

Thomas Philipott  
Villare Cantianum, 2nd edition  
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VILLARE CANTIANUM:

OR

KENT Surveyed and Illustrated.

KENT, in Latin Cantium, hath its derivation from Cant, which imports a piece of land thrust into a nook or angle; and certainly the situation hath an aspect upon the name, and makes its etymology authentic.

It is divided into five Laths, viz. St. Augustins, Shepway, Scray, Alresford, and Sutton at Hone; and these again are subdivided into their several bailywicks; as namely, St. AUGUSTINS comprehends

BREDGE, which contains these Hundreds:

- 1 Ringesloe
- 2 Blengate
- 3 Whitstaple
- 4 West-gate
- 5 Downhamford
- 6 Preston
- 7 Bredge and Petham
- 8 Kinghamford

and EASTRY, which contains these:

- 1 Wingham
- 2 Eastry
- 3 Corniloe
- 4 Bewesborough

SHEPWAY is divided into

STOWTING, and that into these hundreds:

- 1 Folkstone
- 2 Lovingberg
- 3 Stowting
- 4 Heane

and SHEPWAY into these:

- 1 Bircholt Franchise
- 2 Streat
- 3 Worth
- 4 Newchurch
- 5 Ham
- 6 Langport
- 7 St. Martins
- 8 Aloes Bridge
- 9 Oxney

SCRAY is distinguished into

MILTON.  
comprehends

- 1 Milton
- 2 Tenham

SCRAY.

- 1 Feversham
- 2 Bocton under

Blean  
3 Felborough

CHART and  
LONGBRIDGE.

1 Wye  
2 Birch-Holt Ba=  
rony  
3 Chart and  
Long-bridge  
4 Cale-hill

SEVEN HUN=  
DREDS.

1 Blackbourne  
2 Tenderden  
3 Barkley  
4 Cranbrook  
5 Rolvenden  
6 Selbrightenden  
7 Great Bern=  
field

ALRESFORD is resolved  
into

EYHORN is  
divided into

1 Eyhorn  
2 Maidstone  
3 Gillingham and  
4 Chetham

HOO

1 Hoo  
2 Shamell  
3 Toltingtrough  
4 Larkfield  
5 Wrotham

and TWYFORD.

1 Twyford  
2 Littlefield  
3 Lowy of Tun=  
bridge  
4 Brenchly and  
Hormonden  
5 Marden  
6 Little Bern=  
field  
7 Wallingston

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SUTTON at Hone, does only comprehend the bailywick of Sutton at Hone,  
and that lays claim to these hundreds.

1 Axstane  
2 Little and Lesnes  
3 Blackheath  
4 Bromely and Bekenham  
5 Dartford and Wilmington  
6 Rooksley  
7 Codsheath  
8 Somerden

These hundreds were parceled out in such a proportion or number of boroughs, villages or tythings, containing ten householders, whereof (as the Saxon laws and customs inform us) if any one should commit an unlawful act, the other nine were to attach and bring him to reason. If he fled, thirty-one days were enjoined him to appear; if in the mean time apprehended, he was forced to restore the damage done; otherwise the free-borough-head (that is the tythingman) was to take with him two of the same village, and out of three other villages next adjoining as many, (that is, the tythingman and two other of the principal men) and before the officers of that hundred purge himself and the village of the fact, restoring the damage done, with the goods of the malefactor; which if they sufficed not to satisfy, the free-borough or tythingman must make up the rest, and besides take an oath to be no ways accessory to the fact; and to produce the offender, if by any means they could recover him, or know where he was. Besides, every lord and master stood bound for all his family, whereof, if any servant were called in question, the master was to see him answer it in the hundred where he was accused; if he fled, the master was to resign such goods as he had to the king: if himself were accused to be aiding or privy to his servant's flight, he was to clear himself by five men, otherwise, to forfeit all his goods to the king, and his man to be outlawed. These links thus intermutually fastened, made formerly so strong a chain to hold the whole frame of the state together, in peace and order, as all the mingled policies upon earth, all the interleagued societies of men cannot represent a straiter form of combination.

As touching the other customs of Kent, they have been so fully discussed by Mr. Lambert, in his Kentish perambulation, that I shall not much insist in the discovery of them: only I shall say something winnow the word Gavelkind, because from that it is pretended the tenure itself is derived. First, it is suggested, that the word Gavelkind is amassed together in three Saxon monosyllables, that is to say, *Goef ele Kent*: but how this custom should be originally established on three syllables, by the corruption of time thus crowded and shut up in one word, is altogether ambiguous and mysterious; for, if we shall unveil the word of its Saxon habit, and put it into an English dress, it will signify thus much, give all child, and how much nonsense lurks in that expression, I think is easily discernible: indeed the phrase should be, if we would attempt to spin any thing of advantage out of it, *Goef ele kendern*, give all children; but how much of incongruity and incoherence lies wrapt up even in this, I believe is obvious enough; yet admit there was none, how four syllables, all of different vowels in their termination, should at length, by the depravation of language, be all confusedly shuffled and stived into this one word Gavelkind, will certainly appear to the most easy apprehension disputable enough.

For my own particular, I am convinced (with submission to clearer speculations) that this word Gavelkind is derived from the saxon word Gabel, which in the Latin we render Census, and put into English signifies some rent-service, or tribute issuable from such and such land, on which it is fixed as a solemn evidence of some homage due to the prince or supreme magistrate, for that security which is received both in life and propriety by his defence and tuition. And certainly this is something proportionate to reason; for all Gravel-kind-land is held in the tenure of free-soccage, which is charged with this manor of rent-charge or imposition; and so in several Latin records is represented under the notion of *Terra censualis*.

It is true, that by the ancient custom of Germany, called *Land-skiftan*, the lands of the deceased was by equal portions, to be distributed amongst all his sons, but

then it is as probable that this tribute of Gabel did accompany it, because the most essential part of this custom hath through the channel of many hundred years, flowed down to this present age, and is in force in sundry places in Germany at this instant: for though the *hernelickeis* or lordship, as they style it, descend patrimonially per *jus dominatus*, by the right of signory to the eldest son, yet all the land, exclusively from that, is equally divided between the cadets or younger brothers, only returning some inconsiderable rent-service to the prince, as a character of that fealty they owe him, for sheltering them in their several patrimonies by his mutual support and protection,

Certain it is when Hengist transported his saxons first into Britain, that custom of Land-Skiftan was wafted over with them, and was by him, allowed to his abettors and partisans when they were invested in their new acquisitions and possessions in Kent, as all other franchises and immunities were, which before in Germany they were by prescription endowed with, that they might more vigorously improve his designs upon this island; yet still it is possible he reserved out of those demesnes, thus by grant conveyed to his accomplices, some annual tax or gabel (though perhaps of a low and narrow value) as a signal acknowledgement that the superiority or sovereignty was solely lodged in him.

There are two other customs which are properly calculated for the meridian of Romney Marsh, and perhaps through inadvertency were not recited by Mr. Lambert, and they are these: first, the king had anciently no waste there, and secondly, he had no wrecks, but they were appropriated to those manors of the Marsh that commanded the sea: and surely if we fathom their original, we shall find their foundation established on much of reason. For first, how could the crown entitle itself to any waste there, where the sea by its impetuous encroachments, did engage the inhabitants to cast up mounds, and erect banks in any place which they should find most proportionate to their defence, against the fury of so formidable an adversary; for the second, it is very equitable that they that are interested in an expence of that vastness, in which the public (by the obligation of necessary consequences) is so much concerned and wrapt up, should have something of emolument indulged to them by the careful munificence of the prince, to poise and balance those important disbursements, which the ill neighbourhood of the ocean does oblige them to, in fortifying the Marsh with perpetual defences and dams against its assaults and eruptions. Having thus discovered something in relation to the customs of Kent, before I advance farther into the land, I shall represent what care our former kings have embarked themselves in, to secure the sea, by fixing sea-watches and other military guards upon all the avenues and inlets of the coast, to repress and check the attempts of any bold intruder, as if their own safety and indemnity were folded up in the security of this county.

Touching then sea-watches upon the coast, there are three presidents, and a mandate from the king to the sheriff in a time of a more modern inscription, for performing the like service. The first, containing the watch by night, in record is styled *Vigiliæ minutæ*, which are due of right and custom to be made by the men of certain hundreds, as by the title thereof, and the writ for execution of the same may appear.

The second concluding the day-watch, hence called *wardan*, is arbitrary, and at the pleasure of those, which in time of war and common danger, had authority to appoint them; of these there are three examples, one of the ninth of Edward the third, (which I intend principally to trace, as being the original to the other) which year he made preparation to invade France, and to vindicate his title to the crown, and the other in the twentieth of Edward the third, in which year he sailed into France, and triumphed in the signal battle of *Cressey*.

The third describeth to whose charge several parts of the shore were assigned for defence, in the twenty ninth of Edward the third, at which time he past into France and was victorious in the encounter of *Poictiers*. It discovers also what parts of the shire were to resort to the coast for protection of the same. This order is arbitrary

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also, as they that in the record are stiled *rectores comitatus*, (that is, lieutenants of the shire) shall think meet to appoint.

*Warda assessa per dom. Willielmum de Clinton, Comitem de Huntingdon, Johannem de Cobham, & Thomam de Aldon, in com. Cantii, super costeram maris anno regni regis, Edwardi Tertii undecimo.*

*videlicet, apud la Yenlade in Hoo.*

*Prior Roffensis 8 homines ad arma.*

*Philip de Pimpe 2.*

*Thomas Malmains 2.*

Johannes de Fremingham 2.  
Stephanus de Dalham 2.  
Thomas Walran 2.  
Johannes Gifford 2.  
Henry de Gresford  
1 Hominem ad arma.

Hobilers supra eandem  
wardam.

Rogerus de Escheke.  
Johannes Atford.  
Robertus Viane.  
Henricus Lomes.  
Robertus le-Fane.  
Michael Somers de Higham.  
Jo. Mortimer de Clives.

Summa, hujus Warde 13. homines ad arma, & 7. hobilers.

Vigiliæ minutæ super costeram maris per homines diversorum hundredorum villatarum sicut  
in antiquo tempore fieri consuevit

Hundredum de Hoo 9. homines ad vigilandum apud la Yenlade, viz. hundredo de  
Hoo 2. de Malling 1. de Shamed 5. de Dertford 1.

Vigiliæ de Shepeia.

Juxta Feversham debent fieri de 33. hominibus, unde de Milton & Merden 25. de.  
Bocton 3. de Feversham 5.

Apud Denge nesse per 12. unde de 7. hundredis omnes. Apud Swale per 5. unde de  
Milton & Marden omnes. Apud Greistone per 12. homines, unde de Whitstaple 1. de  
Blengate 3. de Kinghamford 2. de Westgate 2. de Downhamford 2. de Brugge 2. Apud  
Elmes per 6. homines, unde de Sancto Martino 2. de Oxneia 1. de Aloes-Bridge 2. de  
Longport 1. Apud Broadhul per 6. homines, unde de Street & Worth 4. de Newchurch 1.  
de Hamme 1. de Henei. Apud Sebroke per 12. homines, unde de Longbridge & Chart 3. de  
Calehill 3. de Bircholt 1. de Wye 5. Apud Sangate per 6. homines, unde de Folkston 4.  
de Lovingborough 1. de Stouting 1.

Warda de Shepey apud le Swale.

Humfridus de Norwood  
2. Homines ad arma.  
Thomas de Rokesly 2.  
Johannes de Morston 1.

Hobilers super eandem.

Lawrence de Ottringden.  
Bernard de Punch.  
Jo. Fitz Richard.

Summa, 5. homines ad arma, & 3. hobilers. ##Priorissa de Shepey

Warda apud Fordmer in eadem.

3. homines ad arma.

Hobilers super eandem

Willielmus de Middleton.  
Bartholomeus Watton.  
John Peyforer de Shepey.

Summa, 3. homines ad arma, & 3. hobilers.

Warda apud Werden in eadem.

Abbas de Boxle 2 homines ad arma.  
Margareta quæ fuit uxor  
Willielmi de Ore 1.  
Robertus Cheyne 1.

Hobilers super eandem.

Stephanus Bockland.

Johannes Frendister.

Johannes Er.

Summa 4. homines ad arma & 3 hobilers.

Warda apud Mosehole in eadem.

Prior de Leeds 3. homines ad arma.

Hobilers super eandem.

Rob. de Folkston.

Bartholom. Savage.

Thomas Savage.

John Donkin.

Summa patet, viz. 3 homines ad arma & 4. hobilers.

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Warda apud Ryde in eadem.

Matilda de Idel 1. hominem

ad arma.

Domina Johanna de Bocland 1.

Hobilers super eandem.

Johannes de Bladechild.

Walter de Wise.

Rogerus de Norwood.

Summa, 2. homines ad arma, & 3. hobilers.

Warda apud Greston.

Joanna uxor Thomæ Fever=

sham 2. homines ad arma.

Margareta Champaigne 2.

Hobilers super eandem.

Arnold de Eseling.

Michael de Bromely.

Robert At Berton.

John de Esthure.

Hamo de Herst.

Johannes de Sobbing.

Summa, 4. homines ad arma & 6. hobilers.

Warda apud Tenet.

Abbas Sancti Augustini 12. homines

ad arma.

Magister Henricus de Shorne.

2. homines ad arma.

Hobilers.

Thomas Posin 5.

Henry de Stoners 6.

John Shereve.

William de Manston 2.

Robert Sherve 3.

Petrus Heyward 4.

Warda apud Sandwich & Sanctam Margaretam apud Dale.

Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cant.

10. homines ad arma.

Joannes Malmains miles 2.

Nicholas de Sandwico 2.  
Johannes de Walmer 2.  
Joannes de Goshall 1.  
Nicholas filius Thomæ  
de Sandwico 1.  
Thomas Chich 1.  
John Sandhurst 1.  
Tho. filius Johannis  
Retling de Retling 1.

Hobilers.

Henry Thornton.  
Richard de Reting.  
John Soles.  
Thomas de Allen.  
Thomas de Goodneston.  
Henry Daniel  
John Petit.  
John Foulmede.  
Henry Brudelond.  
John Sheluing.  
Edward Staplegate.  
William Berton.  
Richard Godwin.  
Richard Fitzbernard.  
John Betleshanger.  
John Erdoryard.  
Thomas Groting.  
Nigellus Whetare.  
Thomas Chelmin.

Adhuc de eadem warda apud Walmer, Abbas de Langdon 1. hominem ad arma,

Prior Sancti Gregorii 2.  
Prior de Dover 3.  
Abbas Sanctæ Radegunde 3.  
Domus Dei de Dover 2.  
Abbas de Feversham 2.

Hobilers.

John Penny.  
John de Polre.  
William Whitfield.  
John Fitz.  
John at Check.  
Thomas Perot.  
Robert Greensted.  
Jacob Kingswood.  
Eudo Shillingheld.

Warda assessa per dominum Willielmus de Clinton, Comitem de Huntingdon, Joannem de Cobham, & Thomam de Aldon, in comitatu Cantii super costaram maris anno regni regis Edwardi tertii undecimo.

Warda apud Denge Mersh.

Henricus de Valoins, miles,  
unum hominem ad arma,  
Abbas de Reding unum,

Hobilers super eandem,

Willielmus Aleyn,  
John Ellis de Dengemersh,

Joannes de Betham unum,  
Johannes de Beteringden unum,  
Stephanus de Fersham unum,  
Joannes de Winch unum,  
Margeria de Shurland unum,  
Isabella de Rokesley unum,  
Isolda Inge unum,  
Amicia de Cobham duos,  
Homines ad arma,  
Joanna qua fuit uxor Walteri  
de Huntingfield, duos homines  
ad arma.

Summa hominum ad arma  
apud Dengemersh 14.

Hæredes Roberti de  
Sharsted,  
Robertus Samson,  
Hæredes Roberti  
Pysenden,  
Adam Henry,  
Adam William,  
Willielmus Thirbarne,  
Robertus att Hall  
Thomas at Capell,  
Margeria quæ fuit uxor  
Hamonis Colbrand,  
Thomas Browne,  
Jacobus at Capell.

Et quod unusquisque prædictorum hominum ad arma habeat secum sagittarium bonum  
(that is, a good archer or bowman) super costaram maris.

Et quod fiat signum ubique supra costaram maris, & ubi necesse fuerit lebe eleuetur cum  
Pitchpot, & non cum minuto ligno, quia hujusmodi signa magis apparebunt & longius  
durabunt.

Warda apud Denge Mersh per 12. homines de septem hundredis.

Warda apud Helms Kenell per 7. homines, unde de hundredo St. Martini 2. de Oxney,  
2. de Aloes bridge 2. de Langport 1.

Warda apud Broadhull, per 9. homines, unde de hundredo de Street 2. de hundredo de  
Worth 2. de hundredo de New-church 2. de hundredo de Felborough. 3.

Warda apud Seabroke, per 12. homines, unde de hundredo de Hamme 1. de hundredo  
de Longbridg & Chart 3. de hundredo de Calehill 3. de hundredo de Bircholt, & de  
hundredo de Wye 5.

Warda apud Leswale per 4. homines de Middleton & Marden 9.

Warda apud Sangate per 4. homines, unde de hundredo de Folkston & Longbredge 2.  
de Stouting 2. & de Petham 1.

Warda assessa super costaram maris per Johannem Cobham, Rogerum de Northwood,  
Thomam de Brockhull & Willielmum Langley vicecomitem post Pascham anno regni regis  
Edwardi tertii vicessimo, regni vero sui Franciæ octavo.

Warda apud Denge Mersh.

Prior de Bilsington cum aliis sibi assignatis prout nomina eorum particulariter sunt in  
prædicto veteri rotulo scripta ad numerum 14. hominum hobelarum ibidem quorum  
nomina recitantur in prædicto antiquo rotulo ad numerum personarum.  
Minuta Vigilia ibidem (vid.) per 12. homines de septem hundredis.

Custodes assignati super litora maris periculosa per rectores comitatus prædicti,  
scilicet Cantii 12. die Maii anno regni regis Edwardi tertii quadragesimo quinto.

Apud Castrum de Saltwood.

Dominus archiepiscopus Cantuariensis custodiat castrum suum de Saltwood cum rationabili  
posse suo in confortatione villarum de Heth & Rumney; & litora maris juxta Sangate  
ajdacentia una cum auxilio hominum patriæ illius juxta modum consuetum.



In Insula Taneti.

Abbas St. Augustini & prior ecclesia Christi Cantuarensis, Thomas Chich, & Thomas de St. Nicholao una cum hominibus insulæ.

Apud Dale sue Dele.

Johannes de Cobham, Rogerus de Cobham, Willielmus de Cobham & Thomas de Cobham, Milites, apud Dele & illas partes.

Apud Estrye.

William de Paveley, miles, Galfridus de Colepeper, Richardus Charles & Jacobus de Peckham, apud Eastrey versus partes maris.

Apud Walmer.

Johannes de Criol, prior sancti Gregorii, prior de Leeds, abbas de Lesnes, Thomas de Morant, & Henricus de Apuldrefield, una cum hominibus patriæ.

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Apud Greiston.

Dominus de Say, Robertus de Nottingham, Willielmus de Apulderfield, Thomas Fever= sham, una cum hominibus patriæ.

Apud Acrise respectu de Folkston.

Johannes de Clinton, Stephanus de Valoins, Johannes Berry, Radulphus de St. Leger, Arnoldus St. Leger, Thomas Travers, milites; Johannes de Brockhull & Johannes Fre= mingham cum auxilio patriæ versus Dover.

Apud Yenlade.

Episcopus Roffensis & Prior Roffensis apud Yenlade in Hoo.

Apud Lidde & Promhill.

Prior de Tunbregge, prior de Combwell, prior de Bilsington, Johannes Colepeper, Johannes Diggerby, Rogerus Diggerby, Thomas Archeriges, Johannes Bynott, & Willielmus Horne, apud Lidde & Promhill, una cum hominibus de septem hundredis

In Insula Shepey.

Abbas de Boxley, Johannes de Northwood, Thomas Apuldrefield, miles, Johannes Raston, Willielmus Syme, Johannes de Manny, Ricardus de Blore, in insula de Shepey, una cum homi= nibus ejusdem insulæ, nec non hundredorum de Tenham, Gillingham, Middleton, & Marden.

Before I shut up this discourse concerning sea-watches, I shall represent to the reader the draught of a præcipe directed to Gervas Clifton Esq; sheriff of Kent in the twenty sixth year of Henry the sixth, by that prince, by which we may calculate the extent and latitude of those commands he was to regulate himself by, in his care and provision for the defence and indemnity of this county, against the eruptions of any foreign violence whatsoever.

Rex vicecomiti Kantii salutem. Quia datum est nobis intelligi quod nonnulli inimici nostri super mare se tenentes, regnum nostrum Angliæ in diversis locis ingredi intendunt, &c. Nos malitiæ suæ obviare volentes, tibi præcipimus firmiter injungentes, quod statim visis præ= sentibus infra balivam tuam tam infra libertates quam extra, ubi melius & expeditius videris faciendum, ex parte nostra publice proclamari facias, quod omnes & singuli ligei nostri de baliva tua, qui vigilias apud Promhill, Helmes, Kenell, & Denge Mersh, ac in aliis locis ibidem adjacentibus & convicinis super costeras maris antiquitus custodire debeant & solebant hujusmodi vigilias in eisdem locis custodiant & custodire faciant; ita quod (defectu vigilia= rum prædictarum) sub pœna forisfacturæ omnium quæ nobis forisfacere possunt, damnum, periculum aut gravamen nobis aut populo nostro non eveniat ullo modo, & quod legei nostri committatus tui, signa vocata Beacons in locis consuetis, per quæ gentes de adventu inimicorum prædictorum congruis temporibus poterint præmoneri, ponant, & poni fanciant: et hoc sub periculo incumbente nullatenus omittatis. Teste me ipso apud Westm. quarto die Augusti, anno regni nostri 29.

Because there hath been frequent mention of Hobilers in the abovesaid discourse, I shall discover to the reader a brief portraiture of them, as I have copied it by that

original which hath been penciled out by the learned industry of Sir Henry Spelman in his Glossary.

The word Hobiler, says he, is derived from the French word Hobill, which imports as much as a light quilted cassock; and indeed all the Latin records say, they should be wampasa armati, which signifies or denotes a jack; and in some parts both of Germany and the low countries, at this day wampas is used to express a doublet or a short cassock: and if you will know with what horse they were equipped or furnished for service, the abovesaid author will tell you, that every Hobiler should be mediocri equo instructus, & ad omnem motum agili; a horse of no great proportion, but light, and fitted for all manner of service.

Having represented to the reader, how sedulous the princes of this nation were in modern times, to secure the maritime shores of Kent, which like a girdle of sand almost invested this county, I shall now discover briefly, and in landskip, how they were guarded, fortified, and preserved, in times of an elder inscription; which discourse I shall marshal under the notion of Littus Saxonicum.

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We are now come to speak of the sea coast, which the Romans termed LITTUS SAXONICUM, that is, the Saxon shore; and as the opposite shore unto it from the river Rhene to Xantaigne in France, had a ruler over it from Dioclesian's time, whom Marcellinus calleth tractus maritimi comitem, that is, the count or lieutenant of the maritime tract; the book called Notitia Provinciarum, stileth, the honourable earl or lieutenant of the Saxon shore along Britain; whose office was with garrisons, set upon the shore in places convenient, to repress the depredations, spoils, and robberies of the Barbarians, but of Savons especially, who grievously infested Britain. And he had relation in point of command, under the right honourable general of the foot men, whom they called Presentalis, who besides the garrisons lying at the havens assigned unto him at all assays for the defence thereof, had virores juniores Britannicianos, primanos juniores, & secundanos juniores (these are the names of certain bands or companies) these he had for his under officers. Principem ex officio magistri presentalium a parte peditum numerarios duos, Commentariensem, Cornicularium, Adjutorem, Subadjuvam, Regendarium, Exceptores singulares, &c. The formalities of the ensigns and commission assigned to this great officer, are thus described in my former author, and were instituted about MCC \* years past, or about Thedosius the second, which falls near the last times, wherein the Roman empire extended itself hither.

See PLATE, Figure I.

This Comes littoris Saxonici was as admiral of that time, and placed against the maritime incursions of the Saxons, or those of the west part of Germany that were known most commonly by that name; the charge or impress of his ensign was nine maritime towns, but thus placed on the form of the whole island. That which

<catchword> appears

\* Notitia provinc.

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in the canton of the banner, besides the towns names is thus expounded by Pancirollus who notes them to be sigles, and parts of words so well and commonly known in the office of the court of the notaries, or of the clerks of the crown, that it needed not they should be more largely expressed; the words he thinks are these foelix liber injunctus notariis laterculi continens mandata ordine principis or primicerii, which was the master or president of the clerks of the crown; and for his garrisons he had under him 2200 foot and 200 horse, with his officers thus expressed.

Sub dispositione veri spectabilis COMITIS LITTORIS SAXONICI  
per BRITANNIAM.

Præpositus numeri Fortensium, OTHOMÆ,  
Præpositus numeri Tungricanorum, DUBRI,  
Præpositus numeri Turnacensium, PORTU LEMANNO,  
Præpositus equitum dalmatarum Branodunensium, BRANODUNO,  
Præpositus equitum stablesianorum Garionensium, GARIANNONO,  
Tribunus cohortis primæ Vetasiarum, REGULBIO,

Præpositus legionis II. Aug. RUTUPI,  
Præpositus numeri abulcorum, ANDERIDA,  
Præpositus numeri exploratorum, PORTU ADURNI.

Officium autem habet idem vir  
spectabilis COMES hoc modo,

Principem ex officio magistri præsentium a parte peditum  
Numerarios duos ut supra, ex officio predicto  
Comentariensem ex officio superradicto,  
Cornicularium adiutorem,  
Subadiuvam, Regerendarium,  
Exceptores Singulares  
Et reliquos officiales.

For the maritime towns within this government are mentioned here, Othoma is conceived by Mr. Camden and some other learned men, to have been in the hundred of Dengy in Essex, in the same place or near where St. Peters in the wall is. And to this day doth not Brithlingsey, a town adjacent, remain a member of Sandwich, and under the government of the lord warden of the cinque ports?

Besides the testimony of sundry inquisitions of survey of the lord wardens admiral jurisdiction, do they not cross in direct line from the south foreland, which is by Margate in Thanet, and so turning up to Reculver, cross the main ocean to the Langrell Point in Essex, passing along St Peters in the wall, where this Othoma is said to have been? Dubris was Dover: Lemanni or Lemannis (which is Portus Lemanni in Antonius, and <LIMÉN> in Ptolomy, but not it seems as the word <space> is significant in Greek, but as it was made from the British name) Lime, or Limehill in Kent, the place where Cæsar landed when he conquered Britain; and doth not Shipwey (the place where the lord warden of the ports taketh his oath upon his first entrance into that government) lie in Lime, and is yet within his government? as also Hyth, which implieth as much as portus in Latin, that is, haven, one of the five ports adjoining, and Stutfall castle, at the foot of Lime-hill, was it not a fortress built by the Romans for the Saxon shore, Regulbium Reculver, at which the water Genlade or Wantsum entered in, and passing by Sarre, a place yet under the lord warden's jurisdiction, insulated the isle of Thanet? Rutupis Richborrow near Sandwich on the same shore, and Anderida were situate near Newenden in Kent upon the river of Rother, that anciently passed by Apeldore Apeldore, and disembogued itself into the ocean at Romney, one of the ports upon the Saxon shore, and under the lord wardens government: Portus Adurni is supposed to have been Arundel, or Edrington near Shorham in Sussex; Branodunum is taken for Brancaster in Norfolk, and Gariono or Gariononum for Yarmouth, both of which lying upon the Saxon shore in Norfolk. And do not the barons of the ports enjoy a privilege upon the sea coast, sending yearly two of their barons as their bailiffs to join with them of Yarmouth, since they

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were incorporated in the administration of public justice, during the free fishing fair, which thing they have used to do before ever the town of Yarmouth was built? The fortress where the garrison appointed for the defence of this part of the Saxon shore was resident, is now called Borough castle adjoining to the river of Yare, as Mr. Camden hath observed in his description of that place.

The barons of the ports did anciently send seven of their barons bailiffs to Yarmouth, and after reduced that number to four, whereof two were sent to see justice and right done among the portsmen that did fish upon the Saxon shore, where Branodunum in Norfolk stood, and in those times they continued forty days, which since hath been reduced to two bailiffs; and their time of stay to twenty days, the ceremonial of their entrance and reception into Yarmouth, continues some similitude of what is before expressed yearly upon the vigil of St. Michael the archangel; the bailiffs of the barons of the ports, with the banner or ensign of their incorporation displayed, and of this form ride on horseback into the said town, to the house provided for them, during their abode; and are to be received with civil and mutual respect by the magistrates of that place.

<picture of Cinque Ports banner>

The officers attending upon

the bailiffs of the barons of  
the ports are these;

A register,  
A serjeant of the banner  
A serjeant of the horn,  
Serjeants at mace.

As for that officer called the serjeant of  
the horn, be it understood as an ancient  
note of the ports tenure by cornage, from  
king Canutus's time, by which, as the best customs of the cinque ports inform  
me, their moots and public assemblies are summoned, sonitu cornu.

Having entered into a discourse of the cinque ports, I shall take a farther prospect  
of those privileges they were invested with, from or before the conquest, especially  
by that signal charter which was granted to them in the twentieth year of Edward  
the first. First, when they were exempted from all taxes and tallages, that they  
might with more vigour and alacrity be encouraged and emboldened to attend the  
public service.

Secondly, they had sac and soc: sac is a privilege to take cognisance of causes  
either criminal or civil within their own courts; soc is a power planted in them to  
compel all persons which live within the confines of their liberties to plead in their  
courts, and from hence anciently they were called socmanni, that is, suiters to that  
court, where they were forced to plead.

Thirdly, they had toll and theam: toll was a liberty of buying and selling within  
their own jurisdiction, and a power to receive the toll or gabel imposed on commo=  
dities there vended. Theam is both a civil and coercive power or jurisdiction settled  
in them by charter, over all those who are inhabitants of the cinque ports, or any of  
the limbs or members of them.

Fourthly, they had bloodwith and fledwith: bloodwith is a power to punish the  
effusion of blood; fledwith is an authority to punish those who having committed any  
misdemeanor or outrage, and seeking to secure themselves by flight, are again seized  
upon, and offered up to deserved justice.

Fifthly, they had pillory and tumbrell: tumbrell was an engine much resembling  
our cucking stool, and was instituted to restrain the fury of loud clamorous and im=  
petuous women.

Sixthly, they had infangtheof and outfangtheof; that is a power to imprison, and  
upon just and legal evidence (which is the lanthorn of the law) to execute all those,

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though foreigners and aliens, which should commit any felony in places subject to their  
jurisdiction.

Seventhly, they had mundbriech; that is, a privilege to raise banks and mounds  
on any persons land whatsoever, whose property lay within their jurisdiction, to  
secure the common interest from the eruption and casual inundations of the sea.

Eighthly, they had waives, called by a general name in old law Latin, weveragium,  
and strays: waives was a word of a common latitude, used to signify all those things,  
either wandring chattel or other goods, which being waved or lost, and not claimed  
within a year and a day, were to be possessed by those within whose jurisdiction they  
were seized, according to that of the civil law, quæ nullius juris sunt, & pro derelictis  
habentur, cedunt occupanti. Strays is a word of a more circumscribed and restrained  
sense, relating only to straggling cattle; to whom if none did entitle themselves by  
claim in a year and a day, their property was invested in those who possessed them.

Ninthly, they had waste and strep, or estrepment: waste was that parcel of common  
earth, which by prescription and custom, belonged to the crown, but by charter was  
enstated on them. Strep or Estrepment, is a power granted to them to cut down  
trees within their own jurisdiction, without impeachment of waste.

In the tenth place, they had the grant of flotsom, jetsom, witsom: flotsom was  
goods upon some visible wrack floating to the shore jetsom was goods in a storm  
thrown overboard to preserve the ship, and sinking, did again buoy up themselves,  
and were again by the agitation of the waves thrown on the sand. Witsom was  
goods driven to the shore, when there had not been for some space, any wrack visible;  
from whence they were anciently stiled, goods of God's mercy; wit, in old English  
importing as much as misericordia in Latin.

Their eleventh privilege was to be a guild, that is, a fraternity or combination of men that had all the franchises of court-leet and court baron annexed to them, as likewise they were endowed with a power upon emergent occasions, to improve the common interest, to lay assessments and taxes upon the inhabitants of the cinque ports and their members; the word guild being extracted from an old Latin word called geldo, which signifies to tax.

Their twelfth franchise was to assemble at Shepway, which was anciently called the portmote or parliament of the cinque ports; there they punished the infringers of their privileges, and amerced all those who being inhabitants of the cinque ports, or of those towns which were circumscribed within their jurisdiction, sued out of those courts which were properly established to hear and determine all causes arising within their liberties; here likewise they had authority, by royal concession, to make by-laws and ordinances, for the common good and profit of the cinque ports, and for the better regulating (as the exigency of affairs might seem to exact) the herring fish=ing at Yarmouth; and that this court in the power of it might appear to be the counterpane of that great original of power, the high court of parliament, all appeals from the inferior and subordinate courts of the cinque ports were transmitted and transferred to this of Shepway.

Lastly, the barons of the cinque ports claim by inherent custom and prescription, which is grown up and confirmed by a tacit consent between them and the king, to support the four staves of the canopy that covers the king's head at his coronation, and after to dine at the uppermost table in the great hall on his right hand.

There are other franchises and privileges circumscribed within the verge and circumference of the above recited charter, as the taking cognizance of the assize of bread and beer, and some others; which because they are not of that importance or consideration as those which before were rehearsed, and moreover finding that they are calculated for the meridian of many other corporations besides that of the cinque ports, I have at present forborn any farther recital of them.

Now if any one will enquire what the cinque ports \* were to act by way of recompence or retribution, for these so solemn and signal characters and demonstrations of royal favour; to this I answer, that they were to find fifty seven ships at their own charge, for the space of fifteen days, to attend the king whensoever he should pass

\* At the making of the book of Domesday, there were but three privileged ports named in that book, viz. Dover, Sandwich and Romney; after, two ports were added to them by the conqueror, viz. Hastings and Hyth. Of this number of five, were called the cinque ports.

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the seas: whereof Hasting was to find twenty one, Sandwich five, Hyth five, Romney five, and Dover twenty one; each of which was to be furnished with one and twenty men, and a garcion or boy; the master's stipend was to amount to 6d. the constables to a salary of the same value, and each vulgar mariner was to have three pence per diem; and if the obligation of affairs so required it that they attended the king beyond the extent of fifteen days, then they were for the time following, to be supported in their expences at the charge of the crown. Now because the wisdom of after times thought this too vast and burdensome an expence, to be solely and wholly sustained by the cinque ports, therefore there were several other towns and villages that lay scattered in the body of this nation, that were made members and limbs of the cinque ports, and invested and fortified with the same immunities and liberties, that they might by consequence be enwrapped and engaged in the same common expence. The names of those which are situated in Kent are as followeth; viz. Sandwich had the addition of Fordwich, Sarre, Ramsgate, Deal, Walmer and Stoner. Dover had Feversham, Birchington, St. Johns, St. Peters, Ridlingswold and Folkstone. Hyth had West-Hyth. Romney had old Romney, Lydde, Promhill, Dengemersh and Orwelston. Hastings and Winchelsey had in Kent, as their appendages, Bekesbourn, Grench and Tenterden. As a l'envoy to the cinque ports, I shall represent a summary or bedroll, of all those persons of esteem that have had the honour to have been dignified with the title of lord wardens of the cinque ports; which scroll or register I have collected out of an ancient manuscript, and are in their series or succession as followeth, viz.

1 John de Fiennes,  
2 James de Fiennes  
3 John de Fiennes,  
4 Walkelinus,  
de Magninot,  
5 Allen de Fiennes,  
6 James de Fiennes,  
7 Matthew de Clere,  
8 William de Wrotham  
9 Hubert de Burgo,  
He that so stoutly asserted  
the interest of king John  
and the castle of Dover  
likewise, against Lewis  
the Dauphin of France.  
10 Bertram de Criol,  
11 Richard le Gray,  
12 Henry de Braybrook,  
13 Edward, then prince,  
but after king, by the  
name of Edw. the first;  
and Henry de Cobham  
was his substitute.  
14 Henry de Monteford,  
15 Roger de Leybourn,  
16 Stephen de Penchester,  
17 Sir Robert Ashton, ibidem  
sepultus, id est Dubri.  
18 Simon de Crey,  
19 Hugh le Spencer,  
20 Edward de Woodstock,  
21 Reginald de Cobham,  
22 Bartholomew Ld.  
Burgherst or Burwash  
23 John le Beauchamp,  
24 Sir Ralph Spigurnel,  
25 Sir Robert Herle,  
26 Robert, earl of Cam=  
bridge,  
27 Simon Burleigh,  
28 Henry le Cobham,  
29 Sir John Enrosse, and in  
some copies le Rosse,  
30 Sir Thomas Beaumont,  
31 Edward, duke of Au=  
merle and York.  
32 Sir Thomas Erpingham,  
33 Prince Henry, after king  
Henry the fifth.  
34 Humphrey, duke of Glo=  
cester.  
35 James Fiennes lord Say,  
whom Jack Cade be=  
headed.  
36 Edmund, duke of Somer=  
set.  
37 Humphrey Stafford, duke  
of Buckingham.  
38 Simon Montfort.  
39 Richard Nevil, earl of  
Warwick.  
40 William earl of Arundell.  
41 Richard duke of Gloce=

ster, after Richard the third.

42 Sir William Scot,  
43 James Fiennes, lord Say,

Hen. in his father's life  
time after Hen. the eighth

44 Arthur Plantagenet Vis=  
count Lisle, natural son  
to Edward the fourth.

45 Sir Edward Poynings,

46 Henry, earl of Rich=  
mond.

47 Sir Edward Guldeford,

48 George Boleyn Viscount  
Rochford.

49 Sir Thomas Cheyney,

50 Sir William Brook lord  
Cobham.

Henry Brook lord Cob=  
ham,

51 Henry Howard earl of  
Northampton.

52 Edward Zouch lord  
Haringworth,

53 George Villiers duke of  
Buckingham,

54 Theophilus Howard earl  
of Suffolk.

55 James duke of Lenox  
and Richmond.

Having discovered to the reader, a scale of those who were successively lord war=  
dens of the cinque ports, I shall now from authentic records and registers, represent  
a catalogue of those who were substituted lieutenants of Dover castle, alterna vice  
under them.

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Hugh de Montfort,  
Simon de Averanches  
John de Stoner,

Temp. Gulielmi  
Rufi & Henrici pri=  
mi.

Allan de Heyton,  
Henry de Essex,

Temp. Henry. II.

Mat. de Clere  
Will. de Albemarle,  
Simon de Averanches  
Barthol. de Criol,

Temp. Richard. II.

Thomas Bassett,  
Will. de Huntingfield  
Will. de Wrotham,  
Will. de Brewer,  
Alan de Buckland.

Temp. regis Joan=  
nis.

Sr. Richard D'An=

gervill.

Temp. reg. Joannis  
& regis Hen. III.

Bertram de Hells,  
Rob. de Burgherst,  
Robert Waleran,  
Henry de Cobham,  
Henry Montfort,  
Roger Leybourn.

Temp. Hen. III.

Reginald le Viscount,  
Thomas de Insula,  
Robert de Burgherst,  
Bertram de Crioll,

Temp. Edward. I.

Will. de Averanches,  
Robert de Hereford,  
Joh. de Walde Wal=  
de wars chare,  
William de Lea,  
Peter de Hanekin  
John de Walde wars  
chare,  
William de S< >otten,  
Nicholas de Crioll,

Temp. Edward. II.

Giles de Badelesmer,  
Sr. Thomas Brock=  
hull.  
William Barry,  
Ralph de Valoigns bis  
Robert Herle,  
Andrew Gulford,  
Peter Read,  
Rob de Wellesham bis  
Roger de Wellesham,

Temp. Edward. III.

James Haut,  
Sr. Richard Mal=  
main,  
Sr. William Walworth

Temp. Rich. II.

Sr. Joh. Devereux,  
Peter Wigmore bis,  
John Clinton,  
John Hakenthorp,  
Arnold Savage,  
Sr. Richard Dering,

Temp. Richard II.

Sr. Robert Berney,  
Sr. Philip Lewis,  
Andrew Boteler,  
ichard Barrey,  
John Mortimer,

Temp. Hen. IV.



Tho. Fitz-Allen earl  
of Arundel, consti=  
tuted lieutenant  
under Hen. prince  
of Wales, the  
13th of Hen. IV.

Temp. Hen. IV.

Richard Nedham,  
Sr. Thomas Keriet,  
Gervais Clifton,

Temp. Hen. V.  
& Hen. VI.

Richard Nedham.  
William Keriell,  
Richard Witherton,  
Thomas Hextall.

Temp. Hen. VI.

Otwell Worceley,  
John Greenfend,  
Edmund Ince,  
Thomas Guldford.  
Edward Cobham,  
Sr. John Scott,  
Sr. John D'evereux,  
Philip FitzWilliam,  
Philip Fitz-Lewis,  
Philip Lewis.

Temp. Edward. VI.

Jeffery Lowther,  
Sr. Edw. Poynings,  
Sr. William Scott,  
Sr. John Bouchier,

Temp. Edward. IV.  
& Hen. VII.

Sr. William Scott,  
Edward Thwaits,  
Richard Dering,  
John Copledike.  
Richard Dering ter.

Temp. Hen. VII.  
& Hen. VIII.

Richard Dering,  
John Monins,  
William Crispe,

Temp. Hen. VIII.  
Edw. VI. & Reginæ  
Mariæ.

William Crispe,  
Richard Barrey,  
Sr. Thomas Vane,

Temp. regi. Eliz.

Sr. Thomas Vane,  
Sr. Thomas Waller,  
Sr. Robert Brett,  
Sr. John Brook,

Sr. Thomas Hamon,  
Sr. Hen. Manwaring  
Sr. John Hipplesley,

Temp. regis Jacob.

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Sr. John Hipplesley,  
Sr. Edward Dering,  
Sr. Tho. Colepeper,  
Sr. John Manwood,  
Col. H. Wentworth,  
Sr. Edward Bois,  
John Bois, Esquire,  
Sr. Hen. Heyman,  
Col. Algernon Sidney,  
Col. Thomas Kelsey,

Temp regis Ca=  
roli.

I might have been more copious in my discourses of the cinque ports; but because I intend to publish a particular treatise relating solely to their immunities, and their just right to take cognisance of the fishery at Yarmouth; I shall no farther insist upon this subject, but proceed. KENT, upon the first eruption of Hengist and his Saxons upon this island, was represented by himself and his partizans under that fair and noble character, that after he had in many bloody decisions broken the strength of the Britons, upon their ruins he laid the foundations of that greatness on which he afterwards established the throne, by which he ascended to the height of majesty, and was the first of the Saxons whose hand swayed the Kentish scepter; indeed Cyning, the old saxon word, implies no more than one that is dextrous and cunning in the managery of the public affairs, and such a one was Hengist; from whom the series of the kings of Kent, whom I am now to mention, did, as from their fountain, primitively stream forth:

455 1 Hengist,  
488 2 Eske or Osca  
512 3 Octa,  
532 4 Immerick,  
561 Ethelbert the first  
christian king,  
founder of Christ-  
church in Canter=  
bury, St. Paul's  
in London, and  
St. Andrew's in  
Rochester.  
617 6 Eadbald,  
641 7 Encombert,  
665 8 Egbert I.  
673 9 Lortharius,  
686 10 Edrick,  
693 11 Wightred, in  
some copies Mu=  
thred.  
726 12 Egbert II.  
749 13 Ethelbert II.  
759 14 Alwick, who was  
slain at Otford  
by Offa.  
794 15 Ethelbert III sur=  
named Pren,  
797 16 Cuthred,  
805 17 Baldred, who in  
the year 827 lost

both life & king=  
dom to Egbert.

Egbert having thus broken the kentish forces, and inoculated the scepter of Kent upon that of his own, the title of king was for ever entombed in the ruins and tomb of the slaughtered Baldred; nor was this country dignified with any title at all, until the reign of Edward the confessor, and then that prince created Godwin earl of Kent; a man of so low and obscure an extraction, that the concurrent testimony of all authors do affirm, he was bubulci filius, the son of a cowherd: yet notwithstanding, he made himself so considerable, by his eruptions on several parts of this island by land, and his depredations by sea, that our English story swells with the rehearsal of his acts of devastation and piracy. Now if you would know from whence the Latin word comes deduces its original, that is, the genus both to the French word Count, and the Saxon word Earl or Eorlederman, (for that was the more ancient term) I shall in a brief model represent it to you. The making of Counts anciently, as is affirmed by Trebellius Pollio in the life of Macrianus, was in contubernium imperatoriae majestatis ad= sciscere, to take some select persons into the chamber and fellowship of the imperial majesty: that Tiberius had some such, is most certain; for Suetonius in his life, mentions comites largitionum expeditionumque; whose first institution is by Seneca in his sixth book de Bene. cap. 34, referred and described to Gracchus and Livius Drusus; they, saith he, apud nos primum instituerunt segregare turbam suam, & alios in secretum recipere: and then again, habuerunt itaque isti amicos primos, habuerunt & secundos; and it is recorded of Alexander Severus by Lampridius, that amicos non solum primi ac secundi loci (which were certainly those persons which he had separated from the vulgar mass of men) sed etiam inferiores ægrotantes viseret. And Tacitus in his book de bello Germanico relates, that the prince had duodecem comites, or twelve companions assigned him, who transacted the great affairs both of war and peace; from which model it is probable the twelve peers of France had their first original. In ages of a lower step, these comites were frequently called reguli. In Cantia, saith Malmsbury, omnis justitia la= borabat sub cujusdam gorongi regimine, qui tamen sicut omnes reguli insulæ vortigerno subster= nebantur. Afterwards when Hengist had established his Kentish kingdom, the title

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of earl began to commence in Otho and Ebusa, brothers to the abovesaid Hengist, as the same Malmsbury observes in his track de Gestis Regum cap. 3. and the title of earl was anciently expressed by the word comes amongst the Saxons; for to king Ethelbert's charter for the foundation of the Abby of St Augustins, cited by Reynerus, there are these inscriptions, Ego Hamigilus Dux laudavi, and then, Ego Occa Comes consensi, Ego Graphio Comes benedixi; and there is an old epitaph quoted by Mr. Selden in his Titles of Honour, the substance of which is this; that Alwain which was founder of Ramsey- Abby, was comes & aldermannus totius Angliæ: but in decursion of time, this word Eolderman being used by others besides those to whom it was proper and analogical, it began to languish into disuse, and the title ofthane and earl was assumed, which last hath remained in force until this day: now the relief of athane (who was cer= tainly an earl by office, rather than title) if he were of the first rank, that is, had the custody of some county under the king, which he paid to the crown, was four horses, two saddled and two unsaddled; two swords, and four spears, and as many shields; and if he were of the second rank, he paid two horses, one saddled, and one unsaddled, one sword, two lancets, and as many shields, and fifty marks in silver; sometimes, if he were athane of an inferior rank, he paid eight pound, and frequent= ly three pound. The relief which an earl paid constantly to the crown after the Norman conquest, was (as Mr. Selden in his Titles of Honour, does demonstrate out of several records) an 100l.

Now the benefit which did accrue to the count or earl, besides a barren and naked title to support the dignity of his person in its due magnificence and splendour, was the third penny arising out of the profits of the county. Algar earl of Mercland, (as Domesday Book informs us) had the third penny of the county of Oxford, and the borough of Stafford, under Edward the confessor. And Maude the empress, when she created Milo earl or Hereford, assigned to him for the support of his honor, the third penny of that county: many people of the like condition are discoverable in Mr. Selden's Titles of Honour, whither I refer the reader And as they had the third penny, so they had frequently the castle of that county annexed to their title; but when by experience, the kings of England were instructed how fatally pernicious it

was to have so many local powers concurrent with theirs, that by the strength of their retreat, and the number of confederates and partisans, seemed even to outpoise the royal authority, it was by a statute made in the thirteenth year of Richard the second, for the future interdicted and prohibited.

Now if you will enquire when earls or counts from being absolute, became feudal, Sr. Henry Spelman, in his Glossary, will tell you that it was tempore Othonum, & sub accessu Merovinæ stirpis in Gallia, that is, about the year one thousand.

Now as concerning the ensigns of investiture, with which the earl was created, it was anciently only with the cincture of a sword, but after the latter end of Edward the first, the coronet began to be in use; for Aymer de Vallence, earl of Pembroke who died in the sixteenth year of Edward the second, had one, as appears by an instrument of William de Lavenham, cited by Mr Selden in his Titles of Honour, by which he acknowledges the receipt of it from Mr Henry Stacheden in the twelfth year of Edward the second. Richard earl of Arundel, died in the forty ninth year of Edward the third, and by his last will dated the fifth of December, gives his noblest and richest coronet to his son the lord Richard Fitz-allan, his second to the lady Joan his eldest, the third he bequeaths to the lady Alice his youngest daughter.

What the Counts Palatine were I shall now demonstrate: they were taken immediately e Palatio, from whence they assumed their name; and customarily such as had the nearest relation to the prince, either by friendship or affinity, and to whose care and administration, he did entrust such or such a province; and the more to improve and enable them in the discharge of their duty, did unite some privileges and franchises to their office; as erecting courts of judicature, appointing judges to sit in them, and determine by signal decision, upon causes both criminal and civil, and others of the like nature, that were of that luxuriant latitude, that they had the stamp and character of something which resembled regality fixt upon them. He that will dis=

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cover by example more of this honorary title, may read Mr. Selden's Titles of Honour, whither, to decline all superfluity of discourse, I refer to the reader.

I have now done with the title, I shall proceed to unwind the register of those who were earls of Kent, subsequent to earl Godwin.

1067 1 Odo bishop of Baieux, half brother to William the conqueror, lord chief justice, and lord treasurer of England.

1141 2 William de Ippe,

1227 3 Hubert de Burg lord chief justice of England.

1321 4 Edmund de Woodstock son to king Edward the first.

1330 5 Edmund Plantagenet,

1333 6 John Plantagenet,

7 Thomas Holland earl of Kent, in right of Joan his wife, who was daughter of Edmund of Woodstock.

1360 8 Thomas Holland,

1397 9 Thomas Holland duke of Surry,

1400 10 Thomas Holland lord high Admiral of England.

1461 11 Will. Nevill, lord Fauconbridge.

1464 12 Edmund Grey, lord Ruthin, lord treasurer of England, created earl of Kent by king Edward the fourth.

13 George Grey.

14 Richard Grey,

15 Reginald Grey,

16 Henry Grey,

17 Charles Grey,  
 18 Henry Grey,  
 19 Anthony Grey clerk, parson of  
 Burbage in the county of Leice=  
 ster, grandchild of Anthony,  
 third son of George earl of Kent  
 above-mentioned.  
 20 Henry Grey,  
 21 Anthony Grey earl of Kent,  
 1658, but in his minority.

Having represented in prospect the Comites and Consules, the earls and consuls which were originally to manage those provinces subordinate to the Roman govern=ment; I shall now take cognisance of those which were anciently stiled vice comites & proconsules, and had care of the provincial revenues (in relation to which, they were termed questores provinciarum) and the jurisdiction of some causes only (as sheriffs have of divers actions viscontiel) and inquiry of causes criminal, but not determination of them. In the Saxon times, they were sometimes called Eoldermen, and in Latin vice comites, which was applyed to them, not as they were subservient to the earl, but as they administered justice when he was either dead or absent. 'Tis true, if we dissect the word Earldom, we shall discover the last syllable: dome is deduced from dominion, and implies that the marshall and civil government being anciently subor=inate to counts and earls, there was some analogy and resemblance in the official dignity of an earl, and a sheriff, and certainly the word sheriff imports no less, a word contracted from the Saxon word Schyregereve, or Schyregreve.

The word is best interpreted by the laws, intituled the Confessor's, where we read thus, sicut modo vocantur Greves qui super alios Præfecturas habent ita apud Anglos anti=quitus vocabantur Ealdormen, quasi seniores non propter senectutem cum quidem adolescentes essent, sed propter sapientiam: they were called anciently Ealdormen, say those laws, not in respect of years, but wisdom. And we find Henry the third, made his son prince Edward, the five last years of his reign, sheriff of Bedford and Buckingham. The black prince was often sheriff of Cornwall under Edward the third, and prince Henry, in the life of his father Henry the fourth, is found to have been sheriff of Cornwall, and it was done by these sagacious princes with this intent, that their sons, when they should ascend the throne, might be more dexterous in the course and conduct of the revenue of the crown. And as these princes were invested with this office, so we find both arch-bishops, bishops, abbots, earls, and barons, held this dignity; nay, sometimes queens, countesses, and dowagers too, with an allow=ance of a shire-clerk, which after resolved into him we call the under sheriff. And it was usual long since, as the statute-law now likewise asserts it, that the Census, or possession of some demean in the county, admits a capacity to hold the office, and answer the king the profits of the county; otherwise, they are illegal

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and liable to exception; and in this respect, sometimes the king committed four counties to one man, if he was possessed of lands in them all, as Hubert de Burgo was at one time sheriff of Kent, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincoln, and was allowed a meet person to be his substitute or shire-clerk, in the ninth of Henry the third.

If any should demand how long there have been sheirffs under this qualified no=tion, as I have before represented and pourtrayed them, I must remit them to king Alfred, the founder of England's peace, and the divider of it into shires and pro=vinces; not to Gervas of Tilbury, whose difinition of the name is very deficient, making the office meerly suppletory to the count or earl; nor to Polidore Virgil, who being by birth an alien, would obtrude a false opinion upon us, that the offi=ces of the chancellors and sheriffs were instituted since the Norman conquest; for evidence to the confutation of him, we may read the testimonies remembered by the most learned Selden, in the subscription of king Edred's charter to the abby of Crow=land; there, after abbots, dukes and counts, follow Ego Afor vice comes audivi. + And in another Saxon charter to the same abby, there is this clause inserted, Ego Livingus Clericus istud chirographum manu mea subscripsi, & domino meo Theroldo tra=didit; which records do indisputably, I think, subvert his assertion.

The next annotation upon our proconsulary officer, is the continuation of those

that in elder time held it many years together; as for example, the Cornhills did in Kent, whereby their own surname was discontinued, and the officary name le sheriff, & le viscount swallowed up the other, and the relict of Reginald (de Cornhill) le Viscount, in a concession of land to the chapel of Lukedale in Littlebourn, is stiled in the Latin instrument, Vice Comitissa Cantii, and a manor of his in Minster in the isle of Thanet, has from this surname, obtained the title of the sheriff's court. But when it was found inconvenient for one man to hold the place any long time, in regard of his account, and other enormities emergent; provision was made by statute, that none should serve two years together, but should be two years at least divested of the office ere he served again in the same county.

Touching the sheriffs letters of attendance, injoining all arch-bishops, dukes, marquisses, earls, viscounts, bishops, barons, &c. to assist him, it shews in landscape and perspective afar off, the latitude anciently of his authority; but since the institution of lords-lieutenants, the beams of his power have shone forth with a more dim and contracted light; so much shall suffice for the explication of its name, as it is officary. Now a word or two how it became honorary, because as from the consul or count, time and royal authority hath extracted the princely dignity of earl, which being for the most part instated in elder times on the king's kindred, hath caused the use of that addition ever since, to all of that rank: so likewise the state and degree of a viscount hath a participation of that attribute, and are called countess by the sovereign, and in the scrutiny made by the chancellor of the order of the garter, at every feast of St. George, during the time of vespers, if there were any stall void, a viscount is admitted as the lowest degree of princes. The first that under this title had parliamentary dignity and precedency of all barons with us, was John de Beaumont, created Viscount Beaumont in the eighteenth year of Henry the sixth, without any relation to the office. The circle or coronet of this degree being by its figure, distinguished from an earl's, as a marquiss's is from a duke's. They that would take an exact survey of the official part of this ancient minister in all its dimensions and appendages, let them consult Dalton, who has very exactly and usefully discovered to the world all the ingredients which make up this office.

I shall, before I proceed to draw out the catalogue of the Kentish sheriffs, represent to the world a summary list of arch-bishops, earls, bishops, and others of high eminence, which managed this office, either personally or virtually; as well in other counties as in Kent. And first, queen Isabel had the sheriffwick of Cornwall divers years before her husband, Edward the second, was thrust out of the world by an unnatural death, and some years under the reign of her son king Edward the third. Margaret, widow of Edward earl of Cornwall, held this office in the county of Rutland the five last years of Edward the first, and as many years in the beginning of king Edward the second; and after the next three years Margaret the wife of Pierce Gaveston, earl of Cornwall, answered king Edward the second the profits of that county. Elizabeth

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countess of Salisbury, had the county of Wilts committed to her, anno 1216, the twenty first of Henry the third, and John Dacus was her substitute.

William earl of Salisbury, was sheriff of Huntingdon and Cambridge the sixteenth and seventeenth of king John, and sheriff of Lincoln six or seven years together: the earls of Warwick were often sheriffs of Warwick and Leicester-shire under Edward the third, and also of the county of Worcester most part of the king's reign; indeed the office of sheriff was so frequent in that family, that it almost appeared to be hereditary to the Beauchamps, Ralph earl of Chester, was sheriff of that county the first of Henry the third, and of the county of Lancaster the second year of the said king.

Walter, lord arch-bishop of York, was sheriff of Nottingham the fifty fourth and fifty fifth of king Henry the third, and Hugo de Stapleford was his shire-clerk. Hillarius bishop of Lincoln, was sheriff of Lincolnshire the ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth of Henry the third, and Ralph Regnald was his shire-clerk. Hillarius bishop of Chichester, was sheriff of Sussex and Surry in the eighth of Henry the second.

Richard, bishop of Salisbury, was often sheriff of the county of Dorset under Henry the third, and of Hampshire at the same time. Joceline bishop of Bath, was sheriff of Somerset under Henry the third, and Peter bishop of Winchester, the first eight years of Henry the third. Walter bishop of Carlisle, was frequently sheriff of Cum-

berland under Henry the third, and Robert his successor was often sheriff of the same county under Edward the first; and both of them had their shire-clerks. Walter bishop of Coventry and Litchfield, was often in this office under Richard the first, in the county of Stafford. Ralph Abbott of Michelen, was sheriff of the counties of Somerset and Dorset the seventh of Henry the third.

Many more presidents of this nature could be unfolded, but I think these are competent testimonies enough to discover both the dignity and eminence of this ancient and illustrious office; only this may be deduced from these examples; that some counties heretofore were joined with their next neighbours for ease of the service, as Sussex and Surry, Devon and Cornwall, Somerset and Dorset, Hampshire and Wilts, Warwick and Leicester, Cambridge and Huntingdon, Norfolk and Suffolk, Essex and Hertford, &c. most of which were separated by queen Elizabeth, and the rest taken asunder by the late king Charles.

I shall now endeavour to unravel the catalogue of the sheriffs of Kent, as I find them registered either in the pipe rolls or other evidences; and I have as much as possible I could, recorded the places where they inhabited, which will much improve and inforce that light which I am to distribute to the world; in relation to those places I am in my subsequent discourse to treat upon.

And first, I find Oswald a Saxon, held divers lands in Kent, as Herst, Hagalei, Norton, Chert, Stepedon, with Tunsdal and Tong, during the Reign of Edward the confessor; all which lands were in the conqueror's time, possessed by Hugo de Port. This Oswald also held Delce Hadon, Alneiton and Har & Sham. He was sheriff of Kent under the confessor, as appears by the prime record of the nation, Doomesday book, where speaking of Tarentford in Axton hundred it is thus entered; homines de in isto hundredo testificantur, quod de isto manerio regis ablatum est unum pratum & unum alnetum, & unum molendinum & XX. acræ prati, &c. Dicunt etiam quod Oswald tunc Vicecomes præstitit ea Alestano Præposito London, & modo tenet Heltus Dapifer & nepos ejus. Hamo, and as frequently Hanno, lord of Marourd, in the hundred of Littlefield, and of Blen in the hundred of Whitstaple, and Lavinton in the hundred of Downhamford, of Estursete, Briested (now I take Brasted) Nettlested, Ditton, and divers other lands in Kent, was sheriff at the time of the general survey entered by the conqueror into his Doomesday book. The records of Christ-church, and the deeds of the hospital of St. Laurence near Canterbury, prove that Hamo son of Etardes de Crevequer, did in the reign of Richard the first, and king John, hold divers of the lands, if not all above recited. He continued sheriff (as was very usual) during life, which was enlarged untill about the middle of Henry the first, for in the year 1111, which is the eleventh of Henry the first, Hugh Abbot of St. Augustins granted Bodesham and Smethetum to this Hamo, quod ipse (as says the deed) si opus fuerit ecclesiæ & mihi, vel successoribus meis de prædictis in comitatu, vel in curia regis, contra aliquem baronem, consulat, adjuvet, & succurrat exceptis dominis suis

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quorum homo manibus suis fuerit. At the same time this Hamo restored to the same abby in the town of Fordwich in this form, Hamo Cantii vicecomes & Henrici regis Anglorum dapifer timore Dei ductus reddo Deo, & Sancto Petro Apostolorum principi, & sancto Augustino Anglorum Apostolo, & abbati hugoni, & fratribus ejusdem loci Villam de Fordwich. Hanc donationem meam per Psalterium Sancti Augustini & per cultellum meum super principale altare ejusdem Ecclesiæ manibus meis misi, &c.

William de Aynsford was sheriff of Kent after Hamo, in the reign of Henry the first, for in the chartularies of St. Augustin in Canterbury, I find a transcript of the kings writ thus, Henricus Rex Anglorum Willielmo de Aynsford salutem, fac juste habere abbati de Sancto Augustino consuetudinem suam de Niwentona in denariis averiis & operationibus, &c. And the deed from William, son to Henry the first, is here entered, and imports as much as the former; Willielmus filius regis Willielmo vice comiti de Kent salutem; fac recognosci per homines hundredi de Middletuna quas consuetudines in villa de Niventona, &c. This family of Aynsford ended about Edward the first, and one of this name was sheriff of London.

Norman Fitz Dering was sheriff of Kent under king Stephen, unto whom queen Maud directed her writ concerning some land given by her to the nun Helmida, ad faciendam domum suam in elemosinam apud Fauresham post mortem ejus; volo (saith the queen) ut ecclesia sanctæ Mariæ de Fauresham pro salute domini mei regis Stephani, & mea, & filiorum nostrorum & statu regni nostri habeat præfatam terram in perpetuum.

He and his brother Godred Fitz Dering are witnesses to a deed of their brother Osbert

de Morinis (so called because his brother was a Fleming) which deed is registered in the chartularies of St. Augustins, wherein he to that abby gives six acres and a half of land in Thanet, for a supply of a light in the chapel of St. Mildred, within the abby aforesaid; pro salute animæ suæ, & animæ uxoris ejus Ermelinæ, in honorem sanctæ virginis Mildrethæ. This Norman Fitz Dering held lands at Ashford, east Farleigh, Lese, Bircholt and Bedesham.

Rualonus or Ruallo de Valoigns was sheriff of Kent in the first year of king Henry the second, in the year of our lord, 1154, as appears by the records of the pipe-office, (which I must now exactly trace) where the sheriffs accounts are enrolled. His seat was at Swerdlin in Petham, and sometime at Tremworth in Bocton Alulph.

Ralph Picot was sheriff the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh years of king Henry the second. Adam Picot supplied part of the last year, and Hugh de Dover the rest.

Hugh de Dover, descended from Fulbert de Dover, to whom the castle of Chilham, with the manor of Kingston and other knights fees, were granted by king William the conqueror, in defence of Dover castle, was sheriff of Kent the eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth years of Henry the second. His residence was sometimes at Chilham-castle, and sometimes at Kingston.

Gervas de Cornhill was sheriff of Kent the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth years of Henry the second. His seat was Luke-dale in Littlebourn.

Robert Fitz Bernard was joined with Gervas de Cornhill in the twenty first of Henry the second: and after that year was expired, he exercised the office alone till the thirtieth of the said king's reign. His capital mansion was Kingsdown near Farningham.

Arnoldus, but of what family is not yet discovered, was sheriff of Kent the twenty second of Henry the second.

William Fitz Neal was sheriff of Kent the thirtieth of Henry the second, and William Fitz Philip was joined with him. Where his residence was is uncertain.

Allan de Valoigns was sheriff of Kent the thirty first, thirty second, thirty third, and thirty fourth of Henry the second. His seat was frequently at Swerdlin in Petham, and often at Repton in Ashford.

Henry de Cornhill, son to Gervas de Cornhill above recited, was sheriff of Kent in the first, second, and third years of Richard the first. His seat was at Lukedale.

Reginald de Cornhill was sheriff of Kent the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and last year of king Richard the first, and during the whole reign of king John; and in the twelfth year of his reign, John Fitz Vinon, of Haring in Selling Juxta Hyth, was joined to him for execution of the said office in Kent. His seat was

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at that mansion in Minster in Thanet, which at this instant, from his being so constantly sheriff, preserves the appellation of the sheriffs court.

Hubert de Burgo, that great subject, which was afterwards earl of Kent, constable of the castle of Dover, and lord warden of the cinque ports, was sheriff of Kent in the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh of king Henry the third, during which time, one Hugh de Windlesore, whose estate lay at Werehorn, was joined to him as his assistant. In the eighth year of king Henry the third, Roger Grimstone was joined with him as his assistant, and continued so in the eighth, ninth, and tenth years of Henry the third. In the eleventh year of the said king's reign, William Brito was joined unto him and continued his assistant in that office, till the seventeenth of king Henry the third.

Bartholomew de Criol lord of Ostenhanger, was sheriff of Kent from the seventeenth to the twenty fourth of king Henry the third.

Humphrey de Bohum earl of Essex, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty fourth and twenty fifth of king Henry the third: he was at that time possessed of the manor of Bilsington in this county, as I find by a fine levied by him of the said manor, the twenty fourth of Henry the third.

Peter de Sabaudia (or Savoy) being earl of Savoy, and uncle by the mother's side, unto Eleanor the wife of king Henry the third, was made earl of Richmond in Yorkshire, and lord warden of the Cinque Ports: he dwelt in the house in the Strand, from him named the Savoy: he was sheriff of Kent in the twenty sixth of king Henry the third, and Bertram de Criol was joined with him.

Bertram de Criol of Ostenhanger, in relation to that vast estate which accrued to him by marrying Eleanor, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Hamon Crevequer,



lord of Leeds castle, and of Matilda his wife, daughter and heir of William de Avering lord of Folkston, was called the great lord of Kent, held the office of sheriff the twenty seventh of Henry the third, and John de Cobham was joined with him that year: but the twenty eighth, twenty ninth, thirtieth, thirty first, and thirty second years of Henry the third, he held the place alone.

Reginald de Cobham was sheriff of Kent, from the beginning of the thirty third of Henry the third, to the end of the fortieth of Henry the third, and in the forty first of Henry the third, one Walter de Bersted was joined with him in the execution of that office; he died the forty second of Henry the third, and Roger de Northwood and his other executors answered for the remainder of that year.

This Walter de Bersted was constable of the castle of Dover, the forty sixth of Henry the third.

Hugh de Montfort, the king's nephew, had the custody of the county of Kent and the hundred of Milton granted to him in the forty second of Henry the third, Pat. 48. Mem. 12.

Fulk Peyforer was sheriff and custos of Kent the forty third of Henry the third. His seat was sometimes at North Court in Eseling, and sometimes at Colbrige in Boughton Malherbe.

John de Cobham was sheriff of Kent the forty fourth of Henry the third; he served the first part of the forty fifth, and Robert Walleran served the rest, and Walter de Redmarleg was under him. Robert Walleran and Thomas Delaway under him held the shrievalty of Kent, the forty sixth and forty seventh of Henry the third. His seat was at Monkton in Thanet.

Roger de Leybourn was sheriff of Kent the forty eighth of Henry the third, and Fulk Peyforer was custos of the county the latter part of that year, and three parts of the year forty nine. In the fiftieth year, John de Bourn was joined unto him, and so continued till the fifty second of Henry the third, and Fulk de Peyforer was custos of the county again, the last three parts of that year. His seat was at Leybourn castle in Kent.

Stephen de Penchester was high sheriff of Kent the fifty third and fifty fourth of king Henry the third, and Henry de Leeds was his assistant or shire-clerk. His seat was at Pencehurst.

Henry Malmains of Pluckley and Waldershare, was sheriff the fifty sixth of Henry the third, and continued part of the first year of king Edward the first, in which

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office he deceased, and John, his son, answered for the profits of the county the first half year, and William de Hever for the other half year.

William de Hever, of Hever castle in Kent, was sheriff part of the first year, and all the second year of Edward the first.

William de Valoigns, of Swerdlin and Repton, was sheriff of Kent, the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth years of Edward the first, and the last year was supplied for part thereof by Henry Perot of Knowlton.

Robert Scotton was sheriff of Kent the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth years of Edward the first, in which year he died, and Robert his son accounted for the remainder of that year.

Peter de Huntingfield, so named from the manor of Huntingfield, which he and his ancestors held in Eseling in Kent, of the castle of Chilham, by a whole knight's fee, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth of Edward the first.

Hamon de Gatton, of Throuley in Kent, was sheriff the fourteenth of Edward the first.

William de Chellesfield, so named of the town of Chellesfield, of which he and his ancestors were many years possessed, was sheriff of Kent the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth of Edward the first.

William de Bramshot, so named of a town in Hantshire, of which he and his ancestors were lords, was sheriff of Kent the eighteenth and nineteenth years of Edward the first.

John de Northwood knight, son of Sir Roger Northwood knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twentieth year of Edward the first, and for the latter part of the year, Richard de Cumbe and Simon de Cumbe, his son and heir, served for him: in the twenty first year he was sheriff again, and John de Bourn was joined with him: afterwards, in the twenty eighth year of the abovesaid prince, as likewise in the twenty third, and twenty fourth years of his reign, he was sheriff of this county and held the office alone.

John de Bourn had the custody of Kent in the twenty second year, and then again in the twenty third and twenty fourth years of Edward the first. Henry de Bourn, his father, made a purchase of lands and rents in Dodington, of Matilda the daughter of John de Dodington, in the forty seventh year of Henry the third

William Trussel was sheriff of Kent in the twenty fifth and twenty sixth years of Edward the first.

Henry de Apulderfield, of Apulderfield in Coudham, now contractedly called Apulfield, served the latter part of the twenty sixth year, but was sheriff alone in the twenty seventh year of Edward the first.

Henry de Cobham of Rundal in Shorn, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty ninth and and thirtieth years of Edward the first, and for part of the thirty first year, the barons of the exchequer appointed Elias de Morton of Dodingdale in Canterbury, to serve in his stead.

Waretius de Valoigns, of Tremworth, was sheriff of Kent the latter part of the thirty first, and then again in the thirty second year of Edward the first.

William de Cossenton, of Cossenton in Alresford, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty fifth year of Edward the first.

Jeffery Colepeper, of Bay-hall in Pepenbury, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty sixth, thirty seventh, thirty eighth, and thirty ninth years of Edward the first.

Sheriffs of Kent, in the time of Edward II.

Sir Henry de Cobham of Rundale in Shorn, formerly mentioned, was sheriff of Kent in the first year of king Edward the second, and again in the ninth year of this prince.

John le Blund, of Sundridge in Bromley, descended from Peter le Blund, who was constable of the tower of London in the thirty fourth year of Henry the third, was sheriff of Kent in the second, third, and fourth years of Edward the second: and dying in the fifth year of that prince, when he was likewise sheriff, Edward his son served out the remainder of the year for him, and continued in the office part of the year following.

William de Basing of Kenardington, enrolled amongst the knights of king Edward

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the first, that merited so victoriously in the wars in Scotland, was sheriff of Kent the seventh year of Edward the second; and John de Haudloe the younger, of Court, at Street in Limne, was joined with him.

John de Malmain, of Malmain in Stoke in the hundred of Hoo, was sheriff of Kent in the tenth of Edward the second, and part of the eleventh.

John Fremingham, of Fremingham, was sheriff of Kent part of the eleventh year of Edward the second; and for three parts of the twelfth year, which he likewise served, Henry de Sarden was united as an assistant to him.

William Septuans, son and heir of Sir Robert Septuans, whose seat was at Milton Septuans near Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent part of the thirteenth, and entirely the fourteenth year of Edward the second, and Henry Sarden was his assistant; he continued in the office the fifteenth, and part of the sixteenth year of the abovesaid prince, and Ralph Savage of Milsted was joined with him.

John de Shelving son of Thomas de Shelving of Shelving in Wodnesborough, was sheriff of Kent part of the sixteenth, and part of the seventeenth year of Edward the second; and John de Fremingham was joined as an assistant to him.

John de Fremingham was sheriff of Kent part of the sixteenth year, entirely the eighteenth, and lastly, part of the nineteenth year of that unfortunate prince Edward the second; and Ralph de St. Laurence served the residue for him.

Thomas de Toniford, his attorney, accounted for the profits of his office for him.

Sheriffs of Kent, in the time of Edward the third.

Ralph de St. Laurence, whose ancestors extracted their surname from St. Laurence in the isle of Thanet, was sheriff of Kent in the first year of Edward the third, and again for part of the sixth year of that prince, which was supplied by Thomas St Laurence his son.

William de Orlanston, so sirnamed from Orlanston in Rumney Marsh, was sheriff of Kent in the second year of Edward the third, and the next year following he continued in the place, and John de Shelving before mentioned, was joined with him.

John de Shelving was again sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of Edward the third, but died the same year, as the inquisition taken after his death doth evince, and John

de Walmer supplied the remnant of the year for him.

Roger de Reynham served part of the fifth of Edward the third.

John de Bourn, before mentioned, continued the office of sheriff of Kent, part of the fifth year of Edward the third.

Thomas de Brockhull, of Brockhull in Saltwood, was sheriff of Kent the sixth year of Edward the third, and Lawrence de St. Lawrence was his assistant for part of the year: but in the seventh and eleventh years of this king's reign, he executed the place alone.

Stephen de Cobham, of Roundale in Shorn, son and heir of Henry de Cobham, was sheriff of Kent the eighth, ninth, and tenth years of Edward the third.

William Morant, of Morants-court in Chevening, at the foot of Morants-court hill, was sheriff of Kent the twelfth and thirteenth years of Edward the third. During his sherivalty, this abovesaid prince issued out a mandate to him to take care that but one bell should be rung in any steeple towards the sea-coast in Kent.

Henry de Valoigns of Repton in Ashford, was sheriff of Kent the fourteenth year of Edward the third. John de Merworth of Merworth castle in Kent, was sheriff of this county in the fifteenth year of Edward the third, and in the year following John de Vielston was joined with him. This family of Merworth descended from the St. Laurences, and took this surname from their seat at Merworth.

John de Vielston, of Vielston, now vulgarly called Vilson in Shorham, was sheriff of Kent the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth year of Edward the third.

William de Langley, of Knolton in East Kent, was sheriff of Kent the twenty first, twenty third, twenty fourth, and twenty fifth years, and part of the twenty sixth year of Edward the third, and Arnold Savage of Bobbing, served part of the twenty third year for him.

John de Fremingham, of Fremingham, was sheriff of Kent the twenty second of Edward the third. Richard Stone was for this man part of the twenty first of Edward the third.

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James la Pine, of East-hall in Morston, and Helburg in Reculver, was sheriff of Kent part of the twenty sixth, and part of the twenty seventh of Edward the third, which Stephen Brode served for him.

William Apulderfield, of Bedmancore in Lingsteed, was sheriff of Kent part of the twenty seventh, and entirely the twenty eighth year, and thirty first year of Edward the third, and afterwards executed that office in the thirty fourth, thirty fifth, thirty sixth, thirty eighth, and forty fourth of Edward the third.

Reginald de Dike, of Shelvich in Kent, was sheriff of this county in the twenty ninth of Edward the third: he married Lora widow of Sampson Attleeze guardianship of the said Sampson's children, much improved his estate, and purchased lands in Shepey, Shelvich, and Rutlandshire; he lies buried in an obscure chapel on the north side of Shelvich church.

Gilbert de Hells, of Hells in Wodnesborough, and of St. Margaret Hells in Darent, was sheriff of Kent in the thirtieth year of Edward the third; he was son to Bertram de Hells, lieutenant of Dover castle under Reginald de Cobham.

Ralph de Fremingham or Farningham, was sheriff of Kent the thirty second of Edward the third.

William Makenade of Makenade house in Preston by Feversham, was sheriff of this county the thirty third year of Edward the third, and died that year.

William Pimpe, of Pimps court in Nettlested, was sheriff of Kent the thirty seventh, forty fifth, and forty ninth years of Edward the third, and dying that year, Reginald his son served it out for him.

Jeffery Colepeper, of Preston in Alresford, was sheriff of Kent part of the thirty ninth year of Edward the third, and entirely the forty seventh.

John Colepeper of Bayhall in Pembury, was sheriff of Kent the thirty ninth, fortieth, and forty third years of Edward the third.

Sir Richard Attleeze of Leez court in Shelvich, was sheriff of Kent the forty first year of Edward the third.

John de Brockhull of Brockhull in Saltwood, was sheriff of Kent the forty second year of Edward the third.

John Barrey of the moat in Sevington, was sheriff of Kent the forty sixth of Edward the third. He was descended from Sir John de Barrey that was in being under Richard the first, king John, and Henry the third: there are many monuments of them in Sevington church, which illustrate their quality, and frequent testimonies

of other nature that shew they were of eminent rank among the ancientest gentry of this shire.

Jeffery Colepeper of Preston in Alresford, son of Walter Colepeper, was sheriff of Kent the forty seventh of Henry the third.

Robert Nottingham of Bayford in Sedingbourn, was sheriff of Kent the forty eighth of Edward the third, and died the same year, and Richard de Southwell served out the year for him.

Nicholas at Crouch, so named from his habitation near the cross, was sheriff of Kent the fifth year of Edward the third. He had issue Thomas-at-Crouch, who having no children, Alice one of his sisters, married to John Petit of Shalmesford, and Isabel the other, married to John Barrey of Sevington, became his heirs.

Henry de Apulderfield, of Otterpley in Challock, was sheriff of Kent the fifty first year of Edward the third, in which year that victorious prince died.

Sheriffs of Kent in the time of Richard the second.

Thomas de Cobham of Roundall in Shorn, was sheriff of Kent in the first year of Richard the second. William de Medmenham was deputy to this Thomas de Cobham.

John de Fremingham, of Fremingham or Farningham, was sheriff of Kent the second year of Richard the second, and again the seventeenth year of that prince.

James de Peckham of Yaldham in Wrotham, was sheriff of Kent the third, and then again the twelfth year of Richard the second.

William Septuans of Milton Septuans, upon the river of Stoure, was sheriff of Kent the fourth year of Richard the second.

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Arnold Savage, of Bobing court near Sedingbourn, where he had a castellated house, was sheriff of Kent the fifth, and then again the ninth year of Richard the second.

Thomas Brockhull of Cale-hill in Little Chert, was sheriff of Kent the seventh and eighth years of Richard the second.

Robert Corbie of Boughton Malherbe, was sheriff of Kent the eighth year of Richard the second.

Ralph St. Leger of Ulcomb in Kent, was sheriff of this county in the tenth year of Richard the second.

William de Guldford of Hempsted in the parish of Benenden, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh year of Richard the second.

William Burcestre, descended out of the county of Southampton, was sheriff of Kent the thirteenth year of Richard the second.

Richard de Berham, son of Henry de Berham of Berham-court, was sheriff of Kent the fourteenth year of Richard the second.

Thomas Chich of the dungeon near the walls of Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent the fifteenth year of Richard the second.

William Barry, of the Moat in Sevington, son of John Barry, was sheriff of Kent the sixteenth year of Richard the second.

Thomas Colepeper of Pepenbury, was sheriff of Kent part of the seventeenth, and entirely the nineteenth year of Richard the second.

Nicholas Haut of Waddenhall near Elmston where he dwelt, was sheriff of Kent the eighteenth year of Richard the second.

Thomas St. Leger of Ottringden, was sheriff of Kent the twentieth year of Richard the second.

Nicholas Potin of Queen-court in Ospringe, was sheriff of Kent the twenty first year of Richard the second.

John Boteler of Graveney, contractedly called Graney, was sheriff of Kent the twenty second year of Richard the second, which was the last year of that prince.

Sheriffs of Kent, under Henry the fourth.

Robert Clifford, brother of Richard Clifford bishop of London, was sheriff of Kent the first year of Henry the fourth, and Robert Saunders was his deputy.

Thomas Lodelow, descended out of Wiltshire, was sheriff of Kent the second year of Henry the fourth, but died before he had served out the year; so that John Digg of Diggs court in Barham, was upon his decease, authorized to discharge the said office for the remainder of the year.

Thomas Chich of the Dungeon, in St. Mary Bredimans parish in Canterbury, was sheriff of this county the third year of Henry the fourth.

Richard Cliderow, of Gouldstanton in Ash near Sandwich, who was constituted in the reign of Henry the fourth, admiral of the seas from the Thames mouth, along the Saxon shore to the West, was likewise sheriff of Kent the fourth, and most part of the fifth year of the abovesaid prince.

Thomas Swinbourn Esq; owner of much land in the county of Essex, was sheriff of Kent the sixth year of Henry the fourth, and kept his shrievalty at Thevegate in Smeth.

Michael Horn of Horn-place in Apuldore, was sheriff of Kent the seventh year of Henry the fourth.

Edward Haut of Hauts-place in Petham, and of Bourn, was sheriff of Kent the eighth year of Henry the fourth.

William Snaith of Addington, was sheriff of Kent the ninth year of Henry the fourth.

Reginald Pimp of Pimps-court in East Farleigh, son of William Pimp of Pimps court, and Nettledsted, was sheriff of Kent the tenth year of Henry the fourth.

John Darell of Cale-hill in little Chert, eldest brother of Sir William Darell, under treasurer of England, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh year of Henry the fourth.

William Notbeame, descended out of Suffolk, where his family were of generous rank, but whose residence was at Ash near Sandwich, was sheriff of Kent the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, and in the seventh year of Henry the fifth was returned amongst those who did portare arma antiqua.

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William Cheney, of Shurland in Shepey, son of Richard Cheney, was sheriff of Kent the thirteenth year of Henry the fourth, in which year this prince deceased.

Sheriffs of Kent, under Henry the fifth.

William Cheney abovementioned, continued sheriff of Kent the first year of Henry the fifth.

William Clifford, of whom mention was formerly made, was again sheriff of Kent in the second and third years of Henry the fifth.

William Langley of Knolton, was sheriff of Kent the fourth year of Henry the fifth.

John Darrell of Cale-hill, above recited, was again sheriff of Kent the fifth year of king Henry the fifth.

Richard Cliderow, of whom mention was made in the fourth and fifth years of Henry the fourth, was now sheriff again in the sixth year of king Henry the fifth.

John Burgh, was sheriff of Kent the seventh of Henry the fifth; during this man's shrievalty there came a special writ from the king, to elect out of the most fit and able knights and esquires of the county that bore arms from antiquity, twelve of the most sufficient, to serve as lances for the defence of the kingdom.

William Haut, of Hautsbourne, was sheriff of Kent some part of the eighth, and all the ninth year of king Henry the fifth.

John Darrell of Cale-hill, was sheriff of Kent the tenth year of Henry the fifth, in which year that successful and triumphant prince paid the last debt he owed to nature, and the first which he owed to sin.

Sheriffs of Kent in the reign of Henry the sixth.

John Darrell of Cale-hill, who was sheriff of Kent when king Henry the fifth deceased, continued sheriff in the first year of Henry the sixth.

William Cheyney of Shurland, who was knighted in the ninth year of king Henry the sixth, was sheriff of Kent in the second year of that prince's government.

John Rykeld, of Estlingham in Frensbury near Rochester, was sheriff of Kent the third year of king Henry the sixth.

William Clifford of Bobbing, who had been sheriff of Kent in the first year of king Henry the fifth, was elected to take that office in the fourth year of king Henry the sixth.

William Colepeper, of Preston in Alresford, son and heir of Sir John Colepeper, was sheriff of Kent the fifth year of Henry the sixth.

Thomas Ellis, of Burton in Kennington, was sheriff of Kent the sixth year of Henry the sixth.

William Scot, of Scots-hall in Smeth, was sheriff of Kent the seventh year of Henry the sixth.

John Peche of Lullingston, was sheriff of Kent the eighth year of Henry the sixth.

John St. Leger of Ulcomb, was sheriff of Kent the ninth year of Henry the sixth.

John Gulford, of Halden alias Lambin, in the parish of Rolvenden, was sheriff of

Kent in the tenth year of Henry the sixth.

William Bures, who held much land at Bromley and Greenwich, and was descended from William de Bures who held part of a knight's fee in Bromley, the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh year of Henry the sixth.

Richard Woodville, of the Moat in Maidstone, was sheriff of Kent in the twelfth year of Henry the sixth.

William Clifford, of Bobbing and of Shorn, of whom mention is made twice before, was now again chosen sheriff the thirteenth year of Henry the sixth.

William Manston, of Manston in the parish of St. Lawrence in the isle of Thanet, was sheriff of Kent the fourteenth year of Henry the sixth.

James Fiennes, of Kemsing and Seal, afterwards created lord Say and Seal, and high treasurer of England, was sheriff of Kent the fifteenth year of Henry the sixth.

Richard Waller, of Gromebridge in Spelhurst, who took Charles duke of Orleans,

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captive at the battle of Agincourt, was sheriff of Kent the sixteenth year of king Henry the sixth.

Edward Guldford, of Halden in Rolvenden, was sheriff of Kent the seventeenth year of Henry the sixth.

Gervas Clifton, who married Isabel widow of William Scot Esq; and lived upon his wife's estate at Brabourn in Kent, where he lies buried, was sheriff of Kent the eighteenth year of Henry the sixth.

John Yerde, of Denton near Berham, was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth year of Henry the sixth.

John Warmer of Votes-crey, was sheriff of Kent the twentieth year of Henry the sixth.

William Maries, who lived at Ufton in Tunstal, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty first year of Henry the sixth.

Thomas Brown, knight, treasurer to the house-hold of king Henry the sixth, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty second year of that prince.

William Cromer of Tunstal, who married Elizabeth daughter of James lord Say and Seal, was sheriff of Kent the twenty third year of Henry the sixth: this was that William Cromer who was barbarously assassinated by Jack Cade, whilst he vigorously sought to oppose that rebel in his expedition towards London.

John Thornbury of Feversham, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fourth year of Henry the sixth.

William Isley of Sundridge, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fifth year of Henry the sixth.

William Kene, who lived at Well-hall in Eltham, in right of Agnes his wife, widow of John Tatersal, was sheriff of Kent the twenty sixth year of Henry the sixth.

Stephen Slegge, of Wouldham near Rochester, was sheriff of Kent the twenty seventh year of Henry the sixth.

William Cromer, who was sheriff before in the twenty third, was now again sheriff in the twenty eighth year of Henry the sixth.

Gervas Clifton, who had served this office in the eighteenth year of this king's reign, was called again to discharge it the twenty ninth of king Henry the sixth.

Robert Horne, of Hornes-place in Apuldore, was sheriff of Kent the thirtieth year of Henry the sixth.

Thomas Ballard of Horton near Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent the thirty first year of Henry the sixth.

John Fogge Esq; of Repton in Ashford, was sheriff of Kent the thirty second year of Henry the sixth.

Sir John Cheyney of Shurland, and Patricksbourn Cheyney, was sheriff of Kent the thirty third year of king Henry the sixth.

Philip Belknap, of the Moat in Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fourth year of Henry the sixth.

Alexander Iden of Westwell, who slew Jack Cade, and married the widow of William Cromer slain before by that rebel, was sheriff of Kent the thirty fifth year of Henry the sixth.

John Guldford Esq; of Halden, was sheriff of Kent the thirty sixth year of Henry the sixth; this man flourished under the scepter of Henry the sixth, Edward the fourth, under whom he was sheriff, and likewise comptroller of his house-hold; Richard the third, at whose coronation he was knighted; and lastly that of Henry

the seventh, by whom he was admitted (as his monument in the middle isle of the body of Christ-church in Canterbury does attest) into his privy council.

Sir Gervas Clifton, who formerly in the eighteenth and twenty ninth years of this prince had managed this place, was again summoned to execute it in the thirty seventh year of Henry the sixth.

Sir Thomas Brown, of Bechworth castle in Surry, was again sheriff of Kent in the thirty eighth year of Henry the sixth.

John Scot Esq; of Scots-hall, was sheriff of Kent part of the year above-mentioned: he was afterwards knighted by king Edward the fourth, and by him called to be of his privy counsel, deputy of Calais, and comptroller of his household.

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Sheriffs of Kent, under king Edward the fourth.

John Isaack, of Howlets in Patricksbourne, was sheriff of Kent the first year of king Edward the fourth.

Sir William Peché, of Lullingston, knight, was sheriff of Kent the third and fourth years of Edward the fourth, and had likewise the custody of the castle of Canterbury annexed to his office, as this record does inform me. Rex concessit Willielmo Peché militi totum com. Cantii una cum castro Cantuariensi, ac constituit eum vicecomitem Cantii ac ei concessit 40 libras annuas, quousque ei dederit 40 libras annuas in speciali, tallio & hæredibus masculis. Pat 2. Edw. quarti, parte secunda.

John Diggs, of Diggs court in Barham, was sheriff of Kent the fourth year of Edward the fourth.

Alexander Clifford of Bobbing court, son of Lewis Clifford Esq; was sheriff of Kent the fifth year of king Edward the fourth.

Sir William Haut of Hautsbourn, son of William Haut and Elizabeth his wife, sister of Richard Woodvill, earl Rivers, and aunt to Elizabeth Woodvill queen of England, and wife to king Edward the fourth, was sheriff of Kent the sixth year of that prince.

Sir John Colepeper, of Pepenbury and Bedgebury, was sheriff of Kent the seventh year of Edward the fourth.

Ralph St. Leger Esq; of Ulcomb, was sheriff of Kent the eighth year of Edward the fourth.

Henry Ferrers, of Chilesmore and Tamworth, in the county of Warwick, was sheriff of the county of Kent in the ninth year of Edward the fourth; he married Mawd one of the co-heirs of William Hextall of Hextall place in great Peckham.

John Brumston Esq; of Preston near Feversham, was sheriff of Kent the tenth year of Edward the fourth; this year the king likewise, by his letters patents, committed to his custody the city of Canterbury.

Richard Colepeper, of Oxenhoath in little Peckham, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh year of Edward the fourth.

James Peckham, of Yaldham in Wrotham, was sheriff of Kent the twelfth year of Edward the fourth.

Sir John Fogge, of Repton in Ashford, sometimes comptroller of the house to Edward the fourth, was sheriff of Kent the thirteenth year of that prince.

John Isley of Sunbridge, cousin and heir general of William Isley who was sheriff of this county the twenty fifth of Henry the sixth, was sheriff of Kent the fourteenth year of Edward the fourth.

Sir William Haut of Hautsbourn, formerly mentioned, was again sheriff the fifteenth year of Edward the fourth.

John Green, who lived at Scadbury in Chiselhurst, in the right of his wife Constance widow of Sir Thomas Walsingham, was sheriff of Kent, the sixteenth of Edward the fourth.

William Cheyney Esq; of Shurland, was sheriff of Kent the seventeenth year of Edward the fourth.

Richard Haut, of the Moat in Ightham, younger brother to Sir William, was sheriff of Kent the eighteenth of Edward the fourth.

Richard Lee, of great Delce in Rochester, was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth year of Edward the fourth.

Sir John Fogge of Repton, formerly mentioned, was again sheriff of Kent the twentieth year of Edward the fourth.

Sir George Brown of Bechworth castle, son of Sir Thomas Brown, was sheriff of

Kent the twenty first of Edward the fourth.

Richard Haut, of the Moat in Ightham, who served the office of sheriff of Kent the eighteenth of Edward the fourth, was, after he had been three years from the place, according to the statute, made sheriff of Kent again the twenty second year of Edward the fourth, in which year this worthy prince cast off the luggage of human frailty, by paying the last debt he owed to nature.

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Sheriffs of Kent, under Richard the third.

Sir William Haut of Hautsbourn, who had been sheriff twice before in the time of king Edward the fourth, was made sheriff of Kent again in the first year of king Richard the third, from Michaelmas the twenty second of Edward the fourth, to the ninth of April, and then to the twenty third, which day king Edward the fifth fell an oblation to the avarice and ambition of his usurping uncle, who cast trains no less for his life than for his crown; and then again to the twenty fifth of June, and from the twenty sixth of June until the Michaelmas following, Sir Henry Ferrers supplied the place of sheriff for him.

John Bamme Esq; of the manor of Grench in Gillingham, descended from Adam Bamme, lord mayor of London, was sheriff of Kent the second year of Richard the third.

Sir Robert Brackenbury, of the Moat in Ightham, was sheriff of Kent the third year of Richard the third.

William Cheyney Esq; of Shurland, was sheriff of Kent the last year of Rich. the third.

Sheriffs of Kent under Henry the seventh.

William Cheyney Esq; of Shurland, was sheriff of Kent the seventh year of Edward the fourth, and last of Richard the third, and continued in that office the first year of king Henry the seventh.

John Pimp Esq; of Pimps court in Farleigh and Lose, was sheriff of Kent the second year of Henry the seventh.

Sir Henry Ferrers of great Peckham, knight, who was sheriff before in the fifth year of Edward the fourth, was sheriff of Kent again in the third year of Henry the seventh.

Walter Roberts Esq; of Glastenbury in Cranbroke, was sheriff of Kent the fourth year of Edward the fourth.

Sir William Boleyn knight, of Hever castle and of Seal, son of Sir Jeffery Boleyn lord mayor of London, and Anne his wife, daughter and co-heir of Thomas lord Hoo and Hastings, was sheriff of Kent the fifth year of Henry the seventh.

Sir William Scot, son and heir of Sir John Scot, was sheriff of Kent in the sixth year of Henry the seventh. This our sheriff new built Scots-hall, which was before decayed and ruinous.

John Darell Esq; of Cale-hill, was sheriff of Kent in the seventh year of Henry the seventh. He was esquire of the body to that prince, and captain of the launciers in that part of the county wherein he lived, and having had his estate torn from him by Richard the third, as being a correspondent of Henry the seventh, had it restored to him with several other manors by that prince; he was father to Sir James Darell who was knighted at Turwin by king Henry the eighth, and was captain of Hames castle and governor of Guisnes.

Thomas Kempe Esq; of Ollantie near Wye, was sheriff of Kent the eighth year of Henry the seventh; he married Emeline, one of the two daughters and co-heirs of Valentine Chich, and Philippa his wife, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Chichley knight, sometime lord mayor of London, and brother to Henry Chichley, arch-bishop of Canterbury.

Sir Richard Gylford of Halden, who was knighted at Milford haven, and made banneret at Blackheath, was sheriff of Kent the ninth year of Henry the seventh.

John Peche Esq; of Lullingston, who afterwards received the order of knighthood, was sheriff of Kent the tenth year of Henry the seventh.

John Digge of Digges court in Berham, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh year of Henry the seventh.

Sir James Walsingham, of Scadbury in Chiselhurst, was sheriff of Kent the twelfth year of Henry the seventh.

Lewis Clifford Esq; of Bobbing court, was sheriff of Kent in the thirteenth year of Henry the seventh.



Robert Wotten, Esq; of Boughton Malherbe, afterwards knighted, and made comptroller of Calais, was sheriff of Kent the fourteenth of Henry the seventh.

Alexander Colepeper Esq; of Bedgebury in Goudherst, was sheriff of Kent in the fifteenth year of Henry the seventh: he afterwards received the order of knighthood.

Thomas Iden Esq; of Westwell, was sheriff of Kent in the sixteenth year of Henry the seventh.

Sir William Scot of Scots-hall, who was sheriff in the sixth year of Henry the seventh, was sheriff of Kent again in the seventeenth of that prince's government.

Ralph St. Leger Esq; of Ulcomb, son and heir of Ralph St. Leger, was sheriff of Kent the eighteenth year of Henry the seventh.

William Cromer Esq; of Tunstal, who afterwards received the order of knighthood, was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth of Henry the seventh.

John Langley Esq; of Knowlton, was sheriff of Kent the twentieth of Henry the seventh.

Sir Thomas Kempe of Ollantie, knight of the Bath, was sheriff of Kent the twenty first of Henry the seventh.

Sir Alexander Colepeper, of Bedgebury, was sheriff of Kent again the twenty second year of Henry the seventh.

Henry Vane Esq; of Tunbridge, second son of John Vane Esq; of Tunbridge, was sheriff of Kent the twenty third year of Henry the seventh.

Reginald Peckham Esq; of Yaldham in Wrotham, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fourth of Henry the seventh, in which year that sagacious monarch shook off the garment of his mortality.

Sheriffs of Kent under the scepter of Henry the eighth.

Sir William Cromer of Tunstal knight, who was sheriff before in the nineteenth of Henry the seventh, managed that office again, and was sheriff again of this county in the first year of king Henry the eighth.

James Digge Esq; of Diggs court in Berham, was sheriff of Kent the second year of Henry the eighth.

Sir Thomas Boleyn of Hever castle knight, was sheriff of Kent the third year of Henry the eighth: in the fifteenth year of Henry the eighth, he was made knight of the garter, and treasurer of the king's house, in the seventeenth year he was created Viscount Rochford, and in the twenty first of Henry the eighth, he was invested with the title of earl of Wiltshire and Ormond.

Sir Thomas Kemp of Ollantie, made knight of the Bath at the marriage of prince Arthur, eldest son to Henry the seventh, was again sheriff of Kent the fourth year of Henry the eighth.

Sir John Norton, of Northwood in Milton, was sheriff of Kent the fifth year of Henry the eighth.

Sir Alexander Colepeper of Bedgebury, was sheriff of Kent the sixth year of Henry the eighth.

Thomas Cheyney Esq; of Shurland, afterwards made knight of the Garter, was sheriff of Kent in the seventh year of Henry the eighth.

Sir William Scot of Scots-hall knight, was made sheriff of Kent the eighth year of Henry the eighth, and before that in the sixth and seventeenth years of Henry the seventh.

Sir Thomas Boleyn of Hever castle, knight, was again sheriff of Kent the ninth year of Henry the eighth.

John Crispe Esq; of Quekes at Birchington in the isle of Thanet, was sheriff of Kent the tenth year of Henry the eighth.

Sir John Wiltshire, of Stone near Dartford, comptroller of Calais, was sheriff of Kent in the eleventh year of Henry the eighth.

John Roper Esq; of St. Dunstons without the walls of Canterbury, and of Well-hall in Eltham, was sheriff of Kent the twelfth of Henry the eighth.

Robert Sonds, of Town-place in Trouley, and of Sonds-place in Darking in Surry, was sheriff of Kent in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth.

Sir John Fogge of Repton in Ashford, was sheriff of Kent the fourteenth year of Henry the eighth.

George Guldford Esq; of Hemsted in Benenden, who married Elizabeth daughter and heir of Robert Mortimer of Mortimer's hall in Essex, and the lady Elizabeth Howard, his wife's daughter, to John lord Howard duke of Norfolk, was sheriff of Kent the sixteenth of Henry the eighth.

Sir William Haut of Haut-bourn, knight, son and heir of Sir Thomas Haut, made knight of the Bath at the marriage of prince Arthur with Katharine of Castile, was sheriff of Kent the sixteenth year of Henry the eighth.

Henry Vane Esq; of Tunbridge, who was sheriff of Kent in the twenty third year of Henry the seventh, discharged that office again in the seventeenth year of Henry the eighth. This Henry Vane is he that had command in an expedition into Scotland, in the beginning of the abovesaid prince. [Vide Speed]

William Whetenhal Esq; of Hextal-place in East Peckham, was sheriff of Kent in the eighteenth year of Henry the eighth.

Sir John Scot of Scots-hall, was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth year of Henry the eighth.

William Kempe Esq; of Ollantie, who afterwards was invested with the order of knighthood, was sheriff of Kent in the twentieth year of Henry the eighth. He was second son of Sir Thomas Kempe, and after his eldest brother Christopher Kempe deceased without issue, succeeded in the patrimony: he married Eleanor daughter and heir of Rober Brown Esq; third son of Sir Thomas Brown of Bechworth castle.

Sir Edward Wotton, of Boughton Malherbe, knight, who married Dorothy one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir Robert Read knight, and lord chief justice of the common pleas, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty first of Henry the eighth.

William Waller Esq; of Gromebridge in Spelherst, was sheriff of Kent the twenty second of Henry the eighth.

Sir Richard Clement, of the Moat in Ightham, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty third of Henry the eighth.

Sir William Finch, of the Moat in the parish of St. Martins in Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fourth year of Henry the eighth.

Thomas Roberts Esq; of Glastonbury in Cranbroke, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fifth of Henry the eighth.

Sir Thomas Poynings of Ostenhanger, knight, afterwards created lord Poynings in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty sixth year of Henry the eighth. He married Katharine daughter and co-heir of John lord Marney, but deceased without issue in the thirty seventh year of the abovesaid prince.

Sir Edward Wotton, of Boughton Malherbe, was sheriff of Kent the twenty seventh of Henry the eighth.

Sir Thomas Wiat, of Allington castle, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty eighth of Henry the eighth; he married Elizabeth daughter of Sir Thomas Brooke, lord Cobham, by whom he had issue, Sir Thomas Wiat afterwards beheaded.

Sir William Haut of Hautsbourn, was again sheriff of Kent the twenty ninth of Henry the eighth.

Sir William Sidney of Pencehurst, knight banneret, tutor to prince Edward, afterwards to Edward the sixth, was sheriff of Kent in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth. He was son and heir of Nicholas Sidney Esq; who married Anne, daughter of Sir William Brandon, knight, slain at Bosworth Field, aunt to Charles Brandon duke of Suffolk: this Nicholas was son and heir of William Sidney Esq; by Thomas in his wife, daughter and heir of John Barrington Esq; descended from the right ancient and knightly family of Barrington of Barrington hall in Essex.

Sir Anthony St. Leger of Ulcomb, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty first of Henry the eighth.

Anthony Sonds Esq; of Trouley, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty second of Henry the eighth.

Reginald Scot Esq; of Scots-hall, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty third of Henry the eighth.

Sir Henry Isley, of Sondridge and of Farningham, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty fourth of Henry the eighth.

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Sir Humphrey Stile, of Langley park in Bekenham, knight, son and heir of John Stile alderman of London, and Elizabeth his wife daughter and co-heir of Sir Guy Wolston, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty fifth of Henry the eighth.

Sir John Fogge of Repton, was sheriff of Kent the thirty sixth year of Henry the

eighth.

Sir Percival Hart of Lullingston, knight, was sheriff of Kent the thirty seventh year of Henry the eighth.

Henry Crispe Esq; of Quekes in Birchington in the isle of Thanet, who received the order of knighthood before his death, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty eighth year of Henry the eighth, in which year this prince shrunk to ashes.

Sheriffs of Kent, in the time of king Edward the sixth.

William Sidley Esq; of Scadbery in Southfleet, was sheriff of Kent the first of Edward the sixth.

Sir George Harpur, of Sutton Valence, was sheriff of Kent in the second year of Edward the sixth.

Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, son and heir of Sir Alexander Colepeper, was sheriff of Kent in the third year of king Edward the sixth.

Sir Thomas Wiat, of Allington castle, son and heir of Sir Thomas Wiat, and grandchild of Sir Henry Wiat, was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of king Edward the sixth.

Sir Henry Isley of Sundridge, was sheriff of Kent in the fifth year of king Edward the sixth.

Sir John Guldford, of Hemsted in Benenden, was sheriff of Kent the sixth year of king Edward the sixth. After this year, this pious young monarch was not long liv'd, for all his early blooming glories were shortly after blasted by a too sudden death.

Sheriffs of Kent under Queen Mary.

Sir Robert Southwell of Merworth, knight, afterwards master of the rolls, was sheriff of Kent in the first year of queen Mary. He held Merworth (where he lies buried) in right of his wife Margaret, daughter and sole heir of Sir Thomas Nevill, speaker of the parliament in the time of Henry the eighth, and one of his privy counsel, and a third son to George Nevill baron Aburgavenny.

William Roper, of Well-hall in Eltham, was sheriff of Kent in the first and second year of Philip and Mary.

Sir Thomas Kempe, of Ollantie near Wye, was sheriff of Kent in the second and third year of Philip and Mary, part of the year was supplied for him by Thomas Moile Esq;

George Vane Esq; of Badsell, was sheriff of Kent in the third and fourth year of Philip and Mary.

Thomas Wotton Esq; of Boughton Malherbe, was sheriff of Kent in the fourth and fifth year of Philip and Mary; in which year Callis was lost, which blow sat so heavy upon her heart-strings, that the cordage, not able to undergo the pressure, was cracked with the burden which was lodged upon it.

Sheriffs of Kent under Queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Wotton, of Boughton Malherbe, continued in that office part of the first year of queen Elizabeth, and the remainder of the year was supplied by Nicholas Crispe Esq; who kept his shrievalty at Grimgill in Whitestaple, but more properly Greenshields, from a family so called who were once proprietors of it.

Warham St. Leger Esq; of Ulcomb, afterwards knighted in the year 1565, was sheriff of Kent in the second year of queen Elizabeth.

John Tufton Esq; of Hothfield in Kent, son and heir of Nicholas Tufton Esq; who was possessed of Tufton in Nordiam in Sussex, was sheriff of Kent the third year of queen Elizabeth.

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Richard Baker Esq; of Sisingherst in Cranbroke, son and heir of Sir John Baker, chancellor of the exchequer, and one of the privy counsel to queen Mary, was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Thomas Walsingham, of Scadbery in Chiselhurst, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fifth year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Thomas Kempe of Ollantie, knight, that was sheriff before in the third year of queen Mary, served in that office again in the sixth year of queen Elizabeth.

John Mayney Esq; of Biddenden, was sheriff of Kent in the seventh year of queen Elizabeth, but died before his year was out, and then the rest of the time was supplied by William Isley Esq; of Sundridge. This our sheriff married Margaret daughter and heir of Ralph Johnson of Ticehurst, son to alderman Johnson of London, which

Ralph married to Dorothy, one of the two daughters and co-heirs of Thomas Morton Esq; of Lechdale in the county of Gloucester.

John Sidley Esq; of Southfleet, was sheriff of Kent in the eighth year of queen Elizabeth.

William Cromer Esq; of Tunstal, son and heir of James Cromer, was sheriff of Kent in the ninth year of queen Elizabeth.

John Brown, of Reynolds (and as ordinarily stiled Brown's-place) in Horton Kerbie, was sheriff of Kent the tenth of queen Elizabeth.

Edward Isaack Esq; of Patricksbourne, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh of queen Elizabeth.

John Lennard Esq; of Chevening, son and heir of John Lennard Esq; of the same place, was sheriff of Kent in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth.

Walter Mayney Esq; of Spilsil in Staplehurst, was sheriff of Kent the thirteenth of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Thomas Vane of Badsel, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fourteenth year of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Willoughby Esq; of Boreplace in Chiddingston, grandchild of Sir Thomas Willoughby of the same place, lord chief justice of the common pleas, was sheriff of Kent the fifteenth year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir James Hales, of the Dungeon without the wall of Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent in the sixteenth year of queen Elizabeth.

John Tufton Esq; of Hothfield, was sheriff of Kent in the seventeenth year of queen Elizabeth,

Sir Thomas Scot of Scots-hall, was sheriff of Kent in the eighteenth year of queen Elizabeth.

Edward Bois Esq; of Fredvill in Nonington, was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Wotton Esq; of Boughton Malherbe, was sheriff of Kent the twentieth of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Vane Esq; of Badsel in Tudeley, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty first year of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Sonds Esq; of Trouley, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty second year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir George Hart of Lullingston, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty third year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Richard Baker of Sisingherst, knight, was sheriff of Kent the twenty fourth of queen Elizabeth.

Justinian Champneis Esq; of Hall-place in Bexley, son of Sir John Champneis, lord mayor of London, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty fifth year of queen Elizabeth.

Michael Sands Esq; of Town-place in Trouley, afterwards knighted, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty sixth year of queen Elizabeth.

William Cromer Esq; of Tunstal, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty seventh year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir James Hales, of the Dungeon in Canterbury, was sheriff of Kent the twenty eighth of queen Elizabeth.

John Phineux, of Haw court in Herne, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty ninth year of queen Elizabeth.

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Richard Hardres Esq; of Hardres, was sheriff of Kent in the thirtieth year of queen Elizabeth.

William Sidley Esq; of Southfleet, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty first year of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Willoughby Esq; of Bore-place in Chiddingstone, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty second year of queen Elizabeth.

Sampson Lennard Esq; of Chevening, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty third year of queen Elizabeth.

Robert Bing Esq; of Wrotham, a justice of the peace in Kent, anno 23 of Elizabeth, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty fourth year of queen Elizabeth.

Michael Sonds Esq; of Trouley, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty fifth year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Edward Wotton, of Boughton Malherbe, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty sixth year of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Palmer Esq; of Wingham, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty seventh year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Moile Finch of Eastwell, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty eighth year of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Kempe Esq; of Ollantie in Wye, was sheriff of Kent in the thirty ninth year of queen Elizabeth.

Martin Barnham Esq; of Hollingbourne, was sheriff of Kent in the fortieth year of queen Elizabeth.

Roger Twistden Esq; of Fortune-hall in great Peckham, was sheriff of Kent in the forty first year of queen Elizabeth.

John Smith Esq; of Ostenhanger in Stanford, was sheriff of Kent in the forty second year of queen Elizabeth.

Thomas Scot Esq; of Scots-hall, was sheriff of Kent in the forty third year of queen Elizabeth.

Sir Peter Manhood of St. Stephen's, near Canterbury, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the forty fourth year of queen Elizabeth: in which year that religious, prudent, and victorious princess resigned up her noble soul to that God who first infused it.

Sheriffs of Kent in the time of King James.

Sir Peter Manhood of St. Stephen, continued sheriff of Kent the first year of king James.

Sir James Cromer of Tunstal, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the second year of king James.

Sir Thomas Baker, knight, second son of Sir Richard Baker of Sisingherst, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the third year of king James, and kept his shrievalty at Sisingherst.

Sir Moile Finch of Eastwell, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of king James.

Sir Norton Knatchbull of Mersham, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fifth year of king James.

Sir Robert Edolph of Hinxhill, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the sixth year of king James.

Sir Edward Hales of Wood-church, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the seventh year of king James.

Sir William Withens, of Southend in Eltham, was sheriff of Kent in the eighth year of king James.

Sir Nicholas Gilborne of Charing, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the ninth year of king James.

Sir Maximilian Dalison, of Halling near Rochester, knight, was sheriff of Kent the tenth of king James.

Sir William Steed, of Steed-hill in Haretshat, was sheriff of Kent the eleventh year of king James.

Sir Anthony Aucher of Hautsbourne, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twelfth year of king James.

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Sir Edward Filmer of East Sutton, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the thirteenth year of king James.

Sir Edwin Sandies of Northbourne, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fourteenth year of king James.

William Beswick Esq; of Spelmonden in Horsemonden, was sheriff of Kent in the fifteenth year of king James.

Gabriel Livesey Esq; of Hollingbourn, was sheriff of Kent in the sixteenth year of king James.

Sir Thomas Norton, of Bobbing and Northwood in Milton, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the seventeenth year of king James.

Edward Scot Esq; of Scots-hall, afterwards made knight of the Bath at the coronation of king Charles, was sheriff of Kent the eighteenth of king James.

Sir John Sidley, of the Friars in Alresford, baronet, was sheriff of Kent in the nineteenth year of king James.

Sir Thomas Roberts, of Glastenbury in Cranbroke, knight and baronet, was sheriff of Kent in the twentieth year of king James.

Sir George Fane, of Burston in Hunton, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty first year of king James.

Sir John Heyward of Hollingbourn, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty second year of king James; in which year this monarch cast off his human frailty, to surrender his soul to God.

Sheriffs of Kent under the scepter of King Charles.

Sir Thomas Hamon of Brasted, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the first year of king Charles.

Sir Isaac Sidley of great Chart, knight and baronet, was sheriff of Kent in the second year of king Charles.

Basel Dixwel Esq; of Folkstone, afterwards knighted, was sheriff of Kent in the third year of king Charles.

Sir Edward Engham of Goodneston, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of king Charles, and had a dispensation under the king's hand and signet, to inhabit within the county and city of Canterbury, during his year of shrievalty, and to find a meet person to attend at the assizes in this place in regard of his indisposition of body.

Sir William Champion, of Combwel in Goudherst, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fifth year of king Charles.

John Brown Esq; of Singleton in great Chart, was sheriff of Kent in the sixth year of king Charles, and kept his shrievalty at Hinxhill court.

Sir Robert Lewknor of Acris, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the seventh year of king Charles.

Nicholas Miller Esq; of Horsnells-crouch in Wrotham, was sheriff of Kent in the eighth year of king Charles.

Sir Thomas Stiles of Watringbury, knight and baronet, was sheriff of Kent in the ninth year of king Charles.

Sir John Baker, of Sisingherst in Cranbroke, baronet, was sheriff of Kent the tenth year of king Charles.

Edward Chowt Esq; of Surrenden in Bethersden, was sheriff of Kent in the eleventh year of king Charles, and kept his shrievalty at Hinxhill.

Sir William Colepeper, of Preston in Alresford, was sheriff of Kent in the twelfth year of king Charles.

Sir George Sonds, of Leeze court in Shelvich, knight of the Bath, was sheriff of Kent in the thirteenth year of king Charles.

Sir Thomas Henley, of Coursehorne in Cranbroke, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fourteenth year of king Charles.

Sir Edward Masters of East Langdon, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the fifteenth year of king Charles.

David Polhill Esq; of Otford, was sheriff of Kent in the sixteenth year of king Charles.

James Hugison Esq; of Lingsted, was sheriff of Kent in the seventeenth year of king Charles.

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Sir William Brockman, of Bithborough in Newington Bell-house, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the eighteenth year of king Charles, but being called to manage this office by that king, when he was in arms at Oxford, he was thought by the parliament then sitting, to be a person in that juncture of affairs, not fitting to have the managing of a place of so great a concern, and was accordingly supplanted.

Sir John Honywood, of Evington-court in Elmested, knight, was chosen by the parliament then sitting, to serve the sheriff of Kent part of the eighteenth year of king Charles, and continued in that office the nineteenth and twentieth years of the abovesaid prince's reign.

Sir John Rayney of Wrotham, baronet, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty first year of king Charles.

Sir Edward Monins of Waldershare, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty first year of king Charles.

Sir John Henden of Biddenden, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty second year of king Charles.

Sir Stephen Scot, of Hays by Bromley, knight, was sheriff of Kent in the twenty third year of king Charles.

George Selby Esq; of the Moat in Ightham, was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty fourth year of king Charles; in which year that noble, but unfortunate monarch was put to death.

Sheriffs of Kent since the death of King Charles.

Henry Crispe Esq; of Quekes in Birchington, was sheriff of Kent part of the year 1649, and part of the year 1650, but in respect of age and indisposition of body, his place was supplied by Sir Nicholas Crispe, his son and heir.

George Curtis Esq; of Chart by Sutton, was sheriff of Kent part of the year 1650, and part of the year 1651. He was chosen to serve upon the decease of William Draper Esq; of Crayford, who was named to serve, but died not long after his nomination, but by reason of age and the craziness of his constitution, his son Norton Curtis Esq; discharged the office for him.

Thomas Floyd Esq; of Gore court in Otham, was sheriff of Kent part of the year 1651, and part of the year 1652.

Bernard Hide Esq; of Bore-place in Chiddenstone, was sheriff of Kent part of the year 1652, and part of the year 1653.

The right honourable Sir John Tufton, earl of Thanet, was sheriff of Kent part of the year 1653, and part of the year 1654.

Sir Humphry Tufton, of the Moat by Maidston, knight, was sheriff of Kent part of the year 1654, and part of the year 1655.

Sir Michael Livesey, of East church in Shepey, baronet, was sheriff of Kent the remainder of the year 1655, and part of the year 1656.

Sir Michael Livesey, baronet, was sheriff of Kent the residue of the year 1656, and part of the year 1657.

Charles Bolles Esq; of Rochester, was sheriff of Kent in the year 1658. \*

Having in a succinct register represented to the reader, an historical view of those who were successively sheriffs of this county, as high as the light of public record will guide us to discover, I shall now in a narrow landskip, give him a prospect of those who in elder times were stiled conservatores pacis, from whence our modern justices of the peace seem to have extracted their original institution: they were first established by Edward the third, and then invested and fortified with an authority and power of a very wide latitude, but suitable indeed to an office of so much concern and importance as they were intrusted with, the main end of their place, in the first foundation of it, was, as appears, Pat. de anno primo Edwar. tertii pars prima memb septima in dorso, to array and train the inhabitants of each respective county where the scene of their power was laid, and so they might be put into a capacity to repress all home-bred insurrections within, and secure the nation from the irruptions of foreign invaders from without, and it is further evident, Pat. de anno duodecimo Ed=

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war. tertii memb. 16. in dorso, and again Pat. de anno decimo Edw. tertii pars secunda memb. 35. in dorso, they were authorised by two commissioners to reduce all vagabonds and wanderers, to dissipate all mutinous and riotous conventions, and to suppress all thieves and outlaws, and all other persons disaffected to the peace established; and to vindicate and assert the two statutes of Northampton and Winchester, in all the ends and consequences of them, both which laws direct an inspection into the premises. The catalogue or register of those who were conservatores pacis, of the county of Kent does here ensue.

Pat. 1. Edwar. 3.  
primi pars Memb.  
septima in Dorso.

Bartholomeus de Burgherst  
Johannes de Ifield.

Pat. 3. Edwar. 3.  
par. prima Memb. 16.  
in Dorso.

Bartholomeus Burhurst  
Johannes de Cobham  
Joannes de Ifield.

Pat. 5. Edwar. 3.  
par. prima Memb. 24.  
in Dorso.

Johannes de Cobham.  
Johannes de Ifield.

Pat. 6. Edwar. 3.  
par. prima Memb.  
22 in Dorso.

William de Clinton  
John de Cobham  
John de Segrave  
Thomas Feversham.

Tres vel duo eorum.

Pat. 6. Edwar. 3.  
par prima Memb. 11.  
in Dorso.

Willielmus de Clinton  
John de Cobham.  
Galfridus de Say  
John de Segrave  
Otho de Grandison  
Thomas de Feversham.

Quinque quatuor tres & duo eorum.

Pat. 9. Edwar. 3.  
par. 2. Memb, 24.  
in Dorso.

Johannes de Cobham  
Thomas de Aldon  
John de Segrave.

De confirmatione pacis ac statuti  
Northampton & cujusdam ordinati=  
onis ne qui alicubi incedant armati  
ad terrorum populi.

Pat. 10. Edwar. 3.  
par. 2. Memb. 18.  
in Dorso.

Quatuor vel tres  
eorum.

Willielmus de Clinton  
Radulphus Savage  
Thomas de Aldon  
Johannes de Hampton  
Willielmus de Reiculuar.

De Feloniis & malefactoribus noto=  
rie suspectis insequendis, & de audi=  
endo & terminando felonia trans=  
gressionibus & excessus.

Pat. 12. Edwar. 3.  
Memb. 16. in Dorso.

Johannes de Cobham.  
Thomas de Aldon.  
Thomas de Brockhull.  
Willielmus de Orlanston.

Tres vel duo eorum.  
Jo. de Warrena Com. de Surrey.  
Willielmo de Clinton Com. de Hun=  
tingdon, quos, &c.



Pat. 18. Edwar. 3.  
par. 2. Memb. 35.  
in Dorso.

Johannes de Cobham  
Thomas de Brockhull  
Otho de Grandison  
Willielmus de Morant.

Tres vel duo eorum in com. Kantii.

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Stat. 18. Edwar. 3.  
Cap. 2.

In this year the statute was made that ordained that  
their should be two or three wardens of the peace in every  
county.

Pat. 29. Edwar. 3.  
par. prima Memb. 29.  
in Dorso.

Galfridus de Say  
Willielmus de Thorpe  
Otho de Grandison  
Arnaldus de Savage  
Stephen de Valoigns  
Willielmus de Norton.

Pat. 31. Edwar. 3.  
par. prima Memb. 17.  
in Dorso.

Galfridus de Say  
Willielmus de Norton  
Willelmus de Thorpe  
Thomas de Lodelow.

Pat. 31. Edwar. 3.  
par. 2. Memb. 11.  
in Dorso.

Rogerus de Mortuomari.  
Comes de March, consta=  
bularius castri Dovorïæ,  
& custos quinque por=  
tuum.

Will. de Thorpe a Judge.  
Radulphus de Spigurnel  
Will. de Norton a Judge.  
Stephanus de Valoigns  
Thomas de Lodelow  
Willielmus Warner.

In this year it being found by experience that the former number of the wardens  
of the peace settled by the statute of the eighteenth of Edward the third, before men=  
tioned, was not sufficient for the good government of this county; It was further  
provided by an act made in the thirty fourth year of Edward the third, Cap 2. or=  
dained, that there should be in every shire one lord, and with him three or four of  
the best in the county, and three or four learned in the laws assigned for keeping of  
the peace, and to restrain offenders. In the next commission awarded after this act,  
these eight persons are recited for the abovesaid purpose, viz. Sir Robert Herle then  
lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover castle; John de Cobham  
of Cobham, Roger de Northwood of Northwood Ralph de Fremingham of  
Fremingham or Farningham, Thomas de Lodelow, Robert Vinter of Vinters in  
Boxley, John Barrie of Sevington, Thomas Hartredge of Hartredge in Cranebroke.

But this restriction was not so permanent, but that in short space the number was

very much augmented, as by the subsequent series in the first year of Richard the second, may very well be observed.

Pat. primo Rich. secundi pars prima Memb. 20. in Dorso.  
De Justiciariis ad pacem conservandam assignatis.

Edmundus Comes Cantabrigiensis, constabularius castri Dovoræ.

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Justiciarii ad pacem con=  
servandam assignati.

Johannes de Cobham  
Robertus Belknap a Judge  
Stephanus de Valoigns  
Henry de Astry or Astie, a  
Judge of the common  
pleas the fourth of  
Richard the second.

Willielmus Horne  
Thomas de Shardelow a  
Judge.  
Willielmus Topcliff  
Thomas Garwenton de Well  
Nicholaus Hering  
Willielmus Tiltombe  
Willielmus Makenade  
Johannes Francis  
Thomas Hatredge  
John Bird de Smeth.

In Lastis de Sheringhope Shepwey  
St. Augustins & septem Hundredis in  
com. Kantii.  
Teste rege apud Westmon. primo die  
Aprilis.

Justiciarii ad pacem con=  
servandam assignati.

Idem Edmundus Comes su=  
pradictus.

Johannes Cobham  
Robertus Belknap  
Thomas Colepeper  
Henricus Astie  
Johannes Fremingham  
Jacobus de Peckham  
Thomas de Shardelow  
Willielmus Topclive  
Nicholaus Hering  
Willielmus Makenade.

In Lastis de Alresford Sutton &  
Leucata de Tunbridge in com. Kantii.  
Teste rege ut supra.

After by the statute of the twelfth year of Richard the second, Cap. 10. and the fourteenth year of the same prince, Cap. 11. it was prohibited, that there should be no more than six justices of the peace in any commission besides the two justices of assise, and certain lords who were assigned in the parliament itself. But in times subsequent to these, when the womb of vice (like the mud of Nile) was more fertile in the production of crimes, and the seeds of contention began to be sown more plentifully in every furrow of this nation, which sprung up again in a numberless variety of discord and animosity: these restrictions were broke, and the catalogue of Justices was improved to that volume, to which it is swoln at present.

Before I descend to a particular description of the parishes of this county, I should take cognisance of all those towns and villages which by the indulgence of former princes, were invested with the charter of market and fair \*: indeed all of them had this passage inserted in the original grant, quantum in nobis est. so that many of them when they came to be discussed before the judges itinerant at the general assises, quo warranto they were held, that is to say, what authority they had to support them, were, if they were found convenient and necessary, ratified, confirmed, and continued; but again they were deemed needless and superfluous, they were at these publick conventions, by the power of the law then planted in the judges, vacated and discarded, this may likewise be added, that many of them were granted with this intention of their

\* But this hath been so exactly performed lately by Richard Kilbourne Esq; of Hawke=herst 1659. that I shall at present decline this track.

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first institution only to inforce and aggrandize the signory of those manors which were parcel of the demean of those eminent persons to whom those above-mentioned royal charters and concessions were indulged; as, Sutton Valence, Court at Street, Shinglewell, and others; and when the title and possession of those places, was, either by purchase or marriage, cast into the tenure of other proprietors, the virtue of these grants began to be dis-spirited, and the custom of keeping up markets and fairs at these manors and parishes, began insensibly to shrink into disuse and inter=mission. It is further observable, that at diverse places which were endowed with these above-mentioned privileges, as, at Brenchley, Charlton by Greenwich, and other parishes, the market and fair was observed and held in the church-yard, and on the Sunday; it being the great design of the Romish clergy of those cloudy times, to whom godliness was great gain, in the practical sense, at once to charm the peoples devotion and benevolence; but, as if there were in the vogue and estimate of that age, a greater degree of sanctity entailed on the church-yard, then on the Sunday, the holding either market or fair in that place was by a statute made in the thirteenth year of Edward the first, chapter the sixth, wholly interdicted and prohibited; but though the church-yard were thus empaled, and fenced in with this new law, the Sunday lay open and exposed to all disorder and prophanation, until the reign of Henry the sixth, and then that pious prince resenting with regret the many enormi=ties and other excesses of a black complexion, which were occasioned by the conflux of people assembled at these public meetings, and which had foully stained and de=bauched the purity of this solemn festival, did by a statute made and ratified in the twenty seventh year of his reign, chapter the fifth, for the future forbid the keeping of any markets or fairs in any place whatsoever on the Sunday.

I shall now take a prospect of all the parishes, villages, and manors, which are circumscribed within the circle of this county; but before I wade further in this dis=course, I shall represent upon what reasons or foundations manors were first instituted and established, by example and resemblance of the king's policy in the institutions of tenures, (saith Sir Francis Bacon) the great men and gentlemen of this realm did the like, so near as they could; as for example, when the king had given to any of them two thousand acres of land, this party proposing in this place to make his dwell=ling, or (as the old word is) his mansion-house or his manor-house, did devise how he might make his land a compleat habitation to supply him with all manner of necessa=ries; and for that purpose, he would give of the uttermost parts of these two thou=sand acres, one hundred, or two hundred acres, more or less, as he should think meet, to one of his most trusty servants, with some reservation of rent to find a horse for the wars, and go with him when he went with the king to the wars, adding vow of homage, and the oath of fealty, wardship, marriage, and relief. This relief is to pay five pounds for every knights fee, or after the rate for more or less at the entrance of every heir; which tenant so created and placed, was, and is to this day, called a tenant by knights service, and not by his own person; but of his manors, of these he might make as many as he would then this lord would provide that the land which he was to keep for his own use, should be plowed, and his harvest brought home, his house repaired, his park pailed, and the like; and for that end he would give to sundry others twenty, thirty, forty, or fifty acres; reserving the service of plowing a certain quantity, or so many days his lands, and certain harvest works, or

days in the harvest to labour, or to repair the house, park, pail, or otherwise; or to give him for his provision, capons, hens, pepper, commin, roses, gilliflowers, spurs, gloves, or the like; or to pay him a certain rent, and to be sworn to be his faithful tenant, which tenure was called a soccage tenure, and is so to this day; howbeit, most of the plowing and harvest services are turned into money-rents: the tenants in soccage at the death of every tenant, were to pay relief, which was not as knights service is, five pounds a knight's fee; but it was and is still, one year's rent of the land, and no wardship or other profit to the lord. The remainder of the two thousand acres he kept to himself, which he used to manure by his bondman, and appointed them at the courts of his manor how they should hold it, making an entry of it into the roll of the remembrances of the acts of his court; yet still in the lord's power to take it away, and therefore they were called tenants at will, by copy of court roll;

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being in truth bondmen at the beginning; but having obtained freedom of their persons, and gained a custom by use of occupying their lands, they now are called copyholders, and are so privileged that the lord cannot put them on, and all through custom; some copyholders are for lives, one, two, or three, successively; and some inheritance, from heir to heir, by custom, and custom ruleth these estates wholly, both for widows estates, fines, harriots, forfeitures, and all other things. Manors being in this sort made at the first, reason was that the lord of the manor should hold a court, which is no more then to assemble his tenants together, at a time by him to be appointed; in which court he was to be informed, by oath of his tenants, of all such duties, rents, reliefs, and wardships, copyholds, or the like, that had happened unto him; which information is called a presentment, and then his bailiff to seize and distrain for those debts, if they were denied or with-holden, which is called a court baron; and herein a man may sue for any debt or trespass under forty shillings value, and the freeholders are to judge of the cause upon proof produced upon both sides; and therefore the freeholders of these manors, as incident to their tenures, do hold by suit of court, which is to come to the court, and there to judge between party and party in those petty actions; and also to inform the lord of duties, rents, and services unpaid to him from the tenants; by this course it is discerned, who be the lords of lands, such as if the tenants die without heir, or be attainted of felony or treason, shall have the land by escheat.

I now proceed to trace out the several parishes of Kent, and marshal them alphabetically; yet in this scrutiny, I have not tortured their names, until by a nice and curious anatomy, they confessed themselves to be either of British, Roman, or Saxon extraction; because, at once to decline and unravel this difficulty, I have cast them into a peculiar register by themselves, which shall stand as an appendage to the book, and first therefore, to go on, I begin with Acris.

A.

ACRIS is a small parish lying in the hundreds of Folkston and Lovingborough, and was held in the twentieth of William the conqueror by Anketellus de Rosse; from which name it passed away by grant to the Cosentons of Cosenton in Alresford, to hold of the barony of Rosse, and of his manor of Horton near Ferningham. This seat being thus annexed to the demean of this family, came down to William de Cosington, who is in the list of those Kentish gentlemen whom king John in the eighteenth year of his reign, by pardon absolved, for having taken an oath to Lewis the Dauphin of France; Charles king of Navarre (as the private evidences of Cosington inform me) in the year of Grace 1366, settled an annual pension of a thousand crowns on Sir Stephen de Cosington, and Sir William his son, for their remarkable service performed against the enemies of his crown and scepter. The last of this family which held this manor, was Sir John Cosington, who concluded in three daughters and co-heirs, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, married to Duke, Wood, and Alexander Hamon; and upon the disunion of the estate into parcels, the last by female interest, was invested in Acris, and his successors remained lords of the fee until the beginning of king James, and then a fatality like the former, brought the patrimony of this family to be possessed by two daughters and co-heirs, so that Sir Robert Lewknor having married Katherine, who was one of them, became in her right entitled to this manor, and left it to his son Hamon Lewknor Esq; who deceasing not long since, hath transmitted it during the minority of his son, to his widow Dowager.

The manor of Brandred lies in this parish, and belonged to the abby of St. Radi= gunds, until the suppression, and then it was by Henry the eight, exchanged with the arch-bishop of Canterbury, in the twenty ninth year of his reign, and remained par= cel of that patrimony, which acknowledged the signory of that see, until these tempes= tuous times shook it off.

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ADDINGTON, in the hundred of Larkfield, was, as high as any track of evidence can transport me to discover, the inheritance of a noble family called Mandeville, and divers deeds of a very venerable antiquity, being without date, and now in the hands of Mr. Watton, do attest Roger de Mandeville, in those elder times, to have been lord of the fee: but before the end of Edward the second, this family was vanished, and had surrendered the possession of this place to Robert at Checquer, in whom the possession was but of a narrow date, for he not long after alienated his interest in it to Nicholas Dagworth, as is evident by this record, registered in the Book of Aid kept in the exchequer, de Nicholao de Dagworth pro uno Feodo Militis, quod Robertus de Scaccario tenuit in Addington de Warreno de Montecanisio 40s. That is, Nicholas Dagworth in the twentieth year of Edward the third, paid a respective sup= ply of 40s. for his manor of Addington, which both he and Robert at Checquer, who enjoyed it before him, held of the honour of Swanscamp castle, as being the capital seat of the barony of Mountchensey, under the notion of a whole knight's fee. But in this family the title was as volatile as in the former, for before the going out of Edward the third, I find it passed away from Dagworth to Sir Hugh Segrave; and he, in the seventh year of Richard the second, alienated it to Richard Charles, descended from Edward Charles, captain and admiral of the seas, from the Thames mouth northward, in the reign of Edward the first, as appears, Pat. 34. Edwardi primi But he was scarce warm in his new acquisitions, but he expired in two daughters and coheirs, Alice matched to William Smith, and Joan married to Richard Ormeskirk; but this manor, upon the distinction of the estate into parcels, was annexd to the demeasne of Snaith, and he died possessed of it (as the date of his tomb in Ad= dington church informs me) in the year 1409; but died without issue-male, so that his sole daughter and heir, being wedded to Watton, made it the inheritance of that family, and here have they planted themselves ever since that alliance, and have per= formed many signal services to this county by being invested with places of trust, as justices of the peace, commissioners of the sewers, and other officers of the like condition, which hath much enforced, and multiplied the eminent reputation of this antient family.

