band of Turnac<e>nse, kept his station under the Count or Lieftenant of the Saxon shore. And a Port way paved with stone, called Stonystreet, reacheth from hence toward Canterburie, which one would easily judge to have beene a worke of the Romans, like as the Castle adjoining hard unto it, now named Stutfall, which in the side and descent of a prety hill, tooke up about ten acres of ground in compasse: and the reliques of the wall remaine still of British bricke and flint so close laid and couched together with a kind of strong mortar made of lime, sand and pibles, that as yet time hath not given it the check: and now, although it

350

be not an haven towne, yet it retaineth still no small shew of the ancient dignity it had: For heere the Warden of the Cinque Ports at a place called Shipway useth to take his solemne oath, when he first entereth into his office, and heere, upon cer= taine set daies, the custome was to decide causes betweene the inhabitants of the said Ports.

Some haue thought, that in this place a great river discharged it selfe into the sea, for that one or two writers have made mention of the riuier Leman, and the mouth of Leman, at which the Danes Fleet in the yeere of our salvation 892. arrived. But I suppose they are deceived in the description of the place, both because there is no

riuer heere, but a uery small one, which streight waies being of no reckoning at all vanisheth: as also, for that the Archdeacon of Huntingdon, a compendious authour, and of good approued credit, writeth, that the said fleet arrived at the Haven Leman, and saith not a word of the riuer. Unlesse a man would thinke, (with whom I dare not accord) that the river Rother, which intermingleth it selfe with the Ocean under †Rheine, ran downe this way, and changed his course by litle & litle, when that cham= pian plane called Rumney Marsh, grew unto the firme land.

Rumney Marsh.

For, this Marsh-country, (which from Lime containeth 14. miles in length, and 8. in bredth, and reckoneth two townes, nineteene parishes, and 44200. acres or there a= bout, by reason of ranke greene grasse most convenient for the grasing and feeding of beasts), hath beene by litle and litle laied unto the land by the benefit of the sea.

* Petrus Nan= nius.

Whereupon I may well and truely tearme it the Seas-gift, like as Herodotus called Æ= gypt, the gift of the riuer Nilus, and a very * learned man tearmed the pastures of Holland, the gifts of the North-wind and the river Rhene. For, the sea to make a= mends yeelded that againe in this place (which it swallowed up elsewhere in this coast) either by retyring backe, or by laying oze thereto from time to time: as some places which in the remembrance of our grandfathers, lay close unto the sea shore, are now disioyned a mile or two from the sea. How fruitfull the soile is, what a num= ber of heards of cattell it feedeth, that are sent hither from the furthest parts of [Wales](#), and England to be fatted; what art and cunning is used in making of bankes to fence it, against the violent risings of the sea, one would hardly beleeeve, that hath not seene it. And that it might be the better ordered, [certain lawes of Sewers were made in the time of King Henry the third](#). And King Edward the fourth ordeined, that it should be a Corporation, consisting of a Bailive, Iurates, and the Commualty. In the Saxons time the inhabitants heereof were called Mersc-ware, that is, * Marshmen: and verily the signification of that name accordeth passing well with the nature of the place. Neither can I understand and conceive that ancient writer Aethelward, when he reporteth, 'That Cinulph King of the Mercians wasted Kent, and the country which is call<e>d Mersc-warum.' And in another place, 'That Herbyth a Captaine was by the Danes beheaded in a place named Mersc warum,' if he meant not this very Marsh-country. Rum=

* Viri palustres.

795.