ALLINGTON, in the hundred of Larkfield, is eminent for an antient castle within the limits of it; which, as Mr. Darrell, and Mr. Mersh do assert, was erected by William de Columbariis, or Columbers; and this Mr. Darrell, who was very curious in dis= quisitions of this nature, more positively affirms, because in the eighth year of Henry the third, when (as appears by the records of the tower) there was an exact survey taken of all the castles of England, and of those who were either proprietors of them, or else the respective castellans or guardians, one of the above mentioned family was found to be possessor of this fortress, and was also lord of the manor, which was still annexed to the castle; but this name was of no long continuance in the tenure of either, for about the latter end of Henry the third, they came to own the signory of Sir Stephen de Penchester, lord warden afterwards of the cinque ports, to whom and to Margaret his wife, daughter of the famous Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, king Edward the first granted a licence, in the ninth year of his reign, as appears by the patent-rolls of that time, to erect a castle, and to fortify and embattle at Allington; so that it seems it was only before Fortalitium, some small fortress, and could not be marshalled under the just notion of a castle, until it had received new symmetry and dimensions, by those appendages and supplements which were added to it by this great man; and having thus established this pile, it came to his own name, and is in some old records called Allington Penchester, and not undeservedly; for in the eighth year of Edward the first, he obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Allington, and also a market weekly on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly three days, on the vigil, the day, and day after St. Laurence, but deceased without issue male; so that after his exit, it came to acknowledge Stephen de Cobham, who had married his daugh= ter and coheir, and he engrafted his own name upon it, and called it Allington Cobham, which flourished several descents in this family, until the beginning of

Edward the fourth, and then I find it in the possession of Brent, but remained not long in this name; for in the eighth year of Henry the seventh, John Brent passed away the castle and manor of Allington to Sir Henry Wiat, one of the privy council to that

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prince, but his unfortunate grandchild, Sir Thomas Wiat, having by his defection in the second year of queen Mary, forfeited it to the crown, it remained there untill queen Elizabeth granted to it Joseph Astley Esq: master of her jewels, whose son Sir Joseph Astley dying without issue, it became by descent to Sir Jacob Astley, created lord Astley by the late king at Oxford, whose descendant does now enjoy the possession of it.

ALKHAM, in the hundred of Folkston, hath divers places in it of account.

Malmains, by vulgar corruption of the word, called Smalmains, with Hollmeade, which was ever accounted an appendage to it, are first to be considered. In the twentieth year of Edward the third I find Thomas de Malmains, son of Nicholas de Malmains, (who was possessor of both these places in times of an elder computation) paid respective aid, at making the black prince knight, for his lands at Alkham. But after this, I find no more intelligence given me by record of this family; for about the beginning of Henry the fourth I discover John Alkham (who extracted his surname from this parish, and it is probable had here his mansion, though now it may have found a double sepulchre, that of oblivion, and its own rubbish) to have been possessed of them both, which he held in Castle-Guard tenure of Dover castle, and paid a subsidiary supply for them in the fourth year of that prince, at the marriage of Blanch his daughter; from which temporary assessment or contribution, several parcels of land in this county have ever since contracted the name of Blanch-lands. In Alkham the signory of both places resided, until the beginning of Henry the seventh, and then they were demised by Peter Alkham to John Warren gentleman; in which name, after they had continued until the latter end of Henry the eighth, Malmains was passed away to Brown, who in our memory conveyed it by sale to Lushinton; and Hollmeade was by the same vicissitude annexed to the demeasne of Wollet, a name that is grown reverend by an efflux of many ages, both here and at Elham

The Manor of Hoptons, another place considerable in Alkham. If you will search who was in elder times possessed of it, the private dates of lessee deeds will inform you, that antiently it was the inheritance of Peter de Hall, but was not long permanent in the possession of this name, for in the twentieth year of Edward the third, (as appears by the Book of Aid) it was the inheritance of William de Bourn; and here it seems the title was more constant, for in this family it was resident until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was alienated to Baker of Calldham, in whom it had not long continued, but by his daughter and coheir, it became the inheritance of Robert Brandred, from which name, about the latter end of Edward the fourth, it passed away by sale, to Brown of Bechworth Castle in Surrey, and here it fixed, until that age, which came within the verge of our grandfather's remembrance, and then it was demised to Godman, in whose descendants the propriety now continues.

Evering is the last place of account in Alkham: it was the possession of a family so called which branched from the antient lords of Folkston, surnamed Averanches, whose arms were (as is manifested by antient armorials) or, five chevrons gules, and these Everings bore or, five chevrons azure. Wolwardus de Evering held it under the notion and by the service of a whole knight's fee, in the time of Henry the second, of the lords of Folkston. And by a successive channel of many descents hath the title flowed so constantly in this family, that this seat is at this instant annexed to their inheritance.

In this parish is an Eyle-Bourn which rises in the bottom at Dillingore, which the inhabitants presage to be a fatal presage either of death or dearth; and in a short distance of time and place, from no appearance of head or spring, sends forth such store of water that a vessel of considerable burden may float therein; then the water being enforced into a stream runs down to Chilton, and disgorges itself into the river, which meets the sea at Dover.

APULDORE, in the hundred of Blackburn, in the year of grace 1032, was, by an especial licence first obtained from Canutus and Elfgiva his queen, and given by Eadsin

bishop of St. Martins without Canterbury, to the Prior and Monks of Christchurch & est de cibo eorum says the book of that convent; that is, it was granted to them for a support of diet. In the eleventh year of Edward the third, there was a license granted to the then archbishop, and others by his royal patent, obstertere quandam antiquam trencheam, quæ ducit a brachio maris vocato Apledore versus villam de Romney, those are the words of the record; that is, to intercept and dam up a certain trench or channel which proceeds from an arm of the sea, called Apledore, (for then it seems the sea flowed up to this place, though now it has wholly deserted it) and leads to the town of Romney. But to proceed; Apledore having by the abovesaid donation been linked to the ecclesiastical patrimony, continued wrapped up in that interest, until the resignation of the revenue of the priory of Christchurch, into the hands of king Henry the eighth, and then he settled it, by a new grant, on his new erected dean and chapter of Christchurch.

Hornes-place, in this parish, was the seat many hundreds of years of gentlemen of that surname. William Horne was one of the conservators of the peace in the first year of Richard the second for this county, and Michael Horne was sheriff of Kent in the seventh year of Henry the fourth, and held shrievalty at Apledore, and from him did the propriety of this place descend to Anne Horne, the last of this name, who matched with Benedict Guldford Esq: who in her right, as being the sole inheritrix of this place, became lord of this seat, but he denying the oath of supremacy, which began about the twelfth and thirteenth of queen Elizabeth to be rendered to Romish recusants, and sheltering himself by a recess and flight into foreign parts, fell under the displeasure of the queen, and his estate under the fury of a præmunire; so that this manor was torn away from his interest by a confiscation of it to the crown, and shortly after the abovementioned princess granted it to her faithful servant George Chowte Esq: from whom it descended to his great grandchild Edward Chowt Esq: deceased, a person who for his support of learning in these times, (wherein if some whose palates do decline it with regret and disgust, might be confirmed in that licentious liberty which they pretend to, they would scarce leave us the title page, to inform posterity, that there was once religion or learning inhabiting among us) cannot be mentioned by the faulters and abettors of literature, or at least the pretenders to it, without some grateful acknowledgment.

Dean Court, in this parish, was the mansion of a family who borrowed their surname from this town, and were called Apledore, and sealed with a pile surmounted with a fess, which was their paternal coat; but before the latter end of Edward the third, this family found its sepulcher in a female heir, for Thomas de Apledore, dying without issue, Elnith his only sister entituled her husband William Roper to his estate here, and in the confining marsh: and by an uninterrupted right derived from this alliance, hath the title of this place been supported in the family of Roper, for so many descents, that it is now at last devolved to the right honorable Christopher Roper, baron of Tenham, in whom it is at this instant resident.

There was a castle antiently here at Apledore, which when the Danes in the reign of Etheldred, father of Edmund Ironside, made this county the scene of their devastations, was mingled by the flame they put it into, in the year 892, in its own rubbish, yet like the Phoenix, it rose into new shape and frame again, out of its ashes, and continued in the register and under the notion of the castles and fortresses of this county, until the year 1380, and then (as How relates in his Chronicle, who likewise represents the former tragedy,) the French making an hostile eruption on this part of the county, made it once more a pitied and calamitous heap of flame and ruin; out of whose dismantled reliques, the church now visible was not only repaired, but as some from antient tradition affirm, wholly reedified; a probable argument of the ancient grandeur, magnificence, and strength of this now totally-demolished fortress.

I had almost omitted the manor of Frenchay, which likewise lies within the circle of Apledore, and had in elder times, as appears by old evidences, owners of that surname; but the greatest glory that it atchieved, was, that ever since the reign of Edward the third, until the government of Henry the eighth, it acknowledged the family of Haut for its proprietaries, the last of which was Sir William Haut, who concluded in two daughters and coheirs, whereof Joan the youngest matched to Sir

Thomas Wiat, shared his estate at this place; but he being attainted in the second year of queen Mary, this was confiscated to the crown, and lay there until the twenty fourth of queen Elizabeth, and then it was granted back to George Wiat Esq: whose son Sir Francis Wiat, not many years since, passed it away to Thomas Floyd of Gore-court in Otham Esq: and he, in the year 1636, alienated it to Sir Edward Hales of Tunstall, knight and baronet, whose grandchild Sir Edward Hales is now in possession of it.

APLEDORE had antiently a market to be observed here weekly, granted to it, by Edward the third, in the thirty second year of his reign, which since is vanished into disuse by intermission.

ADISHAM, in the hundred of Downhamford, was given to the monks of St. Augustins (as appears by Christ Church book) by Ethelbald, son of Ethelbald, king of Kent, anno Domini 616. Cum campu, silvis, pascuis, &c. (as the record mentions) ad illam pertinentibus ad cibum monachorum ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariæ, liberam ab omnibus seculari servitiis, & fiscali tributo, exceptis tribus istis consuetudinibus, (id est, communi labore, expeditione de quo nullus excipitur) pontis constructione, vel arcis; and whereas we frequently trace in antient chartularies these three letters L. S. A. which may at first appearance seem to wrap up some gloomy and mysterious sense, they import no more than this, that lands which were given by charter to the church should be Liberæ sicut Adisham; that is, be fortified with the same franchises and liberties as Adisham originally was. The Austins for some hundreds of years have been tenants for this and the manor of Godmersham to the church, as if to improve and gratify the memory of Augustine, their first abbot, the monks of Christchurch were determined to plant some of their patrimony in that name, though perhaps but of accidental coincidence.

ALDINGTON is the next place to be remembered, in the hundred of Street, and Bircholt Franchise more eminent, because here are chosen the officers yearly relating to the manors of Romney Marsh. Queen Edgiva, mother to king Edmund and king Edred, gave this town to Christchurch in Canterbury, in gross with other lands anno Domini 961. But in the general survey of the church's lands in the conqueror's time, the archbishops had twenty one sullings or plough-lands there, and was valued together with the appurtenances at Stouting and Lyming at 107l. and 25 burgesses held of it. The archbishops of Canterbury, did usually retire to their manor house here, and had both a park empailed, and a chase for deer, called Aldington Frith, by which name we express places where deer ranged at large, as in a forest. But when the kings of England intended to pare off something of the revenue and power of the arch-bishops, which was in their estimate of too vast and wide an extent, this manor, with many others, was passed away by exchange to the crown, in the twenty ninth of Henry the eighth, by Thomas Cranmer arch-bishop of Canterbury. Temp. Henry the eighth, Erasmus of Rotterdam was parson of this parish.

Ruffins-Hill in this parish, was the seat of the Godfreys, antient gentlemen, whose estate by his two daughters and co-heirs came to the clerks of Kingsnoth, and the Blechendens. But whether descended from Godfrey le Falconer, the son of Balder, unto whom king Henry the second assigned, gave and granted much land in these parts, to hold in serjeanty, by the service of keeping two hawks for the king and his successors, I cannot positively say. Much of the land lay in Hurst, and the manor is called Falconers Hurst; and those that for many generations held it, resolved into the name of Michel Grove; whose heir general brought this and other fair demesns to Shelly's ancestor of Michel Grove, in whose name it resides at present. The coat very well alluded to their antient name and tenure, and is quarterly argent and azure, over all a falcon, or. Hurst was formerly a parish; and the church was dedicated to St. Leonard, but it is now languished into decay and ruin, and the inhabitants assemble for the performance of divine offices at Aldington.

AINS福德, in the hundred of Axtane, lieth upon the river of Darent, and gave seat and surname to a worthy family that continued till the time of Edward the second:

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It hath the ruins of an ancient castle, which reckons them and the Arsicks to have been the founders.

There is another seat, in this parish, of venerable antiquity, called Arkesden,



whose owners bore the same for their surname, and were of the number of the grand assize, in king John's time; after them, the Cobhams were possessors of it, and Reginald de Cobham had license, the fourteenth of Edward the third, to castellate his house, and paid respect of aid for the same, the twentieth of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince knight: from the Cobhams of Sterborough, it came by the heir general, to the lord Burgh or Borough, from whom, by sale, it devolved its right on Sir Samuel Leonard, father of Sir Stephen Leonard, which Sir Stephen enjoys it at this day.

Southcourt and Mayfield, are two manors lying in the precincts of this parish, and did anciently relate to the archbishop of Canterbury, from whom by exchange they passed over to Dunham, and from that family to the Wiats, in which name and family they remained, till upon the attainder of Sir Thomas Wiat, they escheated to the crown, which by grant invested their right and interest in J. Leonard of Chevening, from whom they are now come down to be the possession of Sir Stephen Leonard of West Wickham.

There is yet another ancient seat within the verge of this village, whose name is Maplescombe, and partly situated in this, and partly in Kingsdown. This place, although it now carries a desolate aspect, by reason of its ruin and depopulation, was anciently of a high repute and estimate. William de Chellesfield (he whom I suppose lies interred in Halsted church) held it (as Testa de Nevil informs me) in the twentieth year of Henry the third, but his family had not been possessed of it, until the latter end of Edward the second, when the vicissitude of sale carried the title off, to Rokesley of Rokesley in North Croy, and Roger, the son of Thomas de Rokesley, held the lordship by a whole knight's fee, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, of Richard de Rosse of Horton Kerbie, and he held it of the successor of Robert de Arsick, and he of the king; yet I find some part of it, to have acknowledged the signory of the family of Merworth; for Roger de Merworth, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first, obtained a charter of free-warren, to his lands at this place; and in the fortieth year of Edward the third, John de Merworth, this man's grandchild, was by purchase, wholly invested in the possession, and held it at his decease, which was in the forty-ninth year of that prince, and John de Malmains was his heir, who passed it away to Nicholas de Brember, of whom I shall speak more at Merworth; and he being attainted in the tenth year of Richard the second, there was a return made in the twelfth of that prince, that he held this manor at his conviction, upon which, that prince, in the thirteenth year of his reign, granted it to John de Hemensthorpe, and he, not long after, passed it away to Richard Fitz Allen, earl of Arundel, and his son Thomas earl of Arundel, dying without issue male 1416, Joan, one of his sisters and co-heirs, brought it to be the possession of her husband William Beauchamp, Baron of Abergavenny, whose son likewise dying without issue male, in the ninth of Henry the fifth, Elizabeth his sole inheritor, united it to the patrimony of Edward Nevil, and in his descendants did the title remain, until our fathers remembrance, and then it was conveyed to Lovelace, and is now by Margaret, sole heir of Richard Lovelace, annexed to the demesne of Mr. .... Cooke, of Lanham in Suffolk.

Easthall, in this parish, was parcel of the revenue of Rokesley of Rokesley, but when Sir Richard de Rokesley determined with the name, in a female inheritor: he left two daughters his co-heirs, Anne the eldest wedded to Sir Thomas de Poyning, and Joan the younger married to Hugh de Pateshul. She, by marrying with Sir Thomas de Poyning, intitled that name to the propriety and jurisdiction of this place, in which family it continued until the fourteenth year of Henry the eighth, and then, it being found after a serious inquisition, that Sir Edward Poyning, who deceased the twelfth year of that prince's government, had neither lawful issue, nor any collateral alliance, which could start a title to his estate, it escheated to the crown, in whose demesne this manor was locked up until king Henry the eighth granted it to Sir Roger Cholmeley, who sud-

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denly alienated his interest here, to Sir Martin Bowes; and he, the first year of Edward the sixth, conveyed it again to Percival Hart Esq; of Lullingston, in whose successor, William Hart Esq; of Lullingston, the title is now resident.

Littlemote and Petham, are two manors likewise in this parish, which augmented

the revenue of Sibell, a family of deep antiquity as any in this track, who were for many hundred years, possessed of Petham, and of the house which is called Littlemote likewise, as is evident by their coat armour, viz. a tyger viewing himself in a mirrour, or spigel, both carved and embossed very anciently in wood, as likewise, represented to the view, in old coloured glass, though much of the land that relates to this mansion, devolved to Sibell about the beginning of Henry the seventh, by the heir of Cowdale, whose arms, viz. argent, a chevron, gules, between three bulls-heads, cabosed, sables, both empaled and quartered with this family, are yet visible in many places of the house; finally, after these two places had so many descents, been fastened to this family, they came down at last to John Sibel Esq; who concluded in a female heir, called Elizabeth, married to Mr. Robert Bosvil, ancestor to Thomas Bosvil Esq; who, in right of this alliance, is now heir apparent to the signory of them.

There is one part of the church called Arsick's Chancel, and divers lands hereabouts, are held of the honour of Arsick by knights service, and Robert de Arsick, that came in with William the conqueror, was one of those that were assistants to John de Fiennes, for the secure guard of Dover castle. He had eighteen knights fees assigned to him, of which, these lay in Kent, viz. Fremingham (i. e.) Farningham, one knight's fee, Mayplescombe, one knight's fee, Nutsted in Kent, one knight's fee, Combe in Kent, one knight's fee, Bekewel in Kent, one knight's fee. The rest lay more in Oxfordshire, and some in Dorset, Wilts, and Lincolnshire. In the reign of Henry the second, Manasser de Arsick was of eminent note, in the county of Oxford, and Mr. Camden, in describing that county, affirms the principal seat of their barony, to be at Coggs, and that the daughter and heir was married to Hubert de Burgo, who was earl of Kent.

ALHALLOWS, in the hundred of Hoo, with the appendant manor of Shawsted, did anciently celebrate the memory of Delapole. John de la Pole held it in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and paid a respective supply for it, at making the black Prince knight, and in this family, was the possession permanent until the reign of Henry the fourth, and then it was transmitted, by sale, to Zouch of Halloworth, written in ancient court-rolls and other muniments de la Zouch; and here the title was resident until it was by descent, wafted along to John lord de la Zouch, who being a great assertor of the cause and quarrel of Richard the third, against Henry the seventh, like some noble fabrick, in whose joints the rain hath dwelt, and supplanted the contextures of its pillars, fell under the misfortune of his royal master, and sunk in the ruins of the fatal field of Bosworth, and in the first year of Henry the seventh, being attainted by parliament, his patrimony escheated to the crown, and then that prince granted his estate here to his faithful partisan, Sir Henry Wiat, whom he had newly taken into his private counsels, and from him, did it successively come down to his grandchild Sir Thomas Wiat, whose estate here, was much improved and augmented by the addition of Windlehill, another manor in this parish, which, as appears Rot. Esc. Num. 82. did in the forty seventh year of Edward the third, belong to the abbot of Reding, and upon the suppression of that cloister, by Henry the eighth, was, by his liberal concession, made parcel of his inheritance, and remained so until the reign of queen Mary, and then being attainted, and convicted of high-treason, in the second year of that princess, his estate here fell back to the crown, and continued there until king James, in the beginning of his reign, passed away Shawsted and Windlehill to the city of London, and they again, by their trustees, invested the propriety of them by sale, in Sir William Garaway of London, father to Sir Henry Garaway knight, in whose descendants the title of them is still resident.

Place-House, in this parish, is secondly to be remembered, which was anciently part of the demeasn of the illustrious family of the Pimps of Pimps-court in the pa-

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rish of Loose near Maidston, and Philip de Pimp was one of those men at arms, which the prior of Rochester was to furnish out for the guard of the seacoast at Genlade or Yenlade, in the hundred of Hoo, in the eleventh year of Edward the third. In times of a more modern inscription, I find Thomas Pimpe the elder, to be buried in Alhallows in Hoo, and that he made his will the twenty seventh of August, (as appears by the Repertory of Rochester diocess) and in the fourteenth of Edward the fourth, William and John were his sons; Elizabeth unmarried, Margery

lady prioress of Malling, and Alice a nun there. Sir William Hampton about that time, bought much land of him; he (I mean this Sir William) was lord mayor of London in the time of Edward the fourth; but whether this place was part of this purchase or not, there is no light from any public intelligence that can illustrate it; certain I am, that the Coppingers immediately almost after this time became possessors of the place, and the propriety is now by female right, of a daughter and heir of a branch of these Coppingers, resolved into Sir Harbottle Grimston of Essex.

ALRESFORD, anciently written Aiglesford, hath places of considerable antiquity within the limits and boundaries of it. The priory, or rather now the skeleton of it, was founded by Richard lord Grey of Codnor, Anno Domini 1240, in the twenty fifth of Henry the third, for Carmelite or White Friars, in honour of the Virgin Mary; the mother of this lord was Isolda, daughter and co-heir of Hugh Bardolph, lord of Hoo in Kent, from whom he inherited fair possessions in this county, and many of his posterity, in relation to that particular, were buried in the conventual church of this monastery. Upon the suppression, it was granted, with the royalty of it, by Henry the eighth, to Sir Thomas Wiat, from whom it descended to his son Sir Thomas Wiat, upon whose defection, this being, with other land, escheated to the crown, queen Elizabeth granted it to Mr. John Sidley, and he bequeathed it to his brother Sir William Sidley, and from that name it was lately passed by sale, unto Sir Peter Ricaut, whose heir 1657, conveyed it by the same vicissitude to Mr. Caleb Banks of Maidston.

Tottington and Eccles, two manors in this parish, anciently belonged to the family of Rokesley, \* by one of whose heirs general, it came to Poynings, and Richard lord Poynings, the eleventh of Richard the second, held the manor of Tottington, which with Eccles, one of his successors, in the time of king Henry the sixth, gave in frank marriage with his daughter, to James Palmer Esq; of the Courtlodge in Snodland, whose posterity after they had held them some space of time, sold them to Warcup, descended from the Warcups of **Westminster**, in which name, the tenure was not long resident, for by sale, it was alienated to Sidley of Southfleet, and his successor suddenly after, by the like fatality, invested Ricaut in Eccles, and Madox in Tottington.

Cosington, is a seat of much eminence in this parish, and gave residence and surname, to a knightly family of the same. And king Edward the first rewarded Sir Stephen de Cosenton, whom he had made banneret, in the twenty eighth of his reign, for his signal service at Calaverock in Scotland, with a charter of free warren to all his lands at Cosenton Acris, and South Burton, vulgarly called South Blabden in Elham in Kent. The manor itself, holdeth by knights service of the barony of Rosse of Hornton Kirby, from whom they received it by ancient feoffment, and bear, in similitude of their lords, the Rosses, the same charge in their arms, viz. azure three roses, or. The arms of Rosse being, or, three roses gules; but when, in the beginning of Henry the eighths government, the fatality of time had concluded this family in three daughters and co-heirs, married to Duke, Hamon, and Wood; this manor of Cosenton, accrued by co-partition to Duke, in which name it hath ever since resided. There was a free chapel belonging to this mansion founded, as private evidences advertise me, by Sir Stephen de Cosenton, which is now crumbled into so desolate an heap of rubbish, that we can hardly trace out its ruins, even amidst its ruins. There was another free chapel in this parish, annexed to Tottington by Richard lord Poynings, in the eleventh year of Richard the second, which hath been

\* Rd. son of Malger de Rokesley, gave tithes of Tottington, to the priory of Rochester: see Textus Roffensis.

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so dismantled by the impressions of time, and the fury of the elements, that there is very little testimony or evidence remaining, that this oratory ever had a being.

Preston, in this parish of Alresford, is a seat of that venerable antiquity, and hath for so many descents, been incorporated into the demeasn of Colepeper, that it is questionable, which is the ancient cradle or seminary of this family, either Bayhall in Pepenbury, or Preston in Alresford. Sir Thomas Colepeper, as the old evidences and muniments of this name instruct me, was of this family, and was governor of Winchelsey, under Edward the second, by whom he was beheaded, for defending that town in behalf of the barons, then combined in an hostile league against him. Walter de Colepeper flourished under Edward the first and Edward the second,

and sealed with a bend engrailed, which is still the paternal coat-armour of this family; which I the rather mention, because these deeds are the first of that nature which I have seen, since sealing with coats of arms grew customary in this nation, and argues him to be a man of eminence in this county, as did that spreading revenue, likewise, of which he died possessed, not only here, but at Farleigh, Peckham, Wrotham, and divers other places, in the first year of Edward the third. John Colepeper was a judge in the reign of Henry the sixth, and concluded in a daughter and heir, who, by matching with Harrington, added a considerable supplement to the paternal revenue of that noble family. I shall not more dilate myself in this discourse, it is enough, that I inform my reader, that this ancient seat, which hath been for so many centuries of years under the signiory of this name, is yet so constant to the interest of this family, that it is at this instant, knit to the inheritance of Sir Richard Colepeper, baronet.

Roes Place in Alresford, pretends to a deep root in antiquity likewise, as being the seat and original of the ancient family of Roe, and from hence, the Roes of Chaford in Ashurst, those of Essex, and he that was lord mayor of London, have primitively in a full channel flowed out; and in this family was the possession lodged, until that age we styled our grandfathers, and then it was carried off by sale to Taylor; which family, not many years since, concluding in a female inheritrix, she, by matching with Warcup, hath espoused the possession of this place to that name and family.

Near this place, Vortimer the valiant British king, gave battle to Hengist the Saxon, after he had given a victorious overthrow to the Britons at Creyford; in which conflict Horsa and Catigern, brethren to both the generals, were slain, and the Saxons repulsed into the isle of Thanet, their first assigned habitation, not daring to enter and invade the continent whilst Vortimer survived. Catigern was interred in that plain which spreads itself on the hangings of that hill, which looks down on Cosenton, where to this day his monument remains, being four vast stones pitched somewhat after the manner of Stonehenge on Salisbury plain, but of greater breadth than they, though not so thick or long, whereby it appears like a small sheepcote, and is vulgarly stiled Cits-Cotehouse, which is graphically here imitated. The like monuments were erected for Horsa, at Horsted near Rochester, which storms and tempests, under the conduct of time, have utterly extinguished.

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See PLATE, Figure II.

ASH by Sandwich, lies in the hundred of Wingham, and contains many places within its precincts very considerable. The first is Welmestone which is situated partly in this parish, and partly in Wingham. Though it be now obscure, it was in elder times made more conspicuous, by being one of the seats and residence of the noble family of Septuans. William de Septuans or Sepuans, was in the possession of it at his death, which was in the twenty fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 5. and in this family did the title of this place, by the steps of several descents, pass along until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it went from this family by exchange for other land, to Sir Walter Henley, who not long after conveyed the demean land or mansion-house to Alday, and the manor itself to Solley; in Alday the demised premises had not been long resident, when they were sold to Mr. Benedict Barnham, by one of whose four co-heirs, the fee-simple devolved to the earl of Castlehaven, whose descendant conveyed it to Brigham.

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Goshall, in this parish, must not be forgotten: it was the residence anciently of a family of that surname, made more eminent by the production of Sir John Goshall, a worthy knight, who flourished in the reign of Edward the third and Richard the second, and lies entombed in Ash church, in complete armour, and his skeleton underneath; his arms are also depicted in his shield, viz. azure a lion rampant, within semeè of cross crosslets argent. the heir general of this family was married to St. Nicholas of the isle of Thanet, and after the title had for some ages settled in this family, it was by a daughter and heir transmitted to John Dynley Esq; whose descendant, about the beginning of Queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Roper, ancestor to Christopher Roper baron of Tenham, who hath lately alienated his interest in it to Sir Edward Monins.

Checquers, in this parish of Ash, was a very ancient seat of a branch of the family of Septuans, who from their residence here, contracted the surname of Checquer or Atchecquer, and so were stiled in several old records; and after this mansion had remained a series of some generations in the name of Septuans and Checquer, it shrunk into a daughter and heir married to Alday; in which family, after it had for some time resided, it was by sale lately passed away to Mr. Thomas Harfleet, and now owns his descendants for its instant possessors.

Hells Twitham is swoln up to some repute since it was the revenue of the Hells, a family of generous rank in this county, but stayed not long in the possession, for about the beginning of Edward the third, they had surrendered their interest to Twitham, a noble family, and of deep extraction, in this territory; Bertram de Twitham died possessed of it in the third year of Edward the third; Alanus de Twitham his son, was likewise invested in it at his decease, which was in the twenty fifth year of the abovesaid prince; and lastly, Alanus the son of Theobald Twitham, held it in the fourth year of Richard the second, and left it to Mawd his sole daughter and heir, by whom the title was transplanted into Simon Septuans, in whose family the property hath for many ages, even until this instant, by an unbroken link been seated.

The next place which obviates my discovery, is Overland, which, in the twenty fifth year of Henry the third, was, by the royal charter of that prince, granted to Bertram de Crioll, and so being made parcel of his demean, it remained fastened to his interest until the beginning of Edward the first, and then it was passed away to Leybourn, and was held by Juliana de Leybourn, the heir general of Roger lord Leybourn; who in relation to that vast patrimony her birth entituled her to, might be justly stiled the infanta of Kent, and she was first married to John de Hastings, and secondly to William de Clinton earl of Huntington, who held it at his death in her right, which was in the twenty eighth year of Edward the third; but she deceased without issue in the forty third year of the abovesaid prince, by either of them, and there being none, that by the strength of any collateral alliance, could pretend any interest or title to the estate, it escheated to the crown, and lay there until Richard the second bestowed it by grant, on Sir Simon de Burley knight of the garter, and lord warden of the cinque ports; but he being attainted in the tenth year of that king, it returned to the crown again, and then it was by the same prince, settled on the abby of Childrens Langley, and was involved in the patrimony of that cloister, until the general suppression in the reign of Henry the eighth, and then it was granted in the thirty fifth year of that prince to Sir Thomas Moile and Sir Walter Henley, and they not long after conveyed their joint interest in it to Harfleet, who almost in our fathers remembrance, alienated it to Bargrave, from whom the same devolution brought it over to Solley, who not many years after, transmitted it by sale to Mr. John Ward of London, whose widow, Mrs. Katharine Ward, now holds it in right of dower.

Goldstanton in this parish, is a second place of note, and was as high as the beam of any evidence will guide me to discover the patrimony of Leybourn. Roger de Leybourn, who was in the register of those Kentish gentlemen who were pardoned by the pacification, called dictum de Kenelworth, for seeking to support with seditious arms the cause and quarrel of Simon de Montfort, held it in the fiftieth year of Henry the third, and from him did it descend to his grandchild Juliana de Leybourn, who

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dying without issue or alliance in the forty third year of Edward the third, this with Overland escheated to the crown, but was granted out again by Richard the second, to Sir Simon de Burley, who being attainted and convicted of high-treason in the tenth year of his reign, that prince linked it by a new donation to the abby of Childrens Langley. But yet I find that in the reign of Henry the fourth, Richard Cluderow (who was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year, and part of the fifth year of that prince, and then again in the sixth year of Henry the fifth) held it I suppose only as a lessee, and kept his shrievalty at this place; he was a man of no contemptible account in those times, as I shall discover more amply at Little Betshanger, which was his capital seat. But to return, after this manor had made its abode in the demean of the above-mentioned covent, until the dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, it was then torn off, and granted to Thomas lord Cromwell earl of Essex, upon whose attain, in the thirty second year of the abovesaid prince, it escheated back to the crown, and then it was granted in the thirty fourth year of Henry the eighth, to

Vincent Engham, Esquire, whose descendant Sir Thomas Engham, some few years since, transplanted his concern in it by sale into Mr. .... Courcelis of London.

Nevills Fleet in this parish, was more anciently called Butlers Fleet, as being parcel of the revenue of that family, and the book of Aid in the exchequer, which makes an enumeration of the ancient owners, mentions one Richard de Boteler, to have been its ancient possessor; but in the twentieth year of Edward the third, when that book was taken, William lord Latimer of Corbie, knight of the garter, and lord warden of the cinque ports held it; and in the thirty eighth obtained by the charter of that prince, a market to be held at Ash on the Thursday, and a three days fair at our Lady-day: and from him, as in divers records it is evident, did it acquire the name of Latimer's Fleet, but stayed not long under that title, for he determined in Eleanor, his daughter and heir, married to John lord Nevill, who in her right became lord of this manor, and from him did it contract the title of Nevils Fleet, and lay couched in the patrimony of this name until the beginning of Edward the fourth, and then it was alienated to Cromer, and James Cromer, in the eleventh year of Henry the seventh, alienated it to John Isaac, from whom not long after, it was brought over by purchase to Kendall, and in that name it fixed, until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated to Sir John Fogge, and he, before the end of that prince, conveyed it to Ralph, in which name it was resident until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was demised to Spracklin, and Sir Adam Spracklin, almost in times under our fathers cognisance, passed it away to Harfleet, in which family you may at this instant find it.

Molands in this parish, gave seat and surname to a family so called, who before the end of Edward the second were worn out, and then it became the possession of Harfleet, alias Septuans, who much improved the house with additional buildings, where the arms of this family do stand yet in panes of very old coloured glass, with this motto annexed, *Dissipabo inimicos regis mei ut paleam*; alluding either to their coat, which was three fans, such as they fan and winnow corn with, or else to William de Septuans who died in the year 1411, and warred, as the records of this family inform me, under Edward the third in France, and by his will registered in the prerogative office at Canterbury, which I mention for the novelty of it, he gives manumission or freedom to divers of his slaves or natives; and Sir William Septuans was his son, who lies buried in Christ-church in Canterbury, and as his epitaph on his tomb instructs me, died in the year 1448, and from him did the title stream in this name, until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then I find this seat in the possession of Robert Read; but it was not long out of the name, for about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, I find it re-invested again in Harfleet, and remains an eminent mansion of this family at present.

Many of this surname lie buried in Ash church, for those three altar tombs in the church yard, and those on each side of the north door, were the repositories or exchequers, that treasured up the remains of divers of this family, all which had their figures and arms insculped in brass, annexed to their sepulchres, which by the impression of times, and the assaults of sacrilegious hands are quite dismantled, and torn off.

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Wingham Barton is another eminent manor in this parish, which belonged to the arch-bishop of Canterbury; and when John Peckham founded his college at Wingham in the year 1282, there was an exhibition settled on that seminary or brotherhood, issuing out of this manor, from whence it is supposed by some, it contracted the name of Wingham Barton; though I rather conjecture it was called so from its situation, in opposition to another of that name, called Firmins Barton, lying by Canterbury. But to proceed, this continued archiepiscopal, until the twenty ninth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was exchanged by Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, with the crown, and rested there until queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Roger Manwood, whose son Sir Peter Manwood, passed it away by his trustees, not many years since, to Sir William Curteen of London, and he gave it in dower with his daughter married to Henry earl of Kent, who upon his decease, ordered it to be sold to discharge some debts, and was accordingly not long since, by his countess, conveyed by sale to Mr. James Thurbarne of Sandwich, one of the cinque ports, son of James Thurbarne, Esquire, a justice of the peace in this county in the reign of king James,

whose ancestors from 1331, have continued very eminent in the cinque ports, especially in Hasting and Romney, as also in Romney Marsh, as appears by divers ancient records. But the ancient manor-house was, in the fourth year of Edward the sixth, granted to Sir Anthony St. Leger; and his descendant Sir Anthony St. Leger of Boughton, about the beginning of king Charles, passed it away to Mr. Vincent Denn of Wenderton, who gave it to his nephew Mr. Thomas Denn, and he by testament settled it on his brother Mr. John Denn, who dying without issue, bequeathed it to be shared by his four sisters, by whom it is designed to be sold to pay debts and legacies.

Chilton lies likewise in Ash, and claims our remembrance, because it yielded a seat, and afforded a surname to William de Chilton, who held it at his decease, which was in the thirty first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 25. but after his exit, it dwelt not long in his name; for in the fourth year of Edward the third, William Baude died seized of it, as appears Rot. Esc. Num. 25. and here again the title was as fickle, and unstable, for in the thirty seventh year of Edward the third, I find the possession was departed from Baude, and cast into the patrimony of Thomas Wolton, who at that time held it at his death. Rot. Esc. Num. 13. But after this family went out, I find the inheritance more fixed and permanent, for by divers old court rolls that were taken in the latter end of Edward the third, I discover William de Septuans, whose successors were since called Harfleet, to be possessed of it, and from him is the property drawn through the successive series of so many descents to the Harfleets of this age, who are still entitled to the signory of it.

Hells is in the register also of those manors, which are within the circle of this parish, and gave seat and surname to a family of no shallow antiquity in this tract; Thomas de Hells obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Hells, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first; Bertram de Hells was lieutenant of Dover-castle in the reign of Edward the second, under Reginald lord Cobham, lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover castle: Gilbert de Hells of Hells court, was sheriff of Kent the thirtieth of Edward the third, and in this name did the property lodge until the reign of Edward the fourth, and then it was by sale, transplanted into Wroth, and the title there settled until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was by the same vicissitude, carried off to Peake, where the instant inheritance is resident.

Laverocks is another seat in Ash, possessed by worthy men of that name; one of them lies buried cross legged on the north side of the quire, with his arms placed on his shield; finally, after this family had for some descents, been proprietors of this place, it came to be possessed by Anthony Laverock, who deceased without issue male, so that his estate here came, the eighteenth of Henry the seventh, by Parnel his daughter and heir, to be possessed by Edward Monins, Esquire, and they both, not long after, passed it away to Peake, in whose posterity and name, the title is yet remaining.

Fleet is the last manor in Ash, which is ennobled by having (as high as any track of record can guide us to discover) the earls of Oxford for proprietors. Hugh de Vere

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Earl of Oxford held it at his death, which was in the forty eighth year of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 26. After him, it came down to Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, his son, and he likewise enjoyed it at his departure, which was in the twenty fourth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 62. In the first year of Edward the third, Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, was possessed of it at his discease. Rot. Esc. Num. 71. In ages of a nearer approach unto us, Robert de Vere, duke of Ireland and earl of Oxford, held it, but he attempting to support the waning and declining prerogative of Richard the second, against the assaults which some of the potent nobility endeavoured to make upon it, in the tenth year of that prince's government, was ruined in a battle commenced near Burford, after which he, attempting to decline the fury of that field by flight, was unfortunately drowned. After whose untimely decease, this manor being folded up in the rest of his estate, was seized upon, as forfeited to the crown in the sixteenth year of Richard the second. Rot. Esc. 34. parte secunda. But it seems it was restored by Henry the fourth; for Matilda, this man's mother, wife of Thomas earl of Oxford, held it at her death, which was in the fourteenth year of Henry the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 17 from whom it passed along to John earl of Oxford, who

so vigorously asserted the interest of the house of Lancaster at the battle of Barnet, where his valour was ruinous to him, for his army was discomfited, and the great leader of that day, the earl of Warwick, disdainful to outlive so black and sinister a misfortune, found his sepulchre in the carnage of that field, but he was reserved for better times, having provided for his safety by a timely escape; he was afterwards attainted in the twelfth year of Edward the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 28. and this manor, as an escheat, annexed to the royal revenue, where it made its abode until the first year of king Henry the seventh, and then that prince, after Bosworth field (where he obtained both the crown and victory together, principally by the courage and conduct of the abovementioned earl) restored this manor to this worthy person, as a reward of so great obligations; and in this family did it afterwards, without any interruption, continue until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then Gursion, which was a principal part of it, was sold by John earl of Oxford, to Hamon, and the residue of this manor to Peyton and Harfleet; in which families, the interest of this manor, thus resolved and split into parcels, is at this instant resident.

Richborough Castle, called sometimes Ratesborough, though now it be only eminent by those majestic ruins, which at distance court the eye of the beholder; yet in ages of a more reverend inscription, it was of more considerable account. Ausonius in his poems, mentions one Flavius Sanctius, who was commander in chief of this fortress, as appears by this distich.

Militiam nullo qui turbine sedulus egit,  
Præside lætatus quo Rutupinus ager.

And in another distich he records the death of his uncle Contentus, who paid the last debt he owed to nature at this place, upon whose ashes he drops this memorial.

Et patruos elegia meos reminiscere cantus,  
Contentum tellus quem Rutupina tegit.

If you will hear more of this castle, I shall represent it to you, as Leland describes it in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, at which time he visited several parts of this county. The site of the old town or castle (says he) is wonderful fair upon a hill, the walls which remain there yet, be in compass about almost as much as the Tower of London; they have been very high, thick, strong, and well embattled; the matter of them is flint, marvellous and long bricks, both white and red, of the British fashion; the cement was made of the sea, and small pebbles. There is a great likelihood that the goodly hill about the castle, and especially towards Sandwich, hath been well inhabited, corn grows there in marvellous plenty; and in going to plough, there hath been time out of mind, and now is found more antiquities of Roman money, than in any place else of England.

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Surely reason speaks that this should be Rutupinum, for besides the name somewhat toucheth the very near passage from Calais cliffs, or Calais was to Ratesborough and now is to Sandwich, which is about a mile off, though now Sandwich be not celebrated, because of Goodwin Sands, and the decay of the haven: there is a good flight shot off from Ratesborough toward Sandwich, a great dike cast in a round compass, as if it had been for defence of men of war; the compass of the ground within is not much above an acre, and it is very hollow by casting up the earth: they call this place their little borough. Within the castle is a little parish church of St. Augustine, and an hermitage; I had antiquities of the hermit, who is an industrious man. Not far from the hermitage is a cave, where men have sought and digged for treasure, I saw it by candle within, wherein were conies; it was so streight that I had no mind to creep far in. In the north side of the castle, is an head in the wall, now sore defaced by the weather; they call it queen Bertha's head; near to that place, hard by the wall, was a pot of Roman money lately found. Thus far he. The ancient lords of the castle, were the earl of Oxford; and Edward earl of Oxford, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Gant.

ASH juxta Faukham, lies in the hundred of Acstane, anciently written Clacstane, and was in elder times, the inheritance of the Latimers. William de Latimer held it in the thirtieth year of Edward the first, and by the royal indulgence of that prince, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Ash, which he held of Roger de Mowbray. After the Latimers were worn out, the noble family of Grandison suc=



ceeded in the possession, and Otho de Grandison held it, as appears by the Book of Aid, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black prince knight, by the fourth part of a knight's fee: but after this, there is little evidence that it was long constant to the interest of this family; for in the reign of Richard the second, it was wrapped up in the demean of Cressel, a family that were intituled to a large revenue, both at Chiselhurst, Hartley, and elsewhere in this track; but it seems took no deep root at this place, for in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, the knights hospitalers held it at the marriage of Blanch, that prince's daughter, but whether they had it by purchase or exchange from Cressel, the record in the exchequer does not specify: and here it became fixed, and was esteemed as one of the principal manors, relating to their order, in this county, until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then, in the thirty seventh year of that prince, not without much contest and struggling, this was with the rest of their revenue surrendered, and being made parcel of the income of the crown, king Edward the sixth, about the second year of his reign, granted it to Martin Bowes, and he had issue William Bowes, who determined in two daughters and co-heirs; Elizabeth married to William Buggin, and Anne married to Sir Edmund Fowler, who divided his patrimony; and this, upon the partition, was united to the revenue of Fowler, and continues still to acknowledge his descendants for proprietors.

South-Ash, is another manor in this parish, which had owners in elder times, of that name; for in the Book of Aid, I find that John at South Ash paid an auxiliary supply for his manor of South-Ash at making the Black prince knight; but it is possible, this man's original name was Hodsoll; and borrowed this name from the situation and position of his habitation, which was Southerly; and that which induces me to this conjecture is, that upon a perusal of the original evidences, I find that the family of Hodsoll, was long before possessors of this manor, a particular series of whom I could discover to the reader, but that I will not clog this treatise with superfluities, nor is this manor departed from the signory of this name, but is at this instant involved in the patrimony of Mr. William Hodsoll.

Hodsoll and Halywell are two other little manors in Ash, whereof the last hath been the seat of Hodsoll, who borrowed their surname from the first, many hundred years; and in relation to this, assumed the bearing of three stone fountains, two and one, such as used to be dedicated to some saint, and were frequented anciently by such who reposed any confidence in his virtue and miraculous efficacy, whose name they bore; and of this figure was that stone well at Brackley, commonly called St. Rumbal's Well, much frequented in the misty times of popery, for the cure of sore eyes, and other maladies, and that this was the ancient coat of

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this family is most certain; for William Hodsoll, who in several deeds writ himself Esquire, both in the reign of Henry the fifth and Henry the sixth, sealed with the three stone fountains only; but now I know not upon what consideration the fess wavee is added; so that the coat is now azure, a fess wavee, between three stone fountains, argent: but to proceed, as Hodsoll and Halywell have for so many generations owned the title of that name and family, so hath no vicissitude of time so carried off the propriety of them, but that they are still the present demean of Mr. William Hodsoll.

North-Ash is another manor in this parish, which hath been accounted a limb of the great manor of St. John's at Sutton at Hone, and upon the suppression of the Alberge of the knights hospitalers here in England, who for many hundreds of years had owned this manor, was by Henry the eighth granted to Sir Maurice Dennis, by whose coheir it came to Wrote, and he passed it away to Thomas Smith Esq; who upon his decease, gave it to his second son Sir Thomas Smith, in whose descendants the interest of it is wrapped up at present.

Scotgrove is the last place of account in Ash: it was in ages of a very high ascent, the estate of a family called Torpell. Mabilia Torpell, widow of John de Torpell, who held it in the reign of Henry the third, died in the enjoyment of it, in the time of Edward the first, as appears Rot. Esc. Num. 27. In the times of a lower gradation, I find this family vanished, and then this manor came to be under the signory of Catwick, and John de Catwick held it, and paid respective aid for it, (as appears by the Book of Aid) at making the Black prince knight. After this family had de-

serted the possession of this place, I discover, by some old deeds that commence from the reign of Richard the second, that the Frankenhames were lords of the fee, who, before the latter end of Henry the fifth, were gone out, and then it came to own the propriety of Poynings, and went along with this name until it devolved to Sir Edward Poyning, who had it in possession at his death, which was in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and after a solemn and signal inquisition taken in the fourteenth year of that monarch, to discover if there could be traced out any collateral alliance (for he died without any lawful issue) that could justify a claim to his estate, and there none appearing who could do it, this manor, with much other land, escheated to the crown, and then the abovesaid prince granted this to William Lewknor Esq; in which family it had not rested many years, when it was conveyed by sale to Vane, from whom, by the like vicissitude in that age we call our fathers, it came to be the possession of Walter of Faukham.

The priory of St Helens in London, had some interest at South-Ash in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, as appears by the rolls of Blanch Lands kept in the exchequer, but whether upon the suppression it were wrapped up in the manor of Ash, and so conveyed in the general concession or grant, as being a perquisite, I am uncertain.

ASHFORD, in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, was one of those manors which was marshalled under the jurisdiction and propriety of the eminent family of Crioll. Simon de Crioll, in the twenty seventh and twenty eighth year of Henry the third, obtained a charter of free warren to his manor of Ashford, and Mawde de Crioll, his widow, died seized of it in the fifty second year of Henry the third, and left it to her son William de Keriell, who, as William Glover, Somerset, herald out of an old court roll does attest, confirmed that change his mother had designed in her life time, and passed away this manor to Roger de Leybourne for Stocton in Huntington-shire, and Rumford in Essex, and from him did it come down to his grandchild Juliana de Leybourn, sole heir of Roger de Leybourne, whose second husband, William de Clinton earl of Huntington, was possessed of it at his death, which was in the twenty eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 59. And after him Juliana his countess, deceasing without issue, and without kindred, in the forty third year of the abovesaid prince, it escheated to the crown, and this monarch desiring to enhance the revenue of the church rather than his own, gave it to the deans and canons of St. Stephen's in Westminster, which donation was confirmed by Richard the second, in the twelfth year of his reign, and afterwards more amply ratified with all the franchises it was anciently fortified with, in the twenty first year of his rule, as

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appears Pat. 1. Memb. 35. par. 3. and with it conveyed divers lands here at Ashford and elsewhere, which were formerly relating to the family of Leybourne; but being granted to Sir Simon de Burleigh, returned back to the crown upon his attain, which was in the tenth year of the abovesaid prince, and here in the revenue of this cloister did it make a secure abode, until the rough hand of Henry the eighth, like that of Æolus, scattered such a tempest upon these and all other cloisters, that they shrunk into a common dissolution, and then this manor, being in that whirlwind ravished from the church, and transplanted into the crown, was by that monarch granted with Westure (which was purchased by Cardinal Kempe of Aldon, about the twenty eighth of Henry the sixth, and settled on the college of Wie, and came to the crown upon its suppression) to Sir Anthony Aucher and Joseph Polsted, and they, not many years after, conveyed them by sale, to Sir Andrew Judde, who expiring in a female heir called Alice, she, by marrying with Sir Thomas Smith, annexed them to his revenue, and from him is both Ashford and Westure come down by descendant right to his great grandchild, Philip Viscount Strangford.

Repton, in this parish, was the seat of the ancient family of Valoigns. Waretius de Valoigns, in a deed, whereby on Ash-wednesday in the forty fifth year of Henry the third, he releases some services due to his manor of Swerdlin, to Cecilia widow of Richard Greenbold, writes himself of Repton. Rualonus de Valoigns was sheriff of Kent, in the first year of Henry the second, and dwelt sometimes at Repton, and sometimes at Tremworth. The last of this family at this place was Waretius de Valoigns, who concluded in two daughters and coheirs; one of them, by marrying Sir Thomas Fogge, brought this and much other land to own the title of that family, and they afterwards made this their seat, which was productive of persons as eminent for piety, prudence and valour, as any in this county, either in times which

have been tempestuous, or else in those which have been calm and serene, in one of which was Sir Joseph Fogge, comptroller of the house, and privy councillor to Edward the fourth, who founded a college here at Ashford, consisting of a prebendary as the head, and of certain priests and choristers as members. But to proceed; after this seat had so many generations acknowledged the interest of this family, it was in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated by George Fogge to Sir Michael Sonds, and he conveyed it to John Tufton Esq; whose great grandchild, the right honourable John Tufton, earl of Thanet, is the instant lord of the fee.

There was a perpetual chancery here at Ashford, in a certain chapel dedicated to the virgin Mary, which was founded by William de Sodington, for which he had a concession from royal authority, as appears Pat. 17. Edw. 3. parte secunda, Memb. 37. The land which was tied to support it, lay in Ashford, Willesborough, Charing, and Kennington, which upon the suppression being dispersed into many hands, I shall decline any farther labour to trace out.

Ashford had a market upon the Saturday, which was allowed by the judges itinerant to William de Leybourn, in the seventh year of Edward the first, which being thus ratified and confirmed, continueth in force upon that day, even at this instant.

I had almost forgot Merdall, which is the last manor in this parish. It was included in the patrimony of Corbie, until Robert Corbie of Boughton Malherbe concluded in a daughter and heir of Joan Corbie, married to Sir Nicholas Wotton, twice lord mayor of London; by which marriage, all that vast demeasne which acknowledged the interest of that family, came to be united to this, and continued many years couched in their inheritance, until at length, that is, almost in our grandfathers remembrance, it devolved by sale to Hawker of Challock, a family which had been planted there with a deep root in antiquity, many hundred years, and from this family the same mutation brought it over to Sprot, who, not many years since, conveyed his right in it to Sir Thomas Finch, earl of Winchelsea, father to the right honourable Heneage, earl of Winchelsea, now lord of the fee.

ASHURST, or Ashenhurst, in the hundred of Watchlingstone, with the manor of Buckland, as an appendage annexed to it, was anciently the demeasne, as the Dooms-day text informs us, of Philip de Gerund, and Hugh de Gerund this man's successor, was seized both of Ashurst and Buckland, in the twenty sixth year

57 <Ashurst> <Eythorne> <Bapchild>

of Edward the first, as appears Rot. Esc. Num. 71. But after this family determined in a daughter and heir, who marrying with Chalfhant, made that family possessors of the fee, and Henry Chalfhant, as we trace by record, held it in the forty fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. And after they went out, it came, about the beginning of Henry the sixth, by the heir general of this family, to be possessed by Hadde, whose successor, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, conveyed it to Waller of Grome-bridge; and from this family, after some interval of time, it was carried off by sale, to Thomas earl of Dorset, lord treasurer of England; and from his descendant, the title went away not many years since, by the same fatality, into Rivers of Chafford, in which family the title both of Ashurst and Buckland, are at this instant placed.

Chafford next invites our survey; it was, for some descents the possession of the Roes or Rows, streamed out from that original fountain which was of this name and family at Roes place in Alresford; and from these two those numerous branches have issued out, which, like so many divided rivulets, have dispersed themselves into so many parts of this nation; but though this family be here (like a river licked up by a summer sun) shrunk into oblivion, and the name wholly dried, yet hath the title of this seat found out another channel: for by sale, it now flows in the name of Rivers, and Sir John Rivers, baronet, grandchild to Sir John Rivers, knight and baronet, descended from the ancient family of Rivers of River-hill in Hants shire, upon the late decease of his brother Sir Thomas, is now proprietor of it.

AYTHORNE, in the hundred of Eastry, was given to the monks of Christ Church, by Alfred, arch-bishop of Canterbury, in the year 824, in exchange for the manor of Berham, but the principal honour which did accrue to it was, that it was parcel of that estate which claimed the family of Badelesmer for inheritors, and lay involved in their demeasne until the unfortunate attainder of Bartholomew lord Badelesmer in the reign of Edward the second, when being by this tempest rent off

from his name and patrimony, it made its abode in the revenue of the crown, until king Edward the third granted it to Sir John de Bondon, who in the eighteenth year of that prince, conveyed it to John de Gildesburgh. After whose exit it came by devolution to be possessed by Thomas Holben, who in the twelfth year of Richard the second, passed it away to Robert Dane; and now there being an interval or gap in the private evidences, which have an aspect on this place, I must next represent Robert Webbe possessor of it, who in the fourth year of Henry the sixth, transplanted his interest in it by sale, into John St. Clere, and he not long after, by the same fatality, transmitted it to Sir Walter Hungerford, who about the latter end of Henry the sixth, settled the right and title by sale, on Sir Thomas Brown of Bechworth castle in Surry, comptroller of the house to the aforesaid prince, who in the twenty-seventh of his reign, as appears, Pat. 27. Hen. 6. Num. 37. obtained the grant of a fair to be held yearly on St. Peter's day, and in this family the propriety and title was fixed till the sixteenth of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed by Thomas Brown Esq; to Francis Santon, and his son, by the same vicissitude, in the twenty eighth of the abovesaid princess, alienated it to Sir William Rither of London; who dying without issue male, settled this manor on Susan, one of his co-heirs, first married to Sir Thomas Cæsar, after to Mr. Thomas Philipott, second son to Sir John Philipott of Compton Wascelin in Hantshire, and she, upon her decease, gave it to her only son, by her second husband, Mr Villiers Philipott, who hath lately conveyed it by sale, to Mr. John Brett of London.

B.

BABCHILD, but in all ancient records, escripts, and all other monuments of antiquity, written Becanceald, lies in the hundred of Milton, and did, as old deeds testify, relate to the Savages, a family whom elder times represented under a character of much eminence in this tract. Arnold de Savage held this manor in the forty-ninth of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 39. Parte secunda, and in this name, the title stood some years, until it sunk into a daughter and heir, who being wedded to

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William Clifford, branched out from the Cliffords of Clifford's-castle in Herefordshire, the title of this manor, with the name, was folded up in this family; and here, for some interval of time, it continued, until that common fate which shifts and changes the scene of majesty itself, as well as the face of more subordinate interests, transferred this manor by purchase, to William Coting, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, from whom, not long after, it passed away by the same fatality, to William Biggs, ancestor to that gentleman his descendant, both of the name and family, who is now in the enjoyment of it.

There was at Radfield in this parish, anciently a free-chapel, which is now only obvious to the eye, by that mass of ruins in which at this present it seems to lye gasping, the founder and uses are both unknown; upon the suppression, the demean which was annexed to it, was by the concession of Edward the sixth, instated on John Bateman, and his successor John Bateman, hath, by testamentary donation, not long since conferred it on John Bateman of Wormesell.

There was another oratory or chapel, whose ruins are yet visible, near the verge or margin of the road, and here pilgrims who did usually visit the shrine of Thomas Becket, at Canterbury, frequently entered to offer up their orisons, before they advanced any farther in their pilgrimage; the Oratory, as far as possible conjectures guide us to assert, was erected in memory and celebration of that counsel held here by arch bishop Brighthwald under Withredus, or as some copies have it, Muthredus, king of Kent, in the year 692. He that will read the results and decrees of this council, may have recourse to Sir Henry Spelman's Concilia Anglicana, or his collections of the English councils, where he shall find the constitutions and canons of this synod, represented in an exact register to posterity.

Potts Court in Babchild, vulgarly called Petts Court, was parcel of the demean of the priory of Dertford, as appears by an inquisition taken in the eleventh year of Edward the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 69. and continued united to it until the suppression in the reign of Henry the eighth, and then it was cast into the revenue of the crown where it lay, until Edward the sixth, in the last year of his reign, granted it to Sir Thomas Cheyney, whose son Henry lord Cheyney, about the thirteenth year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Richard Thornhill, which Richard was father to

Mr. Samuel Thornhill, grandfather to Sir Timothy Thornhill and Sir Joseph Thornhill, and great grandfather to Colonel Richard Thornhill, eldest son of Sir Timothy, which Colonel Richard is lately deceased, and Charles Thornhill Esq; son and heir of Sir John now surviving, whose great grandfather Mr. Richard Thornhill, above mentioned, purchased Mere Court in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, and Potts Court, Bradhurst, Queen Court, in Ospringe, Pitstock, and Hartie, in the thirteenth year of that princess, of Sir Henry Cheyney, and made his son Samuel, joint purchaser with him, in whose descendant line the propriety of it is yet continuing.

Morris Court, is a third place of note in Babchild: in elder times it gave seat and surname to a family of that denomination, as appears by the ancient muniments of this seat, but before the latter end of Henry the fourth, this family was vanished, and then I find the Enghams settled by purchase in the inheritance, and John Engham, as appears by ancient court-rolls, held it in the reign of Henry the fifth and Henry the sixth, and after him did the title, by successive inheritance, transmit itself to his posterity, even until those times which grew near our grandfathers remembrance, and then it was by sale, translated into Wolgate, whose ancestors had their habitation at Wolgate Green in Throuley; and after it had for some years acknowledged this family for proprietors, it was conveyed to Tilghman descended from Tilghmans of Snodland, from which name it was again by as sudden a transmission alienated to John Castlock of Shepey, allied to John Castlock the last abbot of the priory there, at the suppression of it; and this name being lately here by defaultance of issue totally extinguished, the heirs of this family, as Knowler and others, so designed by testament, do now possess it.

BADELESMER, in the Hundred of Feversham, was the seat of that family, which for the great sway and influence they had once in this country, although they have their existence now only in annals and history, deserve a serious remembrance; Giles lord Badelesmer, as the annals of St. Augustins instruct me, was slain in the year

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1258, in a battle against the Welsh, whilst he, by endeavouring to unite them to the English scepter, attempted to assault their liberty, and they as vigorously asserted it. Guncelin de Badelesmer died possessed of this manor in the twenty-ninth year of Edward the first, as appears Rot. Esc. Num. 50, and lies buried in Badelesmer church with his portraiture cross-legged, cut in wood, and so much left of his name, as discovers to us that it is he who lies here interred; and although there hath such a vast interval or decursion of time intervened since his sepulcher, yet neither hath time, nor our modern zeal, more fierce and ravenous than that, so defaced it, but that the effigies insculped cross-legged, is yet obvious and visible, and this I believe will sufficiently refute the opinion of the vulgar, who believe this figure on the tombstone to be the representation of some giant; and this Guncelin had issue Bartho. lord Badelesmer, that opulent and powerful baron of Kent, who was witness to the charter of Edward the second, by which he confirms the franchises and privileges of the city of London, in the twelfth year of his reign, and there subscribes himself steward of the king's hostell, and was certainly a very eminent person; for in the year 1316, when Sir Richard de Rodney was invested with knighthood by the aforesaid prince, the ceremony of putting on his spurs was performed by Maurice de Berkley, and Bartholomew de Badelesmer, but he had not long sworn to this dimension of power, but there arose a tempest which blasted all his blooming glories, for Isabel, wife and queen to Edward the second, having by several good offices performed between her husband, and his disobliged barons, so becalmed and softened all their animosities, that they became intombed in a mutual pacification, was so inflamed at her denial of lodging, and accomodation in Leeds castle, by Thomas Colepeper the castellan, under Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, that she egged and pushed on the king to a revenge, which was done so effectually, that the death of the castellan was the expiation of so unfortunate an insolence, and the loss of the head of the lord Badelesmer, taken prisoner not long after, near Pontfract, and the forfeiture of his estate, paid the price of his ambition; and thus this magnificent baron, who like a straight and procere elm grew tall in title, and like its luxuriant branches, did spread in the extent of his power and revenue, was by this storm supplanted, and his patrimony broken to pieces, being gathered up by escheat into the royal demean; and in this shipwreck did this family lye involved, until the second year of Edward the third, and then the indulgent munificence of that prince, buoyed it up out of those ruins,

wherein it appeared almost to have been sunk, and by patent, restored him his estate here and elsewhere; and he, in a thankful acknowledgment to heaven for his restitution, according to the piety of those times, erected here a house for black canons, or canons of St. Augustines, as the record, Pat. 13. Edw. 3. Memb. 6. doth amply testify, and died in the twelfth year of Edward the third, and left his estate to his only brother Giles lord Badelesmer, who dying without issue, his four sisters, Margery first married to William Rosse lord Hamlake, and then remarried to Thomas Arundel; Margaret married to Sir John Tiptoft; Elizabeth first married to William Bohun earl of Northampton, and afterwards to Edmund Mortimer earl of March; and Maude, espoused to John Vere, earl of Oxford, became his co-heirs, and that land here at Badelesmer, which was not before settled on the monastery, upon the partition was knit to the patrimony of Vere, and he died possessed of it, in the thirty fourth year of Edward the third, and left it with the title of baron Badelesmer, to his successors, one of which was Joseph earl of Oxford, who was attainted in the twelfth year of Edward the fourth, for supporting the house of Lancaster, at the battle of Barnet, but was restored both in blood and estate; but he never was possessed of this manor, for I find that upon the suppression of this cloister at Badelesmer, it escheated to the crown, and then Henry the eighth granted it to Sir Robert Southwell, and he in the second year of Edward the sixth, alienated it Sir Anthony Aucher, and he upon his decease gave it to his son Joseph Aucher, who dying without issue male, Ann his sole inheritrix, brought it with her to her husband Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who about the middle of queen Elizabeth alienated it Sir Michael Sonds, and from him is the instant signory devolved to Sir George Sonds, knight of the bath.

There is another manor in this parish of Badelesmer called Goddisland, which gave seat and surname to a family which formerly had their mansion at this place, and John de Goddisland is mentioned in the book of Aid to have held it in the twentieth of Edward the third; and when, after some flux of time, this name was ebbd away

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from this place, the Atwoods succeeded, so styled from their habitation, near the wood; and Robert Atwood died seized of it in the sixth of Richard the second, and when this family began to decay, the Sawyers came in and were possessors of this place; but long the fee was not settled in this name, for the title, about the beginning of Henry the seventh, was engrafted by purchase on Cheyney, from which family by the like current, it flowed about the beginning of queen Elizabeth into Snode, and from them not many years since, it was by sale wafted over to Franklin.

BARHAM, in the hundred of Kinghamford, gives name to that spacious plain, where the Britons encountered Cæsar and his army, at his first landing at Deal, and and after a signal conflict, repelled them back to their ships. The old family of Fitz-Urse, where formerly lords of this manor, and resolved into the name of Berham, after such time as one of them called Randolph Fitz-Urse, being ringleader of three cavaliers of the king's court, had impiously assassinated arch-bishop Becket. The fact being so barbarous in the estimate of those times, that flying into Ireland he abandoned the name of Fitz-Urse, and took that of Mac-Mahon, as Mr. Camden notes. Certainly, as he was the actor, and thereby more stained than the rest, so was he much more culpable, because he held this manor of Berham of the see of Canterbury, by the service of half a knight's fee, so it appears by the record of the Aid kept in the exchequer, and paid in the twentieth year of Edward third; yet did not this name vanish at this place, but still was enforced, and multiplied into many descents from whom issued gentlemen of a prime and eminent note in this track, until lately that fate which shuffles both families and kingdoms into disorder and oblivion, hath torn this manor now from this name, and by purchase brought over the property of it, to Dr. Charles Fotherby, father to Sir Joseph Fotherby now possessor of it.

Shelvingborough is a second manor in this parish, not to be waved in this survey, because it was sometimes one of the seats of John de Shelving, who held it in the seventeenth year of Edward the second; but this family determining not long after, in a daughter and heir, she by marrying with Haut, annexed this manor to the patrimony, and in this name the title was carried along by the clew of many descents, until it devolved to Sir William Haut; who about the latter end of Henry the eighth, concluded in two female co-heirs, whereof Elizabeth was married to Sir Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, who brought this along with her to that family, and he about the beginning of Edward the sixth, divested himself of the possession, and by

sale transmitted his right in it to Mantle, where after the title had by some small continuance made some little respite, it was conveyed by sale to Carlisle; and here the propriety was as transient, for an alteration of the same resemblance, not many years since, made it the possession of Hopday.

Diggs Court in Burham, with the appendant manor of Brome, was the mansion of the ancient family of Digge or Diggs, which family about four hundred years since, that is about the reign of Richard the first, had the aldermanry of Newingate in Canterbury, as part of their inheritance, which it seems was not (as now) elective, but as freehold, either demisable or devisable, ad libitum of him or her that held the same; or if neither demised nor devised of him nor her in life time, but undisposed of at death, then as inheritance or fee, it descended to the next heir at law; these aldermen every one of them, kept within their own wards, and happily (as the Jews held theirs) had at their several gates a court assembled every three weeks, which was called of our ancestors, sometimes the Hundred-court sometimes the Wardmote, that is, the assembly or the meeting of the hundred of Ward, or the Portmote, as the jurisdiction was called Portsoka. John de Diggs was in the year 1258, a great benefactor to the Franciscans, who had then planted themselves at Canterbury, and purchased for them an island in that city called Bennewight. Emet insulam vocatam Binnewight in Cantuar. & locum portæ super Stourstreet, ad opus fratrum minorum, & tempore opportuno transtulit fratres ad illam, as Leland records of him. Adomarus de Digge, one of this house, was a judge in the reign of Edward the second, and possessed much land about Reynham and Newington, which still represents his name to posterity, and is called Diggs Marsh; John Diggs of Diggs Court, was sheriff of Kent, part of the second year of Henry the fourth, and John Diggs his grandchild, was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of Edward the fourth. His son and heir was John Diggs Esq;

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who likewise held that office in the eleventh year of Henry the seventh. This our sheriff had issue, James Diggs of Diggs Court Esq; who was likewise sheriff of Kent, the second year of Henry the eighth, and justice of the peace for this county, almost all the government of that prince, and he was ancestor to Thomas Posthumus Diggs, the last of this name who possessed it, and he, almost in our memory, passed away this seat to Captain Halsey of London, and he alienated it, not long after, to alderman Sir Thomas Soam of the same place, who lately transmitted it by sale, to colonel John Dixwell, for the use of his nephew Basil Dixwell Esq; of Brome, devolved by descent from James Diggs aforesaid, to Leonard Diggs Esq, grandfather to Sir Dudley Diggs of Chilham castle, master of the rolls 1637, and he not many years since, transplanted his right in it by sale, into Sir Basil Dixwell of Terlingham in Folkston, knight and baronet, whose collateral descendant, that is, his son and heir Basil Dixwell Esq; is now proprietor apparent of it.

BARFREYSTON, in the hundred of Eastry, was anciently held by Castle Guard of Dover castle, by John de Wybarne, and when this family had abandoned the possession, which was about the latter end of Henry the fourth, it came to be held by Harward, and when some years it had been wrapped up in the interest of this family, it was transmitted by sale, about the latter end of Henry the sixth, to Sir Thomas Brown of Bechworth castle; and here the title lodged, until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then part of it was passed away to Wood, but the manor itself rested, in Brown, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to Mr. Thomas Bois, whose successor, Mr John Bois, not many years since, alienated it to Sir Anthony Percival of Dover.

Hartanger and Soles are two manors, situated within the precincts of this little parish, which both had owners so surnamed: the first, after it had been folded up in the demean of Hartanger, until the reign of Edward the second, was by purchase, made the inheritance of Perot of Knowlton, and Thomas Perot died seized of it in the fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 31. but this name determining not long after, in a female heir, she by marrying Langley of Warwickshire, linked it to his patrimony; and William Langley, in right of this alliance, was possessed of Hartanger, in the fourth of Henry the fourth, and here it made its abode, until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then it was conveyed by sale to Sir Thomas Brown abovementioned, and his successor, about the beginning of Henry the seventh, passed it away to Richard Merrywether, in whose descendant line, the title flowed

with so even and undisordered a channel, that it is still wrapped up in (the interest of) this name and family. But the manor of Soles remained longer in the name and possession of that family. John Soles held it at his decease, which was in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 40. Parte secunda, whilst this family flourished under the notion of one of the most eminent in East-Kent, but continued here but until the fourth of Henry the fourth, and then I find it linked to the inheritance of Thomas Newbregge of Fordwich, and in his posterity did the propriety fix, until the beginning of Henry the seventh, and then the name expired, having transferred the interest they had in this place, to Mr. William Bois, ancestor to Mr. John Bois of Hode, who passed away some part of it not many years since, to Sir Anthony Percival, but transmitted the remainder to his son and heir Jos. Bois of Hode Esquire.

BRADHERST, with its two small appendant manors, Petesworth and Meresworth, vulgarly called Meresborough, is situated in the hundred of Eyhorne, and was formerly folded up in that wide and spacious revenue, which was the paternal inheritance of the lords Leybourn of Leybourne castle, the last of which was Roger lord Leybourne; in whom the name determined, as the estate did afterwards in his sole daughter and heir, Juliana de Leybourne, who having no issue surviving, neither by her first husband John de Hastings, nor her second, William de Clinton earl of Huntington, nor any who by a collateral relation could fortify, or furnish out a claim to her inheritance, these manors, which were a limb of it, were invested by escheat in the crown, and by Edward the third, were not long after settled on his newly erected abby of St. Mary Grace, on Tower-hill; and remained wound up in the revenue of that cloister, until the common dissolution did unravel

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it, and resigned these respective manors, with the remainder of their demesne, up to the crown; and here the propriety of them made its abode, until the third year of Edward the sixth, and then they were by the royal concession of that prince, passed away to Sir Thomas Cheyney, whose son and heir Sir Henry Cheyney, Lord Cheyney of Tuddington, alienated all his interest here, in the thirteenth year of queen Elizabeth, to Mr Richard Thornhill, which Richard was father to Mr. Samuel Thornhill, grandfather to Sir Timothy Thornhill and Sir Joseph Thornhill, and great grandfather to Colonel Richard Thornhill, eldest son of Sir Timothy, which Colonel Richard is lately deceased, and Charles Thornhill Esq; son and heir of Sir John now surviving, whose great grandfather, Mr. Richard Thornhill, above mentioned, purchased Mere Court in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, and Potts Court, Bradherst, Queen Court, in Ospringe, Pitstock, and Hartie, in the thirteenth year of that princess, of Sir Henry Cheyney, and made his son Samuel, joint purchaser with him.

The church of Bradherst, though thrust into an obscure and silent corner, amongst woods and other dark recesses, yet is ennobled with a monument of one of the knightly family of Northwood, which hath this epitaph endorsed; Hic jacet Willielmus Northwood, cum quatuor suis filiis, verus hæres Domini de Northwood. It is probable this family had some retreat or mansion here, at this parish, which upon their abandoning of Bradherst, languished away insensibly into ruin; so that the memory of it now is altogether neglected and forgotten.

BLACKMANSTON, in the hundred of Worth, had a family of good account in this tract, named Maring or Marins, which it called proprietors. Thomas de Marings held it at his decease, which was in the twenty sixth year of Edward the first, and so did Joan, widow of Roger Marins his son, as appears by two inquisitions taken after her decease, one in the sixteenth year of Edward the third, and the other in the twenty third year of that prince's reign; but after this I do not find this place long permanent in this family; for in the forty fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 10. Henry de Hauts of Hautsbourne died possessed of it, and from him did the title, by an even clew of succession, come down to Sir William Haut, son and heir of Sir Thomas Haut of Hautsbourne, who deceased without issue male; so that this manor of Blackmanston, upon the division of his estate, came by Joan, one of his two daughters and co-heirs, to fall under the possession and signory of Sir Thomas Wiat, but continued not long tied up in this demesne, for this noble, but unfortunate person, being engaged past all retreat, in a disastrous combination against queen Mary, was attainted of high treason, and beheaded in the second year of that



princess, and so this place being rent off by escheat from this family, it lay couched in the income of the crown, until the twenty ninth year of queen Elizabeth, and then it was granted by that princess, to Roger Parker Esq; who was one of her pages; and he not long after, conveyed it by sale to Sir William Hall of Bibbrook in Kennington, and his son Nevil Hall Esq; in the year 1630, alienated his right to it to Sir Edmund Hales, knight and baronet, whose grandchild Sir Edward Hales, now of Tunstal, baronet, upon the late decease of his grandfather abovesaid, succeeds in the possession of it.

BEKESBOURNE, in the hundred of Downhamford, distinguished from the other Bournes, which are linked to each other by the river of Leving, by the ancient owners name the Bekes. It hath long time been a member to Hasting in Sussex, and enjoyed like liberty with the cinque ports, which king Edward the third made declaration of by a special writ, in the forty third year of his reign. At which time, and long after, there was a small navigation out of the river of Stoure up to this place. Richard de Beke, as we read in Testa de Nevil, a book kept in the exchequer, held some lands here in great serjeanty, to find one ship each time king Henry the third should pass the seas.

The archbishop of Canterbury had here a small but elegant house, very commodious for their recess or retirement, the river brought so conveniently about it, that the trouts, the principal fish there, are plentifully useful unto it.

Garwinton, a manor and house elegantly and commodiously situated in this parish, was possessed by certain gentlemen that extracted their denomination from this seat, and held the same by knight's service of the abbot of St. Augustins near Canterbury,

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and Thomas de Garwinton, a man of valuable consideration on this side of the county, was eminent here in the twentieth year of Henry the third, and from him did it descend to his great grandchild Thomas Garwinton, in whom the male line determined; for he dying without issue in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, Joan his niece, married to Richard Haut, a cadet of the Hauts of Hauts-bourne, was, after a serious inquisition, found to be his heir general, and she having entituled her husband to this manor, his son Richard Haut, in the right of this alliance, was enstated in it; but he concluding likewise in a female inheritrix called Margery, she by marrying William Isaac of Hopland, knit this and much other land to his inheritance, whose successor by the same fatality, expired in a daughter and heir, first married to Sydley, and secondly to Sir Henry Palmer, on whom she settled this manor, and his descendant Sir Henry Palmer, passed it away to lieutenant colonel Prude slain at Maestricht father to Mr. Searles Prude, whose two daughters and co-heirs, have lately conveyed it to Mr. George Curtis.

BEKENHAM near Bromley, helps to give name to the hundred wherein it is placed, and of old time was held by gentlemen, called in Latin records de Rupella, in French de la Rochel, and in English Rokeley, and were in their original etymology, extracted from Rochel in France. Richard de Rokeley died seized of this manor, in the fifth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 6. and was succeeded in the possession by Philip de la Rokeley, and he held it likewise at his death, which happened in the twenty third of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 39. and he left it to his sole daughter and heir, Isolda de la Rokeley, married to William Bruin, by whom she had issue Sir Maurice Bruin, chamberlain to king Edward the third, honoured with the summons to parliament, as baron amongst the peers of this realm, who by a right derived from his mother, was possessed of this at his death, in the twenty ninth of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 38. and transmitted a wide and spreading revenue to his posterity here, at Southokenden in Essex, and at Roumere in Hantshire, which last was given in appendage to a younger son, from whom the Bruins of Athelhamp-ton in the county of Dorset, are lineally descended. But when after a fair continuance, this family had flourished at this place, the distaff prevailed against the spear, and Sir Henry Bruin's two daughters and co-heirs about the beginning of Edward the fourth, divided his inheritance, each of them having a first and second husband. Alice the eldest was married first to Robert Harleston Esq; of Essex, and after to Sir Thomas Heveningham: and Elizabeth, second daughter, was first married to Thomas Tirrell Esq; of Heron in Essex, and after his decease, to Sir William Brandon knight, who was standard-bearer to Henry the seventh at Bosworth field, where

he was slain in asserting his cause and quarrel against Richard the third, and he had issue by her Sir Charles Brandon duke of Suffolk, the flower and perfection of English chivalry in his time, who sometimes kept his residence at this place, (not as proprietor, but only as lessee; for the sole inheritance, upon the division of Bruin's estate, accrued to Tirrell) and here entertained Henry the eighth, with all the cunning pomp of magnificence, as he went to bestow a visit at Hever, on his discarded and repudiated wife, Anne of Cleve. But to go on; this manor, as I said before, being annexed to the patrimony of Thomas Tirrell, Humphrey Tirrell his grandchild to whom it descended, passed away one moiety of it, in the thirty fifth year of Henry the eighth, to Ralph Warren, and the other to Henry Parke; Warren alienated his proportion not long after to Bradbury, from which family, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, it came over by sale to serjeant Gent, who gave it in dower with his daughter to Sir George Dalston of Cumberland, who in our memory, conveyed it to Sir Patrick Curwin of the same county, and he some few years since, sold his interest in it to Sir Oliver St. John of Batricksey in Surry, who upon his decease gave it to his son then Mr. Walter, but now upon the death of his nephew, Sir Walter St. John, baronet; the other moiety by Joan, sole heir of the abovesaid Henry Parke, came to be the inheritance of Mr. Richard Leigh, descended out of Cheshire, whose successor, about the latter end of king James, alienated it to Sir Henry Snelgrave, from whom it descended to his grandchild Mr. Henry Snelgrave, who not long since, passed it away to Mr. Walter, now Sir Walter St. John, baronet, who lately hath exchanged the whole manor for other land with his brother Mr. Henry St. John.

Langley, in this parish, is a second seat of eminent account, which was in elder times

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the possession of John de Malmains, who obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands in Bekenham, in the twelfth year of Edward the second, which was renewed to Henry de Cliffe, to whom they accrued by purchase from Malmains, in the third year of Edward the third; but stayed not long in the tenure of this family, for before the going out of Edward the third, I find the propriety invested by sale in Langley, to which family the foundation of that house owes in part its original, on which they ingrafted their own name, which hath flourished under that title ever since, though the family be withered away and gone, the last of which name at this place was Ralph Langley, who with Roger Twisden, Stephen Monins, Edward Monins, John Endingham or Engham, Richard Endingham, John Berton of Cotmanton in Shouldon, John Berham, John Betenham, of Sherland in Pluckley, and others, gentlemen of prime rank in this county, were summoned to appear before Robert Poynings and John Perry, in the twelfth year of Henry the sixth, to disclaim the title of the house of York, and this Ralph died in year 1451, and ordered Langley and other demesns at Beckenham, to be sold for the discharging his debts, the purport and effects of which will were accordingly performed, and his estate at Bekenham and Langley, passed away by sale to John Violett, whose successors enjoyed it until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then it was conveyed to John Stiles Esq; who much enlarged the house, with a supply of buildings, and from him is it by descent, devolved to be the instant possession of his successor Sir Humphrey Stiles, knight and baronet.

Kelseys lies likewise in this parish, and may justly exact our notice. By deeds written in a character that hath an aspect upon the reign of Henry the third, John de Kelsey, William de Kelsey, and others of that surname, are represented to have an interest in this seat, and from hence it is probable the Kelseys of Surry, did derive their first extraction, however by the injuries of time they have been in succeeding generations cast under the umbrage of an obscure fortune: but to return, after this family had deserted the possession of this place, which was before the latter end of Richard the second, I find the Brograves stepped in, and by purchase, became lords of the fee, a family which in very old deeds writ themselves Burgrave, and sometimes Broughgrave, though now a more easy pronunciation hath melted it into Brograve, which represents the etymology of the name to have been in its original, perfectly Saxon. In the year 1479, there was a license granted (as appears by the records of Rochester) to William Brograve by the then bishop of that diocese, to erect an oratory or chapel at this manor-house of Kelseys, the vestigia or reliques of which are yet obvious to an inquisitive eye, and from this William did the title and possession in an even current, come down to Mr. Thomas Brograve, who being not many years since deceased, his widow Mrs. Martha Brograve now in respect of jointure, enjoys

the possession of it.

Foxgrove is the last place of account in this parish; it had in elder times proprietors of this surname: for I find John de Foxgrove paid respective aid for it in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the black prince knight. After this family, succeeded Bartholomew lord Burwash, and he held it at his decease, which was in the twenty ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 44. and from him it descended to his son Bartholomew lord Burwash, who in the forty third year of the abovesaid prince passed it away to Sir Walter de Paveley, and in his family it remained until the latter end of Richard the second, and then it was conveyed to Vaux of the county of Northampton, and there made its abode until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then it was alienated to John Green Esq; and he died possessed of it in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, and in this family did the title reside, until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then it was demised to Beversea, and Humphrey Beversea, I find held it in the eighteenth year of Henry the eighth, and his descendant passed it away to Luke Hollingworth, and he about the beginning of king Edward the sixth, sold his interest in it to alderman Sir Joseph Oliff of London, and he dying without issue male, Joan, married to John Leigh Esq; of Addington, was his sole heir, and in right of this alliance, did it come down to Sir Francis Leigh, late of East Wickham, whose widow dowager, the lady Christian Leigh, is now in possession of it.

BEXLEY, and in ancient deeds written Bekesley, lies in the hundred of Rokesley; and did, in times of elder inscription, belong to the archbishop of Canterbury, for

65 <Bexley> <Brasted>

anno 805, king Kenullus gave Bexley to archbishop Vefred ad opus ecclesiæ Christi; and his successor, to improve his interest in this manor, obtained a market to be held weekly at this place upon the Tuesday, and a fair upon Holy-rood-day yearly, in the ninth year of Edward II. as Pat. 9. Edw. 2. Num. 49. and here the title of it lodged until it came to the crown, in the twenty ninth year of Henry VIII. by exchange with Thomas Cranmer then archbishop, as appears by the records of Christ-church, and was passed away by king James, to Sir Joseph Spilman, his majesty's jeweller, originally extracted out of Germany, and he suddenly after conveyed it to that resplendent luminary of England's antiquities, William Camden, Clarenceux king of arms, who demised it by lease to Dr. Hether, and he alienated his said interest in it to Sir Francis Leigh of East-Wickham, whose lady dowager Christian Leigh, now enjoys it upon the same conditions: but the fee-simple was given by the last will and testament of William Camden, to the university of Oxford, towards the support and establishment of an history professor for ever.

Blinden Court, in old deeds written Bladindon, is the next object of our observation. It was in elder times the possession of Jordanus de Bladindon or Blindon, who about the first year of Richard II. passed it away to Walsingham, in which family it was resident, until the latter end of Henry IV. and then it was carried over by sale, to Ferbie of Pauls Crey, and one of this family, about the beginning of Henry VI. transported it by the same alteration, to William Marshal, and he not long after, conveyed it to Rawlins; but it settled longer here, for it remained linked to the demean of this name, almost until our grandfathers remembrance, and then it was by purchase made the inheritance of May, who not many years since, alienated his concern in it to Wroth, and it is at present part of the demean of Joseph Wroth, Esq; descended from the ancient family of the Wroths of Durants in Middlesex.

Hall-Place, in this parish, is the last place which summons our remembrance; it was in times of a more ancient character, the inheritance of a family called At-hall, the last of which was Thomas At-hall, who in the forty first of Edw. III. conveyed it to Thomas Shelly of Gaysam in Westerham; and in this name, after the title, like a fixed inmate, had for many generations dwelt, it came down to William Shelley, son of John Shelley Esq; who in the twenty ninth year of Henry VIII. passed it away to Sir John Champneys of London, from whom it descended to his grandchild Richard Champneys Esq; who some few years since, alienated his interest here to Robert Austin Esq; of London.

There is an old house by the margin of the river in Bexley town, which was the seat of an ancient family in this parish, called in deeds Lamienby, alias Sparrow, who (as appears by some seals affixed to private evidences,) bore for their paternal

coat, three chevrons, the last of which name was Thomas Lamienby, who determined in Agnes his sole heir, who was married to Mr. James Goldwell, extracted from the Goldwells of Great Chart, by whom and his heir, a fair mansion was erected in this parish, and in memory of this alliance, stiled Lamienby Goldwell, which with the residue of his estate, was left to his two sons John and George Goldwell; the last of which had issue, John Goldwell, now of Lamienby Goldwell Esq; to whom upon the decease of his uncle George abovesaid, and his father abovementioned, not only Lamienby Goldwell, but the estate which was annexed unto it, did by descendant right, entirely devolve.

BRASTED, in the hundred of Codsheath, was a manor which anciently related to the family of Clare, who were earls of Gloucester and Hertford, and held it in grand serjeanty of the archbishops of Canterbury, as they were originally, and de jure, steward to the lord archbishop at the time of his installment and inthronization. Richard de Clare died possessed of it in the forty seventh year of Henry III. and so did Gilbert de Clare in the twenty fourth year of Edw. I. Rot. Esc. Num. 107. from whom it came down to Richard de Clare, who in the nineteenth year of Edw. II. ended in Margaret, his sole heir, married to Hugh de Audley, who in her right was not only earl of Gloucester, but likewise lord of this manor, and enjoyed it in the twenty first year of Edw. III. but she likewise going out in a female heir stiled Margaret, she by marrying Ralph Stafford earl of Stafford, wedded the title to his inheritance, nor did it dislodge or depart from it until it escheated to the crown, upon the attainder of Edward Stafford duke of Buckingham, who was convicted of high treason in the thirteenth year of Henry VIII. where it had not long rested, but the

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abovesaid prince by patent, settled the right of it on Sir Henry Isley, who being interested past recovery, in the design of Sir Thomas Wiat, forfeited both life and estate to the crown, and then queen Mary, upon his attainder, granted it to John Lennard Esq; from whom it is now transported by descent, to his successor Francis Lennard lord Dacres, who is the instant lord of the fee.

There is another manor and seat in Brasted, venerable enough for its antiquity, anciently called Stockets, but now Crow-place; it was so denominated from the Stockets which first held it. Walter de Stocket and sometimes in old deeds written Stock and Stoke, possessed it by the fourth part of a knight's fee, in the time of Edw. I. and after this name began to languish into decay, it was by a daughter and heir brought over to Crow, extracted from the Crows of Norfolk, who from the reign of Richard II. held land hereabouts in a continued track of succession, even until our time, and then it was passed away from Mr. William Crow, father to Sir Sackville Crow, by sale to Sir Robert Heath, who died lord chief justice of the King's Bench, made so by the late king at Oxford, whose son and heir Edward Heath Esq; is now entitled to the signory of it.

BREDGE gives name to the whole hundred wherein it is placed, and in times of a more ancient date, was clasped up within that revenue, which did augment the paternal inheritance of Cheyney. Sir Alexander de Cheyney (as appears by ancient muniments) was possessed of this place in the reign of Edw. I. and is in the register of those eminent persons who accompanied that prince into Scotland, and was for his important service against that nation, made banneret by that king at Carlaverock, in the twenty eighth year of his government, and from him did it by the links of several descents (after a large efflux of time) devolve to Henry lord Cheyney, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to William Partrich Esq; whose grandchild Sir Edward Partrich, not many years since, conveyed it to Mr. William Arnold Brame of Dover, descended from one of this name who was secretary to Charles the first.

Blackmanbury is a noted seat in this parish, and had still the same owners in times of a more ancient character, as to some part of it, with Garwinton in Bekebourn, as namely the Garwintons, the last of which was Thomas Garwinton, who held it at his death, which happened in the eleventh year of Henry IV. and by the heir general of this family it devolved to Haut, issued out from the Hauts of Hauts-born and when this family determined, the female heir brought this seat to Isaac, whose ancestor (as appears by ancient muniments) had some estate here at Blackmanbury many ages before. After Isaac was worn out of a great part of this manor

of Blackmanbury, it became the possession of Henry Lawrence Esq; descended from the Lawrences of Dorsetshire, and he held it, as appears by a court roll in the thirty sixth year of Henry VIII. and in both these families was the joint propriety of of this manor resident until about the middle of the reign of queen Elizabeth, and then the whole demise was by mutual consent, passed away from Isaac and Lawrence, to William Partrich Esq; grandfather to Sir Edward Partrich, who not many years since, conveyed it to Mr. Arnold Brame of Dover, and he upon the foundation of the ancient fabrick hath erected that magnificent pile which obliges the eyes of the passenger, both to admiration and delight, and which like a Phoenix seems to have arose more glorious out of its ruins

Bereacre is a third manor in Bredge, which in the twenty first year of Edw. III. acknowledged itself the signory of Walter de Kancia, as appears by an inquisition taken at the same time after his death, Rot. Esc. Num. 7 but before the twentieth of Edw. III. this family was extinguished, and then it became the property of Bereacre, who assumed his name from this manor, and John de Bereacre paid a respective supply for it (as appears by the Book of Aid) at making the black prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. After Bereacre was gone out, the family of Litchfield was concerned in the possession, who likewise was lord of much land about Eastry, Tilmaston, and Betshanger, and in this name was the title placed until the twenty second year of Edw. IV. and then Roger Litchfield by sale, conveyed it to William Haut, and he had issue Richard Haut, who left only Margery, who by marrying William Isaac, resigned up this manor to the possession of that family; but it was not long planted in this name, for before the latter end of Henry VIII. it was alienated to Petit and Weeks, and they again not many years after, transmitted

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it by sale to Nailor of Renvill, from whom by the same devolution, it was almost in our fathers memory, carried down to Smith and Watkins.

BEAUVILLE alias BEWFIELD or Whitfield, lies in the hundred of Bewisborough, is a small parish mounted aloft on those hills that run from Barham down to Dover castle; the lord Giles Badesmer anciently held it, and gave it in frank marriage with his daughter Elizabeth, whom Joseph Northwood of Milton took to wife, and here it continued with the interest of this family several descents, until at last it devolved to John Northwood of Northwood in Milton aforesaid, from which name and family the fate of sale took it off, and brought it over about the latter end of Hen. VIII. to John Bois Esq; ancestor to John Bois Esq; of Fredvill, now living, and in this family the possession is still resident.

The manor of Linacre is seated within the circuit of this parish, and gave both seat and surname to a family so called, and from whom Linacre that composed the Latin grammar in the reign of Henry VIII. was lineally extracted; but this name here was expired, before the end of Edw. III. and then it came to be possessed by Malmains, by the female heir of which family it devolved to John Monins, and in this name for some decursion of time, the right and interest of this place did abide, until at length about the beginning of Henry VIII. the title by sale fell under the signory of Chelford or Chelford, from which name, the same fate conveyed it to Mr. John Bois, whose successor John Bois Esq; of Fredvill, by descendant right, does now enjoy it.

East and West BERMING, in the hundred of Twyford, was in times of a very high ascent, the possession of a family who derived their surname from this place. William de Bermeling died seized of it in the twenty second year of Edw. I. Rot. Esc. Num 27. and had likewise the advowson of the church, after him Robert de Bermelin held it in the thirty first year of Edw. I. Rot. Esc. Num. 123. When this family were gone out, the Freminghams came into the possession. John son of Ralph de Fremingham was in the enjoyment of them at his death, which was in the twenty third of Edw. III Rot. Esc. Num. 145. and so was his successor John Fremingham in the twelfth year of Henry IV. Rot. Esc. Num. 15. But after this I find no more of this name interested in the possession: the next family which was invested in the inheritance was the Pimpes, a name very eminent and no less ancient in this track, John Pimpe held them and Ledhock at his decease, which was in the ninth year of Henry V. Rot. Esc. Num 35. from whom the title streamed down to Reginald Pimpe Esq; in whose tenure they were at his death, which was in the sixteenth year of Henry VI. from Pimpe they were carried away by purchase, to the noble family of Stafford, dukes of Bucking=

ham and earls of Stafford, in which name they had not long continued, when Edward Stafford duke of Buckingham, in the thirteenth year of Henry VIII. being attainted of high treason for consulting with a wizard and a monk, touching the succession of the crown, forfeited his estate here and life together, and then king Henry VIII. by royal concession planted the propriety of these places in Sir John Rainsford, one of his privy counsel, and his son Henry Rainsford passed them away to Sir Henry Isley, and he having unfortunately enwrapped himself in the unhappy design of Sir Thomas Wiat, an attempt which was plausible and specious enough in the intention of it, as being enamelled and gilded over with the glorious pretences of asserting the orthodox religion, and defending the publick liberty against the eruption of strangers, but very ruinous and disastrous in the effects and consequences of it, as was very visible upon this worthy person, who in the second year of queen Mary, was attainted of high treason, and executed at Sevenoke, where he died with as much constancy and alacrity of spirit, as he lived with integrity; upon whose untimely exit, the crown seized upon the estate, and that princess, in the same year he was destroyed, granted his estate here to Sir Joseph Baker her attorney general, from whom the title and possession of Berming, is flowed down to his successor Sir John Baker baronet, who in right of this descent, is now entituled to the patrimony of both these manors.

Halls Place in this parish, gave seat and surname to a family so stiled, who in ancient deeds were written At-hall, from their habitation at some more eminent mansion, but before the end of Edw. III. this family was vanished, and the signory of this place surrendered to Colepeper of Preston, yet some part of it I find by old deeds, was passed away to Clive, which John Clive, about the seventh of Henry IV. alienated to Peter Colepeper, and he in the tenth year of the abovesaid prince, conveyed Hall Place to Sampson Mascall, originally extracted from a place called Mascalls in Brenchley;

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and in this family the possession was fixed until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to Alchorne, the cradle or foundation of whose family was at Alchorne in Rotherfield, and in this name is the fee simple of this place still resident, though the use and profits of it be for a long series of years, made over to Mr ... Cook late of Stepney, and his descendants.

\* West-Bere styled so in proportion to Bere in St. Margarets near Dover, with the appendant manor of Hopland, is situated in the hundred of Blengate, the last of which was not called so from the growth and production of hops there formerly planted, as the vulgar tradition affirms, the introduction of hops into this nation being not of that antiquity, but from a family exceeding ancient, who (as appears by deeds without date) were in elder times possessors of it; but before the end of Edw. I. this family was mouldered away, and then the eminent family of St. Lawrence, who likewise were lords of West-Bere by purchase from Hugh de Bere, and about the latter end of Edw. I. were invested in the tenure of both, claimed the property, and Thomas St. Lawrence, and John de Swalclive paid relief for their lands at West Bure and Hopland, as the Book of Aid instructs us, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. and in this family of St. Lawrence, did the propriety of both these manors reside, until the beginning of Henry VI. and then Hopland was conveyed to John Isaac, in which name it was resident until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conducted down by sale to acknowledge Tournay of Saltwood, and he by a like alteration, transplanted his interest in it not many years since into Steed, but West-Bure came by the daughter and heir of this family to Apulderfield, and again by the female heir of Sir William Apulderfield to Sir John Phineux, and he settled it on his eldest son by his second wife † the heir general of whose descendant not many years since, being married to Sir Jo. Smith, it is now become the possession of his grandchild Philip Vis. Strangford.

BERSTED, in the hundred of Eythorne, was the seat of the noble family of Crevequer, before they removed to Leeds castle, their seat and residence, and in doomsday book, where there is a particular account taken what manors Hamon de Crevequer was possessed of, in the twentieth of William the Conqueror, it is written Bristed, which could not be meant of Brasted, which was the signory and possession of Gilbert de Clare in the reign of Henry I. as appears by the records of Christ-church in Canterbury, where this earl and his successors are said to hold the manor of Brasted, as Senescalli Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis in sua inthronizatione, whereas this manor had never any such tenure united to it, and remained parcel of the patrimonial demean

of Crevequer, until Hamon de Crevequer having embarked himself in the quarrel of Simon de Montfort earl of Leicester, made shipwreck of his estate here at Bersted, which was wrung from him by Henry III. and though he was pardoned by the pacification of of Killingworth, made in the fiftieth of that prince's reign, yet I do not find that he ever was reinvested in Bersted, so that it remained in the crown until the tenth year of Edw. II. and then it was exchanged for other land with Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, but he having by an ambitious defection, forfeited this and much other land in the fifteenth of Edw. II. it lapsed back again by an early confiscation to the crown, and lay involved there until the fourth year of Edw. VI. and then being looked upon as wrapped up in the manor of Leeds castle, as indeed it had been an appendage unto that, and the castellans of it, it was granted at that time to Sir Anthony St. Leger, who about the latter end of king James, exchanged it with Sir Richard Smith, for Salmeston in the isle of Thanet, and two thousand pound in money to poise the exchange, and make the balance even, and his heirs not long after passed it away to Sir Thomas Colepeper of Hollingbourn, who hath lately enstated it on his son and heir Sir Cheyney Colepeper, who is intituled to the present signory of it.

Milgate in this parish, was anciently a manor, though now by intermission the homage is lost and shrunk into disuse and oblivion. It was in ages of more antiquity, the possession of a family called Coloigne. Robert de Coloigne was possessed of it,

\* St. Helens in East Berming, was an appendage to the revenue of St. Helens in London, but being snatched off by the general abolition of monastick cloisters, it was by Henry VIII. granted to Richard Calowhill, and he in the thirty fifth of that prince, alienated it to Gabriel Caldham, who conveyed it the thirty sixth of Henry VIII. to William Reve, whose descendant by the ordinary vicissitude of sale passed it away to Mr. Stephen Pearse, and he by the same revolution transmitted it to Sir Robert Brett, who dying the nineteenth of king James, gave it to Robert Lynd Esq; who joyning with Stephen Pearse in a concurrent sale, gave up the fee-simple to Sir Oliver Boteler, grandfather to Sir Oliver Boteler baronet, who now enjoys it.

† Her name was Elizabeth, daughter of William Paston of Norfolk.

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and the record taken after his decease, will inform you that he died seized of it in the thirty fifth of Edw. III. as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 52. parte prima, and in this name (melted by a softer pronunciation in times of a lower date into Coluney) did the property of it reside, until the reign of Edw IV. and then by an old survey of Bersted, I find it in the hands of Thomas Coluney, and this was in the fourteenth of that prince's reign, when most of this county was surveyed, but after him I find no more of this family entitled to the possession, for in the beginning of Hen. VII. it was annexed to the inheritance of Stonehouse, whose ancient seat was at Haselwood in Boughton Malherbe, where they flourished for many generations, even down unto our times, and was constant to the interest of that name, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was passed away to Sir Thomas Floyd or Fludd, receiver to that princess, and justice of the peace of this county, and he took off much from the obscurity of this seat, by adding an additional magnificence, and making the ancient fabrick swell into the dimensions, not only of a stately but an elegant pile, by an augmentation of building, and from him did it devolve by descent, to his grandchild Thomas Floyd, Esquire, who some few years since, transplanted his right in it by sale into ..... Cage, Esquire.

There is another manor in this parish, anciently called Stone-house now Moat-place Court, or House, which formerly lay couched in that revenue which gave support to the priory of Rochester, but upon the resignation of the demean of that cloister into the hands of Hen. VIII. it was by a new grant linked to that patrimony, which was to be subservient to the interest of the dean and chapter of Rochester, which had newly then from the authority and munificence of that prince, received its first establish=

ment. And certainly from this family did the Stone-houses both of Kent, Berkshire, and Buckinghamshire, either as tenants to the monks of the abovesaid cloister, or else as having some mansion or habitations of theirs, situated no far distance from this manor, anciently extract and spin out the primitive original of their name and family: this is my conjecture, which I leave to more sober and severer understandings, either to embrace, or else abandon and discard.

BRABOURNE in the hundred of Bircholt Franchises, was (as a record drawn out of an old manuscript, does engage me to affirm) the inheritance in times of a very ancient date, of a lady called Salburga; the words of the record that strengthen this assertion are these, *Pro vœda matrona nomine Salburga Domini de Brabourne testamentum constitit, ut qui tenerent Brabourne darent annuatim Sancto Augustino 40 ambras brasii,* (that is, forty measures of Malt) 4 boves, 15 arietes, 20 panes, 1 piss. butyri, 1 piss. casei, 4 carucatas lignorum (that is, four cart loads of wood) 20 gallinas, ea lege ut monarchi singulis diebus cantarent pro anima ejus, psalmum exaudiat te Dominus, &c. This record attests the abovesaid lady died about the year 864. In times which had an aspect upon the reign of Henry I. I find it in the tenure of Robert de Montfort, but it remained not long with the revenue of that family, for he determined in two daughters and co-heirs; Adelina, one of them, marrying Robert de Vere made it the demean of that family; but here that fate which attended the possession was as cursory and transient; for about the beginning of Hen. III. I find it folded up in the patrimony of \* William de Monchensey who expired in Joan his sole heir married to William de Valence earl of Pembroke, whose son Aymer de Valence, in the sixth year of Edw. II. obtained a charter to his manor of Brabourn, fortified with these privileges, viz. market, fair, and free warren, infangtheof and outfangtheof, toll and theam, pillory and tumbrell, with liberum namium, that is, freedom to take distresses; and he dying without issue, it came by Joan his sister and co-heir, to be possessed by John Comin earl of Badzenoth, and by the like fatality by Joan his daughter and co-heir, it was brought to confess the dominion of David de Strabolgie earl of Atholl; from whom it came down to his grandchild David de Strabolgie, who dying in the forty ninth of Edw. III. without issue male, Elizabeth married to Sir Thomas Percy, from whose heir general the lord Borough of Sterborough was descended, and Philippa married to John Halsham of Halsham in Sussex, shared his inheritance: but this manor upon the partition acknowledged her for inheritrix, and she was in possession of it at his death, which was in the nineteenth year of Richard II. Rot. Esc. Num. 31. and by a right derived from her, did John Halsham possess it at his decease, which was in the second year of Hen. V. Rot. Esc. Num. 8. and

\* In some old roll he is written Warin de Montchensey.

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from him did it descend to his son Sir Hugh Halsham knight, who deceased in the twentieth year of Hen. VI. and left only Joan Halsham his daughter and heir, who was married to Jo. Lewknor, Esquire, of Sussex; and so this manor by this alliance became the inheritance of that family, but made no long abode in their name, for the abovesaid Jo. Lewknor, and Joan his wife, in the fifth year of Edw. IV. passed it away to Sir John Scott, comptroller of the house to king Edw. IV. and from this Sir John Scott is Edward Scott, Esquire, by an uninterrupted channel of an original unquestioned descent extracted, who is at this instant, by a right transplanted unto him from many illustrious predecessors, entitled to the possession of this place.

Bircholt in this parish, is made more eminent in this account, because it affords a name to the whole hundred wherein it is situated; by deeds of a very reverend and venerable aspect, which by the obsolete and antiquated character seem to have been written in the time of king John, and Henry III. it is made the inheritance originally of a family called Bircholt; Stephen de Bircholt, possessor of this manor, paid respect=ive aid for it (as appears by the book of Aid) at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. but after the reign of this prince, I do not find it long permanent in this family, for in the reign of Hen. IV. several old court rolls discover to me one Halk or Hawke of Westhawks in Kingsnoth, to be planted in the possession, † and, as it appears by an old arbor radicalis or tree, from whence branch out the several descents of Hawk or Halk, and which is now preserved amongst the evidences of Bircholt house, this family is made to have been proprietors of this manor ever since the reign of Rich. II. nor is it yet departed from the name, but remains at



this instant knit to the rest of the demean of this ancient family.

Combe in this parish, was anciently the habitation of gentlemen of that surname, of considerable repute in this track; for Richard de Cumbe, and Simon de Cumbe his son, were assistants to Sir John de Northwood, when he was sheriff of Kent the twentieth of Edw. I. the last of this name was William de Cumbe, who dying without issue male in the reign of Rich. II. his sole inheritrix brought it to be possessed by her husband John Scot of Scots-hall, from whom it is now devolved to Edw. Scot Esq;

Heminge is the last place of account in Brabourne, which anciently yielded both seat and surname to a family of that appellation. I shall not need to make a recapitulation from deeds without date, of the antiquity of this family at this place, it is enough that I shall inform the reader, that after it had been in the possession of this name (as may be traced out by evidences) almost 300 years it was conveyed by Will. Heminge in the second year of Edw. VI. to Peter Nott, in which name the title is now resident.

BENENDEN in the hundred of Cranbrooke, was, as Domesday book informs me, if not all yet for a principal part of it, possessed by one Godricus or Godric, In Benenden mansit Godricus (says the record) & tenet XX. acres in Alodio suo. What this Alodium was, the Civilians, and out of them Sir Henry Spelman in his glossary, will inform you. Alodium est prædium liberum (saith he) nulli servituti obnoxium quod opponitur feudo, nam olim feuda non possent vendi sine consensu Domini. At Alodium vero est quod per omnem hæredum seriem discurrit, & cuivis e populo (etiam reclamante Domino) dare possit aut venundari. The result of all which is this, that the word Alodium signifies a free inheritance or patrimony, not chained up to any particular service whatsoever which has the least resemblance or symptom of servitude, either by custom, prescription or law, imprinted upon it, and may in English, be stiled free soccage, and which being transmitted and conducted along by an uninterrupted series of descent, from posterity to posterity, might be pawned, mortgaged or alienated to any person whatsoever; whereas on the contrary, lands which were feudal, could not be passed away without the lord's consent: and this agrees with the municipal laws of France, which anciently stiled those persons whose lands are fortified, with this tenure, Leuds Franks, id est nobiles nullius Domini imperio evocati, homines sui juris, non feudatilis, id est, nullo feudi gravamine coerciti vel restricti; that is, men of a noble extraction, free and

† Hampton is the last place considerable in Brabourne, and had, as appears by very ancient deeds, court rolls and other evidences, owners of that surname, which about the beginning of Henry the fifth, dislodged from this place, and surrendered the possession to Shelley, by whose heir general it was united to the demean of May, and the female inheritrix of this name brought it to Edolph, and the same devolution carried it from him to Wilcoxes, and he likewise going out in two female coheirs, Martha the eldest, made it the inheritance of Dr. Edward Ratcliff, whose successor Sir Edward, Ratcliff is still entituled to the signory of it.

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unrestrained, whose demesns were not manacled and tied up with the obligations of any tenure which was servile, as those whose lands were feudal. But enough of this; I shall now return to Benenden, which as it gave seat to the abovementioned Godricus, so it seems his descendants extracted their surname from thence, and assumed the denomination of Benenden, and bare for their arms in a shield azure a lobster or, and certainly were of account in this track, for John, the son of Roger de Benenden, held a knight's fee in Benenden, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; but as all families are chained up to a fixed period, (like the sea which is itself bound in with a girdle of sand) so had this its conclusion likewise; for Joan Benenden, the heir general of this name, by marrying Sir William Brenchley, lord chief justice of the common pleas, fastened this manor to his inheritance, and they both lie buried in Christ church in Canterbury; he died, as the date upon the tomb, for they slumber under one marble, informs me, in the year 1446, and she in the year 1453; but after his decease, the title of this place did quickly acknowledge another proprietor, for the

heir general of this family married to More of More court in Ivy church, where having been many generations, they dislodged from so solitary an habitation, and planted themselves at Benenden, where they erected a house and adopted it into their own name, by stiling it More court, but though it still stands an alphabet to the memory of this family, by bearing their surname, yet did it not many years after its first institution and frame, acknowledge the signory of this family, for John More, Esquire, in the first year of queen Mary, conveyed it to Mr. William Watts, from whom by successive right, it is now come down to Mr. .... Watts, and owns him for its present proprietor.

The manor of Hempsted in this parish, anciently, that is, about the twentieth year of Henry the third, belonged, as appears by the book in the exchequer, called Teste de Nevil, to Robert de Hempsted, from whence he assumed his surname, which could not make the title long lived in his family; for about the beginning of Edward III. I find it passed away to Echingham of Sussex, and James de Echingham held it by the fourth part of a knight's fee, in the twentieth year of Edward III. at making the Black Prince knight; but after this, the title was not long constant to the interest of this family, for about the beginning of Richard II. I find it in the hands of Sir Robert Belknap the judge, who being attainted in the tenth year of that prince, was banished by the malice and crooked arts of a factious and insolent nobility, there a survey taken of his estate in the fourteenth year of his reign, and then this manor with the residue of his estate escheated; being annexed to the crown, it was by Richard II. granted to William de Guldford, sheriff of Kent, in the eleventh year of that prince, descended from Henry de Guldford, a great benefactor to the priory of Taning, in the twenty eighth year of Edw. I. and who is mentioned in the book of Aid, to have held the manor of Wickham near Lidde in Kent, by knight's service, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. and the abovesaid William, having thus by the favour of his prince, obtained this manor, made it his seat, and transmitted it to his successors, who much improved it with the supplement of additional buildings, so that it hath not only formerly for many generations continued it to be the seat of this family, but is likewise a mansion relating to this name at this instant.

Great Maytham in Benenden, was a manor which related to the property of the noble family of Malmain, whose principal seat was at Malmain in Stoke, in the hundred of Hoo; Nicholas Malmain, grandchild of John Malmain, who likewise held this manor in the twentieth year of Hen. III. and paid a proportionate supply for Maytham, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. and died possessed of it in the twenty third year of that prince; but after this it was not long permanent in this name, for in the fourth year of Hen. IV. Nicholas Carew held it at the marriage of Blanch, that prince's daughter; and in this family was the title constant, until the latter end of Hen. VIII. and then it was passed away to Thomas lord Cromwell, afterwards created earl of Essex, who being attainted of high treason in the thirty second year of Hen. VIII. it escheated to the crown, and that prince, in the thirty third year of his rule, granted it to Sir Thomas Wiatt, who the same year, conveyed it by sale to Sir Walter Henley of Coursehorne, the king's serjeant at law, and he not long after disposed of it to Thomas Colepeper, Esquire, of Bedgbury, who had married Hellen, one of his three daughters and co-heirs, and he, in the last year of Edw. VI. alienated some part of the land which related to it

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to Richard Parker and Anthony Franklin, but the manor itself rested in Colepeper of Bedgbury, until the late king granted it away not many years since, to alderman Wright of London, as being forfeited to the crown, because the lord of it did not pay those scots and assessments which were laid upon him towards the reparation of the banks of the Marsh; and by Margaret, the daughter and co-heir of the abovesaid alderman, is it now become the inheritance of Richard Cordall, Esquire, of London.

Lowden or little Maytham, is the last manor in this parish, and was wrapped up in that wide estate which in this county claimed the family of Attleeze for proprietors; Sir Richard Atleeze held four knight's fees in Rolvenden and Benenden, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. whereof this was parcel; but he dying without issue in the year 1394, as is manifest by the date on his tomb in Shelwich church, Marcellus Atleeze his brother, became the heir to his estate; but this manor was not long after resident in this name, for in the fourth year of Hen. IV. which happened about the year

1403, (as appears by the record kept in the exchequer, called the roll of Blanch-lands) it was possessed by Thomas Aucher, and he paid respective aid for it at the marriage of Blanch, that prince's daughter, and from him did it devolve by descent, to his grandchild John Aucher, Esquire, of Losenham, who concluded in Anne Aucher his sole heir, who was married to William Colepeper, second son of Sir John Colepeper of Bedgbury, and so this manor with much other land, came to own dominion of that name, and remained annexed to that family many descents, until not many years since, it was by Sir John Colepeper of Losenham, created lord Colepeper at Oxford, passed away to his brother in law Mr. .... More.

BETHERSDEN in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, contains several places in it considerable; the first that summons our notice is Bethersden Lovelace, which celebrates the memory of a family called Grensted, now vulgarly stiled Greenstreet, a man of eminent repute, as the records of this county testify, in the reign of Edw. II. and Edw. III. but fell under some umbrage and obscurity, when he passed away his estate here to Kinet, in whom the possession was very volatile, for William Kinet, in the forty first year of Edw. III. conveyed it by sale to John Lovelace, who here erected that structure, that for so many descents, hath born the name of this family, and was the seminary or seedplot from whence a race of gentlemen issued forth, who have in military affairs, atchieved reputation and honour, with a prodigal loss and expence both of blood and life, and by their deep judgement in the municipal laws, have deserved well of the common-wealth; and as by their extraction they are descended from noble families, so from hence have sprung those of Bayford in Sedingbourn and Kingsdown, with the right honorable lord Lovelace of Hurly, and other gentlemen of that stem in Berkshire; but alas! this mansion is now like a dial when the sun is gone, that then only is of use to declare that there hath been a sun, for not many years since, colonel Richard Lovelace, eldest son to Sir William Lovelace the last of this name at this place, passed away his right in Bethersden Lovelace to Mr. Richard Hulse, descended from the ancient family of Hulse of Norbury and Astley in Cheshire.

Surrenden, the elder house to that of Pluckley, for they both had one ancestor, was the seat for many generations of gentlemen of that name; in deeds without date they are frequently written Suthrinden, and continued here until the reign of Hen. VI. for in the second year of Hen. IV. I find by a fine levied that year, that Robert Surrenden sells lands in Bethersden to John Goldwell, and this Robert had issue John, who passed it away about the beginning of Hen. VI. to Cardinal Kempe, who settled in the twenty eighth year of the abovesaid prince, on the college of Wye, then newly by him erected, but when that college and all its demean, was, in the thirty sixth year of Hen. VIII. surrendered into the hands of that prince, it was by grant united about the thirty seventh year of his rule, to the patrimony of Sir Maurice Dennis, captain of Calais; and he, in the second year of Edw. VI. alienated it to Sir Anthony Aucher, in whom it was resident, but until the fourth year of that prince, for then it was conveyed by sale to Philip Chowte, Esquire, standard bearer to king Hen. VIII. at the siege of Boloign, where he won and atchieved much honour to himself and posterity, which was remarkably testified by his sovereign's assignation of a canton of that standard's impression, to his ancient coat, viz. party per pale argent and vert, a lion passant guardant gules; and from this worthy person did Surrenden, by paternal devolution, come down to his successor Mr Edward Chowte, being lately de-

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ceased, it is with some restrictions and reservations by will, bequeathed to his only brother Mr. George Chowte, whose ancestors having very much enhanced and improved the beauty of the ancient structure, by additional buildings, it hath now contracted the title of Surrenden Chowte, as that at Pluckley hath assumed to itself that of Surrenden Dering.

Frith is the last place of account in this parish: it was in ages of a higher date, the patrimony of the Mayneys, as appears by several old deeds now in the hands of Mr. George Chowte, who were a younger branch issued out from that stem which was planted at Tunstall, as is evident by an old Latin will of John de Mayney, who died possessed of this place in the fiftieth year of Edward the third, where he gives an Obit to pray for his own, and the soul of his kinsman Sir Walter de Mayney; after the Mayneys were departed from the possession of this manor, the Darrels of Cale-

hill became the proprietors of it, and in the reign of Henry the sixth, by several deeds too tedious in this place to enumerate, I find John Darrell to be possessed of it, and in this name was the title permanent until the latter end of the reign of Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away to Gibbons, descended from Hole in Rolvenden, the original fountain and seminary of this family, the last of which family at this place was Thomas Gibbons, which in our grandfathers memory concluding in Lidia Gibbons his daughter and heir, she, by marrying Edward Chowte, Esquire, of Surrenden, hath made it now the inheritance of his grandchild Edward Chowte, Esquire.

In a peculiar chancel on the north side, of the parish church of Bethersden belonging to Lovelace, there was a perpetual chantry founded about the thirty eighth year of Hen VI. by Richard Lovelace, mercer and merchant adventurer of London, a younger son of this family, which was confirmed by the royal authority of the abovesaid prince.

BRENCHLEY, in the hundred of Harmondon Twyford, was parcel of that vast patrimony which was entituled to the signory of the earls of Gloucester and Hereford, whose surname was Clare. Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hereford, held it at his death, which was in the twenty first year of Edw. I. and left it to his son Gilbert de Clare, who deceasing in the eighth year of Edw. II. without issue, Hugh de Audley, in right of his wife, sister and heir to the abovesaid Gilbert, (whom our printed books of nobility call Isabell, though in the inquisition taken after his death, which was in the twenty first year of Edw. III. Rot. Esc. Num. 39, she is stiled Margaret) entered upon the inheritance of this place, but the frailty of the other family did likewise cleave to this, for the spindle prevailed against the spear, Margaret being sole daughter and heir to this Hugh Audley, in whom the name at this place met with a sad interment, and the estate, by her marrying Ralph Stafford earl of Stafford, found another proprietor, and he in her right held it at his decease, which was in the forty sixth year of Edw. III. and transmitted it to his son Thomas earl of Stafford, who likewise was in the enjoyment of it at his death, which happened in the sixteenth year of Rich. II. and from him was the possession transported along by an unbroken thread of descent, to Edward Stafford duke of Buckingham, and earl of Stafford, a man magnificent, but unfortunate, who being accused of high-treason, attainted and beheaded in the twelfth year of Hen. VIII. and his estate here confiscated in the thirteenth, and rested in the crown until the abovesaid prince, in the thirty first year of his reign, granted it to Paul Sidnor, and he not long after, passed it away by sale to William Lambert, Esquire, who settled it upon the college of alms-people at Greenwich, which, is vulgarly called queen Elizabeth's college, with a limitation reserved, that the heirs male of his line might hold it in lease for ever, and in case they might fail, that the last might dispose of it by testament or deed to whom he pleased; by virtue of which reservation, Thomas Lambert, Esquire, of Sevenoke, is at this instant lessee to the college for this manor.

Bokinfold in this parish, is an eminent manor which belonged to that chantry and chapel, which was founded here by Hamon de Crevequer, and confirmed (as appears by the first book of compositions, kept amongst the records of the church of Rochester) with the demean appertaining to it, in the forty first year of Edw. III. and continued being thus fortified and secured by the royal charter, untouched, until the general suppression; and being dissolved, the revenue which anciently supported it, was in the thirty first of Hen. VIII. carried off by grant to Paul Sidnor, Esquire, who not long after, passed it away to Sir John Gates, to whom it was again confirmed in the first year of Hen. VI. but he being so unfortunately attainted in the first

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year of queen Mary, as being one of the partisans of John Dudley duke of Northumberland, to whose service, and for whose cause he sacrificed his head, this returned to the crown, and dwelt in its revenue until queen Eliz. granted it away to Katharine Tong, who suddenly after alienated her interest in it to Revell, and he, about the latter end of queen Eliz. passed it away to Colepeper, from whom, in our fathers memory, it went away to Dyke, and very suddenly from him again to Mr. Benedict Barnham, by one of whose four daughters and co-heirs, it came to be the patrimony of Soam, who lately hath demised his whole concern in it to Mr. George Brown, formerly of Spelmonden in Kent, now of Buckland in Surry.

There was a park at this place; for in the second year of Edward the second, Bartholomew de Badeslesmer held the manor and park of Bokinfold in fee, by grant from that prince, and the advowson of the free chapel of the same; and Edw. II. in

the nineteenth year of his reign, being on his way to France, to do his homage for the dutchy of Aquitain, suddenly drew back his foot, and retired to this place, where he reposed himself, and caused many to be indicted for their unlawful and irregular hunting in the park of Bokinfold, nor hath time so dismantled or disparked it, but that yet there are some memorials or vestigias remaining which attest the truth of the premises.

Criolls Court is another manor in Brenchley, which by Joan, daughter of Bertram de Criol, and heir general of her brother John de Criol, came to Sir Richard de Roke=sley, and by his daughter and heir Joan to Thomas de Poynings, whose successor Sir Edward de Poynings, dying in the twelfth year of Hen. VIII. without issue or any collateral alliance, in the fourteenth year of that prince it escheated to the crown, afterwards it was granted in the thirty first year of that prince, to Paul Sidnor, Esq; employed as agent to that prince in Spain, and he not long after, alienated it to William Lambert, Esquire, who settled it upon the college of poor people at Greenwich, of his erection, with a reservation that the heirs male of his line might hold it in lease for ever, by virtue of which limitation, it is now enjoyed by Thomas Lambert Esquire, of Sevenoke.

Parrocks in this parish, was anciently a manor relating to a family of that denomination, which continued lords of the fee until the latter end of Hen. VII. and then it was by sale conveyed to William Hextall, Esquire, who dying without issue male, Margaret his sole daughter and heir, brought this and much land beside to be the inheritance of William Whetenhall, Esquire, from whom the right of descent wafted it down to his successor Sir Richard Whetenhall, who in the twelfth year of queen Eliz. demised it to William Brooke lord Cobham, who not long after, passed it away to Sir Thomas Nevil, grandfather to the right honorable Mildmay earl of Westmorland, now possessor of it.

Mascals, Capgrove or Capgrave, and Chekeswell, are three manors in Brenchley also, which as the book of Aid informs me, were in the twentieth year of Edw. III. in the possession of John de Capgrave, and it is probable that John Capgrave an eminent monk, an ornament to learning, and to the priory of Christ church, who flourished in the year 1485, and is mentioned with so much honour by Pitscus, was descended from this man, in whose name these manors were not after this long permanent, for as the learned and laborious Sidrach Petit does inform me, in his inquest of Kent, they fell in the reign of Rich. II. under the signory of Vaux, whose successor about the latter end of Hen. VI. alienated his property in them to Humphrey Stafford duke of Buckingham, whose unfortunate grandchild Edward duke of Buckingham, being attainted in the twelfth year of Hen. VIII. these with the residue of his estate escheated to the crown; from which not many years after, they were passed away to Edward Ferrers, Esquire, and he conveyed his right to Whetenhall, who about the beginning of king James, demised them to Ouldsworth, who not long after, sold them to Bartue, and he almost in our memory, transmitted them by sale to Mr. Charles Tucker, father to the present owner.

The rectory of Brenchley was given by Richard de Clare, to the canons of St. Mary Magdalen in Tunbridge, and compounded with the bishop of Rochester, with this provision reserved, that the rector for the time being, should pay two wax tapers of four pound weight to the priory of Tunbridge, at the feast of St. Mary Magdalen. The manor which was annexed to this rectory, was, upon the dissolution of this cloister, in the thirty first year of Hen. VIII. granted to Paul Sidnor, and he not long after, passed it away to William Waller, Esquire, from which family, not many years since, it was by purchase invested in the family of Courthop.

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Moatlands was the inheritance of a family who extracted their surname from hence, and were called Brenchley, a branch of which was Sir William Brenchley, lord chief justice of the common pleas, who founded a chantry or chapel in the nave of the cathedral at Canterbury, and died in the year 1446, without issue; nor did these lands continue much longer in the name, for in the beginning of Edw. IV. I find them in the tenure of More, who had married to the heir general, and here the property of this place remained interwoven with the inheritance of this family, until that age which fell under our fathers remembrance, and then it was transplanted by sale to Roberts, the family which now possesses it.

There are two other seats in this parish, which may deserve our notice; the first

is Cats-Place, which gave seat to Hugh de Cat, and in recompence, took its denomination from him, and after the title of it had lodged in this name many descents, even until the reign of Hen. VI. it was passed away to Tilden, of Tilden's place in Marden; and after the possession had for some ages been united to their interest, it was some few years since unfastened, and the property of it carried over to Bassage.

The second is Vanes, which yielded both seat and surname to as illustrious a family as any in this track. Robert Vane or Fane (for they are promiscuously so written in ancient rolls) paid respective aid for it, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edw. III. and it is from him by a continued series, still transported along in the demeanour of this name and family; so that here (if my light fail me not) should I look for the original of that noble name and family, that since hath so fairly spread into so many several branches issued primitively from this first original stem.

BREDGAR in the hundred of Milton, hath several places in it observable; the first is Bexon, from whence the borough of Bexon or Bexon-street derives itself; it gave surname to a family, in whom in elder times the inheritance was planted, and there is yet extant in the church windows in coloured glass, a superannuated portraiture mangled by rude hands, and demolished almost by the injuries of time, with this inscription affixed to the pedestal, orate pro anima Joannis de Bexon, which discovers to us whose effigies is represented by it; this John Bexon flourished in the reign of Edw. II. as appears by deeds, and Edw. III. and had issue John Bexon likewise prior of this place, after whom, I can track no more of the family at Bredgar: in the reign of Rich. II. I find it invested in Tong, who it is probable were extracted originally from Tong, not far distant, a family of good estimate in this county, for I find by some old deeds, that Semanus de Tong, who in the sixteenth year of Rich. II. was tenant to the Maison le Dieu in Ospringe, for lands at Lurdinden in Challock, sealed with a bend cotised between six martlets, and sometimes with the bend uncotised, and from him are the Tongs, who are now possessors of this place, originally descended.

Swanton court was parcel of that estate which claimed the lords Leybourn for proprietors, and from them descended to the heir general of the family, Juliana de Leybourn, who dying in the forty third year of Edw. III. without kindred, or without issue, either by Hastings or Clinton, this upon a default of both, escheated to the crown, and king Edw. III. in the fiftieth year of his reign, settled it upon the abbey of grace upon Tower-hill, in whose revenue it rested until the suppression of that cloister, and then it was by Hen. VIII. in the thirty sixth year of his reign, granted to Christopher Sampson, and he in the second year of Edw. VI. conveyed it to Sir Thomas Wiat, and he being attainted in the second year of queen Mary, it returned by escheat to the crown, from whence by a new concession it came over to Reader, who not many years since, conveyed his right in it to Aldersey, branched out from the ancient family of Aldersey, of Aldersey in Cheshire: so that it is now the inheritance of Terrey Aldersey, Esquire.

The college of Bredgar was converted from a parish church, first into that we now call a college, by Robert, then parson thereof in the reign of Rich. II. which was established and ratified (saith Harpsfield) by Thomas Arundell arch-bishop of Canterbury; and in this capacity or posture it stood until the dissolution, and then being born away into the royal revenue, it was by exchange with the crown, in the twenty ninth year of Hen. VIII. annexed to the revenue, for the future, of the arch-bishop of Canterbury.

There is a place in this parish called Mans, as being in elder times a mansion of that name, as deeds both of an ancient and modern date do inform me, which whether it were the ancient seat of the Mans, who have since been transplanted to Canter-

76 <Bredgar> <Brenzett> <Betteshanger>

bury, is uncertain; only it is very probable, because it had proprietors of that denomination, that this was the fountain whence this family issued forth.

BRENSET in the hundred of Aloesbridge, had still the same proprietors with Newington Belhouse near Hieth, and therefore is called Newington Brenset; and thither for farther satisfaction I shall refer my reader, only I must inform him, that here is an old mansion in this parish, which for several descents was the seat of the Edolphs, before they were transplanted to Hinxhill, and certainly in elder times, were of good account in this county, and writ their names in old deeds Edulf; for so it is written in an old commission, directed to him, John Peckham and Martin Horne,

wherein they were made collectors for the cinque ports, in the sixth year of Rich. II. but now this family had deserted this place, having not many years since, alienated their interest here to Mr. John Fagge of Brenset, grandfather to John Fagge, Esquire, of Wiston in Sussex, to whose revenue it remains now annexed.

BETSHANGER, in the hundred of Eastry, was in elder times the patrimony of a family called Marney or Marin, for so the name is promiscuously written John de Marney, who is in some old deeds called Marins, obtained a charter of free warren to his manor of Betshanger the first year of Edw. I. but it seems this franchise did but improve the sale, and make it more fit to be enjoyed by another, for not long after, it was conveyed to John de Soles, so called from his habitation near some ponds, and he died in the enjoyment of it, in the forty ninth year of Edw. III. Rot. Esc. Num. 40. parte secunda. But after this it was not long constant to the signory of this family, for about the beginning of Rich. II. I find it possessed by Bertram de Tancrey lord of Tancrey island in Fordwich, and his descendants enjoyed it until the latter end of Hen. IV. and then it went away by sale to Rutter; from which name about the beginning of Edw. IV. it came to Litchfield, whose arms are yet visibly obvious in ancient panes of glass, at Dane court in Tilmanston, viz. bendee of six pieces azure and ermin, and in this family it continued until the beginning of Hen VIII. and then by the heir general of that name it became to be united to the patrimony of Thomas Cox, Esquire, customer of Sandwich, who about the latter end of Hen. VIII. conveyed it by sale to Mr. John Bois, ancestor to John Bois, Esquire, who by paternal devolution, is now entituled to the signory of it.

Little Betshanger was a seat relating to the family of Cliderow, which in elder times was of eminent account in this track, yet I find that John de St. Philibert held lands here in the thirty first year of Edw III. but the manor itself was an appendage to the abovementioned family. \* Roger de Cliderow flourished here in the reign of Edw. II. and Edw. III. and as appears by seals affixed to old evidences, which commence from the last king's reign, bore for his coat armour upon a cheveron between three eagles five annulets; his successor Richard Cliderow, was sheriff of Kent the fourth, and most part of the fifth year of Hen. IV. he was constituted soon after admiral of the seas, from the Thames mouth to the Saxon shore to the West; for in those times the admiralty was divided sometimes into three, and most commonly into two divisions, one beginning at the Thames mouth was admiral of the Northern seas, the second was admiral from the Thames mouth Westward, and the third had the command of the Irish seas; but in this man's time, king Hen. IV. in the eighth year of his reign, reduced it under one person, and granted it with more ample and wide authority, under his brother John Beauford earl of Somerset. But to proceed; after the title of this place had remained locked up in the demean of Cliderow, until the latter end of Hen. VIII. it passed away with the female inheritrix to Thomas Stoughton, Esquire, by whom he had three daughters, who were co-heirs to their mother; Elizabeth married to Thomas Wild, Esquire, Helen married to Edward Nethersole, and Mary married to Henry Paramour, who by a joint conveyance passed away their right to their father in the twentieth year of queen Eliz. and he in the twenty first year, by deed reinstates his right in them, and they again by a mutual consent, alienated their interest here in the twenty eighth year of her rule, to Mr. John Gookin, and he about the first year of king James, conveyed it to Sir Henry Lodelow, who not many years since, passed it away to Mr. Edward Bois of great Betshanger, father to John Bois, Esquire, the present lord of the fee.

\* He was knight of the shire in the seventh year of Henry the fourth.

77 <Bicknor> <Biddenden>

BICKNOR, in the hundred of Milton and Eythorn, was in elder times the habitation of a family of that surname. Sir John de Bicknor and Sir Thomas de Bicknor accompanied king Edward the first in his successful expedition into Scotland, and are found recorded in the register or bedroll of those knights who were made bannerets at Carlaverock castle by that prince, in the twenty eighth year of his government; but after this, this manor stayed not long in the tenure of this family; for in the reign of Edward the second, it came to acknowledge the dominion of Roger de Leybourn baron of Leybourn castle; from whom it descended to his sole daughter and heir Juliana de Leybourn, who dying in the forty third year of Edward the third, without issue and without kindred, it devolved by escheat to the

crown, and then that prince settled it by a new donation on the abby of St. Mary Grace on Tower hill, where it continued until the public suppression, and then being surrendered up to the crown, it was, in the thirty sixth year of Henry the eighth, granted to Christopher Sampson, and he in the second year of Henry the sixth, passed it away to Sir Thomas Wiat; from whom, not long after, it came by the same conveyance to own the interest of Reader, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, alienated his right in it to Terry, who almost in our memory, partly by sale, and partly in respect of alliance, settled the property of it on Aldersey, so that Mr. Farnham Aldersey, a second brother of Terry Aldersey, Esquire, of Swanton court, is now lord of the fee.

BIDDENDEN, in the hundreds of Barkeley, Cranbroke and Blackbourn, had an old family which took both seat and sirname from hence, and when this was consumed and vanished, the Mayneys were the next who were successively possessors of it; John de Mayney died seized of this and other lands confining upon it, in the fiftieth year of Edward the third, and was son of Sir John de Mayney, who flourished here, as appears by deeds, under the worthy character of knighthood many years before; and to this name was the possession, by a continued and unbroken series of ages wedded, until some years since, the title was by sale divorced from this family, and conveyed by Sir Anthony Mayney knight and baronet, to Sir Edward Henden chief baron of the exchequer; and he by testament transmitted it to his nephew Sir John Henden, who having lately paid a debt to nature which we all owe, his son and heir Edward Henden, Esquire, does at this instant enjoy it.

Allards is another ancient seat in this parish, which for many generations past, until of late, acknowledged itself to be the mansion of that name and family, and from hence was Gervas Alarar or Allard descended, who was captain and admiral of the navy, set forth by the cinque ports in the first year of Edward the first, as appears, Pat. 34. Edwardi primi, but now the distaff hath prevailed against the lance; for this name having been lately wound up in a daughter and heir, the possession of it in her right is now transplanted into captain Terry Aldersey, Esquire, of Swanton court in Bredgar.

Castwisell, is a third place in Biddenden worth our consideration, it was in times very ancient, parcel of that estate, which did in this county relate to the Moiles, extracted from Moiles court at Bodmin in Cornwall, and certainly did as high acknowledge the signory of this knightly family, as any land they held in this county; for though by some old deeds not bounded with any date, I find the name of John de Castwisell affixed as teste, yet by some old deeds and muniments, which have an aspect upon this manor, I discover that Walter Moile knight, in the sixth year of Edward the third, did grant Reginald and William de Sands, all those lands, tenements, rents and services, which Simon Gidinden ad Formam late held of the said Sir Walter, as of his manor of Castwisell, and by a subsequent deed dated in the twenty third year of Henry the sixth, I find that Margaret widow of William Scapis of Burmersh, did grant to Walter Moile, which was the judge, all that messuage or land she held in Biddenden, and by a deed of a more modern inscription, that is one which commences from the twenty ninth year of Henry the eighth, I find that Thomas Moile of Eastwell, gentleman, afterward dignified with the order of knighthood by the abovesaid prince, conveyed it to Stephen Rogers, gentleman, and from him is Mr. Jonathan Rogers, now possessor of this place, originally descended.

78 <Bidborough> <Bilsington>

BIDBOROUGH is the last place which shuts up the Lowy of Tunbridge, here were lands which were the inheritance of a family called Chaune, the first of whom which I meet with in record is Thomas le Chaune, who paid respective aid for it at making the Black Prince knight (as appears by the book of Aid) in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and continued in his family divers years after his exit; for in the latter end of Henry the fourth, I find George Chaune possessed of it; but after him, I can trace out no more of this family who held it; the next who succeeded in the possession were the Palmers, as is manifest by some old court rolls, which represent one Thomas Palmer to have been lord of the fee in the reign of Edward the fourth and Henry the seventh, but made no long stay in this name; for about the beginning of Henry the eighth, it was alienated to John Vane, Esquire, and the descendant of this family Sir Ralph Vane, being attainted in the fourth year of Edward the



sixth, it was escheated to the crown, and queen Elizabeth, in the first year of her reign, granted it to Henry Cary lord Hunsdon, of whom more hereafter.

Ramhurst is another little manor in Bidborough, which the book of Aid informs me, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, to have been possessed by a family called Warehall, and remained in their possession until the reign of Henry the fourth, and then it was passed away to Colepeper, whose ancestor John Colepeper, died seized of some estate here in the forty eighth year of Edward the third, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 29. and in this family was the property resident, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was transferred by sale to Lewknor, from whom, in that age which came within the verge of our grandfathers remembrance, it was alienated and demised to Dixon, in right of which conveyance it is the instant possession of Edward Dixon, Esquire.

There is an house in this parish called Bounds, and in ancient deeds called Bunds, which, as tradition avers, was the utmost margin or limit which bounded that league of earth which hath been since known by the name of the Lowy of Tunbridge, and was given by William Rufus to Gilbert, earl of Briony and Eu, because his castle of Brion had been before by violence torn from him by Robert duke of Normandy, because this earl had been a promoter, or at least a fomenter of the designs of his brother king William.

The manor of Bidborough itself had the same owners with that of Tunbridge, as namely, the earls of Clare, Audley and Stafford, and escheating by forfeiture to the crown, upon the attain of Edward Stafford duke of Buckingham, in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, it was by queen Elizabeth granted in the first year of her reign, to Henry Cary lord Hunsdon, whose son George Cary lord Hunsdon dying without issue male, his only inheritrix Elizabeth, married to Thomas lord Berkley, linked it to his patrimony, and he in the beginning of king James, conveyed it to Sir Thomas Smith, grandfather to Robert Smith, Esquire, who lately died possessed of it.

BILSINGTON in the hundred of New-church, was folded up anciently in that patrimony which acknowledged the dominion of John Mansel, a man of eminent note in the reign of Henry the third, as appears by that chain of offices which adorned his greatness: for he was constable of Dover castle, lord warden of the cinque ports, provost of Beverley, for the abovesaid prince, and queen Eleanor his wife, and treasurer of the church of York; but he not long enjoyed it, for he in the twenty seventh year of Henry the third, made God his heir, and divested himself of the property of it, to settle it on the priory of Bilsington, which was of his foundation and endowment, and by dedication entituled to the patronage of the virgin Mary, and was furnished with white canons, or canons præmonstratenses; and in this condition did it remain, until not only this, but all other orders in this nation, having warped and revolted from their original integrity, and those closer engagements and narrower restraints, the rules of their primitive institution tied them up in, a dissolution of manners called for a dissolution of demean; but now, whether those who did so zealously pretend to correct their lives, did not more seriously intend to reform the ecclesiastical patrimony, and arraign them, not according to the guilt of their crimes, but the heinousness of their estates, will fall under a sober consideration; that the excesses of the Romish clergy were high, their imperfections many, and their irregu-

79 <Bilsington>

larities clamorous, is without controversy; now what the causes were which unfastened the ligatures of straighter discipline, which like so many nerves, did both move and tie together all the limbs of the body ecclesiastic, I shall now briefly discover: the first cause of this depravation was the removing and abating those persecutions which had so long, with a sad and bloody pressure, grated upon christianity, under the scepter of ten heathen tyrants; and we know that the fable represents to us, that when the laurel, the guerdon, and salary of triumphs, and the sweat of the laborious shoulder, withered and shrunk into decay, the fig tree sprang up out of its ruins, which is the emblematic type of softness and effeminacy; and we read that the lamps of Tullia and Terentia, burnt with a clear and uninterrupted flame, as long as they were recluse to the cloisters of their urns and vaults, and dwelt in the scene and comprehension of darkness; but when they were brought out into the public, like camphire, they evaporated into the air that fed them: so the primitive christians who

shone with such a bright and constant beam in the night and agony of their affliction, when they were melted with the warmth and sun-shine of a calm and prosperous fortune, began to slacken into luxury and excess, folly and disorder; and they that had dared axes and racks, wheels and gridirons, the teeth of beasts and the fury of men, the heat of persecution and the flame of oblation; and in brief, had been inexpugnable to all the artifices and engines of torture, contrived by impious men, fell afterwards cheaply and tamely, like those who are smothered with roses, stifled with perfumes, and strangled with a silken halter. The second cause, that elder observations insinuate to us, to have been the reason of the clergy's deviation, is, that vast heap of temporal treasure with which Constantine loaded the bosom of the church; so that it may be truly affirmed, *religio peperit divitias, & filia devoravit matrem*; for poverty, though like a straight and narrow girdle it does with its close and uneasy stricture pinch and afflict us, yet it keeps the garment from falling into looseness and disorder; whilst superfluity of wealth is apt to untie those restraints which are cast upon the will, and unshackle those fetters which are laid upon the sensual appetite, rendering our thoughts vain and trifling, foolish and impertinent, and our undertakings wild and irregular, making us soft and easy for the impressions of vice, but difficult and incapable of the influences of virtue, and the nobler designs of religion: for it is farther observable, that from riches evaporate the fumes of luxury and ambition, which like those mists which exhale from the crudities of a raw stomach, debauch the understanding, and disorder reason, and muffle them up in a veil and in a cloud; and they that view the light of truth, which is the great luminary in the firmament of the church, through the vapours of secular interest, are like those who take prospect of a star, through a gross vaporous body of air; they behold it by the channel of so polluted a medium, they view it in an uneven and uncertain paralax. The third cause of the defection of ecclesiastical persons in the church of Rome, from the severer obligations of their original institution, is this; the pope had newly entituled himself to a vast and uncircumscribed power, and found that there was an obligation imposed upon him to support the clergy in all their excesses and vicious sallies, that so they might be obliged to engage the pulpit and the pen, in the asserting of that authority which the western emperors vainly endeavoured by frequent contests and struggling to wring out of his hands, and reinvest in themselves; and they looking up, and discovering that he beheld their disorders with a calm and an indulgent brow, let loose the golden reins of discipline; and it is no wonder if at any time the bridle of government be slackened, when the snaffle that should keep it steady and even, hath lost its two bosses, fear and punishment.

But I have digressed, I now return; after the suppression had entituled the crown to this manor, which formerly supported the convent of Bilsington, king Henry the eighth, in the thirty seventh year of his reign, by royal concession, made it the inheritance of Sir Anthony St. Leger of Ulcombe, in which family the title was permanent, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then his son Sir Warham St. Leger, passed it away to \* Sir Francis Barnham of London, knight, whose great grandchild

\* Sir Walter de Bernham was one of those knights who was at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, with Edward the first, in the twenty eighth year of his reign, and bore the paternal coat of this family, viz. A plain cross engrailed between four crescents argent.

80 <Bilsington> <Biriling>

Robert Barnham, Esquire, by paternal devolution and descent, does now claim the instant signory of it.

Nether Bilsington in this parish, is that manor which anciently was held by a family called Staplegate of Staplegate in Natindon, who claimed to be the king's chief butler at his coronation. The first that I find possessed of it was Edmund de Staplegate, to whom it was derived by purchase, about the middle of Edward the third, from Richard Fitz Allan, earl of Arundel, whose ancestors held it many years before, and he having thus entered upon it by his acquisition, died possessed of it in the twenty ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 58. and left it to his son and heir Edmund de Staplegate, and he in the first year of Richard the second, put in his claim to be chief butler at his coronation, as holding this manor by the tenure of

grand serjeanty to discharge that office; to evacuate his claim, Richard earl of Arundel, exhibits a petition and plea, wherein he asserts that the office of chief butler was never annexed to this manor of Bilsington, that his family had enjoyed it both before the possession and after the alienation of it, and therefore desired he might perform it that solemn day; upon the discussion of the whole controversy, it was ordered, that, that day the earl of Arundel should discharge it with a salvo jure, that it should not infringe the right of Staplegate or any other that should pretend a right or title to it for the future. But to proceed, this family held this manor until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then the fate of sale carried it away to Cheney, and Sir John Cheney knight, died seized of it at his death, which was in the seventh year of Edward the fourth, and from him was it wafted down by the thread of descent, to his successor Henry lord Cheney, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated his property in it to Sir Francis Barnham of London, knight, from whom by successive right, the title is now devolved to his great grandchild Robert Barnham, Esq;

BIRLING in the hundred of Larksfield, was belonging, when the great survey of England was taken, called Domesday book, to one Ralph Creythorn, and the ancient seat of those who were the possessors of it was at Comport or Comford park in this parish; but before the end of Henry the second, the abovementioned family was worn out, and then I find a family called Crescie to succeed in the inheritance. William de Crescie had a grant of liberties in Birling, in the fifth year of king John, but his name and family after this did not long continue to possess them, for before the expiration of the long and tempestuous reign of Henry the third, it was departed from them, and planted in the revenue which did call that family of Say the proprietors, the first of whom was William de Say, who was one of those who stuck so close to the cause and quarrel of Simon de Montfort, the active earl of Leicester, after whose ruin at the battle of Evesham, and the total discomfiture and dissipation of his forces in that signal conflict, he was found in the register of those Kentish gentlemen who were pardoned by the pacification at Kenelworth, and died possessed of it in the twenty third year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 48. and in some old deeds it is called Caput Baronizæ de Say; now the vulgar opinion was formerly, that thirteen knights fees and a half made up a tenure per baroniam; now how much in value a knight's fee was, was the question in elder times, some affirming it to be 50l. others 30l. and divers again but 25l, but the common received opinion is, which hath been generally allowed of by all our law books, that it is in estimate but 20l. consisting of eight carucates or hides of land, for they are coincident, allowing to every carucate or ploughed land an 100 acres, which was anciently thought to be as much as one team of oxen could plough up in a year; but the tenure itself which was compounded of the knights fees, was altogether uncertain, for unless it be that manuscript stiled Modus tenendi parliamentum, which is of no higher age then the reign of Edward the third, there is no record does state or fix it. Walter de Meduana or Mayney, ancestor to the Mayneys of Linton, held twenty knights fees as appears by the Red book kept in the exchequer, folio 84, yet was not under the repute of a baron. Walter de Wahull had the possession of 30 knights fees, and John de Port of 50, yet neither of them out of so vast a tenure could multiply or inforce to themselves the stile or title of baron, whereas on the contrary, Roger de Leybourn, who married the co-heir of Vipont, and was really a baron, makes a recognisance of his service, as appears by Kirbies inquest kept in the exchequer, and taken in the ninth

81 <Birling> <Bobbing>

year of Edward the first, but for two knights fees and an half; from all which recited passages is evinced that this title of baronage flowed only from the favour and indulgence of the prince, who by his writ or summons called those who had merited well by some worthy undertakings to this dignity and title, and not from the vastness of their patrimony, though this did very much concur afterwards to support their baronage in its true value and lustre. But to proceed: Jeffrey de Say, this man's successor, had view of frank pledge here in the eighth year of Edward the third, that is, as appears by the statute of frank pledge made in the eighteenth year of Edward the second, he was to take cognizance of those disorders and excesses in his court baron that were committed by those which held in free soccage of his manor of Berling, as well as of those which held in knights service or villanage; and this Jeffrey, in the thirty third year of Edward the third, died possessed of this place, Rot. Esc. Num. 37. and left it to his son William de Say, who likewise was in the

tenure of it at his death, which happened in the forty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 43. parte secunda, and transmitted it to his son John de Say, who likewise held it at his decease, which was in the sixth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 67. and from him did it devolve by descent to his son and heir Jeffrey lord Say, who about the latter end of Richard the second, alienated his interest here by sale to Richard Fitzallan earl of Arundel, lord treasurer and lord high admiral of England; from whom it came over to his son Thomas Fitzallan earl of Arundell, and lord treasurer of England likewise, who dying in the year 1416 without issue, Joan, one of his sisters, married to William Beauchampe, summoned to parliament as baron of Aburgavenny, in the sixteenth year of Richard the second, became his co-heir, and so he by this alliance was acknowledged for lord of the fee, but his son Richard Beauchamp, created earl of Worcester in the year 1420, dying without issue male in the ninth year of Henry the fifth, Elizabeth, his sole daughter and heir, by marrying Edward Nevill, who in her right became baron of Aburgavenny, annexed Birling and Comfort park to his revenue, and he died possessed of it in the sixteenth year of Edward the fourth, and from him did it descend to his great grandchild Henry lord Aburgavenny, who, in the twenty ninth year of queen Elizabeth, dying without issue male, gave it to his kinsman Sir Edward Nevill afterwards baron of Aburgavenny, whose great grandchild John Nevill lord Aburgavenny, possesses now the signory of it.

BOBBING, in the hundred of Milton, was the ancient seat of the illustrious family of Savage. Roger de Savage obtained a charter of free warren to his lands at Bobbing Milsted and elsewhere, in the fifth year of Edward the second; his father Sir John de Savage, was engaged with Edward the first at the remarkable siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty eighth year of his reign, and there for his signal service, was with Thomas Savage his brother, created knight banneret; Sir Arnold Savage, this man's grandchild, was sheriff of Kent the fourth and ninth years of Richard the second, and was afterwards speaker of the parliament in the second year of Henry the fourth, as appears by the late printed abridgement of the parliament rolls preserved in the Tower, and was one of the privy counsel to that prince, as appears by the private evidences of this family, his daughter Eleanor was first married to Sir Reginajd Cobham, by whom she had no issue, and after was remarried to William Clifford, Esquire, son of Sir Lewis Clifford knight of the garter, descended from Clifford of Clifford's castle in Herefordshire; who upon the decease of his wife's only brother, this Sir Arnold Savage, without issue in her right as heir general, entered upon the estate here at Bobbing, and was sheriff of Kent in the fourth year of Henry the fifth, and again in the thirteenth year of Henry the sixth his kinsman Robert Clifford, Esquire, brother to Richard Clifford, first archdeacon of Canterbury, secondly bishop of Worcester, and thirdly bishop of London, was knight of the shire for Kent in the eighth year of Henry the fourth, and lies buried in the middle isle in the body of Christ church in Canterbury, though now his portrait in copper, with the inscription affixed, with the many coats declaring his descent and alliance, are torn off and defaced; the abovementioned William had issue, Lewis and John; Lewis had issue Alexander Clifford, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent in the fifth year of king Edward the fourth, and he had issue Lewis Clifford,

82 <Bobbing> <Borden> <Bonnington>

Esquire, who was likewise sheriff of Kent in the thirteenth year of Henry the seventh, and from this Lewis was Henry Clifford lineally descended, who almost in our fathers remembrance, passed away his interest here to Sir Coniers Clifford, and the lady Mary his wife, widow of Southwell, whom he had made joint purchaser with him in the conveyance, after whose decease she was remarried to Sir Anthony St. Leger of Ireland, by whom she had issue Sir Anthony St. Leger, now of Wierton house in Boughton Montchentsey, who by a right derived from a donation of his mother, divided the manor of Bobbing with his two half brothers Henry and Coniers Clifford, all whom not many years since, by mutual and joint consent, alienated the whole demise to Sir Edward Duke of Cosington, and he not long after, passed away his right in it by sale to Sir Richard Gurney of London, from whom the same vicissitude and conveyance hath now brought it to be the patrimony of his brother in law captain Henry Samford, Esquire.

BORDEN, in the hundred of Milton, hath nothing memorable in it but the manor of Criolls and Poyles, for they were always united together, and were parcel of

that spreading demean which fell under the signory of Bertram de Crioll, and he died possessed of them in the twenty third year of Edward the third, and left it to John Crioll his son and heir, who dying without issue, Joan his sister and heir general brought this and much other land to be possessed by her husband Sir Richard de Rokesley; but he likewise deceasing without issue, the same fatal vicissitude brought it by Joan, sole daughter and heir, to be the patrimony of Thomas de Poynings, in which family the title flowed with an uninterrupted current until it devolved to Sir Edward Poynings, who died in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, without issue lawfully begotten, and as it appears by the last inquisition taken after his decease in the fourteenth year of that prince, without any respective kindred that could legally entitle themselves to his estate, so this manor escheated to the crown, and was granted by the abovesaid prince to Sir Thomas Wiat, who lost it again upon his attainder in the second year of queen Mary, but was restored again by queen Elizabeth in the twenty fifth year of her reign, to his son George Wiat, Esquire, only for life, for the reversion was by king James, by his letters patents bearing date the fifteenth day of June, in the sixteenth year of his reign, granted to Thomas Hooker and John Spencer gentlemen, who join after in a fine and settle it on the heirs of Mr. George Wiat. In the second year of king Charles Sir Francis Wiat was found to be his heir, who with his lady's consent, dame Margaret Wiat, by good and sufficient assurance in law, not many years since, conveyed it to Isaac Seward, gentleman.

Sutton Barne is a little manor in this parish, remarkable not only in this, that Roger de Savage, son of Sir John de Savage, obtained a charter of free warren to it in the fifth year of Edward the second, and continued with the name until the heir general carried it away with Bobbing to Clifford, in which family it remained until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away to Plott, ancestor to Mr. .... Plot of Borden, who now enjoys the inheritance of it.

BONNINGTON, in the hundred of Street, did anciently appertain to the knights Templars, and being found in the register of their demean at their total suppression which was in the second year of Edward the second, it was, in the seventeenth year of that prince's rule, by a new provision made by act of parliament, settled on the knights hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, and so lay enwrapped in their patrimony, which was wide and spacious in this track, until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then by the suppression of this order, it was parcel of the royal revenue, until the abovesaid prince, in the thirty fifth year of his government, granted it to Sir Thomas Moile, and he not long after conveyed it by sale to Sir James Hales of the Dungeon near Canterbury, from whom it devolved by successive right, to his successor Sir James Hales, who almost in our memory, exchanged his interest in it to Sir Christopher Man of Canterbury.

Singleton is another manor in Bonington, which was the inheritance of a family which anciently extracted its surname from the abovesaid parish, and was called Bonington, of which family was Nicholas de Bonington, who paid respective aid for this manor at making the Black Prince knight; after this family was extinguished,

83 <Bonnington> <Brookland> <Brook> <Bromley>

which was about the beginning of Richard the second, the Breslands, a family who were owners of a plentiful estate in East Kent, were entituled by purchase to the possession of this manor, and continued in the tenure of it until the latter end of Henry the fourth, and then it passed away as appears by some ancient court rolls to Cobbe, whose arms, viz. argent a cheveron between three cocks gules, (if not assaulted by the barbarous rudeness of these times) stand in old coloured glass, both in the churches of Bonnington and Limne. But to proceed, Singleton had for several generations and ages, been folded up in that demean which related to this family, it was carried down by the vicissitude of time to Edward Cobbe, Esquire, who, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, deceased without issue male, and so both this place and Cobb's place in Aldington, became the inheritance of Sir John Norton of Northwood, by marrying Alice sole daughter and heir of the abovesaid Edward, and from him did it transmit itself by descent to his successor Sir Thomas Norton of Northwood, who almost in our fathers remembrance, conveyed it to Mr. White, in whose descendant the title and possession are yet resident.

BROOKLAND, in the hundred of Aloesbridge, anciently was wrapped up in the patrimony of a noble family called Passeley, whose seat was at Thevegate in Smeth,

Edmund de Passeley is the first whom in public record I discover to have been possessed of it, as appears by an inquisition taken after his decease in the nineteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 57. but the abode of this family at this place was no longer than until the end of Henry the fourth, and then it was by John Passeley, alienated to the lord Cobham of Sterborough, and here was the tenure and title more transient and volatile than in the former family; for Thomas lord Cobham of Sterborough died in the eleventh year of Edward the fourth; and left it to his sole daughter and heir Ann, married to Edward Borough, afterwards in her right lord Borough of Sterborough, and lord of this manor; and in this family was it fixed until Thomas lord Borough of Sterborough, grandchild to the abovesaid Edward, about the middle of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Eversfield of Sussex, from whom, by as quick a transition it was alienated to Godfrey of Lidde, where after it had some small time been settled, a mutation like the former united it to the property of Wood, and he about the beginning of king James, demised it by sale to Mr. John Fagge, grandfather to John Fagge, Esquire, one of the justices of the peace for the county of Sussex, who is the instant lord of the fee.

BROCK, in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, was given to the priory of Christ church, by Charlemanus a priest, whose donation was first ratified by the charter of Henry the first, and secondly by that of Henry the second: in the Conqueror's time you will find it thus represented, Rodbertus de Romeney tenet 1 manerium de Brock, ad firmam de cibo monachorum, & pro 1 sulling defendebat se, & nunc pro dimidio & valet 4l. This upon the surrender of the abovesaid cloister, and its revenue into the hands of Henry the eighth, was enstated on the newly erected dean and chapter of Christ church, and there was lodged until this age of discomposure and distraction, and now it is rent off.

BROMLEY \* gives name to the whole hundred where it is situated, and hath been many ages part of the demean of the church since it was given (as appears by the records of the church of Rochester) by John Later a goldsmith of London, to the bishop of that see, in the year of our lord 1300.

There are two seats within this parish which were all of temporal interest, and pretend to a deep antiquity; the first is Sundridge, which formerly was the patrimony of a noble family called Blund. Peter le Blund was constable of the tower of London the thirty fourth year of Henry the third, and Ralph le Blund his grandchild, paid respective aid for his lands at Bromley, which he there held by a whole knight's fee of the bishop of Rochester, in the twentieth of Edward the third; and when this name was entombed in a female heir, this seat went with her to the Wiloughbies, from whom the earl of Linsey is descended; and when some years it had rested in this family, by the circumstance of purchase, it became the patrimony of Booth; when this name was likewise wound up in an heir general, the Betenhams of Pluckley, by marrying with her, became lords of this mansion, and continue still proprietors of it.

\* Remarkable not only for the bishop of Rochester's palace, but for a college or hospital here erected, temp. Car. 2. by Dr. John Warner, bishop of Rochester, for the maintenance of twenty poor ministers widows, with 20 pounds per annum to each, and 50 pounds to their chaplain. The first of this kind ever erected in England. See the engraving annexed.

84 <Bromley> <Boughton Monchelsea>

Simpson is the second seat of account, though in ages of a latter inscription it contracted that name, yet anciently it was the demean of Bankewell, a family of signal repute in this track. John de Bankewell had a charter of free warren to his lands in Bromley, in which this was involved in the thirty first year of Edward the first, and Thomas de Bankewell died seized of it in the thirty fifth year of Edward the third; and when this family was shrunk at this place into a final extinction, the next who were eminent in the possession of it were the Clarks, and one William Clark, that flourished here in the reign of Henry the fifth, that he might not be obnoxious to the statute of kernellatians, obtained license to erect a strong little pile of lime and stone, with an embattled wall encircled with a deep moat, which is supplied and nourished with a living spring; but this man's posterity did not long enjoy it, for

about the latter end of Henry the sixth, John Simpson dwelt here by right of purchase, and he having much improved the fabric, settled his name upon it, and indeed that is all that is left to evidence they were once owners of it, for in an age or two after this it was conveyed to John Stiles, Esquire, of Bekenham, from whom descends Sir Humphrey Stiles, knight and baronet, cup-bearer to the late king Charles, and him does Simpson confess for its instant owner.

There is a well in the bishop's park, called St. Blase's well, which anciently had an oratory annexed to it, dedicated to St. Blasius, which was much frequented at Whitsuntide, because Lucas who was legate for Sixtus the fourth here in England, granted an indulgent remission of forty days enjoined penance, to all those who should visit this chapel, and offer up their orisons there in the three holidays of Pentecost.

BOUGHTON MONTCHENSEY, is placed in the hundred of Eythorne, and hath that addition annexed to it, to signify to us that it was once the possession of the family of Montchensey, whose principal seat was at Swanscamp, where I shall treat more largely of them, but though originally they held this place, yet it was not long a branch of their demean, for about the beginning of Henry the third they had deserted the possession and surrendered it up to Hougham of Hougham by Dover, and Robert de Hougham died possessed of it in the forty first year of Henry the third, and had issue Robert de Hougham, after whose death the spindle prevailed against the spear, for he concluded in daughters and co-heirs; Bennet, one of them, married to John de Shelving, and he by a right derived from her, was invested in the possession, and died seized of it in the fourth year of Edward the third, and so did his widow in the twenty second year of that prince, and with them the name of Shelving expired in two daughters and co-heirs; Helen who was married to John de Bourn, and Joan married to John Brampton alias Detling, of Detling Court, and so they in her right became entitled to the signory of this manor; but before the end of Richard the second, the family of Bourn found likewise its tomb in a female inheritrix, who was married to Haut of Hauts-place in Petham, and Edward Haut held Bourn and some part of this manor in the eighth year of Henry the fourth, as appears by the pipe roll relating to that time; but after this it was not long united to their inheritance, for about the latter end of Henry the sixth, by an old court roll, I find it in the tenure of Reginald Peckham, Esquire, nor was that other portion of this manor, which indeed was the more eminent part of it, which was annexed to the patrimony of Brampton, long fixed in that family, for this name finding a final interment in Benedicta Brampton alias Detling, she, by marrying with Thomas At Town of Town-place, interwove the title with his demean, where it had no long residence, for he determining in three daughters and co-heirs, Bennet, one of them, by marrying William Watton of Addington, upon the partage of Town's inheritance espoused it to Watton's patrimony, and he about the latter end of Henry the sixth, conveyed it to Reginald Peckham above mentioned, and Katharine Peckham, widow of James Peckham his son, held the whole manor at her death, which was in the seventh year of Henry the seventh, and after her Thomas Peckham, Esquire, her descendant, enjoyed it his decease, which was in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and left it to his son Reginald Peckham, Esquire, who about the latter end of the above mentioned prince, passed it away to Sir Thomas Wiat, and he not long after, alienated it to Robert Rudston, Esquire, who having been entangled in the unsuccessful design of that knight, forfeited it to the crown,

85 <Boughton Monchelsea> <Boughton Aluph>

but was reinvested again in it by a new concession in the second year of queen Mary, and much improved the ancient structure with the increase of building, in the years 1565, and 1576, and left it to his son and heir Belknap Rudston, Esquire, who by his last will and testament, settled it on his kinsman Sir Francis Barnham in the year 1613, from whom it is now descended to that worthy person Robert Barnham Esquire, his son and heir.

Wierton House is a second place to be considered of in this parish, it borrows its surname from Adam de Wierton, who, as appears by old deeds, which by the antiquity of their character seem to commence from the reign of king Hen. III. was possessor of this place, and having inoculated his name upon it, it sprouted out, not in loose suckers and excrescencies, but in those who were by lineal descent from him justly and successively entitled to the property of this manor, until the latter end of

Rich. II. and then it was by sale transmitted to Robert Purse, and there is one of this name, but whether this man or his son, I am uncertain, who was lord of Wierton House, and lies buried in Boughton church in the north isle, with this inscription on a plate of brass affixed to the wall, *Hic jacet Robertus Purse qui obiit 1452, & bona multa huic contulit ecclesiæ*; that is, he built the belfrey and the north isle, and those are the good works registered in his epitaph; and over his place of sepulture, his portraiture in painted glass was preserved entire until the eruption of the late intestine war, and then the tempestuous and ill managed, or rather over-heated zeal of these times, which like an over-heated brain still concludes in madness, disordered it into a heap of ruins; after this man's exit, I do not find it acknowledged this family long, for Robert Purse, this man's son, alienated it to Richard Norton, and his wife Margaret Norton, lies interred within that seat which belongs to Wierton House, as the date on her tombstone instructs me, in the year 1407, and in this family did the title for many generations inhabit, until that age which fell under our cognisance, and then it was demised by sale to Sir Anthony St. Leger of Ireland, whose son Sir Anthony St. Leger, is still proprietor of it.

Holbrook is the last place to be taken notice of in this parish; it was anciently involved in the demean of a family which in ancient deeds and court rolls were written Halbroke, and bore, as is evident in old registers and armorials, azure a plain cross between four mullets or, frettee of the first, and having continued here many descents, about the beginning of Hen. V. languished away, and then the property of this place came to confess the signory of Haut of Hautsbourn, and dwelt in their patrimony until Sir William Haut determined about the latter end of Hen. VIII. in two female co-heirs, whereof Joan was married to Sir Thomas Wiat, and he in her right was enstated in the inheritance of this place, and about the latter end of Edw. VI. the contract being fortified with his lady's consent, passed it away to Smith, ancestor to Mr. .... Smith, who still possesses it as part of his inheritance.

Boughton Alulph or Aluff, in the hundred of Wye, had this appellative distinction united to its name, to intimate to us, that in the Saxons time it owned the jurisdiction of one Alulphus, a Saxon, into whose name, to derive his memory down to us, it hath been ever since adopted; but in the ages after the conquest, it was wrapped up in the estate of the ancient family of Burgherst, now vulgarly called Burwash. Robert de Burgherst is the first who is brought on the stage by public record, and presented to our remembrance, and he held it at his death, which was in the thirty third year of Edw. I. Rot. Esc. Num. 41. and is amongst the register of those who accompanied that triumphant and successful prince in his fortunate expedition against the Scots, and he left it to his son Stephen de Burgherst, who in the second year of Edw. II. obtained a charter of free warren to his manor of Boughton Aluff, and in the third year of that prince, paid his debt to nature; from whom it descended to his son Stephen de Burwash, who had a renovation of the former charter of free warren confirmed to this manor in the first year of Edw. III. His son and heir was Bartholomew lord Burgherst, who had a charter of free warren confirmed to all his lands, in which this was involved, in the twelfth and sixteenth years of Edw. III. and was certainly a person of much eminence in those times, for he is recorded by Daniel in his chronicle to have been one of those, to whom the abovesaid prince committed the conduct of his army at the battle of Crescy, and was summoned to sit in parliament as baron, as appears amongst the summons of that age; he deceased in the twenty eighth year of Edw. III. his heir apparent was Bartholomew lord Burgherst, who was lord cham-

86 <Boughton Aluph>

berlain of the king's household, and was frequently summoned to sit as a peer of the realm by Edw. III. as it appears registered in the late printed abridgement of the records of the Tower; and he, in the forty third year of Edw. III. passed away this manor and much other land to Walter de Pavely; in Pavely the possession was resident, but until the beginning of Rich. II. and then it was conveyed to Trivet; but here it was of no long fixed continuance neither, for Sir Thomas Trivet, about the fifteenth year of the abovesaid prince, passed it away to Lewis Clifford, Esquire, who in the twelfth year of Hen. VI. by a fine then levied, transplanted his right in it into William Wenlock, and he not long after, transmitted it by sale to Richard Beauchamp, baron of Aburgavenny, whose son Richard baron Aburgavenny concluded in Elizabeth Beauchamp, his sole heir, who was married to Edward Nevil, in her right lord of this manor, whose descendants constantly remained invested in the inheritance un-



til the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated to Sir Thomas Moile, and he dying without issue male, Katharine, his daughter and co-heir, fastened it to the demean of her husband Sir Thomas Finch, where it hath ever since remained so constant and permanent, that it now confesses the signory of the right honorable Heneage Finch, the instant earl of Winchelsey.

Seaton, Ulley, and Potbery, are three little manors lying within the verge of this parish, the first of which held in grand serjeanty of the crown, with this respective service to be performed by the lord of the fee, *esse vantrarius regius quando rex iverit in Vasconiam, donec per usus fuerit pari solutarum pretio 4d.* which wiser heads, who pretend to unravel the intrigues and criticisms of law Latin, interpret thus, to be the king's fore footman, when he shall go into Gasconie, until he hath worn out a pair of shoes, which cost 4d. All these manors were wrapped up in the demean of Crioll, and Bertram de Crioll died seized of them in the twenty third year of Edw. I. whose only daughter Joan being married to Richard de Rokesey, called in some old records Sir Richard, upon the death of her brother John de Crioll without issue, entituled her husband to that large patrimony which called her father proprietor; but he dying without issue male, Joan his sole heir, married to Thomas de Poynings, knit together the demean of Crioll and Rokesley, and cast it into his possession; and here it made its abode until the eleventh year of Rich. II. and then the title of these manors came by Eleanor, the general inheritrix of Poynings, to submit to the dominion of Henry earl of Northumberland, and his successor, Henry earl of the same place, alienated them in the twenty third year of Hen. VIII. to Sir Thomas Cheyney, William Walsingham, and William Fitz Williams, and they conveyed them to Sir Christopher Hales, and his son Sir James sold them to Sir Thomas Moile, by whose co-heir they devolved to Sir Thomas Finch.

Buckwell in Boughton Aluph, was the seat of a family called Bekewell, as appears by an inquisition taken after the death of Henry de Bekewell, in the tenth year of Edw. III. Rot. Esc. Num. 72. by which he is found to have been then possessed of it, and so was his successor Henry Bekewell, by a subsequent inquisition, taken in the seventeenth year of Rich. II, Rot. Esc. Num. 97. After this family was worn out, the possession of this place was united to the inheritance of Wode, and here it remained fastened until the thirty fourth year of Hen. VI. and then Robert Wode passed it away by sale to Mr. Walter Moile, father to John Moile, Esquire, who was justice of the peace for this county, in the reign of Edw. IV. who now enjoys this mansion: and so much for the seat itself. The manor which is now entwined with it, was, for the principal part of it, the inheritance of Burgherst or Burwash. Robert de Bergherst possessed it at his death, which was in the thirty third year of Edw. I. Rot. Esc. Num. 47. from whom it devolved to his successor Bartholomew lord Burgherst knight of the garter, who in the forty third year of Edw. III. by a deed of feoffment, invests it in Sir Walter de Paveley, knight likewise of the garter; from Paveley it came over by purchase to be the possession of Sir Robert Belknap, one of the judges of Rich. II. who having disgusted the duke of Gloucester, that king's uncle, and others of the nobility, who were knit into a junto, for protection of the people's liberties, against the inroads of the royal prerogative, which peradventure, that unfortunate person had endeavoured to extend beyond its just confines, was impeached of high treason, convicted and banished into Ireland, in the tenth year of the abovementioned prince, and his estate for the most part confiscated, amongst which was his land at Buckwell, which king Rich. II. in the twelfth year of his rule, granted to the dean

87 <Boughton Aluph> <Boughton under Blean>

and canons of St. Stephens in Westminster, and I find one Semana de Tong to have held it in lease of that chapter at his death, which was in the second year of Hen. V. Rot. Esc. Num. 29. and so did Kimberley afterwards in the third year of Hen. VI. Rot. Esc. Num. 33. After this family deceased, I find the Moiles to hold it as lessees to that convent, until the general dissolution in the reign of king Hen. VIII. and then that prince granted the fee simple to John Moile, Esquire, son of Robert Moile, Esquire, who, as the records of this family testify, was justice of the peace of this county, and one of the esquires of the body to that prince, and from this John Moile is the title, by hereditary succession, streamed into Mr. Robert Moile, who is the instant lord of the fee.

Barton is another manor, which partly is situated in Wye, and partly in Boughton

Alulf, and had owners of that surname, who were invested in the possession until the twenty eighth year of Hen. VI. and then it was conveyed to cardinal Kempe, who settled it on his newly instituted college of Wye, in whose revenue it lay folded up, until upon the suppression of it into the hands of Hen. VIII. in the twenty ninth year of his government, and was, not long after, conveyed by grant to Sir Thomas Moile, and he passed it away to his brother Mr. Walter Moile, from whom it is now descended to his successor, Mr. Robert Moile the heir apparent of it.

BOCTON under Bleane, gives name to the whole hundred wherein it is placed. It was one of those manors which anciently belonged to the archbishop of Canterbury; but by whom it was given, because the records of Christ church in that particular are silent, I must; if you will look for its appraisement in the time of the conqueror, Domesday book will inform you. Bocton, (says that record) est manerium archiepiscopi, & in tempore Edwardi regis defendebat se pro V. sullingis, & dimido, & nunc similiter, & fuit appretiatum in tempore Edwardi regis XIIb. et archiepiscopus habet inde Cs. XV. & III. Denarios de Gablo. Nunc autem valet XXIIb. sed tamen reddit XX. & VIb. de Firma, & archiepiscopus habet suum gablum ut supra.

Boughton or Bocton court, is the first place of secular interest, which claims our notice; it formerly (though now shrunk into a mansion of mean concern) did contribute both seat and surname to a family so called, and one John de Bocton, as I discover by deeds, held it in the reign of Edw. II. and Edw. III. In times more modern it is in Sir John Rowth's evidences called Swayford, from the Swayfords who were next possessors of the fee; those who succeeded the inheritance were the Bingers, now called Bengers, from whom the Bengers of Hougham by Dover, are issued out, and after this name had flourished here from the entrance into the government of Hen. V. till towards the reign of Hen. VII. it expired, and then the Hales were the successive proprietors, from whom by sale, the right was wafted over to Wood, and from this name did a fatality resembling the former, bring it down to Rowth, in relation to whom Sir John Rowth is now entitled to the fee simple of it.

Brinley in this parish, does celebrate the memory of Sir Laurence de Brinley, who flourished here about the reign of Edw. I. and in this family was it for a series of some descents resident, till one of them sold it to John Roper, a younger branch of the Ropers of St. Dunstons; in whose posterity, after the title had been sometime planted, it was by a daughter and heir made the inheritance of Aires; and when this family after some abode here, determined in a daughter and heir, the same female right threw it into the revenue of the Rowths, descended from the Rowths of Derbyshire, from which alliance Sir John Rowth claims at this instant the possession.

Nash court is a seat of very reverend antiquity, especially since for some centuries of years it hath been (as is apparent by their own private evidences) the mansion of the Hawkins, a family of deep descent, and illustrious account in this track, but made more eminent by being the cradle of that learned gentleman Sir Thomas Hawkins, who for his own accurate translation of Caussin's his holy court from the French original into English, and his other well polished labours, cannot be decyphered or limned out to posterity, under too worthy an attribute.

Colkins is the last place, though not of the least account, which in this parish is to be considered; it was built by John Colkin, originally a citizen in Canterbury, and he at his death, which was in the tenth of Edw. III. was in possession of it; there are several of this man's posterity which lie entombed in Boughton, with a griffin segreant,

88 <Boughton under Blean> <Boardfield> <Bishopsbourne>

which was their paternal coat, affixed to the front of the gravestone. William Colkin and Anne his wife, are there interred with this inscription, Orate pro anima Will. Colkin & Agnet. Ux. qui quidem obierunt, anno Dom. 1460. and the rest is defaced; this man's father John Colkin, sleeps there with this inscription annexed to the marble, Hic jacet Johannes Colkin qui obiit octavo die Aprilis, anno dom. 1405. but not long after the decease of William Colkin abovesaid, did the possession of this seat continue permanent in this family; for his son John Colkin sold it to Henry Petit, father to Cirjacus or Sidrach Petit, who drew up a survey of all the manors of Kent, which held by knights service of the crown, in the twenty eighth year of Henry the eighth, from whom Mr. Petit, the present lord of Colkin, does extract both his descent and title.

Dane court in this parish also, cannot be passed by without some inspection: in elder times Sir Allan de Dane challenged the signory of it, and as he took his surname from it so he had his habitation here, in the reign of Edward the third, and it continued a mansion for his descendants divers years after; but in the reign of Henry the fourth, I find the Foggs lords of the fee, the last of which that held it was Sir John Fogge, who died possessed of it, as appears by his will, in the seventeenth year of Henry the seventh, and left it to his son and heir Sir John Fogge, from which family not many years after, it came to own the property of Petit of Colkins, in the descendant of which family the interest of it is yet resident.

Thomas At Hurst here founded a chapel in the eighth year of Richard the second, and dedicated it to St. Nicholas, which was for the use of lazars and poor leprous people, lodged in an hospital not far distant of this man's foundation also.

BOURDFIELD or BORESFIELD, in the hundred of Eyhorn, was formerly a parish, and the remains of some part of the stone-work of the church, as likewise the bounds of the church yard are yet obvious, but since its decay it hath been incorporated into Oltringden, and is now looked upon as an hamlet of that parish. It was for many descents the patrimony of the lords Cobham of Sterborough, and so continued until Thomas lord Cobham died in the eleventh year of Edward the fourth, and left one only daughter and heir called Anne Cobham, who was married to Edward Borough, after in her right as heir general, created lord Borough of Sterborough, from whom this manor descended to his grandchild Thomas lord Borough, who in the twenty fifth year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to John Pakenham, and he not long after, alienated it to John Lewin, Esquire, in which family it remained until our remembrance, and then by the heir general it was carried off to Rogers of the county of Somerset, and the like vicissitude hath by the female inheritrix of that family brought it now to acknowledge Charles Cavendish viscount Mansfield, heir apparent to William, created marquiss Newcastle by the late king at Oxford.

BISHOPS-BOURN, in the hundred of Bredge and Petham, is called so because it was given by king Kenulfus, at the request of Athelard arch-bishop of Canterbury, to the priory of Christ church in the year of grace 789, and in the charter there is a recital of one Aldhun, a pious citizen of Canterbury, who first bequeathed it to that convent, and the charter of confirmation informs us that it was given to the Monks, ad vestimentum eorum, for a supply of vesture. In the year 811, arch-bishop Ulfred exchanged Eastry of Bourn, with the convent above mentioned, and in the demean of that see it lay couched until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then Thomas arch-bishop of Canterbury, exchanged it for other lands with Sir Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgebury, who in the thirty fourth year of the abovesaid prince, conveyed it to Sir Anthony Aucher, ancestor to Sir Anthony Aucher, knight the instant proprietor both of this and Hautsbourn, which next summons a remembrance.

Hauts-bourn; before it was enlarged with the additional appellation of Haut, afforded both seat and surname in elder times to a family of venerable antiquity in these parts. John de Bourn lived here, and had a charter of free warren granted to it in the seventeenth year of Edward the first; but when this name resolved into a daughter and heir, who was married to Shelving, this manor lost the name of Bourn, and was called by addition Shelving Bourn, and remained sometime under that notion, until a vicissitude of the same nature with the former, entombed this in a female inheritance likewise, who being married to Edward Haut, the first addition was removed and wrapped up in a second, for thenceforth in public records it was frequently stiled Hauts-bourn, and so continued under that name and in that family, until Sir William Haut, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, dying without issue male, this family determined in two daughters and co-heirs, one of them called Elizabeth, being married to Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, brought Bourn to be the inheritance of that family, and he, in the thirty fourth year of Henry the eighth, passed it away to Sir Anthony Aucher, descended from Aucherus the Saxon, who was of eminent note at Newenden in this county, of whom more shall be spoken when I come to treat of that place.

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heritrix likewise, who being married to Edward Haut, the first addition was removed and wrapped up in a second, for thenceforth in public records it was frequently stiled Hauts-bourn, and so continued under that name and in that family, until Sir William Haut, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, dying without issue male, this family determined in two daughters and co-heirs, one of them called Elizabeth, being married to Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, brought Bourn to be the inheritance of that family, and he, in the thirty fourth year of Henry the eighth, passed it away to Sir Anthony Aucher, descended from Aucherus the Saxon, who was of eminent note at Newenden in this county, of whom more shall be spoken when I come to treat of that place.

Bursted is the last place to be taken notice of in this parish, which in ancient deeds

is written Burghsted, and was the inheritance of a family of that surname, but the chiefest honour which it acquired in times of a more modern aspect, is, that for several descents last past, it hath constantly confessed itself to be part of the property and patrimony of Denne, a cadet of the Denny of Denne hill.

BOXLEY, in the hundred of Maidstone, had an abbey filled with Cistercian monks, and founded by William de Iper of Flanders, advanced by king Stephen to be earl of Kent in the year 1145; king Richard the first, as the register of this abbey denotes, was a great benefactor to the convent, who were originally transported hither from Clarevall in Burgundy; upon the suppression, the house with the demesne adjacent, was in the thirty second of Henry the eighth, granted to Sir Thomas Wiat, father to Sir Thomas Wiat, one of his privy counsel, a man of unbroken though a calamitous virtue, who thinking it a less stain to forfeit his estate, than to debauch his conscience, stuck close to that sacramental covenant, by which he and the rest of the counsel had obliged themselves to Henry the eighth, to preserve as much as in them lay his two daughters Mary and Elizabeth, from confederating with any foreign alliance, and so engaged in that design which overset him, and sunk him and his patrimony into that ruin; we find him and it lost at present, for upon his attainder, queen Mary, in the second year of her reign, granted out his estate as if it were by retail to several sons, but this manor and some other small pieces were given back to the lady Joan Wiat his widow, for the support of herself and family; and this is all which of that vast wide revenue of his, which lay scattered in this and other counties, is held by his posterity at this day.

Newnham court is likewise another manor in Boxley, which, in the twentieth year of William the conqueror, as appears by the record of Doomsday book, was wrapped up in the revenue of Odo bishop of Baieux and earl of Kent, and it is possible was one of his ordinary mansions or palaces, but after his decease it returned to the crown, and it is probable, being esteemed a limb of Boxley, was involved in that exchange which was made by king Stephen, of other lands with William de Ipre, for his manor of Feversham, and it is possible was settled by this William de Ipre, when he erected the abbey of Boxley (though it be not mentioned in the original charter) upon that convent, and became part of their endowment, and remained united to the patrimony of this cloister, until the suppression of Henry the eighth, and then it was granted about the thirty second year of that prince's government, to Sir Thomas Wiat; and his son, by his unhappy infection in the time of queen Mary, forfeited it to the crown, where it remained till queen Elizabeth, by royal concession, invested the possession in her faithful servant John Astley, Esquire, master or conservator of her jewels, whose son, Sir John Astley, alienated it to his nephew Sir Norton Knatchbull, knight and baronet, who is the instant proprietor of it.

Wevering in this parish, is a manor held by knights service, and Waretius de Shelving, son of John de Shelving, and Hellen de Bourn, daughter and heir of John de Bourn, held it by this tenure, to find a horse for the king's army in Wales; Cum uno sacco & brochia pro esquilis ipsius Domini regis, so it runs in the Latin record taken in the third year of Edward the third: after this man's decease, John de Shelving was this man's heir, and in his right enjoyed this manor, though it was not wholly his till he married Benedicta, daughter and co-heir of Robert de Hougham, who likewise held some part of it, and then he transmitted it entire to his son William Shelving, whose sole daughter and heir being married to Edward Haut of Hauts-place in Pe-

90 <Boxley> <Boughton Malherbe>

tham, who was sheriff of Kent in the eighth year of Henry the fourth, this, and an opulent demesne beside, came interwoven with the revenue of that family; and here the possession seemed to be laid up till Sir William Hautsbourne, this man's great grandchild, died and left only two co-heirs, Joan married to Sir Thomas Wiat, and Elizabeth married to Sir Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, so wavering by this alliance it accrued to Sir Thomas Wiat, from whom, in the second year of queen Mary, it was by forfeiture torn away, but was in the twenty fourth year of queen Elizabeth, restored with the manor of Boxley to the lady Jane Wiat, widow of the abovesaid Sir Thomas, and her son George Wiat for three lives; the reversion was sold by king Charles to Mr. Stephen Alcock, who alienated the fee simple to Sir Francis Wiat.

Vinters is contained also in Boxley; it gave seat and surname to as noble a family and of as deep antiquity as any in this track. Roger Vinter lived here, who was

one of the conservators of the peace of the county of Kent, in the eighteenth year of the reign of Edward the third; he deceased in the forty seventh year of the abovesaid prince's government, and John Vinter was his heir, who sold Vinters to Fremingham in the tenth year of Henry the fourth, from whom it was conveyed by a female inheritor, to Isley of Sundrich, and here it rested till Sir Henry Isley being folded up in the same attempt with Sir Thomas Wiat, upon the blasting of that design, forfeited his interest in it to the crown; queen Mary granted it to Cutts, who some years after divested himself of his right in it, and by sale disposed of it to Sir Cavaliero Maycott, who suddenly alienated it to Covert, who transferred it by the like devolution, about some five and twenty years since, to Sir William Tufton, knight and baronet, whose second son Sir Charles Tufton, upon the late decease of his brother Sir Benedict Tufton, is the present lord of the fee.

I had almost forgot to mention, which certainly must much improve the honour of this place, that king Edward the second, in the fifteenth year of his reign, lying at Boxley abby granted the charter to London, to elect yearly one of the city at their own pleasure to be their mayor.

BOUGHTON MALHERBE, in the hundred of Eyhorn, did very probably take its denomination from a family of that surname, who were of eminent account in the county of Devon, for I find Sir William de Malherbe was witness to a deed of Reginald de Mohun, by which he gives much land to the abby of Axminster, as appears Pat. 14. Hen. tertii Memb. 33. parte prima. In the reign of Henry the third, by several old deeds I discover it to be marshalled in the list of those lands which confessed Robert de Gatton, son of Robert de Gatton, (who was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ in the second year of king John) to have been the proprietor, and he died possessed of it in the forty eighth year of Henry the third, and left it to his son Hamo de Gatton, in whom the male line determined; so that this manor, upon the partition of his inheritance, devolved by Elizabeth daughter and co-heir, to be the patrimony of William de Dene, who obtained a charter of free warren to his lands here, in the tenth year of Edward the second; but he did not long after enjoy the benefit of this privilege, for he conveyed it to Robert Corbie, who in the thirty sixth year of Edward the third, had licence by this prince's grant to build after a fortified manner, the terms are kernellare & turrellare, that is, to make cranies and loopholes to discharge cross-bows and other missile weapons, and to embattle with towers and curtain walls, the manor house at Boughton; from him it descended to Robert Corbie his son and heir, who died and left only one daughter and heir, Joan married to Sir Nicholas Wotton, twice lord mayor of London; and so by female right this manor became the possession of this family, and in a continued series was it carried down from Sir Nicholas, to Thomas lord Wotton not many years since deceased, whose lady dowager Mary, daughter and one of the co-heirs of Sir Arthur Throgmorton of Paulers Perry in the county of Northampton, as parcel of her jointure, did lately before her decease enjoy it, whose right in this and Colbridge is now transferred to her eldest daughter lady Katharine Stanhope.

Colbridge castle lay in Boughton Malherbe, under the hill towards Headcorne, and hath found a sepulchre now under its own rubbish. King Henry the third, in the forty third year of his reign, granted licence by his charter to Sir Fulke Peyforer, to fortify and build after a castle-like manor, his mansion house at Colbridge; it came

91 <Boughton Malherbe> <Buckland near Faversham> <Buckland near Dover>

after to be the possession of Roger lord Leybourne, and from him did descend to Juliana Leybourn, his sole heir, who marrying William Clinton earl of Huntingdon, made it his inheritance; but he deceasing in the twenty eighth year of Edward the third without issue, and his lady after dying and leaving no visible or avowed alliance, knit to her by the indisputable tie of consanguinity to claim it, it escheated to the crown, and king Richard the second, in the twenty first year of his reign, granted it to the royal chapel of St. Stephen's in Westminster, where it remained till the dissolution, and then it was granted in the second year of Edward the sixth, to Sir Edward Wotton, from whom by a successive right of descent it was transmitted to his great grandchild Thomas lord Wotton of Marley, whose widow the lady Mary Wotton does at this instant possess it.

Lastly, Chilston is an eminent seat and manor likewise situated within the precincts of this parish: in the fifty fifth year of Henry the third, Henry Hussey had a charter

of free warren to his manor of Chilston, and his grandchild Henry Hussey died seized of it in the sixth year of Edward the third, and in this family was the inheritance in an undivided succession, resident till our grandfathers memory, and then Henry Hussey, by sale, translated the property into John Packhurst, whose successor Sir William Packhurst, alienated it to Richard Northwood, whose son Mr. Alexander Northwood, by the same transmission passed it over to Cieggat, who very lately disposed of his concern in it to Mr. Manly of London, who very lately hath conveyed it to Mr. Edward Hales, grandchild to Sir Edward Hales of Tunstal, knight and baronet.

BUCKLAND, in the hundred of Feversham, was (as Sidrach Petit's Inquest into the manors of Kent informs me) as high as the reign of Henry the third, the possession of John de Buckland, who it seems extracted his surname from hence, and is likewise mentioned in Testa de Nevil, to have held land in this track in the twentieth year of Henry the third: but before the end of Edward the second, this family was vanished from this place, and immediately after they were gone out, the Frogenhalls of Frogenhall in Tenham, were entituled to the possession, and Richard Frogenhall was seized of it at his decease, which was in the thirty fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 37. and from him did it descend to John Frogenhall, Esquire, who was with Edmund Brook lord Cobham, then general of the Kentish forces under Richard earl of Warwick, at the battle of Northampton, where the house of Lancaster, by that vigorous assistance the Kentish men that day afforded the house of York, received so fatal a wound, that all the art of the Lancastrian partisans, could hardly ever after close it; and this man had issue Thomas Frogenhall, who about the beginning of Henry the seventh, passed it away to Gedding; and Thomas Gedding, in the twenty fifth year of Henry the eighth, held this manor, and conveyed it by deed to Henry Atsea of Herne; and he, in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, was possessed of it at his death, and from him did the thread of descent guide the title down to his grandchild William Atsea, who in the tenth year of king James, conveyed it by sale to ..... Saker of Feversham, gentleman, whose son Mr. Christopher Saker, in our fathers memory, alienated it to Sir Basill Dixwell of Terlingham in Folkstone, knight and baronet, who upon his decease about the year 1641, gave it to his kinsman John Dixwell, Esquire, in whom the possession is still resident.

BUCKLAND by Dover, is situated in the hundred of Bewsborough, and was a branch of that spacious and wide demeane which made the patrimony of Hamon de Crevequer so considerable in this county, and he held it at his decease, which was in the forty seventh year of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 33. Afterwards I find the Wilghebies or Willoughbies invested in the possession, and Thomas de Willoughbie was seized of it at his decease, which was in the seventh year of Edward the second; but the title had no long residence in this family, for in the reign of Edward the third, I find it in the tenure of Barrie of Sevington; for Agnes, wife of William Barrie, was possessed of it in right of dower, as appears by an inquisition taken after his death in the forty eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 7. After the Barries were worn out, the Callards or Calwards, now vulgarly called Collard, became lords of the fee, a family of deep extraction in this track, and who were in elder times entituled to the possession of land and houses in Canterbury, as appears by a  
92 <Buckland near Dover> <Burham> <Burmarsh>

composition made between the monks of St. Augustins and those of Christ-church, in the forty first year of Edward the third, recited by Mr. Somner in his survey of that city, page 192, wherein it is mentioned, that the abby of St. Austins had purchased land and houses of John Calward. But to proceed, after this family had for divers descents held this manor in a fair repute (John Callard, Esquire, being one of those who accompanied Sir Henry Guldford of this county, to serve Ferdinand of Castile, in his war commenced against the Moors, where for some signal service performed against those infidels, he had this coat assigned to him and his posterity, by Clarenceux Benolt, vid. girony of six pieces or & sables, over all, three Blackamores heads decouped. In our fathers memory, they surrendered the possession of this place by sale to Fogge, who not many years after, passed away his concern in it, by the same conveyance, to William Sherman, Esquire, of Croyden, steward both to George Abbot and William Laud successively, arch-bishops of Canterbury.

Dudmanscombe is another manor in this parish, which in elder times made up the revenue of the priory of St. Martins in Dover, and continued annexed to that cloister

until the general suppression, and then being torn from the church, it was exchanged with Thomas Cranmer arch-bishop of Canterbury, by Henry the eighth, in the twenty ninth year of his reign, and so remained wound up in the demean of that sea, until that ruinous and fatal popular tempest which arose in these times, supplanted it, and cast it into the possession of a secular interest.

BURHAM, in the hundred of Larkfield, is in Domesday book written Burgham, and was, in the twentieth year of William the conqueror, held by Ralph de Curva Spina. In ages of a lower approach to us, I find it under the signory of Jeffrey de Say, and he died possessed of it in the twenty third year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 48. and for the future remained so chained to the property of this family, that it was esteemed parcel of their barony of Birling, and when Jeffrey lord Say, in the reign of Richard the second, ended in two female co-heirs, one Idonea married to John lord Clinton, and the other called Joan, married to Sir William Fiennes, this, upon the division of the estate, accrued to Fiennes, and coming again by the heir general of Fiennes lord Dacres to be possessed by Lennard, William Lennard, son and heir of Fiennes Lennard, a younger branch of that house, lately passed it away to Mr. Francis Barnham, and Mr. John Maplesden.

There was in old time, a fountain within the limits of this parish, at a place called Haly-Garden, venerable it was, and of no small account amongst the people, who for the sanctity they conceived was in it, ascribed divine attributes unto it, as the name imports, for what we call holy, our ancestors long time since stiled Halyg, as Haly=fax in Yorkshire, from Holy Haire, that the people devoutly esteemed, and frequently with blind credulity visited. In the seventeenth year of king Richard the second, the friars Carmelites of Alresford, obtained a grant by letters patent, to bring the water from that fountain in Haly-Garden to their monastery in Alresford, to what purpose, they that will survey the designs of the monks of those times may easily discover.

BURMERSH, in the hundred of Wroth, was a member of that patrimony, which in times of a higher calculation, related to the abby of St. Augustines in Canterbury, and had here a mansion called Abbots-court, which is an adjunct to this manor, and had this denomination imposed upon it, because the abbot of that convent used to sojourn here when he came to survey that demean, which augmented the revenue of that abby, and lay spread into Romney Marsh. This manor, upon the surrender of the patrimony of that cloister into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the twenty ninth year of his reign, was, in the thirty fifth year of that prince, granted to William Finch, Esquire, whose successor Sir Thomas Finch, earl of Winchelsea, not many years since, passed it away to Sir Ralph Whitfield serjeant at law, whose son and heir Sir Herbert Whitfield, is now lord of the fee.

93 <Canterbury>

C.

CANTERBURY hath so exactly in all the parts and limbs of it, been described and surveyed by Mr. Somner, that I should exceedingly eclipse the labours of so industrious a pen, if I should go about to pourtray that in any contracted landskip, which hath been before represented to the public, penciled out in so large and exquisite a volume: only some few things are there omitted, which in this search I shall take notice of, and so proceed.

The Augustine friars, or convent of black canons in Canterbury, was founded by Thomas de Bonington, Pat. 17. Edw. secundi, Memb. 18. parte secunda.

The prior of the Trinity in Canterbury was accustomed to receive two pence upon every vessel of wine coming into the port of Sandwich, Rot. Claus. Hen. tertii Memb. 17.

Baldwin de Wereval had a charter in the second year of king John, for the aldermanry of Westgate in Canterbury.

Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, had the castles of Canterbury, Dover and Rochester, granted to his custody, Carta 12. Hen. tertii.

King Henry the third, in the sixteenth year of his reign, at Canterbury took the fealty of the knights and free tenants of Kent, as likewise of the barons of the cinque ports; king Henry the third, in the forty eighth year of his reign, grants a pardon for life to Frances de Balsham, for that she was hanged for felony at Canterbury, from nine of the clock on the Monday till the rising of the sun next day, and yet

escaped with life, Pat. 48. Membra 24. I should not have mentioned this, but that an accident proportionate to this in all the circumstances of it, happened to one Ann Green, who not many years since, being hanged at Oxford for the supposed murder of her child, miraculously escaped with life.

King Edward the first landed at Dover 1274, and restored divers liberties to Canterbury, which before were seized into the hands of the crown, Pat. 4. Edw. 1.

There was a chauntry founded in St. Dunstons church by John Roper, for two priests to celebrate at the altar of St. Nicholas in that church, Pat. 4. Hen. 4. parte prima, Memb. 29.

There was another chauntry mentioned by Mr. Somner, founded by William Brenchley, lord chief justice of the king's bench, for one priest to celebrate at the altar of St. John Baptist in Christ-church, for the support of which he gives one house in St. Elphage parish, and ten pound rent issuing yearly out of his land at Bilsington, Pat. 25. Hen. 6. pars 1. memb. 15.

The manor of Dodindale had originally owners of that name; for as Mr. Somner, in his survey of Canterbury out of the records of St. Augustins, instructs me, Haymo the son of Guido de Dodindale, gave the tithes of Dodindale to the prior of St. Augustins: but it seems it was but for certain years, for in the reign of Henry the second (as the same records testify) Robert de Marci gave the tithes of this place to the hospital of St. Laurence; so far he in that laborious piece of his, hath exhibited to the public view, who were its ancient possessors when it bore the name of Dodindale; now out of the private evidences it must be my task to discover who were its proprietors since it carried the name of Morton. By a deed without date, Elias de Morton (from whom it assumed the name of Morton, which hath clove to it ever since) demises the fee simple of it to Hugh Fitzvinon, a family which had large possessions at Selling by Monks Horton, whose daughter Eugenia Fitzvinon, passed it away by deed to Nicholas de Twitham in the twentieth year of Henry the third, and he immediately after, by a deed not bounded with any date, settles it in Robert de Polre; but whether his successor sold it to J. Chich or not, is uncertain, because there is a vacancy or gap in the private evidences, though the records of St. Augustins make him to have some interest in it in the year 1330. The next that I find to have been entituled to the possession were Hardres and Isaack, who, in the twenty second year of Henry the sixth, conveyed it away to William Say for the use of Robert Rigdon, but it seems the title did not long fix here, for he in the thirty third

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year of the abovesaid prince, transmits all his concern in it by sale to William Barton and John Whete, and they by mutual consent, in the eighteenth year of Edward the fourth, alienated it to Edward Pargate, who transmitted it to his son and heir John Pargate, from whom descended Edward Pargate, who in the twenty fifth year of Henry the eighth, demises it to Peter Bruin; and after the title had many years united to this family, Henry Bruin dying without issue, gave it to his sister Jane Bugge, who in the first year of king James, cast her right by sale into her kinsman John Bruin, who in the fifth year of that prince, by the same alienation translated the title into William Denne, who deceasing without issue male, Margaret, his only daughter and heir, brought it over to her husband Edward Hougham, after whose death it is to devolve to two daughters who are the surviving issue of that wife, namely, Elizabeth married to Mr. Edward Rose of Chistlet, and Ann married to Mr. John Betenham, now of Canterbury.

The Dungeon is another manor in Canterbury. It was formerly belonging to an ancient family called Chich. Ernaldus de Chich was a man of principal note under Henry the second, Richard the first, and king John, and the aldermanry of Burgate in Canterbury, did in elder times, appertain to this family. Thomas Chich, who was bailiff of Canterbury 1259, and again in the year 1271, was a principal benefactor to the church of St. Mary Bredin in Canterbury, whose name in an old character, together with his effigies, are set up in the west window, as the coat is likewise in stone-work in the chancel. John Chich was bailiff of Canterbury in the twenty third, and again in the twenty sixth year of Edward the third. In the year 1320, Robert Malling then commissary of Canterbury, gave sentence upon clear evidence by ancient muniments and otherwise, that the hospital of St. Laurence in Canterbury, should not only receive the tithes of the manor of the Dungeon, but likewise of 300 acres adjacent to it, but this was not without the tye or tribute of some remuneration; for in autumn, John



Chich, who was then lord of the Dungeon, was to receive for his servants five loaves of bread, two pitchers and a half of beer, and half a cheese of four pence; and he himself was to receive unum par chirothecarum ferinarum, one pair of holy-day gloves. Thomas Chich, this man's son, was sheriff of Kent in the forty fourth year of Edward the third, and held his shrievalty at the Dungeon; but in Valentine Chich, this man's great grandchild, not only the male line, but likewise the possession of this place failed, for he, about the beginning of Edward the fourth, passed it away to Roger Brent, Esquire, and he died seized of it (as appears by his will recorded at Canterbury,) in the year 1486. But in this family it was not long after this resident, for in the beginning of Henry the eighth, by an old court roll I find one John Butler of Heronden in Eastry, possessed of it, and he conveyed it to Sir John Hales chief baron of the exchequer, and when Leland visited Kent, which was in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, he lived here, and from him it is now come down to his successor Sir James Hales, the instant proprietor of it.

The Moate, alias Wyke, is a third manor within the precincts of Canterbury, and had owners of that surname; for I read in Testa de Nevil that Stephen de Wyke possessed it in the twentieth year of Henry the third, and paid respective aid for it at the marrying of Isabel, that prince's sister; and in the book of Aid, where there is an enumeration of the ancient owners, there is a recital of Stephen de Wyke, William le Taylour, John Tancrey and Richard Betts, who had an interest in it; but before the beginning of Richard the second, all these families were mouldered away and vanished; for in that king's reign I find it by the court rolls of this place, in the hands of Sir Richard de Hoo and Richard Skippe, and they, about the latter end of Richard the second, by deed conveyed it to Simon Spencer, and he some few years after, alienated it to John Standford gentleman, who suddenly after passed it away to Richard Smith, in whose hands it had not long continued, when the same devolution brought it over to John Eastfield, Esquire, son of Sir William Eastfield who was knight of the Bath, and lord mayor of London in the year 1438, and from him it was by sale carried off to William Rogers, and he by a fine levied in the thirty third year of Henry the sixth, demises and sells it to Philip Belknap, Esquire, mayor of that city in the year 1458, and sheriff of Kent in the thirty fourth year of Henry the sixth; he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Woodhouse,

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Esquire, by whom he had issue Alice his only daughter and heir, who was married to Henry Finch, Esquire, of Nitherfield, father of Sir William Finch banneret, who in his mother's right was invested in the possession of the Moat, and from him it is now by successive right, devolved to the right honourable John lord Finch, created baron of Fordwich by the late king Charles, when he was lord keeper of the great seal of England; **who died without issue, 20 Nov. anno 1660.**

St. Dunstons in Canterbury, was the ancient seat of the noble family of Roper; William Rosper or de Rubra Spatha, for so the name is written in old dateless evidences, and Elmith his wife, the daughter and heir of Edward de Apuldore, flourished in the reign of Henry the third, and were great benefactors to the priory of St. Martins in Dover. John de Rubra Spatha or Rosper, did eminent service in Scotland under Edward the third, for which that prince rewards him and William Clifford (as appears by a deed recorded in the earl of Dorset's pedigree) about the twenty ninth year of his reign, with the third part of those forfeitures that were due from the Jews then inhabiting in London, for the violation of some penal statutes of Henry the fourth and Henry the fifth, under whom he was justice of the peace for this county, and died the third year of Henry the sixth 1433, and lies buried in this church of St. Dunstons; John Roper his son, and John Westcliffe, as the records of this family instruct me, were correctors and surveyors of the customs of the cinque ports, in the nineteenth year of Henry the seventh: John Roper his grandchild, was attorney general to Henry the eighth, and prothonotary of the king's bench, as appears by the inscription on his monument in St Dunstons church, 1524, and William Roper who was sheriff of Kent in the first and second year of Philip and Mary, and married Margaret daughter of Sir Thomas More, lord chancellor of England, who (as the inscription on her monument) was Græcis Latinisque literis doctissima, succeeded his father in the office of prothonotary of the king's bench, which he discharged with much fidelity and care fifty four years, and left it to his son Thomas Roper, Esquire, 1577, in which year he died: and from this Thomas is this manor of St. Dunstons,

which for so many centuries of years hath constantly confessed the signory of this name, now descended to his great grandchild Edward Roper, Esquire.

CAPELL, in the hundred of Folkstone, was parcel of that estate which celebrated the family of Averanches to have been its proprietors, which continued no longer in the name than the end of king John; for then William de Averanches dying without issue male, Matilda his only daughter and heir, brought Capell with the two little manors, Halton and Wolverton alias Wolton, to be possessed by Hamon de Crevequer, called in the language of those times, the great lord of Kent; from him they descended to his son and heir Hamon de Crevequer, who dying about the forty seventh year of Henry third without issue, his estate in Kent and elsewhere, was seized on by that prince, as having died in actual arms against him, but was by the act of pacification, made at Kenelworth in the fiftieth year of his reign, restored to his four sisters, whereof Isold was married to Nicholas de Lenham, Agnes the second, was married first to Nicholas de Sandwich, and next to John de Segrave; Matilda the third, was married to Bertram de Crioll, and the fourth was married to William de Pateshall; but upon the division of the estate, Capell, with its two appendages, Halton and Wolton, accrued to Crioll, by whose daughter they came to Sir Richard de Rokesley, and then by Joan his sole inheritrix, to Thomas de Poynings; in which family they remained until the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and then Sir Edward Poynings dying without any lawful issue, they came by Mary his natural daughter, to Edward lord Clinton, to whom they were by grant confirmed in the thirtieth year of that prince's reign, and he, in the second year of queen Mary, passed them away to Mr. Henry Herdson, whose grandchild Mr. Francis Herdson conveyed them to his uncle Mr. John Herdson, and he dying without issue, settled them on his kinsman Sir Basil Dixwell, knight and baronet, whose kinsman Mr. Basil Dixwell of Broome in Barham is now proprietor of them.

Caldham high mounted, is another manor in this parish, which informs us, that in elder times a family of that denomination held it, which before the end of Richard

96 <Capell near Folkestone> <Charlton near Greenwich> <Chalk>

the second had passed it away to Baker, a family of good account in this track, who had a peculiar chancel belonging to them in Folkstone church near the vestry door over the charnel house. John Baker was gentleman porter in Calais, under Henry the fifth and sixth, and dying without issue male, Robert Brandred who married one of his two co-heirs, was planted in the possession, and he about the latter end of Henry the sixth, passed it away to Sir Thomas Brown, whose grandchild Sir Matthew Brown, exchanged it with Henry the eighth about the thirty sixth year of his reign, and he granted it away to William Wilford, John Bennet and George Brigges; and they, in the thirty seventh of his government, alienated their right in this place to John Tufton, Esquire, ancestor to the right honourable John earl of Thanet, who still possesses the signory of it.

CHARLTON, in the hundred of Blackheath, anciently written Ceopleton, that is, the town inhabited with honest, good, stout and useful men for tillage, and country business: it anciently belonged to William Fitz Oger, as Domesday Book saith, and was after given to the monastery of Bermondsey near Southwark, by Robert Bloett bishop of Lincoln, anno sexto Willielmi secundi. King Henry the third gave the prior of that house liberty, by his charter in the fifty third year of his reign, to hold a market there weekly, and a fair once in every year, three days together, viz. upon the eve, upon Trinity Sunday and two days after; the market was held weekly upon the Monday, and was not long since discontinued; but the fair is not disused but kept yearly upon St. Luke's day, and called Horn-fair, by reason of the plenty of winding horns and cups, and other vessels of horn there brought to be sold. King James granted the manor to Sir Adam Newton, knight and baronet, tutor to prince Henry; who there hath built a goodly brave house, and left the care with his cost, to enlarge and beautify God's house, the parish church, to Sir David Coningham, knight and baronet, late cofferer to prince Charles; Mr. Newton his brother, and Mr. Peter Newton, gentleman usher to the late Charles, have most amply discharged that trust, and in a manner new built a great part thereof, and erected the steeple new from the ground, and furnished it with a good ring of bells, decorating the same church without and within so worthily that it surpasseth most in the shire.

Kedbroke near Charlton, was formerly a parish, but when the church decayed, and

the paucity of the inhabitants could not support the charge that was to maintain the same, they were by composition annexed to Charlton; it is of late become of better note since it pleased king Charles to create Sir William Harvey, knight and baronet, and baron Harvey of Rosse in Ireland, a peer of this realm; also by the name of baron Harvey of Kedbrooke; it being part his lady's inheritance, as being daughter and one of the three co-heirs of Brian Annesley, Esquire, who having it in lease from the crown, bought the fee simple of Edward Blunt, Esquire, of Wrickelmersh, to whom it was conveyed by his father in law, Sir William Garaway of London, knight, who had purchased it of king James in the beginning of his government; to whose royal demean it had been fastened ever since the suppression of the priory of Bermondsey, (in whose patrimony it was involved) in the reign of Henry the eighth.

In the time of king Henry the sixth, \* the church of Kedbrooke was appropriated to the priory of St. Mary Overies in Southwark, the vicarage not endowed, but being shrunk into decay and solitude, the inhabitants for many years last past have resorted for the performance of divine duties to the parish church of Charlton.

CHALKE, in the hundred of Shamell, was parcel of that demean which related to the abby of Bermondsey, as appears by Kirkbies inquest, a book kept in the exchequer, and collected in the ninth year of Edward the first, wherein that cloister is represented to have had the possession of this place at that time; and here it remained until the general dissolution snatched it away in the time of Henry the eighth, and from that prince it afterwards devolved by grant to Sir George lord Brook, from whom it descended to his grandchild Sir William Brook, who dying in the year 1643 without issue-male, it came over to his kinsman Sir John Brook as reversioner in entail, and he some few years since passed it away to James duke of Lenox, lately <catchword> deceased

\* Pat. 26. Hen. sexti parte secunda memb. 27.

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Felborough Clam Lane and Rainhurst, were a limb of that wide revenue which lay scattered and diffused over the face of all this hundred, and acknowledged itself to be under the signory of the family of Cobham. Henry de Cobham held them, as appears by Kirby's inquest, in the ninth year of Edward the first, and so did his grandchild John de Cobham, in the thirty sixth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 43 parte secunda. and in this family and its descendants did they settle, until the reign of Henry the sixth, and then by an old survey of Chalke, I find them in the hands of Brent, and continued in their possession until the eighth year of Henry the seventh, and then John Brent Esq; conveys them, as appears by a fine levied in that year, to Sir Henry Wiat, and his unfortunate grandchild Sir Thomas Wiat, having by an unsuccessful sollevation or rising, forfeited them to the crown in the second year of queen Mary, they remained there until queen Elizabeth, in the thirty seventh of her rule, granted them in lease to Sir Peter Manwood, who passed it to Menfield, and he to Mr. James Crispe, but the fee simple still remained lodged in the royal revenue, until the late king Charles passed it away to the city of London, in the year 1630, and that city in the same year they were granted, conveyed them to Mr. James Crispe, who upon his departure, disposed them by testament to his two sons Mr. Thomas Crispe and Mr. James Crispe.

CHALLOCK, in the hundred of Calehill, hath two places in it, which may deservedly come within the register of those manors, which are in this survey to be recorded. The first is Otterpley, which is an eminent seat belonging to the ancient family of Apulderfield. The first that I find of note in any public record to have possessed it, was Henry de Apulderfield, who had the grant of a market and fair to his manor of Apulderfield in Coldham, in the thirty eighth year of Henry the third, and this man's great grandchild Henry de Apulderfield was sheriff of Kent the fiftieth year of Edward the third, and held his shrievalty at Challock. His house was near East-well in the earl of Winchelsey's upper park, called Apulderfields garden, which is so obscured in its own ruins, that we now with difficulty trace out its sepulcher, made up of its own complicated rubbish, but this manor, as to some proportion of it, was passed away before he was sheriff, to Edmund de Haut, who held it at his death which was in the forty fourth year of Edward the third; but neither of these families lasted longer than the beginning of Richard the second, for then I find it was entirely invested in Richard lord Poynings, who in the eleventh year of that prince, was

possessed of it at his death, and left it to his sole heir, Eleanor married to Henry de Percy earl of Northumberland, in whose successors the right was constantly fixed, until the twenty third year of Henry the eighth, and then it was conveyed by Henry earl of Northumberland, to Sir Thomas Cheyney, William Walsingham, and William Fitz-Williams, and they immediately after, re-conveyed it to Sir Christopher Hales, and his son Sir James Hales, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, alienated it to Sir Thomas Moile, by whose daughter and co-heir Katherine, it came to be the inheritance of Sir Thomas Finch, unhappily shipwreckt by New Haven in France, a person who deserved a longer life, and not so dark a fate; from whom by paternal descent, it is now transmitted to the right honourable Heneage Finch now earl of Winchelsea.

Loringden and Deane, are places in Challock worthy of consideration. There is a tradition very frequent amongst the country people in this track, that Loringden, now altogether desolate and full of solitude, was once the mansion of gentlemen of this name, one of which should have waged combat with one of the Apulderfields of Otterpley not far distant, about building a chapel in the valley, which was pretended by Loringden, to be erected on land that was of his fee-simple; but because this without some more solid foundation to support, then fame and vulgar report, will appear but legend, I will represent to you what the original muniments and evidences have discovered to me in relation to those who were possessors of this place. That there was a family which bore the name of Lordingden or Loringden, is most certain, for there is a place in Challock which yet continues the name of Lorindens Forestal; but when I consulted the private evidences of this place, I found upon a serious disquisition they reached no higher then Henry the fourth, and in his reign it

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acknowledged itself to be the property of Cadman, a family grown into a reverend esteem, by a long prescription in this track; but the name of Dean continued in being till the reign of Henry the sixth, and was in very ancient deeds, some of which are not limited with any date, written At Dean and A Dean, and in that prince's reign, was by sale passed away to the above mentioned family of Cadman; in which name both Loringden and Dean remained clasped up, till the entrance of king James, and then by a sole daughter and heir, they went over to Plomer, who almost in our memory, transferred his right in both of them by sale to Peirce.

The church of Challock being fallen down, was new erected by the Apulderfields, as the glass windows and stone work in divers places, embroidered and diapered with the Voided Cross, which was their paternal coat armour, do more then sufficiently testify.

CRANEBROOK gives name to the hundred wherein it is seated, a town very populous, in respect it was one of the first places where the manufacture of clothing was professed and practised, being brought into England in Edward the third's reign, who by proposing rewards, and granting many immunities, trained Flemings into this nation in the tenth year of his reign, to teach the English that art of drapery, or weaving and making woollen cloth, which is esteemed at this day, one of the buttresses which sustain the common-wealth; and certainly for making durable broad cloths with very good mixtures and perfect colours, Cranebrook doth with the most that way excel.

The first place of note in it, which obviates the eye, is Sisingherst; but more properly and truly written Saxenhurst; and as Bittenden, not far distant derives, its name from the Britons, so in most probability did this take and assume its denomination from the Saxons. In Testa de Nevil, a book kept in the exchequer, which is a memorial of those who holding their lands in the knight's service, paid relief in the twentieth year of Henry the third, towards the marriage of the king's sister, there is mention of John de Saxenhurst, who was taxed for his lands here at Cranebrook, which certainly was this Sisingherst, with the two little manors of Copton and Stone, which had always the same owners with Sisingherst: in times of a more modern character, the Berhams, by the female heirs of Saxenhurst, were lords of Sisingherst, with its two adjuncts Copton and Stone, Richard de Berham. who was sheriff of Kent in the forty fourth year of Edward the third, was here resident, and is written of this place; and Henry de Berham this man's father, paid respective aid at the making the black prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, for sundry parcels

of land which he held in Kent, and amongst the rest, for his land at Cranebrook; and in this family was the possession of this place, with that of Copton and Stone, continued till the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then part of Sisingherst with Copton and Stone, was sold to Mr. Thomas Baker, father to Sir John Baker attorney general, and of the privy counsel to queen Mary, and likewise chancellor of the exchequer, and under treasurer, who purchased the residue, and raised that magnificent pile within the park, which now charms with so much delight the eyes of the spectators; and from this man by the channel of paternal and lineal descent, is the inheritance of Sisingherst, Copton, and Stone, emptied into Sir John Baker baronet, the instant lord of the fee.

Secondly, Glastenbury is not to be forgotten, since it is of so great a name elsewhere, and is called as the other, from Glastney the Saxon idiom of Inis Witrin, the watry or glassy place. The house which stands in a park is moated about, and hath been for many generations the capital mansion of the ancient family of Rokehurst, ever since Stephen Rokehurst or Roberts of Curtesden, and in old records sometimes written Rokehurst Den in Goudherst, about the beginning of Henry the fourth married Joan, sole heir of William Tilley of Glastenbury, (whose ancestors had flourished at this place, as private evidences instruct me, ever since the reign of Edward the first) and in right of that alliance became lord of this mansion. This Stephen Roberts, alias Rokehurst, was grandchild of William Roberts, alias Rokehurst, and that William was great grandchild of William de Rokehurst, who in the reign of William the conqueror, as the evidences of this family inform me, came out of Anandale in Scotland

land into England; and to preserve the memory of this man, did the family till the government of Henry the seventh, write Robert alias Rokehurst, till in the east window of the north chancel of the church of Cranebrook, which was built by Walter Roberts Esq; in that prince's reign, as also in most of his deeds and conveyances the alias was left out.

COURSEHORNE finds place to be remembered in the map of Kent, and then must not be forgotten here; it hath been for above three hundred years (as appears by private records) the inheritance of Henley, in an escheat roll taken in the seventeenth year of Edward the third, and marked with the number 92. After the death of Richard Haudloe, who it seems had lands at Cranebrook, there is mention of one Gervas Henley that was one of the jury and concerned in the inquisition: but that which much improves the fame of this mansion, is, that it was the cradle of Sir Walter Henley serjeant at law, a man of eminent repute in this county, in the reign of Henry the eighth, and by his three daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth married to ..... Waller of Grome-bridge, Hellen first married to Thomas Colepeper of Bedgbury, secondly to Sir George Somerset, and thirdly to Thomas Vane of Burston; and lastly, Anne married to Richard Covert of Slaugham in Sussex, knit those noble families together in one alliance, but Coursehorne did by descent, come over to his brother Thomas Henley Esq; from whom Sir Thomas Henley now of Coursehorne, is lineally extracted.

Another ancient place there is at Cranebrook, called Hartridge, the possession in times past of a worthy family of that surname, among them chiefly to be remembered is Thomas Hartridge, for he was one of the conservators or justices of peace in this county, in the thirty fourth year of Edward the third, when there was but eight in the whole shire. It hath been since, much honoured by the Willsfords, who by James Willsford a most worthy senator of London, derive themselves from the right ancient family of Willsford, of Willsford in Devonshire, and are fairly spread from hence into many branches, both in this county and elsewhere; and after it had thus for divers descents, been resident in this noble family, the possession was in our father's remembrance united by purchase to the patrimony of Tindall, now of Sutton Valence.

Fifthly, Betenham is not to be passed over in silence, which is a note worthy place in this parish, that gave both seat and surname to the Betenhams, but when the eldest line had only three daughters and co-heirs, married to More, Dering, and Fisher, who divided the patrimony, this in his wife's right, was annexed to the demeanor of More, and after this More had alienated his interest in it, came to acknowledge for sole owners the Roes, of which family was the right noble Sir Thomas Roe knight, chancellor of the most noble order of the garter, and of the privy council to the late

king Charles, and several years ambassador to the great Mogul, great Turk, king of Sweden, and lastly to the princes of the protestant union in Germany, in the year 1642, after which negotiation most prudently transacted, he returned and died; but in this family it remained not long, for in the remembrance of that age our fathers lived in, it was by sale demised to Mansfield, in whom the possession is at this present settled.

There are two places more which may be registered in this inventory. The first is Plechinghurst, which was an ancient seat belonging to the Sharpeighs of Sharpeigh, a family of deep rooted antiquity in this track. Robert de Sharpeigh flourished here at Cranebrook about the beginning of Edward the first, and was witness to a deed of William de Brindens of Brinden. In this parish formerly the Linds, and now the Holdens; but this deed is without date: another Robert Sharpeigh of Sharpeigh and Cranebrook, as I find by an ancient roll, was in commission as justice of the peace about the latter end of the government of Henry the seventh, but as all sublunary things are crushed and overturned by the wheel of an inconstant vicissitude, so by consequence, are our possessions likewise; for, after this place had been for so many descents the inheritance of this ancient family, it was almost within the verge of our remembrance, first alienated to Martin, and by him not long since by sale demised to Walter.

The second is Buckhurst, which is the last place of account within the circuit of this parish. If we go to trace the antiquity of these families, who were the ancient proprietors of it, we shall find that it acknowledged Hadloe and Buckhurst for its

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elder possessors, that the first had some concernment here, not only the private deeds and muniments of this place do evince to us, but likewise by an inquisition taken after the decease of Richard de Hadloe, by which it is evident he held some estate here in the seventeenth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 32. and that the second family had some interest here, not only the authority abovesaid doth justify, but the name itself doth tacitly insinuate that this mansion formerly gave seat and denomination to the family of Buckhurst; in times of a lower step, that is, in the reign of Henry the seventh, I find it in the tenure of Drayner; but how it devolved to this family, I cannot discover; it is enough that it continued united to their demeanour until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to Alexander Couchman, in whose descendant, the signory and interest of it hath ever since been constantly resident.

Cranebrooke had the grant of a market to be observed weekly there on the Saturday, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first, as appears Cart. Edw. 1 Num. 92.

I had almost forgot to tell you that there is a place in this parish called Holden, which with Hawkeridge hath for some centuries of years acknowledged the Holdens for its proprietors, and are still united to the patrimony of this name and family, which for such a vast succession of time hath been planted at Cranebrooke.

There was a chapel at a place called Milkhouse, in the eastern part of this parish, founded and endowed by John Lawless, about the latter end of Henry the seventh, which by the general dissolution of chantries and all other religious fraternities by Henry the eighth, was by that prince, about the latter end of his rule, granted to Sir John Baker of Sisingherst not far distant, whose revenue is yet in the possession of Sir John Baker his successor.

There was another chapel founded at Sisingherst (as evidences of that place do insinuate) by John de Saxenhurst; which was re-edified by the late Sir John Baker, and by deed delivered to John Bancroft bishop of Oxford, devoted to the service of God, and dedicated as it was before, to St. John the evangelist; after the reception of this instrument, which was in the year 1637, it was by the same bishop consecrated; first, by a prayer at the entrance of the chapel, then by others made at the seats, pulpit, and communion table; the effect of all which was, that God would accept of it for a house, and likewise of the prayers and devotions that in that oratory were offered up by the faithful people of God to his honour and service

CHARING, in the hundred of Calehill, is in Saxon written Cering, and by that name king Kenulf in the year 799, made restitution of it to Christ Church in Canterbury, at the humble request of arch-bishop Athelard, for king Offa had taken it

away from that church in the time of arch-bishop Janibert; and being thus regained to the see, it continued so till the great exchange made in the twenty ninth year of Henry the eighth, with that prince by arch-bishop Cranmer; the fee-simple was planted in the crown. In the time of the conquest in the notitia of the arch-bishop and cathedral lands, because they held it in ancient demean (that is, they had possessed it long before the conquest) and a manor-house or palace there, it was called *Proprium Manerium Archiepiscopi*. In the time of Edward the confessor it went for eight sullings or plough-lands, but in the twentieth year of William the conqueror, it was rated in Domesday book at seven sullings, because one plough-land was laid into his demean. The church dedicated to St. Peter and Paul, was anciently famous by a traditional relation, (which I am not much moved with, for it wants the stamp of venerable authority) which did affirm, that the block on which St. John the baptist's head was cut off, was brought into England in the reign of Richard the first, and kept in this church.

The first place of secular interest which doth occur, is Pett: the evidences of this place, now in the hands of Robert Honywood, do mention the Petts to be in ages of a very high assent, that is, about the reign of Henry the third, and Edward the first, proprietors of it; but publick records reach no farther than Newcourt, lord of the manor of Newcourt not far distant; Jeffrey de Newcourt, son of Walter de Newcourt, paid respective aid in the twentieth year of Edward the third, for his lands at Newcourt and Pett. After the Newcourts were gone out, the Hatches were by purchase

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planted at Pett and Newcourt; they were called so from their abode near some gate or passage, for one of them who was possessor of these two places, was written Hugh at Hatch; from this family, by sale about the latter end of Henry the seventh, the right of Pett and Newcourt devolved to William Warham; and in some copies of fines which I have seen by a false transcription, written William Warren, and this man sold them both again in the reign of Henry the eighth, to Robert Atwater or Waters, who determining in Mary Atwater his sole heir, she by marrying Robert Honywood Esq; of Henewood in Postling, wound up the interest of these two places Pett and Newcourt, into the demean of that family, so that they now own Sir Robert Honywood, his great grandchild, the sole proprietor of them.

Stilley is another little manor lying within Charing, and was anciently enwrap in the revenue of Frene. John de Frene who flourished in the reign of Henry the third, is mentioned in Testa de Nevil, a book collected in the twentieth year of that prince, to have paid aid at the marriage of the king's sister, for lands which he possessed at Charing; after in the twentieth year of Edward the third, there is a recital in the Book of Aid of Sir Thomas de Brockhull son of Sir William de Brockhull, who paid an auxiliary supply at making the black prince knight, for his lands which he held at Saltwood, Calehill, Charing, and other places in this county; but after this, the possession was not long resident in this family, for Henry Brockhull, this man's second son, to whom these manors of Stilley and Newland were assigned for a livelihood, about the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, transmitted them by sale to John Darell Esq; son of Sir William Darell, who was extracted out of the right ancient and knightly family of the Darells of Sesay, from whom Sir John Darell of Calehill, and lord of this manor of Stilley, is originally and lineally issued out.

Wickins is another manor circumscribed within the limits of this parish, it was originally the patrimony of Brent, a family well endowed in this track, and certainly was as ancient a seat of this family as any which lay involved in their revenue; for John Brent, son of Robert de Brent of Charing, paid respective aid for lands which he held here in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and William Brent, who was son of Hugh Brent of Charing, made his will the twenty seventh year of Henry the seventh; and this William was great grandfather to Thomas Brent, in whom the male line determined, so that Margaret his sister became his sole heir, who by marrying John Dering Esq; of Surrenden Dering, hath made Wickins ever since, parcel of the demean of that name and family.

Newland is another eminent manor in Charing, which gave seat and surname to a family so stiled, Sir John de Newland lived here in the reign of Edward the first, and sealed with an escollop upon a chevron for his coat, which is yet visible in ancient registers, and other venerable monuments of antiquity; but before the latter

end of Edward the third, this family was extinguished at this place, and then it became parcel of the noble family of Brockhull of Calehill, and continued folded up in their possession until the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, and then it was passed away by deed from Henry Brockhull to John Darell Esq; from whom it was by successive devolution now transported to his successor Sir John Darell knight of Calehill.

Eversley next courts us in remembrance, it lies partly in Charing, and partly in Stacefield, and though now obscure, yet in elder times was made eminent by being one of the mansions of Brian de Eversley, a man very eminent in the reign of Henry the third and Edward the first, and is mentioned in the ledger-book of Feversham, to have been a benefactor to that convent; but his piety could not secure the title to his posterity, for about the beginning of Edward the third, I find it planted in the possession of Thomas St. Leger, and he died possessed of it in the tenth year of Henry the fourth, and bequeathed it to Mary his daughter and co-heir, married to Henry Aucher, from whom it was wafted down by descendant right to his successor Sir Anthony Aucher, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Michael Sonds Esq; afterwards created Sir Michael Sonds, from whom it is now devolved to his descendant Sir George Sonds, knight of the Bath.

Tremhatch, in old deeds Tramhatch, lies likewise in Charing, and is advanced and ascended to some note and estimate, since it was honoured by being parcel of the  
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patrimony of Barham, a family which was made splendid by an eminent repute, and no less considerable, by a spreading revenue which they held in this county, of whom I shall speak more when I come to Barham Court in Terstan, one of the principal mansions of this name: finally, after it had for several descents confessed the propriety of this family, it was by Richard Barham conveyed, by a fine levied in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, to John Haut, where the title was not so fixed as in the former, for he not long after by a similar alteration, passed it away to Henry Malmains, and who about the reign of Henry the fifth, determined in two daughters and co-heirs, whereof was Agnes married to Thomas Gouldwell, and so by this alliance Tremhatch was enwrapped in his patrimony, and continued in the descendants of this name until the forty-second year of queen Elizabeth, and then it was alienated by John Gouldwell and Cicely his wife to Robert Gaunt, whose son Thomas Gaunt died possessed of it 1625, and gave it first to his brother George Gaunt, and in default of issue to Thomas Carlisle, who in right of the premises is now invested in the possession.

Broughton is a manor which is circumscribed within the limits of Charing, and had owners likewise of that surname. Adam de Broughton, and sometimes written Brocton, flourished here about the reign of Edward the first, and his descendants enjoyed the propriety of it until the latter end of Richard the second, and then it was alienated to Paunsherst. Thomas Paunsherst made his will in the year of our Lord 1472, and gave it to Thomas Paunsherst his son, and he made his will in the year 1503, and disposed of it to his daughter Joan Paunsherst, and in default of her issue, to his kinsman Thomas Paine; she deceased without issue, and so the remainder devolved to be the inheritance of Paine, in which name it remained until times of our remembrance, and then it was alienated to the father of the instant propriety Withick.

Here was a Chantry at Charing founded, as an ancient survey of this parish instructs me, by Sir John Burley, who bare quarterly or and sables, and was called successively Burley's Chantry, the duty enjoined the priest that was to officiate, was to pray for the souls of Sir John Burley, Sir William de Burleigh, and the descendants of that family; the demean which was to support it, was upon the suppression granted to Sir John Darell ancestor to Sir John Darell of Calehill, who now is in the enjoyment of it.

Acton is the last place of account in Charing, which is eminent in respect of that relation it had to the ancient and noble family of Beaufits, who made it their seats before they were transplanted to Twidal in Gillingham. Robert Beaufits, as appears by an ancient court roll, held it in the reign of Henry the third, and from him did it descend to his grandchild Robert Beaufits, who about the fourth year of Edward the third, planted himself at Twidal, but yet this still continued in the name until the reign of Henry the seventh, and then this name expiring in daughters and co-



heirs, one of them called Joan, by marrying Robert Arnold made it the property of that family, and he had issue William Arnold, who conveyed it about the middle of Henry the eighth to Sir Anthony Sonds, whose grandchild Sir Richard Sonds in our father's remembrance, alienated it to Hutchins, from whom by the hands of Sir Nicholas Nicholson, who was made his feoffee in trust to discharge debts and legacies, it is now come over to Godden.

CHARTHAM, in the hundred of Bredge and Petham, is a manor belonging to the see of Canterbury, but of whose donation I know not; only Domesday Book represents it thus appraised, Certeham est manerium de vestitu monachorum, & T. E. R. defendebat se pro III l Sullings, & nunc similiter, & est appretiatur XX & V lb.

Having done with Chartham, I shall now discover what places are enclosed within the verge of it, which were always of temporal interest.

Densted is another manor in Chartham, which in the twentieth year of Edward the third was held by John the son of John Polre of Polre in Harbledowne, but only as lessee to the priory of Leeds, to which convent it was given by Hamon de Crevequer about the forty seventh year of Henry the third, pro salute animæ & antecessorum suorum, says an old note extracted out of the Coucher book of the priory; yet the whole ma=

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nor did not accrue to this cloister by the former donation, for in the eighth year of Richard the second, Robert Bovehatch, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 81. being convicted of felony, was found to have held some land here at Densted, which upon the forfeiture, was by that prince, it is probable, as was customary in those times, settled on the priory of Leeds, and lay wholly couched in their revenue until the public dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, rent it off, and then it was in the thirty seventh year of Henry the eighth granted to John Tufton Esq; and he about the third year of Edward the sixth, alienated it to Richard Argal Esq; from whom not long after, it came over by sale to Mr. Bartholomew Man, and he about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it by sale to William Lovelace Esq; serjeant at law to that princess; and his son Sir William Lovelace, about the beginning of king James, passed it away to Sir William Cullimore, whose lady not long after conveyed it to Thomas Steed of Steed-Hill, and he not many years since, demised it to Thomas Swan of Southfleet, whose son and heir William Swan Esq; enjoys the instant signory of it.

Howfield is a second place which calls for our notice, it was as high as any evidence can furnish me with intelligence, to steer me on to any old discovery, the patrimonial inheritance of Fogge, a noble and knightly family as any in this track; Sir Thomas Fogge who inhabited at Toniford, about the latter end of Edward the third, purchased this and Toniford of John de Toniford, about the last year of that prince's reign, and in the revenue of this family, did the title of this mansion for many descents lie folded up, till some few generations since it was alienated to Colepeper, where after some short residence, the possession by the same fate was transplanted into Vane, from whom not many years since, it went away by sale to Sir William Man \* of Canterbury, who is the instant proprietor of it.

But the place in Chartham of most eminent account, is the manor of Shalmesford-Bridge, so called because the mansion house is situated near the bridge, which crosses the Stoure. It was for many generations the inheritance of a family which had here their seat, and derived from hence their surname, and continued down in an uninterrupted succession in the possession of this family, until the beginning of the reign of Henry the seventh, (as appears by the deed which I have seen) Anne, daughter and sole heir of William Shalmesford was married to John Petit, and so by this alliance the fee-simple of this place was linked to their patrimony; but in our father's memory the tie was broken, for William Petit, this man's successor, deceased without issue male, and left only three daughters his co-heirs, Katherine married to Michael Belke, Elizabeth married to Giles Masters, and lastly, Dorothy married first to William Masters, secondly to John Meriwether, and thirdly to Parker of Northfleet, who shared his revenue; but this upon the separation of the estate, did improve the demean of Michael Belke with its accession, from whom it is descended to the present owner Mr. .... Belke, now vicar of Wye, issued out from the Belkes of Coperham's Sole in Shelvich, which hath been in the tenure and possession, as it

now is, of this name and family, as the private evidences of the place do manifest, almost four hundred years.

There is yet another petty manor in Chartham, called Shalmesford Street, but truly and originally the mansion of Bolles, for it was the interest of that name and family who had large possessions at Chilham and the parts adjacent, but upon my viewing the private evidences of this place, some of which reached to Edward the third, I could not discover that any of them were ever represented under the notion of gentlemen, or that there was any coat of arms insculped on their seats, after Bolles was worn out, which was about the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth: the possession was by sale surrendered to Cracknal, from whom in that age which bordered upon our remembrance, it was by the same fatality, conveyed away to Michel, who claims the present possession of it.

CHETHAM with Gillingham are knit into one hundred, so that it gives name to that track wherein it is situated; it was in ages of a very high pedigree, the seat of the potent, ancient, and illustrious family of Crevequer, and was caput baroniæ, or the principal manor which related to their barony, before they transplanted themselves

\* See more of this family of Man at Bredgar.

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to Leeds castle, and frequently writ Domini de Cetham. Hamon de Crevequer lived in the time of the conqueror, and is mentioned in the survey, stiled Doomesday-book, and he had issue Robert Crevequer, or de Crepito Corde, who was joined as an assistant to John Fiennes in the guard of Dover castle, and he was grandfather to Robert Crevequer who erected Leeds castle, and had issue Hamon de Crevequer, who married Matilda de Averanches, daughter and heir of William de Averanches, by whom he had issue Hamon de Crevequer, who was so involved in the design and combination of Simon de Montfort, which was to retrench the prerogative of Henry the third, that he made the breast of prince Edward, eldest son to that king, boil with so much passion and animosity, that it could not be appeased or allayed, until he had appointed Henry Cobham his substitute in his constablership of Dover, to dismantle and raze his castle at Leeds, and seize on this manor as the expiation and recompense of so great a defection and folly; and although his crimes were afterwards absolved and entombed in the pacification of Killingham, yet I do not find that ever Chetham was restored to him; for in the tenth year of Edward the second, that prince exchanges this manor and divers other pieces of land with Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, for the manor of Adresley and the advowson of the church in Shropshire: but he soon after insculped these benefits of the king's in sand, a weak register to record so many important obligations, and by his confederacy with Thomas earl of Lancaster, and others of the mutinous nobility, forfeited both this and his life at Canterbury; upon whose tragedy it resolved again into the revenue of the crown, and there rested until king Edward the third, in the second year of his reign, restored it again to his son Bartholomew Badelesmer, and he dying in the twelfth year of that king's government without issue, Margaret married to William Rosse, and re-married to Thomas Arundel, and Margery another of his sisters, married to Sir John de Tibitot and co-heirs, shared his inheritance at this place. Sir John Tibitot in his wife's right, seized of it in the thirty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 39. and Margaret widow of William Rosse, and wife of Thomas Arundel, was in possession of a moiety of it at her decease, which was in the thirty seventh year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 62. and from these two did it descend by the successive steps of paternal progression, to Thomas lord Rosse, who was beheaded at Newcastle upon Tyne, and attainted in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, as an accomplice of the house of Lancaster; and likewise to John Tiptoft earl of Worcester, who was attainted and beheaded in the year 1470, as a partisan of the house of York: so that the whole manor by the several attainments being swallowed up in the revenue of the crown, it was by Edward the fourth in the eighteenth year of his reign, granted to Roger lord Wentworth and Margaret his wife, widow of Thomas lord Rosse, and Thomas lord Wentworth this man's successor, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Barnham and Slany, who immediately after disposed of their right in it by a joint sale to Barker, from whom by the like fate within the verge of that age, which fell under our grandfathers remembrance, it came over to Sir Robert Jackson; and he not many years since, conveyed it by sale to Sir Oliver Bote-

ler, grandfather to Sir Oliver Boteler baronet, in whom resides the present signory of it. But Waldeslade was given by Richard the second in the eleventh year of his reign (as the book called Feoda Militum, kept in the exchequer, intimates) to the abby of Canons Langley, frequently written Childrens Langley, and lay involved in their revenue till the general dissolution, and then king Henry the eighth in the thirty fifth year of his reign granted it to Sir Thomas Moile; from whom the fee-simple by Amy his daughter and co-heir devolved to Sir Thomas Kempe, and he in the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to John Mabbe, who in the twentieth of her reign alienated it to William Emes, from whom in the twenty fifth of that princess it devolved to Richard Fogge Esq; and he in the twenty sixth year of her government, conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Cocks, who in the thirty sixth of that queen transferred it by sale to Mr. Richard Lea, \* from whom it descended to his son and heir captain Richard Lea Esq; of Great Delce, and he by sale gave up his right to his second brother Mr. Thomas Lea, who dying without issue, gave it to his nephew the instant proprietor, Richard Lea Esq; now of Great Delce.

The late repair of the parish church, and new building of the steeple commends the religious care and cost of his late majesties commissioners and officers of the

\* Ex autographis penes Richard Lea de Delce magna armig.

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navy royal in the year 1635. But the arsenals, store-houses and ship-docks erected by the late king Charles, are so magnificent and universally useful, that they are become a principal pillar of the nation's support, so far as they relate to the naval defence of it, and afford variety of employment, by the manufacture of cordage, as also by the careening and building of ships.

Chetham Hospital, called St. Bartholomew's, was founded by Gundulphus bishop of Rochester, in the time of William Rufus, to which the Norwoods of Norwood, and the Crevequers (as the records of the church of Rochester do specify) were plentiful benefactors.

CHART MAGNA or Great Chart, gives name to the whole hundred which lies about it, and hath thereby a tacit, note of antiquity and eminence annexed to it, and was in the Saxons times called Selebert's Chert. In the year of Grace 788, king Cenulfe or Kenulfe, at the request of arch-bishop Athelard, regranted this place to the see of Canterbury, for Offa sometime before had wrested it from arch-bishop Janibert. In the time of the conquest, when the church demean was rated, this was valued at three sullings, or plough-lands.

Goldwell is an ancient manor and mansion in this parish, which was for many ages and descents, the inheritance of the noble and illustrious family of Goldwell, which in times of an elder aspect, gave them both seat and surname, out of which, two learned bishops descended; James Goldwell who was bishop of Norwich in the year 1472, and principal secretary of state to Edward the fourth, who obtained a grant from that prince to found a chauntry in Great Chart, as appears, Pat 15. Edw. 4. Pars tertia, and Thomas Goldwell bishop of St. Asaph, in the year 1555. But alas! after this manor had been so long seated in the patrimony of Goldwell, it was at length alienated (such is the volatile and unsettled temper of all earthly inheritances) not many years since by John Goldwell to Sir William Withins, and he passed it away to Sir John Tufton, ancestor to the right honourable John Tufton now earl of Thanet, who by paternal descent, is now intituled to the possession of Goldwell; but Goddington, by Joan Goldwell who was daughter and heir to Thomas Goldwell, a branch sprouted out of the principal stem at Goldwell, came to be the inheritance of Thomas Tooke, and hath for sundry generations, continued in that name till this day, some of which lie buried in Chart church with very fair inscriptions, unless the sacrilegious impiety of these times have ravished away the brass which should stand an alphabet to their dust; and in the upper church windows, about the second story, their gentry, descent, matches, and alliance, is most amply expressed in their armories, and that (unless the wildness of some barbarous hand have lately demolished them) in coloured glass.

Chelmington is another manor in this parish, which gave surname to a generous family, who I believe had here their mansion too, though by the repeated and successive impression of age, it be now entered in rubbish and oblivion; finally, after this

place had for many descents been wrapt up in the revenue of this name and family, it devolved at last to John Chelmington, whose effigies is represented to us in one of the church windows, by an armed portraiture, who deceased in the reign of Henry the fourth without issue male, so that Elizabeth Chelmington was his daughter and heir, who by marrying Roger Twisden Esq; cast it into the patrimony of that noble and ancient family, in respect of which original alliance the right of this manor is now fixed in Sir Roger Twisden knight and baronet, a person to whom for his learned conduct of these my imperfect labours through the gloomy and perplexed paths of antiquity, and the many difficulties that did assault me, I am signally obliged.

LITTLE CHART lies in the hundred of Calehill, and does involve that place within the precincts and circumference of it, which gives denomination to the whole hundred; it was restored to the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury by Kenulfe king of Mercia, at the request of arch-bishop Athelard or Atheldred, in the year of Grace 799; for king Offa had before violently torn it off from the patrimony of the church, as appears by that ancient record called the book of Christ-church. In the year 1044, one Elleric Bigge confirmed this donation, and it went then as it had done before by assignation towards the supply of their diet; and the notitia of the particular manors belonging to Christ-church in the Doomsday record speaks thus;

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Litel Cert, iterum est manerium monachorum, & de cibo eorum, quod in T. E. R. id est, tempore Edwardi regis, se defendebat pro III sullings, & nunc pro duo & dimidio & valet VIII lb. The other half sulling or plough-land, was at that time held by William Fitz-Hermingfrid of the arch-bishop of Canterbury in fee, and was called Pett. This manor was many generations since given in fee-farm by grant from the monks of Christ-church to the Brockhulls, who transmitted it with Calehill to John Darell Esq; in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, and under that notion of capacity, it continued till the suppression, and then it was confirmed to Sir James Darell by king Henry the eighth in fee-farm, there being a small rent issuing out of it reserved to the dean and chapter of Christ church, and under that character it is now come down to Sir John Darell, the instant lord of the fee.

Calehill is that eminent manor in Little Chart, which gives name to the whole hundred, it was under the scepter of Henry the third, the inheritance of a good family called Frene, who (as appears by seals and other authentick records of armory) bore for their paternal coat, or a flower de lis within a plain bordure sables, in allusion and assimilation to that Pluckly, of whom it is probable they held some land in this track, who bore, or only a flower de lis sables. Hugh de Frene in the first year of Edward the first, obtained a charter of free warren, to his manor of Calehill and Stilley in Charing: but before the middle of Edward the third, this family was departed from the possession of this place, having surrendered the propriety of it, and Stilley in Charing, to Sir Thomas Brockhull second son of Sir William Brockhull, and he paid respective aid for his manor of Calehill, and his lands at Charing, at making the Black Prince knight. Thomas Brockhull, his son, was sheriff of Kent the seventh and eighth years of Richard the second, and held his shrievalty at Calehill, and he had issue Henry Brockhull, who in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, conveyed Calehill to \* John Darell Esq; youngest brother of Darell of Sesay, and eldest brother to Sir William Darell under-treasurer of England, which John was steward of the lands of Henry Chichley arch-bishop of Canterbury, a place in those times of a large trust, and as eminent a concern, and in the twelfth year of the abovesaid prince, Henry Brockhull mentioned before, passed away Stilley in Charing to John Darell abovesaid, from whom it came over to his successor James Darell, who by a charter of inspection in the third of Henry the sixth, had the franchise or privilege of free-warren renewed to his manors of Calehill and Stilley in Charing, which was originally granted to Hugh de Frene. John Darell Esq; was sheriff of Kent the seventh of Henry the seventh, he was afterwards dignified with the order of knighthood, and was so eminent a partisan of that prince, that he had his estate torn from him by † Richard the third, for his fidelity to his cause and quarrel, which, ‡ with thirteen other manors lying dispersed in the county of Worcester, was granted to him again by Henry the seventh before mentioned, and was made captain of the lancers for this part of the county wherein he lived. Sir James Darell was his son and heir, who was governor of Guines and Hames castle near Calais: thus have I in prospect represented, when John Darell above mentioned, originally extracted from

the knightly family of the Darells of Sesay in Yorkshire, deserted that county, to transplant himself into Kent, and fix his residence at Little Chart, from whom Sir John Darell who now enjoys the signory of Calehill, and propriety of Stilling in Charing, by a derivation of many descents (all of whom were very considerable in their generations, as their monuments and sepulchral inscriptions remaining in their own chapel of St. Katherine in Little Chart church, do at this instant eminently manifest) is by a just and un-interrupted series originally and lineally extracted.

Burleigh is another manor, partly in this parish, and partly in Charing, which had anciently owners who bore that surname; and there is a place in Charing church, which at this day is known by the name of Burleigh's chauntry, which is very probable was founded by them. After the Burleighs were extinguished and abstracted from the possession of this place, which was about the beginning of Edward the third, the St. Johns, written in Sir John Darells latin deeds de Sancto Johanne, became lords of the fee; but long this manor was not resident in them, for before the end of Edward the third, this family of St. John was crumbled into decay and oblivion, and

\* Ex autographis Joh. Darell de Calehill militis.

† See Rot. Pat de an, tertio Richard. 3 memb 6.

‡ See Originale an: 2. Hen. 7. Rot. 17. in the treasurers side in the exchequer.

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having dislodged from the possession, a family called Dalingryg of eminent note in Hantshire, were entituled by purchase to the propriety of it, and Sir Edward Dalingryg, by a fine levied the first year of Richard the first, passed it away to Roger Dalingryg, and Alice his wife, and they not long after by the same vicissitude, conveyed their united interest here to Brockhull of Calehill, and Henry Brockhull in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, transmitted it by sale to John Darell Esq; and from him by the channel of sundry descents, is the right now descended to Sir John Darell, who hath the instant fee-simple of it.

CHART SUTTON, sometimes called Chart Green, is seated in the hundred of Eythorne; within the confines of this parish there is an ancient manor and mansion called Norton-place, it gave name to as ancient a family as any in this track, in the south windows of the church there were the effigies of Stephen Norton, with his arms on his tabard or surcoat, viz. argent a cheveron between three crescents azure, who flourished in king Richard the second's time; and in a tournament of the Kentish gentlemen, I find one of this name in a tabard of the arms above mentioned, encountering one Christmass of East Sutton not far distant, who was in like manner so habited in a surcoat charged with his arms, which meetly express the owners name, viz. gules upon a bend sable, three wassail bowls or, which likewise stand in the south windows in Sutton church. But the effects of Gavelkind did at length grind this family to a small remain, so that in the times which did almost border upon those our fathers lived in, this seat was by Norton sold to Baker, from whom by the same fatality, not long after, it went away to Sir Edward Hales, grandfather to Sir Edward Hales baronet, who is the present proprietor of it. But though the family be worn out at this place, yet from a cadet of this name, who did once possess Wierton in Boughton Quarry, now the mansion of Sir Anthony St. Leger, did Sir Gregory Norton, now of Sussex, knight and baronet, lately deceased, originally sprout forth.

There is another place in this parish called the den of Ivetegh, which was anciently the inheritance of a family who bore that name, and though the deeds now in the hands of my cousin Mr. Thomas Petley of Vilston, do discover the possession to be resident in this name, no higher than the rule of Henry the sixth, yet is it probable, because the name was local it was theirs long beyond that time: from Ivetegh it came to Mascall, a family whose estate was formerly at Berming, and from this name it was by sale demised to Lambe, who some three descents since, alienated his interest in it to Perry, extracted from the Perrys of Worcestershire, but this family lately determining in females, Elizabeth, married to Mr. Thomas Petley of Vilston, Anne, and Mary, these three are the visible co-heirs of that estate which related to it.

CRAYFORD in the hundred of Little and Lesness, contains diverse places in it of eminent consideration: first, Howbery offers itself up to our view: it was in the reign of Henry the third, and Edward, as appears by ancient court-rolls and other

evidences, the patrimony of the noble family of Northwood, who held it for several descents in an un-interrupted channel, until the reign of Richard the second, and then the title and property of it, was by the revolution of sale transplanted into Abermill, but here the possession was so cursory and transient, that before the end of Henry the fourth, it was surrendered to Nicholas Carew of Surry, and John Cornwallis of London, who by joint concurrence in the fifth year of Henry the fifth, conveyed it to Richard Bryan, and he in the first year of Henry the sixth, passed it away to Roger Apylton, one of the auditors to that prince, and his father Henry the fifth, and Agnes his wife widow of Thomas Coveley or Cowley, and the reversion in fee to her son Thomas Cowley, which accordingly after her decease descended to him, and from him it was transported by descent to his grandchild John Cowley, who in the twenty second year of Henry the eighth, alienated it to John Judde, whose son Henry Judde about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, resigned up the possession by sale to Sir Richard Fane; in whose family after it had fixed until that age, which was within the confines of our fathers remembrance, it was by purchase made the patrimony of Draper, and is still the inheritance of master ..... Draper, now in his minority.

Newbery is the second place of account, which was in elder times ennobled by being parcel of that inheritance which confessed the dominion of St. John, and

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Edward St. John, as appears by the records of this place, flourished here in the reign of Edward the first, and Edward the second, and dying without issue, left his estate here to Isabell, his sister and co-heir, married to Henry de Burgherst, and he in her right died possessed of it in the twenty third of Edward the third, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 94 parte secunda. After this family was crumbled away at this place, I find it folded up in the demean of Poynings, the last of which who enjoyed it was Thomas Poynings, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, conveyed it to John Kingston Esq; in which family it made its abode until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then I find it departed from this name, and cast into the possession of Sir Thomas Lisley, whose descendant, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Apylton of Marshalls Court in this parish, where they had been resident many descents before; and Roger Apylton gave this and Marshalls court in dower with his daughter Frances, married to Mr. Francis Goldsmith, who almost in our remembrance passed away Newberry to Draper, ancestor to Mr. Draper now proprietor of it; but Marshalls Court was alienated to Pix, whose descendant, not many years since, sold his interest in it to Mrs. Touse of London, who hath settled it in marriage on her daughter, married to colonel Wood of Kingston on Thames.

Elham is the last place of remark in Crayford: it gave seat and surname to a good old family, who for many descents passed under the notion and estimate of gentlemen before they deserted the possession of this seat, and bore argent a sword in bend dexter, sables. Henry Ellam died 1471, and lies entombed in Crayford church; John Ellam deceased 1481, and had there likewise his place of sepulture, both whose monuments time and a casual fire invading the church, have miserably dismantled; the last of this name who was possessed of this place was John Ellam, who in the sixteenth year of Henry the seventh, alienated it to Henry Harman, who was then clerk of the crown, in which family it continued until the latter end of king James; and then it was passed away with May Street, (which Henry Harman abovesaid purchased of Cowley and Bulbeck of Bulbeck Street in this parish, in the twentieth of Edward the fourth,) to Draper, whose descendant Mr. .... Draper, is intituled to the interest of both these places.

The arch-bishops of Canterbury had anciently some concern in Crayford, for as I find by record, William arch-bishop of Canterbury in the twentieth of Richard the second, obtained the grant of a market to this place to be weekly observed on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly on the vigil, the day of our lady's nativity, and four days after.

Northcrey lies in the Hundred of Rokesley, and though an obscure village in itself, yet is made eminent by containing within its limits the manor of Rokesley, which contributes a name to the whole hundred: it was as high as can by record be traced, the inheritance of Rokesley. Gregory de Rokesley, lord mayor of London in the year 1275, which was in the third year of Edward the first, an eminent man in

those times he was; for as by the chartularies of London it appears, he was keeper of the king's exchange in London, and saymaster general of the king's mint; nor was his son of less reputation, for Sir Richard de Rokesley, so he was called, was seneschal of Poictou, and governor of Montreuil in Picardy about the latter end of Edward the first, but died without issue male, and left two daughters his co-heirs. Agnes the eldest was married to Thomas de Poynings, and Joan the youngest was married to Hugh de Pateshul, and so Rokesley became the inheritance of the Poynings; but Northcrey remained longer in Rokesley; for Roger de Rokesley, a cadet of this family, paid respective aid for Northcrey in the twentieth year of Edward the third, but it seems went out without issue, so that Northcrey devolved to Poynings as the next of alliance; for Richard lord Poynings died seised of both these manors in the thirteenth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. 148, whose sole heir Eleanor was married to Henry Piercy earl of Northumberland, whose successor Henry earl of Northumberland, in the reign of Henry the eighth, in the twenty ninth year of that prince, bequeathed by testament these manors to the crown, where they lay involved till the same prince by grant made them the inheritance of Sir Roger Cholmeley, one of

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his judges, who not long after, alienated them to Sir Martin Bowes, and he had issue William Bowes, who concluded in two daughters and co-heirs; Elizabeth married to William Buggin Esq; and Anne married to Sir Edmund Fowler, who shared his patrimony; but Northcrey, and Rokesley, upon the partition, was annexed to the demean of Biggin, from whom it is descended to Mr. William Biggin his son, in whom the possession is now resident.

Jackets Courts in this parish, was a place which gave seat and surname to gentlemen of this name. I have seen an old roll of Kentish arms, wherein Jacket of Jackets court is recorded, but the arms were of so antiquated an aspect, that I could not distinguish neither the colour nor charge; from Jacket by sale it went away to Switzer, a name of signal antiquity in this track, though never under the repute of gentlemen, one of which in the reign of queen Elizabeth conveyed it to Edmund Cook Esq; whose son, Mr. Lambert Cook, passed it to alderman Leman, and he surrendered his right in it to Wiffen, by whose daughter and heir, it is lately come to be the inheritance of Thomas Bales Esq; barrister at law.

Rokesley and Northcrey were formerly two distinct parishes, till cardinal Reginald Pole, when he visited Kent, which was in the year 1557, finding it convenient by reason of their situation, and the narrowness of the demean, to lay them together, united them into one, so that Rokesley (the church by disuse being languished into decay) hath been ever since esteemed an appendage to Northcrey.

PAULS CREY, or Paulins Crey, lies in the hundred of Rokesley, and gave surname to Sir Simon de Crey, who was lord warden of the cinque ports in the third and fourth year of Edward the first, and afterwards, in the twenty eighth year of that prince's reign, accompanied him in his victorious expedition into Scotland, and is in the register of those Kentish cavaliers who were embarked in that successful design. After this family was worn away, Champneys, a name of celebrated note in the county of Somerset, was lord of the fee. Hugh de Champneys is mentioned in the Book of Aid, to have paid some respective supply for this manor at the making the Black Prince knight in the twentieth year of Edward the third; and Champneys field, so called to this day, which lies in Sir Thomas Walsingham's park, and hath been for many descents the Walsinghams, was belonging to this man; from Champneys it came down to Scroop, a noble and ancient family extracted out of the north-riding of Yorkshire; Sir Henry le Scroope died possessed of it in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, and Thomas Scroope after him held it at his decease, which was in the fifteenth year of Edward the fourth; after Scroope was gone out, I find Talbot, which was in the reign of Henry the seventh, to be fixed in the possession of this place and is some deeds written Talbot of Grafton; by whose daughter and heir it devolved to Danbie, in the time of Henry the eighth, descended from the Danbies of Middleham castle in Yorkshire; in which family, after the possession for divers years had inhabited, it was about threescore years since sold away to James Smith of London, who deceasing without issue male, this by Mary his sole heir is come to acknowledge Edmund Waller Esq; of Beaconsfield, for its instant possessor.

Kitchen Grove is a small manor in this parish, which for many ages since was the

demean of Ferby, written in ancient deeds Ferbey, from whom sundry descents since, it came by purchase to Heron, but was not of that continuance here as in the former family; for after some fifty years possession, it was in the reign of Henry the seventh, alienated to Walsingham of Scadbury, ancestor to Sir Thomas Walsingham, in whom the propriety of it is at this instant resident.

John Dynley had license here in the sixteenth year of Edward the third, to build a bridge over the river, leading to his demean land at Hockenden in this parish, which with Walkelins hath been for above two hundred years the inheritance of Sir Leonard Ferby and his predecessors, Pat. anno 16. Edw. tertii part. prima.

VOTES-CREY in the hundred of Rokesley, taketh that denomination from one Vote, the owner thereof in the conqueror's time; in ages of a more modern descent, the Rokesleyes were proprietors of it, and Gregory de Rokesley was seised of it at his death, which was in the twenty ninth year of Edward the first, and left it to his son Roger de Rokesley, who by a fine levied in the thirty third year of the abovesaid prince, passed it away to John Abel, Margery his wife, and Walter his son, which Walter after, by the same devolution, translated his right in it to Sir Simon de Vaughan,

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who in the twentieth year of Edward the third, paid respective aid for it at the making the Black Prince knight: then this manor came to Warner, whose successor John Warner was sheriff of Kent in the twentieth year of Henry the sixth: and 'tis probable by some empaled coats in the church windows, that the heir general of Vaughan was married to Warner; but the two statues upon an altar-tomb in the church, likewise (which the injuries of time and impious sacrilege together, have almost demolished,) belonged to Sir Simon de Vaughan, and were, when Mr. Robert Glover made his collection of the Kentish monuments, entire, after the co-heirs of Warner married to John Herne, and Denham divided his inheritance at this place, and upon the partition, this accrued to Herne, and Christopher Herne Esq; in the twenty first year of Henry the eighth, passed it away to William Walsingham Esq; who upon his decease, gave it to his son and heir Sir Francis Walsingham, principal secretary of state to queen Elizabeth, who about the middle of this princess's government, alienated it to John Gellibrand, from which name and family the possession is at this instant come down to Mr. John Gellibrand of London.

CHELLESFIELD in the hundred of Rokesley, afforded in elder times both seat and surname to a family of principal account, who obtained a market in this their manor weekly on Monday, and Simon de Chellesfield, upon his plea of prescription before the judges itinerant, in the seventh year of Edward the first, had no allowance of it, and William de Chellesfield had a charter warren to his lands in Chellesfield, Shoram, Nockholt, and Orpington, in the twelfth year of Edward the first; from Chelsfield it passed away to Otho lord Grandison, who paid respective aid for this manor by the sixth part of a knight's fee, at the making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; but here it had but a frail abode, for Sir Thomas de Grandison, this man's son, conveyed it over by sale to Richard lord Poynings, whose daughter and heir Eleanor married to Henry Percy earl of Northumberland; and in his line was the right of it for some descents interwoven, till in the reign of Henry the seventh, it was by sale resigned up to James Walsingham Esq; whose son, Sir Edmund Walsingham, alienated to Giles in the reign of Edward the sixth, which Giles descended from Giles of Shelvich, where for many years before they had been planted; and from Giles, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, it came over to captain Henry Lee of London, who going out in sisters and co-heirs, it is now come by two of them, to serjeant John Cleak of Huntingdonshire, the principal possessor, and Mr. Thomas Norton of London.

Ferneborough is but a chapel of ease, devoted to the honour of St. Giles, but belongs to the mother-church of Chelsfield, which is dedicated to St. James, as appears by the records of the church of Rochester: it was a principal seat of the lord Grandison, who made this the head of their barony; William de Grandison held it at his death, which was in the ninth year of Edward the third; \* Otho lord Grandison, this man's son, obtained a charter of free-warren to it in the eighteenth year of Edward the third, but long after this it did not remain linked to the inheritance of this family, for in the reign of Richard the second, I find Fleming invested in the possession, whose tenure was very transitory; for not long after by purchase, it was brought into the demean



of Petley, from whom, by as swift a fatality, it went away to Peche of Lullingston, which family determined in Sir John Peche, in the reign of Henry the seventh, who dying issueless, Elizabeth his sister and heir, brought this, and a spacious inheritance to her husband John Hart Esq; from whom William Hart Esq; now of Lullingston, is lineally extracted; and in right of this alliance is at this present entituled to the possession and signory of Ferneborough.

There is a third manor in this parish called Godington, which was anciently the habitation of a family which was represented to the world under that name; Simon de Godington paid respective aid for his manor of Godington, at the making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; (as the Book of Aid informs us) and after this family expired at this place, Richard lord Poynings became lord of the signory of it, from which, with Eleanor his daughter and heir, it went over to Henry Percy earl of Northumberland, but did not long fix in that family; for, almost two hundred years last past, the possession hath been constantly united to the name of Haddon, a family of principal account in this track, as may appear by their

\* Otho de Grandison obtained the grant of a market to Ferneborough, in the eighteenth of Edward the first, which was renewed to Henry earl of Lancaster, in the eighteenth year of Edward the third and the grant of a fair added at the feast of St. Giles, the Eve and eight days following.

111 <Chelsfield> <Cheriton>

arms, viz. a leg couped and wounded, which are registered in the old rolls and ordinances of Kentish armory, always with this addition, Haddon of Kent, and sometimes of Godington in Kent.

Hewat is another small manor in Chelsfield, which was for many descents the Petleys of Down originally, from whom it devolved to a cadet of that family, who planted himself at Moulsoe in this parish, and there is a deed in the hands of Mr. Thomas Petley of Vielston, of John Coldigate of Coldigate, a farm in Holsted, which bears date from the eleventh year of Henry the fourth; to which one William Petley of Chelsfield is teste. After it had been resident for sundry generations in this branch of Petley, which sprouted out from those of Down, the title in that age which ushered in this, was by sale from Edward Petley, transferred to Mr. Thomas Petley of Vielston in Shoram, another branch shot out from the principal stem of the Petleys at Down, and he left it to his second son Mr. Petley of Riverhead in Sevenoke, not long since deceased, whose heir (who is proprietor of this place) is at this instant in his minority.

Northsted is situated likewise in Chelsfield, and in the reign of Edward the third confessed a family called Francis for its proprietaries; Simon Francis held it at his death, which was in the thirty second year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 33. and acquired it by purchase of Otho de Grandison, who held this and Chelsfield, as appears by the Book of Aid, in the twentieth year of the former prince; but about the beginning of Henry the fourth, this family had surrendered the possession of this manor to Vuedall of Udall a noble family, and masters of much land both in Surry, Sussex, and Hantshire. Sir John de Vuedall was one of the knights who was with Edward the first at the siege of Carlaverock; Sir Peter D'Vuedall sat as baron in parliament the eighth and ninth of Edward the second; Nicholas Vuedall was constable of Windsor under Edward the third, John Vuedall was sheriff of Sussex and Surry, the second, fourth, and seventh years of Henry the fifth; and again the first, and twelfth year of Henry the sixth; William Vuedall was sheriff of Sussex and Surry, the eighth of Henry the sixth, and he in the sixth year of that prince's government, conveyed it to John Shelley of Bexley, whose successor William Shelley, about the latter end of Henry the eighth passed it away to John Leonard of Chevening, whose great grandchild Henry lord Dacre, not many years since conveyed it to lady Wolrich, who upon her decease settled it on her kinsman Mr. .... Skeggs, of the county of Huntingdon.

Chelsfield had a market obtained by Otho de Grandison, in the eighth year of Edward the first, to be held there weekly on the Monday, and a fair to be observed there yearly, by the space of three days, at the feast of St. James.

CHERITON, in the hundred of Folkstone, was the inheritance of an ancient family called Scotton. Robert Scotton, who was sheriff of Kent the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth years of Edward the first lived here, and held his shrievalty at this place, and was of eminent rank in this track; for he was lieutenant of Dover-castle under the abovesaid prince, and held this manor under the estimate of a whole knight's fee of the lord of Folkstone: but before the latter end of Edward the second, this family had deserted the possession of this place, and surrendered their interest here to Valoigns; whose time was very brief in the enjoyment of it; for Waretius de Valoigns dying without issue male, this manor accompanied his daughter and co-heir, and was upon the division of his estate, linked with much other land to the demean of her husband Sir Thomas Fogge, who was knight of the shire for Kent, several times under the scepter of Edward the third, and Richard the second; Sir Francis Fogge, another of this family, lies entombed in Cheriton church, with his portraiture cross-legged affixed to his sepulchral stone, which implies that he had obliged himself by some vow to assert the cross and sepulchre of our saviour; finally, after the proprietor of this place had by the current of many descents flowed in this family, it devolved to George Fogge Esq; who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Mr. Henry Brockman, grandfather to James Brockman Esq; the instant lord of the fee.

Enbroke is another manor in Cheriton, which in the twentieth year of Henry the third, was the patrimony of Peter de Alkham, and after his descendants were extinguished at this place, it came by the ordinary fate of purchase to Enbroke, who having erected a mansion upon the demean, it is probable adopted it into his own surname

112 <Cheriton> <Great Chart>

name, and called it Enbroke. John de Enbroke held it in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and paid an auxiliary supply for it (as appears by the Book of Aid) at making the black prince knight. Michael Enbroke was a great benefactor to the fabrick of Cheriton church in the time of Richard the second, and it is probable those ancient tombs yet visible related to these two, or some of this family, the last of which was John Enbroke, who flourished here in the reign of Henry the fourth; after whose departure it came to be enjoyed by Thorold or Torold, and Walter Torold conveyed it to Nicholas Evering in the seventeenth year of Henry the sixth, in which family the possession was permanent and constant, until that age which was circumscribed within our grandfathers remembrance, and then it was alienated to Mr. John Honywood of Elmsted, ancestor to the instant proprietor Edward Honywood, Esq; of the same place. There is another manor in Cheriton called Enbroke likewise, which was an appendage to the demean of the archbishop of Canterbury; but how it devolved to that see, I confess I know not, only I find it was assumed by the crown in the first year of queen Elizabeth, who about the latter end of her reign, granted it to Sir Edwin Sandys, whose son Henry Sandys Esq; passed it away in lease, to John Marsham Esq; who transmitted that part of it which lay in Cheriton to colonel Richard Sandys lately deceased, who purchased the reversion in fee of the rest of his brothers, and that part of it which lay in Waldershare, of which he had bought the property to Sir Thomas Pettus of Suffolk, baronet.

The tombs in the church adorned with several portraitures and sculptures of persons deceased, related to these two formerly recited families, which the rude hand of time hath crushed into the disorder of so great a ruin, that now even the monuments and sepulchres themselves have found an interment in their dust and rubbish.

\* Godington in Great Chart, was an ancient mansion of a family of that surname. Simon de Godington lived here, as appears by very ancient deeds, and so did Lucas de Godington likewise. John de Godington is portrayed in coat armour in an ancient window in the north isle of the church, having an aspect upon a crucifix in the same glass placed above him, accompanied with eleven others of eminent note in this track depicted in the same posture with him; and this John had issue William de Godington, who flourished here, as appears by his deed in the fourth year of Richard the second, but before the beginning of Henry the fourth, had passed away his interest here to Richard, Simon, and John Champneys, and in the sixth year of the abovesaid prince, conveyed it to Thomas Goldwell, son of William Goldwell, and he determined in a daughter and heir called Agnes, who was affianced to Thomas Tooke of Bere, by whom he had issue Ralph Tooke, Richard, and John; Ralph went into Hertfordshire, Richard planted himself at Bere by Dover, and John Tooke by donation from

his father, was invested in Godington, and continued ever since an eminent seat of that family, and is at present the residence of that worthy person captain Nicholas Tooke, descended from \* Sieur de Toque or Toc, who is recorded in the rolls of those who entered England with William the conqueror, who hath so industriously and elegantly cultivated and improved our English vines, that the wine pressed and extracted out of their grapes, seems not only to parallel, but almost to out-rival that of France.

Court Wurthin is a place of good account in Great Chart, which likewise afforded a residence to possessors of that surname. William de Wurton by his deed without date, demises land which lay circumscribed within his manor of Wurtin, to Quike= manus de Bere; Henry de Wurtin is in the register of those twelve eminent persons who are depicted kneeling in a glass window in this church; the last of this name at this place was Thomas de Wurtin, who about the beginning of Henry the fourth, passed it away to Thomas Goldwell, by whose heir general it came with Godington to Thomas Tooke of Bere, who settled it on his third son Mr. John Tooke; from whom it is successively by descent come down to my noble friend captain Nicholas Tooke Esq;

It is observable, that there is a coat of augmentation united to the paternal coat of this family, which the Tookes of Godington bear in the first quarter, viz. Argent upon a cheveron between three greyhounds heads erased, sable, three silver plates, which was given to John Tooke by Henry the seventh, as a reward for his diligence in that embassy in which he was employed by that prince; the plates were an emblem of his guerdon or salary, and the greyhounds heads a symbol of his celerity.

Singleton is another eminent manor in this parish, which had owners of that surname, and bore in ancient armorials, as appears by their deeds, two cheverons between three

\* See Fox Acts and Monument, page 182. Holinshed Chronicle, 2. Stow's Chronicle, page 103.

113 <Great Chart> <Chevening>

martlets. Henry de Singleton is one of those twelve eminent persons that are depicted kneeling in coat armour in a window in Great Chart church, and John Singleton, this man's successor, was justice of the peace for this county in the reign of Richard the second, and Edward the fourth, as appears by an old roll of the justices of those times collected by Thin: but after this man's exit, the title was not long wedded to this family, for about the latter end of Henry the sixth, I find the Edingham or Enghams, to be by purchase entituled to the possession, who added much to the lustre of the ancient pile, by adorning its fabrick with increase of building, and continued proprietors of it until the beginning of king James, and then it was passed away by Sir Edward Engham to Richard Brown Esq; a cadet or younger branch of the Browns of Betsworth castle in Surry; from whom it is now in behalf of dower, the habitation of his widow Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, daughter of Sir William Andrews of Lathbury in the county of Buckingham.

Nin-house shall not pass without some mention, because it was the residence of John at-Nin, who is in the register of those twelve worthies who are pourtrayed kneeling in coat armour in an ancient window in this parish church, whose posterity enjoyed it until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was alienated to Sharp, and William Sharp, mingled with the ashes of his five wives (as the inscription on his sepulchral stone instructs us) rests in the nether most part of the south isle of this church, and as the date endorsed on his tomb informs us, deceased in the year of Grace 1499, and from him did the property of this mansion, by the devolution of sundry descents, come down to Mr. .... Sharpe lately deceased, whose heirs do still enjoy it

CHEVENING, in the hundred of Codsheath, had owners of that name in times of a higher assent, who were of no despicable account. Adam de Chevening was one of the grand assise in the time of king John, and had his residence here, and likewise derived his name from hence; and the heirs of William de Chevening paid respective aid for the manor of Chevening by the half part of a knight's fee, (which Adam de Chevening formerly held of the arch-bishop of Canterbury) in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight. When the Chevenings went away from the possession of this place, the family of Delapole, who were lords of the manor of Pool in Southfleet, were seated in the inheritance, for John de Lapole held it in the tenth year of Henry the sixth, but not long after this did it continue constant to this name, for by sale the whole demise was put into the tenure of Isley, and William Isley held it at his death, which was in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, Rot. Esc. 34. and in the demean of this family was the inheritance folded up, till Sir

Henry Isley, in the reign of Edward the sixth, fixed the propriety of it by sale in John Lennard Esq; who lies interred in Chevening church; in right of which original grant Francis now lord Dacres his great grandchild is invested in the present inheritance of it.