<247>

Rumney.

ney, or Romeney, and in former time Romenal, which some coniecture by the name to haue beene the Romans worke, is the principall towne of this Marsh, and one of the Cinque-ports, whereof Old Romeney and Lid are accounted members, which ioinctly were charged with the setting forth of fiue ships of warre, in that maner and forme, as I haue before said. It is seated upon an hill of gravell and sand, and had on the West side an haven of good receit and commodious withall, for most of the windes; be= fore the sea with-drew it selfe from it. 'The inhabitants,' as we read in King William the Conquerours booke, 'were in regard of their sea service, quite and quiet from all custome, beside for * Robbery, peace-breach and Foristell.' And in those daies it flourished with the best; For it was devided into twelue wards, it had also fiue Parish-churches, it had a Priorie, and an Hospitall for sicke persons: But in the reigne of Edward the first, when the sea raging with the violence of windes overflowed this tract, and made pit= tiffull wast of people, of cattell and of houses in every place, as hauing quite drowned Promhil a pretty towne well frequented: it made the Rother also forsake his old chanel, which heere before time emptied himselfe into the sea, and stopped his mouth, ope= ning a new and neerer way for him to passe into the sea by Rhie: So as by litle and

[Domes-day Booke.](#)

[* The penal= ties for these offences.](#)

1287.

351

litle he forsooke this towne. Which euer since hath decreased and lost much of the former frequency, and ancient dignity.

Lid.

Denge- Nesse.

[* Hulver or Holy-trees llices.](#)

Beneath this, the land tending more East-ward maketh a Promontory, (we call it the Nesse, as it were a nose) [before which lieth a dangerous flat in the sea, and](#) upon which standeth Lid a towne well inhabited: whereunto the inhabitants of Promhill after that inundation aforesaid betooke themselves. And in the very utmost point of this Promontory which the people call Denge-nesse, where there is nothing but beach and pible stones, * Holme-trees grow plentifully with their sharp prickey leaves alwaies greene, in maner of an underwood, for a mile and more. Among the said beach neere unto Ston-end is to be seene an heape of greater stones, which the neighbour inhabitants call Saint Crispins, and Crispinians tombe, whom they report to have beene cast upon this shore by ship-wracke and from hence called into the glorious compa= nie of Saints. From thence the shore retyring it selfe is directly carried into the West, bringing fourth peason among the beach, which grow up naturally like clusters of grapes a number together, and in tast little differ from our field peason, and so runneth

on as farre as to the Rother-Mouth, by which for some space Kent is deuided from Sussex.

Anderida.
Andredceaster.

The course of this river on Sussex side we haue in part briefely spoken of before. On Kent side it hath Newenden, which I almost perswade my selfe was that haven so long sought for, and which the booke Notitia Provinciarum called Anderida, the old Britains Caer Andred, and the Saxons †Andredssceaster: first, because the inhabitants by a continued tradition constantly affirme it was a most ancient towne and Hauen whereof they shew the plot; then, for that it is situate by the wood Andredswald, that tooke the name of it; lastly, because the English-Saxons seeme to have tearmed it Brittenden, that is, The Britans Vale, (as they called also Segontium an ancient towne of the Britans of which we spake before): whence the whole Hundred adioyning is named Selbrittenden. The Romans for to defend this coast against the Saxon rovers, placed heere the band of the Abulci with their Captaine: Afterward being taken by the English-Saxons it decayed quite. For, Hengest being fully determined to rid all the Britans out of Kent, and thinking it would much auaille him to encrease his troupes and bands with greater forces of his owne nation, called forth Aella out of Germany with a strong power of English-Saxons, and while he gaue the assault unto this Anderida violently, the Britans out of the wood hard by, where they laie in ambushments, enchased him so, that at length after many losses on both sides giuen and taken, when he had parted his army and both discomfited and put to flight the Britans in the wood, and also at the same time forced the towne by assaults; his barbarous hart was so enflamed with desire of revenge, that he put the inhabitants to the sword and rased the towne euen to the ground. 'The place lying thus desolate, was shewed, (as Henry of Huntingdon saith,) to those that passed by many ages after.' Vntill the Friers Carmelites newly come out from Mount Carmell in the Holiland, who sought for such solitary places, built them heere a little Priory in the time of King Edward the first, at the charges of Sir Thomas Albuger Knight: and so streight waies there rose up a village, which in regard of the old towne overthrowen, began to be called Newenden, that is, The New towne in the vale. I saw nothing there now, but a mean village with a poore church, & a wodden bridge to no great purpose for a ferry is in most vse, since that the riuier Rother, not containing himself in his channell hath overlaid, and is like to endanger & surround the leuell of rich lands therby. Whereupon the inhabitants of Rhie complaine, that their hauen is not scoured by the streame of Rother as heeretofore, and the owners heere suffer great losse: which their neighbours in Oxney doe feare, if it were remedied, would fall vpon them.

Oxney.

This is a river-isle ten miles about, encompassed with the river Rother diuiding his streames, and now brackish; having his name either of mire, which our ancestours called Hox, or of Oxen, which it feedeth plentifully with ranke grasse. Opposite to this is Apledore, where a confused rable of Danish and Norman Pirates, which under the conduct of one Hasting had sore annoied the French coasts, loden with booties

Apledore.

352

landed, and built a Castle: whom notwithstanding King Aelfred by his valour enforced to accept conditions of peace.

Sisingherst.

Bengebury.

Homsteed.

Guilford.

Vpland hence, and from Newenden I saw (which I should have before remembered) Cranbroke and Tenterden good clothing towns, Sisingherst a faire house of the familie of Bakers aduanced by Sir Iohn Baker not long since Chauncellour of the Exchequer, and his marriage with a daughter and heire of Dingley, Bengebury an habitation of the ancient familie of Colpepper, and neere adjoining Hemsted a mansion of the Guildfords, an old familie, but most eminent since S. Iohn Guildford was Controuler of the house to king Edward the Fourth. For his sonne and heire S. Richard Guildford was by king Henry the seuenth made knight of the Garter. Of his sonnes againe Sir Edward Guildford was Marshall of Callais, Lord Warden of the Cinque-Ports, and Master of the Ordinance, father to Iane Dutches of Northumberland, wife to Sir I. Dudley Duke of Northumberland, mother to the late Earles of Warwick, and Leicester, and Sir Henrie was chosen Knight of the Garter by King Henrie the Eight, and had his Armes enobled with a Canton of Granado by Ferdinand King of Spaine for his worthy service in that Kingdome when it was recouered from the Moores, and Edward, lived in great esteeme at home. To be briefe from the said Sir Iohn are issued by families immediatly the Darells of Cale-hill, Gages, Brownes of Beechworth, Walsinghams, Cromers, Isaacs, and Iseleies, families of prime and principall note in these parts. But now I digresse and therefore craue pardon.

Clothing.

In the parishes heere-about the commendable trade of clothing was first set up

and freshly practised, euer since King Edward the Third his daies, who by proposing rewards, and granting many immunities, trained Flemings into England in the tenth yeere of his reigne to teach our men that skill of Draperie, or weaving and making wollen cloth, which is iustly counted at this day one of the Staies that support our common Weale. Thus much of Kent, which (to conclude summarily) hath this part last spoken of for Draperie, the Isle of Tenet and the East parts for the Granarie, the Weald for the wood, Rumney Marsh for the meddow-plot, the North downs toward the Tamis for the Conny-garthe, Tenham and there about for an Orchard, and Head-Corne for the brood and poultre of fat, big, and commended capons.

Kentish capons.

<248>
Earles of Kent.