Chepsted in this parish, was so called from the market of fish there long since used; for there such as imported fish from Rye on the sea-coast, thence called Rypers, made their stage, and on fresh horses carried it to London. Just as Cheap-side, and other places beginning with Cheap, give addition and distinction from other towns of like name where markets are kept. That this manor had proprietors of this name is evident, for John de Chepsted son of John de Chepsted, paid respective aid for this manor, which was held by knights service, of the arch-bishop of Canterbury, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince knight; the heir of Chepsted (as appears by an old pedigree in the hands of Sir Sackvil Crow) was married to John de Bore, and the heir of Bore to Stockett, who passed away Chepsted about the latter end of Henry the sixth, to William Isley Esq; whose unhappy successor Sir Henry Isley, being attainted in the time of queen Mary, it escheated to the crown, where it hath ever since been resident.

Morants court lies in Chevening likewise, and contributed both seat and surname to a knightly family who were proprietors of it. King Edward the second, in the fourteenth year of his reign, granted charter warren to Jurdan, and William de Morant, in all their lands in Chevening Shoram, Otfood, Brasted, Sundridge, and Chidinston William de Morant was sheriff of Kent the twelfth and thirteenth year of Edward the third, and had issue Sir Thomas Morant, whose heir general brought this seat to Peckham, in which family the title lay couched till our fathers memory, and then it was demised to Blackswell, who some few years since, hath by deed and other conveyance, settled his right in it on Mr. Watson of the county of Oxford.

114 <Chislehurst> <Chiddingstone>

CHISELHURST, in the hundred of Rokesley, hath several places within the confines of it, of signal account. The first is Scadbery, which had owners of that surname, which about the twentieth of Edward the first, were extinguished; for then John de Scadbery deceased without issue male, so that this ancient seat devolved to be the patrimony of Osmund de Walsingham, descended from the knightly family of Walsingham in Norfolk, who married Anne his sole daughter and heir; and having planted himself in this county, he began to sprout out and flourish into a series of such worthy successors, that this family was justly registered in the catalogue of those who were esteemed the most ancient and eminent of this county, having in this latter description of time, been for six descents knights; which that I may the better represent the splendor of this family to the reader, I shall distinctly name; the first was Sir Thomas Walsingham, who was born the third year of Henry the fifth, and he had issue Sir James Walsingham, who was sheriff of Kent the twelfth year of Henry the seventh, whose son and heir was Sir Edmund Walsingham, who was lieutenant of the Tower twenty four years, and he had issue Sir Thomas, kinsman to Sir Francis Walsingham the famous secretary of state to queen Elizabeth; Sir Thomas Walsingham was son and heir of Sir Thomas abovementioned, and he had issue Sir Thomas Walsingham, who is the instant proprietor of Scadbery.

Frogpool is another ancient seat in this parish, which in Henry the third's reign confessed the signory of a family called Barbur. Thomas le Barbur obtained a charter of free warren to his lands at Chiselhurst, in the thirty eighth of the above mentioned prince. But before the latter end of Edward the second, this family was mouldered away, and then it came to be possessed by a family called Cressel, who were lords of much land about Hartley, Faulkham, and other places in that territory, and bore for their coat armour, as appears depicted in ancient coloured glass in Chiselhurst church, sable, a fess argent between three chaplets or. John de Cressel in an old survey of Rochester, is remembered to have been a liberal benefactor to this church in the reign of Edward the third, and from the government of that prince, does the age of the above-mentioned coat seem to commence; and this is the reason why another John Cressel of this family, is in the seventh year of Henry the fifth, recorded in the register of those, qui portabant arma antiqua. Finally, after the propriety of this mansion had continued so many descents, wrapped up in the patrimony of this family, it was about the latter end of Henry the eighth, transmitted by sale to Dyneley, and Sir John Dyneley in our remembrance demised his concern in it to Mr. William

Watkins, to whose care and industrious expence, the additional building annexed to the ancient structure, does owe its original, and he having thus improved it, transmitted his right in it by sale some few years since, to Philip Warwick Esq; clerk of the signet, and secretary to the king at the treaty in the isle of Wight.

CHIDDINGSTON, in the hundred of Somerden, hath the addition of Cobham, as being the inheritance of the lords Cobham of Sterborough castle in Surrey. Henry de Cobham had in the ninth year of king John, a charter of free warren for all his land in Kent, of which the manor of Chiddingston, Cobham, and Tyhurst, in this parish were a parcel. In ages of a lower step, Reginald lord Cobham who was summoned to parliament, as lord Cobham of Sterborough, anno 22. Edward the third, died possessed of them Anno 35. of that prince, parte prima Rot. Esc. Num. 62. and here the right continued, till in Thomas lord Cobham, this Reginald's great grandchild, the male line failed, and dissolved into Anne Cobham his daughter and heir, who was married to Edward Borough lord of Gainsborough, in the county of Lincoln, whose grandchild Thomas lord Borough, anno 38. Elizabeth, passed away his right in both the said manors, unto Richard Stratfield; upon whose decease his sons, named Henry and Thomas, entered into the possession thereof, and by a partage between them, Tyhurst came to the said Henry, and Chiddingston Cobham came to the said Thomas. Tyhurst is at present the inheritance of Richard Stratfield, eldest son of the said Henry, and Chiddingston Cobham, upon the death of the said Thomas Stratfield without issue male, came to his four daughters; Frances married Mr. John Shetterden deceased, Jane married Mr Edward Taylor deceased, Dorothy married Mr. Edward Powel deceased, and Ann married Mr. William Stanley deceased, and secondly to Mr. Samuel Dillingham deceased. All which daughters are yet surviving, and in the enjoyment of the premises. \*

\* Rokesley is a third manor in Chiddingston which had owners, who in old deeds were sometimes

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Burwash court in this parish, was the patrimony of the lords Burgherst, by vulgar depravation of the name called Burwash. Stephen de Burwash had a charter of free-warren to all his lands in Kent, in the first year of Edward the second; Robert de Burgherst or Burwarsh possessed it at his death, which was in the thirty third year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num 41. and his son Bartholomew lord Burwash in the forty third year of Edward the third, by deed passes away much of his land in Warwickshire and Kent, to Walter de Paveley and Matilda his wife, in which this lay involved; from Paveley it came down by purchase to John de Bore, Trivet and Vaux, whose successors conveyed Burwash to John Alpeck in the reign of Henry the sixth; Alpeck's co-heirs were married to ..... Brograve, and Sir Robert Read, lord chief justice of the common pleas in the time of Henry the seventh, who in his wife's right, carried away Burwash as parcel of her dower; but this man determining likewise in daughters and co-heirs, Katharine one of them was married to Sir Thomas Willoughby, second son to Christopher Willoughbie of Eresbie, which Sir Thomas was likewise lord chief justice of the common pleas; Eliza was married to Sir Thomas Totihurst, and a third was married to Thomas Wotton Esq; Sir Thomas Willoughbie, son and heir of Sir Thomas, who joined in a fine with his two uncles even now mentioned, in the sixth year of Edward the sixth, and so by a mutual concurrence with them, their united concern in Burwash was passed away to Mr. John and Mr. Robert Seyliard of Delaware; in whose name and revenue, the title and property of this place hath ever since kept so permanent an abode, that it is still the inheritance of John Seyliard Esq; now of Delaware.

Bore-place, with the manor of Milbroke and Boresell, was formerly the inheritance as high as Henry the third, of a family which assumed its sirname from hence, and was called Bore, and likewise took into his arms a boar for his cognisance. In this family the right of these places successively dwelt, till John Bore in the time of Henry the sixth transplanted his interest in them by sale into John Alphew, by whose co-heir they came over to her husband Sir Robert Read, and from him they went away by Katherine, one of his co-heirs, to Sir Thomas Willoughbie, whose great grandchild Percivall Willoughbie, having married Bridget, one of the four co-heirs of Sir Percivall Willoughbie of Nottinghamshire, divested himself of his title to both these places, to improve his interest in that county, and not many years since

alienated them to Bernard Hide Esq; of London, one of the commissioners of the custom house to the late king Charles, whose grandchild Mr. Bernard Hide, is upon his father's decease, now entered into their possession of Milbroke and Bore-place: but Boresell now vulgarly called Bowsell, was sold to Edmund Thomas, of Whitley near Sevenoke, who is now in the enjoyment of it.

CHILHAM, in the hundred of Felborough, was by William the conqueror, as the pages of Doomsday book instructs us, assigned to Fulbert de Dover under the notion of a whole knight's fee, for his assistance and association to John de Fiennes in the guard of Dover castle, which eminent employment thus imposed upon him, did induce him to wave his original surname of Lucy, and assume one derived from his office, yet Richard de Lucy, this man's son, did it seems take up again his primitive surname, for when king John by his charter in the sixteenth year of his reign, Cart. 24. Num. 37. restores to Rose de Dover, called in the Latin record Rohesia, the castle of Chilham with all its appendages, he calls it there the land which was her grandfather Richard de Lucy's inheritance. This Rose de Dover was sometimes written in old deeds de Lucy, in relation to which she sealed with three pikes; \* she married Richard, base son to king John, by whom she had two daughters and co-heirs, Lora married to William de Marmion, and Isabell espoused to David de Strabolgie earl of Athol, who in her right became lord of the castle and manor of Chilham, and transmitted it to his son John earl of Athol, who for his frequent acts of hostility and rebellion against Edward the first, in his contest with the Scots, being by the fate of war made captive, was at Canterbury hanged on a gibbet fifty foot high, that he

called Rendesley, and sometimes Rennesley, but before the latter end of Henry the sixth, this family was languished away, and then it came to confess Alphew for proprietor, and not long after it devolved by one of his co-heirs to Robert Read, and from him the same fate carried his interest to Sir Thomas Willoughby, whose descendant Sir Percival Willoughby, conveyed this and Ewherst in the eighth year of king James, to Mr. Nathaniel Studley, whose son and heir Nathaniel Studley, not long since, alienated this and Ewherst in Spelherst, to Mr. Christopher Knight.

\* Fishes called Lucii in Latin.

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might be as eminent in his punishment as he was before conspicuous in his crimes, and being cut down half alive, had his head struck off, and his trunk cast into the fire, a savage manner of punishment, and hardly heard of before amongst us; upon his shipwreck and confiscation of estate, it rested in the demean of the crown, till king Edward the second, in the fifth year of his reign, as appears, parte prima Pat. Edwardi secundi, granted the castle and manor of Chilham to Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, who quickly after lost it by his perfidiousness and disloyalty to that prince, so that it returned to the crown; and the abovesaid prince, as is evident by Pat. 15. & 16. Edwardi secundi, restores the castle and manor with all the goods and chattels in it, which belonged to Bartholomew Badelesmer, to David de Strabolgie, grandchild to the first David, for life only, which upon the expiration, was again united to the royal revenue, and in the third year of king Edward the third's government, it was by patent granted to Bartholomew Badelesmer, son to the abovesaid lord Badelesmer; and he dying in the twelfth year of king Edward the third, left it to his brother Giles Badelesmer, who deceased without issue, and so his four sisters became his co-heirs; one of which called Margaret, by marrying William lord Roos of Hamlake, united the castle and manor of Chilham, which accrued to her upon the division of the estate to his revenue, from whom successively it did devolve by a continued rivulet of descent, to his successor Thomas lord Rosse, who asserting the cause and quarrel of the house of Lancaster, was in a battle commenced between Edmund Beaufort duke of Dorset, and John Nevill, marquis Montacute, made captive to the partisans of the house of York, and in the third year of Edward the fourth, sealed his faith to that cause which he contended for, with the loss of his head, which was struck off at Newcastle; but it seems the manor and castle of Chilham was

before this untimely fate of his, upon his being engaged in arms with the complices of the house of Lancaster, by Edward the fourth, in the first year of his reign, granted to Sir John Scot of Scots-hall, one of his privy counsel, Pat. Anno pri. Edwardi quarti parte 4. memb. 24. but it was but for life, for afterwards it returned to the crown, and rested there till Henry the eighth, by royal concession, planted the property in Sir Thomas Cheyney, who inhabited here when Leland made his Kentish perambulation, which was in the beginning of the reign of that prince, from whom it came down to his son Henry, created baron Cheyney by queen Elizabeth, who having by riot and confusion and other exorbitant excesses, wasted a noble and plentiful patrimony, in the tenth year of that queen's government, alienated the manor and castle of Chilham to Sir Thomas Kempe, whose son Sir Thomas Kempe, concluded in four daughter and co-heirs, Dorothy married to Sir John Cutts, Anne married Sir Thomas Chichley, Amy married Sir Henry Skipwith, and Mary married Sir Dudley Diggs, who being concerned in this estate, the three first by a joint concurrence, passed away their right to Sir Dudley Diggs and his lady, who was master of the rolls in the year 1636, and a great assertor of his country's liberty in the worst of times, when the sluices of prerogative were opened, and the banks of the law were almost overwhelmed with the inundations of it; from whom it descended to his son ..... Diggs Esq; in whom the property and interest of this manor and castle does still continue.

Eastry in this parish, was the seat of a family which was known by that surname, and in several ancient deeds, which are not bounded or limited with any date, there is mention of John de Easture, who lived here in the reign of Henry the third and Edward the first; after this name was vanished, the Apulderfields of Otterpley in Challock, a younger branch of the Apulderfields of Bedmancore, were invested in the possession; and of this family was Henry de Apulderfield, who was sheriff of Kent the fifty first year of Edward the third, and proprietor of this place; but when this family resolved into a daughter and heir called Isabel, she by marrying John Ideleghe, who had a large income about Mepham, Chalk, and Cobham, cast it into the inheritance of that family, where it had not long remained, but a vicissitude like the former, carried it by Agnes the female heir of William Ideleghe to Christopher Ellenden, who was master of a good estate about Seasalter and Damian Blean, which name not many years after, shrunk into a daughter and heir likewise called Mary, descended from Thomas Ellenden, who was about the reign of Henry the seventh,

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married to Edward Thwaits, so that in her right, that family became settled in the inheritance of this place, and remained in the possession, till in that age we stile our grandfathers, it was by sale translated into Morton, descended from the ancient family of the Mortons of Millbourn St. Andrews in the county of Dorset, whose successor Mr. George Morton, not many years since passed away his interest in it by sale to his uncle John Finch, baron of Fordwich, and lord keeper of the great seal in the year 1640.

Youngs is another manor in Chilham, which by deeds of a very high gradation in time, which step into the reign of Edward the second, appears to be the possession of a family of that appellation; and when that was decayed and worn out at this place, the Beverleys, who were a family which had been planted at Tancrey island in Fordwich ever since the latter end of the reign of Edward the third, were ingrafted in the inheritance, and continued by an undissolved chain of several ages seated in the propriety of it, till George Beverley, the last of this name at this place, in our grandfathers remembrance, demised his right in it by sale to George Barley, where the title found no long abode, for he passed away his interest to Fleet, extracted from the Fleets of Fleet in the isle of Thanet, who suddenly after alienated it to Shepheard, from which family, almost in our remembrance, it was by purchase brought over to own the signory of Sir Dudley Diggs, who upon his decease transmitted it to his eldest son ..... Diggs Esq; in whom the present proprietor of it is fixed.

Dane court is a fourth manor within the limits of Chilham, not to be waved or declined in this present survey: it was anciently the patrimony of Thomas de Garwinton of Welle in Littlebourn, and he held it, as appears by ancient court rolls, in the reign of Edward the first, and Edward the second, whose great grandchild William Garwinton of Welle, in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, dying without

issue, upon a serious debate and winnowing of collateral alliance, Joan, wife of Richard Haut, was found to be his cousin and heir, and so this place became in her right the inheritance of this family; but this man's son called Richard, likewise, not long after deceasing without issue male, Margery his only daughter, who was married to William Isaack, about the latter end of Henry the seventh, became his heir, and so it fell under the jurisdiction of that name, and remained entwined with the demean, till about the beginning of the government of queen Elizabeth, it was by Edward Isaack sold to Hales; from which family in that age our fathers lived in, by the same conveyance, it went away to Spracklin, issued out from the Spracklins of St. Laurence in Thanet, in which name the possession is at this instant resident.

There is a place in this parish on the south side of the river, stretched out on a long green hill, which the common people (who bear the greatest sway in corrupting of names) call Jelliberie Grave. The history itself will evidence the original denomination. It was about this place that Julius Cæsar respited his farther remove or advance into the bowels of this island, upon the intelligence received that his fleet riding in the roads at Lymen not far distant, had been much afflicted and shattered by a tempest; whereupon he returned, and left his army for ten days encamped upon the brow of this hill, till he had new careened and rigged his navy; but in his march from hence was so vigorously encountered by the Britons, that he lost with many others, Leberius Durus, tribune and marshal of the field, whose obsequies being performed with solemnities answerable to the eminence of his place and command, each soldier as was then customary, bringing a certain quantity of earth to improve his place of sepulture into more note than ordinary, caused it so much to exceed the proportion of others elsewhere; and from hence it assumed the name of Julaber, whom other vulgar heads, ignorant of the truth of the story, have fancied to have been a giant, and others of them have dreamed to have been some enchanter or witch.

It is probable the Romans built something here at Chilham, for when Sir Dudley Diggs digged down the ruins of the old castle, to make space for the foundation of that exact and elegant house which he there erected, there was the basis of a more ancient building discovered, and many æconomical vessels of the Roman antique mode traced out in that place, besides the keeper of the castle, which is yet preserved, hath a senate-house adorned and furnished with seats round about, shaped out of an excellent durable stone.

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Oldwives Leas is the last place in the inventory of those manors which lie within the limits of Chilham. It was in elder orthography, written Old-woods Leas, as being indeed the patrimony of a family so called, as appears by both deeds without date, and of a more modern constitution, and continued lords of it until the reign of Henry the sixth, and then the daughter and heir general of John Oldwood, annexed it to the inheritance of Paine, in which family it was without any pause or interruption resident almost until our fathers memory, and then this name was entombed in four daughters and co-heirs; two of which by the first wife were married to Cob, and Philipot of Feversham, and the two others which were the issue by the second wife, were married to Petit and Prude; but this upon the division of the estate into portions, augmented the revenue of Cob, and is still, for ought I know, wrapped up in the demean of the heirs and descendants of this family.

Chilham by the influence and procurement of Alexander de Baliol, and Isabell his wife, had the grant of a market to be held weekly on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly by the space of three days, viz. the vigil, the day of the assumption of our lady, and the day after, in the nineteenth year of Edward the first, which grant was renewed and confirmed to Bartholomew lord Badeslesmer in the ninth year of Edward the second, as appears Pat. 9. Edw. secundi, Num. 57.

CHILLENDE in the hundred of Eastry, gave surname to a family so stiled, and there is a recital in deeds very ancient, which extract their original from the time of Henry the third, of John de Chillenden, Edward and William de Chillenden, who had an interest in this place in ages of a lower step; the Bakers who were lords of Caldhay by Capell, were in the possession of this place, and after they were gone out, the family of Hunt, about the government of Henry the sixth, by purchase, were settled in the inheritance; and here the title for two or three descents was successively permanent, and then the same inconstant revolution which carried it to Hunt, wafted it



over from that name by sale to Gason, which family I find to be of no despicable antiquity about Ickham and Track; and when it had for some years been linked to their revenue, it was for some two or three ages since alienated to Hamon, ancestor to Anthony Hamon Esq; into whom by original descent, the hereditary right of this place is at this present collected.

CHISTLET in the hundred of Whitstaple, was given to the see of Canterbury, by Ethelbert king of Kent, under the notion of Cistelet; and here the arch-bishops of Canterbury erected a magnificent mansion, which they called Ford; and empaled a certain proportion of land into the form of a park, as if they had judged it meet to testify the first donation of this christian prince, who by election and design intended it for a chosen portion of earth, devoted to the support of this arch-bishoprick.

CLIVE, formerly called Cloves-hoo, lies in the hundred of Shamell, called so from its situation either on some elevated precipice, or else its being cloven or rent in some part of it from the continent by water. It was in the conqueror's time called Bishops-Clive; and in the pages of Doomsday Book it is thus rated, Cliva est manerium monachorum, & est de vestitu eorum & in T. E. R. se defendebat pro II sullings & dimidio & est appretiatum XVI. However the place at present may be represented obscure and despicable, being shrunk from its former glory, yet in those ages wherein the Saxons flourished, it was ennobled with several synods which were held here, both national and provincial, wherein several rules and constitutions were enacted and established both to fetter up the exorbitances of the clergy, within the channels and shores of the ordinances and decretals ecclesiastical, and likewise to impale the irregularities of the laity, who then began to be debauched into disorder and excess, within the restraints and boundaries of the laws temporal. I shall now exactly unweave them as they are registered by the learned Spelman, in his exact collection of the councils held before the conquest. The first was held in the year 742, under king Ethelbald, and arch-bishop Cuthbert; the second under Ethelbald king of Mercia, accompanied with the principal of his nobility, and arch-bishop Cuthbert, invested with his bishops, abbots, and other ecclesiastical persons, in the year 747; the

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third was celebrated under arch-bishop Athelard in the year 798. The fourth synod or council was convened at this place under Kenulf king of the Mercians, and Athelard arch-bishop of Canterbury in the year 800. The fifth was called together under the abovesaid king Kenulf, and arch-bishop Athelard in the year 803. The sixth was assembled in the third year of Bernulfe, king of the Mercians in the year 822. that prince himself, with Ulfred arch-bishop of Canterbury, being both present and president at it and over it: the result of this eminent synod, was to rescue and restore to the patrimony of the church, lands called Harges, Herefordinglond, Gedding, and Combe; which by the sacrilegious violence of some impious men, even in those times, had been ravished away from the ecclesiastical demean. Their eighth and last was a small synodal convention, collected into a body under the above-mentioned king Bernulfe, and arch-bishop Ulfred in the year of grace 824, and it is observable, that in these assemblies, and in others recorded by Sir Henry Spelman either the king immediately, or else some thane, (which was a dignity equivalent to our English baron) who did personate the prince, was jointly president with the bishop; that as one took cognisance of the affairs of the church, so the other managed the concerns and interest of the state; and this was done with much of reason and prudence in the original constitution of these synods, for the mingling the divided interest of the laity and clergy together, and making them mutually to interfere, extinguished all jealousy and emulation between them, and by consequence, all those black effects and inconveniences, which are still the retinue to those two furies; for we cannot be so citizens of the common-wealth, but we must be sons of the church; nor so sons of the church (the temporal and spiritual interest are so complicated together) but we must in some relation, be citizens of the common-wealth; and what causeth annoyance to the one, creates disturbance to the other; for like Hipocrate's twins they laugh and mourn, live and die together. But to proceed, when this manor had for many ages, been incorporated with the inheritance of the church, Henry the eighth judging the clergy grown too luxuriant in a wide revenue, pruned off this, and Malingden, a manor which was ever an appendage to Cliffe, as two superfluous excrescencies, and engrafted them again in the royal demean; but suddenly after, Cliffe was by this prince granted to George Brooke lord Cobham, and he left it to his son Sir William

Brooke lord Cobham, who enstated it by entail on his second son George Brooke, and in default of issue male, by him surviving, to the next heir male of the name; after this man was beheaded at Winchester, in the second year of king James, this devolved to his son Sir William Brooke, who dying without issue male, in the year 1643, Sir Joseph Brooke now lord Cobham, became his heir.

Malingden was by queen Elizabeth granted to William Ewens, who quickly after this concession, transferred his interest in it by sale to Brown, from whom by as sudden a decursion, the title by purchase went into Sompner, who (in times which almost attack our remembrance) sold it away to Hills.

Perry-court in Cliffe, was always a limb of the revenue of the family of Cobham, and so for many hundred years continued, till Henry Brooke lord Cobham, being wound up in that fatal and mysterious design of the noble but unfortunate Sir Walter Rawleigh, in the time of king James, forfeited this to the crown; but this seat was by the abovesaid prince, after the death of Frances, widow to the abovesaid Henry lord Brooke, granted to Robert Cecil earl of Salisbury, in reversion, who married Elizabeth Brooke, this lord's sister, and his son William earl of Salisbury, knight of the garter, and captain of the band of pensioners to his late majesty, passed it away by sale to Bernard Hide Esq; of London, whose grandchild Mr. Bernard Hide does enjoy the present fee-simple of it.

Cardans is the last manor in Cliffe, which (until the publick dissolution tore it off) belonged to the Charter house in London; and being thus ravished away, was by Henry the eighth in the thirty first year of his reign, granted to Thomas Gethins; from which family not many years since, it passed away by sale to Oliver Leder, and was lately, if it be not still, in the tenure and possession of that name.

West-Clive, vulgarly called West-Cliff, in the hundred of Bewsborough, was the patrimonial inheritance of the lord Cobham of Sterborough castle in Surry, a

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younger branch of the lord Cobham of Cobham; Reginald de Cobham, second son of John de Cobham, was summoned to parliament as baron of Sterborough in the twenty second year of Edward the third, and died possessed of this manor, and much other land in Kent and Surry, in the forty first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 15. and so it remained interwoven for some descents with the demean of this family, till Thomas lord Cobham, this man's great grandchild, resolved into Ann Cobham, who was his female heir, who by being married to Edward Borough lord Gainsborough, linked this to his demean and property; but it was unloosened in Thomas lord Borough, this man's grandchild, who in the reign of queen Elizabeth alienated his interest in it Guibon, whose grandchild Mr. Thomas Guibon is invested in the instant possession of it.

Bere-court or manor in this parish, was formerly a parcel of the demean of a family who in times more ancient fell under this denomination; William de Bere was bailiff of Dover, and was to account the profits to the constable of Dover Castle, anno secundo Edwardi primi, Memb. 19. & anno quarto Edwardi primi, Memb. 34. After this family had waved the possession of this place, the Tookes were settled in the inheritance, and by a decursion of many ages, have brought down the inheritance to Mr. Charles Tooke, who is the instant possessor of Bere.

COBHAM in the hundred of Shamell, afforded a seat and surname to that noble and splendid family, who from hence borrowed the original denomination of Cobham, and certainly this place was the cradle or seminary of persons, who in elder times were invested in places of as signal and principal a trust or eminence as they could move in, in the narrow orbe of a particular county. Henry de Cobham was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ in the first year of king John, who were in some proportion equivalent to the judges itinerant, for they took cognisance of all causes criminal, declared to be so by the laws then in force, and likewise determined in sundry actions of a meer civil aspect, either real, personal, or mixt. Reginald de Cobham son of John de Cobham, was sheriff of Kent from the beginning of the thirty third year of Henry the third, to the end of the fortieth year of the said prince, and was again sheriff in the forty second year of the abovementioned prince, in which year he died, and Roger de Northwood and his other executors, answered for the remainder of the year. Sir Henry de Cobham was sheriff of Kent, the twenty

ninth, thirtieth, and part of the thirty first year of Edward the first; he is written in the rolls of the arms of the knights of Kent, Henry Cobham le Uncle, that is, he was uncle to the lord Cobham; he lies buried in Shorne church, with his portraiture, armed in mail and cross-legged, with a baron's robes cast over; but whether he was actually engaged in the defence of the cross and sepulchre of Christ against the assaults of infidels, is uncertain; for it was customary in those times, if they did but vow to undertake the protection of the cross in the christian quarrel, to insculp their figures upon their sepulchres armed and cross-legged. Sir Henry de Cobham, Sir Reginald de Cobham, Sir Stephen de Cobham, and Sir Henry de Cobham le Uncle, are enrolled in the register of those knights who were assistant to king Edward the first, in the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty eighth year of his reign. Sir Henry de Cobham abovesaid, was sheriff of Kent in the first and ninth years of Edward the second; Stephen de Cobham, son and heir of this Sir Henry, was sheriff of Kent the eighth, ninth and tenth years of Edward the third; Thomas de Cobham was sheriff of Kent in the first year of Richard the second; John de Cobham was one of the conservators of the peace in this county in the third, fifth, sixth, ninth, twelfth and eighteenth years of Edward the third, a place of no small consequence in that age, the end of it being to appease tumults, regulate and bridle the disorders and excesses of all irregular persons, whether felons, outlaws, or other malefactors of what complexion soever; and lastly, to secure the peace of the county from all eruptions, either home-bred or foreign: this man had issue Thomas lord Cobham, father to John lord Cobham, in whom the male line determined, so that Joan became his daughter and heir, who first married John Delapole, and second to Sir John Oldcastle, by whom she had only a daughter that died an infant, and thirdly to Reginald Braybrook, who died (as appears by the inscription on his tomb, in Cobham church) in the year

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1433, and by him she had only Joan, who was heir to them both, and she by marrying Thomas Brook Esq; of the county of Somerset, knit Cobham and a large income besides, to her husband's patrimony, and this man had issue by her, Sir Edmund Broke, who was summoned to parliament as baron of Cobham, in the twenty third year of Henry the sixth, and he was, in the direct line, ancestor to Henry Broke lord Cobham, lord warden of the cinque ports in the first year of king James, who being too deeply concerned in the design of Sir Walter Rawleigh, which was (as some who pretend to unravel it in the whole web, by private collusion and treaty with count Aremberg, the Spanish legate, to draw over some forces from Flanders, by whose powerful concurrence they might engage this nation in the flame of civil contention, since from that they expected their light, though others wrap it up in so many veils and umbrages that the whole scene of this attempt becomes perplexed and mysterious) made the forfeiture of his estate here at Cobham, though not his life, become the price of his undertaking, which being thus rent away by this escheat from the patrimony of this family, was soon after, by king James, invested by grant in his kinsman Lodowick Stuart, duke of Lenox, who expiring without issue, it did successively devolve to his nephew James duke of Lenox; upon whose late decease, it is come over to ..... his dutchess dowager, only daughter to George Villiers duke of Buckingham, in whom the blood of those three noble families, Villiers, Manours, and Beaumont, appears to be concentered.

Cobham-college was founded by John, baron Cobham of Cobham, in the year 1362, for a master and chaplains to pray for the souls of him, his ancestors, and successors.

Cobham-bury lies likewise in this parish, and was always esteemed as an appendant manor of Cobham, having originally and successively the same proprietors; and being found wrapped up in the patrimony of the unfortunate Henry lord Cobham, it escheated upon his attainder to the crown; and was suddenly after, by king James, granted to Robert earl of Salisbury, whose son and heir, the right honourable William Cecil, earl of Salisbury, some few years since transferred his right in it by sale to one Zachary King, of Watford in the county of Hertford.

Henherst is the last place of note in Cobham, which, as the records in Rochester inform me, was given to the priory of Leed's castle by Robert de Crevequer, upon his foundation of that cloister, and continued folded up in its revenue, until the whirlwind of the general suppression rent it off, and king Henry the eighth granted

it to George lord Cobham, who immediately after, conveyed it to George Harpur Esq; whose son Sir Edward Harpur, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, passed away his concern here to Mr. Thomas Wright; from whom it descended to his son and heir George Wright Esq; who dying without issue, gave it to his kinsman Sir George Wright, and his son, not many years since, surrendered it by sale to doctor Obert, physician to the late queen Mary.

The tythes of this manor were given by one Goscelinus (as the first book of compositions at Rochester discovers to me) in the year 1091, to the priory of St. Andrews in that city, which upon the suppression were by king Henry the eighth, granted to George Brook lord Cobham, which upon the attainder of his unfortunate grandchild Henry lord Cobham in the second year of king James, returned to the crown; and here the property made its abode until the late king Charles, by his royal concession, made them the inheritance of Stephen Alcock Esq; of Rochester.

Cobham had the grant of a market weekly on the Monday, and a fair yearly on the day of St. Mary Magdalen, procured to be observed there at those stated times above said, by John lord Cobham, in the forty first year of Edward the third.

Because I had mentioned before, and shall have frequent occasion to mention hereafter, those Kentish gentlemen who were embarked with Edward the first in his victorious and triumphant expedition into Scotland, and were dignified with the order of knighthood for their assistance given to that prince, in his successful and auspicious siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty eighth year of his reign, I shall represent to the reader, a list which I have collected from an authentic roll, gleaned from very ancient registers and other records, by that eminent antiquary Robert Glover Esq;

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Sir Henry de Cobham  
Sir Reginald de Cobham, of Cobham and Roundal in Shorn.  
Sir Stephen de Cobham  
Sir Henry de Cobham le Uncle  
Sir Simon de Leybourn  
Sir Henry de Leybourn, of Leybourn castle  
Sir Jeffrey de Say de Birling  
Sir Ralph de St. Leger  
Sir John de St. Leger of Ulcomb  
Sir Thomas de St. Leger  
Sir Jeffrey de Lucy  
Sir Aymery de Lucy of Newington Lucies  
Sir Thomas de Lucy  
Sir John de Northwood  
Sir John de Northwood, his son, of Northwood in Milton  
Sir John de Savage  
Sir Thomas de Savage of Bobbing-court  
Sir Roger de Savage

Sir Stephen de Cosington: in another old roll there is mention of Sir William de Cosington, it is probable they were distinct persons, but both of Cosington-hall in Alresford.

Sir Peter de Huntingfield of West-Wickham  
Sir Robert de Crevequer, but of what place is not mentioned in the roll.  
Sir Simon de Crioll of Walmer  
Sir Maurice de Bruin de Bekenham  
Sir Bartholomew de Burgherst of Plumsted  
Sir Fulk de Peyferer  
Sir William de Peyferer of Ottringden  
Sir Robert de Shurland of Shurland in Shepey  
Sir Alexander de Cheyney of Patricksbourn Cheyney  
Sir Thomas de Bicknor  
Sir John de Bicknor of Bicknor  
Sir Robert de Septuans of Milton Septuans  
Sir Henry Fitz-Aucher of Losenham in Newenden  
Sir John de Hadloe of Court at Street

Sir William de Valoigns of Repton in Ashford  
 Sir William de Basing of Kenardington  
 Sir Simon de Crey  
 Sir William de Crey of Pauls Crey  
 Sir Stephen de Gravesend of Nutsted  
 Sir John de Champneys, of what place is not mentioned, but it is probable of  
 Champneys in Pauls-Crey.  
 Sir Robert de Eastangrave of Eastangrave in Eden bridge.  
 Sir John Abell of Hering hill in Erith  
 Sir Nicholas de Malmain of Malmain in Stoke  
 Sir Richard de Rokesley of Rokesley in North-Crey  
 Sir Jeffrey de Camnill of Westerham  
 Sir John Segrave of Folkston  
 Sir William Peche  
 Sir Robert Peche of Lullingston  
 Sir John de Newenham of Newenham

COLDRED in the hundred of Eastrie, was a branch of that estate which related  
 to the fraternity of the Maison de Dieu in Dover, to which in the fourteenth year of  
 Elizabeth the first, they obtained a charter of free-warren, which was looked upon  
 in that age, as a privilege of vast extent and circumference; upon the dissolution in  
 the reign of Henry the eighth, it was by royal concession from that prince, added to

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the demean of Richard Monins Esq; great grandfather to Sir Edward Monins ba=  
 ronet, to whose signory and jurisdiction the property of this place at this instant  
 submits itself.

Popshall in this parish, was anciently wrapt up in the demean of Orlanston of Orlan=  
 ston. William de Orlanston held it, as appears by an escheat roll marked with the  
 number 86, in the reign of Henry the third, and transmitted it to his son William  
 de Orlanston, who in the fifty first year of the abovementioned prince, obtained a  
 charter of free-warren to his lands at Orlanston and Popshall; from him it descended  
 to William de Orlanston, who had issue John de Orlanston, who held it in possession  
 at his decease, which was in the forty sixth year of Edward the third, and had issue  
 William Orlanston, who by sale, transplanted the interest of this place into Richard  
 Berham; in which family, after the title had for some generations been resident, a  
 vicissitude of the same resemblance with the former, cast it into the possession of  
 Horne, branched out from the Hornes of Horns-place in Apuldore, who after some few  
 years investiture in the property of Popshall, determined in a daughter and heir, who was  
 married to John Diggs, from whom in a direct line, Sir Dudley Diggs of Chilham  
 castle was extracted, who alienated his right in this place to Sir William Monins knight  
 and baronet, whose son Sir Edward Monins baronet, enjoys the instant fee-simple of it.

COLDHAM in the hundred of Rokesley, is in the pages of Doomsday book  
 written Caudham, which denotes the bleak and chill situation of it. In the twen=  
 tieth year of William the conqueror, it was parcel of the demean of Gilbert de Mag=  
 ninot, being involved in those knights fees which were assigned to him to be assistant  
 to John de Fiennes in the defence of Dover castle, and in this name, after it had  
 some three descents been lodged, this manor went away about the beginning of king  
 Stephen to William de Say, with the daughter and heir of this family. William de  
 Say, this man's son, is in the front or van of that register, which comprehends the  
 names of those Kentish gentlemen who were embarked in the holy quarrel with  
 Richard the first at the siege of Acon. Geoffrey de Say was one of the recognitores  
 magnæ assisæ in the second year of king John, the nature of which office, and the  
 latitude of its authority, trust and concern, I have before unfolded at Cobham. \*  
 Geoffrey de Say was with Edward the first at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty  
 eighth year of his reign, and for his noted actings there, was honoured by that prince  
 with knighthood, and died possessed of this manor in the fifteenth year of Edward the  
 second, and had the repute of a baron at his decease, as had all his successors likewise,  
 holding Birling, Couldham, and other places of that tenure, which is stiled per ba=  
 roniam. Geoffrey de Say had view of frank-pledge here in the eighth year of Edward  
 the third, and was engaged with that prince in the thirteenth year of his reign, in his  
 triumphant designs upon France. Sir William Say was his son and heir, who went

out from his tabernacle of human frailty in the forty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 43. and bequeathed his estate here at Coldham to Geoffrey de Say his only son surviving, who going out in two daughters and co-heirs, Joan one of them married to Sir William Fiennes, from whom descended James Fiennes his second son, who was summoned to parliament at Bury, as baron Say and Seale, the first of March in the twenty fifth year of the abovesaid prince, and † Richard Fiennes eldest son, who married Joan sole heir of Thomas Dacres, eldest son of Thomas lord Dacres of Hurstmonseaux, who had this manor by descent from his father; from whom in a continued series it came down to Gregory Fiennes lord Dacres, who in the thirty sixth year of queen Elizabeth, died without issue, and so Sampson Lenard Esq; by marrying Margaret his sister and heir, became heir to Coldham, and a large inheritance besides, and his son Henry Lenard, in the reign of king James, was created baron Dacres, from whom Francis Lenard, now lord Dacres, and proprietor of this manor is lineally extracted.

The manor of Apulderfield, by contraction now called Apurfield, lies in the precincts of this parish, which was long time possessed by gentlemen that took their surname from thence, and branched numerously into divers parts of this shire. Henry de Apulderfield in the thirty eighth of Henry the third, obtained a grant of a fair and market to his manor of Apulderfield. In the eleventh year of Henry second,

\* William de Say was with Henry the third in his expedition into Gascony, in the thirty seventh year of his reign.

† This Richard Fiennes was created baron Dacres in the seventh of Henry the sixth.

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John de Insula had a charter of free-warren granted to his manor of Apulderfield, which was renewed to Stephen de Ashway in the thirty eighth year of Edward the third, who had a free chapel annexed to it; and in this family of Ashway did the title of this place for many generations settle, till at last the common vicissitude of purchase, made it the demeane of Denny, from whom it came over by the same alienation to Fiennes, and is now in right of Margaret Fiennes, sister to Gregory lord Dacres, married to Sampson Lenard, devolved to his grandchild Francis Lenard the present lord Dacres.

The hamlet of Bettred, is the last place considerable in Coldham or Coudham; it was in elder times the inheritance of Richard de Cherholt, who was discharged of reveship by Jeffrey de Say, in the fifteenth year of Edward the second, which lord it seems bore a particular affection to this place: for in the seventh year of Edward the third, he brings a pleading for a yearly fair to be kept at this hamlet, on the day of St. Lawrence, that is, on the tenth day of August, which was allowed by John de Stonar, then one of the justices itinerant: but to go on, this above-mentioned Richard dying without issue male, his daughter and heir who was married to William de Manning, knit it to the possession of this family: he died the seventeenth year of Edward the third, and was son of Stephen de Manning, of whom there is mention in old deeds which have an aspect upon the third, fourteenth, eighteenth, and twenty third years of Edward the first, and he was descended from Simon de Manning, to whom John de Silvester of Westerham, demises land by deed in the fourteenth year of Richard the first, and who (as an old pedigree which relates to this family, doth record) was engaged in the holy war, in defence of the cross and sepulchre of our saviour, against the Saracens and infidels under Richard the first, and from this Simon de Manning, Mr. Samuel Manning now of London, and Mr. Edward Manning of Kington, are by successive right, derived to them by many descents, originally and lineally extracted.

COSMUS-DAMIANUS-BLEANE, lies in the hundred of Whitstaple, and contains three places in the boundaries of it, which may fall under a survey. The first is Well-court which was anciently parcel of that estate which did own the family of at-Leeze for its possessors. Sir Richard at Leeze died possessed of it in the year 1394, but going out without issue, Marcellus at Leeze was his brother and heir, who concluded in two daughters and co-heirs, Lucy first married to John Norton, and after to William Langley of Knolton in Kent, by both whom she had issue; and Cicily married to Valentine Barret of Perry court: but Norton and Langley, as heirs

to the eldest daughter, shared the estate here at Well court; and for many years did their interest remain thus interwoven, till in the eleventh year of Henry the eighth, Thomas son of John Langley, released all his right in this place to his kinsman Sir John Norton, and he in the third year of Edward the sixth, passes away his concern in it by sale to Thomas Green, whose successors George and Thomas Green, in the seventh year of King James, alienated it by mutual concurrence to John Best, in whose posterity the title and property is at this instant resident.

The second is Lambert lands, a manor which is couched partly within the limits of Hernhill, and partly within the verge of this parish; it was in elder times an appendage to the revenue of Feversham abbey; but when the storm of suppression, which happened in the government of the reign of Henry the eighth, had ravished it away from the patrimony of the church, and lodged it in the crown, it was by that prince in the thirty sixth year of his reign, granted to Thomas Arden; but it seems it was but for life, for after he was barbarously assassinated by his wife, and her inhuman complices in the reign of Edward the sixth, and left no issue, that prince granted it to Sir Henry Crispe of Quekes, in whose posterity the title was permanent, till that age our fathers lived in, and then it was alienated to Sir John Wild of Canterbury, in which name it had not many years been resident, but it was conveyed to Mr. Huet a minister, in whom or his heirs the possession does yet remain constant.

Hoad-court is, and always was, part of the demean of East-bridge hospital, holding of the master thereof. East-bridge, was formerly an inn, for poor devout pilgrims, who came to offer up their visits and orizons to the shrine of Thomas Becket, after the demolishing of which, in the reign of Henry the eighth, this hospital sprung up

125 <Blean> <Cowden> <Cooling>

out of its ruins, and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, Dr. .... Lawes being then master of East-bridge hospital, it was granted for three lives to \* Sir Jo. Bois, a person of an exemplary and regular life, as appears by his diffusive charity, for he founded Jesus's hospital in the suburbs of North-gate in Canterbury, which he furnished with eight brothers, four sisters, and a warden, all very plentifully provided for; he died without issue and left his estate here to his nephew Mr. Thomas Bois, who erected for him a magnificent tomb in the nave or body of Christ-church, which the assaults of impious and savage hands have demolished utterly and defaced; but though this monument be thus crushed into uncomely ruins, yet he hath transmitted his fame to posterity, which, when all the gaudy and pompous trophies of art languish and shrink into their own ashes, shall stand both brass to his tomb and marble to his stone: but to proceed, from Mr. Thomas Bois abovementioned, is the property of this manor devolved to his grandchild John Bois Esq; a person who for his ingenious and candid love to literature, may be justly said to be worthy of better times, but fit for these; that is, though his merit should have been calculated for the best of days, yet it is made more eminent by his support of learning in the worst.

COWDEN in the hundred of Somerden and Westerham, did anciently with its revenue, support the college of Lingfield in Surry, till the publick dissolution came and tore it off, and then it was by Henry the eighth, granted to Henry earl of Arundel, from whom it suddenly after devolved by sale to Wickenden, whose grandchild not many years since deceasing, left it divided between his two sons, one of which hath lately alienated his moiety to Ashdown, though the other portion still continues in the name of Wickenden.

The Moat is an eminent seat in Cowden, which for many generations confessed the signory of a family called Cosin or Cosins, as is evident from several deeds of certain parcels of land which relate to this mansion, as the capital messuage, which were conveyed, some by sale, some by resignation, from one Cosin to another. Whence this family was originally extracted, I cannot collect, because the evidences of this place (from which I am to borrow my intelligence) extend no higher than this family, yet it is probable their first cradle was in Norfolk, where in elder times they were eminent: for in the sixteenth year of Edward the second, I find one John Cosin obtained license by patent, to found a chantry at Norwich, as appears, Pat. anno 16. E. 2. Partes cunda Memb. 4. but whether this family seated here were derived from him immediately or not, is uncertain. Sure I am, that after they had for many descents been planted here, about the latter end of Henry the sixth, it began to crumble away; for in the thirty second year of that prince, William Cosin by deed passed it away to

William Hextall, William Gainsford, and Nicholas Gainsford, in the fifth year of Edward the fourth; Hextall surrenders all his interest here to William Gainsford Esq; so he is written in the deed, and from him did it descend to Nicholas Gainsford, whom I find to be a justice of the peace for Sussex and Kent in the reign of Henry the seventh, and from him is that family successively branched out, who are the instant proprietors of this place.

Waystrode is another obscure manor in this parish, which was the possession of as obscure a family, which bore that surname, who continued lords of the fee, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was passed away to May, in which name it had not been permanent until the latter end of that prince, but the same revolution conveyed it into the possession of a family whose surname was Still, in whose successors the title hath remained so constant, that the inheritance of this place is at this instant resident in this name and family.

COWLING in the hundred of Shamell, had still the barons Cobham, of Cobham (of whom I have discoursed so largely at this place) for possessors, and came down along with them to John lord Cobham, who expired in Joan Cobham his daughter and heir, who was first married to John Delapole, secondly to Sir John Oldcastle, who for asserting the doctrine of the Lollards, notwithstanding his many great achievements in military commands, which rendered him gracious with his prince, and glorious in our chronicles, he was in the first year of Henry the fifth, quite subverted by a Romish tempest raised by the ecclesiasticks of those times, and martyred in a most

\* He was steward to five arch-bishops of Canterbury, judge of the Chancery at Dover, under three lord Wardens, and recorder of Canterbury.

126 <Cooling> <Crundale>

inhuman manner, by hanging him first, and burning his body also; thirdly, she was married to Reginald Braybrook, by whom she had only Joan her daughter and heir, who married Thomas Brook Esq; of the county of Somerset, from whom descended William lord Brook lord warden of the cinque ports in the reign of queen Elizabeth, who gave this manor to George Brooke his second son; and he being unhappily entangled in that mysterious design of his brother Henry lord Cobham, and Sir Walter Rawleigh, by the loss of his head at Winchester, did expiate this unhappy undertaking; but this being settled by entail and marriage also upon his son, who was in this latter age known by the name of Sir William Brook, was by king James restored to this person then in his minority, upon whose decease it descended to Sir John Brook, as the heir male of the family, who was created lord Brook by the late king at Oxford.

Cowling-castle was erected by John lord Cobham by concession from Richard the second, as appears Pat. 4 Richardi secundi; which grant of his in the whole tenure of of it, he caused to be inscribed in a large table of stone upon the front of the castle; so careful was he to conform to the laws of the land, which had a particular aspect upon private embattling, a species of fortification, prohibited si facta fuerit sine licentia domini regis.

The manor of Mortimers in this parish, was the patrimony of gentlemen of that surname. Hugh de Mortimer, who had a grant of a fair to Cliff, in the forty first year of Henry the third, was possessor of this place; in ages of a lower descent, John Mortimer (who in the eleventh year of Edward the third, was to provide an hobler or light horseman, for the security of the coast about Genlade in Hoo) lived at this place, which had long before born the name of his ancestors. After this family had left it, the Inglefields, a noble family in Berkshire, descended from \* Hasculfus de Inglefield, who flourished about the latter end of king Canutus, where by purchase engrafted in the possession; and here in this name did the title settle, till about the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was alienated to John Sidley Esq; auditor to that prince; from Sidley it went over by purchase to Polhill, ancestor to George Polhill, Esquire, eldest son of Sir Thomas Polhill, who is the present possessor of it.

CRUNDALL in the hundred of Wye, was one of the seats of the noble and ancient family of Hadloe, who had here a mansion which at this day perpetuates their memory, and is called Hadloe-place. John de Hadloe had a charter of free warren to Crundall and Hadloe, in the first year of Edward the third; he was son to John de Hadloe, who died seized of it in the eleventh year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 25.



Of this family was Nicholas Hadloe son of Edmund de Hadloe, who ended in Amabilia Hadloe, who married Honewood of Honewood in Postling: but Crundall and Hadloe were sold away before to Waretius de Valoigns, by whose daughter and co-heir they came over to Thomas de Aldon, and in that name they continued several descents, until the former fatality brought it to languish into a female heir, who was married to Heron of the county of Lincoln, who, desirous to draw all his estate into an entire bulk, passed away his estate here to Kempe; and there it had no long continuance neither, for by Mary, one of the co-heirs of Sir Thomas Kempe, it went away to Sir Dudley Diggs, who suddenly after divested himself of his right to Crundall and Hadloe-place, and in our fathers memory passed them away by sale to Mr. .... Gay.

Tremworth in this parish, was one of the ancient mansions of Valoigns. Allan de Valoigns, who was sheriff of Kent in the thirty first, thirty second, thirty third, and thirty fourth years of Henry the second, had his residence here as well as at Repton in Ashford, and is often written in the pipe rolls of those years Valoigns de Tremworth; from this man did descend Waretius de Valoigns, who in the fourteenth year of Edward the third, obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands at Tremworth, Hougham, and other places in Kent, and in whom the male line failed, for he concluded in two daughters and co-heirs, one of whom was married to Aldon, and so Tremworth came to own the jurisdiction and dominion of that family: and here it remained for divers descents, till time, that with successive vicissitudes rolls all things into their determined period, brought this family to find its tomb in a female

\* Ex veteri Rotulo familiæ de Inglefield.

† See more of Valoigns at Swerdlin in Petham.

127 <Crundale> <Cuxton> <Darent> <Dartford>

heir, who was married to Heron; from which family, about the reign of Henry the eighth, it passed away by sale to Kempe, of which family was Sir Thomas Kempe, who dying without issue male, left it to his brother Mr. Reginald Kempe; and he had issue Thomas Kempe, who deceasing without children, this Thomas's two sisters, married to Clark and Denny, became his heirs, and upon the division of the estate, Tremworth was cast into the revenue of Denny, by whose daughter and heir it is lately become the demean of Mr. Robert Filmer, second son of Sir Robert Filmer of Sutton, not long since deceased.

Winchcomb is an ancient seat likewise in Crundall, which ever since the reign of Edward the second, hath acknowledged the Carters (as appears by private evidences) for its uninterrupted proprietors, and is still in the tenure and possession of that name and family.

CUCKSTON, anciently written CUCKLESTON, lies in the hundred of Totlingtrough, and was given to the church of Rochester by Ethelwolfe, son of king Egbert, first monarch of the English Saxons §: this king Ethelwolfe after his decease, which happened to be about the year 587, was (for his several and exemplary acts of charity and pious munificence towards the church, of which Cuckston, till these unhappy times ravished it away, stood a visible monument) recorded in the register of saints.

Whornes-place in this parish, was erected by Sir William Whorne or Horne, who was lord mayor of London in the year 1487, upon which (though he settled his name) he could not so fasten it to his family, but that the next age by purchase brought it over to Vane, where the title had not long fixed, but the vicissitude of sale alienated it to Barnwell, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, sold it to Nicholas Lewson Esq; of the county of Stafford, whose great grandchild Sir Richard Lewson, desirous to settle himself in his own county, where a vast estate lay spread, which had been transmitted to him from his ancestors, passed away this by sale to John Marsham Esq; originally extracted from the Marshams of Norfolk, where many years before they had flourished under no contemptible estimate.

D.

DARENT, in the hundred of Acstane, is very often written North-Darent; it belonged in the conqueror's time to the arch-bishop of Canterbury, (as the record called Domesday-book instructs me) and was exchanged for the manor of Lambeth by Hubert Walter, arch-bishop, lord chancellor, and lord chief justice, with Gil-

bert Glanvill, bishop of Rochester, in the year of our lord 197, which exchange was afterwards confirmed by Richard the first.

Saint Margaret-hills, now united to this parish, had formerly a church, which being decayed, and the congregation diminished, it was by cardinal Pole, in the year 1557, incorporated into Darent. It was anciently, and is so still distinguished by the name of St. Margaret-hills, which additional character it borrowed from a family originally called Hells, and then by tradition and vulgar corruption afterwards stiled Hills; a family which had large possessions both here at Dartford, and at Ash likewise by Sandwich; John de Hells had a charter of free-warren to his manors at Hells and his estate at Dartford, in the seventeenth year of Edward the first; and from this John de Hells did Sir Edmund Hills descend; and he, about the beginning of Edward the sixth, alienated this manor to Lane, whose son **Sir** Henry Lane went out in a daughter and heir called Martha, who married Edward Rolt, descended from the Roults of Bedfordshire; in right of which alliance Mr. Thomas Rolt, his grandchild, is now invested in the possession of this place.

DARTFORD gives name to that hundred wherein it is situated, and before the foundation of the nunnery, was a manor which was wrapt up in the demeanor of the crown; there was a family called Tingewike, which had it in lease, for when king Edward the third, Pat. An. primi Edw. tertii Memb. 6. granted the royalties

§ See Textus Roffensis.

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of the manor of Dartford, to Edmund of Woodstock earl of Kent, paying as a rent service 30l. per annum; it is mentioned in the patent that he should hold them all in as ample a manner as Alice Tingewike formerly had done: upon his decease, it reverts to the crown, and the same king Edward in the year 1355, and in the fiftieth year of his reign, erects here a nunnery, whose lady-abbess and the nuns of the convent were for the most part, in succeeding times, elected into this cloister out of the noblest family in the nation. Upon the suppression, king Henry the eighth converted the house into a palace for his own habitation, and under that notion it continued, till king James by exchange passed it away to Robert earl of Salisbury, who conveyed it to Sir Edward Darcy, whose grandchild Edward Darcy Esq; descended from the noble family of Darcy of Yorkshire, at this instant possesses the fee-simple of it.

The manor of Temple in this parish, was involved in that revenue which was shared under the jurisdiction of the knights Templers, as the very name doth seem to insinuate, and upon the total disannulling of this order here in England, was, by a statute made in the seventeenth year of Edward the second, settled on the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, where it was fixed and constant, until the disbanding of that order likewise in this nation, by king Henry the eighth, and then it was annexed to the patrimony of the crown; and rested there, until king James exchanged it with Robert, earl of Salisbury, who sold it to Sir Edward Darcy knight, whose grandchild Edward Darcy Esq; hath lately conveyed it by sale, to his brother in law Mr. William Goughe.

The manor of Charles is seated in this parish, and was a branch of that estate which fell under the signory of the ancient family of Charles, from whom it assumed its appellation. Of this family was Edward Charles, who was captain and admiral of the Fleet, from the Thames-mouth northward, as appears Pat. 34. Edw. 1. After this family had left the possession of this place, which was about the beginning of Richard the second, Nicholas de Brember was planted in the property; but he was scarce warm in his new achieved purchase, but he fell under the guilt of high treason, only for being too fast in his loyalty and faith to his prince, and too loose in his fidelity to his country, for there it seems that blind distinction had its first rise and growth, which like some alembick distilled and dropped the power of the king distinguished apart from his person, upon the forfeiture of his life and estate together, which was in the tenth year of Richard the second; it was by that prince suddenly after, conveyed by grant to Adam Bamme, lord mayor of London; in which family, after it had for many ages been seated, it was (as appears by an exemplification now in the hands of Mr. Took of Dartford) transmitted by sale to Death, who about the latter end of king James, passed it away to Goldsmith of Marshalls court in Croyford; who some few years since, sold all his concern in it to Mr. Tooke, branched out from the

ancient family of the Tookes of Bere in West Clive; though, since this name settled at Dartford, it hath by depravation been called Tuke.

Horsemans-place, is a mansion of good account likewise in Dartford; in the sixteenth year of Edward the second, I find it owned one Thomas de Luda for propriety, between whom and Thomas de Sandwich, abbot of Lessnes, there was a composition about that time, touching the passage of a current of water. But this family, before the end of Edward the third, had deserted the possession; and then (by old court-rolls and other evidences) I find it in the tenure of John Horsman, who, it is probable, new built this mansion, and on the old foundation established this new name; and he had issue Thomas Horsman who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, dying without issue, gave it to his widow Margaret Horseman, re-married to Shardlow, and she, upon her decease, in the nineteenth year of Henry the sixth, bequeathed it to her kinsman Thomas Brown, whose daughter and sole heir Katherine, annexed it to the patrimony of Robert Blague, one of the barons of the exchequer, and he had issue by her Barnaby Blague, who in the thirty third year of Henry the eighth, conveyed it by sale to Mr. John Bere, who much adorned and augmented the ancient shell or structure of this seat in the thirtieth year of that prince's reign; but left his acquisitions thus increased and improved, to Anne his sole heir, married to Mr. Christopher Twisleton, descended from Twisleton castle in the county of Lancaster, whose successor Sir John Twisleton, knight and baronet, is now, by descendant right, possessor of it.

129 <Dartford> <Denton near Gravesend> <Denton>

At Stanpit, in this parish, there was a chapel founded by one Thomas de Dertford, and dedicated to the blessed virgin, for one priest to celebrate divine offices for the founder. In this parish, there was likewise a perpetual salary established by one Thomas Martin, to pray for the soul of the founder; and light-lands which were given by John Grovehurst.

DENTON in the hundred of Shamell, was given to the church of Rochester, by a nobleman called Brichric, and Efswith his wife: but it seems there had been some invasion made upon the original grant; for (as the book called Textus Roffensis informs me) it was restored to that cathedral by William the conqueror, and was in after times, when Henry the eighth, upon the ruins of the priory of St. Andrews, raised the dean and chapter of Rochester, by royal concession united to their demean.

DENTON in the Hundred of Eastry, with the appendant manor of Tapington, now by contradiction called Tapton, were in times of very ancient inscription, both couched in the patrimony of Yerd; and though several dateless deeds represent this family to have been possessors of both these places, as high as the reign of king John and Henry the third: yet the first of this name, whom record discovers to us, to have been eminent, was John de Yerd who held the manors of Denton and Tapington, by that service which they call ad wardam castri Dovoricensis, and paid a respective supply for them, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight, and from this man did the possession of both these places flow down to John Yerd, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent in the nineteenth year of Henry the sixth; and he had issue John Yerd, who conveyed Tapington to John Fogge, Esquire, and he again, by a fine levied in the fifteenth year of Edward the fourth, passed away his interest in it to Richard Haut, and he determined in a female heir called Margery Haut, married to William Isaac, who annexed Tapington to his demean, and in his descendant line, the property remained until that age, which was enclosed within the circle of our grandfathers remembrance, and then it was alienated to Bois. But Denton, with some part of the revenue of Tapington, continued longer in the Yerds, until Jo. Yerd, the last heir male of this family, going to London, fell sick in Southwark, and died without issue, and was interred in St. Margaret's church, afterwards converted to the court of Marshalseys; so that Langley of Knowlton, in right of a former marriage with the heir general of this family, was entituled to the possession of Denton, and the demean of Tapton; but Edward Langley, the last of this name, dying childless in the reign of Henry the eighth, in relation to a former marriage of the heir general with Peyton, Sir Robert Peyton of Cambridgeshire, became heir to his estate in Kent; whose successor Sir Robert Peyton, passed away all his interest here to Bois. Bois by sale demised Tapington to Verier; who almost in our remembrance, conveyed it to Merish, the instant proprietor: but Denton was by Bois alienated to

Rogers, who in those times our fathers lived in, translated his right into Swan; who not many years since, sold it to Sir Anthony Percival of Dover, and he not long since, transplanted it by sale into Phineas Andrews, Esquire, of Hertfordshire.

Wigmere is a third manor in this parish; there was a family of that name in East-Kent; for in divers old evidences which I have seen, there is mention of William de Wigmere, and divers others of this name; but for many ages it acknowledged the signory of Brent, and so continued till the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then Thomas Brent dying without issue, Margaret, married to John Dering of Surrenden Dering, became his heir; in right of which marriage the family of Dering is entitled to the instant possession.

Madekin lies partly in Denton, and partly in Barham, and owned a family of that surname, (as appears by the evidences now in the hands of Mr. Oxenden) and continued by a thread of several descents fastened to this name; but about the beginning of Henry the sixth, the succession of the title was disordered, and by sale translated into Sednor, where the possession for many years dwelt, till at last upon some acquisitions in Brenchley, they withdrew themselves thither, and passed away their interest here to Brook; in whom, after it had continued three descents, the fate of sale cast it into the inheritance of Brooker; and by Elizabeth, the daughter and heir of that family, it not long after descended to Sir Henry Oxenden, whose grandchild Henry Oxenden, Esquire, now possesseth the signory of it.

130 <Davington> <Detling>

DAVINGTON in the hundred of Feversham, was given to the cloister of Black-Nuns, which was founded there by Fulk de Newenham, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. In the thirty ninth of Henry the third, that prince confirmed them their lands, and invested them with several privileges, as appears, Chart. 39. Hen. tertii Memb. 5. In the seventeenth of Edward the third, the king sent his writ to the sheriff of Kent to be certified of the estate and revenue which belonged to this nunnery: for the abbess and nuns petitioned for relief, in regard their income was not sufficient to support them; and John de Vielston, then sheriff of Kent, returned per sacramentum proborum & legalium hominum, that they had not a competent demean for subsistence; that whereas formerly there were twenty six nuns, now there were but fourteen, and that those could not live upon the revenue of the convent, but had the charity of their friends to supply them. Thus did the cloister of Davington remain a seminary of religious women, whilst their revenue without, was the fuel which supported and nourished the flame on the altar. But when the reign of Henry the eighth approached, which became decretory and critical to all these nurseries of a lazy and speculative devotion, the demean which sustained this convent, was by Henry the eighth plucked away, and in the thirty eighth year of his government, was by patent knit to the patrimony of Sir Thomas Cheyney, and his son, Sir Henry lord Cheyney, in the eighth year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it by sale to John Bradborn, descended (as appears by his seal affixed to his deed, by which he alienates it again in the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, to Avery Giles) from the Bradborns of Derbyshire. But in this family the residence of it was very brief and transitory; for his son Francis Giles, in the twentieth year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Mr. Jo. Edwards, and from this family, though the fate of purchase did not rend it away, yet that of marriage did: for this Jo. Edwards leaving only one daughter and heir called Ann, she by marrying to Jo. Boade, Esquire, of Essex, linked this to his revenue, and from him it is descended to Mr. Boade the present lord of the fee.

Little Davington or Davington-court, not far distant from that house which was the nunnery, was formerly wrapped up in that demean which confessed the dominion of the earls of Atholl, lords of Chilham, by whom the mansion itself was built; as their arms in stone work in the great hall, before they were taken down by Mr. Thomas Mills, did abundantly testify; and having for many years acknowledged their signory, at last it devolved to David de Strabolgie earl of Atholl, who dying without issue male, in the forty ninth of Edward the third, left it to Philippa, one of his two co-heirs who was married to Jo. Halsham; and from him did a successive right bring it down to Sir Hugh Halsham his grandchild, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, passed it away to James Drylond, who determined in one daughter and heir called Constance Drylond, who was married to Sir Thomas Walsingham of Scad=

bery, knight, who in her right became possessor of it, and transmitted it to his son Sir James Walsingham, who was sheriff of Kent in the twelfth year of Henry the seventh, and kept his shrievalty at Davington; and from him did it descend to his grandchild Sir Thomas Walsingham, who almost in our grandfathers remembrance, conveyed it by sale to Simons, and he not long after to Coppinger. And his son having about the beginning of king James, mortgaged it to Freeman, they both joined, and by mutual concurrence fixed their right in Mr. Thomas Mills of Norton, who deceasing without issue male, it came, by Anne his sole daughter and heir, to be the inheritance of Sir Jo. Mill of Southampton, who conveyed it to his brother Dr. Mill, and he some few years past, alienated it to his kinsman Mr. Thomas Mill, and he settled the property of it on his son Mr. Thomas Mill, who hath lately transmitted all his right in it by sale to Thomas Twisden, Esquire, serjeant at law, now of Brabourn in East Malling.

Since my writing of this, I have discovered by an old survey of Davington, collected by Mr. Thomas Mills, that Jo. Lewknor, Esquire, of Sussex, had, in the twenty first year of Henry the sixth, an interest in Davington court, derived to him by Joan his wife, sole inheritrix of Sir Hugh Halsham, which he not long after, passed away to Mr. James Drylond.

DETLING in the hundred of Maidstone, gave name to a knightly family, famous for fortitude and chivalry, in token whereof, a massy lance all wreathed about with

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thin iron plate is preserved in the church (like that of William the conqueror's, at Battle in Sussex) as the very spear by them used, and left as a memorial of their achievements in arms, and an emblem also of their extraordinary strength and ability; in which respect those in Bedington hall in Surry, celebrate the renown of the Carews, achieved at tilt and tournament; and that in Lullingston hall in Kent the like for the Peches; as also that in Gerards hall in London, upon which a romance is drest up by the vulgar report, fancying he was some giant, when the truth is, he was of the knightly family of Gizors, and constable of the tower; and this his capital mansion was castellated, as the seat of the Basings was another strenuous family at Basing's hall in London; these matters allude much to the manner of the Romans, whose victories were applauded, and the victors in their triumphs, extolled by trophies, monuments and ensigns of honor, as Pancirolus Rosinus, and others have judiciously observed, that have treated of these kinds of rituals; but to return to the subject from which this discourse hath diverted me, in this family of Detling did the possession of this for many ages, remain constantly seated, until the beginning of Henry the fourth, and then the name in John Detling, written in some old deeds Brampton alias Detling, languished away in a daughter and heir, known by the name of Benedicta, married to Thomas Towne of Trouley, by whom he became entitled to the possession of this place; but here the property was very transient and unfixed, for he determined in three daughters and co-heirs, whereof Eleanor, one of them, was married to Richard Lewknor, and so (so paramount was the power of the distaff to that of the spear) this manor, upon the partage of Towne's estate, which was about the twenty fourth year of Henry the sixth, improved the demean of Lewknor, and he not long after conveyed it to Richard lord Woodvill, lord of the moat in Maidstone, not far distant, created earl Rivers, lord treasurer and constable of England, by his son in law king Edward the fourth, in the year 1466, whose grandchild Anthony Woodvill earl Rivers, being attainted upon supposed treason by him that was after stiled Richard the third, which was made so by that usurper; and those black ensigns which he had raised upon him, because he too cordially asserted the interest of Edward the fifth, it escheated to the crown, and that prince in the first year of his government, granted it to Sir Robert Brakenbury, lieutenant of the Tower; but the title being fixed on a foundation which was cemented with blood, was too slippery to remain long in this name, for he being attainted in the first year of Henry the seventh, for being a great supporter of the cause of Richard the third, at the battle of Bosworth, it was granted by that prince to Richard Lewknor, whose successor gave it in frank marriage with his daughter married to Hills: Hills resolved into two daughters and co-heirs, one of which was married to Vincent, and the other was married to Martin, and so upon the division (to avoid all disorder and confusion) Detling was split into two manors, one was called West court, which accrued to Vincent, and the other was termed East court, which was annexed to the demean of

Martin; Martin about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, sold East court to Webbe; in which name, after it had for several years been fixed, it was in our fathers memory passed away to Smith, who not many years since, alienated it to Sir Edward Henden, one of the barons of the exchequer, who upon his decease, gave it to his nephew Sir John Henden; and from him it is now descended to his eldest son Edward Henden, Esquire, but West court was by Vincent passed away to Morton, of Whitehorse in Croyden, in which family the inheritance is yet remaining.

DIMCHURCH, in the hundred of Worth, hath nothing to make it memorable, but that it was formerly the inheritance of Twitham. Bertram de Twitham held lands here at his death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 115. and from him it came down to Theobald Twitham, whose daughter and heir Mawd, was married to Simon Septuans, from whom descended John Septuans, whose daughter and heir was married to Fogge, who in her right was entitled to much land here at Dimchurch, and in other places of the marsh; but the family of Poynings had likewise some interest here; for Michael Poynings was seized in fee of some lands in Dimchurch, in the forty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. parte secunda, and in this name was the possession carried on until the beginning of the reign of Henry the sixth, and it was alienated then to Fogge.

Newhall in this parish, is the place where those which are the twenty four lords of Romney Marsh, that is, of so many manors which lye within the precincts and liberties

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ties of it, assemble yearly to compose laws for the better regulating and securing the banks of the Marsh, against the perpetual invasions and encroachments of the sea.

DITTON, in the hundred of Larkefield, with its two appendages, Brampton and Sifleston, where in times of a very high ascent, the patrimony of a family called Brampton; the book of Aid, (which makes a recapitulation of the ancient owners) informs us, that anciently they were Bramptons, that is, in the reign of king John, and Henry third (as the the pipe-rolls relating to both those kings time discovers to us.) Afterwards, in the reign of Edward the first, I find the Aldons (by the pipe rolls) to have been proprietors of both these places; but it seems, the possession remained not long with them; for, in the thirty third year of Edward the second, I find Stephen de Burghurst or Burwash died in the possession of them, as appears, Rot Esc. Num. 4. and here the title continued until the forty third of Edward the third, and then the lord Bartholomew Burwash, this man's grandchild, conveyed them to Sir Walter de Paveley, knight of the garter, and he in the first year of Richard the second passed them away to Windlesor or Windsor, in which family the inheritance was placed until the fifteenth year of this prince's reign, and then they were conveyed to Sir Lewis Clifford; but in this name they made no long abode neither. For about the middle of Henry the sixth, I find they were alienated to Colepeper; and I discover, Richard Colepeper enjoyed them at his decease, which was in the second year of Richard the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 28. and in this family was the possession lodged, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then the vicissitude of purchase brought them to acknowledge the interest of Leigh, and Thomas Leigh exchanged them with king Henry the eighth; and that prince, in the thirty seventh year of his reign, passed them away to Sir Thomas Wriothesley: and in the original grant it is recited, that they devolved to the crown by exchange with Thomas Leigh, Esquire, and he not long after, demised them to Sir Robert Southwell, who in the second year of queen Mary, conveyed them to Sir Thomas Pope, in which family they remained until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then they were alienated to Wiseman, from whom, almost in our memory, they were by sale translated into the patrimony of Sir Oliver Boteler of Teston, grandfather to Sir Oliver Boteler baronet, who now is entitled to the property of them.

The Ropers held some estate here at Ditton, by purchase from Clifford, in the reign of Henry the fifth, which Edmund son of Ralph Roper, died seized of, in the third year of Henry the sixth, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 34. which his successor not long after, alienated to Colepeper.

DODDINGTON, in the hundred of Tenham, contains several places in it, of no contemptible estimate. The first is Sharsted, which was the patrimony of a family which was known by that surname. Robert de Sharsted enjoyed it at his death, which

was in the eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 61. But this man's sole daughter and heir was married to John de Bourn son of John de Bourne, who was sheriff of Kent the twenty second, twenty third, and twenty fourth years of Edward the first, and after in the fifth year of Edward the third: certainly, this family was in times of a very high gradation, as eminent for estate, as it was venerable for its antiquity; Henry de Bourne made a purchase of lands and rents in Duddington, (of Matilda the daughter of John de Duddington) as appears by a fine levied in the forty seventh year of Henry the third; and the abovementioned John de Bourn, obtained a charter of free warren to his lands at Bourn, Boxley, Dodington, and other places, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first; and from this John de Bourn, did Mr. James Bourne in an even stream of descent issue forth, who almost in our remembrance, passed away Sharsted court to Mr. Delawn of London, whose son Mr. William Delawn, is the instant proprietor of it.

Ringlestone is a second place of note in this parish: of which there is a tradition, that it borrows its principal appellation from a Ring and a Stone; which those who were tenants to this manor were to hold for such a proportion of time, as an emblem of their acknowledged homage and subjection: but this is but a fabulous romance in the whole frame of it; the truth is, Ring in Saxon, imports as much as borough or village, so that Ringleston signifies no more but the village-stone, that is, some

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eminent stone which was placed there, to signify and discover the utmost extent and limits of the borough. Having unveiled the name, and dispelled the mist of the former fiction, I shall now exhibit to the publick view, who were the ancient possessors of it; and first, I find the Chalfehunts, a family of a spreading demean, and no less reputation in this track; Henry de Chalfhunt died possessed of it in the forty fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. after him Humphrey, son and heir of Thomas Chalfhunt, was in the enjoyment of it at his death, which was in the ninth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. after this family was expired, the Hadds, a family which was sometimes written Haddis, and sometimes le Hadde, (which argues it to be of French etymology) was planted in the possession: and many years invested in the fee, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then part of it was passed away to Buck, and not many years after, that part of it which preserves the name and memory of Ringleston, to Archer; Buck, in the tenth year of the abovesaid princess, alienated that portion he was concerned in, to Ford, the descendant successor of which name, lately conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Finch of Kingsdown; the other remainder continued in the demean of Archer, until the age which confined on our remembrance, and then it was transmitted by sale to Thatcher, from whom, the same fatality brought it to devolve to Mr. Christopher Allen of Borden, and he not long since, settled his new acquisition here on his daughter married to Giles.

Down court in Dodington, is an ancient manor, which in elder times owned the signory of Simon de Dodington, who flourished here in the reign of king John, and Henry the third, and was entitled likewise to the patronage or advowson of the church; but he determined in an only daughter called Matilda de Dodington, who in the forty first year of king Henry the third, (as appears by a fine levied in that year) passed away her interest here to John de Bourn, in which family the title many years after rested, until about the latter end of Henry the sixth, it was conveyed to Dungate of Dungate street in Kingsdowne. And Andrew Dungate, the last name at this place, dying without issue male, his sole daughter and heir was married to Kiligrew, who likewise, about the entrance of Henry the eighth, expired in two female co-heirs, whereof one was married to Roydon, the other to Cowland. In Roydon the possession was but brief; for he, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, alienated his portion to Adye, a name deeply rooted in this track, whose successor Mr. John Adye, still enjoys the capital messuage or mansion called Down court; but the manor itself which accrued to John Cowland upon the division of the estate, was by his will, made 1450, ordered to be sold to discharge debts and legacies, and was, according to the premises, not long after conveyed to Allen, ancestor to him who is the instant owner of it.

DOWNE in the hundred of Rokesley, is so called from its eminent situation; it was in times of elder aspect, the habitation of a family which passed under that surname. Richard de Downe who flourished under Edward the first and Edward the

second, lies buried in the chancel of the church, but with no date upon his tomb: soon after this family was expired, the Petleys became lords of the fee, and Stephen Petley is recorded in the book of Aid, to have paid an auxiliary supply for lands at Downe, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and in this family was the title of this place successively wrapped up for many generations, until about the latter end of Henry the eighth, it melted away with the name. For Jo. Petley resolved into four daughters and co-heirs, Agnes the eldest, married to John Manning, the second was married to Bird, the third was married to Casinghurst of Valons, and the fourth was married to Childrens: and upon the partition of the estate, this manor fell to be the inheritance of Manning, and in this name for many years it remained constant, until in our fathers remembrance, it went away by sale to Sir Nicholas Carew of Beddington in Surry, and his son Sir Francis Carew, conveyed it to Ellis of London, who not many years since, alienated his right in it to colonel Richard Sandys, third son of Sir Edward Sandys of Northbourne; but Down court was long before passed away by Manning to Palmer, which was separated from the manor of Downe, and singly sold by itself.

The arms of Philipot and Petley, are extant in the south window of the chancel, with this inscription affixed to the pedestal of their two portraitures, Orate pro anima= bus Jo. Petley, & Christiana uxoris, & Jo. Petley & Aliciæ filiæ Tho. Philipot ..... ac parentum eorum.

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E.

EGERTON, in the hundred of Calehill, hath two places within the verge of it remarkable: The first is Barmeling, which was the seat of a family of that sir= name; Robert de Bermeling, and in old dateless deeds called Sir Robert de Berme= ling, held it at his decease, which was in the fifty third year of Henry the third, and left issue William de Bermeling, who was also in the enjoyment of it at his death, which was in the twenty second year of Edward the first, and so did Robert de Ber= meling, who made his exit the thirty first year of Edward the first, and here in this family hath the property by an undivided track of succession, been so fixed and per= manent, that it is yet the unseparated inheritance of this name of Barmeling.

The second is Bruscombe: this was a branch of that demean which formerly ac= knowledged the Chitcrofts for its possessors, a name of very great antiquity, both here and at Lamberherst. Agnes, wife of Richard Chitcroft, held it at her death, which was in the eighteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 198. After Chitcroft was worn out, the Beaumonts were invested in the possession, and John de Bellemont or Beaumont deceased in the enjoyment of it, in the twentieth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. but not long after this the title ebbed away from this name, and by a successive channel of vicissitude, was poured into Baron, a family originally extracted out of the west, where they are yet in being; John Baron died seized of Bruscombe, the second year of Henry the fifth. The family which succeeded this in the inheritance, upon their recess, which was about the latter end of Henry the sixth, were the Wottons of Boughton Malherbe; in which family the title and property hath been ever since so constantly resident, that it still rests in the descendants and heirs of Thomas Lord Wotton of Marley.

ELTHAM, in the hundred of Blackheath, anciently called Ealdham, did anci= ently belong in part to the king, and partly to the Mandevills, from whence it came to be called Eltham Mandeville. King Edward the first granted that moiety which belonged to himself to John de Vescy, a potent baron in the north, in the ninth year of his reign, and in the twelfth year, ennobles his former concession, and gives him a new grant to hold a market weekly and a fair yearly at his manor of Eltham. In the fourteenth year of the abovesaid prince, John de Vescy, with his knowledge and consent, made an exchange with Walter de Mandevill, for that portion of Eltham in which he was interested, and gave the sixth part of the manor of Luton in Bed= fordshire, for one messuage, with the appurtenances in Eltham and Modingham: this John de Vescy died without issue in the eighteenth of Edward the first, and Willi= am his brother succeeded in the possession, and was lord Vescy, and had issue by Isa= bell, daughter of Robert Perington, widow of Sir Robert de Wells, William de Vescy his lawful son, born in the year 1269, who died without issue in his father's lifetime at Conway, and was buried at Malton. Then \* William de Vescy having a base son



called William Vescy de Kildare, born at Compston in the county of Kildare 1292, begotten upon Dergavile his concubine, daughter to Dunwald, a petty prince in Ireland, he made a feoffment of all his lands in England to Anthony Beck bishop of Durham, to the use of William Vescy of Kildare, his base son; and also infeoffed king Edward in Kildare in Ireland, and in Sproxton in Scotland, for licence of his good leave and assent to the other feoffment.

William de Vescy of Kildare, was slain in the wars of Striveling in Scotland. The king of England himself being then present in person; by which means the state being in the bishop of Durham, he disposed of Alnewick castle in the north, to Henry de Percy, that had married Itonia de Clifford: and considering that the estate of lands at

\* Fines de anno 24. Ed. primi William de Vescy sold to Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham, the manor of Eltham with the appurtenances, which Isabel the widow of John de Vescy held for the term of her life.

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Eltham came from the crown; the said bishop reserving an estate for life, disposed of them back again to the crown; he himself died there, the twenty eighth of March 1311, in the fifth year of Edward the second, and had bestowed great cost in building there; the stone work of the outward gate being castle like, is a remnant of the work of that time: the palace itself being much more modern and augmented by several additions of the kings of England, who in a manner kept here their constant residence, and here were made the statutes of Eltham, the precedents for government of the king's house to this day. The bishop of Durham being dead, king Edward the second kept his residence here in 1315, in the ninth year of his reign, and his queen was brought to bed of a son called John of Eltham.

1363, King Edward the third intending to give a princely reception to king John of France, who had been prisoner in England, and came over to visit the king, and died before his return, entertained him here at Eltham.

1412, King Henry the fourth kept his Christmas at Eltham.

King Henry the fifth, his son and successor, lay there at Christmas likewise, when he was fain to depart suddenly, for fear of some that had conspired to murder him.

King Henry the sixth made it his principal place of residence, and granted the tenants of the manor of Eltham, a charter of renovation of a market in the seventeenth of his reign; which containeth more ample privileges than any such grant that yet I have seen, as will be likewise evident to those who will peruse the original record of that year in the Tower of London.

King Edward the fourth, greatly to his cost repaired the house, † and inclosed Hornpark, so called, being the site of the manor of West-horn, which was anciently in the king's demean; for king Edward the third, in the twenty first year of his reign, granted liberty to all his tenants of this manor, to be toll free throughout England.

King Henry the seventh set up the fair front there, towards the moat, and was usually resident there; I find in a record, (in the office of arms) that he did usually dine in the hall, and all his officers kept their tables there, and at such time as he created Stanley baron Montegale, by reason of some infection then reigning in and near the city of London, none were permitted to dine in the king's hall but the officers of arms, who, at the serving in the king's second course of meat, according to the custom, came and proclaimed the king's style, and the style of the said new lord.

King Henry the eighth built much at Greenwich, with bricks made here at Eltham, and then neglected this place; yet he lived here sometime, and kept a royal Christmas at this place, 1515. There is an ancient place in this parish called Henleys, which in the time of king Edward the third, was a manor belonging to John de Henley, whose house was moated about, the situation is yet extant below the conduit head; but he dying without issue, it came by his gift to king Edward the third, and was annexed unto the manor, by William de Brantingham his feoffee.

The manor East-horn and Well-hall, was in the year 1100, possessed by Jordan de Briset or Brinset, first establisher of the order of knights hospitallers here in England. In ages of a lower descent, that is, in the reign of Edward the third, it was held by John de Poultney, and from that family, about the reign of Richard the second, it devolved by sale to Chichley; John Tattershall married Agnes the daughter of John

Chichley of Wolwich, son of William Chichley aldermen of London, and by her had Well-hall and East-horn; and he had issue by her two daughters, Anne was married to Sir Ralph Hastings, and Margery was married to John Roper, Esquire, and Agnes their mother, was re-married to William Kene, who likewise had issue by her, from whom the Mansells of Wales are extracted, and by this descent are of the blood and kindred of Henry Chichley, lord archbishop of Canterbury, founder of All-souls college in Oxford; but Well-hall and East-horn, were united to the patrimony of Roper, and have continued here so fixed that they are the present inheritance of Edward Roper, Esquire.

To this manor belongs the chancel of St Michael in the south side of Eltham church called sometimes Tatershall's chancel. In the windows, the matches before mentioned are impaled in coloured glass.

The utmost extent of this hundred eastward, reacheth to Shooters hill, so called for the thievery there practised, where travellers in elder times, were so much infested

‡ Pat. anno 21. Edw. 3. pars 2. memb. 2.

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with depredations and bloody mischiefs, that order was taken in the sixth year of Richard the second, for the enlarging the high-way according to the statute made in the time of king Edward the first, so that they venture still to rob here, by prescription; and some have been so impudent, † to offer to engage the sun shining at mid-day, for the repayment of money called borrowed, in a thievish way, to the great charge of the hundred that still was in the counter bond; and king Henry the fourth granted leave to Thomas Chapman, to cut down, burn and sell, all the woods and under-woods, growing and confining to Shooters hill, ‡ on the south side, and to bestow the money raised thereby, upon mending the high way. Surely prince Henry his son, and Sir John Falstaffe his make sport, so merrily represented in Shakespear's comedies, for examining the Sandwich carriers, loading at this place, were not the surveyors.

Mottingham in the hundred of Blackheath, is a hamlet and member to Eltham, enjoying like privileges, which are annexed to both these places, as being of an ancient demeane. It was formerly written Modingham, denoting that it was proudly situated, (for so we interpret Mod, in old English:) it passed away from the crown, with the manor of Eltham to Jo. de Vescy, and returned back again with it, inhabited in the time of king Edward the third, by the family of Bankwell; and after, in the reign of Henry the sixth, by the Chesmans: the last of which name which held this place, was Thomas Chesman, whose female heir Alice, brought this seat to her husband Robert Stodder, ancestor to William Stodder, Esquire, not long since deceased, who was proprietor of it.

A strange and marvellous accident happened at this place, upon the fourth day of August 1585, in a field which belongeth to Sir Percival Hart. Betimes in the morning, the ground began to sink, so much, that three great elm trees were suddenly swallowed into the pit; the tops falling downward into the hole: and before ten of the clock, they were so overwhelmed, that no part of them might be discerned, the concave being suddenly filled with water: the compass of the hole was about 80 yards, and so profound, that a sounding line of fifty fathoms could hardly find or feel any bottom; ten yards distant from that place, there was another piece of ground sunk in like manner, near the high-way, and so nigh a dwelling house, that the inhabitants were greatly terrified therewith.

EDENBRIDGE, in the hundred of Westerham, was ever esteemed a chapel of ease to the parish of Westerham. The first that I discover by the beams of record, to have been possessed of Edenbridge, were the Stangraves, who had here their capital mansion, which was known by their name. John de Stangrave obtained a charter of free warren to Edenbridge, in the twenty sixth year of Edward the first. Sir Robert de Stangrave was his son and heir, who was with Edward the first, at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, and there for his generous service, received the order of knighthood, died seized of Edenbridge and Stangrave, the twelfth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 52. After the Stangraves were vanished, the Dynleys were settled in the signory of these above mentioned places. Jo. de Dynley had a confirmation of the charter of free-warren to Edenbridge, in the fourteenth year of Edward the third, and immediately after passed away his interest here to Hugh de

Audley earl of Gloucester, lord of the manor and castle of Tunbridge, by whose daughter and heir, the lady Margaret Audley, Stangrave and Edenbridge came to acknowledge the signory of Ralph Stafford, earl of Stafford, and he died seized of them in the forty sixth year of Edward the third; and in this family of Stafford, as they were successively earls of Stafford, and dukes of Buckingham, was the property of these places resident, until the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and then Edward duke of Buckingham, lord high constable of England, have unadvisedly consulted with a monk and a wizzard touching the succession of the crown, fomented so vast a stock of fears and jealousies in the brain of that cautious prince, that they could not be extinguished but by his blood, which was poured out on a scaffold as the last expiation of that treason, which was by cardinal Wolsey, pinned upon him, and likewise of his prince's fury. Upon this his untimely exit, his estate escheated to the

† Pat. 6. Ric. 2. pars 2. memb. 34.

‡ Pat. 7. Hen. 4. pars 2. memb. 12.

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crown, and king Henry the eighth, not many years after, granted Westerham, Eden Bridge, and Stangrave, which were parcel of the confiscation, to Sir John Gresham knight, from whom they by descent, are now devolved to Marmaduke Gresham, knight, who enjoys the instant possession of them.

Delaware is a seat of very venerable account in this parish: it was the seat of gentlemen of that name as high as the reign of Henry the second, as appears by old evidences, now in the hands of Mr. Seyliard; of which, Robert de la Ware was the last, who about the latter end of Edward the third, went out without issue male, so that Dionysia Delaware, who was married to William Paulin, became heir to this place. In Paulin it remained constantly resident, till the beginning of the rule of Henry the sixth, and then William Paulin determined in a daughter and heir likewise, who was married to John Seyliard of Seyliard in Hever, which is still in the possession of Mr. Seyliard of Gabriells in this parish, and who descended from Ralph de Seyliard, who flourished about the reign of king Stephen. In an old pedigree of Seyliard, treasured up amongst the evidences of Delaware, there is enrolled the copy of a deed without date, by which, Almerick d'Eureux, earl of Gloucester, who flourished in the reign of Henry the third, demises lands to Martin at Seyliard, and other lands called Hedinden, to Richard at Seyliard, who were sons of Ralph; from which Ralph, John Seyliard Esquire, now proprietor of this mansion of Delaware, by a steady and unbroken current of many descents in a direct line, is originally extracted.

The manor of Sharnden in this parish, was parcel of that estate which belonged to the lords Cobham, of Sterborough castle, not far distant, and continued folded up in the patrimony of this family, till the government of Edward the fourth; and then Thomas lord Cobham of Sterborough, deceasing without issue male, Anne, married to Edward lord Borough of Gainsborough, became his heir; in which name and family, the title of this place successively streamed down, till almost our times; and then the three daughters and co-heirs of Thomas lord Borough, married to Brooks, Knevet and Drury, to defray debts and other uses, passed it away by joint conveyance, to Sir Thomas Richardson, lord chief justice of the king's bench, whose grandchild the lord Thomas Richardson, baron of Cramond in Scotland, does now possess the signory and inheritance of it.

ELHAM in the hundred of Lovingborough, is anciently written Helham, which denotes the situation of it in a valley amongst hills. Though now the magnificent structures, which in elder times were here, be dismantled, and have only left a mass of deplored rubbish to direct us where they stood, yet in Doomsday book it is written that the earl of Ewe (a Norman, and near in alliance to the conqueror) held it, and left the reputation of an honour unto it, as the record of the aid granted at the making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth of Edward the third, doth warrant. For the manor of Mount adjacent to Elham, is said to be held of the honour of the earl of Ewe by knights service. In Testa de Nevil, there is mention of Gilbert earl of Ewe, who then paid respective aid in the twentieth year of Henry the third, at the marriage of Isabell, that prince's sister. From this Gilbert earl of Ewe, it went away to Edward eldest son of Henry the third, who obtained a market and fair to Elham, by charter, in the thirty fifth year of Henry the third, and after he had forti-

fied it with these privileges, in the forty first year of the abovesaid prince, conveys it by sale to Boniface of Savoy, arch-bishop of Canterbury. Boniface, to decline the envy and emulation of his English opposites, which he and the rest of those foreigners and aliens, had contracted upon themselves, by their practical turbulencies in the management of the principal affairs of state, under Henry the third, passed it away by sale to Roger lord Leybourne, a great partisan and confederate of Simon de Montfort's, the popular earl of Leicester, in his quarrel commenced against Henry the third, about removing of strangers both from his counsels and throne, for which, after the battle of Evesham, where that Simon was defeated and slain, he was by the pacification made at Kenelworth, in the fiftieth year of Henry the third, absolved and pardoned; soon after which he died, and left this manor with much other revenue, to his son Henry Leybourn, and he was seized of it at his death, which was in the

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twenty eighth year of Edward the first, from whom it went down to his son Sir Roger Leybourn, who dying without issue male, Juliana Leybourn, his sole daughter and inheritrix, entered upon the inheritance, and she was first married to John de Hastings, and after to William de Clinton earl of Huntingdon, but by neither had she any surviving issue, nor yet any collateral alliance, that could put in any pretended claim to rescue it from an escheat, so that in the forty third year of Edward the third, in which year she died, it devolved to the crown; and Richard the second granted it to Sir Simon de Burley, knight of the garter, and lord warden of the cinque ports, a man of great virtues, and no less vices; whose pride and ambition first galled others, and lastly wounded himself, and like some physick, wanting a peccant matter to work upon, preys upon the vitals themselves; for bandying against some of the nobility, who pretended the preservation and sheltering of the people's interest against the impetuous eruptions of an arbitrary prerogative, he was impeached of high treason in the tenth year of Richard the second, and was convicted and executed; upon whose calamitous tragedy, this by escheat reverts to the crown, and the abovesaid prince, in the twelfth year of his reign, by grant, annexes it to the revenue of the canons of St. Stephens in Westminster, \* where it was fixed until the public suppression removed it, and united it once more to the patrimony of the crown, and then king Edward the sixth, granted it in lease for fourscore years, to Sir Edward Wotton, one of the privy council, whose son Thomas Wotton, Esquire, passed it away by sale to Alexander Hamon, Esquire, who determining in two daughters and co-heirs, Mary married to Sir Edward Bois of Fredvill, and Katharine married to Sir Robert Lewknor, this in his wife's right, came over to the last; but the reversion in fee was in the beginning of the late king Charles, by Sir Charles Herbert, master of the revels, purchased of the crown; and he some few years since, alienated all his concern in this manor to Mr. Alst, a Dutch merchant of London.

Elham, had a grant of a market procured to it, on the Monday, by the power of prince Edward, in the fifty fifth year of Henry the third, which was after allowed and approved of before the judges itinerant, when he was king, in the seventh year of his reign.

Shottlesfield in Elham, was, as high as the reign of Edward the second, the inheritance of a family called le Grubbe, who had possessions of a considerable value, about Yalding by Maidston, and Nonington in East-Kent. In the third year of Edward the second, Henry Peres, and in another old deed stiled Pers or de Petris, from his habitation near some place of a rocky constitution, demises some parcels of land lying in Elham, and Lyming, to Thomas le Grubbe, who is written in the deed, de Shottlesfield, and from this Thomas did the title descend, by paternal devolution, to John Grubbe, who in the second year of Richard the third, conveyed it by sale to Thomas Brockman of Lyming, and his grandchild Henry Brockman, in the first year of queen Mary, alienated it to George Fogge of Brabourn, Esquire, and he, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, sold his interest in it to Bing, who in that age which was circumscribed within our fathers remembrance, transplanted the title by sale into Mr. John Masters of Sandwich, from whom it descended to Sir Edward Masters of Canterbury; and he, upon his late decease, gave it to Dr. .... Masters his second son, Dr. of the civil law.

Mount and South Blabden, with Jaques court, were manors which were involved in the patrimony of Anketellus de Rosse, and he in the twentieth year of William the

conqueror, held them, as appears by the record of Domesday book, from which name they passed away to Cosington with Acris, but with this clause reserved, that South Blabden and Acris should hold the manor of Horton by knights service, which was a principal seat of this family of Rosse, before it was sold to Kirkby. In the seventh year of King Edward the third, Stephen de Cosington obtained a charter of free warren to these above recited manors. This man was son and heir of William de Cosington, who was sheriff of Kent in the thirty fifth year of Edward the first, and is sometimes written of Cosenton, and sometimes of Mount in Elham, and from these

\* Richard de Albany, principal butler to king William Rufus, gave the tithes of Elham to St Andrews in Rochester: see Textus Roffensis.

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two did Sir John Cosington extract his genealogy, and with it his title to these two manors; and he deceasing about the latter end of Henry the eighth, without issue male, his three daughters, ..... married to Duke, Joan married to Wood, and Elizabeth married to Alexander Hamon, Esquire, became his three co-heirs, and parted a large patrimony. Upon the division, Wood obtained South Blabden and Jaques court, and Hamon carried away Mount: Wood's heir alienated the two first to Sir John Wilde of Canterbury, whose son, colonel Dudley Wilde, upon his late decease, hath bequeathed them to his widow during life: Hamon's heir determined in two daughters and co-heirs, Mary was married to Sir Edward Bois of Fredvill, and Catharine was married to Sir Robert Lewknor, descended from the noble and illustrious family of Lewknor in Sussex, who in his wife's right, was invested in the possession of Mount, who upon his death, transmitted it to his son Mr. Hamon Lewknor, whose widow Mrs. .... Lewknor, eldest daughter to Dr. Henry Kingsley arch-deacon of Canterbury, is now in the enjoyment of it.

Canterwood is another manor in this parish, whose possessors, I confess, I could never trace out, by any print of public record; therefore I endeavoured to give myself satisfaction, by the private evidences: but the heir being under age, the deeds were deposited in the hands of those who misrepresented my design, in surveying them through the mists of cautious jealousies and distrusts, and so my attempt became fruitless. All the intelligence I could gain (as in relation to that place) was collected from an old manuscript, whose hand seems contemporary to the time of Henry the eighth, and what I have drained from thence, I shall now represent to the reader. Canterwood, says that escript, was formerly the estate of Thomas de Garwinton de Welle in Littlebourne, who flourished in the reign of Edward the second, and Edward the third, whose great grandchild William Garwinton, dying without issue, Joan his kinswoman, married to Richard Haut, who concluded in a female heir, whose name was Margery, who by marrying William Isaack, linked this manor to his revenue. Thus far this manuscript. Who were the possessors since, the court rolls which do not ascend very high, now in the custody of Mr. Hugben, discover: the first family which they recite is Hales, and it remained in the inheritance of that name, till towards the end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was by sale transported over to Manwood, who some few years after, disposed of his interest in it, by the same alienation to Sir Robert Lewknor, upon whose decease it devolved to his son Hamon Lewknor, Esquire, who hath upon his death, during the minority of his son, left the possession to be enjoyed by his widow.

Bowick is a sixth place, which must now come within the pale of this discourse. It was in times of elder inscription, the seat of the Lads, who in diverse of their ancient muniments and evidences, writ de Lad. Now if you will know where that place is seated, I answer, it is situated in Chart by Sutton, where there is an ancient farm, which formerly had the repute of a manor, and is at this instant, as it was in ages of a higher, known by the name of Lads, and was, till almost in our grandfathers memory, in the tenure of that family. After Lad was departed from the possession of this place, the Nethersolls by purchase, were, about the beginning of Henry the seventh, incorporated into the possession, and staid in some few years, and then alienated their interest here to Aucher, who about the latter end of Henry the eighth, resigned the title by sale to Wroth, in which family it was resident, until some few years since it was passed away to Elgar.

Oxroad is a seventh manor in Elham. In a very old court roll, now in the hands of Mr. Shetterden of Eltham, one John de Oxroad is represented to be the possessor:

and in others of a more modern complexion, which bear date from Henry the fourth, and so downwards, until the beginning of Henry the eighth, the Hinckleys are discovered to us to be proprietors of it, and then this name was extinguished in a daughter and heir: for Isabell was the only child of Thomas Hinckley, who by marrying Joan Bene, carried this place into the possession of that family, where it was constantly fixed, until of late years, the title was transplanted into Mr. Daniel Shetter-

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den of Eltham, descended from the Shetterdens of Shetterden in great Chart, which land they have possessed for some hundreds of years

Ladwood is an eighth manor in this parish, written in old evidences Ladswood, from whence we may spin out a more than probable conjecture, that, before the erecting the house by Rolfe, it was a wood belonging to Lad of Bowick; but for some hundreds of years, that is, since the latter end of Edward the third, it hath constantly related to the family of Rolfe, a name which Mr. Thinne conjectures in a pedigree which he collected of this family, was contracted from the ancient German name Rodolphus: and Mr. Lambert, in his Kentish perambulation, mentions one Ralph, a Saxon, who added much to the castle of Rochester, from whom it is not altogether improbable, this family, which hath been so anciently at Elham, might extract their first original.

Clavertie is the last place in this parish, which may exact our mention: it did belong, before the suppression, to the knights hospitallers, and was one of those places in this track, which was a commandry to the more general seminary of this order planted at Ewell. Upon the dissolution of this order, here in England, by Henry the eighth, who condemned their disorder and luxury, only to improve his own, like the Lapwing, who cries most when she is farthest off from her nest, this was added to the demean of the crown: and king Edward the sixth granted it to Peter Heymon, Esquire, who was one of the gentlemen of his bed-chamber, and great grandfather to Sir Henry Heymon baronet, who was the late proprietor of this manor of Claverty, a person to whom, if I should not affirm myself signally and extraordinarily engaged, I deserved to be represented to posterity, under the darkest complexion of ingratitude.

EIGHTAM, \* vulgarly but corruptly and falsely called IGHTAM, lies in the hundred of Wrotham, and hath that denomination imposed upon it, from the eight hams or boroughs which lie within the verge of it. The first is Eightam itself, the second is Redwell, the third is Ive-Hatch, the fourth is Barrow Green, the fifth is St. Cleres, the sixth is the Moat, the seventh is Beaulies, and the eighth and last is Oldborough, which puts in its claim to be of Roman original; for when Leland visited Kent, which was about the beginning of Henry the eighth, there was some remains of an ancient fortification: and it is probable, that this being the way which led to the great Roman colony at Noviomagum, now called Woodcote in Surry, was at this place fortified upon all emergent occasions, to secure their retreat, from any hostile eruption. The manor of Eightam itself, was the possession of William de Inge, one of the judges in the reign of Edward the second: this William de Inge was by his country and parentage of the county of Bedford, and had issue William de Inge, who married Margery, daughter of Henry Grapenell, and died seized, in the fifteenth year of Edward the second, of this manor of Eightam: his daughter and heir Joan, was married to Eudo lord Zouch of Harringworth, and William le Zouch of Harringworth, died possessed of it, in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 64. and in this name was the property of this place, for sundry generations, successively resident, until the beginning of Henry the seventh, and then it was alienated to Sir Robert Read serjeant at law, and lord chief justice of the common pleas, who not long after, going out in four daughters and co-heirs, Dorothy was married to Sir Edward Wotton, Margaret married to Sir John Harecourt of Elnall in the county of Stafford, Katharine married to Sir Thomas Willoughby, lord chief justice of the common pleas, and Elizabeth married to Thomas Totihurst, Esquire, they divided his inheritance and this manor: upon the distinction of it into parcels, this was added to the revenue of Willoughby; from which family, in our grandfathers remembrance, it passed away by sale to Jam. descended from Jacob van Hastrecht, who was anciently seated in Cleve, ancestor to William James alias Hastrecht, Esquire, thrice knight of the shire, within the circle of five years, who by paternal derivation, is now lord of this manor of Eightam.

Before I leave this discourse of Eightam, I must inform the reader of two things. First, that Edward the second, in the ninth year of his reign, granted licence to

\* Hamon de Crevequer held Eightam in the reign of king John, and then, Simon de Crioll in the reign of Henry the third, as appears by old evidences.

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William de Inge the judge, to hold a market here weekly on the Monday, and a fair yearly at Eightam, by the space of three days, viz. the vigil, the day of St. Peter and Paul, and the day after; secondly, that the family of James, now possessors of Eightam, were originally called Haestrecht, as being lords of a place of that name near Gouda, and were branched out from the ancient family of Arkell, \* as likewise was that of Bouteslaw, both which families bear the same coat, without any visible distinction with Haestrecht, viz. argent two bars crenelle or counterembattled gules, three pheon, or broad arrow heads, in chief, sable. Roger James, son of Jacob van Hastrecht, came out of Cleve, (whither his ancestor a younger son of the lord of Hastrecht, had been chased by one of the earls of Holland, because his father, who likewise was forced to Drunen near Huesden, by that count, had been an eager partisan of his enemy, the bishop of Utrecht) into England, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, and being called after the Belgick mode, Roger Jacobs, the English by a more soft and gentle pronunciation, filled off the roughness of the accent, and by melting it into a more narrow volume, contracted it into James. By marriage the family of Hastrecht and Arkell above mentioned, are allied to the eminent house of Wassenaer, issued out from the ancient counts of Holland, as likewise to the family of Waermont near Leyden, who married the heir of Hastrecht of Drunen, (where this family had for many descents been planted, ever since their first expulsion thither, by the earl of Holland) who was colonel of a regiment of foot, and Drostart of Breda, when it was under the government and scepter of the king of Spain.

St. Cleres is the second place of note in this parish; it was formerly called Aldham, as being for many years the patrimony of that family, the last of which was Sir Thomas de Aldham, who resolved into three female co-heirs: ..... married to Newborough of the county of Dorset, Margery married to Martin de Pecham, and Isolda married to John St. Clere. Upon the partition of his patrimony, this place was, about the beginning of Edward the third, annexed to the inheritance of St. Clere, and so became in procedure of time, stiled Aldham St. Cleres: but custom and vulgar use did not long after file off the first appellation, so that it hath for divers generations, been stiled singly St. Cleres. Isolda St. Clere, widow of this John, did, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, pay respective aid for his lands at Eightam, at the making the Black Prince knight. And in this family did the stream of possession carry down the possession of this place, till towards the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was alienated from this name and settled in Richard Empson, the grand projector, who had wire-drawn, by his close and dextrous artifices, the treasure of the kingdom into such subtil threads, that he had almost wound it all into the king's Exchequer: but he being convicted of felony for his many excesses, in the first year of Henry the eighth, this was confiscated to the crown, and there it was not many years after by that prince, granted to Sir Thomas Bullen, knight of the garter, and created earl of Ormond and Wiltshire, in the year 1529, whose unfortunate son George Viscount Rochford, being blasted with the black aspersion of treason, which was multiplied and enforced to that bulk, that the weight of it sunk upon a bloody and untimely scaffold, and then this manor, upon the death of his father, which was in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, was seized on by the crown, as being settled before on him and his heirs male, of whom this unhappy lord was the last: some few years after, it was by royal concession from the abovesaid prince, made the patrimony of George Moulton, **a justice of the peace, the fourth of August anno 23. Elizabeth**, a man of high repute in those times, and much interested in the favour of Henry the eighth; whose grandchild Robert Moulton, Esquire, almost in times within the pale of our remembrance, alienated his right in it to Sir John Sydney, knight and baronet, who hath upon the old foundation erected that magnificent pile, which for the grandeur, elegance and majestick aspect it carries to the public surrenders a priority, but to few structures in this county.

The Moat is the third and last place which summons our remembrance. It was in elder times the inheritance of Ivo de Haut, who flourished in the reign of king John, and Henry the third: his grandchild was Henry de Haut, who held this manor at his decease, which was in the forty fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc.

\* Ex autographis penes Do. Will. James.

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Num. 34. his grandchild was Nicholas Haut, who was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth year of Richard the second. Afterwards, I find that Richard Haut, grandchild to this man, was sheriff of Kent, the eighteenth year of Edward the fourth: and again in the twenty second year of the abovesaid prince, he was second brother to Sir William Haut of Hautsbourne, who was sheriff of Kent in the sixth year of Edward the fourth, and great uncle to Sir William Haut. But this Richard Haut, having with John Fogge, John Guldord, Esquire, John Darell, Esquire, \* James Horne of Westwell, William Clifford, Reginald Pimpe, John Pimpe and Edward Poynings of Marsham or Mersham, embarked himself in the designs of Henry earl of Richmond, and the emotion of Henry duke of Buckingham, he was attainted in the third year of Richard the third, as appears Rot. Par. de anno 3. R. 3. memb 6. and then the Moat, by the favour and indulgence of that prince, was conferred on Sir Robert Brakenbury, lieutenant of the Tower: but he enjoyed it not long, for Henry abovesaid, having triumphed in a successful encounter at Bosworth field over Richard the third, and all his partisans, this was restored to Richard Haut abovesaid, in which family it remained until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then by an old court roll, I find it in the possession of Sir Richard Clement knight, who was sheriff of Kent in the twenty third year of Henry the eighth: he died without any legitimate issue, and lies entombed in the chancel of Eightam church, and John Clement was his brother and heir, whose daughter Anne Clement, was married to Hugh Pakenham, who in her right possessed the Moat, and he about the reign of king Edward the sixth, joining with Sir William Sidney, who had married Anne his only heir, passed it away to Sir John Allen, lord mayor of London in the year 1526, and then again 1536, who left it to his son Sir Christopher Allen, and he about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it by sale to Sir William Selby, whose nephew Sir William Selby, dying without issue, to continue it in the name, gave it to Mr. George Selby of London, whom it acknowledges at this instant for lord of the fee.

In the north side of the church of Eightam, in an arch in the wall beneath the quire, lies the representation of a knight wrought in stone, and his arms portrayed on the coat armour on his breast (according to the usage of eminent soldiers) in the reign of Edward the third. This was Sir Thomas Cawne, extracted originally out of the county of Stafford; he had not much land of inheritance in Kent, all I find was at Nulcomb, a place so called in Seal, as appears by his deed of purchase of John Ashburnham, dated the thirty ninth of Edward the third; but marrying Lora de Morant, the daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Morant of Morants court, (after his death remarried to James de Peckham) he thereby improved and enhanced his fortune in Kent. He died without issue, for ought as yet can be discovered; his arms, as they are inserted in the rolls and registers of Staffordshire, are empaled in the chancel window with the arms of Morant.

ELMSTED, in the hundred of Wye, was a limb of that revenue which fell under the signory of the noble and ancient family of Heringod. In Testa de Nevil, there is mention of Stephen de Heringod, who paid respective aid in the twentieth year of Henry the third, for lands which he held at Hardres and Elmsted. Stephen de Heringod, this man's grandchild, died about the beginning of Edward the first, and determined in a daughter and heir called Grace de Heringod, who was married to Philip de Hardres: and so this manor in her right, became incorporated into the revenue of this noble family, and remained for many generations fastened to this name, until the age which almost commenced from our fathers memory; and then Dane-court, a branch of this manor, was sold to Cloake, and Elmsted itself by the same fatality, went out to Marsh, whose successor very lately hath fixed his interest by sale in Lushington.

Evington court is an ancient seat in Elmsted, which was the inheritance of gentlemen of that surname, who bore a fesse between three steel burgonets for their coat armour: and in a book copied out from old deeds and digested into a just volume,



by William Glover, Somerset herald, and now in my custody, there is the copy of an

\* John Darell Esquire, and John Pimpe Esquire, had the grant of thirteen manors lying in Worcestershire, made to them, which accrued to the crown upon the attain of Humphrey Stafford, Esquire, in the second year of Henry the seventh, as appears, Origin Anni 2. Hen. 7. Rot. 17. in the treasurer's side in the exchequer.

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old deed without date, wherein William Fitz Neal, called in Latin Filius Nigelli, does pass over some land to Ruallo de Valoigns, which is fortified by the appendant testimony of one Robert de Evington, who was ancestor to the Evingtons of Elmsted, of whom there is mention in the deeds of this place, in the reign of Henry the third and Edward the first. After this family was gone out, the Gays, a family of no mean account in this track, were incorporated into the possession, descended originally out of France, where there is a family which even at this day is known by the name of Le-gay, and is planted in Normandy, from whence those of Jersey and Gernesey are extracted, a branch of which is transplanted into Southampton, and there for ought I know, flourishes at present; and to justify the truth of this their extraction, in the Ledger book of Horton priory, there is mention of one John le Gay who was a benefactor to their house, and though they are called at this day, only without the addition, Gay, yet this hath happened by disuse and intermission, by not adding it to their customary writing and affixing it to their name. But to proceed: Evington court, though it was not originally erected by this family, yet certainly it was much enforced by supplement and additional building; for divers places of the house are in relation to the name, adorned with nose-gays. In conclusion, after it had owned many of this name of no vulgar rank for its proprietors, it was, about the beginning of Henry the seventh, by Christopher Gray, alienated to John Honywood, Esquire, of the eldest family of the Honywoods; from whom in a direct line, Edward Honywood, Esquire, son and heir of Sir John Honywood, lately deceased, is extracted, and is now invested in the possession of this place.

Elmsted had the grant of a market obtained to it, to be observed weekly on the Thursday, and a fair yearly on the vigil and day of St. James, by the procurement of Henry de Haut, Pat. 28. Edwardi tertii N. 20.

ELMESTON, in the hundred of Wingham, was parcel of the demean of the lord Leybourn: Juliana de Leybourn, wife of Roger de Leybourn, had an estate here at her death, which was in the first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 86. and her sole heir was the lady Juliana Leybourn, first married to John de Hastings, and after to William de Clinton, but died without issue by either, in the forty third year of the reign of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 57. and as it appears without any visible allowance, that could justify their title to her estate: for the crown seized upon it as legally escheated, by default of any who could pretend a claim unto it. King Richard the second, about the fourteenth year of his reign, granted it to the abby of Childrens Langley. \* Before I proceed any farther in this discourse, I shall justify what I before asserted, that is, that the first husband of Juliana de Leybourn, was John de Hastings, a kinsman of Lawrence de Hastings earl of Pembroke, but not his son John de Hastings, as some suppose: and this is obvious, if we consider that William de Clinton deceased by the testimony of all, in the twenty eighth year of Edward the third, Juliana his widow, called in the escheat roll Comitissa de Huntingdon, died in the forty third year of that prince, and John de Hastings earl of Huntingdon, in the year 1375, which happened in the forty ninth year of Edward the third, which must necessarily, upon a serious computation of time, fall out six years after this countess's decease, to whom had she been married, she would have preserved the stile of Comitissa de Pembroke, and not that of Huntingdon.

But to return into that track, from whence this digression hath made me wander; after it remained cloistered up in the revenue of the church, for divers ages, until the title was by the general dissolution dislodged, and in the thirty fifth year of Henry the eighth, was by royal concession from that prince, invested in Sir Walter Henley, serjeant at law, and a man under an eminent character in those times; from whom, about the beginning of king Edward the sixth, it passed away by sale to Linch, a

family of good antiquity in Kent, from whom the Linches of Lemster in Ireland, are primitively descended, and have been for some descents seated at Linch Knock, a castle in that province. After the Linches, the Gibbs's about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, were by purchase seated in the inheritance, and continued in it until very lately the title was unfixed, and by the transposition of sale, planted in Mr. Jaques of London.

\* Richard the second granted Elmeſton to Simon Burleigh, and upon his attainſt it returned to the crown.

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ERITH, in the hundred of Little and Lesness, was a manor which was circumscribed within the revenue of Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, that powerful baron, whose story I shall pencil out more exactly at Leeds castle; but before him, Guncelin de Badelesmer, \* who lies buried at Badelesmer, with a fair portraiture upon his tomb, cut out in wood, enjoyed and held it at his decease, which was in the twenty ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 50. and this Guncelin was son to Giles de Badelesmer, who, as the annals of St. Austins inform us, was slain at a battle commenced against the Welsh, in the year 1258, whilst he vigorously asserted the interest of his country, against their wild excursions: but to advance where I left off, Bartholomew lord Badelesmer before mentioned, had such a particular affection to this place, that in the ninth year of Edward the second, he obtained a charter of free warren to this manor, and suddenly after, by his confederacy with Thomas earl of Lancaster, and the rest of the nobility knit together in combination against that prince, forfeited his estate and life to the crown, and then Edward the second, (as appears by the patent rolls of that time) in the fifteenth year of his reign, grants it for life to David de Strabolgie earl of Athol, son to the unfortunate John earl of Atholl, who was offered up a sacrifice to the fury of Edward the first, because he had done too little for him, and too much for his bleeding and gasping country of Scotland: and this earl held it at his decease, which was in the first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 85. After his death, it reverts to the crown; and then king Edward the third, not only reverses the process and judgement issued out against Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, but like wise by patent in the second year of his reign, restores this manor and divers other lands to Bartholomew lord Badelesmer his son. And he died seized of it in the twelfth year of that prince's reign, but left no issue male; so that his four sisters became his heirs, whereof Elizabeth was one of them, who was first married to William Bohun earl of Northampton, after to Roger Mortimer earl of March, to whose patrimony this in his wife's right, upon the quadripartite division of this wide estate, was united; and Edmund de Mortimer, this man's son, enjoyed it at his death, which was in the fifth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 44. and left it to his son Roger earl of March and Ulster, and he had issue Roger Mortimer, and Anne who married Richard Plantagenet de Conisburgh, earl of Cambridge, second son of Edmund of Langley duke of York: and this Richard earl of Cambridge, having involved himself with Henry lord Scroop and Sir Thomas Grey of Northumberland, in a treasonable design against the life of Henry the fifth, in the second year of his reign, as he was embarking at Southampton for France, there to justify his title to that crown by the power of the sword, was convicted and executed, and left issue Richard Plantagenet; who was, in the year 1426, created duke of York, and upon the decease of his mother's brother, Roger Mortimer earl of March, without issue, he became not only heir to his estate, but likewise to that of his right to the crown, which first had devolved to him, and after his death to his sister Anne, countess of Cambridge, mother to this Richard duke of York, from Philippa, wife to Edmund Mortimer earl of March, their grandfather; which Philippa was sole heir of Lionell duke of Clarence, third son of Edward the third, and eldest brother to John of Gaunt duke of Lancaster, fourth son of that prince, from whom the Lancastrian family had wire-drawn and spun out a forced, usurped and distorted title to the English diadem. Upon his decease at the battle waged at Wakefield, where he found an untimely sepulchre, whilst he most vigorously disputed his claim to the scepter, against the house of Lancaster; this manor with the crown, devolved to his son king Edward the fourth, and here it dwelt with the royal revenue until king Henry the eighth, in the thirty sixth year of his reign, passed it away to Elizabeth, countess of Shrewsbury, widow dowager of George earl of Shrewsbury; by whom he had issue John, who died unmarried, and Anne first married to Peter Compton, Esquire, by whom she had issue Sir Henry Compton, who was heir to her

estate here at Erith, and secondly, married to William earl of Pembroke. Sir Henry Compton had issue William, created earl of Northampton, in the sixteenth year of

\* This Guncelin de Badelesmer was justice of Chester. See Mr. King's Vale Royal.

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king James, and Sir Thomas Compton, who dying without issue, gave his estate here, which was settled on him by his father, upon his marriage with Mary countess of Buckingham, to his nephew Sir William Compton, a younger son of Spencer earl of Northampton, who hath very lately alienated his interest here to Mr. Lodowick of London.

Bedenwell in this parish, had formerly the repute of a manor, when it was the inheritance of a family called Boreford, or more vulgarly Burford. Rose de Burford held it at her death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 52. and afterwards, I find James de Burford obtained a charter of free warren to his lands at Bedenwell in Erith, in the thirty fifth year of Edward the second. After this family was expired, which was before the end of Richard the second, it came to be the possession of Draper, descended from an ancient family of that name in the county of Nottingham, who concluded in a female heir. For William Killom married the sole daughter of John Draper, by whom he obtained Bedenwell; but with this proviso, that he should change his name to Draper, which hath been actually performed. But since this solemn stipulation, Bedenwell, in several pieces, has been sold to Turner Gainsford of Crowherst in Surry, (who not many years since, alienated his portion to Cholmeley) and others; so that being thus broken into fragments, it hath now lost the estimate of a manor, and is to be entombed in silence.

Hering-hills is a place not to be forgotten, having been in elder times the residence of a family called Abell. The first whom I find represented to us, under a character of estimate, was Sir John Abell, who was in the list of the Kentish knights, which were assistant to king Edward the first, at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland; John Abell his successor was a judge (as is manifest by the patent rolls of the Tower) in the eighth year of Edward the second, and it is very probable that it was either this John Abell or his father, that obtained a charter of free warren to the manor of Catford in Lewsham, (which was after sold to William de Montacute) in the twenty third year of Edward the first. In the reign of Edward the fourth, I find, by the crown office, one Edward Abell to have been in commission for the peace, and he lies interred in Erith church, not in the cemetery or church-yard; though I confess, upon a large square plate of wood, there is a register of those accurately enrolled, who were possessors of Hering-hill, from John Abell the judge, down to another John Abell, who died possessed of it about the latter end of Queen Elizabeth, but the date is so violated by time and the impression of the injurious elements, that it is hardly visible, much less intelligible; the last of which family at this place, was John Abell, who about the year 1611, joining with his father Samuel Abell, alienated his concern here to Mr. William Draper, whose successor Mr. .... Draper, now of the county of Oxford, is the instant proprietor of it.

Lesnes Abby was founded by Richard de Lucy, lord chief justice of England under Henry the second, in the year 1179, and dedicated to St. Thomas the martyr, the saint of Canterbury, who as he had been above the king's will on earth, was now above his faith in heaven, being after his but early canonization, grown into such veneration and estimate, that orisons and prayers, shrines and altars, abbies and temples, were offered up to his name, of which this was none of the least, being a house of black canons, or canons of St. Augustine. This Richard de Lucy the founder, was son of Richard, who was son of Roger de Chilham, and he was son of Fulbert de Dover, who entered into England with William the conqueror, and changed his name of Lucy to Dover, (of which, first, there is not only a signory or lordship, but likewise a family at this instant remaining in France) because he was one of those eight, to whom certain knights fees were assigned by William the conqueror, to be assistant to John de Fiennes in the guard of Dover castle; thus much for his extraction. Now for his dignity, he was not only lord chief justice, but likewise protector of England in the twelfth year of Henry the second, in his absence in France, which great office he managed with so much fidelity, prudence and magnanimity, that when the earl of Boloign invaded this island, in the thirteenth year of the above-said prince, he was forced to retire with shame, confusion and loss: which action

must certainly have improved his name to very high estimate, in the opinion of those times. Yet, notwithstanding, he divested himself of that pomp and pageantry, these great offices had made him glitter with, (which conquest, that he made upon himself within, was of more importance than any he could have atchieved without) and clouded himself in a monk's cowl, and became the prior to that convent he himself had erected, and there likewise found his place of sepulture: and it is probable, that those coffins, with portraitures insculped, which were discovered in a grotto or vault upon the breaking down the foundation of this house, in the government of king James, were the exchequers which treasured up, not only the reliques of this Sir Richard de Lucy, but likewise the remains of others of the same family: but to proceed, the prior of this place was in that repute, that it was customary for him (as the records of the church of Rochester tells us) to have his induction into this place, either by the bishop immediately, or else by some proxy who represented the bishop of Rochester's person. And in this state it continued until cardinal Wolsey laid the foundation of his eminent college of Christ-church in Oxford, and then with the consent of the present abbot, in the year 1525, it was suppressed, and the revenue of this cloister being found in the hands of the abovesaid cardinal at his death, was by Henry the eighth, united to the income of the crown, where it dwelt until it was granted to William Brereton, Esquire, who being engaged in the fatal business of Katharine Howard, was attainted and executed; upon whose tragedy, it returned to the crown, and was, in the thirty eighth year of Henry the eighth, granted to Sir Ralph Sadler; and he not long after, passed it away to Mr. Henry Cook; in whose successors the possession was resident, until almost our fathers remembrance, and then it was conveyed to alderman Leman, who passed it away to Sir John Hippesley; who not many years since, demised his right in it to Mr. Haws of London; who dying lately without issue, hath settled it for ever on the hospital of St. Bartholomew's near Smithfield.

In the ninth year of Edward the second, Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, obtained the grant of a market to Erith on the Thursday, and a three days fair at St. Cross, and another three days fair, the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday in Whitsun-week.

Lesnes had, by the mediation of William de Wilton, a grant of a market procured to be observed there on the Thursday, and a fair to continue yearly, the eve, Simon and Jude's day, and three days after, as is manifest, Pat. 41. Henrici tertii memb. 48.

ESTLING, in the hundred of Feversham, gave surname to a family who had here an eminent mansion called Northcourt, the last of which family, was Ralph de Estling, whose daughter and heir Alice de Estling, about the beginning of Edward the first, married to Fulke de Peyforer, custos of the Fleet and Westminster, in London, who in her right, became lord of this place, and in the thirty second year of Edward the first, to enforce his interest here, obtained a charter of free warren to this place; and in this family did it reside until the latter end of Edward the second, and then Northcourt, Denton and Plomford, manors, which came along to Peyforer with Northcourt, were sold away to Roger lord Leybourn; and his widow Juliana de Leybourn, held it at her decease, which was in the first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 86. And after his decease, they devolved to John de Hastings, a kinsman of Lawrence de Hastings earl of Pembroke, who was the first husband of her daughter and heir Juliana de Leybourn; and who, after his decease, remarried to William de Clinton earl of Huntingdon, who in her right was likewise possessed of them, but likewise deceased without any issue by her, in the twenty eighth year of Edward the third, after whose decease, it is more than probable she continued a widow; for in the inquisition taken in the forty third year of Edward the third, she is stiled Comitissa de Huntington, and was found upon a serious winnowing, both of her direct and collateral alliances, to have no heirs that could directly pretend to the title, so that her estate here lapsed to the crown, and king Edward the third, in the fiftieth year of his rule, granted the manors of Denton and Plomford, to the abby of St. Mary Grace on Tower-hill, but Northcourt stayed in the crown until Richard the

second granted it to Sir Simon de Burleigh, who being attainted in the tenth year of his reign, that prince upon his tragedy, settled it upon the dean and canons of St.

Stephens at Westminster, where they rested until the dissolution; and then king Henry the eighth, granted them to Sir Thomas Cheyney one of his privy council, whose lavish and unthrifty son Henry lord Cheyney, after his estate mouldered away by retail in the eighth year of queen Elizabeth, passed them away to Martin James, Esquire, whose great grandchild Mr. Walter James, is at this instant the indisputable proprietor of them.

Huntingfield in Estling, gave surname to that illustrious family of Huntingfield, and stands a monument to this day, to enforce and perpetuate its memory to posterity, though the name be long since extinguished and gone out in two daughters and co-heirs, being entombed in Coupledick and Norwich. The capital seat of this family, was at West-Wickham on the skirts of Surry, where I shall make a more ample mention of them: but they had other parcels of land which lay scattered in the several parishes of Northfleet, Mepham, Ludsdowen, Cobham and other places, and it is probable this family was possessed of an estate likewise in Somersetshire. For in Mr. Bishe's late printed Notes upon Upton, one Walter de Huntingfield, is represented as teste to that memorable compact, which bears date the twenty eighth of April, in the forty second year of Henry the third, and was made between Henry de Ferneburgh and the abbot and convent of Glastenbury, to defend the lands of the abovesaid abbot, against all the claim or pretence of the bishop of Bath and Wells, with the dean and canons of the same place, or any of their champions; and certainly this Walter de Huntingfield, is he who is mentioned to have paid respective aid, in the book called Testa de Nevil, for much land which he held in Kent, at the marriage of Isabella the king's sister, in the twentieth year of Henry the third. The last of this family who was possessor of this manor was Sir John Huntingfield, who was summoned to sit as a baron in parliament, in the thirty sixth year of Edward the third; and he passed it away to Sir Simon de Burley, in whom it was resident until the tenth year of Richard the second; and then, he being by parliament convicted of high treason, for seeking in a time when too much loyalty was ruinous, to support the shaking prerogative of his prince, against the assaults and impressions made upon it by some of the ambitious nobility; this manor with Northcourt, likewise in this parish, which was granted to him upon the decease of Juliana countess of Huntington, escheated to the crown, and there made its abode until the twenty first year of Richard the second, and then that prince settled it by a new grant, as appears, Pat. 1. an. 21. Rich. 2. Memb. 35. pars tertia, on the dean and canons of St. Stephens in Westminster, and continued chained to their revenue, until the link was, by the general dissolution of religious conventions, in the reign of Henry the eighth, untied and broken, and then being cast into the demeanor of the crown, it was, in the thirty fifth year of Henry the eighth, granted to Alured Randolph and John Guldford, Esquires, and they not long after, conveyed their interest in it by sale to Sir Thomas Moile, from whom the same fatality in the seventh year of Henry the sixth, carried it away and transplanted it into John Wild, Esquire; and he not long after, transmitted his concern in it to Gates, and from this name, the property, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, was by the same vicissitude of sale, conveyed to Martin James, Esquire, examiner of the chancery, from whom the title by descendant right, is flowed down to his great grandchild Mr. Walter James, who is now in the possession of it.

Estling had the grant of a market obtained to be held weekly, and a two days fair at St. Cross, by the mediation of Fulke de Peyforer, in the thirty second year of Edward the first.

Diven Arnold is a third place of mark in Estling. It is called so because it was in ages of a very venerable inscription, the inheritance of a family called Dive, and it had the addition of Arnold, because it was one Arnoldus de Dive possessed it, and is often mentioned in deeds without date, and was teste to a deed, whereby John de Valoigns does convey lands to Robert de Dive, prior of the hospital of St. Johns of Jerusalem; which is justified by a fine levied between the said John and this Robert, in the ninth year of Henry the third. And in this family did it continue until the be-

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ginning of Richard the second, and then it was alienated to Sharp, of Nin-place in great Chart, in which name the signory and title was for sundry generations constant, until about the latter end of Henry the seventh, it was conveyed away to Thurstan of Challock, a name of great antiquity in that parish, from whom not many years after,

it went over by sale to John Wild, Esquire, and he, in the entrance of the government of queen Elizabeth, by the same revolution, disposed of his right in it to Gates, who alienated it after to Croyden, who in our fathers remembrance, transmitted it by sale to Bunce, and continues in the revenue of that family.

EASTRY, gives the name to the whole hundred wherein it is seated, and was given to the church in the year of Grace 979, by king Egelred, that is, Etheldred, father to Edmund Ironside, *et est de cibo monachorum*, say the records of Christ-church, that is, it was granted to the monks for the support of their kitchen, and was in the first invention of the gift, I believe, invested in the ecclesiastical revenue, purposely to expiate that murder which was at this place acted upon the persons of Ethelbert and Etheldred, brethren of Egbert king of Kent, by one Thunner; as if that dark tincture of guilt, which the effusion of this royal and innocent blood had stained the earth with, could not have been assoiled without so magnificent a donation. In the time of Edward the confessor, this manor was held by the monks of Christ-church, under the notion of seven plough-lands, nor was it represented under a less bulk in the reign of William the conqueror, and was rated in the whole in Doomsday book, at thirty eight pounds ten shillings and three pence.

There was an ancient tradition, that that altar-tomb which was placed at the east end of the little chapel which belonged to Eastry court, was the sepulchre wherein the reliques of the two princes (mentioned before, to have been murdered) were enshrined: nay it went farther, and did affirm that there was a light hovered constantly about that tomb, as if the clearness of the innocence of those who slumbered under that repository, could not have been manifested better then by the beams of such a perpetual irradiation.

Shrickling is a manor in this parish, which had always the same possessors with Knowlton. Thomas Perrot held it in the fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 31. by whose daughter and heir, it devolved to Langley, and from Langley by the heir general to Peyton: only I find Sir Edward Ringley knight, marshal of Calais, and bailiff of Sandwich, both by water and land, lived at Eastry in the reign of Henry the eighth, and enjoyed this manor in right of his wife Elizabeth, widow of Edward Langley, Esquire.

Heronden in this parish, was the seat of a family known by that surname, who bore for his coat armour, a heron with one talon erected, and gaping for breath. One of this family lay buried near the chancel, in the time of Robert Glover, Somerset herald, with his portraiture and coat of arms in brass affixed to the tomb-stone; both which by the rude hand of some sacrilegious person, are now torn away: yet is the coat still extant in very old rolls and registers in the heralds office, where the family is called Heronden of Heronden. Nor is the name less ancient, as appears by deeds which commence from the time of Henry the third, which related then to this house and name. In the reign of Richard the second, this family determined in a female heir, who was married to Boteler of Botelers fleet in Ash, and she annexed this place to the patrimony of this family, in which name the title of this place hath been ever since successively laid up.

EWELL, in the hundred of Bewsborough, was a principal mansion of the knights templers to which much land was united, both in this track and in Romney Marsh, where they held the manors of Hony-child and East-bridge, as appears by the book called *Liber de terris Templariorum*, collected in the year 1130, and kept in the exchequer. They were founded in the year 1118, in manner following. Certain knights obliged themselves by vow, in the hands of the hands of the patriarch of Jerusalem, to serve Christ after the manner of regular canons, in chastity and obedience, renouncing their own wills for ever; they likewise professed to defend the cross and sepulcher of our saviour from the eruptions of infidels, and to secure the highways for the indemnity

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of pilgrims, from the ambushes of free-booters, that they might more freely visit the place of our Saviour's agony and crucifixion. They were called templars, either from their vow to defend the temple, or else, from those lodgings which were assigned them, near that place, by Baldwin the fourth king of Jerusalem. This order in the second year of Edward the second, was totally suppress throughout christendom. The crimes alledged against them, were pride, covetousness, sordid and unnatural

uncleanness, and lastly private collusions and treaties with infidels, which tended to the subversion of the christian cause in Palestine, all which they solemnly renounced at their death, which best interprets their innocence to future times; for certainly it was impossible, that an order which had tied themselves up, upon their institution, within the limitations of so strict a vow, could universally at one time, and in all places of the world where they were established, degenerate into those black, horrid and prodigious crimes, wherewith their enemies bespattered them. But indeed those who have fathomed the cause of this their total abolition, find, that they were warping with some compliance too eagerly to a combination with the emperor, who was then in contest with the pope, about vindicating his temporal power in Italy, and else-where, from the unjust encroachments made upon it by that see. Which his holiness decrying, wrapt them up in those pretended crimes, as the Roman persecutors did the ancient christians, in the skins of beasts, that they might more easily be devoured. Upon this their dissolution, their house here at Temple Ewell, was given to the knights of St. John baptist of Jerusalem, an order rather restored than instituted by one Girardus, whose vow was almost coincident in all the ingredients of it, with that of the knights templers. And in their demean did this place lie wound up, until the final dissolution, in the reign of Henry the eighth; and then being linked to the revenue of the crown, it was fixed there until the sixth year of Edward the sixth, and then it was granted to William Cavendish, Esquire, and he the same year conveyed it to Christopher Sackvill, and Winefrid his wife, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth alienated it to John Daniell, who about the latter end of that princess, dying without issue-male, his estate here devolved to his two daughters and co-heirs, married to Mab and Wiseman, who both concurred, and by joint consent alienated the propriety of this place, about the beginning of king James, to Mr. Robert Bromley, who conveyed it to Mr. .... Angell of London, whose son John Angell of Crowherst, Esquire, in Surry, is now entituled to the fee-simple of it.

Borestall Banks in this parish, was, as high as any evidences do lead us to discover, part of the ancient patrimony of the illustrious family of Diggs of Diggs-court in Barham. John de Digge, of this family, was alderman of Canterbury in the year 1258, and was a great benefactor to the Franciscans, who were newly seated at Canterbury, and purchased for their support, an island called Binnewith, in that city; and from this John de Digge, did descend Roger de Digge, who paid respective aid at the making the Black Prince knight, for his lands at Berham, and other places in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and died seized of this manor, in the third year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 19. John Diggs his successor, was sheriff of Kent, in the second year of Henry the fourth, and John Diggs was sheriff of this county, the fourth of Edward the fourth, and this man's son, who also bore his name, was sheriff of Kent in the eleventh year of Henry the seventh. Briefly, after it had for many descents owned the interest of this family, it was in the tenth year of queen Elizabeth conveyed away by sale to Stokes, in which family the possession was permanent, until of very late time, and then it was alienated to captain Temple of Dover.

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F.

EAST-FARLEIGH lies in the hundred of Maidston, and was given to the prior and monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, by Ediva the queen, mother of the two kings Eadred and Edmund, in the year 941, and was, as Mr. Lambert, out of some old records conjectures, to find the convent with eel-pies. If you will see how it was rated in the Conqueror's time, Domesday Book will tell you that Farnelege est manerium monachorum, & est de cibo eorum, & in tempore Edwardi Regis se defendebat pro VI. Sullingis, & est appretiatum XXII lb. This manor, upon the resignation of the revenue of the abovementioned cloister, coming to the crown, king Henry the eighth, in the thirty-fourth year of his reign, granted this and West-Farleigh, which was given to the priory of Christ-church, by the queen Eleanor, in exchange for the port of Sandwich; which donation of hers, Edward the first, (as the book of Christ-church informs me) fully ratified and confirmed, and likewise devolved from the crown, upon the former surrender, to Sir Thomas Wiatt, who was then one of his privy council, and remained entwined with his demean, until his unfortunate attaint and tragedy, in the second year of queen Mary, brought

them back, as escheated and forfeited to the crown; and then that princess the same time, granted the manor of West-Farleigh, and the site and demean of East-Farleigh to her attorney general Sir John Baker, who dying in the first year of queen Elizabeth, gave East-Farleigh to his second son Mr. John Baker, and West-Farleigh to his son and heir Sir Richard. John Baker had issue Sir Richard Baker, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, passed away East-Farleigh to Sir ..... Vane of Burstow in Hunton, in whose descendants, the propriety of it continues, at this instant; but West-Farleigh devolved by descent from the abovesaid Sir Richard, to his great grandchild Sir John Baker, baronet, who hath very lately conveyed it by sale to Mr. Robert Newton of London, Grocer. †

Smiths Hill in East-Farleigh, hath been ever since the reign of Henry the sixth, the residence of the Brewers; though that seat where they were anciently planted before was Brewers in Merworth, which was a mansion entituled to the possession of this family some hundred of years, and from whence William de Brewer did originally issue out, who was lieutenant of Dover-castle, under king John, to whom that king directs a special *præcipe* or command to deliver that important fortress to Hubert de Burgh, lord warden of the cinque ports, as appears, Pat. 17. Reg. Joannis memb. 2. Num. 102. This I rather mention, to manifest that this family anciently, as now, hath been under no contemptible character in this county.

Totesham Hall lies within the limits of West-Farleigh, and was the mansion of a family of eminent rank in this track. John de Totesham was one of the recognitores *magnæ assisæ*, as appears by the pipe rolls, in the reign of king John, and he was grandfather to John de Totesham, who held this seat at his decease, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 17, taken in the fifth year of Edward the third. And from him did it, in an uneven channel of successive interest, come down to Anthony Totesham, Esquire, the last of this name, at this place, who about the latter end of Henry the eighth alienated this and Henherst in Yalding to Chapman, in which family the possession dwelt, until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was by the same conveyance passed away to Lawrence, from which name not many years since, it went away by purchase to Augustine Skinner, Esquire, descended from an ancient family of the Skinners in Lincolnshire, and now by this new acquisition transplanted into Kent.

FARNINGHAM, in the hundred of Clackstan, vulgarly called Acstane, with the moiety of Chartons, was in the time of the Conqueror, held of the archbishop of Canterbury, by Ansgodus Rubitoniensis, that that is, Ansgod de Rosse, and was rated in Domesday book at one sulling or plough land, as it was before in the reign of

† The manor of East-Farleigh, of vast extent, was lately sold by the state to colonel Robert Gibbons.

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Edward the confessor. But this name of Rosse determining here about the end of Henry the third, it came afterwards to be the patrimony of Fremingham, and Ralph de Fremingham obtained a charter of free-warren to this manor, in the fifty-fifth year of Henry the third, after whom it descended fortified and fenced in with this new acquired privilege, to John de Fremingham, who was first assistant to John de Malmain of Faukham, not far distant, in his office of sheriff, which was in the tenth of Edward the second, and was afterwards sheriff of this county himself, in the twelfth year, and then again in the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the above-mentioned prince, and died possessed of Farningham, in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 145. parte secunda. Ralph de Fremingham, this man's son, was sheriff of Kent, the thirty-second of Edward the third, and in the twentieth year of that prince, paid an auxiliary contribution, at making the Black Prince knight, for lands conveyed over to him by his father, and whose tenure was in knights service, and lay in this parish, and held them at his decease, which was in the thirty-eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 19. This man's son and heir was John Fremingham, who was one of the conservators of the peace of this county, in the first year of Richard the second, and sheriff of Kent in the second year of that prince, and afterwards had the custody of this county again, in the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, but died without issue; so that Ann his sister, married to Roger Isley of Sundrich became his heir; and so Farningham was with her, brought to acknowledge the interest of this family, from whom it devolved to



John Isley, whose widow Alice Isley, died possessed of Farningham, in right of jointure, in the first year of Henry the eighth, and from her it devolved to her son Thomas Isley, and he died seized of it in the eleventh year of Henry the eighth, and it was found at his decease, that it was held in knight's service of Dover-castle, by the payment of a rent service, of twenty-one shillings per annum, and had the estimate of a whole knight's fee. ‡ After him his son Sir Henry Isley succeeded in the possession of this place, and being unfortunately convicted of high treason in the second year of queen Mary, Farningham and Chartons escheated to the crown, and that princess, in the same year, granted them back to his son William Isley, Esquire, and he in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, by a deed enrolled in chancery, passes away Farningham and the moiety of Chartons, to William Roper, Esquire, grandfather to Sir Anthony Roper, and Mr. Henry Roper, from whom, upon a will made by his brother Sir Anthony Roper, wherein he devises the fee-simple to Sir John Cotton of Lanwade in Cambridgeshire baronet; (descended from a generous and knightly family of that surname, who, as appears by deeds, muniments and ancient sepulchral inscriptions, have been resident in that county, almost four hundred years) who after a serious and solemn decision at law, is by verdict enstated in the possession of it.

The other moiety of Chartons, gave surname to a family who held it, as appears by Testa de Nevil, in the twentieth year of Henry the third. In times of a lower descent, it was the possession of a good old family called Groveherst. William de Groveherst paid respective aid for it, at making the Black Prince knight; and from him it devolved to his successor Richard Groveherst, who in the reign of Henry the fourth, determined in three daughters and co-heirs, married to Richard Tickhill, Richard Hextall, and John Petit, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, passed one moiety of it to John Martin, whose successor and descendant Edward Martin passed it away with Franks, mentioned in Horton Kirkby, in whose revenue it lies now couched, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, to alderman Bathurst, from whom, with Franks, it is now devolved by descent to be the inheritance of Sir Edward Bathurst.

Ralph de Fremingham obtained a weekly market to his manor of Farningham, on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly to continue for four days, the vigil, the day of St. Peter and Paul, and two days after, by grant from Henry the third, in the fifty-fifth year of his reign, Pat. an. 55. Hen. 3. Memb. 12. Which grant was renewed and confirmed to John de Fremingham, in the seventh and eighth years of Richard the second.

‡ This service if it were pecuniary, as this was, it was called ad wardam, and was a tenure in free socage; if personal it was stiled per wardam, and was a tenure in knights service.

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Chimbham is another manor in this parish, which did give name to a family of that appellation, for I find in the Book of Aid, that when John de Fremingham, pays aid for his manors of Farningham and Chimbham, there is a recital of Lawrence de Chimbham, which formerly held it in the reign of Henry the third. But it is evident both by that record, and by the inquisition taken after his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, that John de Fremingham held it, and transmitted it to his son Ralph de Fremingham, whose son and heir John Fremingham, dying without issue, Anne his sister entered upon the possession of this, as his next heir, and brought it with her to her husband Roger Isley of Sundridge. And so this family became concerned in it, and kept their interest here until the reign of Henry the seventh, and then it was passed away to Sibill of Littlemoat in Ainsford; in which name the propriety had not long been wrapt up, when this family found its sepulchre in a female heir. For Edward Sibill, the last of this name, resolved into a daughter and heir, married to Hide; and he not many years since, conveyed it by sale, to alderman Bunce of London.

FAIRFIELD, in the hundred of Langport, was given to the church of Christ-church in Canterbury, by St. Edmund archbishop of Canterbury, and chancellor of the university of Oxford, about the year 1238, and more to fortify the donation affixed his seal, (Sigillo suo confirmavit, says the records of Christ-church) to the original grant. This upon the suppression, was upon the institution of the dean and

chapter of Canterbury, by Henry the eighth, confirmed by grant to them.

FAUKHAM, in the hundred of Acstane, was the seat, and gave the surname to an ancient family called Faukham. The first whom I find upon record is Walloran de Faukham, who flourished here in the reign of Henry the second, as appears by the book called Nova Feoffamenta, taken in that prince's reign, and kept in the exchequer. Afterwards, in times of a more modern date, it acknowledged the signory of the lord Grandison, baron of Ferneborough, and Otho de Grandison is said, in the book of Aid, with Gilbert de Kikbie, to have held one knight's fee in Faukham, of the bishop of Rochester, which Rose de Faukham and William de St. Clere of Ferd in Wrotham formerly held, and this Otho lord Grandison held it at his death, which was in the thirty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 41, and left it to his son Thomas Grandison, who died without issue in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 36. So that his estate here, and in other places, was divided between his sisters and co-heirs; whereof this came to be possessed by Sir John Northwood, in right of Agnes one of his sisters, from whom by a constant line of succession, it was guided down to his son Sir Roger Northwood, who was extinguished in a female heir, called Albina Northwood, married to John Diggs, Esquire, of Diggs-court in Berham, who was sheriff of Kent, in the second year of Henry the fourth, and so in her right, this manor devolved to this family, and lay couched in their estate until the latter end of Henry the eighth; and then it was passed away to Barham, of Barham-court in Teston. In which name the propriety had not been long resident, when Thomas Barham, Esquire, concluded in a daughter and heir called Anne, who was married to Sir Oliver Boteler, who cast this into his revenue, from whom it is now come down to Sir Oliver Boteler baronet, only son of Sir William Boteler, slain at Cropredy bridge, in asserting the royal quarrel.

FRENDSBURY, in the hundred of Shamell, hath several places in it worthy of our cognisance. The first is Eslingham, which was given to the church of St. Andrews in Rochester, by Kenulfus king of Mercia, as the book called Textus Roffensis informs me; but by the registers of that church, I find that John de St. Clere, held it in the lease of the convent, about the ninth year of Edward the third; and after him a family called Neal, who had large possessions about Higham, were lessees to the cloister. In the sixth year of Henry the sixth, I find John Rykeld held it, and kept his shrievalty at this place; after him a family called Frogenhall, was by right of lease in the reign of Henry the seventh, possessed of it, but upon the suppression of this monastery of St. Andrews, in the twenty-ninth year of

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Henry the eighth, this manor was found to be leased to Audley and Fisher; and then the fee-simple in reversion was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell earl of Essex; who being by the malice of his enemies, who had raised all their black engines of mischief upon him, aspersed with the calumnious reproach of high treason, was attainted in the thirty-second year of Henry the eighth, and made a peace-offering to the fury of his irreconcilable adversaries; then this, by escheat, returns back to the crown; after which that prince, by his royal concession, makes it the inheritance of Sir William Drury of Norfolk, in which family it remained, until times of our knowledge and remembrance, and then the interest was by sale, translated into Henry Clerk, Esquire, serjeant at law, and late recorder of Rochester, from whom it is now come down to his son and heir Francis Clerk, Esquire, collaterally descended from that eminent soldier Sir John Clerk of Willoughby in Warwickshire, who took Lewis de Orleans duke of Longueville prisoner, in that memorable encounter commenced between Bomy and Spours, villages not far distant from Terowan or Terwin, in the fifth year of Henry the eighth, which was signally testified by that prince, when by this favour and command, there was annexed this augmentation to his paternal coat, viz. upon a canton azure, a demy ram salient argent, armed or, between two flower de lis of the last, over all a batton or truncheon (which intimates to us, that that captive duke, was one of the marshalls of France) dexterways in bend, of the second.

Chaddington is a second place of account, and represents to our remembrance, the lords of Cobham, who were in elder times, lords of the fee. John de Cobham died seized of it, in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 42.

And from this John, did it successively flow down to Henry lord Cobham, who was attainted in the first year of king James, upon whose conviction, this manor es= cheated to the crown; and that prince some few years after, granted it to his kins= man Lodowick duke of Lenox; but he dying without issue, it descended to his nephew James duke of Lenox lately deceased, whose dutchess dowager during the minority of the duke, her son, holds the present enjoyment of it.

Goddington is a third place which calls for our consideration; it was parcel of the patrimony of the ancient family of Charles. Robert Charles, who was possessed of land about Hilden in Tunbridge, and was bailiff of the forest or chase there to Robert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, was seized of it at his death, which was in the twenty-ninth year of Edward the first, Rot Esc. Num. 74. From whom it de= volved to Nicholas Charles, who dying without issue in the eleventh year of Richard the second, Alice one of his sisters and co-heirs brought this to be the in= heritance of William Snaith, sheriff of Kent in the ninth year of king Henry the fourth, descended from William de Snaith, who was made chancellor of the king's exchequer, during pleasure, in the time of Edward the third; but this family like= wise going out in a daughter and heir, she by marrying with Watton, whose an= cestor held lands at Rydley near Ash, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, annexed it to the income of that family, in which name the title hath ever since, by an even and permanent succession resided.

Wainscot is the last place of any eminence. It was a branch which was engrafted upon that demean which fell under the signory of the Colepepers of Alresford. Walter Colepeper of Preston in that parish, held it at his death, which was in the first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 80. And into the patrimony of this family did the right of it, by a succession of many descents, even seem to have been riveted, having continued constant to this name, from the abovementioned Walter Colepeper, until the reign of queen Elizabeth; and then it was alienated to Ran= dolph, from which family, in times which were within the circle of our fathers re= membrance, it passed away by sale to Somers, descended from William Somer, chan= cellor of the exchequer in the reign of Henry the sixth, who held much land in the hundred of Hoo, whose son not many years since passed it away to Mr. Robinson of Rochester.

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FRENSTED, in the hundred of Eyhorne, was honoured anciently, by being parcel of the patrimony of the noble family of Crombwell, written so in elder times, though since a softer pronunciation hath been quilted into the name, so that in times of a more modern aspect, it hath been written Cromwell, who had here a seat called now Merium-court, but in elder orthography written Mereham-court. The first of this family whom I find possessed of it, was John de Crombwell, who in the eighth year of Edward the second, as Sir Henry Spelman, in his Glossary, in the word Banneretus, cites the record out of the office of the Pell, was written Banneret. Now what these Bannerets were, I shall briefly unfold; they were formerly called Vex= illiferi, because their investiture anciently was, by delivering to them a guidon, which was nothing but a pennon cut off at the end, which before flowed out into an acute angle, and now was fashioned and composed into a square. And as anciently, thirteen knights fees, did in the vulgar estimate, make up a tenure per barionam; so did ten knights fees compose a banneret, out of which he was (whensoever the affairs of the prince did require) to bring into the field twelve or sixteen chevaliers or horsemen, and those persons of no cheap or inconsiderable account, but such as could (as Sir Henry Spelman notes, ex prædiis & peculio proprio) out of their own patrimony, equip, horse and furniture of arms, proportionate to the service they were to be embarked in.

But to proceed; Ralph de Crombwell, son of the abovesaid John, in the ninth year of Edward the second, obtained a charter of free-warren, to his lands here at Frensted and Meriam-court, but his family, after the grant of this franchise, did not long possess their inheritance here; for Richard de Crombwell, this man's son, about the beginning of Edward the third, passed it away to Hugh Girund, in whom the title was as fickle and volatile; for he determining in Mawd his sole daughter and heir, she by marrying with Henry de Chalfhunt, made it his patrimony, and he in his wife's right, was seized of it at his death, which was in the forty-ninth year

of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 14, and in this family, did the propriety of Meriam-court, and other lands at Frensted, continue invested until the entrance of Henry the sixth; and then it was passed away to Hadde, now called Hadds, and William Hadde held Meriam-court, and the land annexed to it here at Frensted at his decease, which was in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the sixth, and in this family was the possession constantly resident, until that age which fell within the circle of our grandfathers knowledge; and then it was conveyed to Archer, from which family, some few years since, it went off by sale to Thatcher.

Yokes-court is another ancient seat in Frensted, which, as high as any beam, either of publick record, or private muniments, can conduct me to a discovery, I find, acknowledged the noble family of Northwood, and owned the interest of that family, until the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third, and then Roger de Northwood dying without issue-male, bequeathed it to his only daughter and heir, Albina Northwood; who by marrying with John Digge, of Diggs-court in Berham, united this seat to the interest of that name and family, and they, to keep life in her memory, (a small preferment beyond the fate of human frailty) that had improved their paternal inheritance with so great a supplement of additional estate, erected a fair monument over her ashes in Berham church, adorned it with a French epitaph, which instructs the reader, whose dust sleeps beneath the marble repository. Indeed in this act, this family seemed to be corivals with the Egyptians, who expended more upon the structure of their tombs than houses, because they knew they were to dwell longer in them. But I have digressed. I now proceed; thus have you seen how this seat fell under the signory of Diggs, and the succeeding records of this family will inform you, that the title made its abode in this name, until almost that age we call our fathers; and then it was transmitted by sale to Archer, from whom not many years since, a fatality like the former, hath now brought it to be the possession of Thatcher.

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FEVERSHAM affords a name to the whole hundred wherein it is placed. In the year 812, in the charter of Kenulf king of Mercia, it is called the king's little town. It seems it was of no big dimension then, though it be multiplied and swoln into a greater bulk since; yet, as small as it was, Athelstan in the year 903, held a public moot or great counsel here, (which assemblies, since the Normans entering here, were termed parliaments) and enacted several laws in this convention. Probably enough, it belonged to the crown in elder times, and was a manor-house of the kings; for William the Conqueror (as the records of St. Austins testify) gave the advowson of the church, to that abby, in the year 1072, and the manor itself to a Norman, in recompence of some signal service. But when king Stephen resolved to erect the abby there, he compounded with William de lpre, earl of Kent, and gave him the manor of Lilly-church in exchange for it, and his queen Matilda, raised a stately monastery which she stored with monks, of the order of St. Bennet, which were brought thither by Clarembald the first abbot, from the abby of St. Mary's, at Bermondsey in Southwark, and procured a letter to be writ from Peter Abbot of that place, to absolve and release them from all obedience, to the order of the Cluniacs. And here was king Stephen, Matilda his wife, and Eustace earl of Boloign, his son, lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover-castle solemnly interred. Of which former king it is observed, that though his reign was rough and tempestuous, by reason of his perpetual debates and contests, with Mawd the empress and her son, concerning the title, yet were there more religious convents erected in his rule than either before or after; which made it appear, though the times were bad they were not impious. And certainly, from the uneven and imperfect prospect, which those times, folded up in the flame and smoak of civil war, have afforded us of this prince, and of his sway of the scepter, we may conclude that in all things, he was fit to be a king, but that he was one. Thorne the chronicler relates two contests that happened between the monks of St. Augustins and others; the first was between them and king John, animated by Hughbert archbishop of Canterbury, touching the right of patronage of the church of St. Mary Charity at Feversham. The king apprehending the advowson of the church belonged to him, or at least made to believe so by the archbishop, presents a clerk to the church, and commands his presentment should be received, which they not only disobeyed, but ejected the clerk, and sent diverse of their monks to

maintain the possession of the church by strong hand. Which the king understanding, commanded Reginald de Cornhill the sheriff, to disseise them and restore his presented clerk, which he, in order to the king's injunction, not without a vigorous resistance by the monks, effected. Upon which, the monks complain to Stephen the popes legate, who then was there journeying to Rome, and in his way sojourned at their cloister. And he compassionating their condition, advised them to send their prior to Rome, least the power of the see apostolick might, by this affront and inroad upon it, be trampled under foot. Hereupon the pope, upon advertisement received, issues out a commission to understand the matter in debate; but the monks upon a serious debate with themselves, knowing the king's impetuous temper, found out a more compendious method for an accommodation, and presented the king with two hundred marks in a purse, and a meet palfrey for his saddle, by which donative they so endeared the king, that they obtained restitution of their right, and made him for the future, their gracious patron.

Another conflict fell out after this, between the abbot, and mayor and burgers of this town, about some intrusions and encroachments made by the townsmen, as was pretended, upon the franchises of the church. You may be sure Thorn who relates it, is warped with a partial engagement to his own fraternity, and with that caution you may read him. Upon the dissolution made in the reign of Henry the eighth, this manor with all its privileges returned to the crown, and lay incorporated with its revenue until the reign of king Charles. And then it was granted to Sir Dudley Diggs of Chilham castle, who not long after settled it on his second son Mr. Jo. Digg, who not long since demised it to Sir George Sonds of Leeze-court.

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Fishbourne, in this parish, is an ancient manor, from whence a family of that surname borrowed its appellation. One John de Fishbourn was a witness to that charter, by which a place called Messewell was given to Feversham abbey, in the reign of Henry the second. Afterwards, in the reign of Edward the third, I find the Dreylonds to be possessed of it, but their ancient seat was at Cokesditch in this parish. For in a deed dated the twenty-fifth year of Edward the third, John the son of Stephen Dreylond, whereby he demises some land in a place called Crouchfield, to William Makenade, writes himself of Cokesditch; and in this family did the interest of Fishbourne continue, until the beginning of Henry the eighth. And then it was alienated to Simons, to which name the title hath remained constantly allied to this day. Nor was Cokesditch fixed in Dreylond by a tenure more permanent, for Katharine, sole heir of Sir Richard Dreylond, was married to Reginald Norton of Milton, Esquire, and so with her both the name and propriety of this place were entombed in this family; and this Reginald, upon his decease, gave it to his second son William Norton, and from him successively was it transmitted to others of that line, until those times which confined upon our fathers remembrance; and then it was alienated to Parsons, who was not long seated in his new acquisitions, but he conveys it away to Ashton, by whose daughter and heir it is lately transplanted into Buck.

FRITTENDEN, in the hundred of Cranbroke, resolves itself into several places which call for our notice. The first is Comden. It was clasped up within the revenue of the priory of Leeds, until the storm or hurricane rather, in the reign of Henry the eighth, threw it into the demean of the crown. And then that prince, in the thirty-second year of his reign, conveyed it by grant to Sir Walter Henley, and he in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, transmitted it by his deed to Sir John Baker, whose successor Sir John Baker, even in those times which entrenched on our remembrance, passed it away to Mr. .... Cleyton of London.

Bewper is the second place of account in this parish. It was in elder times an appendage or fragment of that demean, which did contribute to the support of the abby of Feversham, and upon the suppression of that cloister or seminary, by Henry the eighth, it was in the thirty-fifth year of that prince's reign, granted to Sir Thomas Moil, who not long after passed it away to Robert Prat. And his son Mr. Francis Prat, primo Elizabethæ, by fine conveyed it to Mr. Edward Bathurst, who not many years after, transplanted his interest here by sale into Sir Richard Baker, ancestor to Sir John Baker of Sisinghurst, baronet, who now by paternal

succession, is entitled to the instant signory of it.

Wallinghurst and Buckhurst are two petty manors, which belonged to the abby of Feversham, but upon the suppression of that convent, they were pared off, and by grant from Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, were enstated upon Thomas lord Cromwell earl of Essex. But long he was not endowed with them; for in the thirty-second year of that prince's government, he was bespattered and blasted with an accusation of high treason, which the subtlety of his adversaries had woven so closely together that he was entangled in it; and being attainted, forfeited both his life and estate to the fury, I cannot say justice, of an incensed prince; amongst the ruins of his patrimony, these two places were comprehended, and upon his shipwreck it returned to the crown. And then king Henry the eighth, by a new grant in the same year they escheated, passed them away to Sir John Baker of Sisingherst in Cranebroke, from whom they are now come down to Sir John Baker baronet, his successor.

Upper Peasridge was involved in that spacious inheritance, which fell under the dominion of the lord Badelesmer, of whom I shall speak more at Leeds, and when he by his disloyalty hath forfeited both life and fortune to the crown, this was enwrapped in the escheat, but was restored in the second year of Edward the third to Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, this man's son, and he in the twelfth year of that prince, held it at his death, Rot. Esc. Num. 44. But Giles his only brother dying without issue, his great estate was split into parcels, and this with some more of his

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demean was allotted to Maud his sister and co-heir, who was married to John Vere earl of Oxford, and he in her right was possessed of it at his death, which was in the thirty fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 84. And in this family did it reside until the beginning of Henry the fourth, and then it was passed away by sale to St. Leger, to whose patrimony it remained annexed until the government of Philip and Mary; and then an alienation like the former, brought it over to Lone, descended from the Lones of Lancashire, where there is yet a house of the name; and being thus fixed in this family, the possession continues still united to it.

FORDWICH, in the hundred of West-gate, was given to the abbot and monks of St. Austins (as the annals of the convent testify) by king Edward the confessor, and was given ad vestitum, for reparation of their apparel. And there is a tradition, that Hemp-Hall which was an appendage to this manor, did pay a quit-rent in hemp: but certainly it must be then for the use of those secular persons which related as officers and servants to this cloister; for the monks themselves being under the rule of Bennet, harrowed their skin with shirts of hair, and slept vestiti in their apparel, the more to tame and control the mutinies and disorders of the flesh. But to advance: After this manor (which the piety of former ages had planted in the revenue of the church) had for a large decursion of time, owned no other proprietor, it was by the dissolution, in the twenty ninth of Henry the eighth, emptied into the income of the crown, where it lay, until Edward the sixth, in the seventh year of his reign, granted it to Sir Thomas Cheyney, and he not long after, alienated his concern in it to John Johnson, from whom it came over by purchase to Paramour, who passed it away to the lady Elizabeth Finch, widow of Sir Moile Finch; whose son Thomas Finch earl of Winchelsea, almost in our memory, passed it away to John Finch baron of Fordwich, late lord keeper of the great seal of England, in the year 1640, and in him does the instant signory of it reside.

FOLKSTONE does contribute a name to the hundred in which it is situated. The manor itself with the manor of Walton, was given to the nunnery of Eadbald king of Kent, which it seems was of that repute in those times, that Eanswide his daughter was there veiled a nun, under the rule of St. Bennet; and Ermenred and Ercombert his sons, changed their hopes of a crown into those of one more celestial, and folded up all their earthly glories in a monastick cowl, which they assumed at this place, under the discipline of St. Bennet. But this cloister was some ages after, partly by the fury of the Danes, and partly by the impressions of the sea, reduced into a heap of ruins; so that in the reign of William the conqueror, Nevil de Mundeville laid the foundations of a new priory in another place of the town; which was much augmented afterwards by William de Averanches, who had married his only daughter. But it seems upon the former devastation of this religious seminary,

the manor had returned to the crown: for in the year 1038, Canutus restored to Christ church in Canterbury (as the records of that convent do intimate) this manor of Folkston, which Athelstan, son of king Edward, in the year 928, had formerly granted to them for the health of his father's soul, and to the honour of Ulfhelme arch-priest of Canterbury, but with this restriction he limits and bounds this his concession, that this manor thus returned to the church, should never be alienated by the archbishop without the consent of the king and the convent of Christ church, who, it appears, joined with William the Conqueror and the archbishop of Canterbury, and fastened it again to this priory, where it remained until it was torn away by the suppression, in the time of Henry the eighth, and annexed to the crown: afterwards that prince, in the thirtieth year of his reign, transplanted his interest in it and Walton, by grant into Edward lord Clinton, and he the same year passed them away to Thomas lord Cromwell earl of Essex, who being attainted in the thirty second year of the abovesaid prince, the property of Folkston and Walton returned to the crown, and resided in the royal patrimony, until the second year of queen Mary, and then they were regranted to Edward lord Clinton abovesaid, who not long after conveyed them to Mr. Henry Herdson, whose grandchild Mr. Francis Herdson, alienated them to his uncle Mr. John Herdson, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth;

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and he upon his decease (without any lawful issue) gave them to his nephew Sir Basill Dixwell, knight and baronet, descended from the ancient family of Dixwell in the north riding of Yorkshire; who likewise making his exit without any lawful issue, Mark Dixwell, Esquire, his nephew, became his heir, and from him is the property of both these places descended to his son and heir Basil Dixwell, Esquire.

The nunnery of Folkston abovesaid, being much defaced, was in the time of Henry the third, re-edified and re-established by John de Clinton, John de Segrave and Julian his wife; which was upon this second erection stored with nuns, who were to live as formerly, under the rule of St. Bennet, and dedicated to St. Peter and St. Eanswith. But when it was found, in the second year of Henry the fifth, that it related by foreign dependance, to the abby of Lonley in Normandy, it was by that prudent and cautious monarch suppressed.

There were five churches anciently in Folkston, three of which were dedicated to St. Peter, St. Mary, and St. Paul; all which, and one more, whose name is not now obvious, were long since by the assaults of the elements and devastations of men, utterly dismantled: only that which was erected in the year 1095, by Nigellus de Muneville, and devoted to St. Mary and St. Eanswith, hath been too hard a morsel for the teeth of time to consume.

Folkston had the grant of a market procured to be held here weekly on the Thursday, by the mediation of Geoffrey Fitz Peter, in the sixth year of king John, which was confirmed to William de Averanches, in the sixteenth year of the abovesaid prince, and renewed to Sir John Segrave, in the twenty second year of Edward the third, **for two markets, one on the Tuesday and the other on the Thursday.**

Richard the second granted to Sir John Clinton, that a market should be observed weekly at Folkston, on the Wednesday, and a fair yearly on the vigil and day of St. Giles, as appears Pat. 13. Richardi secundi memb. 14. pars 2.

Eabald king of Kent, about 1000 years since, built a castle at the south part of this town of Folkston, which being shrunk into decay, William de Averanches erected a fort in the year 1068, on the foundation of the formerly demolished pile, whose ruinous shell or skeleton is yet visible.

I have seen a leaf by some injurious hand torn out from the Leger book of Folkston, which sets forth the entertainment which the family of Poynings were to have, when they came to hear mass at the priory; a subtle artifice used by the monks of that age, to catch the benevolence of the noblest and opulent families of the nation, that certainly (had not the statute of mortmain, or law of amortization made in the seventh year of Edward the first, restrained and contracted the unlimited bounty of the laity to these religious cloisters) almost all the land which was of secular interest, had been ingulphed in the revenue of the church; so that, as one well observes, this over active and operative devotion, would have dedicated all to God, and have left little or nothing to have given to Cæsar.

Terlingham and Ackhanger, were the patrimony, as high as the reign of the Conqueror, (as Domesday instructs us) of William de Muneville, the repairer and restorer, if not founder and establisher of Folkston priory. By whose daughter and heir they devolved to William de Averanches, who had issue William de Averanches, in whom the male line failed, so that Matilda de Averanches, his sole heir, by marrying Hamon de Crevequer, baron of Leeds castle, made them parcel of his demesne; who by his addition, so swelled his estate, that he was stiled the great lord of Kent, and was of that esteem in this county, that by a general consent and counsel of the barons of the cinque ports, the custody of the sea coast from Hastings to Pool was committed to his care and inspection, Pat. 19. Hen. tertii memb. 14. And he held these manors at his death, which was in the forty seventh year of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 33. And he left them to his son Hamon de Crevequer, who was enwrapt in the faction and rebellion of Simon de Montfort, earl of Leicester, raised against Henry the third; but was, by that act of oblivion and clemency, stiled Dictum de Kenilworth, passed by that prince in the fiftieth year of his reign, called to mercy, and to most part of his

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estate, excepting Leeds-castle, Bersted, Chetham, and some other pieces, but died without issue; so that Eleanor, married to Bertram de Crioll, Juliana first married to Nicholas de Sandwich, and secondly to Roger de Segrave, and two others who were married to Lenham, and Pateshull, became, as they were his four sisters, his four co-heirs. And upon the partition of the estate, these two manors came over to be the patrimony of Crioll, and Bertram de Crioll abovementioned held them at his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 48, and left them to John his only son, who dying childless, Joan his sister, married to Sir Richard de Rokesley, became his heir; but he determining likewise in a female heir called Joan, she by espousing Sir Thomas de Poynings, father of Michael de Poynings of Terlingham, ranged these places under the demesne of that family, in which they remained, until the latter end of Henry the seventh; and then Sir Edward Poynings gave them in dower, with Mary his natural daughter, to Thomas lord Clinton, whose son Edward lord Clinton, about the beginning of queen Mary, by sale passed them away to Herdsons, from whom by testament they came over to Dixwell, in which family the possession of them is still permanent.

Morehall is a small manor in this parish, to which William de Valentia obtained a charter of privileges, in the twenty-seventh year of Henry the third. After him I find the Morehalls to be possessors of it, who ingrafted their own name upon it; and John de Morehall paid respective aid, at the making the Black Prince knight, for his manor of Morehall, in the twentieth of Edward the third. After this family was extinct, the Bakers of Caldham, about the reign of Henry the fourth, were invested in the possession, and not many years after, Brandred, by one of the co-heirs of Baker, became lord of the fee; from which family, by sale, it passed away to Sir Thomas Brown, from whom descended Sir Matthew Brown knight, who in our grandfathers memory conveyed his right in it to Godman, who is still lord of the fee.

Hope-house in Folkston, belonged to the Houghams, a noble and knightly family inhabiting at Hougham, not far distant, and Robert de Hougham died seized of it in the forty-first year of Henry the third. In the reign of Edward the second, I find the Clintons possessed of it, and William de Clinton, earl of Huntington, died seized of it in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the third; and from him it descended to his kinsman John de Clinton, great grandfather to John lord Clinton, who about the beginning of Henry the seventh, sold it away to Davis, from which family by a daughter, and partly by purchase, it came over to Lessington, and he in our fathers remembrance, alienated his concern in it to Hopday, whose son is the instant possessor of it.

Bredmer or Berdmer, is the last place worthy any consideration. It is partly situated in Folkston, and partly in Cheriton. That there was a family of this name, was most certain; for in ancient deeds and court-rolls of Valoigns, who was lord of Cheriton after Scotton, I find frequent mention of several of this name, who held land of this family. But in the Book of Aid, I find William de Brockhull



held the fourth part of a knight's fee in Cheriton, which was this, in the twentieth year of Edward the third. From this name, by Elizabeth heir of Thomas Brock=hull, it came to be the possession of Richard Selling, Esquire, and here it rested until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away to Edmund Inmith, a retainer to Thomas lord Clinton, who gave it to his second son Edmund Inmith, and he was extinguished in two daughters and co-heirs; one was married to Reyner, and the other to Baker, who in her right shared this place, and in the reign of king James, passed it away by sale to Ben, who holds the instant possession of it.

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G.

DEPTFORD, in the hundred of Blackheath, and Lath of Sutton at Hone, so called from the deep channel of Ravensbourne. The river that here slideth into the Thames, was heretofore called West-Greenwich, from the turning of the river Thames in such a crooked compass, and the green meadows adjacent. Gisle=bert Magminot or Magminiot, for he was a great favorite to William the Conqueror, was one of those eight barons and trustees, that were joined to John de Fiennes, for the sure guard of Dover-castle, and were assigned competent lands for the maintenance of that service; his castle or scite of his barony, hath been long time buried in its own ruins, yet some remains of stony foundations, make me conjecture it stood near Says-court in Bromfield, upon the brow of the Thames bank, near the Mast Dock where the skeleton of Sir Francis Drake's ship was laid up, and in a very short time nothing left of her; but the fame of her captain and steersman, cannot perish, so long as history shall last.

But to return to the former subject, it may appear by the quire of Dover-castle, transmitted on record in the king's exchequer, that it had the reputation of a barony and these knight's fees were held of it.

Pevinton Kanc. duo feoda militum.  
Estswale Kanc. unum feodum militis.  
Davinton Kanc. duo feoda militum.  
Cuckleston alias Cuckston Kanc, unum feodum militis.  
Waldeswareschare Kanc. 3. feoda militum.  
Leckhamsted - Bucks unum feodum.  
Kennington - Hert. duo feoda militum.  
Gothurst Northampton unum feodum militis.  
Hertwell - Northampton duo feoda militum.  
Bradiston - Suffolk )  
> duo feoda militum.  
Hecchesham - Surry )  
Whitfield Kanc. unum feodum militis.  
Coudham - Kanc. duo feoda militis.  
Bredinghurst Kanc. unum feodum militis.  
Thornham, Kersoney, )  
> tria feoda militum.  
Bingbery, Kanc. )  
Brickhill - Bucks unum feodum militis.

Hac sunt feoda de Baronia de Magminot, quæ tenentur de Willielmo de Say, quæ ipse tenet de Rege per Baroniam: Et reddunt Wardam ad Castrum Dovorïæ. Per 32. Septimanas.

You may find mention of Walkelme Magminot, in the catalogue of the lord wardens. But the daughter and heir of this line was married to Say, from whom it came to be called Says-court, which name it still retaineth; and was by reason of the commodiousness of the meadow belonging to it, and stalls there erected, made a place, in the time of the late king, for feeding sheep and oxen, served by composition for the king's house.

William duke of Suffolk, held the manor of West-Greenwich, and one messuage in Deptford, anno 29. Hen. 6. by West-Greenwich, which was meant by that which we now call Deptford Strand; and by Deptford, is meant the upper town, where a fair strong stone bridge, lately erected, doth acknowledge the sole royal bounty of king Charles, by this inscription.

'This bridge was re-edified at the only charge of king Charles, in the fourth year of his reign, anno Dom. 1628.' In former times it was repaired at the charge of the county adjacent. For I find by a record in the tower. Esc. Anno 20. Edw. 3. n. 66.

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Quod Reparatio Pontis de Depeford, pertinet ad homines Hundredi de Blackheath, & non ad homines Villarum de Eltham, Moding-ham, & Wolwich.

The treasurer of the navy hath here a commendable and convenient house for his residence at the dock, to view the building and repairing the state's ships, and what is most expedient for the manufacture of cordage, anchors, and other provisions for ships, by which means the town is so greatly increased in small tenements, and the statute for cottages, excepting market towns, and such places as are used for building of ships, that for number of inhabitants and communicants, it may compare with diverse counties in the kingdom; which great increase of the parish, caused them to new build another isle on the north side the church, to which the East-India company of merchants were good benefactors, and the chancel enlarged with beautiful additions, partly at the cost of Sir William Russell, knight and baronet, treasurer of the navy, and the circumspection of doctor Valentine, the late learned and worthy incumbent of the place.

Adjoining to the church, the company of navigators and seamen, incorporated by king Henry the eighth, have a hall or house for their meetings and consultations. Certainly the use of this society, is most considerable and commendable; for the common-wealth, upon all occasions, may from them receive necessary intelligence of all the roads, waterings, depths, and conveniences, of most part of the maritime places in the known world.

One thing more I have to mention; and that is Hacham, which was, in king Henry the second's time, the seat of Hacham, lying upon the confines of Kent and Kent-fields or Kent-lands, within this county; as Kent-Hatch in Westerham, is the very outside of this shire. As that place towards Surry, called Kent house, designs the bounderies of this county, between Bekenham and Croydon. Divers inquisitions, taken since that time, have found Hacham to be in Kent.

And I believe the manor of Bredingherst, before mentioned, was formerly in this shire, which is now slipt into Surry at Peckham Rey, in Camberwell. The reception of prisoners from the county of Surry, being for a good space used to be at New Cross, hath begot an opinion, that there was the outside of Kent; but those that will justly denote the Ambitus and bounds, must not think it begins at Kent-street, because it is so called of the road-way into Kent. Nor that Kentish town by Highgate, is part of this shire, though it partake of the customs of Gavel-kind. Nor at Sir Thomas Waterings, \* where the pilgrims to St. Thomas of Canterbury, that disobedient and pertinacious archbishop, watered their horses. But a small bridge beyond Hatcham, in the road to London, near which is a road or way to Bredingherst, which by an inquisition, taken in the seventh of king Richard the second, appeareth to be in Kent.

In the forty-third of Edward the third, † it appears, that the manor of Hachesham was granted to the prioress of Dertford, and many parcels of land that came by escheat, as held of that manor, lying in Surry, after the death of John, the son of John Adam, were confirmed to that foundation by the king; all which returning into the hands of Henry the eighth, upon the public suppression, this manor, with its appendages, was for ever settled by the crown, on the company or brotherhood of the Haberdashers in London.

East-Greenwich is the next town to Deptford, so called, because it standeth more eastward then the other, formerly spoken of. In Latin named Viridis Sinus, in Saxon Grenawic, that is, the green town, upon the turning creek of the river.

In the time of the Danes invasion, they often made their road at this place, and made it remarkable, by their cruelty shewed unto Ealpbeye, archbishop of Canterbury, whom in the year of our lord, one thousand and twelve, they cruelly executed with most exquisite torments, whose deaths together with the cause thereof, Ditmarus Mersepurgius, who about the same time lived, hath thus, in the eighth book of his chronicles described. I understood (saith he) by the relation of Sewald, a pitiful

deed, and therefore memorable, namely, that the perfidious crew of Norman soldiers, under Thurkill, as yet their captain, took that excellent prelate, archbishop of the city of Canterbury, named Ealphege, with the rest, and them after their wicked manner imprisoned and bound, yea and put him to endure famine, and unspeakable pains. This good man, moved with human frailty, promiseth unto them a sum of money, and for the obtaining thereof, did set down a time between; that if in this space, he could not by some acceptable ransom, escape this momentary death, he might yet in the mean while purge himself with many a groan, to be offered as a lively sacrifice unto the Lord.

But when as the time and space appointed were come and gone, this greedy gulph of pirates, called forth the servant of the Lord, and in threatening-wise demand this tribute promised unto them, to be speedily and out of hand paid. Then he, as a meek lamb, Here am I, quoth he, ready to undergo, (even for the love of Christ) whatsoever ye presume now to do against me, that I may deserve to become an example of his servants, and nothing am I troubled at this day. And whereas I seem unto you a liar, it is not my own will, but great need and poverty that hath done it. This body of mine, which in this exile I have loved over much, I present as culpable unto you; and I know it is in your power, to do with it what ye intend; but my sinful soul, that regardeth not you, I humbly commend to the creator of all things. As he was thus speaking, the whole rabble of these prophane wretches hemmed him round about, and getteth together diverse and sundry weapons to kill him; which when their leader Thurkill saw a far off, he came quickly running, and crying, do not so I beseech you, and here with my whole heart, I deliver unto you all my gold and silver, and whatsoever I have here, or can by any means come by, save my ship only, that you would not sin against the Lord's annointed. But this unbridled anger of his mates, harder then iron and flint, was nothing mollified with so gentle words, and fair language of his, but became only pacified by shedding his innocent blood, which presently they altogether confounded and blended with ox-heads, stones as thick as hail, and billets hurled at him.

And to the memory of this said Ealphege, is the parish church here consecrated. But far more splendid hath this sumptuous palace been, ever since Humphrey duke of Gloucester, brother to king Henry the fifth, builded the same, and called it Placence; and likewise the castle, and inclosed the park; for doing them both, he had the king's charter XI. Hen. VI. *Rex concedat quod Humfridus Dux Glocestriæ, & Elianora uxor ejus, possedent harnellare manerium suum de East-Greenwich, & imparcare CC. acras terræ inter manerium suum prædictum.* For it was not lawful for any man to fortify his house, or raise a castle or place of defence without licence from the crown, for fear of inward sedition; and was therefore inquirable before the escheat or in the twenty-fourth article of his office. *Item de Castellis & Dominicis Karnellatis sine Regis licencia.* The word having its derivation from Charneux, which in French signifieth the indented form of the top of a wall, which hath vent and crest, commonly called embattelling, because it was very serviceable in fight to the defendant within, who might at the loops or lower places, and other crannies in the walls and bulwarks, annoy the enemy that assailed the same, and might also shroud himself under the higher parts thereof.

Afterwards king Edward the fourth bestowed some cost, to enlarge this work. Henry the seventh followed and beautified the house, with the addition of the brick front to the water side. But king Henry the eighth, as he exceeded all his progenitors in setting up sumptuous houses, so he spared no cost in garnishing Greenwich.

Queen Ann, in the time of king James, builded that new brick-work towards the garden, and laid the foundation of the house of delight, towards the park, which queen Mary had so finished and furnished, that it far surpasseth all other of that kind in England.

In memory of the many camps that have been here, certain places within this parish, are called Combes, namely East-Combe, where that good gentleman, William

Lambert, Esquire, dwelt, that gave us the first description of this country, in his perambulation, and made this work the more easy to any, that should endeavour further progress therein; facile est inventis addere, difficile invenire.

Westcombe, with its appendant members, related to the noble family of Badelesmer, and upon the attainder of Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, escheating to the crown, they lay clasped up in its revenue, until king Richard the second granted them to Sir Robert Belknap the judge; upon whose attainder, they were granted in fee to Robert Ballard, Esquire, Pinceræ suo his grand boteler. That is the manor of Westcombe, and Spittlecombe in Greenwich, two watermills in Deptford, with their appurtenances in Charlton Writtemarsh, after which that name continued a long time in this place, of whom you may read more among the sheriffs of Kent, until about the fourth of Philip and Mary, Westcombe was alienated by Nicholas Ballard, to John Lambert, Esquire, whose successor Thomas Lambert, not many years since, alienated it to Hugh Forth; from whom it is lately gone over by sale to Mr. .... Biddulph of London.

Soon after the conquest, this Greenwich was parcel of the possessions of the bishop of Liseux in France, and bore service to Odo, then bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent. After, the manor belonged to the abbot of St. Petres of Gaunt in Flanders, till such time as king Henry the fifth, seizing into his hands (by occasion of war) the lands of the priors aliens, bestowed it together with the manor of Lewsham, and many other lands also, upon the priory of the brotherhood to the monks of Shene which he had then newly erected, to which it remained till the time of king Henry the eighth, who annexed it to the crown, unto which it now belongeth, and is called the honor of East Greenwich.

Queen Mary and queen Elizabeth, were both born here; and king Edward the sixth, a miracle of princely towardness, ended his life, in the same house.

King Edward the third, 1376, in the fifty-first year of his reign founded the religious house of Friars Aliens, or Dominican Friars. Sir John Norbury knight high treasurer of England, is reckoned a benefactor to the same, after the dissolution of this house, and was annexed to Shene by king Henry the fifth.

Another house of observant friars was erected here, by king Edward the fourth as we read in Jo. Rosse. Circiter Annum Regni Edwardi quarti, venerunt Fratres observantes Ordini Minorum ad Greenwich, & habeant Cantariam & Capellam Sancti Crucis. And king Henry the seventh, builded that house for them adjoining to the palace, which is yet there to be seen.

There are moreover in the town, two colleges or alms-houses, for the sustentation of poor persons, the one built by William Lambert, Esquire, which he named the college of queen Elizabeth's poor people, and as the prying adversaries of our religion then observed, was the first protestant that built an hospital.

The other standing by Thames-side, was founded by Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, lord privy seal, lord warden of the cinque-ports, and knight of the garter; and enlarged and beautified the castle, (which is famous in the Spanish fables) from whence there is a most fair and pleasant prospect open to the river, winding in and out, almost redoubling of itself, the green meadows and marshes underlying the city of London, and country round about. Described by Berkley in his Euphormio.

And also for a L'env'oy to Greenwich, you may read the verses of Leland the Antiquarian poet adjoining to Greenwich. Blackheath, of which the hundred taketh the name, so called of the colour of the earth, or Bleacheath of the high and cold situation, for bleak signifieth cold. Also Campus Martis, it may well be called; for besides the burthen of the Danish camps, it hath born three rebellious assemblies. One in the time of king Richard the second, moved, as shall be farther declared in Offham, by Wat Tyler, whom William Walworth, then mayor of London, slew with his dagger in Smithfield, and thereupon, upon the tradition comes that

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the city had given then, for an augmentation to their eschocheon, a dagger in the dexter-point or canton, so to be born by them for ever.

Jack Cade, that counterfeit Mortimer, and his crew, conducted the second, who arraying themselves here, passed to London, where they did to death the lord Say, and others, and executed their malice upon the records and monuments of the law; burning down the office of arms, which was then kept at Cole-Harbour, burning, destroying their rolls, registers, and book of armory; their main drift and design, being to bring in parity.

Another insurrection was here assembled, by Michael Joseph, blacksmith, and the lord Audley, under the reign of king Henry the seventh; at which time they and their complices received their just desert; the common numbers of them, being discomfited and slain, and the leaders themselves taken, drawn and hanged.

Of this last, there remaineth yet, to be seen upon the heath, the place of the smith's tent, called commonly his forge; and of all, there the great grave-hills of such as were buried, after the overthrow. These hills, in the west country, upon diverse champions and plains (where is no small store of the like) are called barrowes, of the old English word Burghes; which last word, melted into buryings, (being a spring of the old stock) we do yet retain alive.

The first and last of these commotions were stirred of grief, the common people conceived for the demand of two subsidies. Of which the one was unreasonable, because it was taxed upon the polls, and exempted none. The other was unseasonable, for that it was exacted, when the heads of the common people were full of Perkin Warbeck.

The third and middlemost, grew upon a grudge, that the people took for yielding the dutchy of Anjou, and Maine, to the king of Sicily. The coming of whose daughter, (after that the king would needs have her to wife, notwithstanding his precontract made with the earl of Armenac) was not so joyfully embraced by the citizens of London upon Blackheath, wearing their red hoods, badges, and blue gowns, as in sequel the marriage and whole government itself, was known to be detested of the country commons, by bearing in the same place, harness, bows, bills, and other weapons. Thus far, the story of Blackheath proves but sad and tragical. That which remains, is of a more glorious and splendid condition, consisting of ovations and triumphs; for when the emperor of Constantinople came to require aid against the Turks, king Henry the fourth, with all princely respect, went to meet him at this place, and so conducted him to London. And when king Henry the fifth returned from his victorious conquest of France, the lord mayor and citizens of London, went forth in their best equipage, to attend his reception at this place, at which time the king made many knights bannerets; and king Henry the eighth, that excelled in all triumphal matters, met Anne Cleve, daughter to the duke of Cleve.

GRAVENEY, in the hundred of Boughton, was in the year of our Lord eight hundred and eleven, by archbishop Ulfred, bought of king Kenwolfe, (as the book of Christ-church sets it forth) ad opus ecclesiæ Christi, to the repair of the cathedral. In the year of Grace eight hundred and thirty, Werhardus, a priest of much power in England, (by the injunction of the archbishop) gave Graveney to the monks of Christ-church, which had been before snatched away, and then passed under the notion of thirty two hides; and if you will see how it was rated in Domesday Book, it is thus there represented: Graveney est manerium monachorum, & est de vestitu eorum, quod Richardus Constabularius tenet in feodo de Archiepiscopo, & tamen reddit firmam monachis, & pro i. Sulling se defendit. This manor by the successive proprietors, was held in fee of the archbishop of Canterbury.

Here was a family called Gravenell, who were lords of this manor, which John de Gravenell died possessed of, in the fifty-sixth year of Henry the third. Afterwards I find the Fevershams, a family so called, held it. Richard Feversham was seized of it at his death, which was in the thirteenth year of Richard the second, Rot.

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Esc. Num. 100, but deceased without issue male, so that his only daughter Joan, married to John Boteler, became his heir. This John Boteler was high sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-second year of Richard the second, but died likewise without issue male, so that his estate here, which devolved to him by female right, by the same fate, was carried away to John Martin, one of the judges of the common

pleas, who was married to Ann his sole heir, and this man lies buried in Graveney church, under a fair stone inlaid with brass, and his portraiture insculped thereon, with this inscription affixed; Hic jacet Joannes Martin, Justiciarius de communi Banco, qui obiit 24 Octobris, 1436, & Anna Uxor ejus. From Martin, the proprietor of that estate here, which had been diverse years entituled to this name, went by purchase into Pordage of Rodmersham, in which family the possession hath for several generations been constantly resident.

GRAVESEND, in the hundred of Toltingtrow, was anciently the possession of a family called Cramavill, who had likewise very considerable possessions in East-Kent. Henry de Cramavill, held it at his death, which was in the fifty-fourth year of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 8. and Joan, wife, I believe, of Henry de Cramavill, was seized of it at her decease, which was in the eighth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 53. After this family was gone out, I find the lord of the fee, to be Reginald de Cobham, who was in possession of it at his death, which was in the forty-fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 15. and in ages of a lower step, another Reginald Cobham was seized of it, in the seventh year of Henry the fourth; and from him, by the heir general it came down to Braybrook, and by the heir general of that family, it was transmitted to Brook, of the county of Somerset, from whom descended the unfortunate Henry Brook, lord Cobham, who being attainted in the beginning of king James, forfeited this manor to the crown, in whose revenue it lay involved, until the late king Charles granted it to his kinsman James duke of Lenox, upon whose late decease, it is now become the inheritance of his son Esme duke of Lenox, now in his minority.

Milton, near Gravesend, in the hundred of Shamell, was an ingredient which made up that estate, which fell under the signory of the Montchenseys, lords and barons of Swanscamp. Warren de Montchensey obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Milton, in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the third, and he had issue William de Montchensey, who held it at his death, which was in the fifty-second year of Henry the third; and left it to Dionis his female inheritor, married to Hugh de Vere, by whom she having no issue that might transmit the possession to his family, the interest of it was, by Joan, sister and co-heir of the abovementioned William, united to the patrimony of her husband, Aymer de Valence earl of Pembroke, whose son William de Valence dying without issue, Isabell his sister and co-heir, being married to Lawrence de Hastings, afterwards earl of Pembroke, united it to his demesne, and his grandchild John de Hastings, about the beginning of Richard the second, passed it away to Sir Simon de Burley, who being attainted of high treason, in the tenth of his rule, because, according to his oath, being knight of the garter, and lord warden of the cinque ports, he endeavoured to underprop, like some buttress, the sinking prerogative of his master, against the onsets of some of the ambitious nobility, it escheated to the crown. And then the aforesaid king, in the fourteenth year of his government, granted it to John Holland, earl of Huntington; and he not long after conveyed it by sale to Reginald Cobham, whose widow, Elizabeth, was remarried to William Clifford, Esquire, and he in her right, I find, was possessed of it in the ninth year of Henry the fourth. But after his death, it reverts to Braybrook, who had married with Joan the heir general of Cobham, and he determining likewise in an heir general, married to Brook, of the west country, it devolved with Cobham, to acknowledge the signory of that family, but continued not long in their possession; for about the beginning of Edward the fourth, I find it in the tenure of Robert Brent, from whom it descended to his son William Brent, who in the eighth year of king Henry the seventh, conveyed it to Sir Henry Wiatt; and from him did it come down to his grandchild Sir Thomas Wiatt, who being attainted in the second year of queen Mary, it escheated by confiscation to

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the crown, and then it was granted to George Brook lord Cobham, and went along with that family, until the beginning of king James, and then Henry lord Brook having embarked himself in the unhappy design of Sir Walter Rauleigh, was attainted of high treason, and his concern in this manor was forfeited to the crown, and was, not many years after, by the abovementioned prince, granted to Mr. George Tucker of Gravesend, whose grandchild Mr. George Tucker, hath lately passed away all his interest here to Mr. .... Hamon, of Queenhith in London.

Parrocks is likewise situated within the circle of Gravesend, and had owners of that surname, as is evident by an ancient record, which testifies, that Robert de Parrock, obtained a market, weekly on the Saturday, and a fair yearly to endure for the space of three days, viz. the vigil, the day of St. Edmund, ‡ and the day after, in the fifty-second year of Henry the third. Afterwards, this manor was linked to the revenue of the crown, but whether it was thus annexed by sale, or by exchange, I confess, I am ignorant; only I find by the original patent, that in the sixth year of Richard the second, it was granted to Sir Simon de Burley, upon whose attain, in the tenth year of the abovesaid prince, it devolved to the crown, and Richard the second, not long after, settled it on the abby of St. Mary Grace on Tower-hill, in whose revenue it remained until king Henry the eighth tore it off by the public dissolution, and united it to the royal revenue, where it had its fixed abode, until the thirteenth year of king James; and then it was granted to William Salter; who not many years after, passed it away to James Crispe; from whom in our memory, partly by purchase, and partly by exchange, it went over to Mr. Jo. Child, in whose descendant the propriety is still permanent.

Gravesend had anciently a market on the Thursday, and a fair yearly on the day of St. Edward the confessor, both granted to this town, in the thirtieth year of Edward the third.

GILLINGHAM was a manor always relating to the archbishops of Canterbury, though the donation by the book of Christ-church be not specified. If we survey the pages of Doomsday book, they will give us this; Gillingham est proprium manerium archiepiscopi, & in tempore Edwardi Regis se defendebat pro VI. Sullings, & est appretiatum hoc quod archiepiscopus habet inde in dominio VIII. lb. & Xs. The archbishops of Canterbury had here an eminent palace, and held their residence at it, and gave consecrations here to bishops, as we find it recorded in the book called Textus Roffensis, or, the text of Rochester.

East-court and West-court in this parish, were anciently united together, and resided in a family called Gillingham. Richard de Gillingham, son of Thomas de Gillingham, held it at his death, which was in the twelfth year of Richard the second Rot. Esc. Num. 176. and left it to his son Thomas Gillingham, who resolved into two daughters and co-heirs; Margaret married to John Thorpe, who in her right, had West-court; and Isabell, married to William Crensted, who brought along with her East-court. But as all things have their fate and vicissitude, they did not long acknowledge the dominion of either of them; for Thorpe sold West-court to Nicholas Lewson, of Whoorn-place in Cukston, who not long after, by the same devolution, passed it away to Dulling of Rochester, by whose female heir, it is now come over to Mr. Stephen Alcock; but Thorps Ferme, on which he had planted his own name, he alienated to Short, and from this family it went away again by sale to May of Rochester. Greensted endowed Benedict Webb, his sister's son, and in that relation his heir, with the title and propriety of East-court, whose two grand-children Thomas and Christopher Webb, by a mutual and joint concurrence, divested themselves of their right, and by sale surrendered it up to William Painter, Esquire, great grandfather to Mr. Allington Painter, the instant proprietor of it.

Twidall is another manor of eminent account, and had owners likewise of that appellation. The first, that I find of the name, in Mr Painter's evidences, which held both this and Dane-court, is Robert de Twidall, and he flourished here about

‡ Pat. de An. 52. H. 3 Memb. 10.

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the reign of Henry the first, and he had issue Adam de Twidall; from whom was lineally extracted, Richard de Twidall, who in the fourth year of Richard the second, passed away this, and Dane-court to John, the son of Robert de Beaufitz, originally descended from Reade in Marden. But in this family, the possession was not very permanent, for in some descents after, the name went out into Joan Beaufitz and other co-heirs; and she by marrying with Robert Arnold of Sussex, did instate the possession of both these places, upon this name and family, and he bequeathed them as dower, to his daughter Elizabeth Arnold; and she, in the thirteenth year of Henry the seventh, conveys them over to her brother Henry; and his son William Arnold, in the eighteenth year of Henry the eighth, transports

his right in them by sale to Thomas Benvolt, Clarenceux king of arms; from whom the like conveyance, in the twentieth year of that prince, brought it to Sir Henry Wiatt, one of the privy council to Henry the eighth, whose son Sir Thomas Wiat, in the thirtieth year of that king, exchanged them for other lands with the crown; from which immediately after they were conveyed by grant to Christopher Sampson, who not many years after, transplanted his interest by sale, into Thomas Parker; who conveyed away his right in Twidall, to William Painter, Esquire, great grandfather to Mr. Allington Painter, who now enjoys it; but Dane-court, was by purchase brought over to Short, in whom it had not long continued, but the same family carried it away to May of Rochester.

The Grange in this parish, sometimes written Grench, did in the conqueror's time, appertain to the old lords called Hastings, ancestors of the lord Hastings now earl of Huntingdon. In the book called Testa de Nevill, kept in the exchequer, we read that one Manasser de Hastings held Grench by serjeanty under king Henry the third, and the particular office, in some more modern records is described, viz. that it is held of the king (and not of the cinque ports as some do suggest) by serjeanty, to find two men and two oars in the ship, which carries over the king from Dover to Whitesand by Calais. From Hastings, it came over by purchase to Richard Smelt, alderman of London; whose daughter and heir Margaret Smelt, carried it away to Richard Croyden, likewise an alderman of London; in whom the male line failing, Margery his sole heir was married to John Philipott, Esquire, alderman of London in the reign of Edward the third, and lord mayor of London, in the reign of Richard the second, by which prince he was invested with the order of knighthood, for being so signally instrumental in the ruin of Wat Tiler, Jack Straw and his seditious accomplices, and had after the addition of gules, a plain cross between four swords argent, pomell'd, or, as a coat of augmentation annexed to his paternal coat, viz. sable a bend ermin, for fitting out a fleet of ships, at his own expence, and vanquishing John Mercer, and his piratical rabble, who had so invested the narrow sea, that the trade of the merchant was brought into a deplorable condition; and had sunk, had he not buoyed it up again, by his care and magnanimity. Yet how laudable soever the work were, it escaped not the envy of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, who questioned him at the council board, for that he being a private person, had embarked himself in an attempt of so much concern, without order and licence first obtained by the state; but by the noble favour he received from his honorable friends there, especially Richard Fitzallen, earl of Arundell, whose arms he placed in his house, as a monument of gratitude, and left him a legacy in his will, he was fetched off with reputation. But to proceed; in right of the former alliance, he was planted in the possession of this manor, and from him it devolved to his grandchild John Philipott, Esquire. And he in the eleventh year of Henry the sixth, exchanged this manor with Sir Richard Bamme, son of Adam Bamme, lord mayor of London, for Twiford in Middlesex, and from him it descended to John Bamme, sheriff of Kent in the second year of Richard the third. And he gave it to his daughter Katharine Bamme, who passed it away by grant to Kempe and Wiatt. Sir Thomas Kempe sold his moiety to Sir Thomas Wiatt, who having forfeited this to the crown, by his unhappy defection in the second year of queen Mary, it lodged in the royal revenue, until queen Elizabeth in the twenty-fourth year of her rule granted it back again, to the lady Joan Wiatt, and her son George Wiatt, Esquire, who in our fathers memory, alienated it to Hayward;

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from which name by the heir general of this family, it is lately brought to acknowledge Mr. William de Lawn of London for its proprietor. There was a chapel belonging to Grench, which upon the inquisition returned into the court of augmentation, but upon the suppression in the reign of Henry the eighth, was affirmed to have been erected by Sir John Philipott. I confess I have seen no other record, to evince any thing to the contrary, and therefore I acquiesce in that testimony.

Upbery is the last manor in Gillingham, which was a limb of that deamean which related to the nunnery, at Minster in Shepey; and when the whirlwind of the common dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, had shook this into the revenue of the crown, that prince in the thirty-eighth year of his reign, passed it away by grant, (as appears by the original patent) to Sir Thomas Cheyney; whose son Henry lord Cheyney, conveyed it by sale in the sixteenth year of queen Elizabeth to Dr.



Alexander Nowell, dean of St. Pauls; and he dying without issue, in the year 1601, left it for ever to Brasenose college in Oxford, with this proviso, that one of his alliance should hold it in lease from that society for ever, paying to the college an 100 marks per annum, according to the tenure of which testamentary restriction, it is now enjoyed by colonel Thomas Blount of Wriklemersh, Esquire.

Gillingham had a market procured to it, to be held weekly on the Thursday, and a fair to be observed yearly at the feast of St. Crosse, and seven days after, by John lord archbishop of Canterbury, in the eleventh year of Edward the first, as appears, Cart. Num. 3.

Lidsing is the last place of account in this parish; it was, in ages of a higher ascent, the inheritance of an ancient family, called Sharsted. Simon de Sharsted possessed it at his death, which was in the twenty-fourth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 42. In ages of a lower computation, I find Roger de Say, to be possessed of it; and he about the fiftieth year of Edward the third, gives it to Robert Belknap the judge, who about the tenth year of Richard the second, was, by sentence from parliament, exiled into Ireland, for too vehemently asserting the prerogative of the crown, which in the estimate of those times, was thought to have opened those sluices too much, which would have let in the inundations of an arbitrary power upon the people's liberties. But this manor was again restored by that prince, who looked upon this person as his martyr, to him as its ancient possessor, in the twenty-second year of his reign, and he by his deed, bearing date the eighth of October, in the second year of king Henry the fourth, gives it to the priory of St. Andrews in Rochester, for one monk who was a priest, to celebrate mass for ever for the soul of his father John Belknap, and for the soul of his mother Alice, wife of the said John, and likewise for the soul of himself, and all his successors, in the cathedral of Rochester. This, upon the dissolution of the former priory, was by Henry the eighth, upon his institution of the dean and chapter of Rochester, granted to them for their support and alimony, and rested in their revenue until these times.

There was another chantry founded at Twidall, by John Beaufits, which he makes provision for, by his last will, the twenty-second of November, in the year of our Lord, 1433, and orders it to be dedicated to John the Baptist, and likewise that one priest should there celebrate mass for the soul of himself, his wife Alice, his father John, his mother Isabell, and his uncle William Beaufitz; the seats in the chapel, and other remains, declare it to have been formerly a neat and elegant piece of architecture.

Here was a signal encounter (as the annals of St. Austins testify) between Edmund Ironside, and Canutus the Dane, wherein, after a sharp debate, the Dane was broken and discomfited.

At Gillingham likewise (as Thomas Robburn a monk of Winchester testifies) was acted that bloody tragedy by earl Godwin, who slew all those Normans who arrived with Edward unto the tenth man, for which his name as well as his conscience, stands bespattered and stained with an indelible character of ignominy, and cruelty to all posterity.

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GOODWENSTON, in the hundred of Feversham, was the ancient seat of Chich. The first of eminence, was Ernaldus Chich, who was a man of principal account in the reign of Henry the second, Richard the first, and king John; nor were they more eminent here, than they were at Canterbury, where they had large possessions, and unto them did the aldermanry of Burgate appertain. Thomas Chich of Goodwenston, was a prime benefactor to the church of St. Mary Bredmin in Canterbury, where his name together with his effigies are in an old character set up, in the west window, as his coat is likewise in the chancel insculped in stone work. He was bailiff of Canterbury, an office not contemptible in those times, in the year 1259, and again in the year 1271. Thomas Chich, this man's son, was sheriff of Kent in the forty-fourth year of Edward the third, and held his shrievalty at Goodwenston. Thomas Chich, this man's son, was sheriff of Kent likewise in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, and he was grandfather to Valentine Chich, who married Phillipa, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Chichley, brother to

Henry Chichley, archbishop of Canterbury, but died without issue-male; so that his three sisters and co-heirs married to Kemp, Judde, and Martin, shared his inheritance, and by a joint consent, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, passed away their estate here and at Ewell, in this parish, to Pordage of Rodmersham; and from this name about the beginning of queen Elizabeth it passed away to Fagg, descended from the Faggs of Willesborough, where I find by the court-rolls of the manor of Brabourne, that one Andrew Fagge held lands there of that manor, in the reign of Edward the third. But to go on, the Faggs had not long been planted in their new atchieved purchase at this place, when Robert Fagge concluded in two daughters and co-heirs, Ann who was married to Sir John Proude, who was unhappily slain at the Groll, in the year 1628, whilst he did vigorously pursue the quarrel of the states general, at that siege against the capital enemy of their religion and liberty, the Spaniard; and Mary espoused to Sir Edward Partrich, for his first wife, but died without an issue surviving by him. Sir John Proude left only one daughter called Ann, who was first married to William Sprin- gate, and secondly to Mr. Isaac Pennington, eldest son to Isaac Pennington, lord Mayor of London in the year 1643, in right of which alliance, he at present holds this manor of Goodwenston.

GOODNESTON by Wingham, vulgarly called GONSTON, lies in the hundred of Wingham, and was formerly parcel of the patrimony of Hastings earl of Pembroke, bequeathed to him by his kinsman John de Hastings, who was first husband to Juliana, the heir general of Roger de Leybourn. John de Hastings held it at his death, which was in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, and so did his son John de Hastings after him, and brings a pleading for it in the fourteenth year of Richard the second. After them the Malmains were possessed of it, who had some estate here before, which they had by purchase from Pine and Beauchamp, about the beginning of Edward the third, and in this family did it remain, until Henry Malmains, about the year ..... deceased without issue-male, and by Agnes his daughter and heir, married to Thomas Goldwell, it came to own the jurisdiction of that name and family, but was not long fastened to it; for he ended likewise in a female heir called Joan, who was married to Thomas Took, Esquire, of Bere, and so by her it was united to the revenue of this family, and here rested, until that age which came within the circle of our grandfathers knowledge, and then it was passed away to Henekar, from which name in times almost of our cognisance, it went away by a revolution like the former to Kelley, who conveyed it to Engham, descended from the noble family of the Enghams, of Wood-church, who flourished so many ages at Edingham, and Pleurinden in that parish.

Bonnington in this parish, is the ancient seat from whence the numerous and knightly family of Bois, did as from their original fountain issue out into Fredville, Betteshanger, Haukherst, and other parts of this county; and do derive themselves from John de Bosco, who is mentioned in the Battle-abbey roll, of those who entered this nation with William the conqueror; and certainly they have not been much less at this place than seventeen descents, as the dateless deeds of several of

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this family who writ themselves of Bonnington, do easily manifest. Nor hath it yet deserted the name, or departed from the possessions of Bois, being at this present, part of the patrimony of Sir John Bois, to whose paternal arms, the late king, for his eminent and loyal service performed by him at Donnington-castle, added as an augmentation, upon a canton, azure, a crown imperial, or.

Rolling is a third place in this parish to be taken notice of; it contributed a seat as well as a surname, formerly, to a family called Rolling. Thomas Rolling held some lands in lease at his death, which was in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 143, which lands belonged to a chantry in St. Peter's church in Sandwich, and lay in Eastry, near this manor of Rolling. After this family was worn out, the Idley's who had large possessions about Mepham, Cobham, and Higham, as appears by the inquisition taken after the death of John Ideleghe, in the forty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 58. parte secunda, were by purchase seated in the possession, and preserved it until the reign of Henry the eighth; and then it was alienated to Butler of Heronden in Eastry; from whom, in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, it went away to Roger Manwood,

lord chief baron of the exchequer, whose son Sir Peter Manwood, in our fathers remembrance, alienated it to Dickenson, from whom not many years since it was brought over to be the possession of Mr. .... Richards.

GODMERSHAM, in the hundred of Felborough, was given to the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, by Beornulfus king of the Mercians, in the year of Grace eight hundred and twenty-one, free as Adisham; and it was, at the request of archbishop Ulfred, to supply the convent both with food and raiment, which grant archbishop Egelnoth, who it seems had some interest in the place, in the year one thousand and thirty-six, did fully confirm. And in the year one thousand three hundred and eighty-seven, Thomas Arundell archbishop of Canterbury, with the especial licence of Richard the second, appropriated the tithes of the rectory of Godmersham, to the church of Christ-church, to the support and maintenance of the fabrick of the church abovesaid.

If you will see what value was set upon this manor in the time of the conqueror, I shall afford you a sight of it, out of Doomsday book. Godmersham (says that register) est manerium monachorum, & de vestitu eorum, & in tempore Edwardi Regis, se defendebat pro VIII. sulings, & est appretiatum XXlb. sed tamen reddit XXX. That is, it paid a rent of thirty pound to the church.

Yolands and Ford, are two little manors in this parish, which acknowledged themselves anciently to be parcel of the inheritance of Valoigns; and Robert de Valoigns, died possessed of these and much other land in this track, in the nineteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 41. Henry de Valoigns, this man's son, was sheriff of Kent, in the fourteenth of king Edward the third, and he had issue Waretius de Valoigns, and Stephen de Valoigns who planted himself at Gore-court in Otham, and is represented in record, to be one of the conservators of the peace for this county, in the twenty-ninth, and thirty-first years of Edward the third; but Waretius de Valoigns determined in two daughters and co-heirs; one was married to Fogge, and the other to Thomas Aldon, son of Thomas de Aldon, who was one of the conservators of the peace in Kent, in the tenth and twelfth years of Edward the third, and he in her right was entituled to the possession of these places. And in this family did it for diverse years continue, until the ordinary mutation of purchase rolled them into the inheritance of Austin; to which name, the title remained constantly linked, until that age we stile our grandfathers, and then they were by Richard Austin, passed away by sale to Broadnix, so that they are now by paternal right, devolved to Thomas Broadnix, Esquire, in whose estate the instant propriety of them does lie involved.

Egerton in Godmersham was a manor which formerly swelled the demean of the noble family of Valence, who were earls of Pembroke. Aymer de Valence earl of Pembroke, held it at his death, which was in the seventeenth year of Edward the

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second, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 75, and leaving no lawful issue, this, upon the partition of his estate, increased the revenue of John Comin, earl of Badzenoth, in Scotland, who had married Joan one of his two sisters and co-heirs; but long it remained not here, for he deceased without any issue-male, so that Joan his daughter and co-heir, became his heir; for John Comin, earl of Badzenoth died and left two daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth was married to Richard Talbot, and Joan was married to David de Strabolgie, and he in her right was found to be invested in the possession, in the first year of Edward the third, as is manifest, Rot. Esc. Num. 85, and from him did it devolve by descent, to his son and heir, David de Strabolgie, who in the seventh year of Edward the third, by deed settled it on his kinsman Sir Henry de Hills, which Katharine his widow countess confirms, the twentieth year of that prince. Gilbert de Hills lieth buried in Godmersham church, and as appears by his portraiture in his armour, was a person of eminence in that age, wherein he flourished, and from him, and Sir Henry de Hills, did issue forth many eminent and worthy successors, who were proprietors of this manor, until that age which fell within the precincts of our grandfathers memory, and then it went away by sale to Scott, a cadet or younger sprig of the Scotts of Scotts-hall; the heir general of which family was Mrs. Dorothy Scott, who being lately married to Mr. Daniel Gotherson, he in her right is now (though not without a signal contention at law, with some collateral pretenders to the title) peaceably planted in

the possession of it.

Godmersham, as the records of Christ-church inform me, had the grant of a market, to be observed weekly on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly upon the Thursday and Friday, in Whitsun week by the prior of Christ-church, in the reign of Edward the third.

GOUDHERST, in the hundred of Marden, with the inherent manor of Bedgebury, were the ancient patrimony of a family of no cheap account in this track, which, as it chose one of these manors for its seat, so did it derive its surname from thence likewise, and was called Bedgbury, and certainly were of a very high ascent in their extraction. For in a deed without date, one John de Bedgebury demises some parcels of land to William de Comden, of Comden house in this parish, and the seal affixed to this deed is a cavalier on horseback, armed, like one of the knights templars, which argues that he lived before the suppression of that order, and assumed that impress out of his particular affection to them; or else, which was customary in those times, out of some signal and solemn vow, to maintain the temple of our Saviour, from the assaults and barbarous impressions of infidels, which these persons were by their oath, and first institution, obliged vigorously to defend also. John de Bedgebury, this man's successor, paid respective aid for his lands at Goudherst, and likewise for his manor of Bedgebury, at making the Black prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and left these above recited manors to his son John de Bedgebury, who dying without issue, his sister became his sole inheritrix, who by marrying with Thomas Colepeper, of Bayhall in Pepenbury, sheriff of Kent in the eighteenth year of Richard the second, fastened the propriety of these places to the interest of this family, where they continued undivided, but in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth, Court Shingley was by Thomas Colepeper alienated to Stephen Darrell; but Goudherst and Bedgebury were not plucked away from this family, by this alienation, but continued united to their estate, so that at this day they own Thomas Colepeper, Esquire, for their proprietor.

Combwell was a priory of black canons, under the rule of St. Augustin, and was founded by Sir Robert de Thurnham, and dedicated to the honour of St. Mary Magdalen. Their revenue lay scattered in Marden, Stapleherst, and Goudherst; in which last, there was an obscure cell, or convent of nuns, which had their principal subsistence by their charity, whose ruins are yet visible, though their revenue was so narrow, that no record informs us where it was situated. Upon the dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, this devolving to the crown, that prince

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in the thirty-fourth year of his government, granted it to Sir John Gage, one of the justices of the peace, both for Sussex and Kent: and his successor conveyed it to Colepeper, who immediately after, passed it away to William Campion, Esquire, ancestor to Sir William Campion, who was offered up a sacrifice, to the cause and quarrel of the last king at Colchester, in the year one thousand six hundred and forty-eight, and in his heirs is the interest of this manor at this instant resident.

Finchcocks is a third place of note in this parish, made more eminent in that it was the mansion of a family of that surname, whom, although I find invested in the possession of this place, ever since the fortieth year of Henry the third, yet do I not discover that any of the family was illustrious by any important undertaking, or famous by any eminent office. The next family which stepped into the possession was Horden, of Horden; and he became proprietor of it by purchase about the beginning of Henry the sixth, one of which family was Edward Horden, Esquire, who was knight of the green cloth to Edward the sixth, queen Mary and queen Elizabeth, who died without issue-male, and left his estate to be shared between two daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth married to Mr. Paul Bathurst, descended from Bathurst Street, in Nordiam, and Mary espoused to Mr. Delves of Fletchings, who in her right carried away Horden, where certainly, the above recited family had flourished under a noble estimate; for Edward Horden the last of this name was issued out from William Chichley, second brother to Henry Chichley archbishop of Canterbury; and for some considerable service performed to the crown, had the augmentation of a regal diadem upon a canton added to his paternal coat, by queen Elizabeth. But to proceed, Finchcocks by the abovementioned match, de=

volved to be the possession of Bathurst, and so owns itself at this day, to be the estate of this name and family.

Pattenden is another place which gave seat and surname to a family of no vulgar repute in this county, and was seated in its possession, as appears by original deeds and other old records, as high as the reign of Edward the first, and where, in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the sixth, there was issued out a commission to Gervas Clifton, Esquire, then sheriff of the county, to return all those, who did portare arma antiqua. Amongst the register and catalogue of those who were then returned, Patenden is recorded, who was lord of this place, and from him did the propriety of this place by descent glide down to his successor, who, in those times we stile our fathers, passed it away by sale to Mr. Bathurst.

The borough of Twisden, is a fifth place, which invites us to a survey. It was in elder generations the inheritance of Twisdens, upon whom, I may without any supply of flattery, strew those just attributes of ancient and noble. The first that I find by deed to be of this family, possessor of it, was Adam de Twisden, and he was seized of it, in the twenty-first year of Edward the first. In times of a lower descent, Roger Twisden † was possessed of it, and in the fifth year of Henry the fourth, affixes to a deed now in the hands of Sir Roger Twisden, of Roydon hall, baronet, the signature or impression of a cockatrice on wax. The crest, which, at this day, is annexed to the paternal coat of this family, a rare thing in those times when crests were unfrequent and unusual, and began to be customary, when those eminent families who were embarked in the two factions of York and Lancaster, assumed them to serve as evidences or symbols of distinction, whereby the son might avoid the plunging his sword in the bowels of his father, or a brother the sheathing his in the entrails of his brother. But to proceed, the last of this name, who possessed this place, was Roger Twisden, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, passed it away to Roger Twisden, and he immediately after conveyed it by sale to Geoffrey Allen, who about the latter end of Henry the sixth, settled the right of it by deed in Thomas Windhill. And thus far do the copies of diverse original evidences, which relate to this place, extend and no farther. After this, it was for diverse descents wrapt up in the propriety of Austin, who not many years since expiring in a female inheritrix, she, by marrying with Mr. Fowle, a cadet of the

† This Roger Twisden was steward to the abbey of St. Augustins, a place of great trust in those times.

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Fowles of River-hall in Sussex, hath made it the present possession of that name and family.

Shingley is another manor in Goudherst, which belonged to that revenue which did own the signory of the priory of Leeds, and upon the suppression, when the patrimony of this cloister was broken to pieces by the scepter of Henry the eighth, this was in the thirty-sixth year of that prince granted to Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, Esquire, with all the privileges which it was fortified with, when it related to the abovementioned cloister, as namely to be tithe-free, &c. But the title (such a month and canker cleaves to the patrimony of the church when it is transplanted) made no long stay in Colepeper, for in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth, this Thomas Colepeper alienated it to Stephen and Thomas Darrell; but in this family likewise was the possession of as frail a permanence; for they not long after conveyed it to William Campion, Esquire, counsellor at law, from whom it descended to Sir William Campion, governor of Borestall house, near Oxford, for his late majesty, and who was after slain at Colchester, asserting the royal interest, and in his descendants is the propriety of it still wrapped up.

Bokinfold is the last place of consideration in Goudherst; it was a manor which related to that chantry, which was founded here by Hamon de Crevequer, and confirmed with all the franchises annexed to it by Edward the third, in the forty-first year of his reign, and in this patent of inspection and ratification, it is mentioned that Hamon de Crevequer was its founder; but the common dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, renting away (like some sudden and impetuous torrent) this manor from those ends and uses it was first designed to, lodged it in the crown, and then the abovesaid prince in the thirty-first year of his reign, granted it to Paul Sidnore gentleman, and he not long after conveyed it to Sir John Gates; but he

being one of the principal emissaries or complices of John Dudley, duke of Northumberland, being enwrapped and engaged past recovery in the design of the abovesaid duke, sunk in the ruins of that unfortunate peer, and was convicted of high treason, and beheaded on Tower-hill, in the first year of queen Mary. Upon his tragedy, this manor returned to the crown, and stayed there, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was granted to Katharine Tong, who not long after passed it away to Colepeper of Bedgebury, who, almost in our remembrance, passed away that part of this great manor, which is circumscribed within the verge of Goudherst to the instant proprietor Brewer.

Joan, widow of Roger de Bedgebury, in the third year of Richard the second, obtained a weekly market to Goudhurst on the Wednesday, and a fair yearly on the day of our lady's assumption, Cart. de anno tertio Richardi secundi, Numb. 13.

H.

HACKINGTON, otherwise called St. Stephens, lies partly in the hundred of Bredge and Petham, and partly in that of Westgate, and did in elder times appertain to the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, until it was exchanged by the prior, and that convent and the monks of it, with Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, for other houses situated near the priory of St. Gregory's in Canterbury, and he having here at Hackington erected a new fabrick, bestowed and settled it on his brother Simon de Langton, archdeacon of Canterbury, from whom it successively came down to the following archdeacons, and became their fixed mansion until the reign of Henry the eighth, of those who were invested with that office; but in the general suppression, the impious hand of sacrilege having plucked it off from the church, it was annexed to the crown, and continued there until queen Elizabeth granted it to Sir Roger Manwood, chief baron of the exchequer, and from him did it devolve to his grandchild, Sir John Manwood, who passed it away in our

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memory to Sir Thomas Colepeper, colonel of a regiment of foot in the low countries, in whose descendants the possession is now resident.

In times of a very high ascent, archbishop Hubert, and after him archbishop Baldwin had a design to have erected a college first here at Hackington, and then upon second thoughts at Lambeth; but the monks of Christ-church, believing that this intended new seminary of religion, might something by its interposition darken the glory and grandeur of their convent, first by Alanus their then prior, and afterwards by proxy, so vigorously opposed this project at Rome, that by the favour and indulgence of the then popes, it was vacated and extinguished; but in times subsequent to these, these monks having much endeared Stephen Langton, the then archbishop, by bestowing some signal favours on Simon de Langton his brother, the controversy which was fomented by the abovementioned design, by his compliance with the monks, was appeased, and entombed in an amicable pacification.

Broad-oake is another little manor in Hackington, which anciently made up the demean of the noble family of Hadlow; for Nicholas de Hadlow, I find had a charter of free-warren to his lands at Medgrove and Broadoake, in the twenty-first year of Edward the first. After Hadlow was extinguished, the ancient family of Hardres of upper Hardres were ingrafted in the inheritance, and one Edmund Hardres, as I discover by an old court-roll, held it in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, and after him his grandchild George Hardres died possessed both of the lands at Medgrove and Broad-oake, in the twenty-first year of Edward the fourth, and in this name was the possession constant until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then they were passed away by sale to Sir Edward Boughton of Burwash in Blumsted, and his son Thomas Boughton, Esquire, in the seventh year of Edward the sixth, alienated them to Reginald Highgate and William Hanwick, and they not long after conveyed them to ..... Roper, Esquire, from whom they are now by descent transmitted to his successor, Mr. Edward Roper, of Well-hall, in Eltham.

Shalford and Medgrove were always annexed to Hackington abovementioned, of which they were accounted but as limbs or ingredients, and in the fourteenth year of queen Elizabeth, were granted in lease for life to Sir Roger Manwood, but the fee-simple remained in the crown, until about the beginning of king Charles, and then they were granted to Sir Edward Sidenham, and Mr. Smith, and they not long after passed them away to Mr. Robert Austin, then of London, but

now of Boxley in this county.

HADLOW, in the hundred of Hadlow Borough and Littlefield, gave both seat and surname to a family ancient and conspicuous enough in this track; but whether the same with that family which was seated at Hadlow-place in Crundall, is altogether ambiguous; certain I am that Edmund de Hadlow died seized of it in the thirty-second of Edward the third, and from this name in the subsequent age it came to the crown, but whether by escheat, exchange, or purchase, no beam, scattered from any private or public record, can so far enlighten my knowledge as to discover. Henry the sixth, in the twenty-fifth of his reign, granted this and many other possessions, lying about the skirts of the Lowey of Tunbridge to Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, and with this name it went along till Edward Stafford being unfortunately offered up a sacrifice to the malice and ambition of Cardinal Wolsey, in the reign of Henry the eighth, and the loss of his head having been the expiation of some vanities, which he had been too much guilty of, the right by his attainder flowing back into the crown, it was invested in the twentieth year of Henry the eighth by royal concession in John Vane, Esquire, whose successor Sir Henry Vane, not many years since sold it to Thomas Petley, whose descendant now enjoys it.

Peckham in this parish was part of the patrimony of the noble family of Peckham, and one John Peckham (as the book called the survey of the manors of Hadlow taken in the fourteenth year of Edward the fourth informs me) anciently possessed it, from which name it was by sale rent away, and incorporated into the interest of Colepeper; for John Colepeper (as the abovementioned survey instructs me) sold it to Leigh, and after the possession had been for some intermission of time riveted into this family, it was by the same alienation taken away, and by John Leigh transmitted

175 <Hadlow>

ted to Sir George Rivers, whose son Sir John Rivers, did lately, upon his decease, as his heir, successively claim it.

The manor of Fromond is mentioned likewise in the abovesaid survey; it gave surname to Fromonds, ancestor to Fromond of Cheame in Surry; but whether it yielded seat likewise, is the question. Certain it is, it staid not long in this name; for Richard Fromond sold it to Colepeper; nor was it long fixed or constant in this family neither; for Richard Colepeper, after the ebbing away of some successive generations, cast the possession by sale into John Fromond again, originally extracted from the abovementioned Richard Fromond; and to this name this seat and its interest continues (for ought I can yet discover) at this instant fastened and united.

Causton is the next (because it owned a family of that surname) that claims our consideration. It was in ages of higher ascent, the demean and interest of some of this name; but whether the Caustons of the county of Salop were issued from hence, or these of this seat extracted originally from thence, is yet under dispute; and the more, because evidence of deeds, which is the lanthorn, not only of antiquity, but sometimes of reason likewise, is wholly wanting. It is without controversy, this mansion was not long in the Caustons, for the thread of succession was interrupted and broken, and Hugh Causton by sale conveyed it over to the Wattons of Addington; nor was it long resident here, for William Watton sold it to Thomas Peckham branched out from the Peckhams of Yaldham in Wrotham, from whom by a like mutation that changed the scene and face of the title, it was alienated to Vane, and after some stay in that name, lately by purchase, made the property of Maynard of Mayfield, in the county of Sussex.

Totlingbery had the repute of a manor also, and was the mansion sometime of that name, till time, the great channel of all things, that either sinks or preserves them, carried it down from John Totlingbery, to the family of Roberts of Glastenbury in Cranbrook, and the same stream of vicissitude wafted it not long after from Walter Roberts, the last of that name which enjoyed it, to John Vane, Esquire; where (no record or evidence suggesting yet any thing to the contrary) I think it yet continues.

Goldhell may be looked upon as a place of some importance, since some families of estimate have been possessors of it, but first it was the possession of the Bealds, so they are stiled in the survey. And when this family began to moulder away, the title by sale shifted itself to the Fromonds, a name eminent enough in this track; and

and when they began to languish away into the common frailty of families, John Fromond sold it to the Colepepers of Oxenhoath. And this branch of the Colepepers concluding at last in three daughters and co-heirs; one of them being married to Cotton of Lanwade in the county of Cambridge, made this part of the revenue of that family; but they desiring to contract their interest into a nearer circumference, cast this by sale into the possession of Sir George Chowne, to whose successor it very lately entitled itself.

Goding and Crombery are manors of some signal respect, since they acknowledged themselves to be part of the patrimony of Fromond, a family by an eminent succession of gentry noble and conspicuous, which being by time broken and disordered, it not long after was by Thomas Fromond sold to John Goding; from whom after the series of that name was by the same alteration interrupted, it was conveyed to the Peckhams, where it had not long made its residence, but the title by purchase (like an orb never much in repose) rolled itself from Thomas Peckham into Vane, where for some years it has rested.

The manor of Moatelands shall be the last mentioned, (though not in the above specified survey, yet) in mine, in relation to this parish. The first family that I track in the record to be possessors of it, were the Bakers of East-Peckham, in which name the propriety of it lay wrapt up, till Richard Baker did divest himself of his right, and passed it over by sale to Burgesse; where it had not long dwelt, but the same change untwined it. For Thomas Burgesse alienated it to Henry Leigh, and in his successor (till a clearer ray of modern intelligence, directs me to believe the contrary) I think the possession is resident.

176 <Hadlow> <Halling> <Halden>

There are two other seats of venerable account in this parish. The manor of the rectory is the first, which in the year 1287, was by Thomas de Inglethorp, bishop of Rochester (as the records of that church signify) appropriated to the knights of St. John, otherwise called the knights hospitalers, and remained locked up in their demean, until the public suppression snatched it away, and united it to the crown, where it lodged until the second year of Edward the sixth, and then it was granted to Sir Ralph Vane, whose descendant about the middle of queen Elizabeth passed it away to Roger Twisden, Esquire, captain of a troop of Kentish gentlemen at the camp formed at Tilbury, to oppose the hostile eruptions of the Spanish in the year 1588, and from him it is now come by descent to be possessed of his grandchild, that learned and accomplished gentleman Sir Roger Twisden of Roydon hall, knight and baronet.

The second is Fish-hall, the mansion formerly of John de Fisher, so called, because he was invested with a privilege by Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, and lord of the Lowey of Tunbridge, to have the fishing freely and uncontroledly within his jurisdiction, or as far as it did extend, so that from this immunity or franchise, his posterity contracted the surname of Fisher, and for some ages, did the right of it remain interwoven with the demean of this family, till Richard Fisher sold it to John Vane, Esquire, from whom the same revolution not long after transported it to Rivers of Chafford, and now the title is ingrafted into a younger branch of that family.

HALLING, in the hundred of Shamell, has nothing remarkable in it but the manor of Langridge, alias Bavent, for so it is written frequently in records, and indeed not without some reason to support the orthography; for in times of elder prescription, it gave both seat and surname to a family that had that appellation, and there is some track or print yet of the ruins of a mansion-house in that field, which is at this day called Bavents; and Roger de Bavent died in possession of it in the thirty-first year of Edward the third; and when this name was worn out, the next which we find in succession to be proprietor of it, was Langridge, a branch sprouted out from that stem of Langridge, which was anciently planted in the county of Southampton. And when this family was decayed and vanished, and had left nothing to evidence to us that it had once a being here, but the adopting this manor into its name, the possession went into Melford, and here, after it had some short abode, it abandoned this family, and cast the interest of it into the patrimony of Raynwell, whose successor after some short flux of time (as appears by the Book of Aid kept in the exchequer) sold it to Robert Wotton, in the seventeenth year of



Henry the seventh, and he suddenly after alienated this and other lands to Whorne of Cuckston, nor was the title any length of time lodged in this name; for a fate of the same condition with the former carried it over to Vane, from whom it flowed away in the same current, and by sale emptied itself into Barnewell, nor was it less permanent there, for the same inconstant tide wafted it down to Nicholas Lewson, and Sir Richard Lewson his grandchild, desirous to wrap up all his interest within the county of Stafford, alienated his Kentish lands to several persons, and sold those which were part of his demean here, to Barber.

The manor of Halling itself was given to the church of Rochester, by Egbert king of the west Saxons, in the year of our Lord 838, and has continued parcel of the church's patrimony in an uninterrupted succession of time, till the year 1643, and then the title was ravelled and discomposed.

HALDEN, in the hundred of Blackborne and Barekley has nothing worthy in it that may oblige a remembrance, but only Hales-place, from whence, as from their fountain, the several streams of the Hales, that in divided rivulets have spread themselves over the whole county, did originally break forth. But where Hales-place is now placed, or in what angle of the parish it is situated, I confess I cannot instruct myself, unless it be that great house which was the original seat of the Scots, before they planted at Congerherst in Haukherst, and which Reginald Scot sold to Sir Edward Hales. Indeed it is often mentioned in the pedigree of Hales, and likewise in the deeds of that family, as lying in Halden, which is evidence enough

<catchword> that

177 <High Halstow> <Halstead> <Lower Halstow>

HALSTOW, in the hundred of Hoo, was anciently part of the barony of Bardolph, but did not long rest here, for Isolda the daughter and co-heir of Hugh de Bardolph, being married to Henry lord Grey, this was thrown into that scale (with other demesnes of vast estimate) which did after swell the revenue of this baron into a huge dimension. But, as all sublunary matters have the fate of an uncertain inconstancy written in indelible characters upon them, so had this; for Richard lord Grey, this man's successor, sold it to John lord Cobham, and he died possessor of it in the thirty-sixth year of Edward the third, from whose heir an equivalent vicissitude resigned it up to the illustrious family of Zouch; and William la Zouch, extracted from the Zouches of Haringworth in the county of Northampton, died actually possessed of it in the fifth year of Richard the second; and after the title had been some years knit to the relation and interest of this family, it was at length torn off by the rough hand of time, and by sale surrendered up to Norris, from whose heir by as quick a transition it conveyed itself over to Sir Edward Hales, grandfather to Sir Edward Hales, baronet, now surviving.

HALSTED, in the hundred of Codsheath, was the inheritance of a good old family called Malavill, who were of no contemptible account in this part of the county; for in the pipe-rolls, relating to the reign of King John, I discover, that Robert de Malavill was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the fourth year of that prince, and then again in the seventh year of his rule, he was dignified with that eminent place of trust, and he had issue William de Malavill, who was in the enjoyment of this manor at his death, which was in the reign of Henry the third, as appears by an escheat roll, marked with the number 56. And in this family did the right and title of it lie involved, until the latter end of Edward the third; and then the noted family of Bures stepped by purchase into the possession, and John Bures, (as appears to me by an old deed) held it in the fourth year of Richard the second; he was son of William Bures, who paid respective aid for part of a knight's-fee, which lay in Bromley, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight; and William Bures, son of John, lies entombed in Halsted church, pourtrayed at length in brass, and mailed in armour upon a fair grave-stone, being marble, with this inscription: Hic jacet Willielmus Bures armigeri, dominus manerii de Halsted, qui obiit 1454. And this was he who was sheriff of Kent, in the eleventh year of Henry the sixth: but after his death it was not long in the fruition of this name; for about the beginning of Edward the fourth, I find it in the hands of Thomas Bouchier, descended from the Bouchiers of Essex; and he about the latter end of that prince, passed it away to Stephen Petley, Esquire, who lies buried in Halsted church. And in this family was the title fixed, until the

beginning of King James, and then the fatality of sale did alter the possession, and annexed it to the inheritance of Sir Thomas Watson, who dying without issue-male, his only daughter and heir was married to Sir William Pope, afterwards created earl of Downe in Ireland by king James, and so in her right this manor became the inheritance of his son, the right honourable William earl of Downe, who not many years since passed it away to Mr. Edward Ash, whose widow Mrs. .... Ash, holds it at this instant in right of dower.

HALSTOW, in the hundred of Milton, hath nothing memorable in it, but Berkesore alias Basser-court, which was, as high as any print of antiquity can direct me to discover, the patrimony of the church; for king Stephen devoted it to find a supply of perpetual lights before the chest or shrine (ante capsam, those are the words of the record) of Anselme the eminent archbishop of Canterbury; and it hath been many years past held by the Darrels of Cale-hill as lessees, and is still by that right enjoyed by Sir John Darrell of the same place.

The church of Halstow, (as the records of Christ-church instruct us) was given by Boniface archbishop of Canterbury, to buy books, for the chaunter of that convent.

178 <Ham> <Harbledown>

HAMME, in the hundred of Eastry, was, as the records of Christ-church in Canterbury inform me, given to the prior and monks of that convent in the year 934, by one Eyllfeda; but how it was rated in the conqueror's time, when, if not all, yet at least the principal part of this county was surveyed, the pages of Dooms=day book are silent: in brief, the moiety of this manor, (for one half of it was always under the jurisdiction of lay-proprietors) being by the donation abovesaid, made parcel of the spiritual patrimony, remained treasured up in the revenue of the church, as in an unviolable exchequer, until both the convent of Christ-church, and all its demean, was surrendered into the hands of Henry the eighth, and that prince in the thirty-fifth year of his reign, granted that part of it which belonged to the priory of Christ-church to Sir Thomas Moile, who not long after passed it away to Sir Robert Oxenbridge, knight, from which family in our grandfathers memory it went away by sale to Bois of Betshanger.

The other moiety of Hamme, belonged to the Criolls of Walmer, of which family I shall speak more at that place: Simon de Crioll, as I discover by old deeds, held it in the reign of king John and Henry the third, and transmitted it to his son Nicholas de Crioll, who held it at his death, which was in the thirty first of Edward the first, and from him did it by the steps of several genera=tions descend to Sir Thomas Crioll, who was slain at the second battle of St. Al=ban's, tamely, and in cold blood; that is, he was beheaded by queen Margaret, wife to king Henry the sixth, in the thirty-eighth of that prince's reign, because he had been an eager partisan of the house of York, and being thus unfortunately cut off, left that great estate he was possessed of, in this county, to two daughters and co-heirs, one of which was married, for his second wife, to John Fogg of Rep=ton, Esquire, son and heir of Sir William Fogg, and he had issue by her Thomas Fogg, serjeant porter of Calais, Esquire, a place of eminent trust and concern in those times. And he ended in two daughters and co-heirs; Anne first married to Mr. William Scott, brother of Sir Reginald, and secondly, to Mr. Henry Isham; and Alice first married to Edward Scott, of the Moat in Sussex, Esquire, and after to Sir Robert Oxenbridge, of the county of Southampton; but the moiety of this manor of Hamme, upon the dividing the estate into equal portions, fell to be the inheritance of Edward Scott, in right of Alice his wife, and his descendant in our grandfathers remembrance alienated all his interest and concern here, to Bois of Betshanger, whose successor Mr. John Bois, of Betshanger, Esquire, is now entirely possessed of this manor; as namely, of that moiety, which came over to this family, by purchase from Oxenbridge, as well as of that, which devolved to this name, by purchase, from Scott.

HARBLEDOWNE in the hundred of Westgate, though at present but an obscure village, and not of much eminence, was in time of more ancient date famous for three memorable places. First, for an old chapel situated upon the margin of that precipice which overlooks that way which leads to Canterbury. In which oratory, as tradition informs us, was preserved the slipper of Thomas Becket,

taken from one of his feet after his being destroyed at his own church at Canterbury, and which, as report insinuates, was bespattered with his blood; this being curiously enchased with diamonds (so much did those times dote on this then reputed saint and martyr) was let down for passengers, who travelled to Canterbury to offer up their orisons at his shrine, to adore with a kiss; nor was it returned, but full freighted and laden with the benevolence of devoted pilgrims.

The second was Polres, which anciently had and still keeps the repute of a manor; John de Polre, son of John de Polre, paid respective aid for it, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; and when after some expiration of time, this family began to find the common sepulchre which waits upon all human glory, decay and oblivion, the Martins, a name of generous extraction in this track, stepped in and by purchase became lords of the fee, and held it, till the name being contracted into Anne sole daughter and heir of Jo. Martin by marriage with Roger Brent; it was knit to the patrimony of that family, and so for some years remained undissolved, till the union by sale was broken; and not long since passed over to Sir

179 <Harbledown> <Lower Hardres> <Upper Hardres>

Thomas Bind; where, at present, the possession is wound up with the other demean of that family.

The manor of Beverley is a third place of note in Harbledowne. It was the seat of the ancient family of Beverley, before they removed to Tancrey island in Fordwich; and having remained proprietors of it many generations, by efflux and descent it was guided down to William Beverley, Esquire, from whom the title ebbed away, and in whom the name determined; for, he decreasing without issue-male, Beatrix was his only daughter and heir, who was married to Thomas Norton, Esquire, by which alliance, the title of this place became interwoven with his inheritance, and continued clasped up in it, until the middle of the reign of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to Merseday, in which family it had a settled residence, until some few years since the mutation of sale brought it to one Mr. .... Richardson for its proprietor.

Lanfranck, archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1071, founded an hospital at Harbledowne for lepers, employed afterwards to the use of aged people. William Wittlesey, archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1371, founded a chauntry here, and dedicated it to the honor of St. Nicholas, which foundation, in the year 1402, was by archbishop Arundell fully ratified and confirmed.

NETHER-HARDRES in the hundred of Bridge and Petham, is eminent for two places situated within the precincts and ambuts of it. The first is Hepington, which certainly was anciently the Chichs of the Dungeon in Canterbury; for I have seen a record, wherein Nicholas Mesingham releases his right in this and divers other lands confining on Canterbury, to Tho. Chich. But let it be granted, it was theirs; certainly the title was very volatile and uncertain; for I find the Foggs when they expired, to be next in possession of it, which was as high as the entrance into the reign of Henry the fourth. And here for some ages the title fixed it self, till at length the fatality of time passed it over by sale to Hales, one of whose successors has lately sold the mansion house to Sir Thomas Godfrey, but still preserves the propriety of the manor itself in his name.

Lindeshore, but vulgarly called Linsore, is the second place that objects itself to a consideration. In the eighth of Edward the third, an original fine represents it to be Thomas de Garwinton's; and here many years the possession was resident, till Joan his niece, became (by reason her nephew Thomas Garwinton, grandchild to this Thomas de Garwinton died without issue) the heir general of this family, and she being married to Richard Haut, a cadet of the Hauts of Hautsborne, alias Bishop's-Bourne, made this part of their demean; but this name not long after concluding in Margery Haut, sole daughter and heir to Richard Haut; she being made the wife of William Isaack, of Blackmansbery in Bridge, involved this in her husband's revenue, to which, after it had been some time united, it was by sale from this family carried over to John Brent, Esquire: and this name, some narrow distance of time after, resolving into a daughter and heir called Margaret, who was married to John Dering, this became part of his estate, and so continued till his successor not long since sold it to Young of Canterbury.

UPPER or HIGH-HARDRES, call it which you please, is placed in the hundreds of Bridge, Petham, and Lovingborough, and gave name to a family which certainly was of Saxon-extraction, being compounded of two Saxon words; erd, which signifies earth; and reys, which signifies rivulets or small drills of water. And, more to establish this opinion, the record of Doomsday-book informs us, that Rodbertus de Hardres held half a sulling or ploughed-land in Liminge, in the twentieth year of William the conqueror: this man was ancestor to Philip de Hardres, who was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the reign of king John, and his son Philip de Hardres was a man of that eminence under the government of Henry the third, that he married Grace, daughter and heir of Stephen Harengod; and I have seen an old deed, which bears the form of a Latin will, wherein this Stephen settles his manor of Elmedsted, and other lands in this track upon this Philip de Hardres; which deed, though not dated, certainly relates to the time of his decease, which was in the forty first of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 23. But though

180 <Upper Hardres> <Hartlip>

this manor gave surname to Hardres, yet I find some others had an interest in it, or at least some part of it, before it absolutely and solely came to confess the signory of this name. Oliver de Bohun obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands at High Hardres, in the first year of Edward the first, which was renewed to Nicholas de Hadlow or Hallow, who had not long before purchased the inheritance of the abovesaid family at this place, in the twenty first year of the above-mentioned prince; but about the latter end of Richard the second, I find this family quite dislodged from this place, and the sole demean and propriety wrapped up in the family of Hardres: one of whom, by name Henry Hardres, was one of the justices of the peace for this county in the time of Henry the fourth and Henry the fifth; and from him is descended Sir Richard Hardres, now lord of this manor, who, by a title rivetted and incorporated into him by a chain of many uninterrupted descents, does now claim the signory of it.

Southcourt is another little manor in Upper Hardres, which in elder times was entitled to the propriety of Garwinton, a family of signal estimate and deep root in this track; for in an old pedigree of Isaac, I discover that Thomas and William de Garwinton, were in the list of those Kentish gentlemen that accompanied Henry the third in his expedition into Gascony, in the thirty seventh year of his reign, which design by the ill conduct of his affairs, and worse management of his arms, was very ruinous and full of disaster to that prince: but this family about the eleventh year of Henry the sixth (as I have shewed in Bekesbourne) being extinguished without issue; the heir general brought this manor to be possessed by Haut, from whom some two descents after, the same fatality brought it to be enjoyed by Isaac, in whom the propriety was resident, until the beginning of Henry the eighth; and then it was conveyed to Diggs, a family which had some interest in it (as appears by the Book of Aid) in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and some descents before; and from this name not long after the same alienation carried it off to Hales of the Dungeon, in which family it hath remained so constant, that it is the instant property of Mr. .... Hales, a younger branch of that family.

HARTLIP in the hundred of Milton, hath divers places of account in it: first, Gore Court, which was in times of an elder aspect, the inheritance of a family of that appellation: and I find that Henry at Gore held it at his decease, in the thirty first year of Edward the third, and remained with the demean of this name, until the beginning of Henry the fifth, and then it was transmitted by sale to Werdecree or Werdegear, and here it fixt, until the seventeenth year of king James: and then William Werdegear, son of George Werdegear, passed it away to Sir Nicholas Tufton, whose son and heir John earl of Thanet is now the owner of it. Juliana de Leybourne had some estate here at Gore Court, which, at her decease, in the forty third year of Edward the third, escheating with the remainder of her estate to the crown, was by that prince, in the fiftieth year of his government, settled upon the abbey of St. Mary Grace on Tower hill, which he had before founded in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, and lay involved in the patrimony of that cloister, until the general suppression, and then it was granted by Henry the eighth to William Werdegear, whose successor sold it with that part of it, which was always of secular interest, to Sir Nicholas Tufton.

Pope's-hall in this parish had owners likewise of that surname, who likewise were entituled to some estate at Gaesden in Tenterden, and continued lords of this seat, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was by Richard Pope, gentleman, transmitted by sale to Christopher Bloer, by whose daughter and heir called Olympia Bloer, it devolved to be the inheritance of Mr. John Tufton, ancestor to the right honorable John Earl of Thanet, now possessor of it.

Ealgar or Ealdigar, now vulgarly by melting away the l, called Eager Court or Eagar Croft, was anciently, as appears by several old deeds without date, the patrimony of William de Elmedest, but continued not long in this family; for in the thirteenth year of Edward the first, I find it folded up in the inheritance of Roger de Northwood, and in this name the title was resident until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was transplanted by sale into Norton of Borden, from whom

181 <Hartlip> <Hartley> <Hastingleigh>

in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, part of it was passed away by sale to Champneys, and in the eighth year of that prince, the remainder was by the same fatality, brought to confess the signory of the above-mentioned family, from whom, Thomas Rider, held it in lease, in the reign of Henry the seventh; and in the seventeenth year of that prince, passed away all his interest and concern in it to Mark Harris, but the propriety of this place continued still in Champneys. And from him, did part of it, in the twenty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, pass back again by sale to Norton, and the remainder in the thirty-second year of that king's reign, was by the same conveyance wholly remitted to the above recited family, and made its abode here until the fourth and fifth year of Philip and Mary; and then John Norton, by sale conveyed his right in it, to Gilbert Fremlin, and he in the fifteenth year of queen Elizabeth, alienated all his concern in it, to John Palmer, Esquire, father of Sir Anthony Palmer, and grandfather of Dudley Palmer, Esquire, the instant possessor of it.

There is a manor in this parish, vulgarly and corruptly called Grayney, but in old deeds Graveney, as being indeed the patrimony of a family of that surname; of which stem was Stephen de Graveney, whom, as private record informs me, held it in the reign of Edward the first, and in his descendants, I find it successively constant and fixed, until the reign of Henry the sixth. And from that prince's rule, I must make a leap to the government of Henry the eighth, and then I find it in the tenure of John Mayney, of Biddenden, Esquire, great grandfather of Sir John Mayney, of Linton, knight and baronet, the present lord of the fee.

HARTLEY, in the hundred of Acstane, made up a part of that patrimony, which came within the circle of that revenue, which owned for proprietors the lords Montchensey, whose capital seat was at Swanscamp, where I shall treat more largely of them; but it seems they had a special regard to this manor, for Warren de Montchensey, obtained a charter of free-warren to Hartley in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the third, and left it ennobled and secured with this franchise to his only son William de Montchensey, who dying without issue, Joan his sister and heir by marrying with William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, entituled him to this manor, and she held it at her death, which was in the first year of Edward the second: from whom it devolved to her son Aymer de Valence, who dying without issue-male in the seventeenth year of Edward the second; Isabell de Valence his heir general, united it to the inheritance of her husband Lawrence de Hastings, afterwards earl of Pembroke, from whom it came down to his grandchild John de Hastings. And he deceasing without issue, in the year 1389, left it to his kinsman Reginald Grey, and he brings a pleading for this and other land, against John le Scroope, in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, and in the second year of Henry the fourth, as appears by the book of Dover in the exchequer, he was peaceably fixed in the possession, and was a person of considerable rank and importance in those times, for he bore a pair of gilt spurs at the coronation of the abovesaid prince. But no eminence of birth or dignity can chain the possession of a place to a family, when the title leans upon the wheel of an inconstant and ebbing estate; for the revolution of sale about the latter end of Henry the sixth, carried it from this name to Penhale, and John the son of Emma Penhale, as appears by the book of Dover in the exchequer, held it in the second year of Edward the fourth, but the propriety was not long constant in this family: for about

the latter end of Henry the seventh, I find it in the tenure of Cressell, but it was not long permanent in this family neither: for about the beginning of Henry the eighth, it was by sale transplanted into Ballard, and here the possession rested until the latter end of Edward the sixth; and then it was alienated to William Sydley, Esquire, ancestor to Sir Charles Sydley, baronet, who now is entitled to the right and propriety of it.

HASTINGLEIGH in the hundred of Bircholt, did anciently confess the noble family of Haut, to be its proprietors, and was in their possession until the beginning of Henry the fourth, and then Edward Haut passed it away to Robert

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Poynings of Ostenhanger, and in the revenue of this family was enwrapt, until the decease of Sir Edward Poynings, in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and he dying without any issue of his body lawfully begotten, (and there being none that could justly entitle himself by right of blood or alliance to his possessions) it devolved by escheat to the crown, and king Edward the sixth, in the last year of his reign, by royal concession invested the right of this manor in the city of London, and there it is still resident. But the manor of Aldelows, which was a limb of Hastingleigh, was by the prince abovesaid settled for ever on the hospital of St. Thomas in Southwark, in whose demean it is now resident.

HAWKHERST in the hundred of Barnefield, was granted by William the conqueror, to the manor of Wye, which with all its appendages, was to hold of the abby of Battle, and remains (though that abby be suppressed) a member or limb of that court to this day.

Congerherst in this parish, was a mansion that formerly gave seat and surname to a family so called, and which in a successive series did relate to this name, until Mildred Congerherst, sole daughter and heir of Thomas Congerherst, marrying with Thomas Scott, made this the propriety of that family, to which it is still united.

The royalty and rents of Hawkherst upon the suppression of the abby of Battle, were in the thirty-third year of Henry the eighth, granted to Sir John Baker, attorney-general, and chancellor of the exchequer to that prince, king Edward the sixth and queen Mary; \* but differences and clashing breaking out between the descendants of Sir John Baker, and the heir of the lord Hunsdon, lord of Wye, touching claims; to bury all future animosities in amity and mutual compliance, Sir Henry Baker, in the seventeenth year of king James, conveyed it to Henry Cary lord Hunsdon, now earl of Dover; who some years since, passed it away to Sir Thomas Finch, father to Heneage, earl of Winchelsea, now lord of the fee.

Hawkherst had a market anciently, now shrunk into disuse, on the Tuesday, and a yearly fair three days, viz. the vigil, the day of St. Lawrence, and the day subsequent to it, both procured by the abbot of Battle, (as the original patent instructs me) in the fifth year of Edward the first.

HAWKING, in the hundred of Folkstone, contains two little manors within its verge, which must not be passed over in silence. The first is Bilchester, which belonged to the knights templers, but upon their suppression, in the second year of Edward the second, it escheated to the crown, and remained there until new provision was made, by the statute called statutum de terris Templariorum, passed in the seventeenth year of the abovesaid prince, to enstate it on the knights-hospitallers, and make it part of their revenue, and accordingly was united to their patrimony, nor was any hand so bold as to tear it off, until the general suppression of this order, in the reign of Henry the eighth, did invest it in the crown, and that prince, in the thirty-third year of his reign, granted it to Sir Anthony Aucher in lease; and he not long after, assigned it to Thomas Sommersall, by whom it was made over to Richard Simonds, but the fee-simple continued in the crown, until the year 1648.

The second is Fleggs-Court, which was folded up in that demean, which related to the abby of St. Radigunds, and upon the suppression of that cloister was exchanged by Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, for other lands, with Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, and so remained free from violation, until these times wrapt it up in the demean of that see.

HEDCORNE, in the hundred of Eythorne, contained within its limits, First,

Modenden, vulgarly called Mottenden, where was a monastery for monks of the order of crouched friars, and founded by Sir Richard de Rokesley: the head of which convent was called minister, and in the cloudy times of popery, was much resorted unto by the enchanted vulgar, by reason of some special privileges they were endowed with, as of granting of pardons, and others of the like nature: all which met with their sepulchre in the ruin of this abby, and that fatal and

\* He was likewise privy-counsellor to those three princes, and one of the executors of Henry the eighth's will.

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destructive wound it received in its final dissolution, from the hand of Henry the eighth, which prince, upon its escheating to the crown, granted it in the thirty-sixth year of his government, to Sir Anthony Aucher; and he, in the second year of Edward the sixth, passed it away to Sir Walter Henley, by whose daughter and co-heir it came to Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, Esquire; who in the sixth year of Edward the sixth, conveyed it to Christopher Sackvill, Esquire, from which family in our grandfathers remembrance it came over by sale to Franklin; and his successor George Franklin dying without issue, bequeathed it by testament to his kinsman Sir William Sydley, whose grandchild Sir Charles Sydley, baronet, is entitled to the instant fee-simple of it.

Kents Chantry is a second place of account in Headcorne, called so because here was a chantry founded by one John Kent, in the sixth year of Edward the fourth, and a large demean settled upon it, to support the chantry priest that was to officiate there; all which upon the supression was in the thirty-second year of Henry the eighth, granted to Sir Anthony St. Leger, whose son Sir Warham St. Leger, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, passed it away by sale to Beresford of Westernham, from which family, in our memory, it went away to Southland; and he very lately hath alienated it to Mr. .... Belcher, now minister of God's word at Ulcombe.

Kelsham is a third seat in this parish, which may challenge our consideration; because it was the residence formerly (though now transformed into a farm-house) of gentlemen known by this surname, who might have been ranged and marshalled amongst the prime gentlemen of this county, and bore for their coat armour, sable, a fesse engrailed argent, between three garbs, or. One of them stood depicted in coloured glass in the church windows, with his arms upon his tabard; but by the assaults of age, and other wild and sacrilegious impressions, is now utterly defaced and demolished; nor is the family in any better condition, that having many years since deserted the possession of this place; for about the latter end of queen Elizabeth it was conveyed to Johnson; from whom very lately, it is come over by purchase to Stringer.

Rishford is a fourth manor circumscribed within the bounds of Headcorne, which in the twentieth year of Edward the third, was possessed by a family called Pend, who (as appears by the Book of Aid) paid a respective supply for it, at making the Black Prince knight. And here is much land in this parish, which bears the name of Pend, a probable argument of the antiquity of it in this track; nor did it yield to time, or desert the possession of this place, but was constant in the tenure of it, until that age we call our grandfathers, and then it was alienated to a family called Dominie, alias Fullaker; the last of which name at this place was Christopher Dominie, alias Fullaker, who not many years since passed it away to Mr. John Hulks of Newenham, whose son and heir Mr. Stephen Hulks, does now possess the signory of it.

HERIETSHAM, in the hundred of Eyhorne, was anciently a limb of that estate which was entituled to the possession of the noble family of Crescy. Hugh de Crescy died seized of the manor, in the forty-seventh year of king Henry the third, and his grandmother Margery was daughter of William de Cheyney of Patrickbourne Cheyney, as appears, Claus. 52. Henrici tertii memb. 6. in dorso. But he deceased without issue, and so his brother Stephen de Crescy became his heir and lord of Herietsham, and in this family it continued until the latter end of Edward the second, and then the possession of this place went from Crescy into Northwood, as is manifest by the Book of Aid, where Roger de Northwood is represented to

have held this manor, and have paid a proportionate aid for it, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth of Edward the third, and he deceased seized of it in the thirty-fifth year of that king's reign. And in this name it remained fixed until the beginning of Henry the fifth, and then it was transplanted into the interest of a family called Adam, who had large possessions in Essex, and bore for their paternal coat vert, a plain cross, or; and John Adam held it at his death, which was in the nineteenth year of Henry the sixth, and left it to his son John Adam; after whom I do not find any more of the family possessed of it; for in the reign of

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Edward the fourth, I discover by some court-rolls that James Peckham of Yaldam, Esquire, was lord of the fee; and Reginald Peckham his son, that was sheriff of Kent, in the last year of Henry the seventh, kept this shrievalty at Herietsham; but after this, it was of no long continuance in this family; for in the fifteenth year of Henry the eighth, Reginald de Peckham passes it away by sale to Edward Scott, Esquire, and he not long after transmits it by the same conveyance to John Hales, one of the barons of the exchequer, and from him one moiety of it went away by sale, in the twenty-eighth of Henry the eighth, to John Norton, Esquire; and the other not long after to Sir Anthony St. Leger. Norton conveyed his proportion to Ashburnham of Sussex; and both St. Leger and Ashburnham, in the time almost of our fathers remembrance, by a concurrent sale demised their joint right in it to Sir John Steed, whose successor, doctor ..... Steed, doctor of the civil law, is the instant proprietor of Herietsham.

East Farbon and Bentley, are two little manors in this parish, which belonged to the priory of Leeds; and upon the suppression, were made parcel of the revenue of the crown, and remained there until king Edward the sixth, in the fourth year of his reign, granted them to Sir Anthony St. Leger, whose great grandchild Sir Warham St. Leger, about the beginning of king James, passed them away to Mr. .... Steed, father to doctor Steed; who upon the decease of his nephew Cromer Steed without issue male, as reversioner in entail, is now settled in the possession of these two manors.

West Farbon, sometimes in old deeds, called little Herietsham, lies likewise in this parish, and was granted in the fifty-second year of Henry the third, to William de Valentia, earl of Pembroke; but after him I track no more of the family at this place; for in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight, it was held by John Pennington; and in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, when Blanch, that prince's daughter was married, it acknowledged itself to be under the signory of the abovementioned family, and continued divers years after united to their interest; but in the reign of Henry the eighth, I find them quite vanished from the possession, and a family called Hede or Head, entitled to the inheritance; and in this name did it make its abode, until the reign of Edward the sixth, and then it was conveyed by sale to St. Leger, where it rested until the beginning of king James, and then it was alienated by Sir Warham St. Leger, to Mr. Benedict Barneham, who left four daughters and co-heirs, married to Audley, Constable, Doble, and Soame, who equally shared his estate; and this upon the distinguishing of it into just proportions, augmented the revenue of Constable.

Harbilton is another ancient manor in Herietsham; it was, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, the inheritance of Thomas de Malmains; for at that time, as appears by the Book of Aid, he paid a subsidiary supply for this and other lands, at making the Black Prince knight. After this family was mouldered away, which was before the end of Richard the second, I find the family of Maris was settled in the inheritance. William Maris who was Esquire, first to Henry the fifth, and after to cardinal Kempe, was possessor of it, and so was his son William Maris, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-first year of Henry the sixth. After this family, I find the Moils, about the latter end of the former prince's government, to have stepped into the inheritance; the first of which was Walter Moile, who was justice of the peace for this county, in the reign both of Henry the sixth and Edward the fourth, and left this, and a spacious patrimony besides, to his heir John Moile, Esquire, whose son Robert Moile, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, alienated it to Geoffrey St. Leger, Esquire, from whom the title for many years streamed into this family, until in that time, which fell under our grandfathers



cognizance, it was passed away by sale to Steed, ancestor to doctor Steed, who is the instant possessor of it.

Marley and Hopme Mill, and in other copies written Holme Hill, did with their income support the chanter of the canons of Pauls, to whose office they were annexed. A place certainly in elder times of important account; for in the records of Christchurch, from whence Pitsem hath collected his inventory of the English writers,

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there is mention of one Joannes de Teneth, a man as exemplary for his piety, as he was eminent for his learning, who was chanter to that convent; but this office being entombed in the ruins of those canons of Pauls in the general suppression, the revenue which upheld it, was fixed in the crown, until king Edward the sixth granted both these places to Sir Edward Wotton, one of his privy council, whose grandchild Sir Edward Wotton, was by king James invested with the dignity and title of Edward lord Wotton of Marley, and was by Thomas lord Wotton, his son, settled in marriage upon his eldest daughter Katharine Wotton with Henry lord Stanhop, son and heir apparent to Philip earl of Chesterfield, and is at this instant in relation to the former settlement devolved in obedience to her son, the right honorable Philip Stanhop, the present earl of Chesterfield, **which Katherine afterwards married Henry de Kirkhoven, lord of Homfleet in Holland.**

HERN, \* in the hundred of Blengate, has nothing memorable in it but Hawhouse, a limb or portion of that wide demeane that the eminent family of Apulderfield held in this track; and when this name that had been deeply rooted in antiquity, and had spread to a large extent, in the latitude of it, was circumscribed in a daughter and heir called Elizabeth, married with Sir John Phineux, this seat was made by female interest, an addition to the income of this family, and here it remained undivided from it, till this name determined in John Phineux, Esquire, issued from a younger line of this family, who left only one daughter and heir, married to Sir John Smith, grandfather to Philip viscount Strangford, who in relation to that right this marriage has invested in him, is now the instant proprietor.

Seas, or At-Seas-court is likewise involved within the sphere and limits of this parish; it was in records anciently stiled so, though now through disuse it be languished into an intermission, having lost its name, and the estimate of a manor likewise. For a succession of some ages, it owned the name and interest of At Sea, till fate and time, that are the common sepulchre of families, by sale gave up the fee-simple, an age or two since, to Knowler, whose heir does yet entitle himself by right of his predecessors purchase, to the possession of it.

HERNEHILL, in the hundred of Boughton, has two places in it, which may make it remarkable: First, Durgall Stroude, which was, in times of higher track, the Martins, a very noble and illustrious family in this territory, whose capital or principal seat was at Graveney, not far distant; and here, after it had flourished, by the decursion of some ages, it fell into a daughter and heir, called Margaret, sole daughter and heir to Matthew Martin, who was married to William Norton of Cokesdish in Feversham, and in her right did he become proprietor of this manor, from whose heir, Thomas Norton, the property or fee-simple was by sale transferred into the possession of Sir John Wild of Canterbury, to whose heirs general the propriety of this manor does at present relate.

Secondly, there is another seat in this parish, vulgarly called Apes-court, alias Lockley; but, indeed, in truer orthography written Epes-court, a place so despicable, that it had not been worth the memorial, but that in all the circumstances of probability the Epes of Canterbury assumed, if not seat, yet at least surname from thence; and it is the more possible, because the Epes have been ancient tenants to the church of Canterbury, for the manor of Seas-altar, divided by a near distance from this place; in ages of a more modern date, the Nevinsons were the lords of the fee, and certainly this was their ancient mansion, before they were transplanted to Eastry; this being sold in the reign of king James by Sir Roger Nevinson to Sir John Wild of Canterbury, in whose heirs general (Dudley Wild, Esquire, his only surviving son being lately deceased without issue) the possession continues fixed,

HEVER, in the hundreds of Somerden and Ruxley, had in elder times a castle,

which was the capital seat or manor built by Thomas de Hever, † who had liberty by the charter of Edward the third, granted to him in the fourth of his reign, not only to embattle his mansion here, but likewise had free-warren annexed to his lands in

\* Hern had a market procured to be held there weekly on the Monday, and a fair yearly upon the vigil, and day of St. Martin, by the arch-bishop of Canterbury; in the twenty fifth of Edward the third, as appears, Cart. Num 31.

† See more of this family at Northfleet.

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this place. William Hever deceased without issue male, and left only two daughters and co-heirs; Joan married to Reginald Cobham of Sterborough, and the other married to Brocas, whence in records it is sometimes called Hever Cobham and Hever Brocas, and when the Cobhams went out, the Bullens were the immediate purchasers; for Geoffrey Bullen purchased this place, and his grandchild Sir Thomas Bullen knight of the garter, and earl of Wilts, lived here, who was father to Anne Bullen, wife to Henry the eighth; and as he had here his habitation, so likewise he has here his sepulchre, and lieth entombed in Hever-church; but when his son George viscount Rochford, upon pretence of some black crimes acted against the majesty of Henry the eighth, fell under the censure of high treason, this upon his attainder or conviction was escheated to the crown, and began to be reputed a mansion of some estimate, when Anne of Cleve, for some time lived here, and made it her residence; but in times subsequent to this, I find it eminent for nothing, till queen Mary in the fifth year of her reign granted it to Sir Edward Waldgrave, whose successor yet possesses it.

HEYS, in the hundred of Rokesley, was formerly under the jurisdiction of the Squirries, a family under a signal notion of eminence in this part of the county, and was concluded some ages within their patrimony, till it was bounded by two daughters and co-heirs; one of which called Dorothy, was married to Richard Mervin, the other stiled Margaret, married to Sir William Cromer, who in right of their father Thomas Squirrie, who held Heys in the eighteenth year of Henry the sixth, entituled themselves to vast possessions in these parts; but this manor upon the division accrued to Mervin, and in his posterity some years it found an abode, till by sale the interest was transmitted to Peché; but Sir John Peché deceasing without any issue male, his only daughter Elizabeth, married to John Hart, Esq; extracted from the Harts of the county of Hereford, was found to be his heir, and in relation to that mixture, or conjunction, does this family yet continue proprietors of it.

HINXHILL, in the hundreds of Chart and Longbridge, was part of that estate which belonged to the family of Strabolgie, earls of Atholl; but whether or not it devolved to Alexander Balioll, earl of Atholl by Isabell his wife, one of the co-heirs of Richard de Dover, lord of Chilham, is altogether uncertain; because no record that I ever yet saw, reaches beyond the abovementioned Alexander: this man's son was John earl of Strabolgie and Athol, who having forfeited it in the reign of Edward the first, whilst he endeavoured to buoy up the liberty of his country of Scotland, which then seemed to be sunk in its own ruins, being trampled upon by the successful attempts of that prince, it for some years encreased the royal revenue, until David de Strabolgie, earl of Atholl, the first that altered his name from Balioll to Strabolgie, having expiated his father's disservices, by being constant to the party and interest of Edward the second, against the eruptions of the nobility, which then bandied in combinations against him, had this with much other land, restored to him in the fifteenth year of that prince; from whom it descended to David de Strabolgie his grandchild, who dying in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, left it to Phillippa his daughter and co-heir married to John Halsham of Sussex, by whom she had issue Hugh Halsham, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, passed it away to Sir Robert Scott, lieutenant of the Tower of London 1424, and he concluding in Alice Scott, a female inheritrix, she by marrying with William Kempe, nephew of cardinal Kempe, linked it to the demeanour of that family, and here it remained until Sir William Kempe, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, alienated it to Browning, from which family, about the beginning of queen

Elizabeth, it passed away by sale to Mr. Robert Edolph, whose grandchild Mr. Robert Edolph dying in the year 1632, without issue, gave his interest in it with Godchepes to his beloved wife, Cicelie Edolph, re-married to Sir Francis Knowles of Reading, and she passed away the moiety of it (the other portion of it being invested in Mr. Thomas Edolph the third brother) with Godchepes, now called Goodchepes, to her husband's second brother, Mr. Samuel Edolph, who some few years since conveyed his interest in Hinxhill with this, by testament, to his brother-in-

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law Mr. John Angell of Croherst in Surry, to discharge debts and legacies; and he, that he might the more effectually perform the contents of the will, hath lately passed away the moiety of Hinxhill with Goodchepes, to Edward Chowte of Surrenden Chowte in Bethersden, Esquire, lately deceased.

Waltham is another manor in Hinxhill, which was folded up in the vast demeanor of Crioll, by whose daughter and heir it came to Rokesley, and by the female inheritance of Rokesley to Poynings: in which name it continued until the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and then Sir Edward Poynings dying without any lawful issue; after a signal and solemn inspection, by several inquisitions, into his collateral alliance, no claim being laid unto his estate, this manor escheated to the crown, in the fourteenth year of that prince, and then king Henry the eighth, by grant passed it away to Sir Richard Damsell, who not long after transmitted his right in it to Goldhill, who in our grandfathers memory alienated it to Mr. Robert Edolph, whose grandchild Mr. Robert Edolph gave it with his interest in Hinxhill and Goodchepes to his wife Cicely Edolph, who passed away the moiety to Mr. Samuel Edolph, and he devised it by will to Mr. Angell, who hath transferred his right in it by sale to Mr. Edward Chowte.

The farm called Godchepes or Goodchepes, in this parish, for an unbroken series of many generations, had owners of that surname, as appears by an inquisition taken after the death of Thomas Godchepe, in the thirty-first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 47, and remained fastened to their inheritance, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then by a strange and mysterious fatality the propriety of it was carried off to Barrow. The story is represented thus: John Barrow being an attorney, was called to frame a settlement by deed of Thomas Godchepe, and by his direction was desired to insert eight persons into the deed, who were successively to inherit his estate, and being asked by this John Barrow, whether he should add the names of any more, he was answered (because there had formerly been reciprocal obligations of friendship between them) that he should place his own next after those eight above-mentioned. It pleased the eternal arbiter of human affairs, so to order the vicissitude of things that those eight persons recited in the deed, deceased without issue, so that his estate here at Godchepe devolved to Barrow, as his heir at law, from whom by Elizabeth his eldest daughter and co-heir, it came to Mr. Robert Edolph.

HOO gives name to the hundred where it is situated, and was a principal branch of that revenue, which fell under the notion of a whole knight's fee, as appears by the red book kept in the exchequer, in the reign of Henry the second: and from him it came down to Hugh Bardolfe, who was rated for it after the same account, in the second year of Richard the first; but Hugh lord Bardolfe his son not long after concluded in three daughters and co-heirs. Mawde was married to Nicholas Points, Margaret was married to Robert Aguillon, and Isolda was married to Henry lord Grey of Codnor, which divided the inheritance of that family at this place. But that portion of it which was annexed by this alliance to Points and Aguillon, was passed away by a joint sale to John de la Pole, and he paid respective supply for his lands at Hoo, which were rated at half a knight's-fee, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; but before the latter end of Henry the fourth, this family was worn out, and that estate they held here was by purchase involved and swallowed up in the inheritance of Grey, who before was entitled to the moiety of this manor, as descending from Henry lord Grey of Codnor and Isolda his wife, co-heir to Hugh lord Bardolfe, and in this family did it continue until Henry lord Grey of Codnor, in the twenty-second year of Henry the sixth, dying without issue-male, left it to be patrimony of daughters and co-heirs, one of which brought it to be

the inheritance of the lord Zouch; but in this family it had not long remained, when John lord Zouch having pursued the interest of the house of York, did exemplify his zeal to it, by his being embarked in the cause and quarrel of Richard the third, in that signal and fatal encounter at Bosworth field, where the title of

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the two houses of York and Lancaster, was put to the bloody arbitration of the sword; for which, after the crown and scepter by that happy contest devolved to Henry the seventh, he was in the first year of that prince's reign attainted, and his estate here granted to Sir Henry Wiatt, one of the privy-council to the said monarch, whose unfortunate grandchild, Sir Thomas Wiatt, being likewise attainted in the second year of queen Mary, it escheated upon that confiscation, to the crown, and there was lodged, until king James, about the third year of his reign, granted it to Robert, earl of Salisbury, whose son Robert, earl of Salisbury, sold it quarto Caroli to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet; from whom it is now come down to his grandchild, Sir Edward Hales, baronet, in whose revenue, it, at this instant, is involved.

Beluncle is another seat in this parish, whose antiquity pleads for a remembrance: the first family whom I find in record to have been possessed of it was Foliot. Jordan de Foliot held it in the time of Henry the second, and Richard the first, by the fifth part of a knight's-fee; and from him did it descend to Richard de Foliot, his son and heir, who in the twentieth year of Henry the third, passes it away by fine to Reginald de Cobham, who was sheriff of Kent from the thirty-third year of Henry the third, to the fortieth of that prince, and was accounted one of the principal seats which was couched in the demean of this family; and, in divers old pedigrees and other deeds, they are written Cobham of Beluncle. Of this family was Henry de Cobham, who was summoned to parliament as baron, in the seventh year of Edward the third; Stephen de Cobham, who was summoned in the eighteenth year of that prince; and Thomas de Cobham, who was summoned as baron, in the thirty-eighth year of that prince. And in Cobham, and then Brook, did it continue, until Henry lord Cobham and his brother George Brooke, in the first year of king James, being entangled in that cloudy design of Sir Walter Rawleigh, which continues muffled up in a mist until this day, forfeited both their estates, and the last his life. But king James restored this to Henry lord Cobham, who dying without issue it devolved to Sir William Brooke, son of George Brooke, and he likewise deceasing without issue-male, in the year 1643, it came over to Sir John Brooke, now lord Cobham, as reversioner in entail.

HOLLINGBOURNE, in the hundred of Eyhorne, was given to the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, to supply them with diet, by Athelstan, son of Ethelred, which manor he had before purchased of his father; and in the year 909, with his licence and consent bestowed it on that convent, free as Adisham. If you will discover how it was rated in the conqueror's time, Domesday-book thus represents it to you. *Hollingbourne (says that) est manerium monachorum, & de ciborum & in tempore Edwardi regis se defendebat pro VI. sullings, & nunc similiter. Et est appretiatum inter totum hoc manerium XXX lb.* This being thus fixed, remained from the original donation, locked up in the ecclesiastical patrimony, until the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was surrendered into that king's hands by the prior and monks of the convent aforesaid, and he that year exchanged it with Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury.

There was the gallows which appertained to the priory of Christ-church here erected at Hollingbourne, where those who had committed murders, felonies, or other trespasses worthy of death, within the liberties of that convent, were according to the privilege of Infangtheof and Outfangtheof, brought to exemplary punishment: See Somner Fol. 286.

There is a manor in this parish called Ripple, which had owners of that name; for in the thirtieth of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 91, I find that Richard de Ripple held this, and other lands, which he had in lease from the priory of Christ-church at his decease; but it only gave him surname, and then left his family; for before the latter end of Edward the third, it went from this name to Sir William Septuans, and he enjoyed it at his death, which was in the forty-third year of Edward the third; and transmitted it to his son William Septuans, who not long after

conveyed it to John Gower, in whose name it lay couched until the reign of Henry the fourth; and then it was alienated to Brockhull, a cadet of that stock which

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flourished so long at Calehill, and here it continued for many descents in this family, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth; and then Henry Brockhull dying without issue-male, Anne his only daughter and heir brought it to be the inheritance of Sir John Taylor, in which family after it had lodged only until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, it was passed away to Sir Martin Barnham.