As for the Earles, omitting the English Saxons Godwin, and Leofwin his brother, and others, who were Earles not by descent and inheritance, but by office. Odo halfe brother by the mothers side to King William the Conquerour, and Bishop of Baieux, was the first Earle of Kent, of the Norman bloud: a man, by nature of a bad disposition and busie head, bent alwaies to sow sedition and to trouble the State. Whereupon he was committed to prison by a subtile distinction, as Earle of Kent, and not Bishop of Baieux in regard of his holie orders; and afterward for a most dangerous rebellion which he had raised, he was by his nephew King William Rufus deprived of his places of dignity, lost all his goods in England and abiured the Realme. Afterwards, King Stephen who as an intruder reaped the renews and commodities of the Crowne of England, that hee might bind by benefits martiall men to him, he advanced William of Ipres a Fleming to that honor: who being, as Fitz-Stephen calleth him, 'Violentus Cantii incubator,' that is, the violent ouer pressor of Kent, was forced by King Henrie the second to depart, sheading many teares and so became a monke, Henrie likewise the sonne of King Henrie the second, whom his father had crowned King, rebelling against his father, gaue in like respect the title of Kent unto Philip Earle of Flanders. But this Philip was Earle of Kent in title onely and by promise. For, as Gervase of Canterburie writeth, 'Philip Earle of Flanders undertooke to the uttermost of his power for to aide the young King, doing him homage and binding himselfe with an oth: unto whom the said King promised in reward of his service the renews of a thousand pounds, together with all Kent: also the Castle of Rochester and the Castle of Dover.' Not many yeeres after, Hubert de Burgh, having done notable good service unto the State, received as it were, by due desert the same honor at the hands of King Henrie the Third: who also made him chiefe lustice of England. This Hubert was a man who vnfaignedly loued his Countrie, & amidst the stormes of frow=

353

ning Fortune performed all duties to the utmost that his Country could require of a right good patriot. Yet at length he fell in disgrace, and was dispoiled of his dignities: whereby this title slept and lay as dead untill the time of King Edward the Second. Who bestowed it upon his younger brother Edmund of Woodstocke, who being Tutor of his nephew Edward the Third, falling into the tempest of false, iniurious, and malignant envie was beheaded, for that he never dissembled his naturall brotherly affection toward his brother deposed, and went about when hee was (God wot) murdered before (not knowing so much) to enlarge him out of prison; perswaded thereunto by such as covertly practised his destruction. Hee had two sonnes Edmund, and Iohn, who were restored by Parliament to bloud and land shortly after. And with all, it was enacted that no Peere of the land, or other that procured the death of the said Earle should bee impeached therefore, than Mortimer Earle of March, Sir Simon Beresford, Iohn †Matrauers, Baious, and Iohn Deveroil. So these his two sonnes succeeded in order, and when they were both dead without issue, their sister Ioane, who surviued them, (for her louely beauty called The Faire maide of Kent) brought this honour unto the house of the Hollands. For Sir Thomas Holland her husband was stiled Earle of Kent, and shee after married by dispensation to the Black Prince †heire to him King Richard the Second. Her sonne Sir Thomas Holland succeeded in that honorable title, who died in the twentieth yeere of King Richard the Second. Him againe there succeeded his two sonnes Thomas and Edmund. Thomas who also was created Duke of Surry, and forthwith for complotting a conspiracy against King Henrie the Fourth lost his head, leaving no child: Edmund his brother being Lord High Admirall of England, was wounded at the assault of Saint Brieu in little Britan, and died thereof in the yeere of Salvation 1408. leaving likewise no issue. Now when this dignity was expired, in this family of the Hollands, their glasse being runne out, and the Patrimony parted among †Edmund sisters; King Edward the Fourth honoured with the title of the Earldom of Kent, First, Sir William, Nevill

An. 15.
E. 2.

Saint Brieu.

The Walsingham.

Lord Fauconberg: and after his death, Edmund Lord Grey of Ruthin, Hastings and Weisford, †and who had to succeed him George his sonne. Hee of Anne Wideuile his first wife begat Richard Earle of Kent, who having wasted his inheritance ended therewith his daies issulesse, 1523. But the said George by his second wife Katherine, daughter to William Herbert Earle of Pembroke, was father of Sir Henrie Grey of [Wrest](#) knight, whose grand-sonne Reginald, by his sonne Henrie, Queene Elizabeth in the yeare 1571. advanced to the Earledome of Kent. And after his decease without issue, his brother Henrie succeeded, a right honorable personage and endued with the ornaments of true nobility.

This province hath parishes. 398.

.....

<part 2>

222

<853>

Toliapis.
Caunus.
Canvey.
See in Essex.
Shepey.