Elnothington is another manor in this parish, which had owners likewise of that surname; for in a deed of Adam de Twisdens, which bears date from the one and twentieth of Edward the first, one William de Elnothington is witness; but after this man, I find no more mention in any record of the name. In the reign of Edward the third, I discover Sir Arnold St. Leger of Ulcombe to be possessed of it, and in the forty-second year he makes a composition with divers of his tenants for lands that they held of this manor, and from him, like an uninterrupted thread, did the title of this place pass through many descents of this family, until at last it devolved to Sir Anthony St. Leger, who almost in our memory alienated it to Sir Thomas Colepeper.

Pen-court is another seat in Hollingbourne worthy our notice. It was in elder times the patrimony of a family called Pen; but whether the Pens of Codcot in the county of Bedford, were descended from them or not, is uncertain; in brief, before the end of Edward the third, this family was worn out, and then the Donets succeeded, but held this seat not long; for by the heir general it devolved with much other land to St. Leger of Ulcombe, and here it rested until almost our remembrance; and then it was passed away to Sir Thomas Colepeper; and he again conveyed it to Mr. Mark Questwood of London, who, upon his decease, settled it for ever on the company of fishmongers in London.

Muston is likewise within the verge of this parish: upon perusal of the ancient deeds and court-rolls, I found it to be written Moston, as giving name, in the reign of Edward the first, to a family of that appellation, which about the beginning of Richard the second, was wholly crumbled away, and had surrendered the possession to Wood, in which family the inheritance hath ever since been permanent.

Greenway-court, is the last place considerable in this parish; it was as high as the conduct of any evidence can guide me to discover, parcel of the patrimony of Atleeze, and Sir Richard Atleeze, dying without issue, in the year 1394, gave it to his brother Marcellus Atleeze, by whose daughter and co-heir, it came to be possessed by Valentine Barret of Pery-court; and he, about the beginning of Henry the fourth, conveyed it to Fitz-Water, in which family it remained, until the reign of Edward the fourth; and then it was alienated to St. Leger, with whose inheritance it continued, until almost our age; and then it was by sale transplanted into Sir Alexander Colepeper, who upon his decease, gave it to Sir John Colepeper of Losenham.

HOPE, in the hundreds of Langport and St. Martin's, hath nothing memorable in it but Crawthorn, which for those worthy persons, who have successively held it, calls for some memorial; for first, the Cheyneys were (as appears by ancient evidences) lords of the fee; and when they went out, the Henleys about the latter end of Henry the eighth, were the next eminent possessors of it; and in the descendants of this family, did the propriety reside, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth; and then it was alienated to Thomas lord Borough of Sternborough, who not long after conveyed it to Tooke, of Bere in Westcliffe, from whom it came over to Mr. Charles Took of Bere, and he hath lately, by vicissitude of sale, transplanted his concern in it, to his nephew Mr. Edward Chowte, who being lately deceased without issue-male, hath settled it on his only brother Mr. George Chowte.

HIGHAM, in the hundred of Shamell, had anciently a nunnery, but the original chartularies, and other records being lost, the founder is unknown. King Henry the third, by a charter of inspection, as appears, Carta 11. parte secunda, membrum septima, reviews the liberties of this cloister, and confirms them, and adds this franchise or immunity to the former, that this parish lying couched in their demean,

should hold a fair on Michaelmas day, and two days after. This manor, upon the  
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suppression, was by the bounty of king Henry the eighth enstated for ever on St. John's college, in Cambridge, and there at present it continues.

The places of most eminence, which were of secular interest, are Great and Little Oakley, which both were formerly united, though since dissevered and plucked asunder by sale. In the twentieth of Edward the third, I find them wrapt up in the possessions of John de St. Clere, who held them by the fourth part of a knight's fee, of the honour of Montchensey, that is of Swanscamp-castle, from whose descendant, about the latter end of Edward the fourth, they were both passed away to Neile of London, who about the latter end of Henry the seventh, conveyed Great Okeley to John Sydley, Esquire, ancestor to Sir Charles Sydley baronet, the instant inheritor of it. But Little Okeley by the same transmission was transferred to Colemeley or Cholmeley, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, resigned up his interest by sale to Thompson, from whom the ordinary vicissitude of purchase not long since conducted the title down to Best.

Merston was formerly an independant parish of itself, though since annexed to Higham, and had a church dedicated to St. Giles, whose ruins, in despite of the impressions of age, yet represent themselves to the smallest glance of a curious eye. It was, before it fell into this darkness and obscurity, made something illustrious by being the inheritance of John de St. Clere; and when this family found its tomb, the name of Smith stept in, and rose upon its ruins. And when this was expired at this place, which was about the beginning of Henry the eighth, Jordan put in his claim to the possession of it; but about the latter end of the abovesaid prince, I find this family extinguished, because the propriety of this manor was by one of the abovementioned names conveyed to Anthony Tutsham, who not long after alienated the premises to George Brooke lord Cobham; from whom, by descendant right, the interest of it is devolved to Sir John Brooke, restored to the barony of Cobham by the late king at Oxford, who now possesses this place as reversioner in entail to Sir William Brooke, who died without issue-male in the year 1643.

HORSMONDEN, in the hundreds of Brenchley, Horsmonden, and Larkfield, was folded up in the patrimony of Rokesley, a family of a large revenue, and as wide a repute in this track, from whom it descended to Richard de Rokesley, by whose co-heir it was united to the patrimony of Thomas de Poynings, from whom by the steps of divers descents it went down to Sir Edward Poynings, who deceasing without any lawful issue, in the twelfth of Henry the eighth, and there being not any that could by a pretence of collateral alliance entitle themselves to his estate, the crown made it its own interest by escheat, and then the abovesaid prince, in the thirty-sixth of his reign, granted it to Richard Darell; and his son George Darell, in the tenth of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Richard Paine, who not long after alienated it to Beswick, ancestor to Mrs. Mary Beswick, who dying without issue, hath settled it by testament for life on Mr. .... Haughton.

Groveherst with its relative appendages, Capell, Augustpits, Hoath, and Sneade, were lately passed away by Mr. Whetenhall of great Peckham to Mr. Francis Austin, whose ancestor William Whetenhall, Esquire, had them annexed to his demeane by marrying with Margaret, sole heir of William Hextall, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, had purchased the four last places of Capell, Cheseman, Hoath, and Sneade, families who had been entituled to the propriety of them many descents before; but Groveherst was united to the demeane of Richard Hextall, father of William abovementioned, by marrying about the latter end of Richard the second, with Anne, one of the three co-heirs of Richard Groveherst, whose ancestors had been possessed of it many hundred years before.

Lewis Hoath was in times of elder track, the demeane of John de Groveherst, who lies buried in Horsmonden church, and was a priest in orders, and dying so, bequeathed this manor by testament to the abby of Begham, upon whose suppression, by the importunate desire of cardinal Wolsey, it being found incorporated with the demeane of the abovesaid monastery, it became parcel of the revenue of the crown, and remained there, until queen Elizabeth by royal concession passed it away to Anthony Brown viscount Montague; but by a sudden revolution, it was by sale

transmitted to Beswick, whose heir general Mrs. Mary Beswick, hath lately by will, settled it on Mr. .... Haughton.

Sprivers is likewise under the repute of a manor, and had in elder times, owners of that surname; for I find that Robert Spriver died possessed of it, in the year 1447, and by his will, gives it to his son Robert Spriver, and certainly from this seat, the Sprivers which are scattered into some places of Kent, though now under the eclipse of an obscure character, branched out originally. In times of a more modern aspect, the Vanes were the proprietors of it; and when this name began to fade away, the Bathursts were the next successive possessors, in whom the title was not many years settled, but that by the same transitory devolution, it was put over to Malbert, from whom by as quick and as sudden a mutation, it was incorporated into the interest of Murgan.

Spelmonden celebrates the memory of a family which bore that surname; for in the deeds and evidences which concern this seat, there is a frequent recital of John de Spelmonden, who was possessor of this place. After this family had deserted the inheritance of it, the noble and eminent family of Poynings, was planted by purchase, in the possession of it. Michael Poynings enjoyed it at his death, which was in the forty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. parte secunda, and from him did the title glide along in the interest of this name, until it came down to Sir Edward Poyning; and he, in the fourteenth year of Edward the fourth, alienated his concern in it to John Sampson, and he had issue Christopher Sampson, who in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, passed it away to Stephen Darrell; and his son George Darrell, in the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, sold it to Richard Payne of Twyford in Middlesex; and he in the twenty-eighth year of the abovesaid princess, translated his right in it by sale into William Nutbrown; and he in the twenty-ninth year of the same queen's reign, conveyed it to George Cure, Esquire, of Surry; from whom, immediately, after, it went away by sale to Arthur Langworth; and from him, by as quick a vicissitude, to William Beswick, Esquire, son to .... Beswick, lord mayor of London, in the year of our lord .... and his grandchild Mrs. Mary Beswick, dying not long since without issue, she, by testament, gave it in lease to Mr. .... Haughton, now of Chelsea in Middlesex, originally extracted from the ancient family of Haughton, of Haughton Tower in the county of Lancaster. \*

HORTON, in the hundred of Stowting, was a manor which belonged to that priory, which was founded here by Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford, lord great chamberlain of England, and dedicated to the honour of St. John Baptist, it being a cell to the priory of Lewes, and stored with black monks of the Cluniac order. Adelina daughter of Hugh de Montfort, was a principal benefactress to this house, and so were the Honywoods of Henewood in Saltwood, not far distant. The first remembered in the register, is Edmund de Honywood, who flourished in the reign of Henry the third. Upon the general surrender of the estate of abbies, into the hands of Henry the eighth, this by that prince, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell, earl of Essex; but he being unfortunately attainted in the thirty-first year of the abovesaid prince; this manor returned to the crown, and was resident there, until king Charles passed it away by grant, in the fourth year of his reign to the city of London, and they 1630, conveyed it to George Rook, Esquire, father to Mr. Lawrence Rook, who enjoys the instant signory of it; but the abby house was by Henry the eighth, upon the fatal execution of the abovementioned lord, granted to John Tate of the county of Northampton, Esquire; and he in the sixth year of Edward the sixth, sold it to Walter Mantle, Esquire, who being unfortunately involved in the design of the noble but unhappy Sir Thomas Wyatt, in the second year of queen Mary, forfeited this to the crown, where, after it had for some interval of time been lodged, it was in the thirteenth year of queen Elizabeth, restored to the abovesaid Walter Mantle, and from him, did it come down to his successor Mr. Walter Mantle, who was the present possessor of it 1657.

\* Bidmonden in Horsmonden, was a cell but not conventual, belonging to the priory of Beaulieu in Normandy; and being rent off, by Henry the fifth,

it was settled on the priory of St. Andrew in Rochester, and after by Henry the eighth, on the dean and chapter of that city.

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Sherford, alias East-Horton, is another manor in this parish; it was a branch of that demeane, which fell under the jurisdiction of Retling. Sir Richard de Retling was found in the enjoyment of it at his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 12, and left it to Joan his sole daughter and heir, who brought it, by espousing John Spicer, to be parcel of his inheritance; and he died invested in the possession of it, in the tenth year of Richard the second, and from him it devolved to his second son John Spicer, who assigned it as dower to his wife Joan, and she was found to hold it in possession at her death, which was in the fifth year of Henry the fifth, Rot. Esc. Num. 9, and in this family did it reside, until that age which bordered upon our fathers remembrance; and then it passed away by Spicer to Morris, in which family the propriety is still resident.

HORTON, in the hundred of Acstane, was held by An. Retellus Rubitonienensis, or Rosse, in the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, as Domesday Book instructs me. Alexander Rosse, another of this family, and lord of this manor, was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, an office of eminence, and no less concern. In the first year of the reign of king John, William de Rosse held a knight's fee in Horton and Lullingston, and left it to his sole heir, Lora de Rosse, who about the latter end of Edward the first, brought it to be the possession of her husband ..... Kirbie, who by this marriage, being entituled to this place, removed out of Lancashire, where was his ancient mansion at Kirbie-hall, and seated himself at Horton, where he re-edified the castle, which as Darell relates, in this track de Castellis Cantii, did acknowledge the Rosses for its founders, and built the manor house, upon which he engrafted his own name, from whence it hath ever since acquired the attribute of Horton Kirbie. But it was not long united to this name; for about the beginning of Henry the fourth, this family was extinguished in a female heir, who was married to Thomas Stoner of Stoner in Oxfordshire, father and mother of Sir Thomas Stoner, who was father to Sir William Stoner, who by Anne, daughter and heir of John Nevill marquiss Montacute, had issue John Stoner, who died issueless, and had forfeited Horton castle to Henry the seventh, by confederating with the lord Audley, in his insurrection against that prince; and Anne a daughter, married to Sir Adrian Fortescue, by whom he had the manor of Kirkbie-court, and by her only a female heir, called Margery Fortescue, married to Thomas lord Wentworth, ancestor to Thomas lord Wentworth of Nettlested, created earl of Cleveland, in the first year of king Charles; but Kirkbie was passed away by Sir Adrian Fortescue to Sir James Walsingham, in the beginning of Henry the eighth, whose grandchild, Sir Thomas Walsingham, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to alderman Hacket of London, in whose posterity the propriety of it resides at this day; but Horton castle continued in the crown, until king Henry the eighth granted it to Robert Kudston, Esquire; by the heir general of which family it is at this instant become the inheritance of Mr. .... Michell of Richmond.

Franks is an eminent seat in this parish, which was the mansion of gentlemen of that surname, who about the latter end of Henry the third, came out of Yorkshire, and planted themselves at this place, and writ their surnames in very old deeds, and other old evidences Frankish, and bore for their coat-armour, as appears by seals a saltire engrailed ..... After Franke, John Martin, about the beginning of Henry the sixth, by purchase, became invested in the possession, and he upon his decease, which was in the year 1436, bequeathed it to a younger son, who bore his name, and was called John Martin, from whom, by paternal succession, it came down to his grandchild Edward Martin, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Lancelot Bathurst, alderman of London; who erected that elegant and magnificent fabrick, which is now the possession of my noble friend, his grandchild, Sir Edward Bathurst.

Reynolds is a third place of considerable importance; it was the seat of gentlemen of that denomination, who were rooted by a prescription of so many years in the possession of this place, that it is a controversy, whether those at Belso in



Essex, or those here, were of the most venerable antiquity; one of them in one  
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of his deeds, writes Rogerus Filius Reginaldi. It is not bounded with any date, and from this orthography, which was customary in those times, the name of Reynolds, or Fitz Reynolds, did by vulgar acceptation and use, first borrow its original. But to advance in my discourse. After this seat had for sundry descents been constant to this name and family, it was, about the latter end of Edward the fourth, transmitted by sale to Sir John Brown, lord mayor of London, in the year 1480, from whom it came down, by paternal descent, to his son and heir, William Brown, Esquire, who assigned it for subsistence to his second son, John Brown, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent, the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, and held his shrievalty at this place; and in this name did the title dwell, until not many years since it was dislodged, and by sale transplanted into Sir John Jacob, from whom the like fatality hath lately transported it, and cast it into the inheritance of Sir Harbottle Grimston of Essex, baronet.

HORTON upon Stoure, near Canterbury, lies in the hundred of Bridge and Petham, and was involved in that spacious inheritance, which acknowledged the signiory of the lord Badelesmere. Bartholomew lord Badelesmere, steward of the household to Edward the second, in the second year of that prince, gave it in frank-marriage with his daughter Joan Badelesmere to John de Northwood; and that this was customary in that age, wherein the times were dry for any pecuniary supply, is most certain; for John de Northwood, this man's great grandchild, in the eighth year of Richard the second, gave it in frank-marriage with his daughter to Christopher Shuckborough, of the county of Warwick, Esquire, and he in the ninth year of Henry the fourth, alienated it to Gregory Ballard, Esquire, whose posterity for many years did successively possess it, until Nicholas Ballard, in the fourth year of Philip and Mary, passed it away by sale to Robert Trollop, Esquire, and he in the second year of queen Elizabeth, by bargain and sale, demised his interest in it, to Sir Edward Warner, then lieutenant of the Tower; and he in the sixteenth year of the government of that princess, conveyed it to Sir Roger Manwood, lord chief baron of the exchequer, whose son Sir Peter Manwood, almost in our fathers memory, disposed of his right in it by sale to Mr. Christopher Tolderbye, who left it to his son Mr. Christopher Tolderbye, and he deceasing without issue, Jane, his only sister and heir, by matching with Sir Robert Darell of Cale-hill (a man eminent both by his integrity and hospitality, according to the accustomed genius, which always waited on this family) brought it to be possessed by that name; upon whose decease it devolved to his second son Mr. Edward Darell, who is the present lord of the fee.

There was an eager contest between John Beckford, vicar of Chatham, and Christopher Shuckburgh, Esquire, lord of Horton, touching the celebration of divine offices in the chapel at Horton; as likewise the administration of the sacraments; and it was improved to that animosity, that there was a mutual appeal made to William Courtney, then arch-bishop of Canterbury, who directed a commission to John Barnett, his official, in the year 1380, to hear and determine the controversy, and upon a serious sifting and winnowing this whole affair, the debate was wound up upon this conclusion, that there should be a solemnization of all divine offices in the abovementioned chapel exceptis tantum defunctorum sepulturis & exsequiis, only the dead were to receive their interment in the church of Chatham.

HOTHFIELD, in the hundreds of Chart, Longbridge, and Cole-hill, was wrapt up in the demeasne of the lord Badelesmer, who held it in grand serjeanty of the archbishop of Canterbury; that is, he was to serve up water to the arch-bishop at his installment or inthronization to wash his hands, and had Pelvim & Lotorium; such are the words of the record: he was rewarded with the vessel, which contained the water, and likewise the towel which dried his hands, and he was likewise to be his chamberlain the night of his installment, and was recompensed with the arch-bishop's bed, as his guerdon. Bartholomew de Badelesmere, son of Guncelin, died possessed of it, in the fifth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 5. And left it to his unfortunate heir, Bartholomew lord Badelesmere, who by his mutinous

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association with the rebellious nobility, having in the sixteenth year of Edward the second, forfeited this to the crown, it lay entwined with the royal revenue, until Edward the third, in the second year of his reign, restored it to his son Bartholomew de Badelesmere, who in the twelfth year of that prince's government dying without issue, his four sisters became his co-heirs, whence Margaret, married to the lord William Rosse of Hamlake, cast this manor into the inheritance of that family, and he in her right died seized of it, in the seventeenth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 60. And from him, did the title by a lineal transmission, pass down to Thomas lord Ross, who vigorously endeavouring to support the sinking title of the house of Lancaster, was by John Nevill marquiss Mountacute, discomfited in the north, and taken prisoner, and after beheaded at Newcastle, upon whose disastrous tragedy, this manor was laid hold on by the crown, as an escheat: and king Edward the fourth, in the fourth year of his government, granted it to Sir John Fogge of Repton, for life only, who was treasurer of his household, and one of his privy council; and whom king Richard the third, invited afterwards out of the abbey of Westminster, where he had taken sanctuary for fear of some mischief intended him by that usurper; and in the presence of a numerous assembly, gave him his hand, and bad him be confident, that he was thenceforth sure unto him in affection. This I mention, the rather, because divers of our chronicles have erroneously mentioned, that he was an attorney, whom this prince pardoned for forgery. But to proceed: After the decease of Sir John Fogge, who died in the seventeenth year of Henry the seventh, it returned to the crown, and lay there until Henry the eighth granted it to John Tufton, Esquire, ancestor to the right honourable John earl of Thanet, who now, by paternal right, claims the possession of it.

Swinfort is a manor in Hothfield, which afforded a surname to a family so called; but whether Sir Otho Swinfort, husband to Katharine Swinfort, who was afterwards concubine to John of Gaunt, was extracted from this family or not, is uncertain; because I cannot discover they were ever of any eminence. In Henry the fifth's reign, I find it in the possession of Bridges, descended from John at Bregg, one of those eminent persons, that are depicted kneeling in coat armour, in a window in Great Chart church. And there is a place in that parish, which still bears the name of this family, and is called Bridge, being divorced by no great distance from this manor; and in this family did the propriety of this continue, until the latter end of king James, and then it passed away by sale from Bridges, to Sir Nicholas Tufton, father to the right honourable John earl of Thanet, the instant owner of it.

Faulesley, now vulgarly called Fausley and Fousley, was the patrimony of a family, which borrowed not only its source and extraction, but its denomination likewise from hence. Sir John Faulesley was an eminent person, in the reign of Richard the second, being frequently in his time, as appears by the late printed abridgement of the records in the tower, summoned to sit in parliament as baron: but although this family was made eminent by this worthy person, who was an elder branch of this stem, yet in succeeding generations, it began to crumble away in obscurity and decay; and was at last ground to so narrow a proportion of estate, that about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, this manor, which had so long been espoused to the interest of this name and family, was carried off by sale to Drury; in which family it was resident, until the latter end of that princess, and then it was alineated to Paris; who immediately after conveyed it to Bull; and he transplanted his right by sale again into the same family; from whom, a like vicissitude brought it to be the inheritance of Sir Nicholas Tufton, father to the right honourable John earl of Thanet, now possessor of it.

At Hothfield, in a field not far removed from Ripley, a manor belonging to Alexander Iden, Esquire, was Jack Cade, that counterfeit Mortimer (who was muffled up in that name, by the house of York, only to fathom the depth of the people's affection to their title, which was to take its rise from that person) encountered, and in a single combat, offered up to the justice of Henry the sixth, by the above-

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said Alexander Iden, who was not only by that prince, recompensed with a considerable reward, for so important a piece of service, but likewise invested with

the honour of knighthood; the age wherein he lived, admired him; nor shall there be any history for the future, which shall not record him. From the heir general of this family, is George Browne, Esquire, lately of Spelmonden, in Kent, and now of Buckland, in Surry, by his grand-mother originally descended.

HOUGHAM, in the hundred of Bew-borough and Folkstone, gave seat and surname to a family of as reverend an estimate for antiquity, as any in this track. Robert de Hougham died seized of it, in the forty-first year of Henry the third, and left it to his son \* Robert de Hougham, who was castellan of Rochester castle, in the reign of Edward the first, and died seized in the possession of this, and the custody of that, in the second year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. But in the next descent, this family was entombed in two daughters and co-heirs, one was married to John de Shelving, and the other to Waretius de Valoigns, who in her right entered upon the inheritance, and in the fourteenth year of Edward the third, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Hougham, but enjoyed neither his new acquired privilege or inheritance long; for before the latter end of Edward the third, he died, and left a large inheritance to be shared by his two daughters and co-heirs, one whereof was wedded to Sir Thomas Fogge of Toniford, and the other to Thomas de Aldon, to whose revenue, upon the partition, this was annexed, and he was found in the enjoyment of it at his death, which was in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 10. Parte prima. But here the possession likewise, before the end of Henry the fourth, was as volatile, and full of vicissitude; for by the female inheritor of this family, it came to be the demeasne of Heron; who, after he had some years owned the propriety of it, alienated the fee-simple to Phineux, in which name and stem, when it had for many descents, in a constant procedure, flourished, and had been productive of persons of the highest office and trust, as they could be invested with, in relation to the service of this country, it was not many years since passed away from this family, and sold to master Neview of Dover.

Little Hougham is a second manor in this parish. It was, in ages of a very high ascent, the revenue of the ancient family of Basing. William de Basing held it at his death, which was in the ninth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 21. From whom it descended to his grandchild John Basing, who died in the tenure of it, in the seventh year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 6. After whose decease, it continued in the name, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was alienated to Clive, vulgarly called Cliffe, a family of eminent account, in the counties of Salop and Essex; and in the possession of this family it dwelt, until the latter end of that prince, and then by purchase, it was made the patrimony of Hextall, a family who extracted their original out of Staffordshire; and here it resided, until the latter end of Edward the fourth, and then it was transmitted by a daughter and heir to Whetenhall; who sold it to John Bois, Esquire, ancestor to Joseph Bois of Fredville, Esquire, who is entituled to the present signiory of it.

Maxton is a third place, which must not be waved in this discourse. It was in elder times divided between two families, called Madekin and Walsham. Stephen de Madekin, was not only lord of Madekin, in Denton, and the moiety of this place, in the year one thousand seventy and seven, but likewise land at Canterbury, as appears by Mr. Somner, in his survey of that city, page 415. And William de Walsham, who in the thirty-seventh year, was possessed of the other moiety of this place, gave, about that year, by charter, some land to the incumbent or parson of St. Nicholas, of Harbledown. After these two families had deserted the inheritance, I find the Archers, about the beginning of Edward the third, to be entituled by purchase to it, and William le Archer (so he is written in the Book of Aid) paid an auxiliary supply for this manor, in the twentieth year of Edward

\* This Robert de Hougham, was with Edward the first, at the siege of Acon, in Palestine.

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the third, at making the Black Prince knight; but his son William Archer, in the twenty-first year of Richard the second, passes away his right by sale, to John Alkham, of Alkham, a family that had taken deep root in antiquity downwards, and had a spreading revenue upwards in this track; but, before the end of Henry the seventh, were consumed and crumbled away; and then the next family which suc=

ceeded in the possession, was Herman, who was likewise owner of Mary-place, in Crayford, and in this name did the interest of it fix, until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was alienated to Andrews, who some few years after demised the fee simple to Pepper, and he, almost in the verge of our remembrance, sold it to Sir Thomas Wilford of Iden, and he in our memory alienated it to Richards of Dover.

Although the greatest part of this manor was of secular concern, yet I find that the prior of St. Martin's, in Dover, had some interest in it, as appears by an inquisition taken after the death of John Atte-hall, where it is proved, in the sixteenth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 129. Parte secunda, that he held lands at his death, at Maxton, of that Covent.

Siberston is the last place of account in Hougham. It gave name in elder times to a family so stiled; for in an old deed, without date, in the hands of Mr. Whittingham-Wood of Canterbury, deceased, I find Richard de Siberston demises it to John Monins, and in another deed I discover that John Monins, son of John Monins, passes the third part of his manor of Siberston, to John Monins the elder, in the thirty-ninth year of Edward the third. And this I think is authority sufficient to evidence to the public, that it was a parcel of that estate, that owned the interest and signiory of that eminent family, in which it lay couched until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was by sale transplanted into Pepper, whose successor in our fathers remembrance, conveyed it to Moulton of Retherhed, vulgarly called Redriff, in Surrey, in whose descendants the inheritance of it does still continue.

HUNTON, in the hundred of Twiford, celebrates the memory of an ancient family, called Lenham, who were once proprietors of it. Nicholas de Lenham obtained a charter of free-warren, to his manor of Hunton, in the forty-first year of Henry the third; but about the beginning of Edward the third, the interest of it was departed from this family, for William de Lenham determined in Eleanor de Lenham, his sole inheritrix, and she, by matching with John Gifford, wrapt up this and Bensted, another little manor in this parish, which likewise was parcel of Lenham's estate, in the demeasne of that family; and he and his wife paid relief for Hunton and Bensted, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince, knight. But after this, it was not long permanent in this family; for about the beginning of Richard the second, it was passed away with Bensted, to John lord Clinton, who in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the third, was found heir to his cozen William Clinton, earl of Huntington; for that land which he held jure proprio & nativo, not jure uxoris Julianæ de Leybourne in this county. And the effigies of this John, and of his grand-child ..... lord Clinton (who paid relief, in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, for his manor of Hunton, at the marriage of Blanch, that prince's daughter) have escaped the furious barbarity of these times, and stand yet undemolished in the church-windows: and from this last did it descend to John lord Clinton, his successor, who about the beginning of Henry the seventh alienated the fee-simple to Sir Henry Wiatt, one of the privy council to the said monarch, and his son Sir Thomas Wiatt, the elder, died seized of it, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, and transmitted it with Bensted, which his grandfather likewise bought of the lord Clinton, to his unfortunate son Sir Thomas Wiatt, who adhering too strictly to an unhappy clause in the testament of Henry the eighth, which obliges his council not to suffer his daughters to espouse any foreigner, involved him in that disastrous design, which could not be expiated, but by the forfeiture of his life and estate, in which this manor of Hunton being concerned, it was in the second year of queen Mary granted to her attorney general, Sir John Baker of Sisinghurst, from whom the title in the stream of succession, lately glided down to his heir general Sir John Baker, baronet, son and heir to Sir John Baker, baronet, deceased.

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Burston is another manor in Hunton, which is eminent for being the seat of John de Burston, which the dateless deeds that relate to this family, from the probable conjecture of the hand-writing, which is calculated for the reign of Henry the third, record to have lived in that prince's time, and there was land likewise about Wye and Crundall, that acknowledged the jurisdiction of this family; for in the forty-fifth year of Henry the third, Waretius de Valoigns, knight, makes a release of his title to some lands in those parishes, to John de Burston, and in this

family did this seat remain for many descents, and was productive of men of no despicable account in this track: amongst whom William Burston was returned, in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the sixth, by Gervas Clifton, then sheriff, inter illos qui portabant arma antiqua. In the reign of Henry the eighth, alderman Head, of London, was resident here, and added much, both of building and magnificence to this fabrick; but certainly it was only as lessee, for I cannot find that he was ever proprietor of it; for about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, it was sold by Burston, to Sir Thomas Vane, who upon his decease, gave it to his second son ..... Vane, from whom it descended to his heir Sir George Vane, whose widow dowager, the lady ..... Vane, is now in possession of it.

Hunton had the grant of a market procured to it by Nicholas de Lenham, on the Tuesday, and a yearly fair to continue five days, the vigil, the day of the assumption of our lady, and three days after, Pat. 41. Henrici tertii Memb. 7.

HUCKING, in the hundred of Eyhorne, is involved in the manor of Hollingbourne, and was instated on the prior and convent of Christ-church, when that, by a munificent donation, augmented the revenue of that priory.

Yet there is an ancient seat in this parish, called Rumpsted, which never was couched in the spiritual patrimony; for it had anciently owners of that appellation. Sir William de Rumpsted held this, and a castellated mansion in Sevenoke, of that denomination, in the reign of Edward the first, and he had issue Sir John Rumpsted, possessed of this place, and Rumpsted in Sevenoke; and, as the tradition asserts, educated Sir William Sevenoke, lord mayor of London, in the year of grace 1418. In ages of a nearer descent to us, that is, in the third year of Henry the sixth, I find Richard Peverell to have enjoyed it. And in times subsequent to these, the Peckhams; but their possession was very frail, for in the reign of queen Elizabeth, I find it to be in Figge, a name of no despicable character in this parish; but it was very transitory here likewise; for about the beginning of king James, the title was interwoven with the interest of Thompson, who in our fathers remembrance, conveyed it by sale to Mr. .... Taylor, fruiterer to the above-said prince; and his descendant, not many years since, alienated it to Mr. Stringer of Goudherst.

I.

ICKHAM, in the hundred of Downhamford, was given by king Offa to Christ-church, and to the monks of that convent, in the year 781, under the notion of fifteen plough-lands, and was for a supplement of diet. This donation, in the year 958, was confirmed by Athelward; Odo, the archbishop of Canterbury, being then present, and attesting the ratification. In the time of Edward the confessor, when the first design of Doomsday Book was started; it was rated at four Sullings or plough-lands; nor did it fall in that account, when that general register was perfected, which was in the twentieth year of the Conqueror, defending itself at the same estimate, and upon the appraisement, was valued at thirty pound. And here it was fastened, until king Henry the eighth, finding the revenue of the church was diffused into too wide a latitude and circumference, contracted it by a general

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dissolution into a narrower orb, and having rent off this manor from the ecclesiastical demesne, like an excrescence sprouting from a luxuriant stem, he ingrafted it again, by his letters patent, on the dean and chapter of Christ-church, and they settled it by lease on Edward Isaack, a noble confessor for the protestant religion, in the reign of queen Mary, when so many were sent to heaven, like so many Elias's, flammeis vecti quadrigis, in chariots of fire, who rather chose to desert his country, then abandon his religion, and to lose his estate, rather than to debauch or relinquish his conscience, as his epitaph on an old tablet affixed to a pillar, contiguous to his grave-stone, in the nave of Christ-church, at Canterbury, does instruct us. Upon his recess, this was seized upon by the crown, and queen Mary, by grant, united it to the revenue of George lord Cobham, whose unfortunate grandchild, Henry Brooke, being attainted, in the reign of king James, that monarch restored his estate, forfeited here, to Robert Cecill, earl of Salisbury, his brother-in-law, whose son William, now earl of Salisbury, holds the instant possession of it, but hath lately alienated some part of it to Mr. Roger Lukin of London.

Apulton is a second manor in Ickham, written in old deeds Apylton, as being the inheritance of a family of that name; for in an old deed of Reginald de Cornehill, that was owner of Lukedale, in Littlebourne, not far distant, one William de Apylton, of Ikeham, is a witness; but whether this family was united, by any relation, to the noble family of the Apyltons of Essex and Suffolk, I am uncertain. Afterwards, the Denises were possessed of it, and one John Denis, of Apulton, in Ickham, who was sheriff of London, in the year of grace 1360, founded here a chantry, in the reign of Edward the third, as appears by an old manuscript, in the hands of Mr. Thomas Denne, lately deceased, and was called Denis Chantry, and the lands which relate to it, are at this day stiled, Denis lands. After this family was worn out, I find one Adam Oldmeade, by the private deeds, to be, in the reign of Henry the fifth and Henry the sixth, owner of it; from whom, before the latter end of that prince, it came over by sale to Bemboe, and from him to Hunt, in which family it made no long stay. For about the latter of Henry the seventh, I find it alienated to Dormer, a branch of the Dormers, of Buckinghamshire, and from this name, not many years after, it went away to Gason, a name very ancient in this parish, and here likewise was the possession of as brief a date; for Dormer, by sale, passed it away to Hodekin (whose ancestors were formerly possessed of Uffington, in Gonston, and transmitted it by sale to Ashenden) and here likewise was the title very variable; for within the circle of fourscore years, it acknowledged, not only this family, but Rutland, Winter, and Dee, to have been its successive proprietors; from the last of which, not many years since, it was by sale carried off to Frostall, in which name it is still resident.

The manor of Baa, in this parish, had anciently possessors of that surname, as appears by an old fragment of glass in the church windows, whereon is superscribed this incoherent inscription. Hic ..... Ba ..... and at the pedestal of another antiquated portaiture, Thomas de Baa. After the Baas, the Wendertons, of Wenderton, in Wingham, were possessed of it for several generations, until William Wenderton, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, passed it away by sale, to Hugh Warham, Esquire, brother to the archbishop, and he gave it in dower with Anne his daughter, married to Sir Anthony St. Leger, lord president of Ireland, whose descendant, Sir Warham St. Leger, passed it away to Mr. .... Denne, of Denne Hill, in Kingston, whose heir Mr. Thomas Denne, late recorder of Canterbury, almost in our memory, alienated it to Curling.

Before I leave Ickham, I must inform the reader, that Peter de Ickham was born in this parish; a man whom both Ball, in his Centuries and Pitseus in his track, de Scriptoribus ecclesiasticis, do highly magnify for a man of eminent literature: whither I refer my reader.

IVIE-CHURCH, in the hundred of St. Martin's and Aloesbridge, contains sundry places within its confines, not to be entombed in silence. The first is Capell's-Court, the seat of a family of that surname, and were written frequently At Capell,

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and in Latin, de Capella, and were a family, certainly, of signal account in Kent, as appears by their land, which lay scattered in Linton and Boxley, where John de Capell held land, called Tattellmell, in that parish, in the thirty seventh year of Henry the third, as appears by a charter of inspection, of that prince, wherein he confirms land to the abby of Boxley, which bordered on the land of John de Capell, at Tattellmell. Richard de Capell, this man's successor, died possessed of Capell Court, in Werehorn, and this here, in the fifteenth year of Richard the second. But after this man's decease, it did not long remain annexed to the name; for this family expiring in a female heir, she, by marrying with Harlackenden, of the borough of Harleckenden, in Woodchurch, united it to the patrimony of this family; and here it rested until the beginning of king James, and then Deborah, sole daughter and heir of Walter Harlackenden, a branch of the abovesaid stem, by espousing Sir Edward Hales, late of Tunstall, deceased, entwined it with his demeasne; upon whose death, it devolved to his grandchild Sir Edward Hales, now of Tunstall, baronet.

Cheyne Court is a second place of account in this parish, but whether it had this name imposed by contraction, from being in elder times an ingredient in the patrimony of Cheney, is uncertain; though I find that Alexander de Cheney (who flourished in the reign of Henry the third and Edward the first, and in the ninth of the said

prince's reign, was one of that catalogue, as appears by Kirkby's Inquest, kept in the exchequer, who was embarked in that war, which was commenced by that successful monarch against the Welsh) died possessed of some lands in this parish, in the twenty-fourth year of his government. Indeed, the track of public evidences, which we are obliged to follow, guide us only to this discovery, that it was in ages of a very high ascent, a limb of that revenue, which supported the crosier of the archbishop of Canterbury, and remained couched in their patrimony, until the twenty-ninth of Henry the eighth, and then it was by Thomas Cranmer, archbishop, exchanged with the crown, and was not long after, by the abovesaid prince, passed away by grant to Sir Thomas Cheney, whose profuse son, Henry lord Cheney, conveyed it to Carel, Bird, and Aldersey, and they alienated the manor to Roberts of Glastenbury, in Cranebroke, whose descendant (for ought I know) does yet enjoy it; but the demeasne was passed away to Knatchbull, extracted originally from Limne, where I find the name by deeds very ancient, and owners of a plentiful patrimony by right, of which purchase it is devolved by descent, to be the possession of that learned gentleman Sir Norton Knatchbull, knight and baronet.

More Court is a third place in Ivie-church, which must not find its interment in silence, because it was the ancient seat of the Moores, now barons of Mellifont in Ireland, before they were transplanted into More-place in Benenden, by marrying with the heir general of Sir William Brenchley, lord chief justice of the King's-Bench, under Henry the sixth; and this is evident, by a fine levied between John the son of Thomas de Iden, and Joseph de More of Ivie-church (so he is named in the record) by which, the said Joseph passes away land to John de More of Rolvenden, in the year of grace 1280. And in this family for many generations was it constant and permanent, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then the common vicissitude of purchase (which like a moth or canker, frets into ancient titles) brought it to be the possession of Taylor, and here it was settled until, in the second year of Edward the sixth, (as by an exemplification, now in the hands of Thomas Taylor, Esquire, is evident) it was divided between William and John Taylor, gentlemen; and they immediately after, by a joint and mutual concurrence, alienated their interest here to Peter Godfrey, gentleman, great grand-father to Sir Thomas Godfrey, now of Hepington, in Nether Hardres, who is the instant proprietor of it.

IWADE, in the hundred of Milton, is a small parish, situated no great distance from the Swale, which exposes itself to the injurious impression of many fogs and other sullen vapors, which exhale from the adjacent marshes; so that, the air becoming by these mists, contagious and unhealthful, we must expect, that it cannot be very populous, nor contain many places in it, considerable in their account. The only place of note being Colshil-hall, a place in its name, proportionate to its position, though formerly it had owners of its own appellation: for in a deed of William de

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Codshil, who held land at Middleton Bobbing, and elsewhere, and which bears date, from about the fiftieth of Henry the third, I find one Joseph de Colsted a witness. But in times of no great distance, from that prince's reign, I find the Alefs or Alephs possessed of it; and to this family does the ancient shell or fabrick of the house, owe the principal part of its structure; especially that, which by its antiquity obliges the eye to so much regard and veneration, as is evident by the hall, which in diverse places is diaper'd with an A. then a leas, a rebus, which treasures up the relique of the name, remaining unwritten, and appears to be exceeding ancient, by the character calculated for the reign of Edward the third. From whose time, until the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, it continued united to this name of Aleph; and then Thomas Aleph, the last of this name, being extinguished in a daughter and heir, called Margaret, married to John Monins, Esquire, this by that alliance, became the inheritance of that name, but made no long abode in their revenue: for in our grandfathers memory, it went away by sale, from Monins to Lewin; and Lewin, not many years since, concluding in a female inheritor, she by being affianced to Rogers, branched out from Rogers of Brianson, in the West, linked it to the inheritance of that family, where it had as brief a residence; for Rogers, not long since, dying without issue-male, Elizabeth his only heir, by her espousal with Charles Cavendish, lord Mansfield, hath now interwoven it with the propriety and income, relating to that eminent and illustrious family.

K.

KEMSING, in the hundred of Codsheath, is a parish, which, in respect of its circuit and dimension, is but despicable; but, in relation to those persons who in elder times were possessors of it, it is not inferior in its value to scarce any parish in this hundred. The first that I find to be its proprietor, was Falcatius de Brent, and he is mentioned in the Red book, kept in the exchequer, to have held it in the reign of Henry the second, and was castellan likewise of Kemsing-castle, a place then of important concern, though now its skeleton itself be shrunk into such a desolate and neglected mass of rubbish, that now it would be as difficult to trace it out or find it, as it was formerly to conquer it. And this man's son, was that Falcatius de Brent, so famous in our chronicles, for those wild disorders and sallies, arising from those boilings and evaporations, which were cast out by the calen= tures of youth, rather than from any vicious habit, contracted from several acts of excess, and rivetted into his soul. Yet, it seems, these excursions of his, did so disgust king Henry the third, that he made the forfeiture of his estate here pay the price of his vanities. Indeed, that name, his misfortunes, rather than his treasons, seem to challenge. And then that prince, in the sixth year of his reign, granted it, with the manor of Sawters, in Sutton at Hone, to Baldwin de Betun, earl Albemarle, in right of his wife Hawis, daughter and heir of William le Grosse, earl of Albemarle, and lord of Holderness. And this Baldwin had, by her, two daughters and co-heirs; Hawis the eldest of them, was married to William le Marshall, earl of Pembroke, to whom her father gave with her in marriage, Kemsing Sawters, and much other land in this county: but this man's successor, Anselm le Marshal, earl of Pembroke, dying without issue, Robert Bigod, earl of Norfolk, by Maud his mother, the heir general of the family, as being sister to Gilbert Marshall, earl of Pembroke, entered upon the estate of that family, here at Kemsing; and he passed it away to Otho, lord Grandison, with the advowson of the church of Kemsing, in the eleventh year of Edward the first. And after this family was worn out, I find the Says to step into the inheritance, and Godfrey de Say held it at his death, which was in the forty-third year of Edward the third. Rot. Esc. Num. 24. Parte secunda. From whom, the propriety flowed down to his successor Godfrey lord Say, and he concluded in two daughters and co-heirs, whereof Elizabeth,

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one of them was affianced to Sir William Fiennes, who in her right was invested in Kemsing, and from him was the title, by descent, transported over to William lord Fiennes, son of James lord Fiennes, and he, in the second year of Edward the fourth, passed it away to Sir Geoffrey Bolein, great grand-father to George viscount Roch= ford, who was beheaded and left no issue, in the reign of Henry the eighth, so that this, upon his father, Sir Thomas Boleyn, earl of Wilts, departure without any other issue-male, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, devolved to that prince, who seized upon it in right of his wife, the unfortunate Anne Bullen, who was eldest sister to the unhappy viscount. And here, in the revenue of the crown, did it lie couched, until queen Elizabeth, in the first year of her reign, passed it away by grant, to her kinsman Henry Cary, lord Hunsdon, son of William Cary, Esquire of the body to Henry the eighth, and of Mary his wife, sister to queen Anne, mother to the abovesaid princess, and his grand-child, Henry earl of Dover, alienated his right in it, to Richard earl of Dorset, and he, not many years since, passed it away to Mr. Henry Smith, vulgarly called Dog-Smith, who upon his decease, settled the fee-simple forever, on the hospital of St. Thomas, in South= wark, and eleven parishes besides, situated in the county of Surry.

There was an old knightly family, which took their surname from this parish, and was stiled Kemsing, and their coat was argent, a fess and chevron, inter= laced sable, now quartered by Mr. William Hart, of Lullingston, Esquire, in right of Peche, who married the heir general.

KENARDINGTON, in the hundred of Blackburn, is by contraction called Kenarton: and although it cannot much boast of the healthful situation thereof, yet it hath had lords and owners of a very great estimate. William de Normannia held it in the reign of king John, and part of the reign of Henry the third, as appears by the pipe rolls, which relate to those times, and concern this county. After him, his son Thomas de Normannia, or Normanvill, \* for so he is written in the ancient rolls, succeeded in the possession of it, but died in the eleventh year of



Edward the first, without issue-male; so that by his only daughter and heir, it devolved to be the possession of Sir William de Basing, with the manor of Cockridge, likewise, which was folded up in her inheritance, and was one of those knights, who accompanied king Edward the first, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, in that successful expedition, which he was engaged in, when he undertook the conquest of Scotland. After him, William de Basing held it, and was sheriff of Kent, in the eighth year of Edward the second; and dying in his shrievalty, Margaret his widow accounted for the profits of the county, as the records of the pipe office set forth. Sir Thomas de Basing, his son, died seized of it, in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, and paid respective aid for it, under the notion of a whole knight's fee, at making the Black Prince, knight, and left it to John his son, a child of eight years of age, who afterwards was knighted, and died possessed of it in the seventh year of Richard the second, and left it to Thomas, his son and heir, then eleven years of age; and he had issue Thomas, likewise, who dying without issue, John Basing, his uncle, was found to be his heir, but was scarce planted in his new acquired patrimony; but he also, in the twenty-fourth year of Henry the sixth, expired without issue, so that the inheritance devolved to Alice his sister, married to Thomas Mackworth, as the heir general of the family. And thus were the Basings at this place extinguished, who before they planted in Kent, were registered among the prime gentlemen of Middlesex. Salomon de Basing was sheriff of London, the last year of king John; Adam de Basing was lord mayor of London, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the third; and Robert de Basing succeeded in that office, in the seventh year of Edward the first, and Basing-Hall owes both his name and foundation to this family; and John Stow, in his survey of London, ascribes to them the degree of barons of the realm. But, to return into that path from whence this discourse had diverted me, after Mackworth, who, by female devolution, was possessed of this manor, was worn out, which was about the beginning of Henry the seventh, the Hornes, of Hornes-place in this parish, were by purchase settled in the in=

\* Rafe de Normanvill, is registered in the list of those Kentish gentlemen, who were with Richard the first, at the siege of Acon, in Palestine.

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heritance. Gentlemen, certainly they were, of as eminent account as any in this territory, and had been proprietors of this seat for many hundred years; for one Ralph de Hurne, of Kenardington, was one of the Recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the reign of king John, persons, who, before the office of justice of peace was instituted, did supply their place, and were much in resemblance, like the grand inquest at this day, being assistant, both by their presence and concurrent counsels to the justices in eyre, in all the great decisions which did relate to causes criminal, emergent a tribus forisfacturis, or the three forfeitures, murder, felony, and breach of the peace. But to proceed; in this family did the proprietor, both of Hornes-place and Kenardington, thus purchased of Mackworth, lie rolled up together, until the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, and then Bennet Horne, the heir general of both these, being married to ..... Guldford, a Romish Catholic, he, to decline the oath of supremacy, fled beyond sea with his wife, upon whose recess the crown seized upon that estate, which had formerly accrued to him in behalf of his wife at this place, as escheated upon the statute of præmunire. And the above said princess immediately after, granted the premises thus forfeited to Walter Moile, of Buckwell, Esquire, ancestor to Mr. Robert Moile, who claims the present signory, both of Kenardington and Hornes-place.

KENNINGTON, in the hundreds of Chart and Longbridge, was a manor which always related to the crown, as is intimated by the name, where lie tacitly couched some hints of those who were proprietors of it. And Keningbrooke, which is circumscribed within the limits of this parish, was annexed by William the Conqueror, to his royal manor of Wye, and was looked upon as an appendage to it, and followed the fate of it at the common dissolution, when the other was plucked away from the patrimony of Battell Abby, in which, ever since the original donation of William the Conqueror, it had been resident, and was with the manor of Wye, by queen Elizabeth granted, in the first year of her reign, to her kinsman Henry Cary, lord Hudson; and his grand-child, Henry earl of Dover, not many years since, passed it away by sale to Sir Thomas Finch, father to Heneage Finch, now

earl of Winchelsea, in whose revenue it is at this instant settled.

Bibrooke is a second place in Kenington, which claims some consideration. It was, as appears, by very old evidences, the patrimony of a family called Godwin, which flourished here in the reign of king John, Henry the third, and Edward the first, but after this it began to wither, and before the latter end of Edward the third, was altogether crumbled away; the last of whom that I find by public record, to be invested in the possession, was William Godwin, who enjoyed it at his death, which was in the thirty-second year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 93. The next family after this, which was entituled to the possession, was Belknap; but Sir Robert Belknap being unfortunately attainted and banished, in the tenth year of Richard the second, to whose cause and quarrel he had wholly vowed his life and service, and his estate, as to the principal part, confiscated, in which this lay involved, the same monarch, in the thirteenth year of his reign, granted it to William Ellys, who was at that time one of the conservators or justices of the peace of this county, whose capital seat was at Burton in this parish, though in very old deeds it is written Burston, as being indeed the seat of a branch of that family, from whom it came over about the latter end of Edward the second, to Ellys; but in the name of Ellys, the title of Bibrooke was not long-lived; for about the beginning of Henry the sixth, I find it by purchase invested in Shelley, by whose heir general it devolved in the time of Edward the fourth, to May, from whom, not long after it was alienated to Tilden, where it continued, until about the beginning of queen Elizabeth; and then the same revolution transported the title to Best, who about the latter end of that princess's reign, passed it away by sale to Hall, ancestor to Mr. Nevill Hall, the present lord of this mansion; but Burton was more constant to the family of Ellys, and remained linked to the patrimony of that name, until that age, which bordered upon our fathers remembrance, and then it was demised by sale to Hall, in whose descendant, Mr. Nevill Hall, the propriety is at present resident.

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KESTON, in the hundred of Rokesley, belonged (in the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, as the pages of Dooms-day book inform me) to Gilbert de Mag= ninot, and there it is written Cheston: and continued in his name, until the latter end of king John; and then by the heir general of this family, it came to be possessed of Say, of Says-court in Deptford; but stayed not long in that name, for in the twenty-fourth year of Edward the first, Alexander de Cheney died possessed of it, as appears, Rot. Esc Num. 26. But in his posterity likewise, it had no long residence; for about the beginning of Edward the third, it was conveyed to Stephen de Ashway; and he in the thirty-eighth of this prince, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Keston. And here the title fixed, until the beginning of Henry the fourth, and then it was alienated with Baston, which had still the same original and successive proprietors with Keston, to Squerrie, of Squerries-court in Westerham; and here it made its abode until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then it devolved by Dorothy, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Squerrie, to Richard Mervin of Fountell, in Wiltshire, who passed away Keston and Baston, both which accrued to him, upon the division of Squerrie's estate, to Phillip Reynolds, and Thomas Tregarthen, as his trustees; and they, in the eighth year of Edward the fourth, convey them both to Richard Scroope and Stephen Scroope; from whom, about the latter end of Edward the fourth, they came to Henry Heyden, Esquire; and he, in the first year of Richard the first, as is manifest by an old court-roll, held a court here at Keston; and from him, did the propriety, by the steps of several descents, come down to that worthy person Sir Christopher Heydon; who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, demised all his interest in Keston and Baston, to Sir Samuel Lennard, whose son Sir Stephen Lennard, is still entitled to the fee-simple of them.

Mr. Camden conjectures in his Britannia, something of the name of Cæsar, to be couched in the etymology of this place, because at Baston, adjoining, there is an ancient camp, stupendious for the height of double rampires, and depth of double ditches, hardly paralleled elsewhere, and questionless the work of many labouring hands. Of what capacity it was, is not now exactly to be discerned, much of it being overgrown with a thicket; but very vast it was, as may be collected, from its remains, which are yet apparent. And most probable, it is that camp which

Julius Cæsar pitched, when the Britons, with their united strength, gave him the last battle; and then the success, being not equal to their courage, retired, and gave him way to pierce into Surry, and so towards the Thames by Noviomagum, or Woodcott, where he planted a spacious city and standing camp.

KINGSDOWN, in the hundred of Wrotham, is spread into two manors, called Northcourt, and Southcourt, both which anciently acknowledged themselves to be parcel of the demeasne of Fitz Bernard, who flourished here, under the notion, and in the degree of barons, and had this manor by grant from Henry the first, and with it had these privileges annexed to it, Toll and Theam, Sac and Soc, Furcas in latrones captos, that is, Infangthef and Outfangthef, Tumbrell and Pillory, and lastly, Assisam panis & cerevisiæ, that is, a power to take cognizance of the weights and measures of bread, and that beverage which was then in use, within the precincts of this manor; and all these were allowed to Ralph Fitz Bernard, as granted before, by Henry the first, by the judges itinerant, in the seventh year of Edward the first; and this man was son to John Fitz Bernard, who was rated, after the value of a whole knight's fee, for his manor of Kinsdown, (as appears by Testa de Nevill) in the twentieth year of Henry the third, at the marriage of Isabell, that prince's sister. Thomas Fitz Bernard, son to Ralph above-mentioned, enjoyed it at his death, which was in the sixth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 31. And from him it descended to John Fitz Bernard, who in the thirty-sixth year of Edward the third, died without issue, upon whose decease, the four daughters of Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, married to Rosse, Vere, Mortimer, and Tiptoft, entered upon the possession, as heirs to their mother, who was sister and heir to this John Fitz Bernard, and upon the breaking the estate into parcels, upon the partition, this was united to the demeasne of William Rosse, of Hamlake, in right of his wife Margaret, who was co-heir likewise to her two brothers, Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, and

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Giles lord Badelesmer, who both died without issue; and John Rosse, this man's son, was in the possession of it at his death, which was in the seventeenth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 49. And from him did it glide down to his unfortunate grand-child, Thomas lord Rosse, who was attainted and beheaded at Newcastle, in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, whilst he endeavoured to support the sinking house of Lancaster, upon whose shipwreck, this was annexed to the revenue of the crown, and in the eighteenth year of his reign, Edward the fourth restored it for life, to Margaret, wife of Roger lord Wentworth, who was widow of Thomas lord Rosse; but after his decease, it returned to the crown, and slept in its revenue, until king Henry the eighth passed it away by grant, to John Wilkinson; from which name, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, it was conveyed to Richard Lovelace, who dying without issue-male, Margaret, married to Henry Cooke of Lanham, Esquire, became his heir, and in her right, is now entered upon Northcourt and Southcourt, which make up the manor of Kingsdown.

Hever is another manor in Kingsdown, which was parcel of the demeasne of the ancient family of Hever, of Hever-Castle in this county. William de Hever, had a charter of free-warren, to his lands here, and at Hever, in the ninth year of Edward the first, which was renewed to Thomas de Hever, in the fourth year of Edward the third, but he did not long enjoy it; for he dying without issue, Joan his sister and co-heir, married to Reginald lord Cobham, became heir to his estate at this place, and he in her right, died possessed of it, in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third. But before the latter end of Richard the second, this family was worn out, and then the family of Urban succeeded, by purchase, in the possession. John Urban held it at his death, which was in the eighth year of Henry the fifth, Rot. Esc. Num. 75. and left it to his sister and heir Emma Penhale, and she enjoyed it at her decease, which was in the fifth year of Henry the sixth, Rot. Esc. Num. 43. But it was not long after this, in the tenure of this name; for Richard Lovelace, by his last will, in the year 1465, which was made in the fifth of Edward the fourth, ordains, that his feoffees make an estate of this manor of Hever, which he purchased of Penhale, to Katharine, his daughter; and if she die without issue, (as she did) then he wills, that it descend to John Lovelace, his son and heir; and from this John did it, by an uninterrupted series of descent, devolve to Richard Lovelace; and from him, did it go away, by Margaret his sole daughter

and heir, to Henry Cook, of Lanham, in Suffolk, Esquire, in which name it is at this instant resident.

Chipsted is a third manor in Kingsdown, which indisputably gave seat and surname to a family so called. For I find, Adam de Chipsted was possessed of it at his death, which was in the forty-first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 16. And after this family was extinguished, the Mowbrays were planted in the possession, and continued in the inheritance, from the latter end of Richard the second, until the beginning of Henry the sixth; and then it was passed away by sale, to John Martin, justice of the common-pleas, whose son, John Martin, in the thirty-third year of Henry the sixth, alienated it to Thomas Underdown of Dartford; and he, not long after, gave it to Richard Thetcher, of Warbulton, in Sussex; and he, in the nineteenth year of Edward the fourth, sold it to William Atwood; and his son Robert Atwood, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, demised one moiety of it to Nicholas Taylor, and the other moiety, in the twenty-second year of the above-said prince, to Sibill, of Littlemoat, in Eynsford. William Taylor, and William Atwood, in the first year of queen Mary, pass away their proportion of it to Sir John Champneys, and his son Justinian Champneys, not long after, alienates his interest in it to Lovelace, and by the heir general of that family, it is now devolved to Mr Henry Cook above-mentioned; the other moiety by Ann, sole heir of Lancet Sibill, came to be possessed by Mr. John Hope; in which name it did not long remain; for in our memory, it was by sale, demised to Mr. Hodsoll, of Hodsoll, in Ash, and he is now in the enjoyment of it.

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Woodland is the last manor in this parish, and was anciently a chapel of ease to Kingsdown, till in the year 1557, it was by Reginald Pole, then cardinal and archbishop of Canterbury, united to Wrotham. But the manor is still circumscribed within the precincts of Kingsdown. It was formerly a branch of that revenue, which owned the title and jurisdiction of that powerful baron, Hamon de Crevequer, and he died possessed of it, in the forty-seventh year of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 33. But, after him, I find not much more of this family at this place; for in the ninth year of Edward the third, John, son of John St. Clere, enjoyed it, as appears by the inquisition taken after his death, Rot. Esc. Num. 48. Afterwards I discover Thomas St. Clere to be possessed of it at his death, in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, and so was Margaret St. Clere, widow of Philip, in the first year of Henry the sixth, and Thomas St. Clere held it in the twelfth year of Edward the fourth; and from his descendant, about the latter end of Henry the seventh, it passed away by sale, to Pett, of Pett-house, in Sevenoke, and John Pett, his successor, sold Woodland, in the seventeenth year of queen Elizabeth, to William Rowe of London; by the daughter and heir of which family, even in our fathers memory, it came over to the instant possessor, Jenny of Norfolk.

KINGSDOWN, in the hundred of Milton, was given by Hubert de Burgh, to his newly erected maison le Dieu, in Dover, which was to be a retreat for the knights templers, when they visited Temple Ewell, and other lands they enjoyed in this track; but this manor, upon the total suppression and abolition here in England, was in the seventeenth year of Edward the second, united to the revenue of the knights hospitalers, and remained annexed to their demean, until the common dissolution supplanted it, and then king Henry the eighth granted it to Sir Thomas Cheyney, who in the first year of queen Elizabeth, by sale conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Finch, from whom it is now by descent come down to be the inheritance of his successor Mr. Thomas Finch.

KINGSTON, in the hundred of Kinghamford, was one of those knights fees which was assigned to Fulbert de Dover, to be assistant to John de Fiennes, in the guard of Dover castle. And indeed it hath been disputable, whether this, or Chilham, or both jointly, were that which in writings is stiled the honor of Fulberts. William de Dover was teste amongst the Magnates in the charter of Maud, the empress, for creating Miles of Gloucester, earl of Hereford; and from this man, did it descend to Richard de Dover, who was base son to king John, and assumed that name, because he had married with Roesia, or Rose de Dover, the heir general of that family. But he dying in the beginning of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Car. Num. 237. left it to Isabel his co-heir, wedded to David de Strabolgie, earl of Atholl,

whose unfortunate son, John, earl of Atholl, a man of an unbroken, though a calamitous fidelity towards his native country of Scotland, seeking to rescue the liberty of that nation from those fetters, which the hand of Edward the first would have put upon it, was in an unsuccessful encounter taken captive, and offered up to the fury of that prince on a gibbet fifty foot high, at London, says Daniel; at Canterbury, says an old manuscript, late in the hands of Sir Dudley Diggs; which last was rather the stage on which his tragedy was represented, because that city was almost contiguous to his two great manors of Chilham, and this of Kingston. Upon his fatal and deplorable exit, aggravated, because so much virtue and courage did rather seem to exact chaplets and laurels, than so black and ruinous a catastrophe, this manor was linked to the crown, until king Edward the second, in the fifth year of his reign, grants it to Bartholomew, lord Badelesmer, steward of his house, but he not long after, by an ungrateful defection, having forfeited it again to the crown; that prince, by a new concession, invests it for life, in David de Strabolgie, earl of Atholl; but, after his decease, which was in the first year of Edward the third, that prince, in the second year of his reign, restores it to Bartholomew, lord Badelesmer, who dying without issue, left it in the twelfth year of Edward the third, to his brother and heir Giles, who not long after deceasing likewise without any lawful issue, it came to be divided between his two sisters and co-heirs, Margaret wedded to William, lord Rosse of Hamlake, and Margery married

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John Tiptoft; but before the end of Edward the third, this family had wholly departed from this place, and the entire possession was surrendered up to Rosse; for Thomas, lord Rosse, died possessed of it, in the seventh year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 68. and from him, did the title slide down to his unhappy successor, Thomas, lord Rosse, who was attainted in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, and his forfeiture brought it to the crown, where it rested, until the abovesaid prince granted it to Roger, lord Wentworth, and Margaret his wife, widow of Thomas, lord Rosse, in the eighteenth year of his rule. He conveyed it to him, because he had been a great supporter of his party and title, and then to her, because she was sister to John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, who was offered up, as an obligation by the Lancastrian faction, to his cause and quarrel; and from this Roger, did it come down to his successor, Richard, lord Wentworth, who in the twenty-first year of Henry the eighth, demised it by sale to Thomas Colepeper, Esquire, in which family it continued, until the thirty-fourth year of that prince; and then it was conveyed away to Sir Anthony Aucher, whose successor, Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bourne, knight, not many years since, conveyed it by sale to Mr. Gibbons, of Westcliff, who settled it in marriage, upon his second son Dr. Gibbons, not long since deceased, in whose descendants, the propriety is still resident.

Ilding, in Kingston, in times of as high a step, as any records can ascend to, was the Garwintons of Bekesbourn, as appears by that signal controversy, commenced between Thomas de Garwinton, and Theobald de Twitham, touching some lands couched within the verge of his manor of Ilding; and the question was so knotty and perplexed, that Henry de Cobham, Geffery de Say, Hugh de St. Leger, Ralph de St. Leger, Giles de Badelesmere, Fulk de Peyferer, Robert de Malevill, Alexander de Rosse, Robert de Gatton, Robert de Campania, Richard de Bere, Henry de Sorne, Henry de Enbroke, Alured de Corton, and other gentlemen of prime account in this track, were chosen recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the second year of king John, by their prudence and dextrous conduct, to soften and becalm this difference. But to go on; after the signory of this place had, for many ages, been constant to this family, it devolved to Thomas Garwinton, who dying without issue, in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, Richard Haut, who had married Joan Garwinton, his heir general, in her right, was entituled to the possession of this place; but his son and heir, Richard Haut, was the last which held it; for Margery his sole inheritrix, united it to the inheritance of Isaac, in which name it stayed, until the beginning of Henry the seventh, and then it was transmitted by sale to Diggs, of Diggs-court, in Berham, and remained clasped up in their revenue, until that age, which almost was concluded in the circle of our remembrance, and then it was by sale transplanted into Wilford, so that the lady

Elizabeth Wilford, widow dowager of Sir Thomas Wilford, is now by right of jointure in possession of it.

Parmested is a third place which calls for a survey; it was, as high as any evidence drawn from record will instruct me to discover, the inheritance of a family which bore that surname; for in diverse old deeds, which I have surveyed, I find one Hugh de Parmested to be a witness, which is very probable, was lord of this place. But before the latter end of Edward the second, this family was worn out, and that of Garwinton planted in the possession, as appears by an old fine levied in the eighth year of Edward the third, by Hugh Garwinton, in which he passes away his estate at Parmested, to Thomas Garwinton; from whom it descended to his great grandchild, William Garwinton, who died possessed of it, in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 45. but left no issue, so that Joan his kinswoman, married to Richard Haut, became his heir; and he had issue Richard Haut, in whom the male-line concluding, William Isaac, in right of his wife Margery, who was daughter and heir to the above-mentioned Richard, entered upon his estate here at Parmested; and about the beginning of Henry the eighth, passed it away by sale, to Edward Knevet, of Newington Belhouse, Esquire, and his daughters and co-heirs, by joint sale, demised it to Thomas lord Cromwell; and he in the

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twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, alienated it to Christopher Hales, Esquire, afterwards knighted, first attorney general, and then master of the rolls, under the abovesaid prince; and his son, Sir James Hales, conveyed it away to Thomas Alphew, alias Alphy, yeoman. From this man it came over by sale, in the fifth year of queen Elizabeth, to William Downe, of Maidstone, draper, and he in the sixth year of that princess, transmitted it by the like conveyance to doctor Vincent Denne, doctor of the civil law, grand-father to Mr. Vincent Denne, of Gray's-Inn, Esquire, the present lord of the fee. A person to whose conduct and supply this particular survey owes a grateful remembrance, because, by his concurrent aid, it was guided along through all those difficulties, which might have probably intercepted it in its farther progress.

Denhill, in this parish, was not only the seat, but likewise the seminary of a family of eminent note in this county; Ralph de Den held much land in Romney Marsh, and likewise at Backhurst, in Sussex, (as appears by an old roll, now in the hands of the earl of Dorset) about the twentieth of William the Conqueror, and is stiled in the record, son of Robert Pincerna, a name imposed upon his father from being, as is probable, either butler or sewer to Edward the confessor, an office of no vulgar account in those times. Sir Alured de Den flourished in the reign of Edward the third, and was a person of signal estimate in that age; for when the laws of Romney Marsh were compiled, by that venerable judge, Henry de Bath, from which all England receives directions for sewers, this Sir Alured, and Nicholas de Haudloe were his associates and assistants in the composition of them, in the forty second year of Henry the third, on Saturday next after the nativity of St. Mary; and which makes this Sir Alured de Den more remarkable, he sealed even in that age, divided by so remote a distance from us, with three leopards heads couped and full faced, which is the ancient paternal coat of this family. Indeed if I should enter into a particular discourse of all those persons, who have been originally extracted from this family, and were formerly eminent, not only within the private sphere of this country, as being invested with the commission of justices of the peace, and other offices of public trust and concernment, but likewise shone like stars of the first magnitude, within the two orbs of divinity, and the law both civil and municipal; the survey of this place, which I intend to retrench within as narrow bounds as may be, must swell into a particular treatise; it is enough, therefore, to inform the reader, that it hath been so many centuries of years folded up in the property of Den, that there is no gap at all in the succession, between Ralph de Den the first of that name, and Thomas Den, Esquire, the last who in a direct line enjoyed it. Nor hath it yet departed from the name; for the above-mentioned Thomas, lately deceasing without issue-male, Vincent Denne, of Gray's-Inn, Esquire, collaterally issued out of this family, by marrying with Mary his youngest daughter and co-heir, in right of this alliance, is now in the instant possession of it.

KINGSNOTH, in the hundreds of Chart and Longbridge, did in elder times, give seat and surname to a family, which assumed its denomination from hence, who bore, as appears by seals appendant to their ancient deeds, ermine upon a bend, five chevrons, and John de Kingsnoth, who flourished here about the latter end of Edward the first, sealed with that coat, and this inscription encircles the seal, Sigillum Joannis de Kingsnoth. Yet I find Bartholomew, lord Badelesmer, who was attainted, in the seventeenth year of Edward the second, had some interest in this manor, which upon his conviction escheated to the crown, and rested there, until Richard the second granted it out again to Sir Robert Belknap the judge, who had not long before purchased that proportion which Kingsnoth was concerned in; so that by this concession it came entirely to own the signory of this family. But he being unfortunately attainted, and cast into exile, in the tenth year of the abovesaid prince, this manor was annexed to the revenue of the crown, and was lodged there until Henry the sixth, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, granted some part of it to Sir Thomas Brown, of Bechworth castle, in Surry, and with it a charter to inclose a park, which had liberty of free-warren annexed to it; and likewise, the more to endear him, licensed this town to hold a fair yearly on Michaelmas day, but

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the principal part of it was conveyed by sale to cardinal Kemp, who about the twenty-eighth of Henry the sixth, settled it on the college of Wye, where it remained until the resignation of its revenue into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, and he by royal concession, made it the demesne of Thomas lord Cromwell, afterwards earl of Essex, who being attainted of high treason, in the thirty-second year of that prince, it escheated back to the crown, and then a moiety of it, in the thirty-sixth year of his government, was granted to Sir John Baker, from whom by hereditary conveyance, it was delegated and transmitted to his successor Sir John Baker, of Sisingherst, baronet, who some few years since hath alienated his concernment here, to Mr. Nathaniel Powell, of Ewherst, in Sussex. The other moiety of it lay folded up in the patrimony of the crown, until the first year of queen Elizabeth, and then it was by that princess granted to her kinsman Henry Cary, afterwards created baron Hunsdon, from whom, by the channel of descent, it was transported to his grand-child, the right honourable Henry Cary, earl of Dover, who in our memory conveyed it to Sir Thomas Finch, afterwards earl of Winchelsea, father to the instant proprietor, the right honourable Heneage Finch, now earl of Winchelsea.

Munfidge, in this parish, was originally the seat of the Clere's, written in their ancient deeds, le Clere. But as all families have their vicissitudes and tombs; and, like the sea, which is circumscribed, and shut in with a girdle of sand, are fettered to a determinate period, so was this; for about the latter end of Edward the third, Henry le Clere, concluded in Susan le Clere, who was his daughter and heir; and she, by marrying with Sir Simon Woodchurch, annexed this manor to his patrimony; and he, the better to enforce and perpetuate the memory of this alliance, and the estate, which devolved to him by so fortunate a conjunction, inverted his surname, and writ it for the future, Clere, alias Woodchurch; in which name the proprietor of this place continued, until the latter end of queen Elizabeth; and then it was alienated to Taylor, of Shadoxherst, in which name, the interest of it had not long continued; but that it was in our remembrance, by sale, conveyed to Whitwick.

West-Halks is a third manor in Kingsnoth, which in elder times was ennobled, for affording a residence to a family of this surname, who bore in ancient seals, a fesse, between three hawks, or falcons, and sometimes one; a family of no contemptible estimate, or shallow antiquity in this track, as appears by old escripts, pedigrees, and other venerable muniments, which represent this family under the character of gentlemen, for above three hundred years. Sampson de Halk died about the year 1360, and held not only this place, but much other land about Petham, and other parishes in that track; but about the latter end of Henry the sixth, this family had demised the property of this place to Taylor, \* of great Chart, in which name it was constantly fixed, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was sold to Clere, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Robert Honeywood, of Charing, Esquire; who upon his decease, settled it by his last will, on his fourth son, by his second wife, Col. .... Honeywood, now the instant lord of the fee.

KNOWLTON, in the hundred of Eastry, was parcel of the patrimony of the noble family of St. Leger. Hugh St. Leger (who was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ in the reign of king John) held this manor in the fourth year of the reign of that prince, and left it to his son John St. Leger, who in the twelfth year of Henry the third, exchanged it for other lands with Reginald de Cornhill, and he, in the twenty-fifth year of the abovesaid prince, passed it away by sale (as the book of Christ-church informs me) to the prior and monks of that convent; but it seems not long after they changed it with Thomas Perot; for he, in the fourth year of Edward the third, died possessed of it, as appears by his office, Rot. Esc. Num. 31. and left only a female heir, who carried it along with her to Langley, descended out of the county of Warwick, and being thus chained by this match, to the interest of this family, it remained for many descents fastened to it, and was productive, in several ages, of men of no vulgar account. William de Langley, son of William Langley, was sheriff of Kent, the twenty-first, twenty-third, twenty-fourth, and

\* Ex Autographis penes Dom. Thomas Taylor.

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twenty-fifth years of Edward the third. William Langley of Knolton, was sheriff of Kent, in the fourth year of Henry the fifth, and likewise justice of the peace for this county under that prince. John Langley, Esquire, was sheriff of Kent, in the twentieth year of Henry the seventh, and had issue Edward Langley, Esquire, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Peyton, of Peyton-hall, in the county of Cambridge, descended from Peytonus de Ufford; but he dying without issue, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, his wife's brother, Sir Robert Peyton, by reason of a former match, in the reign of Henry the fifth, between Peyton and a daughter of Langley, entered upon it, as heir general at law, and he, not desirous to desert Cambridgeshire to transplant himself into Kent, assigned Knowlton for livelihood, to his second son Sir John Peyton, grand-father to Sir Thomas Peyton, the premier baronet of this county, who, as lineally extracted from him, does enjoy the propriety of it. — See more of this family of Peyton, in my discourse of Werd.

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LAMBERHERST lies in the hundred of Little Bernefield, and was sometimes written Lamberts-hurst, from Lambert, a Saxon owner. In old English, this name imports as much as bright, or holy and glorious lamp, as Herebert is bright lord. Part of this parish is in Kent, and the other part in Sussex, distinguished by a small stream, which rises near Cowden, and glides through this town towards Medway. The lordship of Lamberhurst itself, with the manor of Woodroff, belonged to the monastery of Roberts-Bridge, and after the dissolution, were, by Henry the eighth, granted in the thirteenth of his reign to Sir William Sidney, tutor to king Edward the sixth, when he was prince, whose successor Robert Sidney, earl of Leicester, sold Lamberherst, in our fathers memory, to Mr. Porter, and Woodroff to Sir Edward Henden, one of the barons of the exchequer, who bequeathed it to his nephew Sir John Henden, lately deceased.

Hodleigh in this parish, was part of that demean which related to the college of Lingfield, in Surry, which upon the suppression, was by Henry the eighth, granted to Thomas Carden, from which family it passed away to Edward Filmer, Esquire, ancestor to Sir Edward Filmer, eldest son to Sir Robert Filmer, lately deceased, to whose demean, the propriety of it is at present united.

The abby of Begham in this parish, was founded by Ela de Sackvill, and Sir Robert de Thurneham, a man of principal account, in the time of Henry the third, and filled with canons Præmonstratenses, or white canons, \* called so from their habit. The manor which belonged to it, was by royal concession. From queen Elizabeth, it passed away to Anthony Brown, viscount Montague, who not long after alienated the fee-simple to alderman Barneham, of London, who gave it to Benedict, a second son; and he dying without issue-male, one of his daughters and co-heirs married with Dobell of Sussex, and so carried it into the inheritance of that family, where the possession has ever since been settled.

Scotney, in this parish, which hath borrowed that appellation from its local situation, and the over-shooting of the water, was the residence of a family distinguished by that surname and denomination; for one Walter de Scotney, in times



of high ascent, was proprietor of this place, but added not much reputation to this mansion; for (as Edmund de Hadenham, a chronicler of great antiquity, attests) he, in the year 1259, administered poison by tacit stratagem, to the earl of Gloucester, and his brother, to destroy them; of which the last died, and the first escaped not without danger of life. But to go on; after this family was mouldered away at this place, which was about the midst of Edward the third, the eminent family of Ashburnham, of Ashburnham, in Sussex, were entitled to the signory of it. Roger Ashburnham, who was one of the conservators of the peace for this county of Sussex, in the first year of Richard the second, had here a castellated mansion, did sometimes inhabit at this place, and it was by his successor sold to Henry Chichley,

\* This priory was suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey.

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archbishop of Canterbury, who gave it as dower to his niece, Florence Chichley, married to Joseph Darrell, of Cale-hill; and he assigned it for the livelihood of his second son, whose posterity have ever since enjoyed it.

Here was also in this parish, the mansion of the Chitcrofts, a family of worth and eminent degree. Their blazon was precisely the same with the Colepepers, of Bay-hall, not far distant, as if they had been a cadet of the same house. This is a matter which falls within the cognizance of my profession, and because I met with diverse ancient houses in this county, which did the like, as well as in other counties, I cannot leave it without setting down such notes and observations, as have been made upon it, having met with so many examples of that kind, in the survey of this province. For instance, St. Nicholas, of St. Nicholas, in the isle of Thanet, in the very eastern part of the shire, and Peckham, in the western side of this county, bear the very same coat of armour; because peradventure, they held land of the lord Say, to whose arms they did not desire their own might be assimilated. Tutsham, of Tutsham-hall, in West-Farleigh, and Eastangrave, of Eastangrave, in Eden-bridge, bear both alike; Brenley, of Brenley, in Boughton, under Blean, and Ratling, of Ratling, in Nonington, have no distinction; Peyforer, of North-court, in Eseling; and Lenham, of Lenham, lay claim to an identity of impress or coat armour; and lastly, so did Watringbury, of Watringbury; and Savage, of Bobbing-court. Now the reason of this near similitude, was to preserve the memory of those, though otherwise of different families, who had given them education; or else, by particular feoffments, had endowed them with land; or lastly, as an acknowledgment of the service and fealty they owed them, because they held their lands by some petty rent, charge, or homage, of some principal manor, of which they whose coat armour they had thus imitated were proprietors.

WEST-LANGDON, lies in the hundred of Bewsborough, and was a manor belonging to the abbey of West-Langdon, which was founded by Sir William de Auberville, of Westenhanger, knight, to the honour of St. Mary, and St. Thomas the martyr of Canterbury, and filled with white canons or canons præmonstratenses, in the time of Richard the first. Hugh de Auberville, the founder's son, and Sir William Auberville, son to this Hugh, were benefactors to this house, and this last, Sir William's only daughter and heir Joan being married to Nicholas de Crioll, of Bellaview, near Limne Hill, brought this monastery to be under the patronage of the Criolls, whose demean upon the dissolution, being made the income of the crown, it here resided till queen Elizabeth granted it, with all the privileges annexed to it, in the thirty-third year of her rule, to Samuel Thornehill of London, Esquire, father to Sir Timothy Thornehill, upon whose decease, his lady dowager had West-Langdon assigned to her by right of jointure, as being instated before upon her in marriage.

EAST-LANGDON, in the hundred of Cornilo, did in elder times augment that patrimony, which fell under the signory of the archbishop of Canterbury. In the year of grace 824, Ulfred, then archbishop of Canterbury, exchanged this manor and Eythorne, with the monks of Christ-church, for the manor of Berham, as the records of that priory discover to me; and being thus united to their demean, it lodged there until the government of Henry the eighth, and then, upon the suppression of the above-mentioned cloister, it was surrendered up with the remainder of its revenue, into the hands of that king, and he in the thirtieth year of his government, granted it to Mr. John Masters and Mr Thomas Masters, of Sand=

wich, from whom it is now by descent devolved to be the inheritance of his descendant Richard Masters, Esquire.

Apylton and Southwood are two small manors, which are seated within the limits of East-Langdon, and were scarce worth any memorial; but that they were formerly marshalled under the demean of the eminent family of Male-mains, in whom the possession was seated, till Henry Malmains, being embarked in the rebellion of Simon de Montfort, against Henry the second, had expiated that defection with the forfeiture of his estate, had he not been pardoned and absolved by the mediation of the abbot of Langdon, to which convent in gratitude, his son and heir Sir John Malmains, in the sixth year of Edward the second, gave for ever \* Apylton and

\* Apylton and Southwood I find, upon a second survey, lie both in Waldershare.

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Southwood; the last of which was in the first year of Richard the third, exchanged by the succeeding abbot, with † Robert Monings, Esquire, for Mansuers Langdon. These three places, upon the suppression of this abby, were by Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, exchanged with Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, but were re-assumed by the crown by another exchange, in the 1st. of Elizabeth, though Southwood or Southwood was unjustly snatched away from Edward Monins, Esquire, in whose revenue it was found at the dissolution, upon pretence it had been the former demean of the abby of Langdon.

The borough of Marton, or Marton-street, so called by contraction, but more truly Marstown, is circumscribed also within the limits of East-Langdon, and gave name to a family, which from the situation of the place, did borrow their first appellation, and were, in old registers and other records, written de Marisco. And that it was frequent to mould a surname from the site of the place, and after to communicate it to their posterity, as well as from the place itself is most evident; for Gilbert de Marisco, who was lord of Woolwich, in the reign of Edward the first, did assume that surname from the situation of that place, which was environed in a considerable part of it, with moist and watery marsh land; and so from the low level of this borough, did the Marshes, now possessors of this place, or the most principal part of it, by right of inheritance grown hoary and reverend, by a prescription and possession of above three hundred years, as appears by their own private evidences in elder times, contract the denomination of de Marisco; which in ages of a more modern pedigree, was melted by usage, custom, and common consent, into the instant surname of Marsh.

LANGLEY, in the hundred of Eythorne, was in elder times the inheritance of a family called Ashway. William de Ashway is, by the book stiled Testa de Nevil, represented to have held it, and have paid an auxiliary supply for it at the marriage of Isabel, sister to Henry the third, in the twentieth year of his reign. After this family was withered and shrunk into decay, the lords Leybourne were entitled to the signory of it, and William de Clinton, earl of Huntington, held it at his death, which was in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 59. in right of his wife Juliana, sole heir of Roger de Leybourn, lord of Leybourn castle; and she after him likewise was in the possession of it at her decease, which was in the forty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 47. But this after her departure, for want of heirs, either direct or collateral, escheating with a wide and opulent patrimony to the crown, it made its abode there until Richard the second, in the beginning of his reign, granted it to Sir Simon de Burley, lord warden of the cinque-ports, and knight of the garter; who being unfortunately attainted in the tenth year of Richard the second, this manor by escheat reverted to the crown, and that monarch, in the eleventh year of his reign, granted the custody of Langley park, to William, archbishop of Canterbury, which his grand-father, king Edward the third, had, in the ninth year of his reign, by a special grant, indulged to William lord Clinton, and Julian, his lady, licensed to be enlarged with 200 acres of land; but the manor itself was granted to the dean and canons of St. Stephen's, in Westminster, in the twelfth year of his reign, as appears by an inquisition taken at that time, Rot. Esc. Num. 159. and amply confirmed in the twenty-first year of the abovesaid prince, as appears, Pat. 1. Memb. 35. Parte tertia, and remained folded up in their revenue, until the general suppression in the reign of Henry the eighth dislodged the title, and planted it in the crown; and then that prince,

by a new concession, made it the demeane of Levan Buffkin, descended from an ancient family of that name in Sussex; and his successor, in our fathers memory, passed it away to Nathaniel Powel, Esquire, and he not many years since, demised his interest in it by sale, to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet; from whom it is now descended to his grand-child Sir Edward Hales, of Tunstall, baronet.

Brising is another manor in Langley, worthy remembrance, even in this, that it gave seat and surname to a family of that denomination. Sarin de Rising held it in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and paid respective aid for it, at making the Black prince knight.

† It is probable the ancestor of Monins, purchased Mansuers Langton, of Mansuer, a family in East Kent.

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In times of a more modern character, the Astrys were invested in the possession. And Joseph Astry held it at his decease, as appears by an old will, in the fourth year of Edward the fourth; of this family was Ralph Astry, who was sheriff of London, in the first year of Richard the third; and likewise William Astry, who died seized of it, in the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth; but after his exit, the title was of no longer date in the tenure of this family; for the vicissitude of purchase, about the beginning of Edward the sixth, brought it from this name to own the signory of Leven Buffkin, Esquire, one of the justices of the peace of this county, and in his posterity did it reside, until those times which were of our fathers cognizance, and then it was conveyed by sale to Powel; from whom, not many years since, the same revolution hath devolved it back into the possession of the instant proprietor Mr. Ralph Buffkin.

LEE, in the hundred of Blackheath, in barbarous Latin written Laga, was the residence of an ancient generous family called Bankwell; and there is a place in this parish called Bankers, by corruption of the name, which, in orthography of more antiquity and truth, was written Bankwells; from whence, certainly, at first issued this surname. In the thirty-first year of Edward the first, John de Bankwell had a grant by the king's charter, to have free-warren to all his lands in Lee, Levesham, and Bromley. And in the return of John de Shelving, high sheriff of Kent, in the sixteenth, and part of the seventeenth year of Edward the second, of all the knights and men at arms in this county, William de Bankwell is mentioned in the second degree; he died the twentieth year of Edward the third, and left Thomas Bankwell his heir; who in the thirty fifth year of that prince's government, deceased possessed of Lee, and a very large proportion of other land in Modingham, Sherholt (now, I think, corruptly called Shrawfield) Littlecroft, Bankers, both in Lee, Bromley, Levesham, Eltham, Chiselhurst, Detling, Langshot, and Wickham by Bromley; and left three sons, according to the custom of Gavelkind, heirs to his inheritance, which were John, William, and Robert Bankwell; but upon the distinguishing the estate into parcels, Lee, Bankers, and Sherholt, now corruptly called Shrawfield, fell to be the patrimony of John Bankwell, and in this man's lineage, did the inheritance of these places, divers years reside; till the name was circumscribed in a female heir, who being married to John Arrapon, brought this place to be an adjunct to his inheritance. And here, I confess, for want of information, either from public or private record, I am at a loss, and cannot discover, whether by Arrapon it was sold to the crown, and from the crown transmitted to Woodvill, or else immediately passed away by sale to Richard Woodvill, earl Rivers, who enjoyed it; but upon his son's untimely death on a scaffold, at Pomfret, being by the malice and subtlety of Richard the third, blasted with an aspersion of treason, that fatal stroke which separated his head from his body, divided his estate here from this name and family, and united it by escheat to the crown; in whose revenue it was resident, until king Henry the eighth (as is manifest by the original patent) granted it to Sir Thomas Wroteley. In times of a more modern aspect, that is, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, I find it in the tenure of Thomas Sackvill, lord Buckhurst; but how it devolved to him, I confess, I know not; and from him it descended to his grand-child, Richard Sackvill, earl of Dorset, who exchanged it with king James; whose successor, king Charles, sold the royalty and fee simple of it to Ralph Free=man, lord mayor of London, who gave it in marriage with his daughter and heir to Sir George Sonds, of Leeze-court in Shelvich, knight of the bath, who by a right derived from that match, is the present lord of Lee, and its two appendages,

Bankers and Shrawfield. Sir Richard Lechford, knight, was lord of the manor of Sherwood, in Lee, an. 1. & 7. Jacobi.

LEEDS, town and castle, lies in the hundred of Eyhorne, and were by William the Conqueror, in the twentieth year of his reign (as appears by the text of Domesday book) assigned to Hamon de Crevequer, whom he had constituted one of the trustees to assist his cousin John de Fiennes, in the conservation and guard of Dover-castle, who chose this for the capital seat of his barony of Crevequer, or Decrepito corde, for so it is rendered in Latin, and of Chatham, near Rochester (for of that place likewise, he and his posterity sometimes writ themselves barons) and here erected a stupendous castle, which, because it was environed with water, was

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called the moat. Hamon de Crevequer married Matilda, sole daughter and heir of William de Averanches, baron of Folkstone, and had issue by her, Robert de Crevequer, who by disloyalty lost himself, and his sovereign's favour. And then this manor being seized on by the crown, king Henry the third, the more to oblige and endear Roger de Leybourn, gave him this manor and castle in exchange for some lands which he enjoyed at Troscliff, as appears, Pat. 52. Hen. tertii. But it seems, either he, or his successor, quickly re-invested the possession into the crown, as being a piece of strength that the prince begin to look upon with jealousy and caution; for Edward the second, as is manifest, Pat. 10. Edwardi secundi, granted the manor and castle of Leeds, with the advowson of the priory, to Bartholomew lord Badelesmer (who was great grand-child to Guncelin de Badelesmer, \* which Guncelin, with his brother Ralph de Badelesmer, are enrolled in the list of those Kentish gentlemen, who accompanied king Richard the first to the siege of Acon, and son to † Guncelin de Badelesmer, who was justice of Chester, in the reign of Edward the first, an office eminently considerable, and of much importance in that age) in exchange for the manor of Addrisley in Shropshire. And the advowson of the church, and the addition of this, swelled both his estate and ambition to that height, that he must be master of all the remarkable places in Kent, or else his sails could not fill; for he had the barony of Fitz-Bernard, at Kingsdown, Tong castle, Chilham castle, Ridlingswold, and Hothfield. But such a tempest rose at this place, as utterly overwhelmed him with one gust. The history is well made up by many authors; the abstract is thus. Queen Isabel, wife to Edward the second, who had ever been the nurse of peace, and laboured to accord the king and his barons, making her progress towards Canterbury, was disposed to lodge in this castle, as belonging to the lord Badelesmer, who had been long king Edward's steward; and sending her marshal to make ready for her and her train, they who kept the castle, told him plainly, that neither the queen nor any else, should enter without letters from their lord. The queen herself goes to the castle, and receives the same answer; whereupon she is necessitated to take such lodging elsewhere as could be provided. Of which dignity she complains to the king, who resented it with so much passion, as instantly with an army collected in London, he lays siege to the castle, carries it, hangs the castellan Thomas Colepeper, sends the lady and children of the lord Badelesmer to the tower, and seizes upon his goods and treasure. He, to revenge this devastation of his castle, associates with the barons, then in arms, who pretended the common good and public liberty of the people (they being still that unhappy vessel which every tempest shipwrecks, but no calm secures; or, indeed, being like the sea, which never swells into disorder, until it be breathed upon by intemperate winds; and yet even those very winds break to pieces those waters which they first raised in billows and surges.) But, to go on; this design (whether the foundation, on which it was fixed, were crazy and infirm or not, I know not) was ruinous to Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, and the barons his partisans; for they were defeated by the forces of king Edward, and amongst the rest this lord, and the lord Ashburnham, being by their misfortune made prisoners, were put to death at Canterbury

Upon this shipwreck, this castle reverts to the crown; and archbishop Arundell having a mind equivalent to his birth, gets such a grant of this castle, as in many acts of his, he dates them, at his castle of Leeds; and you may observe that this would not serve the turn neither, for he was at the same time constable of the late before builded castle of Quinborough. But the estate he had in it determined with him, and then it remained in the crown, and was reputed one of the king's houses,

and the custody was conferred upon some of the principal gentlemen of Kent, whom the king pro tempore favoured. And it seems it had the reputation to be a piece of important strength in the reign of Henry the fourth; for Richard the second, as Fabian in his chronicle relates, fol. 165, was by that prince sent prisoner to this castle. In the reign of Edward the fourth, I find the propriety of it altered; for that prince seeking to endear the St. Legers to him, who were then a family who had a powerful influence upon this county, made Ralph St. Leger, Esquire, constable of the castle

\* Ex vetusto rotulo penes Edw. Dering, Militem  
& Baronettum, defunctum.

† See the late printed book, stiled the Vale  
Royal of Cheshire, published by Mr King.

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of Leeds, and annexed the park too, to his grant, (for anciently there belonged two parks unto it, though both are now clearly disparted and vanished,) but the fee-simple remained in the crown, until Edward the sixth, in the fourth year of his rule, granted it to Anthony St. Leger his successor, who was lord deputy of Ireland, and improved the English interest in that province by his prudence and magnanimity, to that height and advantage, that he reduced most of the old septs of the Irish nobility, and made them become feodall to the English scepter, which could never be accomplished since the first conquest of Ireland, till his time; but his great grand-child Sir Warham St. Leger was the last of the name, who was proprietor of Leeds-castle, for he sold it to Sir Richard Smith, who not long after determined in two daughters and co-heirs, married to Sir Timothy Thornhill of Kent, and to Mr. Barrow of Suffolk, who both by mutual consent did divest themselves of their interest in it, and by sale transplanted the inheritance into Sir Thomas Colepeper, now of the parish of Hollingbourne, who settled it in marriage upon his son Sir Cheyney Colepeper, now lord of the fee.

The priory of Leeds was founded by Robert de Crevequer, soon after the building of the castle, and not long after the conquest, and stored with black canons, or canons of St. Augustin, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas. The successors of this Robert de Crevequer were all of them benefactors. Robert de Crevequer, son of Daniel de Crevequer, who was son of Robert de Crevequer the founder, dedit terras Canonicis de Leeds pro salute animæ reg. Hen. secundi qui eum aluit & militem fecit, says the Coucher book. There was a goodly church annexed to this priory, parallel to many cathedrals, whose glory and beauty were both blasted when the priory abovementioned suffered the common calamity of that great tempest of the dissolution. This, upon that suppression, augmenting the revenue of the crown, continued with it, until king Edward the sixth, in the fourth of his reign, passed it away by grant to Sir Anthony St. Leger, whose son Sir Wartham St. Leger, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Norden, and not long after alienated his right in it to Francis Colepeper, Esquire, who not long after disposed of it again by sale to Norden, in which family it rested, until the same vicissitude brought it to be the inheritance of Covert, from which family hath the fate of sale, not many years since, brought it to be the instant patrimony of Sir William Merideth.

LEIGH, in the Lowey of Tunbridge, is sometimes written West-Leigh, and very often West-Leigh, alias Pauls. It was in ages of a very high gradation, the Penchesters, and in Domesday book there is mention of \* Paul de Penchester, who held lands here, and at Pencehurst; and from this man was it by a continued series, brought down to Sir Stephen de Penchester, lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover-castle, who expired in two daughters and co-heirs, whereof Joan the eldest, was married to Henry lord Cobham, of Roundall in Shorn; and Alice the other, was married to John lord Columbers, of Stawey, in Somersetshire, as appears by an inquisition taken in the third year of Edward the third, and she had for her proportion assigned her, the manors of West-Leigh and Pencehurst. Sir Thomas de Columbers, was heir apparent to this John de Columbers, and Alice his mother; and he, by his deed bearing date from the eleventh year of Edward the third; passed away all his interest in this place, to Sir John de Poultney, lord mayor of London, and he died possessed of it, in the twenty-third year of Edward the third; immediately after, I find Sir Nicholas Lovain, son of Guy Lovain, interested in the possession; but whether it was by marriage of Margaret, widow of Sir John Poultney, or by purchase, I cannot discover; and he had issue Nicholas Lovain, who held

it as heir to his father, as appears by an inquisition taken after his decease, in the forty-fourth year of Edward the third; but this Nicholas dying without issue, Margaret Lovain his sister, became his heir, who brought it to her husband Philip St. Clere, of Aldham St. Clere, son of John St. Clere; and they by joint concurrence, by their deed of sale, bearing date the tenth year of Henry the fourth, passed it away to the crown; and that prince bequeathed this manor of West-Leigh, with several other lands, to John Duke of Bedford, his third son, after lord regent, in the minority of Henry the sixth; but, he deceasing and leaving no issue, it came to Humphrey duke of Gloucester, his fourth brother, who being strangled by the pro-

\* See more of this family at Pencehurst.

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curement of William De la Pole, duke of Suffolk, in the abby of Bury, and dying without any posterity, king Henry the sixth, in the twenty fifth year of his rule, granted this manor, being an adjunct to Pencehurst, to Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, ancestor to Edward Stafford, who being attainted of high treason, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, lost both his life, title, and estate; and then it was granted by that prince, to Sir Rafe Vane, who was made banneret by that prince, for his remarkable service in Scotland; but he being unsuccessfully wound up in the business of the duke of Somerset, in the fourth year of Edward the sixth, was executed as guilty of felony, upon whose ruinous catastrophe, this manor by escheat returning to the crown, it was in the seventh year of Edward the sixth, granted to Sir William Sidney, a person of deep knowledge, and unblemished integrity, great grand-father to Robert, now earl of Leicester, and proprietor of West Leigh.

There is another manor in this parish called Philipotts, which yielded a surname to a family so stiled, and in a deed which bears date from the twenty-eighth year of Edward the first, whereby one John de Philipott does demise some parcels of land to Robert Charles, bailiff of the forest of Tunbridge, he writes himself de Philipotts, in Leigh; but as all things have their revolution, which gives either their own ruins or oblivion to them for a sepulchre, so it was here. For after this place had for some hundreds of years been wrapt up in the inheritance of this family, it at last came down to Thomas Philipott, whose daughter and heir Alice, was married to John Petley, Esquire, and so Philipotts fell under the signory of that family; but long it continued not there, for this man determined in four daughters and co-heirs, one of whom marrying with children, a family so called, interwove it with his demean; in which name, after it had for some years been fixed, it was not long since by the daughter and heir of this name, brought to be the inheritance of Polhill.

LENHAM, in the hundred of Eythorne, is that place, which Mr. Camden and Mr. Lambert conclude, was Duroleum, a city of the Romans, mentioned by Antonius in his Itinerarium; though others would have it to be about Newington, by Sedingbourn; but finding the consulary way went through this place, and Roman coin found many times near the foss and surface of that way; and that the high road called Watling-street, continued in the line of the former, till Rochester bridge was built of stone; and all that have written of that way, do agree that it went through the middle of Kent, I will not further dispute it, but acquaint you that the composition of the name was from Dore, Water in the British, and Lenum which the Romans formed from some such sounding name in the British dialect; and it is the more probable, because from hence is a direct way to Limen, the Roman haven near Hyth.

The soil and signory were given to the abby of St. Austins, by king Kenwulf, under the notion of one and twenty plough-lands, in the year 804, and upon the dissolution was united to the crown, till queen Elizabeth passed it away by grant to Henry Wilford, Esquire, whose grand-son Sir Thomas Wilford conveyed it by sale, not many years since, to Anthony Brown, viscount Montacute.

EAST-LENHAM was long time since, the seat of the Husseys, of whom I have spoken before in Boughton Malherbe. Henry Hussey had a charter of free-warren to his lands at East-Lenham, Chilston, and Stourmouth, in the fifty-fifth of Henry the third; and from this man, did the thread of a continued descent waft it along to Henry Hussey, who about the twenty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, alienated the possession to Mr. John Parkhurst, descended from an ancient family so called in Norfolk, (one of which name was bishop of Norwich, in the year 1560) ancestor to that ingenious gentleman Sir William Parkhurst, who has lately by sale trans-

mitted his right in this mansion to Mr. Wood, of London, merchant.

Royton, in this parish, had very good gentlemen so stiled, who were no small space possessed of it, and had a free chapel founded by Robert de Royton, about the latter end of Henry the third, from whence it borrowed the name of Royton chapel, it being annexed to this mansion. The daughter and heir of Royton was married to James Driland of Davington, and so this place became appropriated to the interest of that family; but shortly after, Constance, daughter and heir of this man, married Walsingham of Chiselhurst, whose son James Walsingham, passed it away by sale to Robert Atwater, **or Waters**, of Putwood, in Otterdingen; and he not long after

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concluding likewise, in a daughter and heir called Mary, she by her marriage with Robert Honeywood, Esquire, a younger branch of the Honeywoods, of Elmsted, united this place to the patrimony of that family; and Robert Honeywood, this man's son, gave it in dower with his daughter to Thomson, descended from the Thomsons of Petham.

There are two other manors in Lenham of signal estimate; the first is West-Shelve, written likewise Middle-Shelve; it was parcel of the estate of Betram de Criol, and by Joan his daughter and heir, was linked to the revenue of her husband Sir Richard de Rokesley, from whom the fate of female interest devolved it on Thomas de Poynings; and to this family was it for many ages fastened, till Sir Edward Poynings, extracted lineally from this man, in the fourteenth year of Henry the eighth, was found to have died both without lawful issue, and without alliance; and so this name being both in the direct and collateral line extinguished, the crown laid claim to this manor as de Jure escheated; and in the seventeenth year of his government, Henry the eighth granted it to John Mills, where after the possession had for some time continued, it was by purchase brought into the inheritance of Darel, by whose female heir it is now brought to own the signory of Wilkinson.

Shelve Cobham is another manor in Lenham, which in elder times was folded up in the inheritance of the lords \* Cobham of Sterborough castle; of which family was Richard de Cobham, made knight banneret, by Edward the third, as appears, Pat. 15. Edw. tertii, parte secunda memb. 22. and having continued many descents, constant to the interest of this family, did at last devolve to Thomas lord Cobham, of Sterborough, who dying in the twelfth year of Edward the fourth, without issue-male, Ann his only daughter and heir, brought it to be parcel of the patrimony of Edward lord Borough of Gainsborough; from whom the propriety of it did flow down to his grand child Thomas lord Borough, who conveyed it by sale to Mr. John Pekenham, in the twenty-fifth year of queen Elizabeth, and he was possessed of it, but until the thirty-fifth year of that princess; and then an alteration like the former, made it the demean of Boteler, in which name after it had remained, until the fifth of king Charles, it was alienated by sale to Sir John Melton, whose son John Melton, Esquire, hath lately conveyed it to Mr. Salomon Adye.

Sindall is the last place of account, in this parish of Lenham; which as appears by the evidences of this place, was, in the reign of king John, and Henry the third, the inheritance of a family of that surname, and as appears by some old rolls and armors, were gentlemen of prime note in this track, but continued not long owners of this mansion; for in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, I find it in the hands of Fulk de Peyforer, and in this family did it fix, until the latter end of Edward the third; and then it was passed away to Henman, in which name the interest of this place, from the fiftieth year of the above prince, by a derivation of several descents, until this present year 1658, hath been successively resident.

LEVELAND, in the hundred of Feversham, gave seat and surname to a family of that denomination; for I find that Giles de Badelesmer, of Badelesmer, not far distant, was pardoned by Henry the third, for marrying with Margaret de Leveland the heir of this place, without the king's especial license, as is manifest, Pat. 40. Hen. 3. memb. 8. But he deceasing before her, she was remarried to Fulk de Peyforer, who in her right, died possessed of this place, in the fifth year of Edward the first; but she had no issue by either of these two eminent persons; so that Rafe de Leveland was her next heir, who had the custody of the palace of Westminster, and the Fleet; and after his decease, Stephen de Leveland held both these places as his

brother and heir. This Stephen had a daughter and heir called Joan, first married to John Shench, and secondly, to Edward de Cheney, who in her right had the custody of the Fleet and palace of Westminster; but John Shench was her son and heir, who by a right derived to him by descent and succession, held both the Fleet and Westminster, and was in the possession, both of them and Leveland, at his decease; as an inquisition taken after his death, in the twenty-third year of Edward the third does signify, and left Margaret his daughter heir, not only to his estate at Leveland, but likewise to those offices of trust, which it seems were in those times

\* See more of this family at Roundall, in Shorne.

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hereditary, and usually linked together; but this family of Shench was not so entirely invested in the signory of Leveland, but that a considerable proportion of it augmented the patrimony of Northwood; for Robert de Northwood held an estate here at his death, which was in the thirty-fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 70. and so did Richard de Northwood, and Thomas, brother of the said Richard, as appears by an inquisition taken in the thirty-fifth of the above said monarch, Rot. Esc. Num. 13. Parte secunda. But before the latter end of Edward the third, both these families had offered up their joint interest here to Richard lord Poynings, and he died possessed of it, in the twelfth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 148. and left his interest here, to be enjoyed by his kinsman Robert Poynings; from whom an uninterrupted line of descent brought it down to Sir Edward Poynings, who died in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, and there being none, after a serious inquisition taken in the fourteenth year of that prince, who could establish any claim or pretence, either in respect of any direct or collateral affinity to his estate, the crown by escheat was entituled to this manor; and here the propriety was lodged, until king Henry the eighth before mentioned granted it to Sir Robert Southwell, who in the second year of Edward the sixth, conveyed it to Sir Anthony Aucher; and he not long after passed it away to Sir Anthony Sonds, great grand-father to Sir George Sonds, knight of the bath, now instant lord of the signory of it.

LEWISHAM, in the hundred of Blackheath, was a manor which belonged to the priory which was erected here; but who was the founder is unknown. Only thus we find that king Henry the third, by a new inspection confirmed it, with all the franchises and immunities annexed to it, as appears, Cart. 13. Hen. tertii Memb. 9. It was, when it flourished most, but a cell of Benedictine monks belonging to St. Peters, in Gaunt, and paid to them 40s. per annum, as a rent service, as appears, Rot. Esc. An. 12. Ric. secundi N. 72. And so continued, till king Henry the fifth, perceiving the ill effects and impressions which the influence of priories-aliens, and their fraternities, might cause upon those religious persons, who were his subjects, who were altogether chained by a connection of canonical obedience to them, suppressed this and sundry others of the like nature, and with their revenue endowed that stately monastery, which he erected at Shene, storing it with Carthusian monks, and dedicating it to the name of Jesus of Bethlem; and in the patrimony of this cloister did this manor lie included, till the total dissolution in that general ship-wreck in the rule of Henry the eighth, and then it returned to the crown, and there was lodged, till queen Elizabeth, in the fifth year of her government, granted it to Ambrose Dudley, earl of Warwick, who soon after exchanged it for other lands with the said princess; and she in the year 1575, granted it in lease for a space of forty years to Sir Nicholas Stodard of Modingham, which expiring in the year 1605, king James passed it away in lease for forty years more to Sir Francis Knolls, and the fee simple in reversion to John Ramsay, earl of Holderness; who dying before the expiration of the lease, gave it to his brother Sir George Ramsey, whose son John Ramsey, when the former lease was worn out, which was about the year 1645, sold the fee-simple to Mr. Reginald Grime.

Catford, in this parish, was formerly a manor which anciently was involved in the inheritance of the Abels of Hering-hill, in Erith; and John Abel had a charter of free warren to this, and other of his lands in Lewsham, in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, and after this family was worn out, the lords Mountacute were lords of the signory, and fee-simple of it; for William de Mountacute, earl of Salisbury, obtained by charter a confirmation of free-warren to this manor of his of



Catford, in the fifth year of Edward the third; and in this noble family did the possession dwell, till Richard de Nevil married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Thomas de Mountacute, earl of Salisbury, and in her right had the title of that earldom, and the possession of this place enstated upon him, and divers of the windows of the most ancient houses in Lewsham are stained and coloured with his arms. This was that Richard, who gave up his life to the cause and quarrel of the house of York, and with Richard duke of York most resolutely asserting the truth and justice of their title to the crown, perished in the fatal and unfortunate battle commenced with the

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partisans of the Lancastrian claim between Sandall and Wakefield, and afterwards his son Richard, earl of Warwick, (he that broke and pieced up the scepter as he pleased) and his younger son John Nevil, created marquiss Montacute, by Edward the fourth, in the year 1470, fell in that disastrous encounter waged with Edward the fourth at Barnet; upon whose ruins and tombs he built his throne, and with their blood cemented the fabrick of his future greatness; but whether upon the shipwreck of this family, it came by escheat to the crown, or else to George, duke of Clarence, second brother to Edward the fourth, who married Isabel, daughter and co-heir of Richard earl of Warwick, is uncertain, though it is probable it did, because in a great house of Mr. Streets, at Lewsham, the arms of the duke of Clarence stand empaied with Nevil. In times of a more modern aspect, Catford was the Palsteds, a family of very deep antiquity in Surry; for Hugh de Palsted gave lands called Inwood by his deed, dated the sixteenth year of king John, to the abby of Waversley in that county; but whether this place came to them, or not, by grant from the crown, or by purchase from some other, I am ignorant; 'tis certain that Francis Polsted, cousin and heir to Richard Polsted, sold Catford to Brian Annesley, Esquire, in reversion after the decease of Elizabeth, wife of John Wooley, and widow of the said Richard, in the twentieth year of queen Elizabeth. And he afterwards dying without issue male, his two daughters, married to Sir William Harvey, after lord Harvey, of Kidbrook, in Kent, and Sir John Wildgoose, shared the inheritance of this place.

There were two chantrys founded at Lewsham. One by Richard Walker, for one priest to celebrate mass at the altar of the trinity for the founder's soul. The other by Robert Fitz, who by the appointment of his last will, the seventeenth of Henry the seventh, devised that his two houses, the lion and the ram in the stews, on the bank-side, near London, should be sold to build the chantry house, and endow it with maintenance for one priest to celebrate at the altar of the trinity in Lewsham church for the founder's soul.

LEYBOURNE, in the hundred of Larkfield, was the ancient demeane of the lords Leybourne, who erected here a castle esteemed a strong pile in our ancestors days; however the ruins and rags of it at present appear mean and despicable, yet it hath by several gradations sunk into this condition. The first of which family, which I find to be eminent, was, \* Roger de Leybourne, who is enrolled in the catalogue of those Kentish knights, who accompanied Richard the first to the siege of Acon, and another Roger de Leybourne is in the roll of those Kentish gentlemen who assisted Henry the third, in his expedition into Gascony, in the thirty-seventh year of his reign, and afterwards was a principal partisan of Simon de Montfort's, in his emotions and rude efforts against his scepter and government; for which he was pardoned by the act of Amnestia, or pacification of that prince, made in the fiftieth year of his reign at Killingworth, and this is that Roger which slew Ernulphus de Montenevy, at a meeting of the round table, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the sixth, and was the husband of Eleanor, countess of Winchester. Sir Henry and Sir Simon de Leybourne are recorded in the list of those Kentish gentlemen, who assisted Edward the first, in his siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty eighth year of his reign; and for their signal service performed in that expedition, were dignified with the order of knighthood. William de Leybourne, one of this family, was frequently summoned to sit in parliament as baron, in the reign of Edward the first, and by that title subscribes in that memorable letter, which the abovesaid prince and all the English peerage wrote to the pope, in the year of grace 1301, that is, in the twenty-ninth of Edward the first's government, to justify those grounds on which the war was then commenced against the Scots; and this William was the son of Roger de Leybourne, which Roger was sheriff of Kent, the forty-eighth and fiftieth of Henry the third. The last of this family was Roger de Leybourne, who transmitted

this castle and manor to his sole daughter and heir Juliana de Leybourne, first married to Joseph de Hastings, and secondly, to William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, by both which husbands she had no issue; so that dying in the forty-third year of Edward the third, after all titles were winnowed by a serious inquisition, there was none discovered that could by a pretended claim, either of direct or collateral alliance, challenge her estate. So that her patrimony here lapsed by escheat to the

\* Ex veteri Rot. penes Edw. Dering Militem & baronettum defunctum.

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crown, after which, king Richard the second, by patent, in the ninth year of his reign, part. prima, memb. 26. grants it to Sir Simon Burleigh, lord warden of the cinque ports; but, he being shortly after attainted with the guilt of high treason, and his estate confiscated, this manor and castle reverts to the demeanor of the crown, and the same king Richard, in the twelfth year of his reign, grants it to the abby of Grace upon Tower-hill, and in their revenue it continued shut up till the dissolution of this convent, and then king Henry the eighth, about the thirty-seventh year of his reign, granted it to Sir Edward North, who not long after alienated it to Robert Gosnold; and he in the second year of queen Elizabeth, gave it to Robert Godden, who some few years after, by sale passed it away to Sir John Lewson, knight, of Whorns-place in Cuckston, whose son Sir Richard Lewson, affecting more to live in Staffordshire, alienated his Kentish lands; amongst which, this was sold to Henry Clerke, serjeant at law, and recorder of Rochester, who being lately deceased, his son and heir Francis Clerke, Esquire, enjoys the profits and possession of it, of whose family I have spoke at Frensbury, and shall speak more at Ulcombe.

The Grange in this parish, is the mansion of Mr. Robert Oliver; and hath been for sundry descents, resident in that name, though the original surname be Quintin; they being descended from Anselinus or Anselmus de Quintin, that paid respective aid for the manor of Woodfold in Yalding, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince, knight. Now if you will know how the name of Quintin resolved into that of Oliver, I shall inform you. William Quintin purchased lands in Seal called Hilks, the eleventh of February, and in the eleventh year of Henry the sixth, and in the deed of purchase, he is often called Filius Oliveri, without the addition of Quintin, and so by vulgar acceptation, and inadvertency, they came by common mistake to be called Oliver; yet in all deeds and other escripts, to preserve their ancient and original denomination, they write Oliver, alias Quintin.

LIDDE, in old Saxon records is written Hlida, which certainly was derived from the Latin word Litus; it importing as much in that dialect, likewise, as the shore, and the situation of the place, being not far distant from the sea, does seem to abet the etymology. It is situated in the hundred of Langport, which extracts its name from a manor in this parish, called Old Langport, which was the possession of a family whose surname was Ikin. And John Ikin, I find by an inquisition taken in the thirty-second year of Edward the third, was at his death, which was then, possessed of it. After Ikin, a good old family called Hund, were lords of the inheritance; and Sir John Hund, who lies buried in the church of Lidde, lived here in the reign of Henry the sixth. From this family it by sale passed away to Belknap; in which name the possession had not been long resident, for Sir Edward Belknap, son to Sir Henry Belknap, who purchased this place, died without issue, and so his three sisters, Anne, Elizabeth, and Alice, became his three co-heirs, who married to Sir Edward Wotton, Sir Philip Cooke, of Giddy-hall, and Sir William Shelley of Michaelgrove, in Sussex, who sold his proportionable share in this manor to Dannett; and from Wotton and Dannett, two parts of it were afterwards conveyed away by sale to Godfrey, and the third was alienated by Cooke, to Mr. George Man, from whom it descended to his brother Mr. William Man, who dying issueless, bequeathed it to his nephew Sir William Man, of Canterbury.

New-Langport, called likewise Langport Septuans, was for many descents the patrimony of that noble family. Robert de Septuans held it at his death, which was in the thirty-third year of Henry the third, and after him his grand-child William Septuans, or Septemvannis, was possessed of it in the twenty-fifth year of Edward the third, and so remained by the links of some descents fastened to the inheritance of this family, till William Septuans, this man's great grand-child, by sale tran=

slated his right in it to John Writtle, about the beginning of Henry the sixth; where after the possession had for some years settled, it was by sale supplanted, and seated in Henry Fettiplace, of Beselslith, in the county of Oxford; where after it had for many years been fixed, it was at length sold from this family, to James. But here it had a very short abode, for Thomas James, falling under a præmunire, in the sixth year of the reign of king James, forfeited it to the crown, and that prince the next year after, passed it away to John lord Haddington; and he not long after, to

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discharge some debts in which he was engaged to Mr. Edward Cropley, of London, passed it over to him for his satisfaction and re-imbursment.

Jacks, alias Jaques-court in this parish, was the demeane of Echingham, a family of principal note in Sussex, where they were, jure nativo, seneschalls of the rape of Hastings, and of a proportionate revenue at Echingham in that county. The first that I find of note in this place, was William de Echingham, who paid respective aid, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince knight, for lands which he held here, and in Welland-Marsh, by the fourth part of a knight's fee; and in this family did it for sundry ages reside, and was productive of men that were very useful and subservient to the interest of their country, whereof William Echingham, son of the former William, was one of the conservators of the peace, for the county of Sussex, in the first year of Richard the second, and died possessed of this place, in the fifteenth year of that prince; but at length the distaff prevailed against the spear, and this family concluded in a female heir; for Thomas Echingham dying without issue-male, Margaret his only daughter was married to Walter Blount, who had by her Jacks-court, which he left to his son Edward Blount, lord Montjoy; but he at his decease leaving no issue, the inheritance of this place came to Elizabeth his sister and heir, married to Sir Andrew Windsor, afterwards created lord Windsor by Henry the eighth, who alienated this mansion to Clache, by whose daughter and heir, it came to be the possession of Stringer; and he ending likewise in a female heir, she brought it to Scot of Scots-hall; who suddenly after sold his right in it to Wilcocks, by whose two daughters and co-heirs, in the memory of these times, it came to be divided between their two husbands, Bates and Knight.

The manor of Belgar or Belgrave, is situated likewise in Lidde; it was given with the manor of Bilsington, to the priory of Bilsington, by John Maunsell the founder of it; and was exchanged by the abbot and canons for other lands, not long before the suppression, with William St. Leger, by whom it was alienated to William Middleton, and Edward Arthur, who after they had been some small time seated in their new acquisitions, by joint-consent passed away their right in it to Sherley of Sussex, who in our fathers memory, by sale transferred the inheritance to Abdy, descended from the Abdys, of Abdy-house, in the parish of Waith, in Yorkshire, whose heir, both to the name and Belgar also, is Sir Christopher Abdy, a person who for his general knowledge, may be called without the circumstance of flattery, an exchequer of human learning.

Scotney was the seat of a family so called; for in the Book of aid, there is a recital of one Richard de Scotney, who held lands in the Marsh not far distant; afterwards it came to the Ashburnhams of Sussex, but whether by purchase, or by marriage of the heir of Scotney, is uncertain; though I rather believe it devolved to them by marriage, because Scotney in Lamberhurst, divided by a remote distance from this place, was likewise theirs; from Roger Ashburnham it came to Henry Chichley, archbishop of Canterbury, and he by gift tied it to his foundation of All-Souls college in Oxford, to whose revenue it remains at this instant time united.

Nod, in this parish of Lidde, was for sundry ages the residence of the Derings, before they were transplanted to Pluckley, and here are lands situated within the verge of this parish, which by an undivided prescription of many ages have been named Derings; and Derings-Marsh, is a certain evidence to enforce the antiquity of this family. But when they grew more delighted with the situation of Plackley than this place, it was by ..... Dering, in the fourth year of Philip and Mary, alienated to Mr. Peter Godfrey, of Lidde, and Surrenden was tied for his peaceable possession in it.

Lastly, here is Manerium Summi Altaris, so it is written in old Latin deeds, or the manor of the high altar, which for many hundreds of years has been united to the vicarage; but whether it was given to find vestments for the priest to officiate in at the high altar, or for a supply of wax tapers, or for provision of books to celebrate mass with, or lastly, for all these uses, united and complicated together, I know not, because the original instrument which fortified the donation is lost, and so both the use and donor are become uncertain.

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There was a water in Lidde called Guestling, whose course the prior of Christ-church did, by an inquisition taken in the ninth year of Edward the second, consult how to alter.

If you will discover what price was set on timber, in elder times, an old epitaph affixed to a tomb-stone, in Lidde church, will represent it to you. The inscription recorded in old English speaks thus. Of your charity pray for the soul of Thomas Briggs, who died on the feast of St. Leonard the confessor, the year of our Lord, 1442, and did doe make the roffe of this chirch, as far as 45 coplings goeth, which did cost 45 marks.

LIDDEN, in the hundreds of Folkstone and Bewsborough, was a manor which in elder times made up that vast patrimony which related to the knights templers in this county; but upon the total extirpation of that order here in England, in the reign of Edward the second, it was by the statute called statutum de terris templariorum, made in the seventeenth year of that prince's government, settled by that solemn act upon the knights hospitalers, and remained treasured up in their revenue, until the disbanding and final dissipation of this order in this nation, by Henry the eighth. And then being by that prince rent away, it was in the thirty-sixth year of the same prince, granted to John Wilde, Esquire, for life only, and the remainder in fee, to the archbishop of Canterbury, and his successors for ever; in whose patrimony, according to the tenour of the original concession, it lay involved until that popular tempest which arose in these calamitous times, shook it off, and cast it into a secular interest.

Coclescombe, and Swinkfield-Mennes, were of the same complexion with the former, that is, they were first enwrapped in the demean of the knights templers, and afterwards supplanted, and fastened to the revenue of the knights hospitalers, to whose interest it continued firm, until the whirlwind of the public suppression in the reign of Henry the eighth, ravished them away; and then that prince, in the thirty-third year of his reign, by royal concession, made them the inheritance of Edward Monins, Esquire, from whom, by successive devolution, they are now come down to his descendant Sir Edward Monins, of Waldershare, baronet.

Swanton-Court is the last place in this parish, which summons our remembrance. It was (as appears by private deeds, muniments, and other authentic testimonies) the seat and habitation for several descents of a family deeply rooted in this track, whose surname was Greenford, and it is possible were originally extracted from a manor known by that denomination in Middlesex; who after they had flourished by a large decursion of time, under a fair and unstained estimate at this place, transmitted the propriety of this mansion to John Greenford, Esquire, in whom this family found its tomb and period; for he dying without issue-male, in the eleventh year of Edward the fourth, Alice, his sole daughter, became his heir, and she by marrying with John Monins, Esquire, linked this seat to his inheritance, and to this family, and to his descendants hath the title ever since been so constantly wedded, that it hath suffered no divorce, but remains at this instant united to the patrimony of Sir Edward Monins, of Waldershare, baronet.

LYMINGE lies in the hundred of Court At-Street, and was anciently famous for land which was given here, by Edbaldus, son of Ethelbert king of Kent, to his sister Edburga, upon which she erected a nunnery, and dedicated it to the honour of St. Mildred; but the manor which belonged to it, was upon the suppression, granted by Henry the eighth to the see of Canterbury; and archbishop Cranmer, in the twenty-ninth of that prince's government, exchanged it for other lands with the crown; and the abovesaid Henry the eighth, in the thirty-sixth year of his reign, granted it to Sir Anthony Aucher, who after, in the rule of queen Mary, was slain at Calais, whilst he endeavoured to make good that city, and the English interest

together, by a noble and generous resistance against the furious impressions and onset of the duke of Guise, and the French army, who then pressed upon it with a streight and vigorous siege. But to go on; after this place had continued in the name, since the time of the first concession, even till ours, it was lately by Sir Anthony Aucher of Bourne, sold to Sir John Roberts, of Canterbury.

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East-Leigh was the mansion of a family which took their denomination from hence; and there is mention in the Book of Aid, of William de Leigh, and Robert de Leigh, who held land of the archbishop of Canterbury, by knight's service, in the twentieth of Edward the third; when this family was vanished, and had deserted the possession of this place, which was about the beginning of Edward the fourth; the Allens, who came from Borden and Sedingbourne, were ingrafted into the inheritance, but enjoyed it not long; for in the age subsequent to the first pursuit, it was alienated to Fogge, who by as short and sudden a vicissitude, disposed of his right in it to Cobbe of Cobbes-court, not far distant, in which family the title was as brief, and as uncertain, as in any of the former; for by them, after a possession of some few years, it was alienated to Salkeld, descended originally from the Salkelds of the north-riding in Yorkshire, and bishoprick of Durham.

Sibeton, vulgarly called Sibton and Siston, is another manor which is contained within Lyminge. It was of higher calculation the patrimony of Tibetot, a family of no mean account, both in the counties of Leicester and Nottingham. And Robert Tibetot was possessed of it at his death, which was in the seventeenth year of Edward the third; but after this man, I find no farther remembrance of any of his stock or posterity at this place, so that it seems his son sold it to Walter Leigh, or At-Leigh of East-Leigh in this parish, who was likewise concerned in an estate in Hertfordshire, where he was conservator of the peace, in the first year of Richard the second; and in this family did it reside many years after; for Thomas Leigh held it in possession at his decease, which was in the seventeenth year of Henry the sixth; but after his death it was passed away to Allen, where the inheritance stayed not long; for from them it went away by sale into the patrimony of Sir Joseph Hales, who was baron of the exchequer, in the reign of Henry the eighth, whose posterity, an age or two since, alienated their interest here to Salkeld.

LIMNE, in the hundred of Street, in ancient records written Limen, is improved into a high estimate, from those many relics and places of antiquity, which lie scattered within the limits of it. And though now it carries with it an uncouth and desolate aspect, yet it was more flourishing in elder times, when prince Edward, son to king Henry the third, (being then lord warden of the cinque ports) at this place exacted an oath of fidelity of the barons of the same, to his father, against the maintainers of the barons war. And at this place, or some other member of the franchise, to which the court is adjourned from Shepway, the limenarcha or lord warden, receiveth his oath, at his first entry into his office.

Berewick in this parish, was, upon the suppression of the priory of Christ-church, by king Henry the eighth, re-instated on the archdeacon of Canterbury, who had here a castellated mansion, long before that tempestuous dissolution, seated upon the brow of a hill, and affording a delightful prospect into France. The pages of Doomsday book, represent it thus rated to us, in the twentieth of William the conqueror. In Limwarled in hundred de Strate, habet Willielmus de Edesham de terra Monachorum, 1 manerium Berwick de Archiepiscopo, quod tenuit Godridus Decanus, & pro dimidio Sullingi se defendebat & nunc similiter, & est appretiatum XIIb.

Court at Street celebrates the memory of the noble family of Hadloe or Haudloe, who as is manifest by ancient records, were, in times of a very high ascent, lords of this manor. \* Nicholas de Hadloe had a charter of free-warren to all his lands in Kent, and the grant of a market weekly, and a fair yearly to his manor of Court at Street, in the forty first year of Henry the third. John de Hadloe is in the register of those Kentish knights, who accompanied Edward the first into Scotland; and, for his remarkable service at the siege of Carlaverock, was made knight and banneret by that prince, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign. In the tenth year of Edward the second, a licence or patent was granted to John de Hadloe, and Mawd his wife, to fortify and embattle diverse castles and manors in which this was couched. In the first year of Edward the third, he was summoned to sit in par-

liament as baron, and left this mansion thus solemnly ennobled to Nicholas de Had-

\* Nicholas de Hadloe is in the roll of those Kentish worthies, who accompanied Richard the first to the siege of Acon.

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loe, in whom the male line expired, so that Alice, one of his daughters and co-heirs, upon the partition of the estate, brought this to be the patrimony of John Colvill, and he in her right held it at his decease, in the seventeenth year of Richard the second, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 9. And from him did an uninterrupted clue of paternal succession, transport it to Edward Colvill, Esquire, who in the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth, alienated it by sale to Edward Thwaits, Esquire; and from him it did descend to Edward Thwaits, who in the eleventh year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it by sale to Edward Jackman, and in this family did it reside, until that time which fell within the circle of our fathers remembrance; and then it was passed away to Sir William Hewets, who upon his decease by testament, settled it upon his third son the instant possessor Mr. William Hewet.

Bellaview, Otterpoole, and the appendant manor of Wellop, are all circumscribed, within the verge of Limne. The first of which, was both an eminent and ancient seat of the Criolls, before they translated themselves to Ostenhanger, by marrying with the heir of Auberville; and the two last were wrapt up in that revenue, which was an appendage both to support and enhance the grandeur of it, and went collectively together with Joan, daughter and heir of Bertram de Crioll, to Richard de Rokesley, in the twenty third year of Edward the first, and remained with this family, but until the next age; and the same vicissitude carried them off, by Joan his sole inheritrix, to Thomas de Poynings, in which name the propriety resided until the twelfth year of Henry the eighth; and then they devolved by successive descent to Sir Edward Poynings; but he dying without any legitimate issue, and there being none of his alliance, that could by any collateral affinity pretend any visible or manifest title to the estate, it devolved by escheat, in the fourteenth year of that prince, to the crown, from which Bellaview was again suddenly granted away to Richard Bernys, Esquire, and he not long after disposed of it by sale to Thomas Wombwell of Northfleet, who in the twenty-fifth year of Henry the eighth, conveyed it to Peter Heyman, Esquire, from whom, not long after, it went away to Bedingfield, descended from gentlemen of a deep and ancient extraction in the county of Suffolk; and in this family did it fix, until the custom of Gavelkind having broken and split this manor into several parcels, and so made it the inheritance of several brothers, they by a joint concurrence, alienated their collective interest in it to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, grandfather to Mr. Edward Hales, who now enjoys the fee-simple of it.

Otterpoole continued in the crown, until the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, and then it was invested by grant in Sir James Hales, from which family, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, it came over by sale to Thomas Smith, Esquire, commonly called Customer Smith, ancestor to the right honourable Philip viscount Strangford, the instant lord of the fee.

Wellop, another parcel of the escheated demean of Poynings, though it were granted in lease to Knatchbull, and others, yet the fee-simple still lodged in the crown, until king Charles passed it away to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, from whom it is now by descent devolved to his grand-child Sir Edward Hales of Tunstall.

LINGSTED lies in the hundred of Tenham, and hath two places in it, of eminent reputation. The first is Bedmancore, which was in times of a very high ascent, wrapped up in the patrimony of Cheyney, of whom I shall speak more at Patricksbourn Cheyney, their principal seat; the last of which family that held it was William de Cheyney, who died possessed of it, in the eighth year of Edward the third, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 58. But after his decease it was not long resident in this name; for in the twenty-seventh year of the abovesaid prince, I find it in the tenure of William de Apulderfield, of whose family take this compendious prospect. He was descended from \* Henry de Apulderfield, of Apulderfield, in Coudham, who with his son Henry, are inserted in the catalogue of those eminent Kentish gentlemen who were engaged with Richard the first, at the siege of Acon, in

Palestine. † Henry de Apulderfield, another of this family, accompanied Henry

\* Ex veteri rot. penes Edo. Dering Mil. & Ba=ronettum defunctum.

† See the roll of Gascony.

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the third, in his expedition into Gascony, and his son \* Henry de Apulderfield, with John de Lovetot, did by a commission dated the fifteenth of November, in the sixteenth year of Edward the first, sit as justices of the sewers for Romney Marsh. And this Henry was sheriff of Kent, the twenty-sixth, and twenty-seventh of the abovesaid prince, and had issue William de Apulderfield the abovementioned lord of Bedmancore, who was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth of Edward the third, and again the thirty-first, thirty fourth, thirty-fifth, thirty-sixth, thirty-eighth, and forty-fourth years of the abovementioned prince, and held his shrievalty at Lingsted. Henry Apulderfield, his son, was sheriff of Kent, the fifty first of Edward the third, in which that glorious prince paid that tribute to nature we all owe; and from this man, did Bedmancore descend to his great grand-child Sir William Apulderfield, a man of very great eminence in the reign of Henry the sixth, and Edward the fourth, who concluded in a daughter and heir called Elizabeth, married to Sir John Phineux, lord chief justice of the King's-Bench, in the reign of Henry the seventh, as is attested by his monument in Hern church, and he in her right became possessed of Bedmancore; but it was not long fastened to this name, for this man likewise concluded in two female co-heirs, whereof Jane Phineux, one of them, married with John Roper, Esquire; and Middred the other, married James Diggs, of Diggs-court, in Berham, Esquire; from the first alliance, Christopher, now lord Roper, of Tenham, is lineally extracted, and, by right of that conjugal union, is fortified in his present possession and title to this place.

Next to be remembered is Swards, the seat of a second stock of the well-spread family of the Finches, ever since they married the heir of place and name, and after they had sprouted out into many fair branches at Kingsdown, Norton, Selling, and other places. The sole heir of this house at Swards, was married to Sir Drew Drury, of Norfolk, knight, gentleman usher of the privy chamber to queen Elizabeth, a gentleman of incorrupt integrity and wisdom, to whom we ascribe the building of the great house against the church, where Mr. James Hugison kept his shrievalty, in the seventeenth year of the late king, having some years before purchased it of Sir Drew Drury his heir.

LINTON, in the hundred of Twyford, was anciently under the jurisdiction and signory of proprietors called Capell, who had a seat adopted into their surname, and called Capells-court; a family certainly of great antiquity, and no less revenue in this track. John at Capell held lands at Boxley called Tattelmell, in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the third, as appears by that king's charter of inspection, of the foundation of Boxley abby, Cart. 37. Memb 9. Thomas at Capell, and James at Capell, were to find two hobelers or light horsemen at Denge Marsh, in the eleventh year of Edward the third. And in this family did the title and propriety of this place reside, until the reign of Henry the sixth, and then it was passed away to Baesden; where, after it had for many years been permanent, it was almost in our grand-fathers remembrance transplanted by sale into Sir Anthony Mayney, knight, grandfather to Sir Joseph Mayney knight and baronet, the instant lord of the fee.

Some part of Linton did for many descents relate to a family called Welldish, who had here a chapel called Welldish his chapel, and bore upon their seals appendant to ancient deeds three talbots passant, upon a chief a fox, in the same posture with the Talbots, which was assumed by this family, as the vulgar and constant tradition of this parish asserts, to perpetuate, and inforce the memory of one of their ancestors, who was huntsman to William the Conqueror. Finally after this name had been fixed at this place, for so many descents, a considerable part of their estate was in that age we name our grand-fathers, passed away to Walter Mayney, Esquire, from whom his successor Sir Joseph Mayney, now claims the propriety of it.

LITTLEBOURNE, in the hundred of Downhamford, was many hundred

years since given to the church of Canterbury (as the annals of St. Augustins testify) by

\* See the printed laws of Romney Marsh.

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Withredus king of Kent. But here is the manor of Welle in this parish, which was always under the jurisdiction of lay proprietors. It was first the possession of John de Welle, sometimes written At Well, from the position of his dwelling, which perhaps was in a bottom; but this man, in the forty-fourth year of Henry the third, made Ranulph Joremer his feoffee in trust, who sold it for his use to Reginald de Cornehill, by whose daughter and heir, it came to Garwinton, of Beakesbourne, and in this name after it had been fixed some four descents, it went away to Haut; for William Garwinton died without issue; and so Margaret his kinswoman, married to Richard Haute, who was a second stock of the Hauts, of Bourne, became his heir; but long the right of it was not united to his family; for Richard Haut, this man's son, left likewise only a daughter and heir called Margery, who altered the possession, and brought it with her to her husband William Isaack, who had by her Edward Isaack, and he determined in two daughters and co-heirs, Mary married to Thomas Apulton of Waldingfield, in the county of Suffolk, and the other, first married to ..... Sydley, and after to Sir Henry Palmer, who by donation from his wife, was endowed with the fee-simple of Well Court, and his successor in our father's memory, alienated it to lieutenant colonel Prude, slain at the siege of Maestricht, who left it to his son Mr. Searles Prude, whose two daughters and co-heirs, are by his will, after his widow's decease, entituled to the inheritance.

Reginald de Cornehill, in the forty-fourth year of Henry the third, exchanged lands with John de St. Leger, for lands at Lukedale, in Littlebourne, where he founded a chantry, which was endowed with a new accession of land by his wife Matilda de Cornehill, and was confirmed by patent from Henry the third.

LOSE, in the hundred of Maidstone, was in old Saxon records written HLOS; which imports as much as the lot or portion. It was, as the book of Christ-church informs us, given by Ethelwulf, king of the South-Saxons, to Snetta, a widow and her daughter, and they gave it back again to the monks of Christ church, in Canterbury, to apparel them. In the conqueror's time, upon the general survey recorded in Doomsday Book, it was accounted as part of the six sullings of Ferneleigh.

Pimps-court, that gave name to the knightly family of the Pimps, is in this parish, although they made Nettlested their more frequent place of abode. William de Pimpe held this and other lands by a whole knight's fee, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince knight; and from this William was John Pimpe, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent, in the second year of Henry the seventh, lineally descended, who sold this place to Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, lord constable of England, whose disastrous fate having engaged him to make some dark applications to a wizard and a monk, about the succession of the crown, Henry the eighth, a prince of much jealousy and fury, like an industrious spider spun out venom enough out of this unhappy address of his, to poison him with the guilt of high treason, and so made the forfeiture of his life and fortune pay the price of his vanity; upon whose ruin, his estate was, not long after his death and attainment, which was in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, by that prince granted to his confidant and favourite Sir John Rainsford, who after a brief enjoyment of it, passed it away to Sir Henry Isley, who being attainted in the second year of queen Mary, for supporting by his assistance and concurrence the defection of Sir Thomas Wiat, this reverted to the crown, and the same princess in the second year of her government, granted it by patent to Sir John Baker, whose successor Sir John Baker, baronet, hath lately passed it away to Thomas Floyd, of Gore-court, Esquire.

LUDDENHAM, in the hundred of Middleton, with the appendant manor of Bishop's-Bush, was a branch of that spacious revenue, which did in these parts own the Northwoods for possessors; and Roger de Northwood, in the forty-first year of Henry the third, amongst divers parcels of land which he altered from the nature of gavelkind into knights service, (of the which there is a particular recapitulation in the Book of Aid) changed ninety acres of marsh land, which lay partly in Iwade, and partly in his manor of Luddenham into that tenure. After the Northwoods, the Frogenhalls were possessors of this place, and William Frogenhall had this amongst



other lands in this track, which he died seized of, in the eighth year of Richard the second; his son and heir was William Frogenhall, father to Thomas Frogenhall, the last of the name at this place; for he left no issue male, so that the daughters became his co-heirs. One of whom was Anne, who married Thomas Quadring of London, and so this place became his inheritance, as being her proportion of Frogenhall's estate; but it quickly found an other owner; for Joan Quadring his only daughter and heir, by marrying with Richard Dryland of Cokesditch, in Feversham, incorporated it with the demean of that family; since which alliance, it hath by a constant succession been fixed in the possession of the name of Dryland, until of late years by an heir general, it came to own the signory of Kirton.

LUDDESDOWN, in the hundred of Taltingtrough, was (though now a petty obscure village) more noted formerly, when it was the patrimony of the barons Montchensie, of Swanscamp-castle. Warren de Montchensie, one of them, obtained a charter of free-warren to this manor of Ludsdowne, in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the third; afterwards this man's successor William de Monchensie held it, and sat in parliament as baron of Swanscamp, and dying in the year 1287, without issue male, left this and diverse other places to Dionys his sole daughter and heir, who was married to Hugh de Vere, but died without issue, in the year of our Lord, 1314, by which means the title of this place diverted to Joan de Montchensie, sister to William above-named, and she matched in marriage with William de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, half brother to king Henry the third, and by him had Aymer de Valence, who expired in two female co-heirs, one of whom, called Isabel, was married to Lawrence de Hastings, who in her right was afterwards earl of Pembroke, and proprietor of the fee-simple of this place; from whom it descended to his grand-child John Hastings, earl of Pembroke, who dying in the fourteenth year of Richard the second, left his estate in Kent, in which this was involved, to his two kinsmen, Reginald Grey, and Richard Talbot, and upon the division of it, this manor was linked to the patrimony of Grey, and remained until the beginning of Henry the sixth, interwoven with the revenue of this family, and then I find it under the signory of that eminent peer and glorious soldier Thomas Montacute, earl of Salisbury, who in so many remarkable and triumphant conflicts, asserted the interest of this nation in France, in the reign of the abovesaid prince, and at last received a mortal wound, by a splinter of a window struck into his face by a canon shot, at the siege of Orleans, of which he died 1428, and left his estate here to his natural son James Montacute, \* so written in the deed, but in all our printed books of nobility falsely and corruptly John, and he in the thirtieth year of Henry the sixth, conveyed it by deed to Thomas Davy gentleman, and he not many years after alienated it to Edward Nevill, baron of Aburgavenny; from whom it was transported by descent to his successor Henry lord Aburgavenny, who dying in the ninth year of queen Elizabeth, without issue male, gave it to his second brother Sir Edward Nevill; from whom it is come down to his descendant, John lord Aburgavenny, the instant proprietor of it.

Buckland, in this parish, did acknowledge the Bucklands for its heirs and possessors, who sometimes did inhabit at Preston, in Shorham, and sometimes at this place; which however now obscure and despicable, was of credit when Sir John Buckland paid respective aid for his lands at Ludsdowne, at the making of the Black Prince, knight, in the twentieth of Edward the third; from Buckland by a daughter and heir, some few ages since, it came over with Preston in Shorham, to Polhill, and in that family is the title still at this instant resident.

LULLINGSTON, in the hundred of Axtan, was in ancient records written Lullingston Rosse; for Anketellus Rosse held lands here in the twentieth of William the conqueror. William de Rosse, this man's grand-child (as appears by the pipe rolls) held two knights fees in Lullingston, in the first year of king John. Alexander de Rosse, this man's son, was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, or of the grand assise about the end of that prince's rule; but not long after this the possession of this place was not linked to this family; for Lora de Rosse, sole daughter to William de Rosse, by marrying with William de Peyforer, fastened it to the revenue of that stock,

\* Ex vetustis autographis penes Rich. Lea Arm. de Rochester.

from whence it assumed the title of Lullingston Peyforer; but it quickly deserted both the title and possessor; for Gregory de Rokesley, lord mayor of London, in the seventh year of Edward the first, purchased it of the abovesaid William, and in the same year obtained a charter warren to his lands at this place. In the twentieth year of Edward the third, John de Rokesley, son to Walter Rokesley, and grandchild to the before mentioned Gregory, paid aid for the manor of Lullingston, which held by a whole knight's fee, at the making the Black Prince knight. In the thirty-third year of Edward the third, Sir John Peche purchased the manor of this John de Rokesley; this Sir John was son to Sir John de Peche, who was lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover castle, and was called to parliament among the barons, in the fourth year of Edward the third. In the same year he bought Lullingston, he obtained a charter of free warren to his lands there, which was renewed, and by confirmation fortified in the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth of Edward the third. Sir William Peche was his son and heir, whose widow the lady Joane Peche, who died seized of this manor, in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, lies entombed in St. Mary Woolnoth church in London. Sir John Peche was son and heir to them both. Sir William Peche was son and heir to this Sir John, who died at Lullingston, 1487, and had two children, Sir John Peche, knight and banneret, who died sans issue; (which Sir John, was a man of exemplary account, being lord deputy of Calais, and of signal charity, as is evident by his munificence and bounty towards the poor; for he founded the alms-houses at Lullingston, and gave 500l. to other pious uses, to be performed by the Grocers company in London, of which he was free) and Elizabeth married to John Hart, Esquire, who in his wife's right, upon the decease of her brother, entered into the possession of the premises; from whom it is transmitted to William Hart, Esquire, his great grandchild, who hath the instant signory and fee simple of this manor of Lullingston.

M.

MAIDSTONE giveth name to the whole hundred wherein it is seated; an elegant town it is, whether we consider it in respect of the uniform and regular building, or of the healthful situation of it, spreading itself out partly upon a hill, and partly upon a valley; which are interlaced with a small river which hath its original about Leeds, and on the other side its banks are washed with the waters of the Medway; from whence it primitively borrowed its name, being in Saxon called Medwegston. The places of most eminence which are circumscribed within the limits of it are,

First Buckland, which is situated on the opposite bank of the river, upon the knob or knoll of an hill of easy ascent; from whence it takes in a various and delightful prospect of the adjacent valley. It was anciently part of the demean of the Bucklands; but whether it originally gave seat and surname to them or not, is not evident; because there was another place, which likewise bore this name, at Luddesdowne, and which also acknowledged itself to be parcel of their property. John de Buckland held it at his death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, and his son and heir was Sir John Buckland, who was a person of remarkable reputation and note in this track, for he had lands about Wouldham, Halling, Snodland, Ludsdowne and Shoreham, as well as at this place. After this name went out, the lords Cobham were proprietors of Buckland, and in this family was the possession guided along by an undivided clew of several ages, till the unfortunate Henry lord Cobham, about the entrance into the reign of king James, being with Sir Walter Raleigh and others, entangled in a design, which the then present power, after a serious and solemn debate, adjudged treasonable, he could not unravel himself out of it, but with the forfeiture, though not of life, yet of estate; but this manor before his attain being settled upon his lady Frances Cobham, as part of her jointure, upon his decease was granted by the crown to her, and the reversion to Robert Cecil, earl

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of Salisbury, in respect he had married Elizabeth, daughter to William Brooke, lord Cobham, and sister to this last lord Henry, and she shortly after by marrying with ..... Fitz Gerald, earl of Kildare, settled the present interest of it in him, and he and his countess being embarked in a mutual and joint consent with the above-mentioned earl of Salisbury, passed away their right in it, about the year one thousand six hundred and eighteen, to William Horspoole, Esquire, who, in the memory

of these times, alienated the fee-simple to Mr. English of Sussex.

Secondly, the manor of Maidstone itself, with the palace, fall under consideration. They were in times of elder account belonging to the family of Cornhill, and so continued till William de Cornhill desiring to exemplify his zeal and devotion, by some eminent acts of piety to the religion which those times asserted, gave them to Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, in the seventh year of the reign of king John; many of whose successors were benefactors both to the church and palace. Boniface of Savoy (archbishop of Canterbury) about four hundred years since, built here an hospital, then stiled the New-work, to the honour of St. Peter and Paul, and Thomas the Martyr; which hospital William Courtney, likewise archbishop, pulled down, and instituted a college upon the ruins of it, for secular priests, devoted to the honour of All Saints; and also erected the collegiate church, as the walls, diapered in sundry places with his paternal coat, do easily evince.

John Ufford, also archbishop, about three hundred years since began the foundation of that palace here; but dying before he had compleated the same, Simon Islip his successor gave it its perfection, and being afterwards crumbled into decay, John Morton, likewise archbishop, not only repaired, but augmented it.

Maidstone was governed by a portreve, until the time of king Edward the sixth, by whose incorporation it came to be governed by a mayor, which privilege being lost, because this town was enwrapped in Sir Thomas Wiat's insurrection against queen Mary; queen Elizabeth not only restored the same, but, to improve it to more eminence with a farther addition of honour, raised it into the degree of a borough.

Maidstone, by the influence of Boniface of Savoy, archbishop of Canterbury, had the grant of a market procured to be held here weekly on the Thursday, as is manifest, Pat. 45. Hen. tertii Memb. secunda.

Thomas Arundel archbishop of Canterbury, about two hundred and forty years since, erected a chantry, for the brothers of Corpus Christi, now converted into the free-school, who by the rules of their primitive institution were to pray for the fraternity of the Guild.

The manor and palace of Maidstone being exchanged with the crown, by Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, was by king Henry the eighth, about the thirty-second year of his reign, granted to Thomas Wiat the elder, and his unfortunate son Sir Thomas Wiat, being attainted in the second year of queen Mary, it devolved by escheat to the crown, and continued there until queen Elizabeth granted it to John Astley, Esquire, master of the royal jewels, from whom it descended to Sir Jacob Astley, created lord Astley, by the late king Charles at Oxford, in whose descendants the propriety is at this instant resident. But the manor continued in the tenure of the crown, even until the reign of king Charles. For when king James had by his gracious charter created dame Elizabeth Finch, widow of Sir Moile Finch of Estwell, only daughter and heir of the right honourable Sir Thomas Heneage, of Copped-hall in Essex, vice chamberlain, and one of the privy council to queen Elizabeth, viscountess Maidstone, to her and her issue-male, she obtained the manor in fee farm for ever, and transmitted it to her son Sir Thomas Finch, in her right earl of Winchelsea, from whom both the title of viscount Maidstone and the right of the manor are devolved by paternal succession, to the right honourable Heneage Finch, the present earl of Winchelsea, and viscount Maidstone.

Leland notes that the archbishop's palace, was anciently a castle, and I verily believe it was the caput baroniæ; for the archbishops had more than one, and excepting that at Saltwood, I have diligently searched, and can find none so likely as this.

Goulds and Shepway do thirdly expose themselves to our survey; they were formerly the demean of Vinter of Vinters, not far distant, and so remained till Robert Vin-

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ter founded in Maidstone church that chantry, which bears the name of Gould's chantry, about the fortieth year of Edward the third, and then he annexed both these places to the foundation, for those divine offices which were there to be performed; but upon the suppression of this oratory, king Henry the eighth granted Gould's and Shepway to Sir Thomas Wiat, who afterwards sinking under the crime of high treason, in the second year of the government of queen Mary, she upon his attain, granted them to Sir Walter Henley, from which family by purchase they came over to Andrews, but stayed not long there, for in our fathers

memory they were sold to Sir Humphrey Tufton, late sheriff of Kent, part of the year 1654, and part of the year 1655.

Bigons, alias Digons, was the ancient seat of the worthy family of the Mapelysdens, and I have a deed in my custody, wherein one Edward Mapelysden is mentioned, with this addition, Edwardus Mapelysden de Digons. The deed bears date from the twenty-fifth of Edward the third, and after the possession had been for many generations successively resident in this family, one of this name, being unfortunately concerned in the defection of Sir Thomas Wiat, was blasted with the guilt of high treason, and so by consequence his estate by confiscation, escheated to the crown, from which it was granted to Nicholas Barham, after serjeant at law, who did much improve this fabrick, with a supplement of building, from whose heir it passed away by sale to Hawle, and from him again soon after to Sir Francis Berneham, to whom this mansion owes much of its magnificence and splendor, whose son and heir Robert Barneham, Esquire, alienated his interest in it to Mr. Walter Francklin, who lately conveyed it to Mr. Beale, of London.

Jordans-court is a fifth place, which may exact our notice, because it gave seat and surname to a family of that denomination; the next family, after this was expired, which held it, was Roper, of the Ropers of St. Dunstons, in Canterbury; and John Roper sold it to Edward and William Brouch, of Bersted, about the thirty-sixth year of Henry the sixth, and they quickly after alienated their interest to Atwood, from whom the same fate carried it away to Pierce, who by sale transmitted his right to Cook, and he suddenly after demised it to Crooke, where after the title had made some short abode, the possession was made over to Potkins, extracted from the Potkins of Sevenoke, where the name was very ancient; from Potkin, by his daughter and co-heir, it descended to Virgo, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, by sale translated the possession into Washington, justice of peace, and often in the commission of sewers, who sold it to Godwin, from whom by purchase, it came to be the inheritance of Crisp, who in our memory conveyed it away to Smith; and he, some few years since, by sale, invested the propriety in Mr. Beckman.

Sixthly, Sheals is not to be forgotten, because it was the inheritance of Fremingham; for Ralph de Fremingham died seized of it, in the thirtieth year of Edward the third, and when this family went out, the Pimps, of Pimps-court and Nettledsted, by purchase became lords of the fee; from whom the same fate brought it to acknowledge the signory of the Isleys, of Sundrich; and here it continued, till Sir Henry Isley, in the reign of queen Mary, being attainted of high treason, it became confiscated to the crown, and she in the second year of her government, granted it to Thomas Henley, Esquire, of Coursehorne, in Cranbroke, in whose name and posterity the possession has remained successively planted till this day.

Seventhly, Chillington is not to be omitted, because I find it in the register of those lands which acknowledged the lords Cobham, for lords of the fee. And when John de Cobham had obtained a charter of free-warren, in the seventeenth year of Edward the third, to all his lands in Kent. The manor of Chillington is recorded in the catalogue amongst them. After them, it came (as the court-rolls and private evidences of this place inform me) to acknowledge the signory and jurisdiction of the Mapelysdens of Digons, and remained circumscribed in their revenue, till queen Mary began to wield the English scepter, and then George Mapelysden being entangled beyond all retreat, in the unsuccessful expedition of Sir Thomas Wiat, miscarried in that attempt, and lost his estate by forfeiture to the crown, and queen Mary granted it to Sir Walter Henley, who not long after sold his interest in it to Nicholas Barham, Esquire, serjeant at law to queen

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Elizabeth, and his successor alienated this place to Hawle, of Wye, whose grandchild Mr. George Hawle lately deceased, held the fee-simple of it.

Lastly, within the ambute or limits of Maidstone, stands an ancient castellated house called the Moat. It did in times of great antiquity, relate to that patrimony which confessed the signory of the noted family of Leybourne; for Roger de Leybourne obtained the grant of a market weekly on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly, to continue three days at the feast of St. Cross, in the fifty-first year of Henry the third, as appears, Pat. 51. Hen. tertii Memb. 10. But before the beginning of Edward the third, this name was withered and shrunk into decay at this place, and then Bar-

tholomew lord Burghurst, or Burwash, lord warden of the cinque ports, and one of the first founders of the order of the garter, came to possess it, and inhabited here in the twenty-ninth year of Edward the third, and possessed the signory called Shoford, on which the castle stands, and which one John de Shofford held by knight's service, in the twentieth year (as appears by the Book of Aid) of Edward the third. After the lords Burghurst, the Woodvills were possessed of it, and removed from Grafton, in the county of Northampton, where they had long continued, and lived here. A fair monument of Woodvill, on the north side the chancel of Maidstone church affirms it; and when king Henry the sixth created Richard Woodvill constable of the Isle of Wight, a baron of this nation, and elected him into the order of the garter, his style was, lord Rivers, Grafton, and De la Moat; which act of grace and favour, mollified a sentence and fine of 1000*l.* imposed upon him, for marrying with Jaquet, daughter of Peter of Luxemburg, earl of St. Paul, widow of John Plantagenet, duke of Bedford, without the king's licence. But when king Edward the fourth, had married Elizabeth, his eldest daughter, being widow to Thomas marquiss of Dorset, he created him earl Rivers, and lord of the Isle of Wight, which titles he had observed were concomitant in some of the stiles of the lords Rivers, or de Ripariis, who were the ancient earls of Devon, and assumed to bear in an escutcheon of pretence upon his own atchievement the old coat ascribed commonly to Baldwin de Ripariis, earl of Devon, viz. gules, a griffin segreant or; which I note for criticks in armory to descant on, and return to the history of the place. When this good man, for so he was noted to be, was miserably massacred by Robert Ridisdale, captain of the lewd people of Northamptonshire, who took him at Edgcot-Field, and struck off his head at Northampton (their will being their law, and mischief minister to their wild designs) all his seven sons who survived him, died without issue, and then Sir Henry Wyat becomes owner of this place, grand-father to Sir Thomas Wiat, afterwards his successor in the possession of it, whose disastrous tragedy is presented at Boxley; upon whose untimely exit, Hugh Warham, in the second year of queen Mary, by grant from the crown, enters upon it, from whom alderman Rither, afterwards lord mayor of London, and known by the name of Sir William Rither, purchased and repaired it, and left it to his daughter and co-heir, the lady Susan Cæsar, whose eldest son Thomas Cæsar, Esquire, and his mother concurring together, disposed of their right in it by sale to Sir Humphrey Tufton, knight and baronet, second son to Sir John Tufton, knight and baronet, and brother to Nicholas Tufton, earl of Thanet, who was father to John the present earl.

There was a family sirnamed de Maidstone, whose blazon upon a monument in Ulcombe church is, sable, a chevron between three cups covered, argent, crowned or. William de Maidstone the king's valet being sent to the court of Rome with certain instruments, and other expresses, deceased in his journey, as appears, Pat. anno quinto Edwardi primi, prima pars.

Pinenden-heath confines upon Maidstone, and is eminent for the punishment of malefactors, and the frequent assemblies of freeholders, who here convene to elect such persons for knights of the shire, as may represent the county in parliament. But it was in elder times more famous for that great convention of English and Normans, who met there in the fourth year of William the Conqueror, to decide the great controversy which then broke forth, between Lanfranc, archbishop of Canterbury, and Odo earl of Kent, touching some lands and privileges which the said archbishop alleged, were by an unjust usurpation by the abovesaid Odo ravished away from the church; which because it gives us a full prospect of that exorbitant and wide power

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which the clergy of those times did entitle themselves to, I shall endeavour to pourtray it in as brief and narrow a landscape, as I have penciled it out by Textus Roffensis, an old book in manuscript so called, where it is more voluminously represented.

At Pinenden-heath (says Textus Roffensis) in the fourth year of William the Conqueror, there was an assembly of the gravest and discreetest of the English and Normans, by a signal decision and debate, to determine of that controversy, which did formerly arise between Odo bishop of Baieux, and earl of Kent, touching some lands and privileges which were detained from the church by the said earl, and Lanfranc archbishop of Canterbury. The said dispute or debate lasted three days;

after the expiration of which, the said archbishop recovered several lands which he the said Odo and his tenants then held, which were Herbert the son of Ivo, Turolf of Rochester, Ralph de Curva Spina, and Hugh de Montfort, with all the franchises belonging to them, as namely, Sac and Soc, Toll and Theam, Infangtheof and Outfangtheof, Flymena, Firmth, Grithbreach, Forestall, Heinfare, and Cersett, (the last of which, because none of our interpreters of the dark and obscure terms of the law do explain, I shall; it was a rent charge of a certain proportion of corn in the ear, paid at the feast of St. Martin) with all customs greater or less, both on the land and on the water; and it was tried and proved by all the honest and wise men, both Normans and English who were present, that as the king himself, holds his lands quiet, and free in his demean, so the archbishop holds all his lands wholly, quiet, and free in his demean. In the presence of these, it was shewn by many and most evident reasons, that the king hath no customs in the church of Canterbury, but only three, which are these. If any man dig in the king's highway, or cut down any tree to stop it, if any man shall be apprehended and found culpable, whilst they are in doing such things, whether pledges be taken of them or not, yet by prosecution of the king's officer, and by pledges they shall amend what is unjustly done. The third custom is, if any man commit blood-shed on the king's highway; if whilst he does it, he be apprehended and imprisoned, he shall then make amends unto the king; but if he shall not be apprehended, but depart without giving any pledge, the king may not in justice require any thing of him. And it was at the same time farther determined, that if any person did commit blood-shed, or manslaughter, in places which were within the liberties of the church of Canterbury, from the time that the church left off to sing Alleluiah, to the octaves of Easter; that then he should make amends only to the archbishop. And it was likewise shewed at the same time, that whosoever should commit the crime of childwit, that is, of bastardy, if it were in Lent, the archbishop should have the whole satisfaction; but if out of Lent, than he should have only half of it.

There were present at this assembly, Goisfrid, bishop of Constance, the king's substitute, Ernout bishop of Rochester, Egelric or Agelric, bishop of Selsey and Chichester, a man of deep insight in the constitutions ecclesiastical, and of so great an age, that he was brought in a waggon, for his discussion and declaration, (says Textus Roffensis) upon the known laws, usages, franchises, and customs of holy church; Hugh de Montfort, William de Acres, Richard de Tunbridge, and lastly, Haymo, sheriff of Kent.

TOWN MALLING and EAST MALLING, lie in the hundred of Larkfield, and were both manors which related to that revenue, which made up the patrimony of the nunnery of Town Malling, which was founded by Gundulphus, bishop of Rochester, about the year 1090, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had the church itself, which was likewise named after the blessed Virgin, and the chapel of St. Leonard's not far distant. Though this Gundulphus was the founder, yet Haimo de Heath, as appears by the records of Rochester, was an eminent benefactor to it about the year 1339. Both these manors upon the suppression having augmented the revenue of the crown, they rested there, until the fourth year of Edward the sixth, and then they were granted in lease for life, to Sir Hugh Cartwright, and upon his decease, they were passed away upon the same condition to Pierpoint; and he conveyed them to William Brook, lord Cobham; whose son Henry lord Cobham, being attainted in the second year of king James, they were re-assumed by the crown, and after granted in lease to Sir ..... Fitz-James, and he passed away his interest in it to Sir Robert Brett, by whose widow it came to Humphrey de

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Linde, a man furnished with a liberal stock both of divine and human learning; but the fee-simple continued with the crown, until the twenty-first of king James; and then they were granted forever to John Rayney Esquire, which concession was fully ratified by king Charles, (to whom the profits of these manors were assigned when he was prince, towards the support of his court) in the second year of his reign, to Sir John Rayney, now of Wrotham, knight and baronet, which Sir John is lineally descended from John Reignie (for so the name in old deeds is written) who held the manor of Edgeford, in Devon, and Smitheley-hall, in Yorkshire, in the reign of Edward the third, still the possession of this family. Which John was originally extracted from Sir John de Reignie, who, as is manifest by the old rolls

and registers of this family, held the manor of Newton, in Cumberland, in the reign of Henry the third.

West-Malling had a market granted to it on the Saturday, by Henry the third, at the instance of the lady abbess of that place; to whom, and to the name of this cloister, the vicar of East-Malling, was, *jure loci*, always confessor.

Parrocks and Ewell are two appendant manors, involved in the manor of West-Malling, whose fee-simple was passed away to John Rayney, Esquire, when the other was united by grant to his demean, the first of which lay in Brenchley, and was in lease many years from the nunnery to Hextall, whose female heir brought it to Whetenhall; and Sir Richard Whetenhall, in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, sold it to George lord Cobham, and his son Henry lord Cobham, alienated it to Sir Thomas Fane, ancestor to Mildmay, earl of Westmorland; whose lease being lately expired, it is now come to confess Sir John Reyney, knight and baronet, for sole proprietor.

Borough-court, in East-Malling, was parcel of the ancient demean of the noble family of Colepeper, of Preston, in Alresford, and was found united to their revenue, at the death of Walter Colepeper, Esquire, which was in the first year of Edward the third; and in this family did it continue involved for sundry ages, till almost in our grand-fathers memory, it was by sale conveyed away to Shakerley, descended from the Shakerleys, of Shakerley, in Lancashire; but it made no long abode here, for in the age subsequent to that wherein it was purchased, this family resolved into a daughter and heir, who was married to Beauley, descended from the Beauleys, of Beauleys court, in Wouldham, who brought Borough-court along with her, into the possession of that family, and left it to her only daughter and heir Mary Beauley, who by marrying lately with Mr. .... Bass of Suffolk, hath made it parcel of his interest and property.

MARDEN is not parcel only of the hundred of Middleton or Milton, but an appendage of the manor also; but because they are divided by so remote a distance, from the abovementioned place, they in elder times made their applications, by humble addresses to the crown, of whose revenue this parish was a limb, to rescue them from that burden, which crushed the shoulder, and to permit that this parish, *suo integro dominio, & jurisdictione complecteretur*, might be circumscribed within the sphere and circumference of its own signory, without any adherence or connection to any other; but it seems the beams of majesty, not beating with any propitious influence on this design, it grew not up to that stature, and perfection, it did first aspire to; so that it remained an imperfect moiety of a manor, under which notion it is represented to us at present. Yet, in the ninth year of Edward the first, Eleanor, wife to that prince, obtained a market weekly, and a fair yearly, to be observed at this place, and being improved with these advantageous franchises, it remained marshalled in the inventory of the royal demean, until the second year of king James, and then it was passed away by grant to Philip, then earl of Montgomery, upon whose late decease it was disposed by will to own the interest of his second son Mr. James Herbert.

Cheveney and Cheveney-house, are both within the verge of Marden, and were entitled to a family of that surname. Henry de Cheveney held it at his death, which was in the second year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 59. And after him Joan, the wife of John Cheveney, his son was, in enjoyment of it at her decease, which was in the thirty-second year of Edward the third. Rot. Esc. Num. 5. But

\* Ex autographis penes Jo. Reyney, milit. & baronetum.

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after this I find no farther remembrance of this family at this place; for in the second year of Richard the second, I discover by an ancient court-roll, one William Atweld to have held the propriety of it. And in this family was the title so lodged until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was transmitted by sale to Couper, and in the thirteenth year of that monarch, I find one William Couper to have discharged some persons of some amerçiements, and fines imposed upon them for not performing suit and service at this manor of Cheveney; and in this family was the interest successively resident, until the beginning of queen Mary, and then this house and manor being by the custom of Gavelkind ground into two parcels,

and those possessed by two brothers, co-heirs, one of them passed away Cheveney house to Maplesden, in which name it is yet constant, and the other alienated the manor of Cheveney to Lone; from whom Mr. .... Lone the instant proprietor is lineally extracted.

Sipherst is another little manor in Marden, which had possessors here of that surname, until the latter end of Edward the third, and then they being abolished and the fee-simple abandoned and surrendered to William Atweld, about the second year of Richard the second, that name was entituled to the estate here, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was alienated with Cheveney to Couper, in whom the fee simple had not been long constant, when it was demised to John Field, and he made his will in the seventeenth year of Edward the fourth, and gives it to his son Joseph Field, and from him did it by descendant right devolve to his successor Edward Field, who held it in the fourth year of queen Elizabeth, and after gave it to his kinsman Thomas Gilbert, whose successor Thomas Gilbert having settled it on his widow Sibil Gilbert, it is now in her right possessed by her second husband Mr. Richard Knight.

Tildens, Stubbins, and Brooke, are three other inconsiderable manors in this parish; which had three owners of these denominations, the first of which were persons of eminence in this county, and had an estate at Wye. Catts-place in Brenchley and at Tilmanston likewise, as it appears by the Book of Aid, where there is an assessment laid upon the lands of William Tilden, in the twentieth year of Edward the third at making the Black Prince knight; but to proceed, the proprietor of these three places were constantly under the dominion of these three families, until the latter end of Henry the fourth, and then Stubbins was passed away to Tilden, in whom both Stubbins and Tildens remained combined and wound up together, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then they were demised to Thomas Stidolfe, Esquire, and he made his will in the year 1453, and therein mentions Stubbins and Tildens to have been purchased of Tilden, and Brooke of Richard Brooke; but this family about the beginning of Henry the seventh determining in a female inheritor (married to Richard Vane, Esquire) united these three manors to his patrimony and from him by the traverses of several descents, are they now come down to be possessed by the right honourable Mildmay Vane, earl of Westmoreland.

Monkton is a manor in Marden, which made up the demean of the priory of Leeds, and upon the suppression of that cloister, was by king Henry the eighth, granted to Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgebury, Esquire, who not long after alienated it to Thomas Wilford, Esquire, and he in the seventh year of queen Elizabeth to Thomas Stanley; in which family it remained, until our fathers remembrance, and then it was demised by sale to Mr. .... Board of Sussex.

Whitherst, written in old records Wogherst, was as high as times which extend themselves to the reign of king John, and Henry the third, the patrimony of a family of no cheap account in Kent, whose surname was Corbie, whose ancient seat was at a place in Eltham, now shrunk into obscurity, called Corbies-castle, and continued annexed to their demean, until it came to be possessed by Robert Corbie, and he determining in Joan his sole inheritor, married to Sir Nicholas Wotton, lord mayor of London, made it his demean, and from him it was by paternal descent, transported to Thomas lord Wotton, who settled it on Katharine his eldest daughter, married to Henry lord Stanhope.

St. MARY-CHURCH in Romney Marsh, lies in the hundreds of St. Martin's and New-church, and was anciently folded up in that large demean which did acknowledge the dominion of the Criolls; John de Crioll or Keriell of a younger extraction

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from Betram de Crioll held it at his death, which was in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, and transmitted it to his son Sir Nicholas Crioll; from whom by a continued succession, it devolved to Sir Thomas Crioll, knight of the garter, who falling an oblation at the battle of St. Albans, to the cause and quarrel of the house of York, by his daughter and heir it came to be the inheritance of John Fogge, who left it to his son Thomas Fogge; and though he determined in two daughters and co-heirs, Alice married to William Scot, and Anne first married to Edward Scot, and after to Henry Isham, yet it seems (to improve and continue the name)



he gave this and other lands to his kinsman George Fogge, whose posterity enjoyed it even until our fathers memory, and then it was alienated to Carkeredge.

St. MARY's, in the hundred of Hoo, was (as appears by Sir Thomas Wiseman's evidences, for I can trace not any notice of it in public records) in the reign of Edward the fourth, (for no higher do the deeds arrive at) in the hands of one William Halton, who sold the same to William Lemyng, citizen and grocer of London, as appears by a deed dated the twenty-second day of October, in the eighth year of the said king's reign. Afterwards I find this abovesaid manor in the hands of Sir John Brooke, lord Cobham, in the reign of Henry the seventh; but from whom it came to him, the evidences do not discover; but I find, that in the seventh year of that king's reign, the said lord Cobham sold the abovesaid manor to Sir Robert Reade, then serjeant at law, but after lord chief justice of the common pleas; who concluding in three daughters and co-heirs; Dorothy married to Sir Edward Wotton of Boughton Malherbe; Katharine married to Sir Thomas Willoughbie, second son of Christopher Willoughbie, lord Willoughbie of Eresbye; and Margaret married to Sir John Harcourt of Elmal, in the county of Stafford, this manor of St. Mary's in her right, descending to this family, the abovesaid Sir John and the lady Margaret his wife, did, in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, exchange the said manor of St. Mary Hall with John Wiseman gentleman, for the priory of Ronton, in the county of Stafford; since which time the said manor hath continued in the name of Wiseman, and is at this instant in the possession of Sir Thomas Wiseman, of Riven Hall, in the county of Essex, knight.

Newland is a manor situated in St. Mary's, which was, as high as can be traced, by any track of evidence, the inheritance of Somer, vulgarly now called Somers. Richard le Somer made his will, as appears by the records of Rochester, in the year of Grace 1347, and died seized of this place, lands in Halstow, Higham, Leigh, and elsewhere, and from him did it come down by the channel of descent to John Somer, who was chancellor of the exchequer, in the reign of Henry the sixth, who was a great benefactor to the priory of Christ-church, in whose cloister the arms of this family remain insculped in stone, as a memorial of his benefice: the last of this family who held this place, was Sir William Somer, who was thrice employed as public ambassador to foreign states by queen Elizabeth, and he deceased without issue male, so that his two daughters, married to Sir Alexander Temple, and Sir James Cromer, became his co-heirs; but this manor of Newland upon the petition was united to the demean of Temple, whose heir hath lately passed it away to the treasurers of the chest, for sick and maimed seamen at Chatham.

MERSHAM, in the hundred of Chart and Longbridge, was given by Siward and Mawde his wife to the monks of St. Augustins, for support of their diet, which concession of their's was afterwards confirmed (as appears by the book of Christ-church) by the royal authority of Edward the confessor, and so remained wrapped up in the demean of the church till the dissolution of that convent, and then it fell into the revenue of the crown; and king Henry the eighth, in the thirty-third year of his reign, settled it on the newly erected dean and chapter of Canterbury.

Quatherington in this parish, vulgarly called Quarington, was the ancient residence of the Blechendens, till William Blechenden by marriage with Agnes, daughter and co-heir of ..... Godfrey, of Aldington, became in her right, master of Simnell in that parish, and so left his habitation at Mersham, to enjoy his new acquisitions at Aldington; certainly they were very anciently seated if not at this place, yet in this parish, for I have seen the draught of a pedigree united together by Clarencieux Cooke, wherein they are brought down from Nicholas de Blechenden, who

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flourished here at Mersham, in the reign of Edward the first; though I confess the evidences of Quarington reach no higher then William Blechenden, who is made in the pedigree, to be grand-child to the abovesaid Nicholas, and who flourished in the reign of Richard the second: after the Blechendens, the Cleggates of Canterbury became in our grand-fathers memory, to be lords of the fee; but not long after alienated their right in it to Eastday and Saltwood, from whom the like current of succession wafted it over to Knatchbull, from whom the right descended to Sir Norton Knatchbull, a person who for his favour and love to learning and antiquity, in times when they are both fallen under such cheapness and contempt, cannot be mentioned with=

out an epithet equivalent to so just a merit.

MEPEHAM, in the hundred of Totingtrough, was given to the monks of Canterbury, for their supply of diet by Ediva the queen, mother of the two kings, Edmund, and Eadred, (as appears by the book of Christ-church) in the year of Grace 861. Upon the suppression of that fraternity, it increased by its addition, the revenue of the crown; but it was suddenly after in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, restored to the church, and so continued till these unfortunate times chained it to the patrimony of the see of Canterbury, whose archbishops it seems had a special regard to this place; for William Courtney, one of them, rebuilt the church, which by the onsets of time was shrunk into dilapidation and rubbish, and erected likewise some alms-houses here for the support and maintenance of the poor of this parish.

The manor of Dodmore lies within the circuit of Mepeham, and was, as high as the beam of any deed can discover to me, the possession of the noble and knightly family of Huntingfield. Sir Peter Huntingfield, by his deed sans date, does demise it to his kinsman Walter Huntingfield, and he by deed likewise without any date as fixed to it passed it, away to John Smith, and he in the forty-seventh year of Edward the third, conveyed his right in it by sale to Richard Ideleigh, from whom the Ideleighs of Easture in Chilham, and Rollingin at Goodneston in East-Kent originally branched out. But here the private muniments of this place, by whose light I have walked, break off; so that I must make a gap in my intelligence, and skip into the reign of Henry the eighth. In the ninth year of whose government, I find by the court rolls of this place, one Thomas Cavendish, Esquire, to be possessed of it, from whom, about the second year of Edward the sixth, it went away to Henry Taylor: afterwards, within the circuit of thirty years, it was the possession of John Giffard, then of Walter Powre, of Brenchley, and after him, of Henry Collins, who in the year 1604, demised his interest in it to Walter Kipping, gentleman, of Kipping-Cross, in Tugdley, where they were resident before about five hundred years; and now it is made by Dorothy Kipping, his daughter and co-heir, part of the patrimony of my worthy and ingenious friend Edward Darrell, Esquire.

Dean-court is likewise seated within the verge of Mepeham; it was in elder times a branch of that wide and opulent estate which was marshalled under the signory of Twitham. Alan de Twitham is enrolled in the catalogue of those Kentish gentlemen who were with Richard the first at the siege of Acon. Bethram de Twitham held it at his death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, after Alanus de Twitham died seized of it in the twenty-fifth year of the abovesaid king's reign, and his son Theobald de Twitham after him enjoyed it at his death, which was in the fourth year of Richard the second, as appears by the escheat roll of that year, marked with the number 76, and left Mawde de Twitham heir to his large possessions in this county, who by marrying with Simon Septuans, of Chequer, in Ash, by Sandwich, invested him not only in the signory of Dean-court, but likewise in his other demean which lay dispersed in several branches over this county, and he had issue by her, Sir William Septuans, who married with Anne, daughter and heir of Sir Nicholas Sandwich, and had issue by her John Septuans, Esquire, who likewise married Constance, daughter and heir of Thomas Ellys, of Sandwich, and had issue by her John, his eldest son, to whom he gave Hells, Twitham, Chilton, Molands, in Ash, and other lands in Kent; Thomas his second son, who had Dean-court in Mepeham, and other lands in this county; and Gilbert Septuans, his third son, who had his manor of Chequer, in Ash abovesaid, and from them it is sometimes writ At Chequer, and afterwards Harfleet, for some eminent service by him

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performed at a town of that name in Normandy, (as the private evidences of this family do seem to insinuate) under the conduct of Henry the fifth, and so successively by custom and prescription, this name became hereditary to all of the name of Septuans, who were either directly or collaterally linked in alliance to this Gilbert. And in the name of Harfleet, alias Septuans, did the inheritance of this manor of Dean-court sundry ages reside, till some few years since, it was by one of this name, alienated to Mr. Francis Twisden, third brother to Sir Roger Twisden, of Roydon-hall, knight and baronet.

MERWORTH stands in the hundred of Littlefield, and gave seat and surname

to a worthy family of gentlemen, whose ancestor branched out from a family called St. Laurence. William de Merworth is in the register of those Kentish knights, who were embarked with Richard the first, at the siege of Acon, upon which it is probable the cross crosslets were taken into the paternal coat of this family. In the fifteenth year of king John, one Roger, the son of Eustace de Merworth, brought a quare impedit against the prior of Leeds, for the advowson of the church of Merworth. Roger de Merworth obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Merworth, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first. In the twentieth year of Edward the third, (as appears by the Book of Aid) John de Merworth paid respective aid for a whole knight's fee at Merworth and Crombery, in Hadloe, which he held of the earl of Gloucester, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and an inquisition taken after this man's death, for his manor of Merworth (though the inquisition for his manor of Maplescombe and other lands, was not taken until the forty-ninth of Edward the third) finds John Malmains, of Malmains, in Pluckley, to be his heir, who in the forty-sixth year of Edward the third, sells it to Humphry Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, and he about the beginning of Richard the second, conveys it to Nicholas de Brembre, son of Sir John de Brembre, who at the battle of Trent, as Mr. Selden relates, in his titles of honour, page 556, made himself eminent by a signal encounter with John de Beaumonour, in the year 1350. And endeavouring to support the prerogative of Richard the second, in an age wherein his crime was, too much loyalty against the assaults of some of the factious and ambitious nobility, sunk under the weight of their hatred and opposition; and being attainted of high treason, this in the tenth year of the abovesaid prince escheated to the crown, and the same king, in the thirteenth year of his reign, granted it to John Hermensthorpe, who immediately after conveyed it to Richard Fitzallan, earl of Arundell, lord treasurer, and lord admiral of England; whose son Thomas Fitzallan dying without issue, Joan, one of his sisters and co-heirs, marrying with William Beauchampe, who was created by writ baron of Abergavenny, in the sixteenth year of Richard the second, united this manor to the patrimony of that family, where it continued till Richard Beauchampe, this man's son, dying without issue male, in the ninth year of Henry the fifth, bequeathed it to Elizabeth his sole daughter and heir, who married afterward to Edward Nevill, baron of Abergavenny, from whom the title both of the barony and Merworth, flowed down to his great grand-child Henry Nevill, who died the twenty ninth year of queen Elizabeth, and left this manor to Mary his sole daughter and heir, married to Sir Thomas Fane, unto whom king James, in the first parliament which he held, restored, gave, granted, and so forth, the name, stile, title, honour and dignity of baroness le Despencer, and that her heirs successively should be barons le Despencer for ever. She had issue by Sir Thomas Fane, of Badsell, in Kent, Sir Francis Fane eldest son, knight of the bath, whom king James, in the twenty-second year of his reign, December the 29th, created earl of Westmorland, and baron Burghurst; being likewise by his mother's descent extracted from the female heir of that old barony; for Edward le Despencer, who married Elizabeth, heir of Bartholomew lord Burghurst, and Richard Beauchampe, who married Isabell, daughter and heir of Thomas lord Despencer, and his eldest son Sir William Mildmay Fane, knight of the noble order of the bath, now earl of Westmorland, doth not only enjoy the concomitant titles of Despencer and Burghurst, but the manor of Merworth likewise, with all the royalties of it, which were not inferior to any which hath received honour by it owners, for it is holden in chivalry, by an entire knight's fee; and a free-warren which was formerly granted to it, is yet extant, and the conveniences of a park, and conies are not wanting.

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Jote's-court in this parish of Merworth, had, as appears by several old deeds, some without date, owners who were written Jeotes; and by contraction of the name, called Jotes; but before the latter end of Richard the second, this family was crumbled away and gone, and then it came to have the same possessors with Merworth, as namely, Fitz-Allan, Beauchampe, and Nevill, the last of Which who enjoyed it, was Sir Thomas Nevill, third son of George Nevill, baron of Abergavenny, which Sir Thomas was one of the privy council to Henry the eighth, and speaker of the parliament, and he in the thirty-third year of that prince, conveyed it by sale to Sir Robert Southwell, who in the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth, by the same fatality, passed it away to Sir Edmund Walsingham, of Scadbery, whose great

grandchild Sir Thomas Walsingham knight, hath not many years since alienated all his concern in it to his son-in-law, Mr. James Masters.

Swanton-court is the last place considerable in Merworth. It lay couched in that revenue which related to the knights hospitalers, until the public dissolution suppressed it, and surrendered it to the crown, and king Henry the eighth about the thirty-second year of his reign, granted it to Sir Robert Southwell, who in the thirty-fifth year of that prince, conveyed it to Sir Edmund Walsingham of Scadbery, whose successor Sir Thomas Walsingham of the same place, hath lately passed away all his interest here to his son-in-law Mr. James Masters.

Roger de Merworth obtained a market weekly, and a fair yearly to his manor of Merworth, in the eighteenth year of Edward the first, as appears by an old original patent in the hands of the earl of Westmorland.

MIDDLETON is so called, by reason it is placed in the middle of the shire, and gives name to the whole hundred, which is divided into five bailiwicks, one whereof is called the bailiwick of Shepey, because it comprehends that island. Antiquity has set a noble attribute upon it, for in ancient records it is stiled Regia Villa de Middleton, and here at Kemsley Downe, derived from Campsley, viz. the pastures where the camp was kept. Within the parish of Middleton is the very place, where, in the time of king Alfred, Hasten the Dane, that so much infested France, arrived, and fortified in such manner as he before had at Apuldore, where he erected a castle, whose fragments and relics are yet visible.

Our ancient chroniclers inform us, that this town was in a good condition till the reign of Edward the confessor; in whose days, during the disgust between him and earl Godwin, such as confederated with the earl at home, burnt the king's house here at Middleton, a castellated palace beneath the church, whilst he and his sons ransacked and ruined many other places upon the sea coasts, and skirts of the shire.

In times of a latter date John de Burgo, the elder, had a grant by patent of the manors of Middleton, and Marden, in the second year of Edward the first; and after Margaret queen of England, had a grant by patent likewise in the tenth year of Edward the second; and after her, queen Philippa wife to Edward the third, had probably this manor in dower, for in the nineteenth year of that king's reign, as appears, pat. anno 19. part. prima memb. 26. she grants it for some term of years, to William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, with all the liberties annexed to it, reserving only some royal franchises, which were so inherent to the crown, they could not be separated, for an annual rent of 200l. per annum; after this time was expired, it reverted to the crown, and there it remained, for ought I can yet discover, till the English scepter was put into the hands of king James, and then he grants the manors of Middleton and Marden for ever to Philip earl of Pembroke, not long since deceased.

There is within the limits of this parish, a manor called Northwood Chasteners, which name complies with the situation, for it stands north from the town in a wood, where chesnut trees formerly grew abundantly. Stephen the son of Jordan de Shepey, desirous to plant himself out of the island, in some place not far distant, built here a mansion-house moated about, and a goodly well-wooded park, stored with plenty of deer and wild boars, and had licence from the archbishop of Canterbury, and religious men of Christ-church, to erect a free-chapel; which some old people hereabout, who remembered it in the declining age, described to my father

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when he visited Kent, to be a curious piece of architecture for form and beauty. \* Roger de Northwood is listed in the inventory of those worthy Kentish persons, who were engaged with king Richard the first, at his siege of Acon in Palestine. His successor was Roger de Northwood, who was ever fast and faithful to Henry the third, and having always given himself to a military and martial profession, conceived it was ignominious to hold his lands here, by a lazy and inactive socage tenure, and therefore in the forty-first year of Henry the third, changed them from Gavelkind to knights service. He died in the thirteenth year of Edward the first, and his eldest son Sir John Northwood succeeded both at Northwood and at Shorn, and in the time of Edward the first, together with his eldest son Sir Joseph de Northwood, was with that king in his wars in Scotland, at the siege of Carlaverock. The manor of Shorn holding by this tenure, viz. to carry a white banner forty days together at their

own charge, when the king should make war in Scotland. Sir John de Northwood, was called by writ to sit in parliament as baron, the first of Edward the second, and his son John de Northwood was often summoned to sit as baron in parliament, in the reign of Edward the third. Certainly a numerous race of worthy successors were possessors of this manor of Northwood, some of which lie buried crosslegged in Milton church, that had taken upon them to defend the sepulchre of Christ, or otherwise professed themselves for the wars in the holy land. And at last it devolved to John Northwood, who (as all things are wound upon a fixed and determined period) concluded in two daughters and co-heirs, one married to Barley, of the county of Hertford, and Joan the other was married to John Norton, whose ancestors were derived from one Nicholas de Norton, who flourished in king Stephen's days, and had much land about Norton and Feversham, as appears by the book of St. Austins. This Sir John Norton's son, for diverse remarkable services performed in Flanders, was knighted by queen Mary of Hungary, then lady regent of the low countries, for Charles the fifth, by the name of Sir John Norton; and his grand-child Sir Thomas Norton, some thirty-five years since, alienated it to Manasser Northwood, Esquire, collaterally branched out from the abovesaid John Northwood; and his son Mr. Richard Northwood, passed away the premises by sale to Sir William Tuf-ton, third brother to Nicholas Tuf-ton, earl of Thanet, whose second son Sir Charles Tuf-ton, upon the late decease of his eldest brother Sir Benedict, is now entered upon it.

Helmes or Holmes is a manor, which is partly situated in Iwade, and partly in Mil-ton, and had still the same proprietors, as namely Savage and then Clifford, whither for satisfaction, I refer the reader; only this I must add, that about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, it was rent off by sale and planted in the revenue of Thomp-son, ancestor to Mr. .... Thompson, of Royton chapel, in Lenham, who is at this instant in the enjoyment of it.

Kempsley in this parish, puts in its title to be of Roman extraction, and there is something in the name, and in the situation, which does seem to support this original, nor hath time with its destructive impressions so defaced it, but that there are some relicts yet remaining of a camp, and other antiquated fortifications.

Middleton, in the fifteenth of Edward the first, had a market granted by that prince, to be held there on the Saturday, which continues until this day.

MIDLEY, in the hundred of Langport, was parcel of the inheritance of Eching-ham, of whom more is spoken at Jacks-court, in Lidde; from whom by Margaret, daughter and heir of Thomas Echingham, it devolved to Walter Blount, Esquire; from him it descended to his son Edward Blount, lord Montjoy, who deceasing with-out issue, Elizabeth his sister and heir entered upon the possession; and she by marrying with Andrew Windsor, after created lord Windsor by Henry the eighth, swelled the revenue of that family, by the addition of Midley; who not long after, passed it away to Clache, by whose daughter and heir it came over to Stringer; and he transferred his right in it by sale to Scot; and Scot conveyed the whole demise to Godfrey, whose son Sir Thomas Godfrey, does now possess the signory of the premises.

M1LSTED, in the hundred of Milton, though an obscure village in itself, yet has been anciently eminent for several noble families which have had their residence within the circuit of it. For first, Hogshaws gave not only seat but sirname likewise

\* Ex veteri rot. penes Edo. Dering, Mil. & Baronettum defunctum.

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to a family of that denomination, in whom, when it had for many years continued, Edmund Hogshaw, in the eleventh year of Richard the second, passed it away to Sir Thomas Lovell, and he died seized of it, in the sixth year of Henry the fourth, and Thomas Lovell was his heir; after Lovell, Greaves by purchase became en-titled to the possession of it; whose successor Robert Greaves, in the ninth year of Henry the eighth, passed it away to Roger Wake, and this Roger Wake, in the fifteenth year of the said prince's government, alienated by sale his concern in it to Richard Bernard; who some few years after, divested himself of his right in it, and sold it to Adam Henman, of Lenham, where after the title some few years had fixed, he in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it over to Amias Thompson, and he gave it in dower with his daughter Alice Thompson, to Mr. John Tooke, from whom in the memory of these times, it devolved by descent, to his son captain

Nicholas Tooke, who passed it away by sale to Mr. Richard Tilden.

Then we have secondly here another place, which in some old evidences, is represented under the name of Nottingham court, though now it bears the name of Higham. It was the residence of a noble family called Nottingham, who were owners of a large patrimony in this track, and their arms stand yet in old coloured glass in Milsted church, viz. paly wavée of four pieces, gules and argent. The last of which, was John de Nottingham, who expired in a daughter and heir, called Eleanor Nottingham, who by marrying with Simon Cheyney, second son of Sir Richard Cheyney of Shurland, brought this and a large demean with it, to acknowledge the signory of that family, in which name without any vicissitude to transplant the title, it is fixed at this day.

MILTON SEPTUANS, in the hundred of Westgate, was anciently a parish, and had a church appertaining to it, though now by disuse it is languished into decay, and shrunk into so narrow an estimate, that it has left only an oratory or little chapel, which is yet visible to instruct us, what was its former glory, which certainly was of no inconsiderable account, when it was the seat of the elder house of Septuans, \* who made this their residence. For William Septuans, son of William Septuans, had here his habitation, when he was sheriff of Kent, which was in the fourth year of Richard the second; but long after this man, did it not continue in the name of Septuans; for this family, as to that branch of it, which was planted at this place, shrunk into a daughter and heir, who was married to Sir Francis Fogge, and so this place fell under his revenue. And from him descended Sir William Fogge, whose successor Sir John Fogge, of Repton, knight, passed this away to Sir George Brown, of Bechworth castle; in whom it remained, till this man's grand-child Sir Thomas Brown, of Bechworth aforesaid, partly sold it, and partly gave it in dower, with his daughter Elizabeth Brown, to Mr. Robert Honywood, of Charing, whose eldest son by this match, Sir Thomas Honywood, of Marks hall, in Essex, is now planted in the fee-simple of it.

MOLDASH, in the hundred of Felborough, is a branch of the manor of Chilham; but yet there is the manor of Fleming, alias Bowers, for so it is stiled in records and court-rolls, which deserves our notice. It was in the year 1019, as an ancient court-roll, now in the hands of Mr. Chapman does inform me, in the hands of John de Fleming, and probably here it remained diverse years, though I can discover nothing which may evince the certainty of it; for there is an intermission or gap in the evidences. In the twenty-fourth year of Henry the sixth, as appears by another ancient court-roll, it was the possession of John Treswenall, and in this name it continued till the reign of Henry the eighth; and then it was alienated to Sir Thomas Moile; in whose posterity the title and demean was settled, till our fathers memory, and then the fee-simple was sold away to Mr. Henry Chapman.

Then secondly, there is the manor of Witherling, who had owners, who bore that surname, and who had certainly the possession of it, several generations, which is manifest from that compliance the name had with the mansion, though the evidence which I have drained from the deeds and muniments of this place reaches no higher

\* See more of this family at Thurnham.

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than the government of Henry the sixth; for in the thirty eighth year of that prince's rule, Joan Witherling, the visible and only apparent heir of this family, transmitted her interest in it by sale to William Keneworth, whose son William Keneworth, by the like fatality passed it away in the reign of Henry the seventh, to John Moile of Buckwell, Esquire, extracted from the Moiles, of Bodmin, in Cornwall, and this John Moile, in the fourth year of Henry the eighth, sold it to Hamo Vidian, a name very ancient in Moldash, for here is a farm which at this day carries the name of Vidian Forestall, and his grand-child William Vidian at this instant enjoys the fee-simple of it.

MONGEHAM, called for distinction, GREAT-MONGEHAM, to distinguish it from an hamlet of that name, stiled Little-Mongeham, lies in the hundred of Eastry, and was given to the church by Eadbert, king of Kent, for a supply both of diet and apparel of the monks of St. Austins, (as the book of Christ-church does insinuate) and, upon the dissolution of the convent, and annexing the demean to

the revenue of the crown, it was by Henry the eighth, in the thirty-third year of his reign, granted to the dean and chapter of Christ-church, who conveyed it in lease to John Fropchunt, from whom by purchase it was brought over to Gibbs, and is now the patrimony and hereditary right of Crayford, a name of deep extraction in this territory, by purchase from the above recited family.

There is a place in this parish called Fogs-court, which is registered in the inventory of the manors of this county; and although the mansion-house which belongs to it, is fallen into so low a degree of contempt, that it appears now to be little more than a caberet or cottage, yet it calls for some remembrance, even in this respect, that it was the patrimony of that noble and illustrious family, and is the only place of this county which I have yet met with, that is adopted into their surname, from Thomas Fogge, Esquire, serjeant porter of Callis, who was the last of this name which possessed it; by Alice Fogge his daughter and co-heir, it came to be the inheritance of her husband William Scott, and in this family did the patrimonial interest of it reside, till almost in our memory, the signory and propriety of it was from this family by sale translated into Mr. Philip Pownall, of Sibertswould.

Great Barville, partly lying in Mongeham, and partly in Tilmanston, is the third place considerable in Mongeham. It hath been for many descents, which have made up some centuries of years, the possession of Crayford, which are written in deeds of a very high ascent, de Barville Magna. In an old roll which sums up those Kentish gentlemen, who were with Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, at the battle of Northampton, (where after a warm and bloody debate, the title of the house of York by a glorious victory was evidently asserted.) There is mention of William Crayford, Esquire, who afterwards (as some private evidences inform me, now in the hands of Mr. Gethins, near Burntwood) was made banneret by king Edward the fourth, for his various undertakings and services performed in several encounters, which had an influence upon the cause and quarrel of the house of York, and bore (as is manifest by his seal affixed to several deeds) upon a chevron, three eagles heads erased, which I mention, to rectify that mistake, which through inadvertency, hath crept into our visitations of Kent, where the paternal coat of this family is represented to have been upon a chevron, three falcons heads erased; and from this eminent person is Mr. William Crayford, lord of this manor in expectance, by a thread of direct descent, originally extracted.

Mongeham had an ancient market by prescription on the Thursday, and Betram de Crioll had a grant of it, by the charter of Henry the third, which was allowed by the judges itinerant in the seventh year of Edward the first, and a fair yearly, by the space of three days, viz. the eve, St. Luke's day, and the day after.

Little Barville is partly situated in this parish, and partly in Tilmanston. A family called Pix, and sometimes Picks, were for some centuries of years, invested in the possession, and contracted this name, from some office (as the successive tradition of this family affirms) that they were anciently entrusted with, about the altar, and the utensils which related to it, amongst which, the Pix was the most considerable, as being the conservatory of the host; and so e Pixide nomen elicium, from their

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care and custody of the Pix, they originally assumed their surname. But to proceed; after this manor had for so many descents, acknowledged this name and family, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, by sale it came to confess the signory of Crayford of Great-Barville, with whose revenue the title and property does at this instant continue.

Little-Mongeham next offers itself up to our consideration; but of that, I shall speak more at Northbourne.

MORSTON, in the hundred of Milton, gave seat and surname to a family that fell under that appellation, as is evident by the Book of Aid, where John de Morston is affirmed to have held it, and to have paid an auxiliary contribution for it at the making the Black Prince, knight. He was descended from Bartholomew de Morston, who is in the list of those Kentish gentlemen who assisted king Richard the first, at the siege of Acon; but before the latter end of Richard the second, this family was worn out, and then it fell under the signory of Walter Fitz Walter of Essex, who had been in elder times summoned frequently by writ to sit as baron in

parliament; and from the abovesaid Walter, did this manor by paternal devolution come down to his son Humphrey Fitzwalter, and he held it at his death, which was in the first year of Henry the sixth, and had issue John Fitzwalter, who about the latter end of the abovesaid prince, alienated it by sale to Cromer, in which family the possession was constant and resident, until the latter end of king James, and then Sir James Cromer dying without issue-male, Christian one of his daughters and co-heirs, by marrying with John Hales, upon the distinction of the estate into parcels, was united to the patrimony of that family, from whom the right by descent is now transmitted to the instant proprietor Sir Edward Hales, his son and heir, baronet.

Esthall is another manor in Morston, which although it be now by the vicissitude of time, and the injurious impressions of age, shrunk from its elder beauty, into decay and neglect; yet in ages of a higher date, it was adorned with a nobler character of splendor, when it confessed itself to be parcel of the inheritance of an ancient family called Delapine, (so they are written in their old dateless deeds) and bore for their arms sable, three pine apples, or. James Delapine was sheriff of Kent in the twenty-sixth, and part of the twenty-seventh years of Edward the third, and held his shrievalty here at Esthall, and died possessed of it in the thirty-seventh year of the abovesaid prince, and left it to his son and heir Thomas Delapine, who about the beginning of Richard the second, conveyed his title and concern in it to Thomas St. Leger, Esquire, sheriff of Kent in the twentieth year of Richard the second, who dying without issue-male, Joan, one of his daughters and co-heirs, by marrying with John Ewias, linked it to the demean of that name, and from him did it transmit itself by descent, to his son and heir Humphrey Ewias, who was seized of it at his decease, which was in the thirty-third year of Henry the sixth, and from him by a thread of paternal succession, was it transported to his grand child William Ewias in whom the male line determined, so that by Alice, his daughter and heir, it came to confess the signory of Thomas Hales, who in the sixth year of Edward the sixth, by a fine and recovery wherein his wife was concerned, passed away the whole demise to Sir Anthony Aucher, whose son, Sir Anthony Aucher, in the ninth year of queen Elizabeth, by the same conveyance, alienated it to Gardiner, where the title was so volatile and mutable that it stayed with this family, but until the tenth year of the abovesaid princess, and then it was transplanted by sale into John Norden, who in our grand fathers memory demised it to Pordage, predecessor to Mr. .... Pordage of Rodmersham, who is now entitled to the fee-simple of it.

Mere-court is a third place of account in this parish, called so from its situation near the sea, which our Saxon ancestors called Mere, and is customarily used in that sense, for any vast heap of waters, as lakes, and pools, that are on all sides locked in by the land, by the Dutch to this day. But I cannot find that it ever had any possessors that extracted their surname from hence; for in the reign of Edward the third, I find Arnold de Savage held it, and so did his grand-child Eleanor Savage, who was married to William Clifford, and he by his alliance, became invested in the possession, and in this family did the title lie couched, until the beginning of Henry the seventh,

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and then I can track no farther evidence of their possession of this place. In the reign of Edward the sixth, I find it to be invested in the name of Crofts, and remained tied to the patrimony of that family, until David Crofts died in the twenty-second year of queen Elizabeth, and left it to John Croft, Helen and Margaret, his daughters; and they, upon the death of their brother, who was an idiot, becoming joint heirs to this place, in the forty-second year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Mr. Stephen Hulks, who bequeathed it to his son and heir Mr. John Hulks, and he upon his decease, which was not many years since, gave it to his second son Mr. Charles Hulks, who now is in fruition of it.

N.

NATINDON, in the hundred of Bridge, Petham, and Whitstaple, is an obscure village, not far remote from Canterbury, and only calls for some remembrance in this respect, that the manor of Staplegate is situated within the limits of it, which was the seat of an eminent family which bore that surname, who were lords not only of this place, but of much other land in Romney Marsh; and had certainly this denomination ingrafted originally upon them, because they collected the kings profits and customs arising out of the staple of wool, fixed at Staplegate in Canterbury.



The first of this family whom I find eminent is Edmund Staplegate, who paid respective aid for his manor of Bilsington and his other lands in Kent, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight; and he was father to Edmund Staplegate, who at the coronation of Richard the second, held that signal contest before John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, then high steward at that solemn inthronization, with Richard earl of Arundell, about the office of chief butler, as I have before mentioned in Bilsington. But to return to that discourse from whence this emergent controversy did divert me, Edmund Staplegate, in the thirteenth year of Richard the second, enjoyed this manor at his death; but after his decease, the title was not long lived in this name, for in the reign of Henry the fifth, and Henry the sixth, (as appears by the testimony of ancient court rolls) it was in the possession of Leichfield, who was master of much land about Tilmanston and Betsanger, and in the twenty-second year of Edward the fourth, it was by Roger Lichfield passed away by sale to William Haut, Esquire, father to Sir William Haut, in whom the male line determined, so that by Elizabeth his daughter and co-heir, it came to be the inheritance of Sir Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, who about the first year of Edward the sixth, alienated it to Philip Chowte, Esquire, and from him the like fate bore off the title to Sir Anthony Aucher, and he about the latter end of Edward the sixth, disposed of his right in it to Sir James Hales of the Dungeon, ancestor to Sir James Hales of the same place, who not many years since, demised the premises to Mr. Smith of Highgate; upon whose late decease, the title, like a Pythagorean soul, is transmigrated into his heir.

NETTLESTED, in the hundred of Twyford, was the ancient seat of the noble and ancient family of Pimpe. William de Pimpe paid respective aid, for this manor and other lands, which lay not far distant from this place, which he held by a whole knight's fee, at the making the Black Prince knight, the twentieth of Edward the third: Reginald Pimpe was his son and heir, and served out the office of high sheriff of Kent for him, in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, in which year he died. It is probable that this William was knighted, because there is a tomb, in Nettledsted church, with this inscription affixed to his tomb-stone: Hic jacet Domina Margareta de Cobham, quondam uxor Willielmi Pimpe, militis, quæ obiit 4 Septembris 1337. From whence it may be probably collected, that the above recited William Pimpe, though he is not mentioned a knight in the register of the sheriffs,

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yet afterwards for some exemplary services by him performed and managed, might be invested with the order of knighthood. † From this man in the continued succession of a direct line, did Reginald Pimpe descend, who determined in Ann Pimpe, who was his sole heir, and so this ancient family which had under a venerable character of antiquity, for so many ages flourished at this place, as the monuments in the church, not yet dismantled, do sufficiently evince, was about the latter end of Henry the seventh extinguished, and Nettledsted fell under the patrimony of John Scott of Scotts hall, from whom Edward Scot, Esquire, is lineally extracted; and in relation to this alliance, is the instant proprietor of Nettledsted.

Lomewood is a second place of account in Nettledsted; it belonged formerly to a cloister of black canons in Oxford, dedicated to St. Friswith, which being suppressed by cardinal Wolsey, in the year 1525, when he intended to erect the magnificent fabrick of the college of Christ-church, this manor was resigned up to the crown, and was by king Henry the eighth, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, granted to Sir Edward Nevill, who gave it in marriage with his daughter Katharine Nevill, married to John Roydon, Esquire, of Roydon-hall, in great Peckham; and he determining in Elizabeth Roydon, his sole heir, she by marrying with Roger Twisden, Esquire, planted it into his revenue; and from him hath the interest of descent transported it along to his grand-child Sir Roger Twisden of Roydon hall, knight and baronet.

NEWENDEN, in the hundred of Selbritten, was erected in the place where the old Roman city of Anderida was situated, and was called by the Britons Caer Andred, very aptly by Leland, stiled in Latin, Noviodunum, from the Saxon, Nywandun, in English by corruption called Newenden, which in the original imports as much as the new hill in the valley.

This was that station and city of the Romans mentioned in the banner of the

count, or lord warden of the Saxon shore, by Pancerollus, in this book called Notitia Provinciarum, under the name of Anderida, and sometimes written Anderidos; and here was the castle which the Saxons called Andreds Ceaster; and the great wood, which stretched out in length, from hence into Hampshire, 80 miles, was named Andreds-wald, and by the Britons Coid Andred; other reasons are laid down for the identity of the place, extracted from the name which the English Saxons gave it, who termed it Brittenden, that is, the Britons vale, from whence the whole hundred adjoining is called Sellbrittenden, that is, the Britons woody vale.

Here for defence of the coast, against the eruptions of Saxon rovers, the Romans placed the Præpositus Numeri Abulcorum, and hither the river of Lymen, long since called Rother, was sufficiently navigable. But soon after the the Romans deserted Britain, it shrunk into decay, being ruined by the English Saxons; and yet a mark of the loss is covertly couched under the name of the principal manor called Losenham, of which something is to be remembered, when we have done with the history of this place, which I have thus abbreviated. Hengist, being fully determined to expel all the Britons out of Kent, and thinking it would much conduce to the improvement of his design, to recruit his army with troops of his own nation, called Ella, the founder of the south Saxon kingdom, and his three sons, with a strong power out of Germany, and then gave a sharp assault against this Anderida, but was intercepted at that instant in his design, by those vigorous impressions, which the Britons out of their ambushments in the woods then made upon him. In fine, after many prejudices and losses both given and taken, Hengist divided his army, and not only discomfitted the Britons in the adjacent wood, but also at the same time, forced the city by assault, and became so enflamed with revenge, that nothing but the extinction of the inhabitants, by a public slaughter, and the total demolishing of the town, could supersede or allay so great an animosity. The place lying thus desolate, was shewed (as Henry of Huntingdon reports) many ages after, to inquisitive passengers, till in the year 791, king Offa gave this and other lands to

† See more of Pimp in my discourse of Sea-watches.

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the archbishop and monks of Canterbury, ad pascua porcorum, for the pannage of their hogs.

In the time of the conqueror, the archbishops and monks of Canterbury, held this manor of Newenden, and it was rated in the extent of it, but at one sulling, and was an appendage to Saltwood, and in the patrimony of the church did the title of it remain locked up, till the general dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, and then it was unloosened, and by act of parliament fastened to the revenue of the crown, where, till these unfortunate times, it did successively continue.

Losenham in this parish, was the ancient seat of the Auchers, an eminent and numerous family; this was both in Kent, Sussex, Nottingham, and Essex; where they made Coppt-hall by Epping, the seat and head of their barony, and it is very probable, they derive this their name, from Aucherus that was counsel or alderman of Kent, and led the power of the county, wherewith, at Richborough, near Sandwich, he foiled and defeated the Danes, as Alfred of Beverley writes. In the book called Nova Feoffamenta, collected in the reign of Henry the second, it is there recorded that that prince gave William Fitz Aucher, the fourth part of a knights fee in Essex, called Lagfare. Richard Fitz Aucher, † his grand-child, is in the number of those Kentish gentlemen, who were engaged with Henry the third, in his expedition into Wales, in the forty-second year of his reign. William Fitz Aucher, another of this family, ‡ held the manor of Boseham, in Sussex, by grant from William the conqueror, and his rent-service or acknowledgment, was to pay into the exchequer (in whose time he lived) forty pound of tried and weighed silver. Henry Fitz Aucher, fills up the roll or inventory of those Kentish gentlemen, who assisted Edward the first, at his siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, and for his service there was made knight banneret. Peter Aucher or Auger (for so in old records they are promiscuously written) was valet to king Edward the second (an office equivalent in its trust and dignity, to those we called gentlemen of the bedchamber to our late kings) and it seems was mistaken for a knight templar, in the fourth year of that prince, because he nourished a spreading beard (in that age an eminent adjunct of that order) but Edward the

second rectified this mistake, and affirmed, that his diffused beard did not evince he was a knight templar, as appears, Pat. 14. Hen. 2. parte secunda, memb. 20. And if it could any way multiply, or improve the eminence of a family, that was so deeply rooted in antiquity before, I could tell you, that sundry of this name and family, were conservators of the peace, and concerned in other commissions, both to levy taxes, imposed by parliament, and to have inspection into sewers, both in the reign of Edward the third, and Richard the second; but I avoid the recital, lest this book might swell into too large a bulk by these curious and unnecessary disquisitions. It is enough to inform you, that after this manor had for many centuries of years been wrapt up in the patrimony of this family, it went away by Ann, sole daughter and heir of John Aucher of Losenham, to Walter Colepeper, second son of Sir John Colepeper, of Bayhall, in Pepenbury; from which alliance, Sir John Colepeper, created lord Colepeper at Oxford, by the late king Charles, claims at this instant the inheritance and lordship of Losenham.

There was in this parish, a house of Carmelite friers, called so, because they came from Mount Carmel in Palestine, and was the first seminary of that order here in England, who, by their rule were stiled, brothers of Mary the blessed Virgin, to whom this convent was dedicated. It was founded in the year of our Lord, 1241, and in the twenty-sixth year of the government of Henry the third, by Sir Thomas Alcher or Fitz Aucher, for the name was often promiscuously written so, but never Aluser, as Mr. Camden, and Mr. Speed, have printed it, though, I do not deny, but such a person might be a benefactor to the foundation.

† Rot. pipæ de Scutagio Walliæ An. 42. Hen. 3. ‡ See Camden's Britannia, page 307.

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NEWENHAM is in the hundred of Feversham, and Champions-court is the first place of account in it. In elder times it was the mansion and demean of a generous family, whose surname was Campania, and was certainly a family of eminence in elder times. Robert de Campania is inserted in the register of those Kentish gentlemen, who accompanied Richard the first, to the siege of Acon. John de Campania his grandchild, obtained the grant of a market to Newenham weekly on the Thursday, and a fair yearly, to continue the vigil, the day of St. Peter and Paul, and the day after; and was one of those knights of Kent, who was embarked in the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, with Edward the first, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign. In times of a younger aspect, the name by depravation, and vulgar use, languished into Champion; and so continued, till it expired in daughters and co-heirs, one of which was Katharine Champion, who by marrying with Robert Corbett, descended from the Corbetts of Morton Corbett, in the county of Salop, upon the division of Champion's estate, united this to his revenue, where it had not long rested, but the same vicissitude brought this name to determine in female co-heirs likewise, two of which, called Joan and Elizabeth, were married to Samuel Slap, and Ralph Hart. Samuel Slap had issue Joan Slap, who died childless; and so this manor was cast into the possession of Richard Hart, son of Ralph Hart; the successor of Richard Hart, in our fathers memory, alienated his interest in it, to Sir Henry Spiller, and he not many years since, conveyed all his right and title to it by sale, to Mr. Weckerlin, descended from the Weckerlins, a family of good rank and account in upper Germany.

The second place of note in Newenham, is Sholand; which was in the reign of Henry the third, as an old dateless deed discovers to us, the patrimony of Adam de Stomynton; and after this name went out, the Bournes of Sharsted in Dodington, not far removed from this place, were about the twentieth year of Edward the third, possessed of this lordship; from them by purchase the propriety was carried over to Chevin, descended from the Chevins of Chevin's-court in Marden, and Thomas Chevin of this place, married Thomasin, co-heir of Champion, of Champions-court in this parish. From Chevin the interest of Sholand did descend by sale to Maycott; and from them by the same fate to Adye; a family of note and very much antiquity as to the name, in this track, whose right it had not long acknowledged, but by the same devolution, the title was invested in Steere; from whom by purchase it came over to Sayers, descended from those of Yorkshire, who, in that age our fathers lived in, sold his concern in it to Mr Hugison of Dover, in whose heirs the propriety of this place, is at this instant resident.

NEWINGTON-BELHOUSE lies in the hundred of Folkston, and was in the reign of king John and Henry the third, the possession of Hubert de Burgo, lord chief justice of England, and from him it descended to his son John de Burgo, who in the fifty-fifth year of Henry the third, passed it away by sale to Thomas de Belhouse, by the name of Newington juxta Heith. And probably this may be a reason, why this family after they had adopted this manor into their own name, assumed a coat which had some affinity with that of Hubert de Burgo; videlicet, Or, upon a bend gules, three lozings argent and gules, which I suppose was done to preserve the memory of him, of whom it was first purchased. But to proceed, Sir Thomas de Belhouse, great grandchild of the abovementioned, paid respective aid for this manor by the name of Newington-Belhouse, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight, and died possessed of it in the forty-eighth year of that prince's reign, from whom a descendant right brought it down to his heir John de Belhouse, who enjoyed it so narrow a space of time, that it was left upon record that he died seized of it in the forty ninth year of Edward the third, and Robert Knevit a younger son of Sir John Knevit, lord chancellor of England, who had married the heir general of this family, was found to be his heir, and it was this Robert, or else probably his son, who in the seventh year of Henry the fourth, had a patent of confirmation of liberty of free-warren to his lands at Newington, formerly granted to Thomas de Belhouse. After the line of the Knevits was extinguished at this place, which was about the beginning of Henry the eighth, this manor devolved to

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the Cloptons; for Edmund Knevit of Stanway-magna in Essex, had three sisters who were co-heirs to him and their father Edward Knevit, Esquire; Thomasin the eldest was married to Sir William Clopton of Kentwell, in Suffolk, for his second wife, and Katharine the second sister was married to John Clopton, Esquire, eldest son of the abovesaid Sir William; and Dorothy the third, was married to Thomas Carnaby; but these desiring to contract all their patrimony within the verge of Suffolk, alienated this manor in the twenty-seventh year of king Henry the eighth, with much of their land in the Marsh, to Thomas lord Cromwell, who being attainted in the thirty-second year of Henry the eighth, this manor escheated to the crown, and lay couched in its revenue, until the first year of queen Mary, and then it was granted to Edward lord Clinton, who in the last year of the abovesaid princess, conveyed it with all its perquisites to Henry Herdson, whose grandchild Francis Herdson almost in that age we entitle to our fathers remembrance, alienated it to Mr. Henry Brockman, grandfather to the instant proprietor, James Brockman, Esquire.

Sene and Bithborough were two ancient seats which relate to the knightly family of Vialoigns, of whom I shall speak more in my discourse of Petham; but before the latter end of Edward the third, this family was extinguished, and then one of the two daughters and co-heirs, upon the distinction of the estate into parcels, brought these two places to be the inheritance of Sir Francis Fogge, who lies buried cross-legged in Cheriton-church, with the arms of Fogge and Valoigns empaled upon his tomb; and from him did the propriety and title in an uninterrupted channel stream down to George Fogge, Esquire, who alienated Sene in our grandfathers memory to Honywood, and Bithborough to Mr. Henry Brockman, who added much to the ancient building, so that it is now become the seat of that family.

Bertrams in Newington is so called because it was parcel of the estate of Bertram de Crioll who died possessed of it in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, and left it to Joan his heir, espoused to Sir Richard de Rokesley, by whose sole inheritrix, likewise called Joan, it was linked to the demean of Sir Thomas de Poynings, from whom the clew of descent guided it down to Sir Edward Poynings, who dying in the twelfth of Henry the eighth without any lawful issue, or any visible kindred that could pretend a title to the estate, it lapsed to the crown; and Henry the eighth granted it to Thomas lord Cromwell, upon whose attainder it being again escheated, queen Mary in the first year of her rule granted it to Edward lord Clinton, who in the last year of that princess, passed it away to Mr. Henry Herdson, whose grandchild, Mr. Francis Herdson, conveyed it by sale to Mr. Henry Brockman, in whose grandchild, Mr. James Brockman, the instant inheritance is fixed.

Blackose is another little manor in Newington, which, as Sadrach Petit's inquest, an authentic manuscript, informs me, was as high as the reign of Henry the third, the

possession of Nicholas de Morehall, a family who were owners of much land at Folkstone, and elsewhere in this track; and in this name did it continue until the latter end of Richard the second, and then it was transmitted by sale to William Edwy, who paid a proportionate aid for it at the marriage of Blanch, daughter of Henry the fourth, in the fourth year of his reign, from whence much of our land in Kent which was rated at the same time, and upon the same design, hath assumed the appellation of Blanch lands. After Edwy went out, which was in the reign of Edward the fourth, it became the possession of Wreake, and Thomas Wreake (as the abovesaid Sadrach Petit, who lived in that age, instructs me) exchanged it with William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, and continued annexed to the demean of that see, until the great exchange made by Thomas Cranmer, in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, with that prince, and then it was made the demean of the crown; and after some brief abode there, was granted away to John Honywood, Esquire.

NEWCHURCH, in Romney Marsh, gives denomination to the whole hundred wherein it is situated, and dilates and spreads itself into several places, which call for some remembrance. The first is Peckmanston, which was, as high as the rays or light of any residence can direct to a discovery, the inheritance of the lords Leybourne,

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and was annexed to that vast revenue, which they entituled themselves to, in this county; and so continued, till Sir Roger de Leybourne left this, with much other land, to his sole daughter and heir Juliana, married to William lord Clinton, earl of Huntington, who died in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the third, but without issue by this lady, who deceasing likewise not long after, the crown, upon a serious and solemn disquisition, discovering none, that upon the stock of any collateral alliance, could pretend to her estate, seized upon it as an escheat; and king Richard the second, in the eleventh year of his government, granted it to the abby of Childrens Langley, amongst whose revenue it rested, till the dissolution of that convent, and after that king Henry the eighth, by royal donation, planted the possession, in the thirty-fifth year of his reign, in Sir Thomas Moile, a gentleman in those times, of principal estimate in this county, and of the privy council to that prince; from whom, by Amy his daughter and co-heir, it came suddenly after, to be the inheritance of Sir Thomas Kempe, who in the reign of queen Elizabeth, sold it to Thomas Smith, farmer of the customs to that princess, and he bequeathed it to his third son Sir Richard Smith, by whose daughter and co-heir, the title and right of it at this instant, is lodged in Mr. Barrow of Suffolk.

Est-Bridge in this parish, is a second place which exacts our remembrance. This with Honychild in St. Mary's parish, likewise in Romney Marsh, did anciently belong partly to the abby of Bradsole, alias St. Radigunds in Dover, and partly to the knights of St. John, which upon the general suppression in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, of all religious cloisters and seminaries, were swallowed up in the demean of the crown, and lay there, till Edward the sixth granted them in lease to Cuthbert Vaughan, Esquire; who afterwards in the fourth year of queen Elizabeth, purchased the fee simple of them, of the crown, and upon his decease, which happened not long after, disposed of Honychild, † to his son-in law Roger Twisden, Esquire, and Est-Bridge, to his wife's son Richard Dering, Esquire, in right of which original donation, Sir Edward Dering, of Surrenden Dering in Pluckley, baronet, great grandchild of this Mr. Richard Dering, is present possessor of this manor of Est-Bridge.

Thirdly, Silwell, in this parish, is not to be omitted; it was in elder generations an appendage or limb, which made up the body of that plentiful income, which appertained to the abby of Boxley, in this county, and upon the dissolution, was (with much other of the church demean, by Henry the eighth) granted to Walter Henley, Esquire, after created Sir Walter Henley, and one of the privy council to Henry the eighth, and Edward the sixth. But, as though there had been some fatal malediction, which like original sin did cleave to the possession, he left no issue-male to enjoy that large patrimony, he had thus atchieved, but concluded in three daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth married to William Waller of Grome-bridge, Helen first married to Thomas Colepeper of Bedgebury, Esquire, secondly, to Sir George Somerset, and thirdly, to Thomas Vane of Burston, in Hunton, Esquire, and then Anne married to Richard Covert of Slaugham, in Sussex, Esquire,

who shared by these matches and alliances, a considerable part of his inheritance, in which this manor of Silwell was involved.

NEWINGTON, in the hundred of Milton, has the addition of Lucies prefixed before it, to distinguish it from Newington, in the hundred of Street. It was the ancient patrimony of the noble family of Lucy. The first whom I find amongst records of deep antiquity, was extracted out of Normandy; within the precincts of which province, or upon the verge and margent of it, there is a signory of that name yet existent. G. de Lucy (so he is written in the most authentic copies of the Battle-abbey roll) entered England with William the Conqueror. Fulbert de Lucy, and in some old registers written Sir Fulbert, changed his name of Lucy, into that of Dover, when he was by William the Conqueror made one of the assistants to John de Fiennes, in the guard of Dover-castle, having fifteen knights fees assigned

† Sir William Twisden sold Honychild to William Sidley, grandfather to Sir Charles Sidley the instant owner.

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to him in that track, for the support of his dignity and trust. † William de Dover was one of the magnates or peers, who was test to the charter of Maud the empress, whereby she creates Miles of Gloucester earl of Hereford. Hugh de Dover was sheriff of Kent, the eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth years of Henry the second. Sir Richard de Lucy was lord chief justice and protector of England, in the reign of the abovementioned prince, of whom I have more largely discoursed at Lesnes in Erith. ‡ Aymer de Lucy was with Richard the first in Palestine, at the siege of Acon, and in memory of some signal service manifested there in that holy quarrel, added the cross crosslets, unto his paternal coat, which was before only three pisces lucii, that is pike fish. Geoffrey de Lucy was frequently summoned to sit in parliament, as baron, in the reign of Edward the first, as the rolls of summons, which relate to that king's time, now preserved in the tower, sufficiently inform us. This Geoffrey with his two brothers, Aymery and Thomas de Lucy, were engaged with Edward the first, at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, and there received the order of knighthood. They were sons to Geoffrey de Lucy, who was constituted high admiral of England, in the time of Henry the third, as appears Pat. 8. Hen. 3. Memb. 4. William and Anthony Lucy, both of this family, were frequently summoned to sit in parliament, as barons, in the reign of Edward the third. In the sixth year of Edward the third, Geoffrey de Lucy (who held Lucy's at his death, which was in the twentieth year of that monarch) had a charter of free-warren to this manor, which privilege was renewed and confirmed by Henry the sixth to Walter Lucy, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, in which year he died, and left his estate here to his son Sir Jeffery Lucy, who with his sole daughter and heir Maud Lucy, transmitted this manor to her husband Sir William Vaux of the county of Northampton, whose son Thomas Vaux alienated it about the twenty-seventh year of the reign of Henry the eighth, to Sir Roger Cholmeley, a younger branch of the Cholmeleys, of Cholmeley in Cheshire; from which family, in our grandfathers memory, it was by sale passed away to Sead, and from Sead by as quick a vicissitude it came over by purchase to Osborne, by whom, not many years since, it was sold to Pagitt of London.

Tracies is a second place in this parish, which comes within this list; it was in elder times the inheritance of a family of that appellation. John de Tracy was test to an old deed of Richard de Lucy, which I have seen, wherein he demises some land to William de Frogenhall; the deed is without date, but by the antiquity of the character seems to commence from the reign of Henry the third. Whether these Tracies were extracted from the Tracies of Devon and Gloucestershire, or not, I cannot positively determine, because these of Kent bore a different coat from the other, as appears by all old ordinaries, vid. argent, two bends between nine escallops gules. After the Tracies had left the possession of this place, which was about the beginning of Henry the fourth, the Colepepers of Bedgebury were by purchase seized of the fee-simple of it, but staid not long in the fruition of it, for in the reign of Henry the sixth, it was Clifford's of Bobbing court, not far distant, from whom by sale, in the reign of Henry the eighth, it fell under the signory of Thomas Linacre, priest.

Frogenhall, in this parish likewise, was a branch of that wide demean, which lay

diffused in this territory, and did acknowledge itself to be of the possession of the ancient family of Frogenhall, whose seat was in Frogenhall in Tenham; but whether this was the land which I mentioned to be by deed transmitted to William de Frogenhall, in the time of Henry the third, by Sir Richard de Lucy, I cannot positively determine, though it is probable it was, and that afterwards, as was usual in those times, to perpetuate the memory of the possessor, William de Frogenhall fixed his own name upon it. And in this family did the possession continue, till Thomas Frogenhall concluded in three co-heirs, of which Elizabeth was one, who married with John Northwood of Milton, and so linked it to the inheritance of that family, where it had not long remained when a like fatality brought this family likewise to expire in daughters and coheirs, so that this place came by Joan, one of them, to be the fee-simple of Sir John Norton, but was not long resident in this

† See Selden's titles of honour, page 644. ‡ Ex veteri rot. penes Edo. Dering mil. & baronettum defunctum.

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family; for he, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, conveyed it to Thomas Linacre, priest, abovementioned, who dying in the seventeenth year of the above-recited prince, gave both Tracies and Frogenhall forever, to augment the revenue of All souls college in Oxford.

The manor of Newington itself belonged (as an ancient manuscript, now in my custody, informs me) to a nunnery which was erected here in this parish, but by whom it was founded or endowed is unknown; only this manuscript I mentioned before, rehearses a direful tragedy, which it cites, as is pretended, out of Thorn the chronicler of St. Augustins, and other old manuscripts; which is this. Divers of the nuns being warped with a malicious desire of revenge, took the advantage of the night, and strangled the lady abbess, who was the object of their fury, and passionate animosities, in her bed; and after, to conceal so execrable an assassination, threw her body into a pit, which afterwards contracted the traditional appellation of Nun-pit; but this barbarous offence being not long after miraculously discovered (the manuscript does not intimate how) king Henry the third, in whose time this tragedy was acted, seized this manor into his hands, and having by consent of the church transmitted the nuns, who were culpable, to the secular power, by death to make expiation for this crime, he sent the guiltless nuns into Shepey, and after filled their cloister with seven secular canons; four of which not long after (as if some secret impiety had lurked in the walls of the convent) murdered one of the fraternity; upon which the king seized this manor again into his hands, which he had before given back to the support of this new instituted seminary; two parts of which lying in the hamlet of Thetham by the two guiltless canons, with the approbation of Henry the third, were assigned to the abby of St. Augustins (though some writings more ancient affirm them to be given under the notion of two prebendaries to that convent) by William the Conqueror; and the other five parts of this manor, were by the abovesaid Henry the third, granted to his lord chief justice, Sir Richard de Lucy, whose son Almericus de Lucy, says the manuscript, did in the year 1278, exchange them with the monks of St. Augustins; and thus was this manor fastened to the patrimony of the church, and so continued, till the general dissolution in the time of Henry the eighth disunited it, and linked it afterwards to the possession of the crown, in whose demean, till the death of the late king Charles, it lay, ever since the first suppression, involved.

At this parish of Newington, not long since, were digged up many Roman urns, not far distant from the high way or common passage, it being agreeable unto Roman practice to inter in those places, where their monuments might be obvious almost to every eye, memorials of themselves, and memento's of mortality unto living passengers, whom the epitaphs of great ones were fain to beg to stay and look upon them. Some of these were of a larger, and some again of a narrower capacity, it being customary amongst the Romans, for the servants and clients to obtain repositories for their remains in urns of a lesser; for the masters and patrons to slumber in urns of a more wide and spacious dimension; and many were so curious, that they contrived vast family-urns to continue their living relations, wherein the ashes of their nearest kindred and friends, at least some parcels of them, might, as in some common exchequer, be treasured up, that so the union in life might be multiplied and enforced by an amicable correspondence, even in the place

of sepulture; thus the ashes of Domitian were mingled with those of Julia, and those of Achilles slept in the same urn with those of his Patroclus. That this usage or practice of the Romans extracted its pedigree from Greece is manifest. For all authors that have taken a prospect of the Grecian rites of funerals, consent that those of Megara shut up the bones of four or five persons in the narrow confines of one repertory, or sepulchral urn. It is farther observable, that these urns discovered at Newington, where several of them embroidered with particular inscriptions; one had Severianus pater insculped upon it, another was endorsed with Priscian, and a third with Fulvius Linus; this also was usual amongst the Romans, not only to superscribe the names of those whose remains were lodged within, but likewise sometimes to devote their dust to those deities they called topical Gods, such as

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were here, Deus Viterineus, Deus Morguntis, Deus Mounus, Deus Civitatis Brigantum, Camulus Deus Sanctus, Gadunus, &c. Sometimes they endorsed D. M. that is, Diis Manibus, and then we often meet with Patera's, or sacrificing dishes, lachrymatories, vessels of oil, and other aromatical libations, which age and a long date of time had condensed into the consistence of gellies; sometimes again their urns were placed or situated near some bound or land-mark, and then their ashes inclosed, were consecrated to the peculiar protection of Deus Terminus, and were cloistered in a repository or vessel, much in figure or resemblance like a Roman urn, but only the cover was more wide and deep at top, and this they stiled Arca Finalis. Besides these at Newington, there are many other examples of such endorsements amongst the Romans; I shall cull out some few, Marcus Plautius, who slew himself for the love of his wife Orestilla, who deceased at Tarentum in her passage to Asia, that so he might accompany her in death, as he had done in life, had his ashes blended together with hers in one urn, whilst this subscription without adorned their mingled dust, The two lovers. Not many years since there was digged up, near Coggeshall, in Essex, an urn, which offered up to the spectators view this inscription, Coccilli M. that is, Coccilli Manibus. And not many years before at the Bath was represented to public inspection, an urn, with this endorsement insculped, Vibia Jucunda An. XXX hic sepulta; I could discover more of this nature; but I return. In these Newington urns, as my intelligence instructs me, there were traced out many pieces of Roman coin, it being customary amongst that nation, not only to inclose coin or money, both of consulary and imperial stamp, by which the date of their friends decease, might be hinted to an intelligent observation; but likewise fragments of those things the deceased in his life time did particularly affect, as namely, spear heads, pieces of darts and swords, broken armour, the cassis or helmet, shields, goblets, berill rings, besides a great number of gems, with heads of gods and goddesses, and the portaiture of several creatures, fashioned out of agate and amber. Now if any will inquire of me, when this custom of burning the dead, and after depositing their dust in sepulchral urns, became to be in use amongst the Romans? I confess I am satisfied the time is uncertain, though I dare positively aver, it was originally transported from Greece, where it was used, though with more formality, long before it was adopted into the usages of this nation. For first the Grecians burned only the bodies of those of more eminent account, but denied it to those who were of baser alloy, or of obscurer fame; as likewise they did to deceased infants; to those who were blasted or destroyed with lightning, because they superstitiously conceived them enemies to the powers above; to those who had impiously laid violent hands upon themselves; and lastly, to those who had by a perfidious apostacy, declared themselves to be deserters and betrayers of their country. Secondly, they burned only the flesh of the body, reserving the bones to be laid up in chests of repertories, which they called Thecæ, which amongst the Romans had the title of Ossuaria, bestowed on them. Thirdly, they esteemed it so great an honour for any person to sleep in his own native country, that if he deceased in any foreign region, which was in amity with them, they there, after their customary manner burned his body, and with much solemnity transported his relicks to the place of his nativity, and at every cross way had their appointed feasts, which were made at the expence of the relations and friends of the defunct, which they called their Compitalia.

Lastly, they strewed flowers on the urns and repositories of the dead, and adorned them with ribands, as they did the urn of Philopæman; but they more particularly affected the strewing of myrtle, and amaranthus, on the ashes of their departed relations, as the Romans did that of the rose; yet both of them did concur in the



composition of the funeral pile, which was furnished and made up of rosemary, laryx, yew, cypress, and fir, wherein it is probable were couched some tacit hints of their surviving hopes; and in which mysterious hieroglyphicks, as being trees which were perpetually verdant, were wrapped up some secret inferences of a future resurrection. That this custom of burning the dead did afterwards by an universal imitation extend and spread itself to other nations. That the Druids and ruling priests were accustomed to burn their dead is expressed by Pomponius. That they held that practice in Gaul, Cæsar expressly delivers. That burning the dead was used in Sarmatia, is affirmed by Gaguinus. That the Swedes and Gothlanders did

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frequently commit their princes and more eminent persons to the fire, is delivered by Saxo and Olaus. That this was the old German practice, is also asserted by Tacitus. And that it was customary amongst the Danes, several urns, discovered in Jutland and Sleswick, not many years since, do easily evince, which contained not only bones, but many other substances in them, as knives, pieces of iron, brass and wood, and one of Norway a brass gilded Jews-harp. When this custom of burning the dead languished into disuse, is uncertain; but that it began to vanish, upon the dawning of christianity, as vapours and mists scatter before a morning sun, is without controversy; but when the light of it did more vigorously reflect, like a meridian beam, on all the gloomy corners and recesses of paganism and infidelity; then this use of urn-burial, was wholly superseded, and found a tomb itself in the more sober and severer practice of christianity. And thus much shall be said concerning these urns digged up at Newington.

The manor of Levenoke, in this parish, ought in the last place to be taken notice of; but the deeds being dispersed into the hands of those who are strangers both to this county and my design, I cannot give the reader that satisfaction in this particular that I aim at. Only thus much I can inform him, that by an old court roll in the hands of Mr. Staninough of this parish, lately deceased, I discovered that in the reign of Edward the third, and Richard the second, it was the possession of John Fitz, and it is probable by the heir general of this name, it devolved to Arnold of Rochester; and more to fortify this, some ancient country people at my being there, did assure me, they had it by traditional intelligence from their predecessors, that that knight purchased it of one Arnold; but of that there is no certainty, only this is positive, that about the latter end of Henry the eighth, that knight enjoyed it, and in this name it remained until almost our memory, and then it was conveyed to Goldsmith, and he alienated it to Barrow, whose descendant having mortgaged it to Mr. .... Alston, of London, he very lately hath transplanted all his right by sale, into Mr. .... Lisle of Middlesex, now deceased.

NOCKHOLT, in the hundred of Ruxley, was a branch which was incorporated into the revenue of the lord Say. William de Say died possessed of it, in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, and from this man was it transmitted to his grandchild Geoffrey Say, who concluded in a sole daughter and heir, called Elizabeth, who was married to William Fiennes Esquire, and so in her right was Nockholt united to the possession of this noble family; from this man was Richard Fiennes descended, who enjoyed this manor successively from him, and married Joan the sole female heir of Thomas lord Dacre, of Hurstmonceaux, in Sussex, who was extracted from Edward lord Dacre, who was summoned to parliament by the title of lord Dacre of Hurstmonceaux, in the reign of Edward the second, and in her right was this man summoned to parliament by the name of Richard Fiennes lord Dacres, in the government of Henry the sixth. And here did both the barony of Dacre, and the inheritance of Nockholt continue, till Gregory Fiennes lord Dacres deceased, in the thirty sixth year of queen Elizabeth, and left by testament Margaret his sister married to Sampson Lennard, Esquire, he having no issue, heir to his large possessions, amongst which this manor was involved; from Sampson Lennard, who was created lord Dacres, in the second year of king James, it is now come down by successive inheritance to be the instant patrimony of his grandchild Francis lord Dacres the present baron of Hurstmonceaux.

There are two other manors in this parish, but of small importance, called Brampton, and Shelleys-court, or at Ockholt, both of which had owners, who engraf=

ted their own surname upon them. There is a recital in the Book of Aid, of one John de Brampton, who held land at Nockholt and Ditton, in the reign of Edward the first. From this family, Brampton came by a female heir to be the inheritance of Petley, who about the latter end of Henry the sixth, conveyed it to Oliver, alias Quintin, and hath been for almost two hundred years, as appears by the evidences

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now in the hands of Mr. Robert Oliver, of the Grange, in the parish of Leybourn, in the tenure and possession of that name and family.

Shelleys-court, called in the evidences likewise at Ockholt, was, as high as the reign as Edward the third, as the original deeds now in the hands of Mr. Robert Austin of Bexley inform me, the inheritance of Shelley, and remained united to the possession of that family, till the government of queen Mary; and then by sale the whole demise, was passed away by Sir John Champneys, lord mayor of London, by William Shelley, the last of this name at this place; from whom it devolved to his son Sir Justinian Champneys, who left it to his son Mr. Richard Champneys, Esquire; and he almost in the remembrance of that age we live in, alienated his concern in it, to the present possessor Mr. Gooday of Suffolk.

NONINGTON, in the hundred of Wingham and Eastry, hath diverse places in it of considerable repute. The first is Fredville, called in old deeds Froidville, from its bleak and eminent situation. Times of an elder inscription, represent it to have been the possession of Colkin, vulgarly called Cokin, who it is probable erected the ancient fabrick, and brought it into the shape and order of an habitation; this family was originally extracted from Canterbury, where they had a lane which bore their name, being called Colkins lane, and likewise had the inheritance or propriety of Worth-gate in that city. William Colkin founded an hospital near Eastbridge, which celebrated his name to posterity, and was called Colkin's hospital; he flourished in the time of king John, and was a liberal benefactor to the hospitals of St Nicholas, St. Katharine, and St. Thomas, of Eastbridge, in Canterbury, as is recorded by Mr. William Somner, in his survey of that city, page 116. But to proceed; John Colkin died possessed of Fredvill the tenth of Edward the third, and in his posterity was the title resident, until the latter end of Richard the second, and then it was conveyed to Thomas Charlton; and he by a fine, levied the second of Henry the second, transplants his interest into John Quadring, in whose name it made its abode, until Joan Quadring, the heir general of Thomas Quadring, this man's successor, carried the title along with her to her husband Richard Dryland; and he about the latter end of Edward the fourth, alienated it to John Nethersole; who by fine levied in the second year of Richard the third, conveyed it to William Bois, Esquire, descended from I. de Bosco or de Bois, so written in some old copies of the Battle Abby roll, and in others R. de Bosco or de Bois, who entered into England with William the Conqueror, which William had issue Thomas Bois, who dying in the reign of Henry the seventh, left two sons; to Thomas his eldest he devised Fredville, with his estate there; to William his youngest, Bonington, and the lands annexed to it: so that the eldest had the fairest, and the youngest the ancient seat; from Fredville are streamed out first the Bois's of Hode, the second branch of the eldest house; Secondly, those of Betshanger; Thirdly, Bois of Sandwich issued out from those of Betshanger. From Bonington are extracted the Bois's of Willsborough, being the second branch of the second house; secondly, Bois of Offington, and thirdly, Bois of Hawkherst. From Thomas Bois abovementioned is the title of Fredville in a successive line now devolved to his successor John Bois, Esquire.

Elmington is a second place of note in this parish. It was made eminent in former times, by being parcel of the patrimony of Condye of Condies hall in Witstaple, who likewise had some interest in Fredville by purchase from Colkin, which William Condye passed away to Thomas Charlton abovementioned; which William was son and heir to John de Condye, who died possessed of Elmington, the fifth of September, in the forty-second year of Edward the third, and by descendant right was invested in the propriety of this place, but enjoyed it not long; for he dying without issue, Robert Grubbe, who had married Margaret, sister and co-heir of the abovesaid William, entered upon the possession. But he likewise concluding in two daughters and co-heirs, Agnes, one of them, by marrying with John Isaack annexed

this to his inheritance, and his successor James Isaack, about the latter end of Henry  
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the seventh, conveyed it to George Guldford, Esquire, who not long after transmitted the interest he had in this place, by sale, to Betenham; in whom the possession was but of a frail and narrow continuance, for from this family, a vicissitude like the former, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, carried it away to Sir Christopher Hales, and his son Sir James Hales, not long after, demised it to William Bois, Esquire, ancestor to Joseph Bois, of Fredville, Esquire, who now holds the instant signory of it.

St. Albans is a third place in Nonington, which exacts our notice; it is called so because it was wrapped up in the revenue of the abby of St. Albans, and did partake of the like privileges as that monastery enjoyed; a scale of which you may read of, recorded in the late printed *Monasticum Anglicanum*, too tedious here to recapitulate. It was in elder times called Esole, and was held by one Edmund de Akeholt, in knights service, whose arms in Nonington church, (videlicet, quarterly argent and azure, over all a bend componée, or and gules) are yet visible and obvious. This manor upon the general dissolution, in the reign of Henry the eighth, being found involved in the patrimony of the abovesaid abby, was in the thirty-second year of that prince, granted with all its appendages to Sir Christopher Hales, and his son James Hales, about the beginning of Edward the sixth, conveyed it to John Sticker, who in the fifth year of that prince alienated it to Sir Thomas Colepeper of Bedbury, from whom, not long after, the same mutation transplanted it into Sir Thomas Moile, and he demised the propriety of it by sale to Thomas Hamon, Esquire, ancestor to Anthony Hamon, Esquire, who now enjoys the present signory of it.

At the borough of Woolwich, in this parish, is a place called Oxendens, which was the original seminary and fountain of those of that name and family in this county.

Ratling is another place in Nonington of principal note; it contributed in times of a more venerable date both seat and surname to a family of that appellation. It would be too tedious and voluminous a digression to recite all those whom ancient records represent to be the possessors of this place; I shall only take notice of Sayer de Ratling, son of Sir Robert de Ratling, who was the last of the name who enjoyed it, and had it in possession at his decease, which was in the tenth year of Richard the second, and left Joan his daughter and heir, who was married to John Spicer, from whom the Spicers, who were owners of the manor of Sherford in Monks Horton in this county, were collaterally extracted; but it appears they were of no long residence at this place; for this man and his name together went out in co-heirs; so that Ratling fell under the dominion of a new proprietor; for by Cicely, one of them, it was knit to the demean of her husband John Izaack, of Blackmanberry, in Bredge, and by this alliance the title became tied to this family, till Edward Izaack, this man's grandchild, in the reign of Henry the seventh, by sale collated his right in it on Sir John Phineux, whose successor in the next age after, alienated it to Nevinson; from whom not so many years are yet elapsed, but that almost our memory may attack the time of the sale. By the same fatality, the possession and title was rolled into the enjoyment of the present owner Sir William Cowper.

Oldcourt is a third place which may exact our account; it was anciently parcel of the demean of a good old family, who derived their surname from the parish of Goodneston, vulgarly called Gonston, by no far distance removed from this place, and continued in an uninterrupted series, from John, William, and Robert de Godneston, of whom there is frequent mention in private evidences, and who flourished in the reigns of Henry the third, and Edward the first, as their dateless deeds do intimate, until the reign of Edward the fourth, possessed of this place, and then it went by Edith, daughter and heir of Edward Godneston, in whom the name was entombed, to Vincent Engham, descended from the Enghams, or Edinghams of Wood-church, from whom it went away by sale to John Sydley, Esquire, auditor to Henry the seventh, who added much to the splendor and magnificence of the Sydleys of Southfleet, by those additional improvements, with which he encreased the patrimony of that family. When this name went out, the next family which succeeded in the possession of this place by purchase, was Wild of Canterbury, descended originally from the Wilds of the county of Worcester, where they are entituled to an extraction of deep antiquity, whose successor, Sir John Wild of Canterbury, in that

age we call our fathers, passed away his right in Oldcourt to Mersh, who holds the instant fee-simple of it.

NORTHBOURNE, in the hundred of Eastry, was given to Christ-church, in Canterbury, by Eadbald, king of Kent, (as the records of that church do assert) after his return to the Christian faith; for formerly by an open desertion or apostacy, he had renounced those principles of religion, which originally had been infused in= to him. And being thus cast into the revenue of the church, it remained incor= porated in its patrimony, till the public dissolution made by Henry the eighth, dis= severed it, and laid it up in the lap of the royal demean, where it continued couched till queen Elizabeth first granted it in lease for life, to her foster-brother Saunders, (so he was stiled, because his mother had been her nurse) upon whose decease it re= verts to the crown, and king James upon his first ascending the English throne, granted the demean to Sir Edwin Sandys, a person who had performed some exem= plary service for him upon his first admission to the scepter of this nation, which obliged him to this concession, from whom it is now by descent transferred to his grandchild, son to colonel Sandys, who in the late intestine contests between the king and his two houses, received a mortal wound in a vigorous encounter betwixt him and prince Rupert at Worcester, of which some time after he languished away, and deceased. \*

There was, when Leland made his survey of Kent, which was in the reign of Henry the eighth, the relics of an old stone house, which the tradition of that age did affirm to have been the palace of the abovementioned Eadbald. And there was, not many years before the same author made this perambulation, as he in the same manuscript does assert, a wall broken down, by which hole or inset was dis= covered a little cell or chamber in which it opened, where were found the fragmen= tary remains of two children, who had in that gloomy repository been (as was then conjectured) for many preceding ages been mured up; and, which did improve the wonder, in one of these obsolete skeletons was descried a stiff pin of Latin.

Tikenhurst in this parish, now by corruption of the first etymology called Tick= nes, in elder times was the revenue of a family known by that surname; some of whom are witnesses to deeds of a very high date, now in the hands of Mr. Richard Fogge of Dane-court, in Tilmanston. After this family, which had left its name ingrafted upon this place, was worn out, which was before the reign of Henry the sixth, the Stoddards, from whom the Stoddards of Modingham, † near Eltham, were originally extracted, became possessors of the fee, and in the patrimony of this family was the title of this place for several generations involved, till in our grand= fathers memory, it was by sale transplanted into the propriety of Peyton of Knowl= ton, so that it is in right of that purchase now incorporated into the income of Sir Thomas Peyton, baronet, who is the present lord of the fee.

Northfleet was always a branch of that revenue which fell under the spiritual signory of Christ-church. By the pages of Doomsday Book, we may take a brief prospect of what it was in the time of the Conqueror. Northfleet (says that record) in T. E. R. se defendebat pro VI. sullingis, & nunc pro V. est manerium appretiatum XX. & VII. lb. That is, Northfleet in the time of Edward the confessor, did defend it= self for six sullings or ploughed lands; but now, that is in the time of William the conqueror, only for five, and upon the appraisal was rated at twenty-seven pound; and thus did it continue riveted by the charters of several princes, which had confirmed the patrimony of Christ-church, in Canterbury, into the estate of the church, till that whirlwind which arose in the time of Henry the eighth, threw it into the common dissolution, and then by public authority it was united to the re= venue of the crown, and there was fixed, till the year one thousand six hundred and eight, and then the title was torn off.

Ifield, Well, Cosington, and Shinglewell, are four small manors which are circum= scribed within the limits of this parish. They were in ages of a more venerable

\* The manor was sold in 1630, to Mr. Edward Bois, father to Jo. Bois, of Betshanger, Esq.

† Little Mongeham was given by king Edbert, under the notion of six ploughed lands, to the abby of St. Austins.

aspect, the patrimony of Hever of Hever. William de Hever had a charter of free-warren granted to his lands at Ifield, and Shinglewell, and other lands in Northfleet, in the ninth year of Edward the first, which was renewed to Thomas de Hever, in the fourth year of Edward the third, but he left no heirs male, to enjoy his privilege; for he and his name expired in females, whereof Joan, one of his co-heirs, was married to Reginald Cobham, who was summoned to parliament by writ as baron of Sterborough in Surry, in the twenty second year of Edward the third, and the other was married to John Brocas, but his estate at these above-mentioned places, was upon the partition annexed to the patrimony of the lord Cobham; from which family, about the reign of Henry the fourth, it came over to John Rykeld, who with his son William Rykeld, lies entombed in Northfleet church; but it seems this last mentioned William, deceased without issue-male, for Rose his sole daughter and heir, was married to Edward Limsey, descended from Ralph de Limsey, who held the manor of Budbrook in Warwickshire, the twentieth of William the Conqueror, as is testified by Doomsday Book; and this man had issue John Limsey, to whom Ifield Shinglewell, and the other two places in right of his mother, did successively devolve. But it seems the title of Wells, Cosington, and Ifield, did not long dwell in John Limsey; for in the first year of Richard the third, he alienated them to John Young; from which family, in the middle of the reign of Henry the eighth, they came back again to acknowledge the signory of Limsey, in whom again the possession was as transitory as formerly; but before the latter end of Henry the eighth, they were conveyed to Rainsford, from whom, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, they were by sale passed away to alderman Garret of London, and in this family was the inheritance lodged, until almost those times which fell under the cognisance of our remembrance, and then they were disposed of, by sale, to Child.

Derndale is another ancient seat in Northfleet, which in old evidences, some of which are not bounded with any date, is stiled Derendale, as having in elder times (as it appears by old deeds) possessors of that name; and when they had deserted the possession, which was before the latter end of Edward the third, it became the inheritance of William Wangford, whose son William Wangford, was serjeant at law, and a great benefactor to Rochester bridge; and he being his heir to this place, in the fifteenth year of Henry the sixth, passed it away to John and William Flucke; from whom suddenly after it came over by purchase to John Rouse, descended from William Rouse of Birling, whose son John Rouse demised land in Northfleet, as appears by an old deed, to John Rouse, in the thirty-third year of Edward the third, and this abovementioned John Rouse, in the tenth year of Edward the fourth, demised his right in this place to Thomas Wombwell, and John Clifton, Esquire, and this John Clifton, dying without issue in the year 1471, bequeaths his interest in it by will to Thomas Wombwell, and he, because he was originally extracted from a place in Yorkshire called Wombwell, erected a house here, which he adopted into his own name, and stiled it Wombwell hall, which with Derendale remained involved in the possession of this family, until some few years past the title was by sale transplanted into Edward Adye, Esquire, barrister at law, and Mrs. Leah Fortree, who not long since settled her moiety on her son and heir Mr. James Fortree of Spittlecomb in Greenwich.

Shinglewell is another place in Northfleet, which may deservedly be taken notice of, because Hever is situated within the precincts of it, which was the seminary or seedplot of the ancient family of Hever, and though Hever castle, by reason of its grandeur and magnificence, was their capital mansion, yet this was the original fountain or cradle, from whence the family primitively issued forth. William de Hever was a person of note, and was engaged with Richard the first at the siege of Acon. In the seventh year of the reign of king John, as appears by the pipe-rolls of that time, Hugh de Hever, and Walter de Hever, were recognitores magnæ assisæ, a place if we calculate it for the meridian of those times, of a very great latitude of power, trust, and concern; for they were looked upon in all causes either of criminal or civil aspect, as the representative body of the county; and from them it is possible our present grand juries may seem to extract their first institution.

Richard de Hever is found in the Kentish register of those who accompanied Edward the first, in the nineteenth year of his reign, to Newcastle, where he summoned the pretenders to the Scottish scepter, to give an account of the justice of their title to that diadem. Thomas de Hever obtained a market to Shinglewell, and two fairs; one at Michaelmas, which was to continue five days, and the second at the feast of St. Lawrence, which was to continue three, as appears, Chart. 4. Edw. 3. Num. 9. After this family was worn out, the Cobhams, by a right derived from Reginald de Cobham, who married Joan, one of the co-heirs of William de Hever, were invested in the fee, and from them it passed away by sale, about the beginning of Henry the sixth, to Rykeld, where the possession was of no long date; for Rose, sole heir of John Rykeld, by marrying with John Limsey, united this manor of Hever to his patrimony, and in this name was the title resident, until the midst of the reign of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated to Rainsford, and from this name the like devolution, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, carried it away to Garth, who almost in our fathers memory conveyed it away by sale to Mr. .... Child, from whom it is lately come over by purchase to be the inheritance of Mr. .... Fortree of Greenwich.

NORTON, in the hundred of Feversham, was as high as I can track, the inheritance of that family, whose surname was de Campania, and whose principal seat was at Champions court in Newnham. John de Campania had a charter of free warren, granted by royal indulgence to his manor of Norton, in the thirty-first year of Edward the first, and when this name had deserted the possession, the title of this place came to own the signory of John Boteler of Graveney, Esquire, who flourished in the reign of Henry the fourth; but it is manifest, it was not very stable in this name; for, by Boteler, this man's sole heir, it was incorporated into the patrimony of John Martin, her husband, afterwards judge of the common pleas; and in this family was it resident, till the reign of Henry the seventh, and then it was conveyed away by sale to Finch, issued out from the Finches of Groveherst in Milton. But the same fatality which brought it over to Martin, carried it away from the name of Finch; for this family, in our grandfathers memory, determining in a daughter and heir, she by marrying with Sonds, of Sonds place, at Darking, in Surry, linked Norton to the demean of that family; where, after the possession had some time been lodged, it went away by sale, about the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Mills, Esquire, who upon his decease, which was in the entrance of the reign of king Charles, by some addition of estate still to support the name, and improve the lustre of the family, gave it to his cousin Mills of Sussex, who in right of that testamentary donation is the instant possessor of Norton.

Provenders is an ancient seat in this parish, once the mansion of a family of that surname, which though it be long since worn out at this place, yet it is still (under a character of no despicable account) in being, in Wiltshire; where for several ages last past they have successively settled. I have seen a deed without date, which about the reign of Henry the third, fixes the possession of this place in John de Provender, and this agrees with Sadrach Petit's inquisition, who in his curious survey of several Kentish manors, taken in the twenty-eighth year of king Henry the eighth, represents this place about the time of Henry the third, to be in the tenure of the abovesaid John de Provender. After the Provenders, the Quadrins were possessors; and then successively the Goldwells of Goldwell, which was in the reign of Richard the second, were proprietors of Provenders, and remained many years invested in the signory of it, till the common devolution of purchase translated the right of it to Dryland, a family of much splendor, and no less estate in this track; one of which name, in the reign of Henry the eighth, passed away his interest in it by sale to Robert Atwater, Esquire, justice of peace in this county in that age, and he transmitted it by sale to Sir James Hales, son of Sir John Hales, from which family, in the time of queen Elizabeth, it went over by sale to Sayer, in which family, after the propriety some few years had rested, it was almost within the limits of our remembrance, sold to Mr. Hugison of Dover, in right of which purchase, after the decease of her mother, it is to devolve to Mrs. Jane Hugison, descended from a

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second son of this family, and lately married to † ..... Roberts of Canterbury, Esquire.

NUTSTED, in the hundred of Acstane, was in elder times couched in the patrimony of a family called Gravesend, which was of no cheap or obscure account in this track; for Sir Stephen de Gravesend is in the register or inventory of those knights which accompanied Edward the first, in his prosperous expedition into Scotland, when by a successful reduction, he in the twenty-eighth year of his reign subdued the strong fortress of Carlaverock in Scotland. Richard de Gravesend, bishop of London, the more to improve the grandeur of Nutsted, which then was entituled to his name and family, obtained a charter of free-warren to this manor, in the twenty-seventh year of the abovesaid prince. In the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, Thomas de Gravesend died concerned in an estate here at Nutsted, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 63. parte secunda, but not all the manor; for in the twentieth year of Edward the third, Sir John de Beaumont paid respective aid for lands which he held at Nutsted, as appears by the record, in the twentieth year of Edward the third. But both these families, before the end of Henry the fourth, were dislodged from the possession of this place, and then I find it cast into the revenue of a family called Middleton, who were not long lords of the fee; for in the reign of Henry the sixth, I find it in the tenure of Thomas Frowick, Esquire, and he by a fine levied, in the thirty-eighth year of that prince, conveyed it to Hugh Brent, in which name it was resident, until the beginning of Henry the seventh, and then it was alienated to Martin; but William Martin, great grandchild of John Martin the judge, dying without issue-male, Margaret his sole daughter and heir linked it unto the demean of her husband Mr. John Rogers, in which family, after it had resided, until that age which was encircled in our fathers remembrance, it was passed away by sale to Sidley, and Sir John Sidley of St. Cleres, knight and baronet, not many years since, by the same vicissitude, conveyed it to John Adye, of Dodington, Esquire.

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OFFHAM, in the hundred of Larkefield, was anciently divided between two families, Corton and Ditton. Richard de Corton held half a knight's fee at this place, and paid respective aid for it at making the Black Prince knight, as appears by the Book of Aid, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and Ralph de Ditton paid an auxiliary contribution for the other moiety, which likewise was held by half a knight's fee, at the investure abovesaid; but long it continued not to confess the signory of these two families; for Codwell, which was part of the manor of Offham, was alienated by Richard de Corton to Thomas de Godchepe and he was in the enjoyment of it at his decease, which was in the thirty first year of Edward the third. After Godchepe had deserted the possession, I find by some old court-rolls, that commence from the reign of Henry the fourth, that one John Melford had the possession, not only of Godwell, but of Snodbean, and Pepingstraw likewise, which his father had purchased of the heirs of Ditton; but not long after this, was the title of those places resident in this family; for about the latter end of Henry the sixth, I find one moiety of them passed away to Browne, and the other to Colepeper; in Colepeper the propriety remained, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was demised by sale to John Leigh, and he and Sir Matthew Browne, the descendant of Browne, who was invested by purchase in the other moiety, exchanged the whole manor with Henry the eighth, and he grants it to William Wilford, John Bennet, and George Briggs, and they in the thirty-seventh year of the abovenamed prince, convey one moiety of Offham, Snodbean, and Pepingstraw, to John Tufton, Esquire, ancestor to the right honourable John

† She is lately deceased without issue surviving, so that her estate here is to return to Mr. Hugison of Lingsted.

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Tufton, now earl of Thanet, the instant possessor of it; and the other portion, in which Godwell was included, to Richard Nortop, alias Clerk, a name vulgarly imposed upon him, which was originally borrowed from his office, as being clerk of the forest of Sherwood, in the county of Nottingham; yet this name hath been so entailed on his successors, that it is now grown the paternal appellation of the family, they having many years wrote Clerk, alias Nortop. But I have digressed. The last of this family was ..... Clerk, who not long since, concluded in seven daughters and co-heirs; Frances, one of which, was married to Mr. Thomas Do=

well, lately deceased, who by purchasing the other portions allotted to his wife's sisters, hath now entituled the other moiety of the manor of Offham, to his descendant now surviving.

The vulgar tradition of this parish, is, that Jack Straw, that eminent incendiary of the Kentish commons in the reign of Richard the second (who with Wat Tiler, who was born at Dartford, were the two principal emissaries, which did foment and manage that portentous commotion, which then broke forth like an inundation, and threatened to overwhelm the abovesaid prince) was born in a small cottage, at Pepingstraw in this parish, from whence he assumed his surname.

ORE, in the hundred of Feversham, was, as the book called Feoda Militum kept in the exchequer, informs me, in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the third, the inheritance of Reginald de Cornhill, but it seems was by a distance of no long time constant to this family; for in the reign of Edward the first, it became the patrimony of Savage, of Bobbing-court; for in the twenty-third year of the above recited prince, John de Savage obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Ore, as it lay involved in his other demesnes, to which that franchise was granted in the bulk or general. After Savage was worn away at this place, the Norwoods of Norwood in Milton, were established in one moiety of it by purchase, and the Alephs of Colshall in Iwade, by the same vicissitude, were planted in the other; Northwood demised his proportion by sale to Tomlin, who for above an hundred years down, till this instant, has been settled in the possession; and the other moiety did augment the dowry of Margaret, daughter and heir of Thomas Aleph, who was married to John Monins, Esquire, whose successor Sir William Monins, passed it away to Short, of Tenterden, to which family the interest of that part of Ore which was sold by Monins, is at this present united.

ORPINGTON, in the hundred of Rokesley, was in the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, wrapped up in the ecclesiastical patrimony, and belonged to the monks of Christ-church, and if you will make an inspection into the pages of Domesday Book, and consult that general register, you will find it at this time thus rated: Orpindun, says the record, est manerium monachorum, & de vestitu eorum, & in T. E. R. (that is, in the time of king Edward the confessor) se defendebat pro III. sullingis & nunc pro II. sullingis & dimidio, & est appretiatum XXV. lb. & tamen reddit de firma XX. & VIII. lb. From this record I observe that William the Norman, surnamed the Conqueror, possessing himself of the English scepter and diadem, by an infirm and crazy title, sought afterwards to fortify and improve it, by a soft compliance with the clergy, who had then the most powerful influence, on the consciences of the vulgar; and therefore where he found their revenue moderately taxed in the time of the confessor, he confirms it, and where in his estimate the gabel or imposition was screwed or wound up too much, he abates and mollifies it, by these engagements perpetually for the future to oblige and endear them, to assert and maintain his new atchieved royalty. But to return to my discourse; in times of a more recent inscription, that is, in the seventh year of king John, the prior and monks of Christ-church, obtained a market to this their manor, to be observed weekly on the Wednesday, as appears carta de anno septimo R. Joannis memb. secund. with which franchise it continued invested, until the twenty-ninth of Henry the eighth, and then being by the monks abovesaid, with the residue of their revenue, returned into the hands of that prince, it remained with the crown until the thirty-second year of his government; and then it was granted to Percivall Hart, of Lullingston,

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Esquire, to whose pious and charitable beneficence, the alms houses at this place, owe their original foundation; and from him is the propriety of it, now descended to his great grandchild William Hart, Esquire.

Crofton in this parish, did formerly swell into so much grandeur, and populousness that it was known for a parish of itself, till by fire it was entombed in its present desolations, and by the violence of that wild and impetuous element, reduced into a heap of flame and ruins; and certainly those deplorable remains which yet expose themselves to an inquisitive eye, and the groundsell too, and scattered foundations of houses, which the plough often raises, out of their sepulchre of rubbish, and represents to the publick view, do evince this truth to us, that towns and villages, have their stated period of duration, and must at length find a grave like men. But



though this village be shrunk into this disordered heap, yet still it preserves the reputation of a manor, which it had anciently, when it was the inheritance of Wibourn, a family in elder times of high esteem, and a considerable revenue in this territory. Ralph de Wibourn held lands here, and in other places of Kent, as appears by sundry ancient deeds now in the possession of Wibourne, of Halkewell, in the reign of Edward the first; and did after execute a deed, for land in Wrotham hundred, in the tenth year of Edward the second; and in the twentieth year of Edward the third, John de Wybourne, paid respective aid for his lands here and at other places in this county, at the making the Black Prince knight; after Wibourne had relinquished the possession of this place, which was about the latter end of Edward the third, it went away by sale to Sir Robert Belknap, who was attainted and banished, by that factious parliament, which was held in the tenth year of Richard the second, for vigorously endeavouring to vindicate and assert his prerogative, against the invasions and inroads which some of the turbulent nobility of those times did attempt to make upon it; but this, though forfeited and escheated to the crown upon his pretended treason, was by Richard the second restored to Hamon Belknap, lord of Oston, in the county of Warwick, and from him it was by descent transferred to John Belknap, his son, who upon his decease, which was in the fifteenth year of Henry the sixth, bequeathed it to Sir Henry Belknap, who determined in three daughters and co-heirs, Alice married to Sir William Shelley, Anne married to Sir Robert Wotton, and Elizabeth first married to Sir Philip Cook, of Giddy-hall, in Essex, and after to Leonard Dannett, of the county of Worcester, who divided his patrimony; but this upon balancing the partition of the estate, fell upon the poising of it in equal portions, to be the demean of Sir William Shelley, who demised it by sale to Sir Robert Read, lord chief justice of the King's-bench, and he in the reign of Henry the seventh, passed it away by grant, to the hospital of the Savoy in London, where it has ever since, without any interruption of the first donation, remained successively resident.

Bark-hart has obtained a place in the map of Kent, and therefore shall not want one in this discourse. It was built by Percivall Hart, Esquire, grandfather to the late Sir Percivall; but it was adorned with this name by queen Elizabeth, when she was magnificently entertained at this place, by the abovesaid gentleman. Upon her reception, she received her first caresses by a nymph, which personated the genius of the house, then the scene was shifted, and from several chambers, which, as they were contrived, represented a ship, a sea conflict was offered up to the spectator's view, which so much obliged the eyes of this princess, with the charms of delight, that upon her departure, she left upon this house (to perpetuate the memory both of the author and artifice) the name and appellation of Bark-hart.

There is a tradition that Thomas de Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, was born at Tubbingden, whose demean is partly situated in Ferneborough, and partly in this parish. But to dissipate this received fiction, I shall manifest out of an old parliament roll, of the thirty-first year of Henry the sixth, the original truth, that is, so much of it as concerns his cradle or place of nativity. The record in its own dialect, speaks thus. 'James earl of Wiltshire and Ormond, whose fader, and many of his ancestors are lineally descended of the blode of the glorious

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martyr St. Thomas, sometimes archbishop of Canterbury. The which glorious martyr was born of his moder, within the ground where now is set the house or hospital of the said martyr, called St. Thomas Acres, now in the city of London, where the body of the said earl lies buried, and dame Joane Beauchamp, late lady of Burgavenny, grandame to the said earl of Ormond and Wiltshire.' For Tubbenden itself, it was anciently the demean of a family which was known by that surname; for by a deed, now in the hands of Whittingham Wood of Canterbury, Esquire, it appears Gilbert Saundre, of Crofton, did demise several parcels of land to John de Tubbenden, of Ferneborough, and to Richard, Philip, John, and Robert, his sons, in the twenty-first year of Edward the first, which justifies it anciently to be the possession of one of that name. After Tubbenden, Belknap was proprietor of this place, and then successively by Alice, his co-heir, Sir William Shelley, of Mitchelgrove, in Sussex; from which family it was brought down by purchase in the beginning of the reign of Henry the eighth, to be the estate of Posier, who after some few years continuance in the possession, demised his concern

in it by sale to Dalton, issued out from the Daltons of Yorkshire, which name suddenly resolved into a female heir, known by the name of Anne Dalton, who by marrying with Aunsell Beckett, linked it to the demean of that family; from whom it descended to his son Matthew Beckett, who upon his decease bequeathed it to Mr. John Winterborn, of London, who hath lately passed it away to ..... Gee, of the county of York, Esquire.

St. Mary Crey, in the hundred of Rokesley, though it be a market town, yet is but a chapel of ease to Orpington. Before the conquest, one Elfgat held it (as Domesday book, which makes a recapitulation of the first owners, informs us) of the archbishop of Canterbury. In the conqueror's time, Hugh, nephew of Herbert, bishop of Baion, possessed it under the notion of a whole knight's fee. In ages of a more modern date, that is, in the reign of Henry the third, John de Maries descended from Thomas de Maries, who accompanied Richard the first to the siege of Acon, enjoyed a whole knight's fee at Ackmore and Sentling, two eminent manors in this parish, but about the beginning of Edward the first, had deserted the possession and surrendered it to Gregory de Rokesley, grandchild to John de Rokesley, who likewise was embarked with Richard the first, at the siege of Acon, and he, in the ninth of Edward the first, obtained the grant of a market on the Wednesday, and a three days fair at the feast of the assumption of the Virgin Mary, to St. Mary Crey, as appears, Pat. 9. Edw. 1. Memb. 35, and left it to his son Sir Richard de Rokesley, who dying in the seventeenth year of Edward the second, without issue-male, by Agnes, one of his daughters and co heirs, it came to Thomas de Poynings, in which name it continued, until the latter end of Edward the third, and then I find it possessed by Sir Robert Belknap, who was attainted in the tenth year of king Richard the second, banished into Ireland for too vigorously attempting to bolster up the majesty and prerogative of that prince, against the assaults and invasions which were made upon it by a factious junto of the nobility; yet it was suddenly after restored to his posterity; for in the nineteenth of Richard the second, I find Hamon Belknap resealed in the possession, by the royal concession and indulgence of that prince, and from him it did devolve to his grandchild Sir Henry Belknap, which family being interred in daughters and co-heirs, Sir Robert Wotton, by marrying with Anne, that was one of them, entitled himself in her right to the inheritance of both these places, and so by the thread of a continued descent, was it brought down to Thomas lord Wotton, who settled them in marriage upon his eldest daughter and co-heir Mrs. Katherine Wotton, who was espoused to Henry lord Stanhop, heir apparent to Philip, earl of Chesterfield,

ORLANSTON, in the hundred of Hamme, was the inheritance of a family of that surname. William de Orlanston is registered in the list of those Kentish gentlemen, who assisted Richard the first, at the siege of Acon. William de Orlanston, his son, held it, in the reign of Henry the third, and obtained a charter of free-warren to it, in the fifty first year of Henry the third, and more to improve the grandeur of this manor, with additional franchises, he likewise obtained a

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market to be weekly observed here, and a fair yearly, which was to continue by the space of three days, at the feast of Holy rode, as appears, Pat. de 51. Hen. 3. Memb. 10. The grant of which market was renewed and confirmed to John Kemp, archbishop of York, and after of Canterbury, in the twentieth year of Henry the sixth. William de Orlanston, this man's grandchild, was sheriff of Kent, in the second year of Edward the third, and had the custody of the county some part of the year following, and died the thirty-eighth year of Edward the third, and had issue Sir John Orlanston, who was burgess for Romney, as appears by some old records in Dover-castle, sundry times, both in the reign of Edward the third, and Richard the second, and married the daughter and heir of Sir William at Capell, from which alliance proceeded Richard Orlanston, Esquire, who died possessed of Orlanston, in the seventh year of Henry the fifth, Rot. Esc. Num. 16. and left his inheritance to be divided between his two sisters and co-heirs, Margaret married to William Parker, of Parkers in Werehorne, and Joane married to William Scott, of Scotts-hall, who upon the partition of the ancient patrimony, was invested in his wife's right, in this manor of Orlanston; from whom the clew of many descents hath transported the propriety to the instant possessor, Edward Scott, of Scotts-hall, Esquire.

Here were lands divorced from this place by no far distance, called Oswareston; for I find Henry earl of Augie, gave to the monks of Bermondsey, in Southwark, his lands called Oswareston, near Romelin, in the parish of Lyda, and the lands of John the clerk in Bilsington, of which see Vincents book of nobility, fol. 190.

Westbery in this parish, was, as high as the private evidences of this place can give us any prospect to discover, the property of a family called Prisott, who was planted here as high as the reign of Henry the fourth, and 'tis possible much higher, though the deeds reach no farther. Of this family was Sir John Prisott the judge, of whom there is frequent mention in our law books, which have an aspect upon the reign of Henry the sixth, and in this name was the title of this manor carried down to the eighth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was by Thomas Prisott passed away by sale to George Hount, in whom the possession had not many years been resident, but the same fatality brought it over to Reginald Stroggle, who was in the commission of the peace, in the reign of Edward the sixth, and was descended from a family which was of a very high original in Romney Marsh, where there are some lands yet which bear their name. After Stroggle had left it, it came by purchase to Mr. Bennet Guildford, a branch of the Guildfords of Hempsted, who in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, falling under the censure and penalty of a præmunire, for refusing the oath of supremacy, and flying beyond sea, forfeited this place to the crown, and this princess immediately after passed it away by grant to Walter Moile of Buckwell, from whom not many years after this original concession, it went away by sale to Mr. Francis Bourne, grandfather to Mr. .... Bourne the present proprietor of it.

OSPRINGE, in the hundred of Feversham, was anciently a limb or appendage of the royal revenue, until king Edward the third, in the tenth year of his reign, by royal concession or grant, passed it away to John de Pulteney, afterwards lord mayor of London, to hold it in fee of the crown, by the service of a rose, offered up or presented as a symbol of annual fealty; and with this manor he granted him likewise all the advousons of churches, which formerly related to it, to hold in socage only by the former acknowledgment. In the nineteenth year of his reign, the abovesaid prince grants this John de Pulteney, that Thomas son of William de Dene should be accountable to him for all those knights fees which lay in Throuley, Boughton, Malherbe, and Wormesell, and held of Queen-court and Ospringe. He died possessed of both these places, in the twenty-fifth year of Edward the third, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 43, and left them to his kinsman Sir Nicholas Loveine (though some part of the demean belonged to Pulteney, until the ninth year of Edward the fourth) which Sir Nicholas obtained an exemplification by patent in the thirty-eighth year of Edward the third, how many knights fees which lay divided and dispersed into several places, belonged to his manor of Ospringe. This Sir Nicholas

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had issue Nicholas Loveyne, and Margaret Loveyne; Nicholas her brother deceased without issue, and so Philip St. Clere, of Aldham St. Clere, who had married with his sister, became his heir, and she was found to be possessed of these places at her death, which was in the tenth year of Henry the fourth, and in her right did it descend with Queen-court, (which was leased out by Nicholas Loveyne to Nicholas Potin, who was sheriff of Kent, the twenty-first of king Richard the second, and held his shrievalty at this place) to Thomas St. Clere, who held it at his decease, which was in the twelfth year of Edward the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 46. But after his departure, I do not find it long united to the demean of his family; for about the beginning of Henry the seventh, I find it in the possession of William Cheyney of Shurland, Esquire, and from him was the title of Ospringe and Queen-court derived by successive right to his grandchild Henry lord Cheyney, who about the thirteenth year of queen Elizabeth, passed them away to Mr. Richard Thornhill, great grandfather to Mr. Henry Thornhill, son and heir of colonel Richard Thornhill, who is at this instant proprietor of it.

Plomford and Bavell, are two little manors in Ospringe, which belonged partly to the nunnery of the Minster in Shepey, and partly to the abby of Feversham, which upon the suppression of these two cloisters, were granted by king Henry the eighth, to Thomas Colepeper, Esquire, and he not long after, alienated them to Sir Thomas Cheyney, whose son Henry lord Cheyney, passed them away in our grandfathers

memory to Greenstreet of Clacksfield in Borden, and are still wrapt up in the inheritance of that family.

The Maison le Dieu here at Ospringe, was founded by Lucas de Vienna, for the knights templers, and was one of those mansions, where they reposed themselves in their progress towards their other demesnes, which lay spread into East-Kent, and Romney Marsh. The revenue which was to support this seminary, lay at Lurdenden in Challock, and at Hokeling, Radymarsh, Ryde and other places in the Isle of Shepey. In the twenty-fifth year of Henry the third, Roger de Lingsted had a grant of these lands, for term of life, as likewise of all the fishery messuages, relief, revenue, and homage appertaining to them, as appears, Pat. Anno 25. Henrici tertii, Memb. 30. In the forty-second, and fifty-first of Henry the third, there was a confirmation of land and privileges to this house, and in this condition it continued, partly under the knights templers, and in lower ages, under the knights hospitallers, until the tempest of the general dissolution, shook it into that neglected heap of ruins, wherein at present the ancient fabrick is visible.