..... Over against Zeland, Tamis the goodliest and noblest river of Bri= tain dischargeth himselfe into the sea: in which place Ptolomee setteth Toliapis and Cauna, or Convennon. Of Toliapis which I suppose to be Shepey, see in Kent. [Of Convennos I have spoken in Essex in the page 441.](#)

Goodwin
Sands.

Some call it
Lomea.

More Eastward without Tamis mouth, there lieth along before the lland Tenet, a place full of shelves and sands, and very dangerous for saylers, which they call Good= wins sands, where our Annales doe record, that in the yeere 1097. an lland which was the patrimony of Goodwin Earle [of Kent](#), was quite swallowed up and sunke in the sea: Concerning which, Iohn Twin writeth thus. 'This land was very fruitfull, and full of plenteous pastures, lying somewhat lower and more flat than Tenet; out of which, there was a passage by boat or barge three or foure miles long. This lland in an unusuall tempest of winds, and boisterous fury of stormy raines, and uncouth rage of the sea, was drowned, and lieth overwhelmed with sand cast up after an incredible manner, and with= out all recovery is turned into a middle or doubtful nature of land and sea. For I wot well what I say, because one while it wholly floteth, and another while at a low water after an eb, it beareth walkers upon it.' Happily this is Toliapis, unlesse you had rather read Tha= natos, for Toliapis, and in some Copies we read it Toliatis, of which we have treated in Kent. [See the 345. page.](#)

The Brittain
narrow Sea.

In this very place, the huge vastnesse of the sea gathereth into such a streight, that the gullet of the Ocean betweene the firme land of France and Brittain, is not aboue thirty miles over, which Streights some call the Narrow sea of Brittain, others of France (and the bound it is of the British sea) which by little and little removeth the

223

shores farther a sunder, that were in maner meeting together, and by the driving backe of the lands on both sides equally, floweth betweene Brittain and France from East to West. At this beginneth the British Sea:

.....

Faults corrected thus.

323 35 soundeth as much as a
greene bough,
332 8 buried at
334 22 cut into
345 44 between two risings

<Twenty-four years after the first Latin edition, three years after the sixth, the 'Britannia' was published in English for the first time. It was translated by Philemon Holland, who worked from a copy of the 1607 Latin edition, and then, as the title page says, 'revised, amended, and enlarged with sundry Additions' by Camden himself. Important additions were marked with large asterisks in the margin (a practice which Camden had adopted in the third Latin edition). I have printed all the inserted passages in blue, so that they are easy to see. Some of them hark back to Leland. Some of them come from the second edition of Lambard's 'Perambulation' (1596): I have added touches of red to those passages which seem to echo Lambard, but only a few of them show word-for-word agreement. The most significant additions are those which resulted from new fieldwork. It is notable, for instance, that Camden had changed his mind about the location of Caesar's battle with the Britons which, in all previous editions, was stated to have taken place on the Stour, somewhere near Chilham. 'Travailing lately in these parts', he had decided that the site of the battle was much further to the east, on the stream which flows northwards past Bishopsbourne. He inserted a few sentences to this effect (page 339); and he also had to make some adjustments elsewhere, rewriting part of the account of Chilham (page 336) and deleting a reference to the river Stour in the introductory section (page 324, 'ad Sturum flumen' in the Latin). (If anyone, after reading the blue passages, still thinks it credible that they were written by Holland, I can only say: think again.) A 'hypertext critical edition' of the entire book is available online at www.philological.bham.ac.uk/cambrit. There is also a facsimile reprint (Bristol, 2003), with a useful introduction by Robert Mayhew. In the copy used for this facsimile, page 353 occurs in an altered state: three misprints have been put right ('bare' for 'heire', 'Edmunds' for 'Edmund', 'who' for 'and who') and one of the marginal notes (which also contained a misprint, 'The Walsingham') has been removed. These corrections were not carried over into the second English edition (1637). – C.F. July 2010, revised October 2010.>