Elverland in this parish is a manor which for many generations hath been annexed to the demesne of St. John's college in Cambridge.

Selgrave, now corruptly called Selgrove, is another manor in Ospringe. It was a branch of that large inheritance, which lay scattered over the face of this territory, and acknowledged the dominion of the noble family of Norwood. Roger de Northwood held it at his decease, which was in the thirteenth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 25, and transmitted it to his son Roger de Northwood, after whom I do not find the possession was long permanent in this family; for about the latter end of Edward the third, Ralph de Spigurnell, was concerned in it as proprietor, and he bequeathed it to his wife Elizabeth Spigurnell, who sold it to John Winchelsea, and the convent of Christ-church in Canterbury, in the sixteenth year of Richard the second, in whom the fee-simple continued, until it was wrested away by the general dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, and then that prince, passed it by grant to George Barley, who not many years after alienated his interest in it to Sonds of Throuley, from whom in our fathers memory, it came by sale to Cleve.

Ospringe had anciently a house or Maison le Dieu so called, because it was a receptacle for leprous people, and other persons afflicted and assaulted with diseases, which in times of elder inscription, were still esteemed to be imposed by the finger of the divinity, and this had a confirmation of ample immunities, and liberties by

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patent in the forty-seventh, and which were renewed in the fifty-first year of Henry the third.

OTFORD, in the hundred of Codsheath, was given to the church and see of Canterbury, by Offa king of the Mercians, in the year 785, to expiate the guilt of that blood, which he had before drawn from the veins of Aleric and his Kentish men, in a battle waged at this place, in the year 774, and which was aggravated because those he had slaughtered, had their names enrolled in the register of christians; and which was granted in the original donation, ad pascua porcorum, to the pasture of those hogs that fed in the archbishop's chase; and in the revenue of this see, was the interest of this manor treasured up, till about the beginning of the rule of Henry the eighth; and then some envious eyes looking about with regret and desire, upon the diffused patrimony of the church, William Warham archbishop of Canterbury, to extinguish both the passions of these men, and their ravenous appetite together, about the twelfth year of that prince's reign, exchanged this manor for other lands, and so it became incorporated into the revenue of the crown.

There was a chantry founded at Rye-house in this parish, by Henry de Apulderfield, in the forty-sixth year of Edward the third, as appears, Pat. Anno. 46. Edwardi tertii, parte secunda, memb. 19, whose revenue upon the suppression, was by Henry the eighth, granted to Palmer, which family had been of deep antiquity before in this parish, and from whence the Palmers of Snodland, and likewise of Howletts in East-Kent, were originally descended; but it seems the security of this royal patent, could not rescue it from being sold some years after to Bosvill, whose descendant now holds the instant fee-simple of it.

OTHAM, in the hundred of Maidstone, was a branch of that demeane, which did in this track acknowledge the signory of the ancient family of Valoigns. William de Valoigns, is mentioned in the book called Testa de Nevill, to have paid aid for lands at Petham, Ashford, and Otham, in the twentieth year of Henry the third, at the marriage of Isabell, that prince's sister, and it is probable that this William de Valoigns, died possessed of Otham, in the tenth year of Edward the first, for his name was William likewise, as appears by the escheat roll, marked with the number 54; after whom his successor, Stephen de Valoigns, held it, who was certainly a man of some important account in those times, for he was one of the conservators of the peace, in the reign of Edward the third. After Valoigns, the knightly family of Pimpe, was by purchase invested about the latter end of Richard the second, both in the possession of Otham and Gore-court, and to this name was the inheritance both of Otham and Gore-court, by a chain of several descents, successively united; till at last the ordinary devolution of purchase brought them over to Isley of Sundrich; and within the circle of this family, was the proprietor of them circumscribed, till the second year of queen Mary, and then Sir Henry Isley, being fatally engaged and entangled in the unsuccessful attempt of Sir Thomas Wiatt, could not unravel himself, until he had satisfied the justice of that queen, with the forfeiture of his life, and augmented the revenue of the crown, with the confiscation of his estate; from which these two places, as being parcel of his escheated patrimony, were by patent soon after, passed away to Sir Walter Henley, one of the serjeants at law to the abovesaid queen Mary, who dying without issue-male, bequeathed Gore-court to Hellen his daughter and co-heir, who was married to Thomas Colepeper, and Otham to his brother Thomas Henley; from whom it is come down to John Henley, Esquire, who is the present lord of the fee; but Gore-court was by Colepeper, demised by sale to Buffkin; where after the possession had for several years been fixed, it was almost within the pale of our remembrance, by purchase made the demeane of Nathaniel Powell, Esquire, who not many years since conveyed it to Thomas Floyd, Esquire.

Stoneacre in this parish is an ancient seat, which for some centuries of years has acknowledged no other proprietor then Ellys, but whether Burton in Kenington, or this mansion were the original fountain, from whence this family did extract its first etymology is uncertain, for once they had one and the same possessor. The

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deeds that fortify their interest in this place, reach as high as the time of Edward the second, and instruct us, that Ellis which enjoys it now, is by a stream of many uninterrupted descents issued out from John Ellis, who possessed it then.

There was the foundation of a religious seminary of canons Præmonstratenses, or white canons, begun at Otham by Ralph de Dene; but the situation of the place, being not accommodated to health, they were by Ela de Sackvil removed and transplanted into her new erected priory at Begham, where till the common suppression they continued undisturbed and fixed.

OTTERINGDEN, in the hundred of Eythorne, does represent to us in prospect the memory of a family, to whom it contributed in times more ancient both seat and surname. Ralph de Ottringden held it at his decease, which was in the fifteenth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 29. But in his son Sir Lawrence de Ottringden, both the name and male line failed together; for his daughter and heir brought it along with her to Peyforer, who about the latter end of the reign of Edward the third, was extinguished likewise by the same fatality in Julian Peyforer, who was his heir general, and she, by marrying Thomas St. Leger, Esquire, intermixed the right of this place with the inheritance of this family, and who lies entombed in this church, with this compendious subscription endorsed upon his grave stone, Hic jacet Thomas St. Leger de Ottringden, qui obiit 1408. But a revolution as sudden as the former, quickly snatched away Ottringden from the patrimony of this name; for by Joan, who was co-heir to the abovementioned Thomas St. Leger, it was rolled into the revenue of Henry Aucher, Esquire, sprouted out from the illustrious stem of Aucher of Losenham, and in this family was the interest of this place successively laid up till the time of queen Elizabeth, and then the whole demise was by sale transmitted to Lewin, in whom a descent or two after the male line determining, the female heir brought it to Rogers of the West, from whom the like fatality hath lately devolved it to Charles lord Mansfield, eldest son to the right honourable

William Cavendish, marquis of Newcastle.

Putwood is another manor in this parish, which in times of elder etymology, did acknowledge itself to be under the signory of a family, who extracted their surname from Vienne, in Dauphiné in France; and in several deeds without date, there is mention of William de Vienna, who was invested in land here at Putwood and Ospringe; and in the twentieth year of Edward the third, Lucas de Vienna paid respective supply, at the making the Black Prince knight, for lands which he held at Putwood and Ospringe. After this family was dissolved and gone, the Quadrings, which was about the beginning of Richard the second, were settled in the possession, where after some small residence of the title, it went away by sale about the latter end of Henry the fourth, to the ancient family of Goldwell of great Chart; and here, after it had made some cursory abode, the same devolution cast it into the inheritance of Dryland of Cokes-ditch in Feversham, to whose possession after the title had for many years cleaved, it was transported by purchase into the patrimony of Atwater, so stiled, because it is probable this family had formerly their residence near some fountain or stream, but their original from whence they primitively issued, was from about Ospringe; for there I find Robert Atwater possessed land at his death, which was in the fifth year of Edward the third, and in this name did the title of the place lie couched, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then by sale it was incorporated into the revenue of Sir James Hales; but long it remained not thus mingled, for the fate of purchase untwisted it, and not many years after threw it into the possession of Sayer, from whom in times which almost bordered upon our memory, it was by sale wafted over to Mr. James Hugison of Dover, and he bequeathed it to a second son, whose female heir, Mrs. Jane Hugison, by lately marrying with John Roberts, Esquire, eldest son to Sir John Roberts of Canterbury, hath entituled him to the propriety of it.

Herst in this parish, was the ancient demeane of Filmer, and here were they seated, until by marrying with the heir of Argall, they were transplanted to East Sutton. I have seen an old court roll relating to the manor of Monkton in this parish, which

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by the antiquity of it, seemed to commence from the reign of Edward the second, although the date which stood in the front, by the injurious hand of time, was almost expunged, and (so) hardly legible; wherein at the foot of it, there is mention of one Edward Filmour, so he was written in that age, from whom it is probable (though now the name by time and prescription be in the last syllable of it something violated) the present Sir Edward Filmer, eldest son to that learned, loyal, and worthy person Sir Robert Filmer, lately deceased, is primitively extracted, and this is confirmed by their own private evidences, which represent them for many generations, even till this present, possessors of this place, and wherein the name is frequently written Filmor, as well as in latter escripts Filmer.

There is another manor in Otterdingden, which anciently was reputed so, though now by disuse and intermission it hath lost that estimate, and is called Hall-place, by a very ancient court-roll sans date, now in the hands of Mr. Paine. It is represented, in those times, when it had tenants and services belonging to it, to be the property of one Roger Rey, and in that roll there is mention of one Thomas Franklin, who held some lands of this manor, by paying yearly the tribute or rent-service of one red rose, as the symbol of his homage. And now for want of farther light, from the ancient deeds and evidences, I must make a leap to the reign of Henry the seventh, and then I find Eugenius Cock, in the nineteenth year of that prince, sells it to John Bunce of this parish, gentleman, in which family the possession rested, until very lately it was by sale alienated to Mr. Paine.

Monkton is the last place in this parish of note: it belonged before the suppression to the nunnery of Davington, and was given to that cloister by Matthew, son of Hamon Atfrith, upon the first erection of it, which was in the thirty-ninth year of Henry the third. Upon the suppression and final dissolution of this convent of Davington, by Henry the eighth, it was by that prince granted to Sir Thomas Cheyney, whose son the lord Henry Cheyney (so fugitive is the tenure of church demeane) in the entrance into the reign of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Godden; who so small a space was resident in the possession, that he hath only left us notice that he sold it to William Lewin, descended from the Lewins of Norfolk, whose son Sir

Justinian Lewin concluded in a daughter and heir, who was married to Rogers of the county of Somerset, and so in her right it became interwoven with his demean; but remained not long thus involved in the interest of this name, for in our memory he deceased, and left only a daughter and heir; who is lately married to Charles Cavendish lord Mansfield, eldest son to William lord marquis of Newcastle, so that Monkton in his lady's right is now united to his inheritance.

There are two chapels in the parish church of Otteringden; that on the north side of the chancel is called Otteringden's chapel, where the remains of several of the Otteringdens, St. Legers, Auchers, and Lewins, lie entered: that on the south side is termed Bunce's chapel, where the ashes and relicts of several of that family slumber, who were of no contemptible note in this parish, where they had a mansion, which in old evidences is called Bunces-court, which hath been in their possession, as appears by their own deeds, some hundreds of years; and from hence are the Bunces of Throuley, likewise, originally issued forth.

P.

PADLESWORTH, in the hundred of Lovingborough, is so obscure and inconsiderable a village, that it should not have filled a place in this register, but that it was a portion of that wide estate which lay spread over the face of all the adjacent territory, and acknowledged itself to be under the jurisdiction of the Criolls. Bertram de Crioll died about the middle of Edward the first, and left Joan his sole heir, who had been before married to Sir Richard de Rokesley, of Rokesley-court in

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Northcroy, and so Padlesworth became the Rokesleys, but did not long cleave to that name, for he expired likewise in two female co-heirs, whereof one of them called Joan was married to Thomas de Poynings, and he left issue Michael Poynings, from whom it came down to his descendant Robert Poynings, who passed it away by sale to Fogge, of Sene in Newington, in which family the title for many descents lay involved, even until our fathers remembrance, and then it was alienated to Dynley, who is the instant lord of the fee.

PADLESWORTH, in the hundred of Larkefield, was, as high as the reign of Henry the third, the possession of a family called Chetwind, who immediately after exchanged it with Hamon de Gatton, for the manor of Hocklin, in the county of Bedford, but kept it not long; for after it had continued some small interval of time in this family, it was alienated to the noble family of Huntingfield, after whom succeeded Bele, and then it went away by sale to Bullock, who by the same devolution surrendered the possession to Diggs, where it had but a very transitory abode, for he conveyed it away to Peckham, from whom the ordinary mutation made by purchase, brought it to own the propriety of Vineley, who translated his interest by sale unto William Clifford, of Bobbing-court, and he about the beginning of Henry the sixth fixed the title and possession by sale in Robert Bambergh. Where it is to be noted, that this quick and sudden revolution of the title of this place in those families, which intervened between Huntingfield and Bambergh, happened in less than a circle of fifty years, as appears by the original conveyances now in the hands of Mr. Marsham. But to advance in that discourse where I broke off; Robert Bambergh abovementioned, was not long settled in his new acquisition, but he deceased and left it to his daughter and heir, who was married to Nicholas Wotton, Esquire, from whom in a direct line it came down to Thomas lord Wotton, who settled it in marriage upon his daughter and co-heir Katherine Wotton with Henry lord Stanhop, eldest son, and heir apparent, to Philip earl of Chesterfield, and this lady hath since passed it away to my noble friend, John Marsham of Whornes place in Cuckeston, Esquire, from whose deeds and papers I have drawn my present intelligence.

PATRICKSBOURN, in the hundreds of Bredge and Petham, in ancient records hath still the addition of Cheyney annexed to it; for indeed it was the first and original residence of the Cheyneys, before they translated their habitation to Shurland in Shepey, by marrying with the heir of Shurland. Alexander de Cheyney is registered in the catalogue of those Kentish gentlemen who accompanied Richard the first to the siege of Acon. In testa de Nevill, an ancient book kept in the exchequer, there is mention of Gulielmus de Casineto (so they are written in Latin) that is, William de Cheyney, who paid respective supply, in the twentieth year of Henry

the third, at the marriage of Isabell that king's sister, for his lands at Patricksbourn Cheyney. Alexander de Cheyney, grandchild to the abovesaid Alexander, is enrolled in the list of those eminent Kentish persons, who in the forty-second year of Henry the third, accompanied that prince when he marched from Chester to suppress the emotions of the † Welsh. Sir Alexander de Cheyney, this man's son was with king Edward the first in his victorious and triumphant expedition against the Scots, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign (as appears by the rolls of those Kentish gentlemen, who were embarked in that successful design with that prince) and from this Alexander did the possession of this place, by an undisturbed and even thread of descent, through all the mazes of time, transmit itself to Henry lord Cheyney, and he having by his excess and exorbitancy embezzled an estate of vast extent and grandeur, amongst the rest passed this away, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, to William Partrich, Esquire, whose grandchild Sir Edward Partrich, in that age which was within the verge of our remembrance, alienated it to Mr. Arnold Brams.

Howletts, in this parish, with Hode in Patricksbourn, also, were the ancient demeans of Izaack, and there is a chancel in the church, which formerly bore the name of Izaack's chancel. John Izaack, in the twentieth year of Edward the third (as appears by the Book of Aid) paid an auxiliary supply for his lands at Patricksbourn,

† Rotulus Pipæ de scutagio Walliæ An. 42. Henrici tertii.

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at the investing the Black Prince with knighthood; John Isaack, his son, lies entombed in Patricksbourn church, with this inscription upon his grave stone, Orate pro animabus Joannis Izaack, Armigeri, & Cecilie uxoris eius, qui obiit ..... Anno Domini 1443. Thomas Izaack, as the private annals of this family do discover to us, had a command in France under the duke of Bedford, where he performed exemplary service against the French. The last of this family at this place, was Edward Izaack, Esquire, who determined in two daughters and co-heirs, Mary who was married to Thomas Apylton, of Waldenfield, in Suffolk, and another first married to ..... Sydeley, and after to Sir Henry Palmer, to whose son he gave Howletts, as being, upon the division of her father's estate, made her inheritance; from whom Sir Henry Palmer, now of St. Martin's-hill, in Canterbury, is descended, who hath lately alienated Howletts to Sir Robert Hales, knight and baronet.

PECKHAM, in the hundreds of Twyford and Littlefield, is distinguished from the other; first by its bulk and dimension, this being commonly called Great Peckham; and then secondly by its situation, being stiled in records East-Peckham. It was given to the church of the Trinity, that is, Christ-church in Canterbury, by queen Edgiva, to the monks of that convent, ad Cibum, for a support of their diet and alimony, in the year of grace, nine hundred and forty-one; and if you will see how it was rated in the great register of Doomsday Book, take here a view of it; Peckham, says that record, tempore Edwardi Regis se defendebat pro VI. Sullings, and so forth. Peckham in the time of Edward the king, that is the confessor, went for seven plough lands, and defends itself now (that is, in the time of the conqueror) after the same estimate, and was rated upon the appraisement formerly at twelve lb. but now it is stated at eight. And thus regulated, was it for many ages fastened to the patrimony of the church, until the dissolution, in the reign of Henry the eighth, unloosened the cement, in the twenty-ninth year of that prince; who afterwards about the thirty-sixth year of his reign, grants this and divers other parcels of the church demean to Sir Thomas Wiatt, who not long after by livery and seisin, passes away his right in it to George Moulton, Esquire; but because there was a fine and recovery wanting, the sale was imperfect, so that he had it only in abeyance (as the law stiles it) or in expectance, so that the crown, in the second of queen Mary, upon the defection and attain of Sir Thomas Wiat, finding this in the tenure of Moulton, seized upon it as parcel of Wiat's estate, because it had not been before legally conveyed. And here it rested, till queen Elizabeth, in the second year of her reign, granted it to Anthony Weldon, Esquire, one of the justices of peace in this county under the reign of queen Mary, at which time he became eminent, by his vigorous opposing Sir Thomas Wiat, in that design he was then embarked in, and in this family (though not without some strugglings and contests at law, about the title) did the title reside until that age we style ours, and then it was conveyed to



George Whetenhall, Esquire, who dying without issue, it came by descent to own for proprietor Thomas Whetenhall, now of Great Peckham, Esquire; but the manor of East-Peckham itself rested in the crown until the state, upon the death of the late king Charles, granted it to colonel Robert Gibbons.

There is an eminent seat in this parish called Roydon-hall, which was before called Fortune, but was of no great account, until about the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then Roydon of Suffolk, came into this county, and seated himself here, and erected this pile, upon which he fixed his own name, which it hath been known by ever since, though it hath changed its possessor; for this family was extinguished in a daughter and heir called Elizabeth, who was the only surviving issue of Thomas Roydon, Esquire, who by marrying with William Twisden, Esquire, made it the inheritance of William Twisden, Esquire, great grandfather to Sir Roger Twisden, knight and baronet, who obtained a charter of free-warren from the late king to reduce a certain proportion of ground into a park, which is that the house is surrounded with at present, though the house owes much of its magnificence and splendor to the care and expence of his grandfather Roger Twisden, Esquire, and his father Sir William Twisden, knight and baronet.

Alban, vulgarly called Auburne, is another place of eminent consideration in East-Peckham. This with Black-pits, in this parish, was anciently the inheritance of a

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family called Pollard; for John, the son of John Pollard, in the thirty-fourth year of Edward the first, demises it to Alban de Wandesworth, who, it is probable, erected some mansion house upon it, from whence posterity took the advantage to adopt it into his surname; and from him did it devolve by successive right, to his grandchild William de Wandesworth, who dying without issue, gave it to his widow Mabell Wandesworth, who was remarried to Richard Rymer; and they both by a joint concurrence, in the second year of Richard the second, passed Albans and Black-pits away to John Mew; yet I find a family called Onley, interested in some part of both these manors, which was purchased of William de Wandeshine, in the reign of Henry the third; and in this family was the title lodged, until the second year of Richard the second, and then Joan Onley, in whom the name and possession both concluded, alienated her proportion to the abovesaid John Mew; nor was some parcel of both these manors free from the claim of a family called Goldsmith; for in the ninth year of Richard the second, Richard Goldsmith does divest himself of all the concern in it, and by sale transmits it to John Mew, and from him, about the latter end of Henry the fourth, both these manors with all their appendages, were passed away to John Tutsham, and Nicholas Remkin of Eastmere; but he determined in Alice Remkin, his sole inheritrix, who by marrying with Thomas Rolfe of Tunbridge, brought her interest in Albans and Black-pits, to be the inheritance of that family, but long the right of both these places continued neither in Rolfe nor Tutsham; for about the beginning of Henry the sixth, they were alienated by sale to Thomas Stidulfe of Badsell, Esquire; and he by deed bearing date 1463, that is, about the third year of Edward the fourth, settles them on his two sons Robert and Henry Stidulfe; and in the deed, there is a remembrance, that they were purchased of Rolfe and Tutsham. From Robert they descended to his son Thomas Stidulfe, who was heir both to his father and his uncle, but he concluded in a daughter and heir, who was married (about the latter end of Henry the eighth) to Richard Vane, ancestor to the right honourable Mildmay Vane, now earl of Westmoreland, who in right of their alliance, now enjoys Black-pits; but Albans was by Henry Vane, successor to the abovementioned Richard, in the year 1589, passed away to Roger Twisden of Roydon-hall, Esquire, grandfather to the instant proprietor Sir Roger Twisden, knight and baronet.

Eastmere is another manor in East-Peckham, which acknowledged a family called Remkin, anciently to be its possessors. John Remkin was father of Christian Remkin, who held it, as appears by an ancient court-roll, in the thirty-fourth year of Edward the third; and from him did it, by paternal vicissitude, devolve to Nicholas Remkin, in whom the male line failed; so that Alice his sole daughter became the visible heir to his estate, and she by marrying with Thomas Rolfe of Tunbridge, united this and other land here at Great Peckham, to his patrimony, but it did not long thus continue united, for John Rolfe, his son, in the sixth year

of Henry the sixth, conveys it to Richard Ruyton, and he in the eighth year of the abovesaid prince, alienated it to William Hextall; but he deceasing without issue-male, Margaret, his sole daughter, by her intermarriage with William Whetenhall, originally descended from the ancient family of Whetenhall, of Whetenhall, in Cheshire, cast it into the possession of that name, from whom it is now descended to my worthy friend Thomas Whetenhall, of Hextall court, Esquire.

Spilsted is a fourth manor in this parish. It was the inheritance for diverse ages (as appears by the evidences, now in the custody of Sir Roger Twisden) of an ancient family called Cayser; the last of which name, who enjoyed this place, was John Cayser, who went out in daughters and co heirs; one of which was married to Matthew Chetwind, to whom this place, upon the separation of the estate into parcels, in his wife's right accrued; and he after some small residence in the possession, passed away his right by sale in the forty-first year of queen Elizabeth to Roger Twisden, Esquire, grandfather to Sir Roger Twisden, knight and baronet, the instant lord of the fee, a person upon whom I need drop no other character, when I say, that in these times, when there is such a damp and astonishment, by publick blastings and discouragements, cast upon literature, he is both a gentleman and a scholar.

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Here is likewise a seat in Peckham very venerable for its antiquity, which in old rolls, is called Hextall-court, and was the mansion of gentlemen of principal account in this track. In a deed without date, Simon de Hougham, does demise certain pieces of land to John de Hextall, which lay within the limits of the parish of Hougham, where anciently this family enjoyed no contemptible possessions, as well as at East-Peckham. The last of this name at this place, was William Hextall, who died without issue-male, and left Margaret his only heir, who was married to William Whetenhall, Esquire, in the reign of Henry the seventh, descended from the ancient and illustrious family of Whetenhall, of Whetenhall, in the county of Chester, and so it was incorporated into the income of that family, where it hath ever since remained; so that it is now the present inheritance of Thomas Whetenhall, Esquire.

WEST-PECKHAM, or LITTLE-PECKHAM, in the hundreds of Twyford and Littlefield, was annexed to the demean of the knights templars, when John Colepeper founded a præceptory here for them, in the year of our Lord 1 ..... which upon the final expiration, and dissolution of their order, here in England, in the second year of Edward the second, was granted to the knights hospitallers, and was sometimes called a præceptory, and sometimes a commandry. Now a præceptory was a benefice in kind, and was termed so; because this, and all others of the same capacity, were possessed by the more eminent sort of templars, whom the chief master created and called præceptores templi; a commandry was some principal manor of the knights hospitallers, wherein was placed some brother of the order, who could not dispose of the profits of it, but was to manage it only to the use of the whole fraternity, deducting so much of the revenue, as might support his livelihood and subsistence, of which see more in Dr. Cowells Interpreter, in his notes and comment upon the word commandry. This upon the suppression, was by Henry the eighth, in the thirty-second year of his reign, granted to Sir Robert Southwell, afterwards of the privy council to king Edward the sixth, and queen Mary; who not long after alienated it to Sir Edmund Walsingham of Scadbery, lieutenant of the Tower, from whom it came down by descent, to my noble friend Sir Thomas Walsingham, his great grandchild, who not long since, passed it over by sale, to his son-in-law Mr. James Masters.

Oxenheath is an ancient manor in West-Peckham, and was many ages past the demean of Colepeper, Walter Colepeper died seized of it, in the first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. And from him by successive transmission threaded together by many descents, did it devolve to ..... Colepeper, who determined towards the latter end of Henry the seventh, in three daughters and co-heirs. Margaret the eldest, was married to William Cotton, of the county of Cambridge; Joyce the second, was married to Edmund Howard, a younger son of Thomas duke of Norfolk, who was father to Katharine Howard, one of the unfortunate wives of Henry the eighth; and the third was espoused to Barham, of Barham-court in

Teston, and these three sisters shared his inheritance, and this upon the partition was annexed to the demean of Cotton, whose successor passed it away by sale to Chowne, of Fair-lane, in which name it did not long continue; for Sir George Chowne, in our fathers memory, being desirous to abridge and contract all his estate, into the county of Sussex, alienated this seat to Nicholas Miller, Esquire, who upon his decease, bequeathed it to his nephew Sir Nicholas Miller, to whom we ascribe the new additions, which are set out with all the circumstances both of art and magnificence; and is now possessed by his son and heir Humphrey Miller, Esquire.

Pencehurst is seated upon the utmost boundary of the Lowy of Tunbridge, and was an eminent mansion of a very ancient family, whose surname was Penchester, of whom there is mention in the great survey of England, taken in the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, vulgarly called Domesday Book, and in this family did the possession reside, until the two daughters and co-heirs of the famous Sir Stephen de Penchester, who was lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover-castle, in the reign of Edward the second, and who died seized of it, in

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the year of that prince's government, Rot. Esc. Num. ... divided the inheritance; Joane the eldest was married to Henry lord Cobham of Roundall, in Shorne, and she carried away Allington castle, Alice the other daughter and co-heir was married to John lord Columbers, and she had Pencehurst, and other lands for her portion. And he had issue by her Thomas de Columbers, who by his deed dated at Pencehurst, in the eleventh year of Edward the third, passes away his right in it to Sir John de Poultney, and he in the twelfth year of the abovementioned prince, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Pencehurst, and in the twentieth year of Edward the third, paid Aid for it, at making the Black Prince, knight; and held it at his decease, which was in the twenty-third year of that prince, and left it to his son William Poultney, who immediately after alienated it to Guy Lovain, who had issue Sir Nicholas Lovain, who held Pencehurst, in the forty-fourth year of Edward the third, and married Margaret eldest daughter to John Vere, earl of Oxford, re-married to Henry lord Beaumont, and after to Sir John Devereux, knight of the garter, lord warden of the cinque ports, constable of Dover-castle, and steward of the king's house, in the eleventh year of king Richard the second. In the sixteenth year of whose reign, he had licence by letters patents to fortify and embattle his mansion-house at Pencehurst. His daughter and heir was married to Walter lord Fitzwater, from whom the earls of Sussex descended; and he had a brother named Sir Walter Devereux, from whom the late earl of Essex was derived, and the arms of this Sir John Devereux were not long since extant in a window, on the north side of Pencehurst church; but he only enjoyed this manor in right of his wife, for after her death it devolved to Philip St. Clere of Aldham St. Clere in Eightham, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir Nicholas Lovain, above-mentioned, sister and heir to her brother Nicholas Lovain, who died without issue. And by her he had John St. Clere, who passed away his right here to John duke of Bedford, third son to Henry the fourth, and he enjoyed Pencehurst at his decease, which was in the fourteenth year of Henry the sixth; but dying without issue, it came down to Humphrey duke of Gloucester, fourth son of Henry the fourth, who was strangled in the abby of Bury, by the procurement and practices of the duke of Suffolk; and he likewise going out without posterity, it returned to the crown. And Henry the sixth, in the twenty-fifth year of his reign, granted it to Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, whose unfortunate grandchild, Edward duke Buckingham, endeavouring by a specious semblance of vanity and ostentation, guilded with all the cunning and pomp of magnificence to make himself popular, and entering afterwards into consultation with a monk, and another, who pretended to the dark art of necromancy, about the succession of the crown, poured in so many jealousies into the bosom of Henry the eighth, which were multiplied to the heighth of treason by the malice of cardinal Wolsey, that nothing could allay or appease them, but the effusion of this man's blood, in the twelfth year of that prince, upon a Scaffold. Upon whose unfortunate exit, this manor escheated to the crown, and here it remained, until king Henry the eighth, granted it to his faithful servant Sir Ralph Vane, who being entangled with John duke of Somerset, in that obscure design, which was destructive to them both, in the fourth year of

Edward the sixth; this was again seized upon by the crown, as escheated by his conviction, and remained with its revenue, until the abovesaid prince, in the sixth year of his government, by royal concession planted the inheritance in Sir William Sydney his tutor, who was likewise lord Chamberlain of his household, and one of his privy council; from whom it descended to his great grandchild, the right honorable Robert earl of Leicester, designed lord lieutenant of Ireland, by the late king Charles, and he is the instant proprietor of it.

Pencehurst Halymote alias Otford Wild was anciently held in lease by the successive lords of Pencehurst, of the archbishop of Canterbury, as being a limb of their manor of Otford, which manor being exchanged by William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, with Henry the eighth, this being a relative appendage to it, was added likewise to the revenue of the crown, and was resident in the royal patrimony until these times, and then it was conveyed by the state to colonel Robert Gibbons.

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Pepenbury, vulgarly called Pembury, is seated in the hundreds of Watchlingston and Twyford, and contains within the limits of it, that noted seat called Bayhall, which was the ancient seat of the ancient family of Colepepers. The first of which whom I find made eminent by record, is Thomas de Colepeper, who was as appears by the bundles of uncertain years in the Pipe-office one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the reign of king John; a place, if we consider the meridian of those times, for which it was calculated, that is, before the establishment of the conservators of the peace, of eminent trust and concern. And certainly this man was father of that Thomas Colepeper, who was brought upon the stage, and his tragedy represented at Leeds-castle, where he was sacrificed to the anger of Edward the second, because he was a more faithful Castellan to the lord Badeslesmer, then he was a loyal subject to his sovereign, and with his life he lost his estate here at Peppenbury. Yet I find by the close rolls of the seventeenth year of Edward the second, memb. 5, that there was much of his land here, and in other places, by the indulgence of that prince, restored to his son Thomas de Colepeper, but yet the manor and seat remained lodged in the crown; it certainly was no contemptible parcel of land, that was granted back; for Richard the second by royal concession gave licence to Thomas Colepeper to inclose fifty acres of land in a park at Peppenbury. But to advance; in the twenty-fifth year of Henry the sixth, the crown de-vests itself of its right to both these places, and transplants it by grant into Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, from whom they descended to his unfortunate grandchild, Edward duke of Buckingham, who lost both his life and estate, being attainted in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth. After this tragedy, they continued until the twenty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, in the possession of the crown, and then they were passed away by grant to Sir Edward Guildford, and again confirmed to him, in the twenty-eighth year of that prince's reign, and from him not long after by Joane his female heir, they increased the patrimony of John Dudley, after duke of Northumberland, and he in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, alienated them to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, whose story, tragedy, and attainment, in the thirty-second year of the abovesaid prince, are represented to our view in such obvious characters, that I shall not need again to unvail them. Upon his ruinous catastrophe, they reverted to the crown, and lay shut up in the royal revenue, until the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, and then they were made by a new grant the inheritance of William Wybourn, and Anthony Brown, Esquires; but that portion which was settled in Brown, was not long resident in that family; for in the sixth year of queen Elizabeth, it was alienated to William Wybourn, Esquire; nor was the interest of these places of any long date after this in Wybourn, for in our grandfathers memory, the fate of sale annexed them to the patrimony of Thomas Sackvill, lord Buckurst, whose grandchild the right honourable Edward Sackvill, earl of Dorset, not many years since conveyed his right in them to Mr. .... Amherst.

Halkewell is an eminent manor in this parish and was a branch of that demean; which fell under the signory of the priory of Begham, and so remained until the dissolution, and then it was by Henry the eighth, about the time of their suppression, that is, 1525, granted to John Wybourn, who was tenant to that abby, upon the suppression; but was anciently seated at a place called Culverdens, whither they arrived from about Crofton in Orpington, where they originally were planted, about

the latter end of Henry the third; and from this John Wybourn. was Mr. Benjamin Wybourn descended, who upon his late death hath left this manor to his widow Mrs. Blanch Wybourn, eldest daughter to Sir John Philipott, of the county of Southampton.

Bencrouch, Highlands, and Prigles, were manors which related to the patrimony of the abby of Rothers-bridge in Sussex, and in the year 1525, were pared off from the ecclesiastical revenue of cardinal Wolsey, when he laid the foundations of his stately college at Christ church in Oxford, which, like some embryo, for want of maturity, became imperfect and indigested by his death, and then these places, being found in his hands at his decease, were seized upon by Henry the eighth,

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who in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, granted them to George Guldford, Esquire, who not long after, conveyed them by sale to Sir Alexander Colepeper, who had a confirmation of them from the crown, about the thirty-fifth year of that prince's government, and in this family did they continue laid up, until the title was in our fathers remembrance, dislodged, and by sale resigned up to Nicholas Miller, Esquire, who upon his decease without issue, left them to his nephew, Sir Nicholas Miller; and he upon his late decease, hath left them to his son and heir Humphrey Miller, Esquire.

PRESTON situated in the hundred of Feversham, contains sundry places within the boundaries of it, of no vulgar account. The first is Makenade, which was the mansion for many ages, of gentlemen of that surname, whereof William Makenade was sheriff of Kent, in the thirty-third year of Edward the third, and held his shrievalty at this house, which then was of more magnificence, though now it lye almost gasping in its own ruins, being crushed into that disorder by the rough hand of time; from this man it descended to his grandchild William Makenade, who in the eighth year of Henry the fourth, dying without issue-male, Constance Makenade, his only daughter became his heir, who carried this seat along with her, to her husband John Waterslip, by whom she had issue Margaret, married to Henry London, and Joan married to Thomas Mathew, who upon the division of the estate, shared this house, and the land which related to it; in which family after the inheritance had been for several years shut up, it at length by sale went out to Maycot, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, passed it away by sale to Martin James, Esquire, register of the chancery, whose great grandchild Mr. .... James, enjoys the present fee-simple of it.

Perry-court in Preston, was the mansion of a good old family called Barrett, who enjoyed this seat as high as the reign of Edward the second, and then, I find it was under the signory of one John de Perry, to whom, and to whose family it seems, it afforded anciently, both seat and surname; Valentine Barrett, who married with Cicelie, daughter and co-heir of Marcellus Att Leeze, and niece of Sir Richard Att Leeze, was the last of the name who held this place; for he determined in Cicelie, his only daughter and heir, who was married to John Darrell of Cale-hill, Esquire, for his first wife, who was elder brother of Sir William Darrell, under-treasurer of England, branched out from the knightly family of the Darrells, of Sesay, in Yorkshire, whose heir general married with the ancestor of Dawney, now proprietor of that place, and by this alliance, Perry-court came to be united to the demeane of Darrell, of Cale-hill, for many descents, until, in the reign of Henry the eighth, it fell to be divided between two brothers, Sir James Darrell knight, and John Darrell gentleman. John Darrell, in the first year of Henry the eighth, alienated his portion to Stephen Jennings, and he in the sixth year of that prince, conveyed it to Thomas Michell, and he in the eighth year of his reign, passed it away to Robert Dokket, who two years after demised it to Alan Percy; and Alan Percy, in the fourteenth year of Henry the eighth, transmitted it by sale, to John Park, who likewise purchased the other moiety, the same year of Sir James Darrell, and so became sole owner of Perry court, from whom by Elizabeth, his sole daughter and heir, it was carried off, to John Roper of Lingsted, Esquire, and he in the twenty-fifth year of queen Elizabeth transferred all his concern in it to William Finch, by whose daughter and co-heir, it was annexed to the inheritance of Sir Drue Drewry, of Norfolk, and he in the beginning of king James, passed it away to Thomas Bennett, Esquire, whose descendants are still entituled to the possession of

it.

Westwood is a third place in Preston not to be declined in our account. It was, as high as I can trace out, under the jurisdiction of the eminent family of Poynings. Michael Poynings, who was son of Thomas lord Poynings, held it at his death, which was in the forty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 14. And from him did it by a constant tide of uninterrupted interest, surrender itself up to Sir Edward Poynings, who in the fourteenth year of Henry the eighth, died

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without any lawful issue, and, as it appeared too then, without any collateral alliance, that could, by any title united by never so far distant an affinity to him, lay the foundation of any pretended claim to his estate; so that it escheated to the crown, and king Henry the eighth, in the thirty-second and thirty-sixth of his rule granted it John Limsey, who not many years after, passed it away to alderman Garret, of London, ancestor to Sir John Garret, of the county of Hertford, baronet, in whom the possession of this place is at this instant resident.

PRESTON, in the hundred of Wingham, was the inheritance of the lord Leybourn. William de Leybourn had a grant of a market and a fair, to his manor of Preston, in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the first; from whom it descended to his son Roger de Leybourn, who went out in a daughter and heir called Juliana Leybourn, so often mentioned in this discourse, who first married John de Hastings, a kinsman of Laurence de Hastings, earl of Pembroke. That he was not his son, is most evident, for then he must by consequence have been her second husband; for William de Clinton, who was her second husband, and hath been by public records, always so reputed, deceased, by the testimony of all, in the twenty-eighth of Edward the third; Juliana his wife, in the forty-third year of that prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 57; and John de Hastings, in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, which upon a serious computation of time, makes it impossible that this John de Hasting, whom all conclude to have been her first husband, should be that John, who was son to Laurence, earl of Pembroke; nor could it be any other William de Clinton, than this before-mentioned. First, because he was the last earl of Huntington of the name. Secondly, if we should make him to be any other, he must be designed husband for this Juliana, after the death of this John de Hasting, who survived this Juliana six years, as appears by the former ballancing of time, which will appear altogether absurd and impossible. Thirdly, all do concur, that this William de Clinton, who was her second husband, was lord of the cinque-ports, in the twelfth year of Edward the third; admiral of the narrow seas westward, in the fifteenth year, and had the custody of all the king's forests southwards beyond Trent, in the seventeenth year of that prince's government, which could be no other, than this William earl of Huntington, who although he were fruitful in offices, he was not so in children, for he died without issue by this lady Juliana, who after his death remained in the state of widowhood (for ought I can yet discover) until her decease; for in the escheat roll mentioned before, she is stiled Comitissa de Huntington, upon whose death, none appearing either directly or collaterally, who justly could entitle themselves to her patrimony, the crown claimed it as an escheat; and Richard the second, granted it to Sir Simon de Burleigh, lord warden of the cinque ports, who being afterwards attainted, in the tenth year of that prince it was re-invested in the royal revenue, and was not long after by Richard the second, granted to the abby of St. Mary Grace on Tower-hill, and some part of it to the priory of Canons Langley, and sometimes written Childrens Langley; and here it dwelt until the general suppression, and then king Henry the eighth, in the thirty-fifth year of his reign, granted it to Sir Thomas Moile, whose daughter and co-heir Amy Moile, incorporated it into the demean of her husband Sir Thomas Kempe; where it had not long abode, when this Sir Thomas died without issue-male, and left his estate to be divided between four daughters and co-heirs: Anne, one of whom, carried this away to Sir Thomas Chichley, of the county of Cambridge, whose son Thomas Chichley, Esquire, hath lately by sale transmitted his right in it, to Mr. .... Spence, and Mr. Robert Spence of Baukham, in Sussex.

Preston by Wingham had the grant of a market procured to it on the Monday, and a fair of three days continuance, at the feast of St. Crosse, in the thirty-fifth of Edward the first. Sir Simon de Burleigh, had the grant of a market renewed to this

place on the Friday, and a fair by the space of three days, at the feast of St. Mildred the virgin, in the tenth year of Richard the second.

PETHAM gives name, in part, to that hundred wherein it hath its position, being called the hundred of Bredge and Petham, and was always a manor folded up in the revenue of the archbishop, though I confess I cannot trace out in the wilderness of antiquity who was the first donor. If you peruse the pages of Domesday Book, you will find it there thus represented; Petham est proprium manerium archi=

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episcopi & in tempore Edwardi Regis se defendebat pro VII Sullings, & nunc similiter, & est appretiatum XX lb. And this is enough to refute that mistake in Eadmerius not long since printed by Mr. Selden; which I believe is only by accident and not voluntary, which says that Anselm mortgaged or pawned Peckham to the monks of Canterbury which was long before given to them by queen Edgiva: Indeed it should have been printed Petham; that being always, as you have seen, a manor of the archbishop's, till it was engaged, which it seems was never redeemed; for it continued in the revenue of the monks in Christ-church, until the dissolution; and then it was transplanted into the revenue of the crown, and lay there until king James, in our fathers memory, granted it to Thomas Thompson, Esquire, ancestor to Thompson, Esquire, who now enjoys the possession of it.

Swerdling is a manor in this parish of as eminent account as any in this track, and was the capital mansion of the noble and ancient family of Valoigns. Ruallo de Valoigns was sheriff of Kent in the first year of Henry the second, and in the pipe-rolls of that year, is written of Swerdling; and he was witness to king Stephen's charter, whereby he grants the mill at East-bridge in Canterbury to the monks of Christchurch. Waretius de Valoigns † is in the catalogue of those Kentish gentlemen who assisted Richard the first at the siege of Acon in Palestine. Robert de Valoigns, had the repute of a baron in the thirteenth year of Henry the third, and under that notion held the fourth part of a knight's fee of Wallingford-castle. Allan de Valoigns, was sheriff of Kent, in the thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third, and thirty-fourth years of Henry the third, and held his shrievalty at Swerdling. Waretius de Valoigns in the forty-fifth year of Henry the third, by his deed, remits divers services to Cicely, wife of Robert de Grenebold, which were due from her to his manor of Swerdling. William de Valoigns was sheriff of Kent, the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth years of Edward the first, and his son Sir William de Valoigns was engaged with Edward the first at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, and for some remarkable service there performed, received the order of knighthood. Henry de Valoigns was sheriff of Kent in the fourteenth year of Edward the third, and he had issue Waretius de Valoigns, in whom the male-line failed, so that his two daughters, (one married to Sir Thomas Fogge, grandchild to Otho Fogge, who came out of Lancashire into Kent, about the beginning of Edward the first, and the other married to Thomas de Aldon) became his heirs; and this, upon the breaking of the estate into parcels, fell to be the portion of Fogge, in which name after it had for divers ages continued fixed, it was in that age we style our grandfathers alienated to Spelman, and this family not many years since determining in a female heir, it is now by marrying with her become the inheritance of Hadds.

Sapinton, in Petham, was the inheritance of a family called Bregge; for in the forty second year of Edward the third, I find Joseph Bregge conveys this manor to Sir Richard Atteleeze, and he dying without issue, it descended to Marcellus Atteleeze, who was his brother and heir at law; but he suddenly after expired, and with him the name in daughters and co-heirs, whereof Luce who was one of them, was first married to John Norton, Esquire; and after to William Langley of Knolton, whose heirs about the latter end of Richard the second, concurred in a joint and mutual bargain and sale, and passed away their interest in this manor; which was too much disordered and ravelled whilst it lay thus mingled, to George Ballard, Esquire; from whom, by the clew of several ages, the title went along to Nicholas Ballard, Esquire, who about the latter end of Philip and Mary alienated it to Strensham, from which family about the fortieth of queen Elizabeth, the mutation of purchase brought it to Apleford, and he not long after conveyed it to Langford, and from this name the four brothers joining in the sale; in that age which was circumscribed within our fathers remembrance, it was carried off by sale to Cranmer of Canterbury, whose

son Mr. .... Cranmer is by descent, successively entituled to the present propriety of it.

Hauts-place, in this parish, was the fountain from whence that noble family which fell under that surname originally streamed out, which afterwards dispersed itself in sub-divided rivulets over the face of this county. Ivo de Haut, the first of this name that ancient record represents to us, is mentioned in a book kept in the ex=

† Rot. pipæ de An. 13. Hen. tertii.

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chequer called Liber de Terris Templariorum, which is a survey of those lands that order held in England, in the year of grace one thousand one hundred and eighty; and there it is affirmed that he held this manor of Temple Waltham, and from this Ivo de Haut did the title in a never-ebbing current of descent glide down to Sir William Haut, who was sheriff of Kent in the sixteenth year, and then again promoted to that office in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, and not long after deceased, and with him the name found its funeral in two daughters and co-heirs, one of which termed Elizabeth, was married to Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgebury, Esquire, to whom this place in the right of his wife devolved. And from his family in the age within the confines of our grandfathers remembrance, it was passed away by sale to Salkeld, who not many years since conveyed the possession over to Bateman.

There was a chauntry founded at Depden, in this parish (as appears by a manuscript in the hands of Mr. Thomas Den, recorder of Canterbury, deceased) founded and endowed by William Gratian priest, in the reign of Henry the fourth; whose revenue upon the dissolution of this chauntry in the second year of Edward the sixth, was granted to Jo. Come and Richard Almot, who not long after passed it away to William Forbrasse, yeoman, a name in some old deeds written Fortbrasse, which argues it to be of French extraction, and from this family it was, about the beginning of king James, carried off by sale to Gregory, who within the verge of some few years last past, alienated the title to Sladden of Liminge.

POSTLING lies in the hundred of Hene, and was, in ages of a very high ascent, the patrimony of the noble family of Columbers, a name in times of elder cognisance of very great reputation in the west of England. Philip de Columbariis or Columbers, held it at his decease, which was in the fifth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 5. But after him I discover no more of this family at this place. The next that is represented to be possessor of it, is Hugh de Audley, and he held it as appears by ancient court-rolls, in the reign of Edward the second, and Edward the third, and passed it away to Delves, of Delves-court in the county of Chester, where it seems it had no long abode; for about the forty-third year of Edward the third, John de Delves alienates it to Richard earl of Arundell; for which the earl is pardoned, because he purchased it without license first obtained from the king, as appears, Pat. de An. 43. Edw. tertii parte secunda memb. septim. And in this family was it for many generations fixed and resident; until the thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was by sale transmitted to Sir Anthony Aucher. But the tenure of it in this family was brief and transitory; for about the beginning of queen Elizabeth it went away from this name to Thomas Smith, Esquire, customer to that princess, from whom the clew of paternal succession, hath transmitted the propriety to the right honorable Philip viscount Strangford his great grandchild.

Henewood is another manor in this parish, from whence the Honywood of Elmsted, and those of Pett in Charing do extract their surname. And Edmund de Honywood, who in the reign of Henry the third is remembered in the front and van of those in the ledger book of Horton priory, who were munificent benefactors to that convent, is set down there to have been of Postling, and as this place was then, so is it still through all that flux and decursion of time which hath since elapsed, wound up in that revenue, which acknowledges the signory and jurisdiction of this ancient name and family.

PLUCKLEY, in the hundred of Calehill, was originally a manor which owned the archbishops of Canterbury for lords of the fee, until Lanfranc, archbishop of Canterbury, gave it to William, brother of John de Cobham, who in the grant is stiled Miles Archiepiscopi; not that he was ever any knight or soldier that attended



upon him; but that he granted him this manor to hold in knight's service of him and his successors, which was very usual and customary for the archbishops and other great prelates to do; until king Edward the first, growing jealous of the power and grandeur of the clergy, who endeavoured by their bounty and magnificent donations to oblige both the principal of the nobility and gentry, and chain them up by these extraordinary engagements to their devotion, caused the statute called quia emptores

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terrarium, in the twenty-first year of his reign, to be made, which restrains and supersedes for the future all new creations of manors. But to proceed, William de Cobham being thus enstated in this manor, in gratitude to the first donor, altered his name from Cobham to Pluckley. Sir Richard de Pluckley, this man's grandchild, flourished in the reign of king Stephen, and Henry the second, and founded the church at Pluckley; and from this man did William de Pluckley lineally branch out, in whom the male-line concluded, so that Agnes his daughter and heir, by marrying with John Surrenden, Esquire, cast Pluckley into the possession of that name and family; where it had not sojourned, when the same vicissitude brought it over to Haut; for James Haut, married Joan, heir general of John Surrenden, and so became possessor of Pluckley; but in this name the title was as volatile and mutable as in the former; for this man went out in daughters and co-heirs, one of them was married to Gouldwell, and Christian the other was married to John Dering, Esquire, in whose right he was entituled to the signory of Pluckley. Now if you will inquire, where lay the ancient land of Dering, if my assertion might be credited, I should affirm, that it was at Stamford by Hieth, were they were lords of some part of the little manor of Heyton; for by an old roll, I find that Normanus de Morinis, married Kineburga, daughter and heir of Deringus, and his son, as was customary in those times, called himself Deringus de Morinis, and married with Elveva, sister and heir of Alanus de Heyton, and so was invested in the propriety of the manor of Heyton, from whom it successively came down to Richard Fitz Dering, who was son of Dering, and great grandchild to this man, who was the first who deserted the surname de Morinis, and assumed that of Dering, and died possessed of the manor of Heyton, in the forty-second year of Henry the third. And from this Richard Fitz Dering is Sir Edward Dering baronet, now lineally extracted, who is the instant lord of Pluckley and Surrenden Dering, where Sir Edward Dering knight and baronet, not many years since deceased, raised that elegant structure, as eminent for its magnificence and beauty, as it is for its contrivance and curiosity.

Pevington was formerly a parish, and had a church dedicated to St. Mary, though it be now languished into disuse, and grown an adjunct to Pluckley; the patrons as well as proprietors of it were the Pevingtons, a knightly family, who borrowed their surname from hence. The first whom I meet with, is Sir Ralph de Pevington, who flourished here, in the reign of king John, and king Henry the third, and was father to Sir William de Pevington, who likewise died possessed of this manor, in the fifty-fourth year of Henry the third, from whom descended John and William Pevington, who dying without issue, in the seventh year of Henry the fourth, Amabilia their sister, married to John Gobion, became their heir, and she lies buried in the church of Austin-Friars at Canterbury, and is mentioned to have been a liberal benefactress to that cloister, about the time of her decease, which was 1405, and had issue by him Julian their only daughter, who was about the twenty-seventh year of Henry the sixth, married to William Brent, from whom descended Thomas Brent, in whom the name and male-line together was extinguished, so that Margaret Brent, married to John Dering, was the visible heir of his estate, amongst which this manor of Pevington, was enwrapped, which came down in right of this alliance to Sir Edward Dering, knight and baronet, who upon his decease gave it after the death of his mother, the widow dowager of Sir Anthony Dering, to Mr. Henry Dering, the eldest son by his last lady.

Malmains in Pluckley, was the inheritance of a family of that surname. Eleanor, wife of John de Malmins, died seized of it, in the fourteenth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 51. And after, by court-rolls, I discover Henry Malmains to be possessed of it, from whom it descended to Richard Malmains, who died (as the date upon his tomb-stone in Pluckley church discovers to us) in the year 1440, and left John Malmains his heir, after whom I descry no farther mention of this family at this place. The next family which succeeded in the inheritance was Dering, not

by any right derived from Haut; for they had espoused the heir of that name before Malmains was extinguished; nor could it be by any female heir atchieved, for there were but two co-heirs of this branch of Malmains, who were married to Monins and Gouldwell. And if it be answered that Dering married the heir of the eldest house;

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to that I answer, that Nicholas Malmains, who was of the elder line, deceased in the twentieth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 25, and left only a daughter and heir, who was married to William de Grandison; so that it is evident by the premises, that this manor of Malmains devolved to Dering, the instant proprietor, not by any marriage of Haut, or of this family itself, by any female heir or co-heir of Malmains, but by purchase only.

Shurland is the last place of account. It hath been the patrimony of Betenham of Betenham in Cranbroke, for many hundred years. Stephen de Betenham is mentioned in court-rolls, which take their rise or date from the government of Henry the third; and certainly this is that Stephen de Betenham, which is mentioned to be one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, (an office of very great importance in elder times) in those pipe-rolls which relate to the reign of king John; and from this Stephen hath the title of this place, by a constant and even chain of ages, threaded together into an unbroken succession, come down to Mr. Betenham, who holds the present signory and possession of it.

PLUMSTED, in the hundred of Lesnes, was in the year of grace 960, given by king Edgar, to the abbot and convent of St. Augustins in Canterbury (as Thorne their chronicler testifies) under the notion of four ploughed lands, which afterwards Godwin earl of Kent, violently tore from their patrimony, and settled upon his son Tostius; but it was restored to that seminary by William the conqueror, and remained fastened to their revenue, until the rough hand of Henry the eighth, by a public suppression unlinked it, and then it was by that prince, in the thirty-sixth year of his reign, granted to Sir Edward Boughton of Burwash-court, from whom it is now devolved by descent to his successor Mr. .... Boughton.

The abbot of St. Augustines, to add more eminence to this manor, not only obtained a charter of free-warren to Plumsted, in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the third; but likewise by grant procured a market to be held here weekly on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly three days, at St. Nicholas, videlicet, the eve, the day, and day after; both which were allowed before the judges itinerant, in the seventh year of Edward the first.

Plumsted had anciently laws and ordinances for the better securing the mounds and banks of the marsh, against the eruptions and inundations of the Thames, which almost were of the same resemblance and complexion with those of Romney marsh. A scale of several statutes is delivered to us by Rastall in his abridgement, which concerned the inning and preserving of Plumsted Level. The first was enacted in the twenty second year of Henry the eighth, Cap. 3. and was printed. The second was made in the fourteenth year of queen Elizabeth, and was never printed. The third was ratified in the twenty-third of queen Elizabeth, Cap. 13, and printed. The fourth and last was confirmed, in the twenty-seventh year of queen Elizabeth, Cap. 27, and likewise printed.

Burwash-court is an eminent seat in this parish, made more illustrious by being wrapped up in the revenue of the noble family of Burgherst or Burwash. Bartholomew de Burgherst died possessed of it, in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 38, and left it to his son Bartholomew lord Burwash, who in the forty-third year of the abovesaid prince, conveyed it with much other land to Sir Walter de Paveley, knight of the garter, in which family it continued, until the reign of Richard the second, and then it was alienated to William Chichley, alderman of London, who left it to his son John Chichley, by whose daughter and heir Agnes, it came to be possessed by John Tattershal, of Well-hall, in Eltham; who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, conveyed it to Boughton, in the descendants of which family, it had a permanent abode, until that age that our remembrance had an aspect on, and then it was passed away to Mr. Rowland Wilson of London, and he upon his late decease, gave it to his daughter and her heirs, who was first married to doctor ..... Crisp, and now secondly to colonel ..... Row

of Hackney.

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R.

RADIGUNDS, vulgarly called the abby of St. Radigunds, leads up the van of this register. It was founded by Hugh the first abbot, who was before a monk in the priory of Christ-church, in the reign of king Stephen, as the book of Christ-church, and the return into the court of augmentation made in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, do both inform me. Their rule was derived from Austin bishop of Hippo, their habit black, whence they are sometimes stiled black canons, and sometimes canons of St. Austins. The revenue which appertained to this cloister, lay not far divided from this place, as namely at Alkham, Sotemere, Combe, Hawking, Padlesworth, and Pising, where they had a manor, as appears by an inquisition, taken in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 147. This upon the dissolution lapsing with all its revenue to the crown, king Henry the eighth exchanged Pising with Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury; but the manor of St. Radigunds itself, remained annexed to the royal revenue, until queen Elizabeth, in the thirty-second year of her reign, granted it to Simon Edolph, Esquire, descended from the Edolphs of Romney Marsh, where they were very ancient, in whose successor, Sir ..... Edolph, the propriety of this place is still resident.

RACULVER, in the hundred of Whitstaple, had a monastery founded here, for monks to live under the rule of St. Bennet; but the manor itself was given with all its train of appendages, as namely, pasture, glebe, marsh-land, and the adjacent shore, and estimated at twenty-five mansions or cottages, bis denis senisque estimatum Cassatis (those are the words of the record by king Eadredus, in the year nine hundred and forty-eight) to the see of Canterbury, in the presence of his queen Edgiva, and archbishop Odo; and if you will descry what estimate it had in the time of the conqueror, Domesday book will afford you a discovery. Raculf tempore Edwardi Regis se defendebat pro VIII. Sullings, & est appretiatum XL. lb. & II. lb. V. s. tres Minutes (that was a coin I believe equivalent to our now English pence) minus.

Though the church be now full of solitude, and languished into decay; yet when Leland made his perambulation, it was in a more splendid equipage. If you please to hear him, he thus describes it; the old building of the abby church, continues (says he) having two goodly spiring steeples. In the entring into the quire, is one of the fairest and most ancient crosses, that ever I saw, nine foot in height, it standeth like a fair column. The basis is a great stone, it is not wrought; the second stone, being round, hath curiously wrought and painted the images of our Saviour Christ, Peter, Paul, John and James; Christ saith Ego sum Alpha & Omega; Peter saith, Tu es Christus filius Dei vivi. The sayings of the other three, were painted, majusculis literis Romanis, but now obliterated. The second stone is of the passion; the third stone contains the twelve apostles; the fourth hath the image of our Saviour hanging and fastened with four nails, & sub pedibus sustentaculum. The highest part of the pillar hath the figure of a cross. In the church is a very ancient book of the evangelists, in majusculis literis Romanis, and in the borders thereof is a crystal stone, thus inscribed, Claudia Atepiccus. In the north side of the church, is the figure of a bishop painted under an arch; in digging about the church, they find old buckles and rings. The whole print of the monastery appears by the old wall. And the vicarage was made of the ruins of the monastery. There is a neglected chapel out of the church-yard, where some say was a paroch-church, before the abby was suppressed, and given to the archbishop of Canterbury. Thus far he.

But the greatest honor which in elder times did accrue to this village, was, that king Ethelbert, after he had founded the abby of St. Austins, removed his residence from Canterbury, and fixed his palace at this place, which his successors the kings of Kent, enobled by their presence; but when this kingdom was swallowed up in that of Mercia, and Mercia afterwards in that of the west Saxons; this mansion of theirs found a sepulchre likewise in their ruins; so that now we can trace it out no where, but in annals and history, since even the very ruins of the ruins themselves, have now got an unknown interment.

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Helburgh is an ancient seat in this parish: the first that I find possessed it, was Ni=

cholas Tingewike, originally descended from Tingewick in the county of Bucking->ham, and who likewise held large possessions at Dartford, and he died seized of it, in the fourteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 182. After this family deserted the possession, the Pines became its proprietors, of which family was James de la Pine, who was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-sixth, and twenty seventh years of Edward the third, and was in the possession of this place at his decease, which was in the thirty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 13, and left it to his son Thomas Pine; after whom I meet with another James Pine, who about the beginning of Henry the fourth, passed it away to Cheyney, and in this family did it reside, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth; and then the lord Henry Cheyney, who then began to retail himself and his estate out to ruin in parcels, alienated this to Maycott, whose son Sir Cavaliero Maycott, that eminent courtier in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and king James, in the entrance of that prince into his govern=ment, passed it away to Sir Christopher Clive; and he immediately after, conveyed it away to Contry, vulgarly called Cuntry, whose son Mr. Thomas Contry, almost in our memory, cast it by sale into the possession of Sir Edward Masters of Canter=bury, whose son Richard Masters, Esquire, is entituled to the instant possession of it. †

REINHAM, in the hundred of Milton, with Mere-court, was, in the reign of Henry the first, the patrimony of the noble family of Camville. \* Robert de Cam=ville his son, was an assistant to Henry the third, ‡ in the forty-second of his rule, when he marched from Chester against the Welsh. Geoffrey de Camville was frequently summoned to sit in parliament as baron, in the reign of Edward the first. After this family was worn out, the noble family of Leybourn, of Leybourn castle, was en=tituled to the inheritance. Henry de Leybourn, held it in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the first, and so did Thomas de Leybourn, in the thirty-fifth of that prince's government, Rot. Esc. Num. 10. And so did his brother likewise, William de Leybourn, who held the greatest part of it at his death, which was in the third year of Edward the second; and transmitted it to his kinsman Roger de Leybourn, in whom the male line determined, and he left it in dower to his wife Juliana de Ley=bourne, who held it at her death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 86. And after her decease, it was enstated on his and her daughter and heir Juliana de Leybourn, who for her vast income, merited the title of Infanta of Kent; and she married for her first husband John de Hasting, a kinsman of Laurence de Hasting; but he died without any issue by her, upon whose exit, she was espoused to William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, lord warden of the cinque ports, who likewise deceased without any posterity by her, in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the third; after whose decease she continued a widow until her death, which was in the forty-third year of the abovementioned prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 57, and is stiled in the escheat roll Comitissa de Huntington, which fortifies the former assertion, that she continued in the state of widowhood, till her dissolution; upon whose decease, the crown upon an exact and solemn inquisition, discovering none that could inforce any claim either directly and lineally, or else by collateral de=duction, entituled itself to her estate, as legally escheated; and that prince, in the fiftieth year of his reign, grants it to the abby of St. Mary Grace on Tower-hill, where it was fixed, until it was by the suppression, wrested away, and then king Edward the sixth, in the second year of his reign, granted it to Sir Thomas Cheyney, lord warden of the cinque ports, and one of the privy council to that prince; whose son Henry lord Cheyney, in the thirteenth year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away by sale to Richard Thornhill, which Richard was father to Mr. Samuel Thornhill, grandfather to Sir Timothy Thornhill and Sir John Thornhill, and great grandfather to colonel Richard Thornhill, eldest son of Sir Timothy, which colonel Richard is lately deceased, and Charles Thornhill Esquire, son and heir of Sir John now survi=ving, whose great grandfather Mr. Richard Thornhill, abovementioned, purchased Mere-court in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, and Potts-court, Bradherst, Queen-court in Ospringe, Pitstock and Hartie, in the thirteenth year of that princess, of Sir Henry Cheyney, and made his son Samuel joint purchaser with him.

† Raculver had the grant of a market procured it to on the Thursday, by William archbishop of Canterbury, in the seventh of Edward the second.

\* Robert de Camville was engaged with Richard I. at the siege of Acon in Palestine.

‡ Rot. pipæ de An. 41. Hen. 3.

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Syleham is a second place considerable. It was the mansion formerly of a family of no despicable extraction, whose surname was Donett. John Donett died possessed of this and part of the manor of Reinham, in the thirtieth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 57, and left them to his son John Donett, who likewise was in the possession of them at his death, which was in the thirty-sixth year of the abovementioned prince; and had issue John Donett, in whom the male line failed, so that his lands at Reinham, and Syleham, devolved by Margery his sole daughter and heir, to John St. Leger, Esquire, sheriff of Kent in the ninth year of Henry the sixth, and was descended from Hugh St. Leger, who was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, (an office of a very great latitude and circumference of power in elder times) in the second and seventh years of king John. In the St. Legers, the possession of these places rested not long; for not long after that interest which he had in Reinham, was conveyed to Cheyney, and Syleham to Bloer; Cheyney transmitted his concern, with that part of Reinham that related to the priory of Leeds, to Samuel Thornhill, Esquire, who disposed of it upon his death, as is abovesaid; but Christopher Bloer, **or Blower**, determined in Olympia Bloer, his heir general, who brought it over to Mr. John Tufton, in the reign of Henry the eighth; from whom it is now come down to the right honourable John Tufton, earl of Thanet, who possesses the present signory of it.

REYERSH, † in the hundred of Lerkefield, though a village of no great account in itself, yet is disengaged of its original obscurity, by the splendor and eminence of those who successively possess it. The first whom I find concerned in it, was Hugh de Crescie, originally, in all probability, extracted from Crescie, who is mentioned in the Battle abby-roll; and he died seized of it in the forty-seventh year of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 42. After this family was mouldered away, the Says of Coldham were interested in the possession, and Geoffrey de Say possessed it in the fifteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 20. The next family in succession to these was the Mowbrays, and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas duke of Norfolk, and daughter of Richard earl of Arundell, held it at her decease, which was in the third year of Henry the sixth, Rot. Esc. Num. 25. And so did her son John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, who deceased in the eleventh year of Henry the sixth, Rot. Esc. Num. 129, and was descended from John Mowbray, who held it (as appears by ancient court rolls, as parcel of the barony of Bedford) in the reign of Edward the second. After the Mowbrays, the Nevills, barons of Aburgavenny, were invested in the fee, and remained seated in the possession, until the reign of queen Elizabeth, and then Henry lord Nevill, in the twenty-ninth year, dying without issue male, it was disposed of, with much other land, to his brother Sir Edward Nevill, from whom it is now brought down to his grandchild John lord Nevill, who enjoys the inheritance of it.

RIDLEY, in the hundred of Acstane, acknowledges itself to have been anciently a branch of the patrimony of the lords Leybourn, and Roger de Leybourn, in the fifty-fifth year of Henry the third, sells Ridley, excepting the advowson, to Bartholomew Wodeton. In which family the title was not very permanent; for in the reign of Edward the third, I find the Wallis's to have been its proprietors. Augustin Wallis obtained a charter of free warren to his manor of Ridley, in the twenty-second year of Edward the third, and died possessed of it in the twenty-eighth year of that prince's government, Rot. Esc. Num. 55. After the Wallis's were expired and vanished, the Rickhills held this manor, where it was not long constant; for William Rickhill, about the sixteenth of Henry the sixth, conveyed it by deed to Thomas Edingham or Engham; who again in the nineteenth year of the abovesaid prince, passed it away by fine to Robert Savery; from which name, not many years after, it came by the same vicissitude, to be the inheritance of Bevill, in whose descendants it remained, until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then it was by purchase fastened to the demeane of Fitz: and Walter Fitz by deed, whose date commences from the twenty-seventh of Henry the eighth, conveyed it to William Sidley

† Carews court in Reyersh, was for many descents the inheritance of a family of that surname, and remained locked up in their demeane until the twelfth year of Henry the sixth; and then Nicholas

Carew, demises it by deed to Thomas Watton, who upon his decease settled it on his nephew William Watton; and from him the thread of many descents hath guided the title down to the instant proprietor Mr. William Watton of Addington.

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of Southfleet, Esquire, ancestor to Sir Charles Sidley baronet, whom upon the late decease of his brother Sir William Sidley, it owns for its present possessor.

RIDLINGSWOULD is a member of Dover, † and was parcel of the honor of Fulberts, and Fulbert de Dover held it, as appears by Doomsday-book, in the twentieth year of William the conqueror, in ages of a nearer approach to us, that is, in the reign of Henry the third, Richard de Dover, and Roesia his wife were possessed of it, as appears, Ex bundellis annor. incertorum Henrici tertii, Rot. Esc. Num. 237. When this family went out, the Badelesmeres stepped in. Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, that powerful baron, obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands here, in the ninth year of Edward the second, and was steward too, to the household of king Edward the second, as appears by a confirmation of the charter of the city of London, which bears date from that year of Edward the second, and to which he, as teste, writes himself steward of the king's household; but not long after being entangled in that combination, which was made by Thomas earl of Lancaster, and sundry other barons against that prince, he forfeited both his estate and life, as the price of that seditious attempt; but this, with much other land, was restored to his son Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, in the second year of Edward the third, but he died without issue, in the twelfth year of that prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 44. So that his large revenue was proportionably divided between his four sisters and co-heirs, whereof this was a limb, and fell in upon the partition to the inheritance of John Vere earl of Oxford, by Matilda de Badelesmer, and he held it at his death, which was in the fortieth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 38, but in this family it did not long continue after his exit; for in the reign of Richard the second, I find Robert Belknap possessed of it, and enjoyed it at his death, which was in the second year of Henry the fourth, after his return from his exilement into Ireland, whither he was banished for his too active asserting the prerogative against the liberty of the populacy, in the tenth year of Richard the second. In the second year of Richard the third, I find William Belknap, Esquire, was in the fruition of it at his decease, Rot. Esc. Num. 16, and from him did it devolve to his successor Sir Henry Belknap, in whom this name was extinguished, so that his estate was resolved into several parcels, which came over to Alice his daughter and co-heir married to Sir William Shelley, Anne married to Sir Robert Watton, and Elizabeth married to Sir Philip Cooke of Giddie-hall in Essex, and in these families did the complicated interest of this place remain concentrated, until that age, which fell under our grandfathers cognisance, and then it was by joint concurrence passed away to Edolph, from whom it is brought down to Sir ..... Edolph, who holds the present signory of it.

Oxney-house in this parish, was an ancient seat of the noble family of Criol. Matilda, widow of Simon de Criol died possessed of it, in the fifty-second year of Henry the third, and transmitted it to Bertram de Criol, who held it at his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. After him his son Bertram de Criol was settled in the possession, but was not long lived after his father, for he died in the thirty-fourth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 37, and left it to his brother John Criol, who dying without issue, it was brought to his sister Joan Criol, who by marrying with Sir Richard de Rokesley, made it the inheritance of that name and family, and was in possession of it at her death, which was in the fifteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 95. From whom it came down to Thomas lord Poynings, who had espoused Agnes, one of the co-heirs of them two, and in right of this alliance was his successor, Richard lord Poynings, found invested in it at his death, which was in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, parte prima, Rot. Esc. Num. 53, and left it to his kinsman Robert de Poynings, who passed it away by sale to Tame, and in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, Robert Tame paid respective aid for it, at the marriage of Blanch, that king's daughter. After Tame was worn out, the Sidleys possessed it, and John Sidley, Esquire, who was auditor to Henry the seventh, added much to this house, as well as to his estate, and from him is it now descended to Sir Charles Sidley, baronet, whom it owns for

present lord of the fee.

† Bartholomew lord Badelesmer obtained the grant of a market to Ridlingswold, and a three days fair at St. Nicholas, in the ninth of Edward II. as appears, Pat. 9. Ed. II. N. 57.

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RIPPLE, in the hundred of Cornilo, was a manor which always related to the abby of St Austins, and was, in the surrender of this abby into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of that prince, found to be involved in the domain of that convent, from whom it went over to the crown, and remained there until queen Elizabeth, in the thirty-second year of her government, passed it away to Sir John Hall, who not long after alienated his interest here to Gokin, in which family the propriety hath ever since continued. But Watling was originally of secular concern, and was wound up in the patrimony of the lord Leybourn. Thomas de Leybourn enjoyed it at his decease, which was in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Nnm. 10, from whom it went along with the residue of his estate to his son Sir Roger de Leybourn, with whom the male-line sunk into his sepulchre, and Juliana de Leybourn was his sole heir, and she was first married to John de Hastings, and afterwards to William de Clinton, earl of Huntington, but had no issue by either, nor was there any which could, by a claim of collateral affinity, stave off the claim and pretences of the crown unto her estate; so that, upon her decease, which was in the forty-third year of Edward the third, that prince seized upon her inheritance as an escheat, and his grandchild Richard the second, granted this to the abby of Childrens Langley, upon whose suppression it devolved with all its perquisites to the crown; and Henry the eighth, granted it in the thirty-fifth year of his reign to Sir Thomas Moile, one of the justices at that time to this county, from whom by Amy his daughter and co-heir, it was cemented into the patrimony of Sir Thomas Kempe; but it was not long after unsodered, for in the beginning of queen Elizabeth it was sold to William Sherley of Sussex, who in our grandfathers remembrance alienated it to Crayford of Mongeham, whose successor (not without an eager contest commenced with one Durbon and Kidder, by his predecessor, who pretended an interest in it, conveyed to them by an antecedent judgment, acknowledged by the abovesaid Shirley) is now settled in the possession of it.

RIVER, in the hundred of Bewsborough, contains two remarkable places within the boundaries of it. The first is Kersonoy, which was the inheritance of a family called Pagnell or more vulgarly Paynell. Isolda, wife of John Paynell, held it at her death, which was in the seventeenth year of Edward the second. In times of a lower descent, I find it in the tenure of Phineux, the last of which name at this place was Sir John Phineux, lord chief justice of the common pleas, in the reign of Henry the seventh, and he determining in daughters and co-heirs, Jane, one of them, by marrying with John Roper, Esquire, of St. Dunstan's, made it the patrimony of that family, from whom in our grandfathers remembrance, it was passed away to Best, ancestor to ..... Best, Esquire, of Canterbury, who is the instant proprietor of it. The second is Archers-court, which gave both seat and surname to a family so called; one Nicholas Archer held it in the first year of Edward the second, and so did Thomas le Archer, in the third year of Edward the third, and left it to his son William Archer, who paid respective aid for his lands here at River, and at Atterton, and Coperland, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince knight. From Archer it came to a family called Baudrede, and continued divers years in this name, until in the first year of Edward the fourth, it was conveyed away by sale with Coperland to Thomas Doilie, Esquire. Afterwards in the reign of Henry the eighth, it was exchanged with the crown, and that prince, in the thirty-sixth year of his managing the English scepter, granted it to Sir James Hales, in whose family it remained until almost that time, which we entitle to our fathers remembrance, and then a part of it was passed away by sale to Lee, but the other parcel continued constant to the interest of Hales, until not many years since, not only that portion, which was in the possession of Lee, but likewise that other abovementioned, were both alienated by their respective proprietors to Sir Hardres Waller. But part of Archers's-court was by Bandred or Brandred in the reign of Edward the fourth conveyed to Sir George Browne of

Bechworth-castle, whose successor Sir Thomas Browne alienated it to Mr. Isaac Honeywood, who dying without issue bequeathed it to his nephew colonel Henry Honeywood, Esquire, now proprietor of it: the manor of Archers-court with the demeane annexed to it, holds by great serjeanty with this condition united, (a

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strange one) that the present owner or owners should hold the king's head when he passes to Calais, and by the working of the sea should be obliged to vomit.

RODMERSHAM, in the hundred of Milton, was the inheritance of a family, whose surname was Pine; John de la Pine enjoyed it, in the twentieth year of Henry the third, as appears by private evidences, and so did James de la Pine his grandchild, who deceased in the thirty-seventh year of Edward the third, and left it to his son and heir James de la Pine, a child of nine years old, at his fathers exit; and he preserved it until the latter end of Richard the second, and then it was transmitted by sale to Podach, now vulgarly called Pordage, descended originally from John de Podach, who flourished, as appears by an ancient pedigree, relating to this family, in the reign of Henry the third, and held lands in the county of Devon, which bore his name, and was called Podach; and from this abovementioned John, is Mr. Thomas Pordage alias Podach, now of Rodmersham, by a multiplied efflux of many descents lineally extracted, and bears now the fess in his coat armour plain, whereas by ancient monuments, and seals affixed to old evidences it is manifest, his ancestors bore it cheque. Upon what grounds, the modern alteration is established, I confess I know not, it is enough, that the dignity of the family, is yet supported, by that ancient inheritance, which they have for so many ages, and yet do possess here at Rodmersham.

Pitstock in Rodmersham, is a little manor, which augmented the revenue of the nuns of Minster in Shepey, but when that ruinous tempest broke forth in the reign of Henry the eighth, which like an hurricane tore up by the roots the ecclesiastical patrimony, this was supplanted and thrown into the demeane of the crown, and then the abovesaid prince, in the twenty-ninth year of his rule, granted it to Sir Thomas Cheyney, and his son Henry lord Cheyney, about the thirteenth year of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Samuel Thornhill, Esquire, who upon his decease, gave it to his second son Sir John Thornhill, from whom by descendant right, it is now come over to his son and heir Charles Thornhill, Esquire.

Newburgh is partly situated in Rodmersham, and partly in Lingsted, and anciently had the estimate of a manor, and gave name to a family that was represented to the world, under that notion, as appears, by very old deeds without date, in the hands of Mr. Bartholomew May, too tedious here to recite. In the twenty-fourth year of Edward the first, Isabell, wife of Henry de Apulderfield, held it at her death, and in the copy of the inquisition roll, it is called Manerium de Newburgh; but in ages of a more modern complexion, it fell from its former reputation, and by disuse shrunk into neglect and contempt, and is now only eminent, in that it was involved in that estate, that by Elizabeth coheir of Sir William Apulderfield devolved to Sir John Phineux, who finding his sepulchre in female co-heirs, Jane one of them, brought it over to her husband John Roper, Esquire, and from him by paternal efflux, is the title now wafted along, to the right honourable Christopher Roper, baron of Tenham, removed by no wide distance from this place.

St. John's is the last manor in Rodmersham, to be taken notice of, though the first in its degree of eminence, because it was a principal place belonging to the knights hospitallers, an order that was established and instituted by Gerardus, but fenced in, and empaled with new orders and rules, by Raimundus a Podio, lest, debauched and softened by secular interest, in decursion of time, they might have sallied out into some disorder and excess. At their first installment, they were to be eighteen years of age, at least, and none who were without the verge of that time, were capable of this order; they were to be neither of Jewish or Turkish extraction, lest they might seem tacitly to wrap up those principles in their blood, which by their vow, they were engaged to destroy. Their pedigree or genealogy, was to be wholly christian, and that of no course, but of a more refined temperament; for their birth or parentage was to be noble, and not to be sullied with the impure tincture of bastardy. Yet even this restriction had a gentler sense quilted into it, for if they were the natural sons of princes, their birth was enobled, and the rigor



of the rule, was by so eminent a descent softened and allayed, and they made capable of this order. Then they were by a general obligation, to defend the sepulchre of Christ, to protect pilgrims, against the eruptions of infidels, in their visits made to

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the Holy Land, to foment no clandestine animosities, by engaging in private duels amongst themselves, which were blasted with the black character of illegality; and if the princes of christendom were entangled in intestine dissensions amongst themselves, they were to shroud themselves, under an impartial neutrality, lest they might destroy that christianity, which by oath they were obliged to assert, if they should embark in any impious sidings, or partial combinations. Lastly, they were abstracted by their vow of poverty, chastity and obedience, from all secular employments, or negotiations, lest the fumes of temporal interest might cloud their eyes, in their prospect towards the sepulchre; in order to which, they were not to exercise any mercantile affairs, or the designs of usury; they were, if possible, to receive the sacrament thrice every year, and if not interrupted to hear mass once a day. I have now done with the ingredients which made up their vow, I shall now come to the form of their installment.

As for the method of their investiture, it was cast into this mould. They had a sword delivered to them, intimating they should fight with magnanimity; and this was guarded with a cross hilt, to declare that they were in all encounters to vindicate and maintain the cross and sepulchre of our Saviour. Then they were struck thrice over the shoulders with that sword they were invested with, to insinuate, that they should sustain all contumelies and indignities, for the cause and defence of the christian religion. Then fourthly, this sword was wiped, to instruct them that their lives were to be assoiled from the spot of all open and scandalous impieties. Fifthly, they had gilt spurs placed upon their heels, to shew first, that all temporal improvement of wealth, was to be cast behind the designs of piety and religion; or secondly, to demonstrate, that riches were but the gloss, or parjet, but honour and virtue, was the solid body, designed by the spur itself, that was to support and sustain it. Sixthly, they had a lighted taper put into their hands, by that, to discover, that by an eminent integrity and exemplar piety, like the irradiation of that luminary, they were to make themselves conspicuous to those who were involved in the mists and umbrages of a dark and gloomy infidelity. Lastly, after these formalities performed, they were obliged to repair to mass, where I leave them.

Their customary habit was a black cloak, being the best engine, or symptom of a solemn external sorrow, and on this was a cross potent between four crosses patee, designing the five wounds of our Saviour; they wore constantly when they appeared in public, a red belt, intimating they were at all times ready to bleed, in defence of the cross and sepulchre, and on that was fixed a white cross, to manifest the purity and innocence of that cause and religion which was contended for.

This order was first brought into England, in the year of grace 1100, by Jordan de Briset, in some old deeds written Brinset, lord of Well-hall at Eltham in Kent, and Muriel his wife, who founded a house for them at Clerkenwell, and dedicated it to St. John, which afterwards became the head of their Alberge here in England, to which this manor continued united, as parcel of their demean, until the dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth, like a general deluge, swept it away, and transported it into the revenue of the crown, and that prince by royal concession, made it the estate of William Pordage, Esquire, in whose descendant, Thomas Pordage, Esquire, the present inheritance of it remains at this instant placed.

ROCHESTER is a city which in elder times, was as eminent for its antiquity, as it was for its strength and grandeur; and had not those violent impressions, which the rough hand of war formerly defaced it with, demolished its bulk, and discomposed its beauty, it peradventure might have been registered at this day in the inventory of the principal cities of this nation. It was governed by a port reve, until king Edward the fourth, in the second year of his reign, raised it into a higher dignity, and decreed by his royal grant, that it should thenceforth be governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen, and to this monarch does this city owe much of its present felicity, a prince certainly he was, full of complacency and benignity, of a munificent mind, and an obliging accostable nature, guilty only of some human frailties, common to all, and adorned with many signal virtues, scarce resident in any one, who did not voluntarily sail into that sea of blood, which was let loose in

the civil war, commenced between him and the partisans of the house of Lancaster, but rather was driven into it, by the tempest of his ill fortune.

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Having represented the city in its modern face or aspect, I shall now draw the curtain something wider, and discover its portraiture in its calamitous sufferings, occasioned by the invasions, not only of an enraged enemy, but likewise, which is worse, by the onsets of its own incensed prince; and these two mixing together have much disordered the ancient glory and splendor of it.

In the year 680, Eldred king of Mercia harrassed Kent, and by an impetuous inroad laid it waste; and as particular lamentations are not distinguished in universal groans, so in this public depopulation of the county (then kingdom), the tragedy and devastation acted by that prince, at that time, upon this city, was not resented with that regret, as such deplorable ruin might seem to exact, which had it been singly poured out upon this city, it could not have been repeated or rehearsed without a bleeding heart, and a weeping eye.

In the year 986, king Etheldred infested Rochester with a siege, having entertained some discontent or disgust against the bishop, and would not dissolve his league, until the said bishop had expiated his offence with the sacrifice of an hundred pounds, a sum of importance in those dry times, though inconsiderable in these profuser ones of ours, where commonly the pecuniary supply that is extracted from the subject, is steeped in his tears.

In the year 999, the Danes invaded Canterbury, and though by the vigorous resistance and magnanimity of the defendants, their assaults were made null, yet at length by the treacherous combination of an insidious party within, it was rather betrayed then subdued, and miserably depopulated by the barbarous adversary, the signatures of which devastation are yet visible; and though the wideness of the orifice, which that wound had made, be something closed up with the hand of time, yet there is a huge scar left, to represent to posterity the greatness of the former ruin. After they had thus harrassed and defaced that city, they (to improve their victory) advanced to Rochester, where the inhabitants, astonished with an example of so much terror, after some faint opposition against the Danish impressions and onsets, gave themselves up to flight, and this city to a calamitous depopulation.

In the year 1130, Henry the first, with the archbishop of Canterbury, were present at the consecration of St. Andrew's church in Rochester, which was then brought to perfection, having been before much impaired by the iron teeth of time; but then the fury of the elements began to enter into a corrivalship or competition with the fury of enemies; for by a casual eruption of an accidental fire, the whole city almost found an unfortunate sepulchre in its own ashes; but it seems like a phoenix, it rose again into new beauty and order out of these ashes and embers, but did not long continue in this condition; for in the year of grace 1177, which was in the time of Henry the second, it was again assaulted by the outrage and fury of this implacable element, the impressions and remaining signatures of which conflagration, are obvious to the inspection of an inquisitive eye, even until this day.

In the year 1225, it was by the indulgent bounty of king Henry the third, invested with a wall, and that this fortification might be of more concern, it was likewise secured or fenced with a ditch.

In the year 1251, a solemn tournament was held at Rochester, wherein the English entered the lists against those strangers or foreigners, (who having in that age a great concern in the ear of Henry the third, had likewise a strong interest in his heart, and by consequence a powerful impression or influence upon the public affairs of those times) wherein they managed the honor of this nation, with so much courage and gallantry, that they forced them with shame and confusion to retire into the city, and as if that were not a shelter of sufficient importance, to seek for their security in the castle.

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The CASTLE.

THAT there was in the age before the Norman invasion, the rudiments, or, if I may so say, the embryo of a castle represented to the world under imper-

fect lineaments or dimensions, here at Rochester, is most certain; for the records of the cathedral inform us, that Egbert king of Kent, in the year 763, gave certain lands to Eardulfe, bishop of Rochester, situate within the walls of the castle of that city, which argues that there was some trench or fortification, even in those times, which was in strength by the analogy of proportion equivalent to the fortresses of that age, and so might merit by resemblance the name of a castle, though the bulk and grandeur of it was added in times of a more modern extraction; for in the time of the conquest, I find that the bishop of Rochester received land at Alresford for land at Rochester, proportionate to it to erect a castle on, which was in all probability, only to enlarge the boundaries of the old one, which peradventure was thought too contemptible in those active times, to secure so important a pass as this of Rochester was, without the additional supply of some new strength. And that these augmentations did acknowledge, if not for their founder or author, yet at least for their eminent benefactor Odo, bishop of Bajeux, and earl of Kent, half brother to the conqueror, is without controversy; a man who was afterwards dignified and adorned with the office of lord chief justice of England, a place of the most eminent trust in that age, and which was often managed by the kings of England personally themselves, and from the marble seat in Westminster-hall, did deliver their decisions and determinations of law, from whence in ancient seals and other sculptures, they are often represented to us sitting in judicature upon this marble seat, and hence result those customary expressions in original writs, and other processes, coram nobis, and teste rege, and sometimes, me Ipso apud Westmon. and some other phrases and terms in our ancient law books of the same complexion, as namely such a one, allocutus est nobis sedentibus supra sedem marmoream; which justifies that the kings of England did sometimes personally sit and assist in judicature, in that court we now call the upper bench, where like a great orb or globe of light, they dispersed their beams of mercy and justice into all the parts of our English horizon, and dispelled all those grievances, which, like so many fogs or clouds exhaled from corrupted nature, seem to eclipse the serenity of this nation. But I wander too much; I now return. This accumulation of offices and dignities, could not so engage this abovementioned Odo to the interest of William Rufus, his nephew, but that he first enwrapped himself in a combination with some of the discontented nobility, whose endeavours were to ravish the scepter out of the hand of that prince, and place it in the hand of Robert duke of Normandy, his eldest brother, and afterwards to fortify this design, started out into an open defection, and seized upon his castle of Rochester; but William Rufus with so much expedition and courage crushed these attempts, that they became abortive; for in the year 1088, he besieges his uncle Odo in this fortress, and presses upon him with so much vigor and animosity, that he forces him to surrender at discretion, but though he took not away his life, he did that of his liberty, and sent him prisoner to Tunbridge castle, not under the notion of bishop of Bajeux, for that would have infringed and invaded the franchises of the church, but under that of the earl of Kent.

After this there was, by the mediation and umpirage of Robert Fitz Hamon, and Henry earl of Warwick, a composition made between William Rufus and Gundulphus bishop of Rochester, the result of which was this; the prince was to confirm the manor of Hedenham to this see, and the bishop, to balance this concession with something which had the face of retribution, was to expend sixty pound, in some additions to the castle, and accordingly erected the great square tower, a mor-

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sel which hath been too hard for the teeth of time, and by the vastness of the instant remaining skeleton, witnesses the strength of it to posterity, when it was in its primitive grandeur, before the rage of war, and the fury of elements threw it into this wild disorder and confusion; yet it is even in this shattered condition, a better alphabet to the memory of the bishop its first founder, than his own monument or repository, for that lies interred in forgotten and neglected ruins, but this still preserves his name, and is called Gundulphus's tower.

And being thus improved and fortified, with these new accessions, it is not to be wondered at, that this piece was of that signal estimate, in elder times, that king Henry the first, by the advice of his council, in the year 1126, granted the custody of this castle, and the office of castellan, annexed to it, to William the then present archbishop of Canterbury, and his successors, with free liberty to erect

a tower, that is another fortress, equivalent or correspondent to Gundulph's tower, which before was erected for the defence of this city and castle.

In times succeeding to these, that is, 1215, William de Albineto or Albinico, in the Latin of those times, and written D'Albinet, in the usage of ours, was governor of this fortress, for the factious party of the mutinous barons, who were then in actual arms against king John, but this prince invested it with a formal leaguer, and after the bloody debate of a three months siege, forces the abovementioned D'Albinet to a surrender, wherein though the virtue of the opponent was considerable, yet it was ruinous to him, and the event hath left us faith enough to believe, that strength without the concurrence of a loyal principle which may support it, is like an Egyptian reed, which ordinarily runs into the fingers, and wounds them which lean upon it.

In the year after this, the nobility, then combined and in arms against king John, finding that their forces were much impaired and diminished by several unsuccessful encounters with that prince, and that they must be forced to resign themselves up to those rigorous conditions that he would impose upon them, called in Lewis the Dauphin of France, who landing in the isle of Thanet, with a considerable army, advanced to Rochester, and by the concurrent assistance of the barons, who had united their strength with his, made such a furious onset upon this castle, that like a tempest which beats down all before it, he carried it by assault.

In the year 1264, broke out that fatal contest between Simon Montfort earl of Leicester, and Henry the third, the foundation or original of which was this; that earl being the great assertor of the English liberty against the turbulent eruptions of foreigners, endeavoured to tear away those strangers, that being placed too near the royal throne, had obstructed and forelaid all the avenues and passages both to the heart and ear of that prince; and this dismal clashing (like the collision of two flints) was productive of so wasting and destructive a fire, that it had like, not only to have consumed the crown and scepter, but likewise to have cast the whole kingdom itself into a heap of flame and ruins, some sparks of which were darted hither; for this earl, about the time above specified, begirt the city and castle of Rochester, with a powerful army, and that he might multiply all advantages to himself, which might enforce his design, and intercept the succour intended the besieged, he burned the bridge, whose frame was then made up of wood, and destroyed a fortress that was placed upon it, which was compounded of the same materials, and having affected this, he pressed so hard upon the castle, that he not only pillaged the adjacent church and abbey, but likewise subdued the outward ward or gate, and had certainly by an absolute conquest achieved the whole, had not king Henry arrived most opportunely, and by a successful encounter wrested both earl Warren, who had so vigorously maintained it, and that likewise, from the impressions of his fury.

After this, I find little of moment to have been acted at this place, only I find the castle to have been deposited in the hands of several eminent persons, who were extracted from families, whose blood was of as noble a tincture as any in this county, and these held it under the notion of Castellani or guardians of it, an office of a very important concern in elder times. The first of which, who was entrusted with it, was William St. Clere, whose ancient seat, before his successor by the match of the co-heir of Aldham removed to Igham, was at Woodland in Kingsdown, and he died in the tenure of this place, in the forty-eighth year of Henry

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the third. After him, I discover Robert de Hougham, lord of Hougham by Dover, to have had the custody of it, and he died invested in this office, in the second year of Edward the first, and in the next year after Robert de Septuans, from whom the Harfleets of East-Kent are descended, had the care and command of it. In times of a nearer approach to us, I find William Keriell or Criol, was entrusted with the care and government of it, and was possessed of this charge at his death, in the first year of Henry the fifth; after whose exit, the custody was committed to Thomas lord Cobham, and he held it at his decease, which was in the eleventh year of Edward the fourth. But after this, it began so to languish away into its own ruins, that it grew rather an object of pity, than of envy, and rested among the manors of the crown, until king James, in the seventh year of his reign, granted that goodly skeleton of the castle, which yet courts the eye of the beholder, to an admiration of its former strength, with all the services annexed to it, to Sir Anthony Weldon, of Swanscamp, whose son and heir Ralph Weldon of Swanscamp, Esquire, is the

instant lord of the fee.

There is much land in this county held of this castle, whose tenure is perfect castleguard; for upon the day prefixed for the discharge of the quit-rent, relating to it, there is a banner displaid and hung out (anciently it was over the castle wall) and all those who are tenants to this manor, and are in default by their non appearance, and do not discharge their customary duties, and services, the penalty imposed upon their neglect, is, that the return of every tide of the adjacent river which finds them absent, doubles their service or quit-rent.

The bridge which is almost contiguous to the root or basis, was anciently, when the frame was of timber, removed to a farther distance, and crossed the stream, over against the hospital of St. Mary's, at Stroude. But this was by Simon de Montfort, when he besieged Rochester, ruined by fire, and although it was re-edified and repaired not long after, yet some twenty years subsequent to this misfortune, it was swept away by ice, so that it appears the elements entered a corralship or competition, which should make the most ruinous impression, on this unfortunate structure.

But after this, that is, in the reign of Richard the second, all those abovementioned disasters and inconveniences, which might again have assaulted the bridge, were for the future prevented; for Sir Robert Knolles, a person who had improved, and enhanced his fame, to the highest degree of eminence, by his glorious and successful managery of the English affairs, and interest in France, seeking to make himself as useful to his friends, that is, his countrymen, as he was before considerable to his enemies, mastered the course of the river, and somewhat near to the castle as in a place more fit, both for the solidity and fastness of the soil, as likewise for the breaking of the impetuosity of the current, erected the bridge of stone which is now visible, fixed, and established on one and twenty arches, and by this victory over the elements, made his triumphs more illustrious, than he had done before, by all the conquests of his adversaries; for in these he only seemed to have out-gone all others, but in this, to have out-done himself.

Being thus fixed and strengthened, there was a statute enacted in the twenty-first year of Richard the second, wherein there is provision made for its future security, there being several parcels of land, which are mentioned in that act, tied and obliged for its continual maintenance and repair, whensoever the injuries of time, or those of the elements, should deface or impair it.

The chapel or chantry in old records, stiled the chantry of Rochester bridge, was founded in the year 1399, by John de Cobham, and was dedicated to the holy trinity, and was called at the first institution, All Souls chapel, because prayers and other orisons, were there to be offered up, for the redemption and health of all christian souls, and likewise a stipend or exhibition was there settled, for the support and maintenance of three priests, or chaplains, particularly, to pray for the souls of John de Cobham, the patron and founder, Sir Robert Knolles, to whom the bridge owed its primitive establishment, William Wangford and Eleanor his wife, John Fremingham and Alice his wife, William Makenade, and Sir William Rickhil; and likewise for the souls of some who were deceased before the foundation of this chapel, as namely for the soul of John Buckingham, formerly bishop of

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Lincoln, and Sir William Wallworth, the eminent lord mayor of London, to whose virtue and valour, London owes the addition of the dagger, which was an augmentation to the arms of the city.

The priory was founded by Ethelbert king of Kent, and dedicated to the honor of St. Andrew, and stored with monks who were to live under the rule of St. Benedict, though afterwards, as Mr. Lambert out of the book of Rochester observes, they altered their rule, and conformed themselves to the canon of St. Augustine, bishop of Hippo, but were reduced again to the primitive institution of St. Benedict, in the year 1080, by Gundulphus then bishop of Rochester, in which design he was aided and supported by Lanfranc the active archbishop of Canterbury. In ages of an elder inscription, there were several contests broke forth between the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, and those of this convent; the first struggling to bring the election of the bishop of Rochester into their chapter, which the last, sticking close to their own inherent rights and privileges, endeavoured to disannul, and wholly to circumscribe his election within the precincts of their own chapter. Two presidents, which represent to posterity the whole state of their controversy, do

occur in record. The first appears in the year 1227, when after the death of Benedict, the bishop of Rochester, elected to succeed him, Henry Sandford, a man of exemplary piety, so that he was inculpable for his life, and of unfathomed learning, so that he was in that age, almost unparalleled for his knowledge, which could not stave off the monks of Christ-church to jostle the election, pretending that the pastoral staff or crosier of Rochester, de jure ought to have been brought to their house, after the decease of the bishop, and that the election was to have been made in their chapter. This occasioned much heat, for the monks of Rochester vigorously asserted their own choice, so that it was referred to the decision of the archbishop, and he again put it over to the umpirage of delegates, who hearing the parties concerned, and poising the allegations produced by either side to sustain the justice of their own cause, they by a final determination, declared the right to reside in the monks of Rochester. But it seems this fire was only allayed, not extinguished; for in the year 1238, it broke forth again, and the occasion which gave fuel to it, was this. The monks of Rochester had elected Richard Wendover for their bishop, which so exasperated and disgusted the monks of Christ-church, that suspecting their own power, they, more to enforce and multiply their strength, and evacuate that election, entituled archbishop Edmund to their cause. But the monks of Rochester disclaiming, by a tame remissness, either to foment or palliate their own undoing, appealed to Rome, whereafter the chargeable commencement of a three years suit, the innocency and justice of their cause was recompensed with the triumph of the day, upon which they returned home exalted with the joy of their success, and enacted in their chapter, that the annual feast of St. Cuthbert, on which day they achieved this signal conquest, should be doubly solemnized, both in their church and in their kitchen. But as they were successful in their rencounters with the archbishop, so they were very unfortunate in that intestine discord, which burst out between them, and their own bishop Gilbert Glanville, who not only forcibly wrung from them their goods and ornaments, writings, and other muniments, but likewise divested them of a considerable portion of their lands, possessions, and privileges, which forced them to appeal to Rome for redress; where they embroiled themselves in a tedious law-suit, which engaged them to that vast expence, that they were constrained to coin the silver of Paulinus' shrine into money, to support them in so expensive and costly a contest; and this much embased for the future that esteem which the world formerly had entertained both of the piety and sanctity of the monks of this cloister.

But these contests did not so much prejudice or endamage this cloister within, though accompanied with much heat, as the devastation occasioned by the element of fire without; for in the year 1130, when Henry the first, with a great convention of the nobility and bishops was then present to solemnize the consecration of St. Andrew's cathedral and church, which was then newly finished, a sudden flame broke out, whose assaults upon this convent did much deface and impair the glory of the ancient fabrick. And as if this impetuous eruption had not been enough to diminish the beauty of it, there was another fire in the year 1177, which was about

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the latter end of Henry the second, which exercised its fury upon it, even to a total depopulation of this cloister; yet after all these disasters, wherein it is disputable, whether the rage of men, or that of the elements, were more destructive, by the charitable beneficence and piety of that age, it arose like a Phœnix, more beautiful and vigorous, even out of its embers and ashes, and continued in that condition, until the general dissolution, in the reign of Henry the eighth, and then that prince, having suppressed this convent, and torn off their revenue, upon their ruins he established a dean and twelve prebends, and endowed them for their future support with that demeane, which for the principal part of it, as namely, Wouldham, Halling, Snodland, Trottescliff, Denton, Dongfield, Borestal, Lidsing, and Stoke, in the hundreds of Hoo, had been formerly annexed to the abovementioned cloister.

The cathedral, with the bishoprick of Rochester united to it, was founded and established by that pious monarch Ethelbert king of Kent; and the first bishop to whom was entrusted the pastoral staff or crosier by Augustine, the apostle of the Saxons, was Justus, the abovementioned prince not only assenting unto this election by his presence, but likewise contributing to the support of the person so chosen, and his successors, by his liberal beneficence. And indeed it is remarkable, that in all those revolutions and vicissitudes, which have rolled and varied the fate

of things and affairs, since the seeds of christianity were sown so plentifully by the hand of Augustine in this island, that the chair of this bishoprick was still fixed at Rochester, whereas many others have in sundry parts of the nation suffered divers translations to other places than that where they at first were established; and the reason is, because by the order of William the conqueror, such bishops as were before resident in towns and villages, were forthwith to transplant their seat into walled cities and places of defence, the more to oblige the populacy, not only to repair thither for the exercise of devotion, but likewise to augment the commerce and bulk of those cities, by such numerous assemblies; but in this command of his, Rochester could not be interested or concerned, that was invested with a wall, or something equivalent to it long before the age of the conqueror. I should now unfold a catalogue of those bishops that swayed the crosier of this see, beginning with Justus, and concluding with John Warner the instant bishop of this diocese; but this is so obvious, both in Goodwin, and a late manual, stiled The help to history, that I shall only historically record the most eminent of them, and proceed. The first, whom I find to be Justus, who was translated from this see, to that of Canterbury, a man whose integrity of life breathed out a noble perfume when he was living, and his body, if we may credit the fabulous and superstitious legend of that age, no less grateful an odour when he was dead, for 'tis reported that his reliques being to be removed after their interment many years before, cast forth (not the stench or steam of putrefaction) but a sent so odorous and fragrant, that it did not annoy, but exceedingly delight the nostrils of those who were present; but indeed this might be possible without the concurrence of a miracle, if we consider that those remains of his might be rescued from the fate of corruption, by the adjuncts or circumstances of nard, balm, spicery, and perfume; so that the miracle seems to be imposed by the monks on the laity of that age, only to excite both their devotion and benevolence.

Paulinus, who was the third bishop, who succeeded him, converted Edwin king of Northumberland, and Edelburga his queen, to christianity, and so justly merited the title of apostle of that province, for which he was recorded after his death in the register of saints, and had his body so far ennobled, that it was wrapt up in a silver shrine.

Ithamar, who next succeeded him, had his relicks likewise enshrined in after times by Gundulphus bishop of Rochester, which was not only repaired, but very much adorned and beautified by bishop John his successor, because (as the book of Rochester intimates) he was redeemed, by touching his relicks, ab acerrimo oculorum dolore, from some sharp distillation which did afflict his eye.

Arnostus was present at Pinenden-heath, at the great debate touching some lands, which were unjustly ravished away from the church.

Gundulphus his successor erected the white tower in Rochester castle; and whereas he at his first installment, found but six canons in the convent of St. Andrews, he

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so liberally endowed it, that he left it replenished with threescore monks of the order and rule of St. Benedict.

Tobias, whom I should have mentioned after Ithamar, was (as Harpfield, out of the records of Rochester) a man very dextrous and skilful in the tongues, and a general magazine of all other learning, both divine and human beside.

Walter de Merton, lord chancellor of England, did not only found the college of Merton at Oxford, but likewise laid the foundation of an imperfect college at Maldon in Essex, which by his death was left unfinished. He **was drowned** in the year 1277, and lies buried in his own church at Rochester, to which in his life time he had been a munificent benefactor. In gratitude to whose memory Sir Henry Savil, and the fellows of Merton college erected a magnificent monument, in the year 1599 over his ashes, which though it be much empaired both by age, and the injurious affronts of those impious times; yet shall the name of this great man be the best steward to his own dust; and when his sepulchre itself shall lie interred in its own deplored rubbish, this shall stand unto itself an everlasting tomb and epitaph.

Hamon de Heath was confessor to Edward the second, and a liberal benefactor to this church; he built the house at the manor of Halling, which in some ancient records is stiled his palace.

Joannes de Scapeia, or John de Shepey was lord treasurer of England three years.

Richard Young was a principal contributor to the reputation of the church at

Friendsbury, and wholly glazed the windows; where not long since his pourtraiture was exposed to the public view; a good index, not only to his memory, but likewise to the remembrance of so pious a work.

John Lowe was born in the county of Worcester, and was a man in the estimate of Bale, who writ his life, not only of signal piety, but likewise an exchequer of all manner of learning.

John Fisher was a man of vast knowledge, which yet was ruinous to him for asserting the papal supremacy, when it was invested in Henry the eighth, by an act of parliament; he offered up his life on a scaffold, as a sacrifice to that opinion.

Nicholas Ridley was a man of an inculpable life, and of a wide knowledge, who was so irrefragable an assertor of the protestant religion, that he gave himself up at Oxford, to the fury of fire and faggot for the testimony of what he before had professed; and hath by his exemplary life and death, taught the adversaries of episcopacy this lesson, that it is possible that the seed may be pure as well as the soil; that is, the persons of the men, as well as the office, may be incorrupt.

John Warner is the last, who brings up this catalogue, in whom the instant title of this bishoprick is resident, a man worthy of better days, yet fit for these; who for his encouragement of learning in the best of times, and his pious support of it in the worst, cannot be mentioned without an attribute.

There have in elder times many contests and animosities broke out between the bishops of Rochester and Worcester; and the fuel which fomented and supplied this fire of contention, was, that both these prelates pretended to the support of the crosier before the archbishop of Canterbury in all processions, and other acts of public and signal solemnity; but in fine, the crosier or pastoral staff was fixed or settled in the hand of the prelate of Rochester, and hath been by prescription ever since united as a convicted and inherent privilege to this diocese.

Before I wave my discourse concerning this bishoprick, I must inform the reader, that there are some peculiars which are annexed to the deanries of Croydon and Shorham, and this hath entangled and engaged many in much difficulty to trace out the last wills and testaments of those who deceased within the confines and precincts of the peculiars. To unravel therefore these niceties for the future, I shall represent a just scale of those excepted places, out of the original records of the church of Rochester themselves, that those which can find no satisfaction in the registers of Canterbury, or records of Rochester, may yet discover what they are in pursuit of in that office, wherein these are enrolled and filed. But before I unwind their catalogue, I shall in brief, wrap up what in former times hath been delivered touching the office of rural deans, by Duarenus and others, who have more copiously dilated themselves upon this subject. This officer was certainly brought into the church to supply the place of those whom antiquity stiled the Chore-Episcopi, who

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were commonly assistants to the bishop; for indeed where the diocese was of that vast latitude and extent, that the management of so great a trust was disproportionate to the discharge of one single person, it was necessary that his care should be supported by the mutual counsel and concurrent advice of others, whose prudence might improve the affair of the church; and upon the going out of the above-mentioned office, as being obsolete and antiquated, this of the rural dean came in. And to him did the bishop entrust an inspection into the lives of the clergy, and from him did receive an exact account of scandal in its whole latitude, and other vicious excesses, which might by an impious connivance have added more blackness to the cassock: he was likewise by delegation from the bishop, to take cognisance of all errors and deviations from that which in that age was reputed orthodox doctrine, that neither the foundation nor superstructure of religion might be assaulted. And lastly, where the diocese was wide, and of a large territory, it frequently happened that the probate and administration of sundry testaments in divers places, was committed to his care and sway; and he was likewise entrusted with a seal, with the name of the bishop, (whose office by deputation he was to discharge) and not his own, insculped upon it; which upon his decease, or relinquishing this office, was to be surrendered up into the hands of the bishop of the diocese for the time being, that he might dispose of it as he should judge convenient. Thus much of the rural dean; the peculiars, of which I before promised a catalogue, are as follow.



Ainsford rectory and vicarage.  
 Bexley vicarage  
 Brasted rectory.  
 Chiddingtone rectory.  
 Chevening rectory.  
 Cliff rectory.  
 Crayford rectory.  
 Darent vicarage.  
 East-Malling vicarage.  
 East-Peckham vicarage  
 Fermingham vicarage  
 Gillingham vicarage.  
 Graine vicarage.  
 Heys rectory.  
 Hever rectory.  
 Hunton rectory.  
 Igtam rectory.  
 Mepham vicarage.  
 Northfleet vicarage.  
 Orpington and St. Mary Grey rectory.  
 Otford chapel.  
 Pencehurst rectory.  
 Sundridge rectory.  
 Sevenoke rectory and vicarage.  
 Stansted chapel.  
 Wrotham rectory and vicarage.

Having done with the church, I shall now descend to those manors which lie circumscribed within the precincts and verge of this city. The first is Borestall, which, as Textus Roffensis denotes and signifies unto us, was given to the church and monks of St. Andrews, by Kenulfus king of Mercia, and was, as the records of that church testify, de cibo eorum, to support their table with a constant supply of diet, and rested annexed to their demean, until the fatality of the general dissolution ravished it away, and afterwards it was by Henry the eighth, when he established a dean and chapter upon the ruins of this abovementioned priory, linked unto that revenue, which he granted them for their future subsistence.

The second is Great Delce, which had owners of that surname, as is evident by Testa de Nevill, and other records both of a public and private stamp; but, it appears, was not of any permanent continuance in this name; for before the middle of Edward the first, it was gone from that, and united to the inheritance of Haspall. Godfrey de Haspall enjoyed it at his death under the notion of the fourth part of a knight's fee, as appears by an inquisition taken in the fifteenth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 25. The next family in succession after this, which was entituled to the possession (as is evident by the original deeds, now in the hands of Lea,) was Molineux, derived from those of Sefton in Lancashire, but he remained so inconsiderable a space in the inheritance, that like Cato in the theatre, he only stepped into it, that he might go out again; for about the beginning of Edward the third, as appears by the testimony of an ancient court roll, Benedict de Fulsham was invested in the patrimony of it in the thirtieth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 20. and from him, did it stream down in the channel of

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successive interest, to his descendant Richard Fulsham, who likewise was in the enjoyment of it at his decease, which was in the fifth year of Henry the fifth, Rot. Esc. Num. 17. But after his exit, I find no farther mention of any of this family, to have been possessed of this place; for, in the ninth year of Henry the fifth, Reginald Love died seized of it, and transmitted it to his successor, who held it until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then the revolution of purchase, brought it to be the demean of William Venour, and it was found to be his possession at his death, which was in the first year of Edward the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 24. But after his departure, the title was very unsettled and inconstant; for within the circle of some months after, it was by sale from this name, rolled into the tenure of Markham, descended from the ancient stem of the Markhams, of

Nottinghamshire, where after a very transitory abode, it was by the same fatality, carried into the possession of Tate; who about the first year of Edward the fourth, passed it away to Sir Richard Lea, lord mayor of London, descended from an ancient family of that name, in the county of Worcester, and his son was sheriff of Kent, in the nineteenth year of Edward the fourth, and held his shrievalty at his new acquired manor of Much Delce, and from him by an even thread of descent, has the title and propriety been conducted down to Richard Lea, Esquire, who is the instant proprietor of it.

Horsted borrows its name from Horsa, brother to Hengist the founder of the Saxon kingdom here in Kent, who fell by the sword of the Britons at Alresford, as an expiatory sacrifice, to balance the loss of Cartigerne, brother to Vortimer, general of the confederate british forces, who was offered up in that signal encounter, as an holocaust to the Saxon fury; and there is something, which even at this day, lies wrapt up in the name, that introduces us to believe, that Horsa after his slaughter, received the rites of his funeral at this place; and in our grandfathers memory, there were the scattered remains of diverse huge massy stones, which storms and other impressions of time, have now altogether demolished; and these certainly were, in elder times, composed into the figure of a monument, to shroud the ashes of this Horsa; as those at Cits Cothouse, above Alresford, were framed into the same proportionate mould, to secure the dust, or at least to point out to posterity the memory of Cartigern.

The manor itself was enwrapped in the patrimony of the noble and ancient family of Apulderfield. William de Apulderfield obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands at Horsted, in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the eighth. In times of a lower descent, I discover it in the possession of Warren; for John, son of Edmund Warren, held it at his death, which was in the twelfth year of Edward the third. After Warren had quitted the inheritance, I find the Fulshams by purchase to be entituled to the fee-simple of it; and Benedict de Fulsham, enjoyed it at his decease, which was in the thirtieth year of Edward the third, and paid relief for this and Much Delce, under the notion of the fourth part of a knight's fee, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of the abovesaid prince. After this family was worn out, it had successively the same possessors with Much Delce, so that it came with that manor by purchase from Tate, to Sir Richard Lea knight; and from him is the title by successive descent, transported to Richard Lea, Esquire, the present possessor.

Snodherst is another manor which lies partly spread into Chetham, and partly into the limits of Rochester, and was, as high as I can trace any record, a branch of that demean, which fell under the dominion of Badeslesmer, and though Bartholomew lord Badeslesmer, had by his perfidious disloyalty, forfeited it in the reign of Edward the second, yet was it in the second year of Edward the third, restored to his son Bartholomew Badeslesmer, who in the twelfth year of that prince, died without issue, and left it to his brother Giles Badeslesmer, who likewise deceasing without issue; Sir John Tiptoft, in right of Margery his wife, one of his sisters and co-heirs, entered upon the inheritance of it; but, before the twentieth of Edward the third, had alienated it to Benedict de Fulsham, for he in that year, as appears by the book of Aid, paid respective relief for it, at the making the Black Prince, knight. After Fulsham, were extinguished at this place, it had the fate to own the juris=

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diction and interest of those, who were the successive proprietors of Much Delce, so that it is now united to the present inheritance of Richard Lea, Esquire.

Little Delce is the last manor which is circumscribed within the precincts of this city. It was, in ages of a very high calculation, the possession of the noble, illustrious, and ancient family of Sherington, written in old deeds, pipe-rolls, and other evidences, Serington, and sometimes Scherington, but most frequently Sherington; whose original and principal seat was at Sherington-hall, at Cranworth in Norfolk, though they had other manors, which bore their name, which anciently were folded up in their demean, as namely Sherington in the county of Buckingham, Sherington in Sussex, Sherington in the county of Hereford, and Sherington in Lancashire, yet, as I take it, in their possession. But to proceed; Odo de Serington, or Sherington, for the names are synonyma or coincident, held this manor

in the thirty-first year of Henry the first, and was entered in the cathedral of Rochester; and when Robert Glover, Somerset Herald, collected his miscellany of church notes, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, there were some relicks of his monument offered up to the survey of a curious and inquisitive eye, which now the sacrilegious barbarity of impious mechanicks, and the injurious hand of time together, have wholly dismantled. After Sherington was worn out, I find a family, called Pugeis, invested in the inheritance, and there is mention in the ninth year of Edward the first, in Kirkby's Inquest (a book kept in the exchequer,) of one Richard Pugeis who then held it; but before the latter end of Edward the third, this family deserted the possession, and transmitted his concern in it by sale to Richard Charles, and he enjoyed it at his decease, which was in the fifth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 92. And so did Nicholas Charles his successor, in the eleventh year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 16, and Robert was his son and heir, who dying without issue, it was united to the demean of Richard Ormeskirk, in right of Joan, sister and heir of the abovementioned Robert; and he in the third year of Henry the fourth, alienated it to Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland; and he not long after, passed it away to Rickhull, in which family it rested, until the seventeenth year of Henry the sixth, and then it was by deed conveyed from William Rickhull, Esquire, to Thomas Glover, and Henry Hunt, who had then the custody or guardianship of Rochester bridge, and to the successive wardens of it, towards the preservation and reparation of its fabrick for ever; so that at this instant, it is parcel of that revenue, which rescues this noble structure from decay and ruin.

Nashenden next offers itself up to our remembrance. In the reign of Edward the second, I find it entituled to the possession of a family called Aspoll, and in the twentieth year of Edward the third, John Aspoll paid respective aid, at making the Black Prince knight. But before the latter end of Richard the second, this family had surrendered the inheritance of this place to Peckham; the last of which name, which held it, was John Peckham, who (as the records of Rochester-bridge inform me) in the reign of Henry the sixth, made it part of that demean by sale, which was to support, with its income, the fabrick of Rochester-bridge, in whose revenue, you may at this instant still find it resident.

ROLVENDEN gives name to the hundred wherein it is placed, and is resolved into several places of eminent consideration, which do not only call for a survey, but even exact it. The first is Halden, called in records the manor of Lambin, alias Halden, and the reason of this denomination is, because it assumed the first part of this name from Lambinus de Langham, who held it under the distribution of a whole knights fee (as the book called Testa de Nevil demonstrates) in the twentieth year of Henry the third, at the marriage of Isabell that prince's sister, at which time he accounted so for it. After this family was departed from the possession of this place, which was about the beginning of Edward the third, the Haldens were by purchase settled in the possession, and William de Halden, son of John de Halden, died seized of it in the fiftieth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 45, and left it to his son John Halden, but he expiring, about the beginning of Henry the fourth, in Joan his daughter and heir, she by marrying with John Guldeford, Esquire, made it parcel of his patrimony, and from him it devolved

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by descent to Sir Richard Guldeford, who was knighted at Milford-haven by Henry the seventh, and was afterwards one of the privy counsel to that prince. In the eighth year of his reign, he with courage and prudence opposed James lord Audley, and his Cornish squadrons, in that eruption which they made upon this county, and in the battle waged near Deptford bridge, between king Henry the seventh, and those rebels, represented such signal testimonies of personal magnanimity, that he was by that prince made a banneret at Blackheath. His son Henry Guldeford, Esquire, in the first year of Henry the eighth, went into Spain, and engaged himself under Ferdinand and Isabella, king and queen of Castile and Aragon, in their wars commenced against the Moors, and demeaned himself with that fidelity and exemplary resolution in all conflicts entertained with those barbarous infidels, that upon the reduction of the province of Granada, the abovementioned prince, for his signal service performed in his and the christian quarrel, added to his paternal coat as an augmentation, a pomgranete slipped upon a canton, being the arms of that

regained province, and likewise dignified him with the order of knighthood. In the fourth year of Henry the eighth, he was again invested with the abovesaid order by that prince, and in the fifth year of his reign, he commanded one of the royal navy, called the Regent, in which ship he acted things worth the future remembrance in that sea-fight, which was waged between the English and French near Britain, and in the same year (as appears by the original patent bearing date the twenty-eighth of May) he was made standard-bearer of England, and carried it at the siege of Terwin; his son Sir Edward Guldeford, in the fifteenth year of Henry the eighth, received the order of knighthood, for his service at Tourney, and was captain of the horse under the duke of Suffolk, at the second siege of Terwin, which was in the fifteenth year of that prince, and not long after reduced Boghan-castle, taking the advantage of the winter, which had sealed up the marshes, which environed it, and made it almost inaccessible in a frost. In fine, this worthy soldier and patriot dying without issue-male, left this manor of Halden to be enjoyed by Jane his sole inheritor, married to John Dudley duke of Northumberland, and he having unhappily engaged himself in that ruinous design, which was to divest queen Mary of the royal diadem, and place it on the head of the lady Jane Grey, married to his son Guilford Dudley, was in the first year of that queen, for that insolent attempt, which proved unsuccessful, attainted and beheaded; his estate here being confiscated to the crown, the manor was given by that princess to Sir John Baker, her attorney general, ancestor to Sir John Baker, knight and baronet, who at this instant enjoys the manor, but the demean of it was granted to Sir Henry Sidney, whose grandchild Robert Earl of Leicester, not many years since, conveyed it to Sir Thomas Smith of London, whose grandchild Robert Smith Esquire, lately died possessed of it.

There are twelve Dens which hold of this manor of Lambin, alias Halden, and at the court-day elect twelve officers, called Beadles, to collect the quit-rents, which relate to it. The names of them here ensue, Midsell in Rolvenden, Stallenden in Rolvenden, Ramsden in Benenden, West Bishoppenden in Benenden, Folkinden in Benenden and Sandherst, Holnherst in Benenden, Elderherst in Halden and Tenterden, Ilchinden in Woodchurch, Mensden in Tenterden, Strenchden in Tenterden, Smeeth in Stone, in the Isle of Oxney, Blackbrooks and Pisenden in Witresham.

Casingham is a second place of estimate. In ages of a very high assent, I find it had owners of the same surname; for, in Testa de Nevil, I find that William de Casingham held the manor of Casingham, now corruptly called Keinsham, with Orlovingden, another inconsiderable manor annexed to it, in the twentieth year of Henry the third, and paid respective aid for it accordingly, under the notion of the fourth part of a knight's fee, at the marriage of Isabell that prince's sister. In times which were immediately subsequent to the departure of this family from this place, that is, in the government of Henry the fourth, I find by an ancient court-roll, the Moores to have been possessed of it, and kept it in their inheritance, until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then it was conveyed to Gibbons of Rolvenden; from which family, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, as appears by the court-rolls, now in the hands of my learned friend Mr. Kilbourn, it went away to

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Hay, or Hays of Sussex, and in this name it remained until that time which bordered upon our fathers remembrance, and then it was alienated to Everden or Everinden, descended from the Everindens of Everinden-house in Biddenden, where they are recorded by the private deeds of that place, to have been resident many hundred years, until in the second year of queen Mary, it was passed away by sale to John Mills, ancestor to the present proprietor. But to proceed, the continuance of this family at this place, was but brief and transitory; for not many years since it went away by sale from this name to Muns, where the inheritance still continues.

Fresingham sometimes written Fersingham, and vulgarly called Frensham, is the last place of account in Rolvenden. It had in the twentieth year of Henry the third, as appears by Testa de Nevil, a family of that name which was its possessor; for John de Fresingham or Fersingham held it then, and paid for it after the rate of the fourth part of a knight's fee, at the marriage of Isabell that prince's sister. And in this family did it remain until the latter part of Edward the third, and then the vicissitude of purchase brought it to be the demean of Norwood, and in this name was it resident, until the reign of Edward the fourth, and then, as appears by the

old rolls of this manor, it was conveyed to Guldeford, and Sir Henry Guldeford, upon his decease, gave it to his second son Sir George Guldeford, from whom it descended to his grandchild Sir Edward Guldord, who about the beginning of king James passed it away to Mr. Fowle, who bequeathed it to his second son Mr. .... Fowle, who sold it to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, grandfather to Sir Edward Hales, who possesses the instant signory and fee-simple of it.

Hole in this parish was a seat which had owners of that surname, for in the year 1340. Henry at Hole demises this place by deed to his two sisters Honor and Alice; but for many descents last past, it hath been the patrimony of Gibbons, ‡ who held land in this parish in the year 1326, and was the seminary or original seed-plot, whence all of that name and family in Kent primitively sprouted forth, and though Sir William Segar did assign to Mr. Gibbons of Westcliff, a lion rampant between three escollops, and to this Edmund Gibbon, a lion rampant between three ogrises, as his coat armor, yet in ancient coloured glass at Hole now the inheritance of colonel Robert Gibbons, the paternal coat of this family is represented to have been, or, a lion rampant sables, charged with an escarbuncle pomettee and flourettee of the first, which I mention that this family now of Hole might receive no prejudice by this mistake or inadvertency.

Fersham in this parish, was (as appears by some dateless deeds) the patrimony of Sir John de Fersham. Stephen de Fersham, this man's successor, in the eleventh year of Edward the third, found a man at arms for guard of the sea-coasts, which implies he was of eminence in those times; in times of a latter date; that is, in the reign of Henry the fourth, I find it possessed by Guldeford, and remained with the revenue of that family until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was passed away to Dike of Sussex, whose descendants by their trustees and commissioners, not many years since conveyed their joint interest in it to Mr. Thomas Bromfield of London, merchant.

OLD ROMNEY, in the hundred of Langport, is eminent for two or three places which lie within the confines of it, which are both of spiritual and secular concern. The first is Agne-court and Orgarswike, not distant by any considerable difference of space from this town, and which was once a parish entirely in itself, until, it is probable, the unhealthful situation made the inhabitants vary their station and dislodge; which were both given by Offa king of the Mercians, in the year seven hundred eighty and one, to the prior and monks of Christ-church, ad pascua porcorum, say the records of that convent, that is, for the feeding or grazing of their hogs. And it is possible that the foundation of this grant was the profuse effusion, not only of christian, but of innocent blood, which had been so prodigally wasted, to be subservient and ministerial to the ambitious interests and passions of the above-mentioned prince, and though peradventure he had endeavoured to wash off those

‡ Edmund Gibbons was of this family, who founded the free-school at Benenden, and settled 30l. per annum for its endowment.

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crimson stains which stuck upon his hands, besmeared with the blood of Ethelbert king of the East-Angles, and others, with penitential tears; yet he deemed that an insufficient expiation to assoil himself from his contracted guilt, unless he made his compunction more visible and conspicuous, by a munificent manifestation both of his piety and charity together.

Bere or Berry-court in Old Romney (for it carried the first appellation in very old evidences) is a manor which hath contracted a reputation from those large quit-rents and other services which appertain unto it, rather than from the dimension and extent of its revenue, which is but narrow and circumscribed. Nicholas de Bere held it, in the twentieth year of Henry the third, as appears by an old court roll, which hath an aspect upon that time. He was son of Richard de Bere, who was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ (an office of a wide circumference of trust in that age) in the second year of king John, in the great controversy which was started between Richard de Garwinton, and Theobald de Twitham, concerning land at Ilding in Kingston. In the twentieth year of Edward the third, I find that Robert Forneaux, Robert Atwood, and Thomas Tutwise had some interest in Berry-court, and paid respective aid for it, as the book of Aid informs me, at making the Black Prince

knight; but before the beginning of Richard the second, I find the title wholly concentered in Belknap; for Sir Robert Belknap the judge, did not only hold it in the first year, but likewise in the tenth of that prince; at that time being attainted and banished, by the malevolent concurrence of some ambitious lords, whose influence like a confederacy of malignant aspects in the stars, combined to ruin him, this by escheat was invested in the crown, and was by royal concession (as appears by the original patent) conveyed in the thirteenth of Richard the third, to John Brockman. In times of a lower step, that is, in the reign of Henry the eighth, I find it in the possession of John Newland; but whether by purchase from Brockman or not, for want of intelligence, I cannot discover. And in this family the propriety continued, until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to George Perkins, from whom almost in our memory the same mutation brought it to confess the instant possession of Mr. .... Aldridge of Tilers near Reding.

RUCKING, in the hundred of Hamme, in ancient records written ROKING, was, by the piety and charitable munificence of king Offa, in the year seven hundred and eighty-one, given to the prior and monks of Christ-church, and was in the original donation granted ad pascua porcorum, for the pasture of their hogs, and it continued clasped up in their revenue, until the tempest of the general dissolution arose and overtook it; for, there being a surrender of the revenue of this convent, into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the thirty-third year of his reign, he united it to the dean and chapter of Christ-church, which he shortly after established and moulded out of their ruins, and here it continued until a late storm arose again, and tore it off.

Barbodinden is another eminent manor within the boundaries of this parish, which had in ages of a more ancient inscription proprietors of the same denomination. William de Barbodinden held it at his death, which was in the ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 3, and left it to his son and heir John de Barbodinden, who in the twentieth year of Edward the third, as appears by the Book of Aid, paid an auxiliary supply for it at making the Black Prince knight. After this family was extinguished, Robert Belknap the judge succeeded in the possession of it; and I do not find, that, though the crown upon his attain, seized upon much of his estate, that ever his interest here was ravished away from him; for he was in possession of this place at his death, which was in the second year of Henry the fourth, and disposed it by will, to his son John Belknap, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, alienates it to Engham, amongst whose demean the propriety of this manor had not many years dwelt, but the title was by sale supplanted, and cast into the possession of Sir Matthew Brown, knight, and his son Thomas Brown, Esquire, in the last year of Edward the sixth, passed it away by sale to Anthony Lovelace,

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Esquire, ancestor to Richard Lovelace, who some few years since, alienated his entire concern, in it, to the late possessor Mr. Richard Hulse, descended from the ancient family of Hulse, of the borough of Hulse, lying within Namptwich, in the county of Chester.

S.

SALTWOOD, in the hundred of Hene, hath an open prospect into the ocean, which flowed up much nearer than now it doth, and imparted its nature to its name; for in Latin it is written de Bosco Salso. The archbishops of Canterbury, had here formerly a magnificent castle, which time hath much dismantled; and a park well stored with deer, now vanished and gone. Many manors in this track, are held of it by knight's service, which justly made it to be counted and called an honour. It was granted to the church, in the year 1096, by one Halden, who for grandeur and opulency, was reckoned one of the princes of England. The value and extent of it, are more particularly set forth, in the records of the church of Canterbury, in the conqueror's time, and they speak thus; in Limwarlæd in hundred. de Hede, habet Hugo de Montfort de terra monachorum, I. manerium Saltwode de Archiepiscopo, & Comes Godwinus tenuit illud, & tunc se defendebat pro VII Sullings (That was Godwin earl of Kent, who by a possessory right, held many towns along this coast) & nunc sunt V. Et tamen non scottent, nisi pro III. Et in Burgo de Hede sunt CC. & XXV. Burgenses, qui pertinent huic manerio, de quibus non habet Hugo nisi III.

forisfacta (for it lies in the franchise of the five ports, and the king was to have their service) & est appretiatum XXVIII.lb. & IV. This was Hugh Montfort, who was one of those powerful men, which entered England with William the Conqueror.

In the time of king Henry the second, Henry de Essex, baron of Raleigh in that county, lord warden of the cinque-ports (pro tempore) and the king's standard-bearer in right of inheritance, held this castle of the archbishop, who having in a light skirmish against the Welsh in Flintshire, not only cast away his courage, but his standard also; was appealed of high treason, and in a legal duel or combat, vanquished by his challenger, and being possessed with regret and shame, contracted from this defeat, shrouded himself in a cloister, and put on a monk's cowl, forfeiting a good patrimony and livelihood, which escheated to king Henry the second. But Thomas Becket acquainting the king, that this manor belonged to his church and see, that prince being beyond the seas, directed a writ to king Henry his son (the draught of which is represented to us by Matthew Paris, whither I refer the reader) for restitution; but in regard of new emergent contests, between king Henry the second, and that insolent prelate, it was not restored unto the church until the time of Richard the second.

The castle was magnificently enlarged and repaired by William Courtney, archbishop of Canterbury, in the time of Richard the second, as his will doth declare, and his arms in stone-work eminently demonstrate, and remained, after his decease, annexed to the archiepiscopal revenue, until Thomas Cranmer, in the twenty-ninth of Henry the eighth, exchanged it with that prince. And his son, king Edward the sixth, granted it to John Earl of Warwick, and Joan his wife in the first year of his reign, but suddenly afterwards it seems it was either reassumed or exchanged with the crown, for the same prince in the fourth year of his reign, granted it to Edward lord Clinton, and by a more ample concession confirmed this manor and the bayliwick of Hithe to him in the seventh year of his reign, and he not long after conveyed Saltwood to Mr. Thomas Broadnax, whose family was of good repute and anciently possessed of a spreading revenue about Burmersh and St. Mary's in Romney Marsh, and he being transplanted to Godmersham passed this manor away to Knatchbull, who in the eighteenth year of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Crispe, and he again invested it by sale in Knatchbull; for Mr. Reginald Knatchbull, in the thirty-first year of queen Elizabeth, sold it to William Gibbons, from whom the same

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fate, in the thirty-third year of that queen carried it off to Mr. Norton Knatchbull, and he in the thirty-seventh of her rule disposed of his interest in it by sale to Robert Cranmer, Esquire, by whose daughter and heir, Ann Cranmer, it devolved to Sir Arthur Harris of Crixey in Essex, whose son Sir Cranmer Harris, not many years since, alienated it to Sir William Boteler, father to Sir Oliver Boteler, baronet, the instant lord of the fee.

There is an old vast mansion-house of stone, at Brochull in this parish, on the side of a steep hill, which was the seat and ancient residence of a family as eminent for antiquity, as any in this track, and extracted their surname from hence, and were called Brochull, who flourished here in knight's degree, and in some parliaments in the time of Edward the third, and Edward the fourth, sat there as knights of the shire. Margaret the wife of William, builded, or caused to be built, an isle on the north side the parish church. You may guess at the time by the rudeness of the words, which are here transcribed out of the east window, where they stand engrossed, in an antiquated character: Margareta La Famma Gillam de Brockhilla fio Fera sata Shapella.

From hence branched forth the Brockhills, or Brockhulls (for anciently they were written so, both ways) both of Cale-hill, and Aldington Septuans in Thurnham; but the male line failing here in Thomas Brockhull, Elizabeth his sole daughter and heir, brought it to be possessed by Richard Selling, in which family, after the interest of it stayed until almost our fathers remembrance, it was by the same devolution, carried off to acknowledge the propriety of Tournay.

SANDHURST, in the hundred of Selbritten, was, with much other land, granted by king Offa, in the year 791, to Christ-church in Canterbury. But Betherinden was always of temporal interest; for it afforded both seat and surname, to a family of this denomination, and John de Bethrinden, died seized of it, in the

< > year of Edward the third; but not long after did it reside in this family; for this name expired in a female inheritrix, who was married to Finch, who united this seat to his demean; and here it lay until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and it was rent off by sale, and placed in Pelham; and from this name a mutation of the same circumstance took it away; and, in our fathers remembrance, annexed it to the inheritance of Fowl, and remains still with the descendants of that family.

Aldrinden is a third place of account in Sandhurst, had owners of that surname of whom Roger de Aldrinden, as the private deeds of this place do inform me, was the last in the male descent, who left it to his daughter and heir Christian Aldrinden; and she in the twenty-second year of Edward the third, passed it away to John Sellbritten; who not long after alienated it to Thomas Bourne, and he held it as appears by an old court-roll, in the first year of Richard the second; and from him did it by the chain of descent, pass along, until it arrived at John Bourn, who dying in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, settled it by will, on Joan his female inheritrix, married to Thomas Allard, and by this alliance did it descend to his son Henry Allard, who had issue John Allard, who alienated his right in it by sale to John Twisden gentleman, in the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth; from whom it came down to his successor Mr. William Twisden; who about the beginning of king James, sold it to Thomas Downton, Esquire, father of Richard Downton of Istden, Esquire, justice of the peace for the county of Middlesex, now proprietor of it.

Combden is another manor in this parish, which was anciently possessed by Fulk de Ballard; that Fulk, who, as appears by the book called Testa de Nevil, in the exchequer, paid a respective supply for land in Sandhurst, at the marriage of Isabella sister to king Henry the third, in the twentieth year of that prince; but not long did the propriety of this place rest in this family; for in the reign of Richard the second, I find it in the possession of the Whitfields, an ancient family, descended from Whitfield in Northumberland, of which stock was Sir Itham de Whitfield,

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who in behalf of the barons, then knit together in an hostile confederacy against their prince, (as an old French manuscript informs me) tue Borough-bridge 15. Edwardi secundi, il est oit contre le Roy, defend Borough-bridge against Edward the second. And ever since the government of that prince abovementioned, was this place constantly fastened by the thread of many descents to the patrimony, though not of this family, yet of this name, until Sir Ralph Whitefield deceasing not many years since, bequeathed it by will to his daughter Mrs. Dorothy Whitefield, who hath now brought it by marriage to be the possession of John Fotherly, Esquire.

Here is a place in this parish, which, however it be under a cloudy and obscure character, was in ages of a higher gradation, the inheritance of the noble family of Twisden; and certainly here they lived, when they writ, de Denna Fracta, and from them it hath borrowed the title of Twisden-street or Borough, which it retains to this day. Indeed Twisden, in the original Saxon, imports no more but the broken vally, or the vale distinguished into two pieces.

SHADOCKHERST, in the hundreds of Blackburn, Chart, Longbridge and Ham, was the inheritance of a family called Forstall, and sometimes written at Forstall, which were of no contemptible extraction in this county; for in several ancient deeds, I find John at Forstall, and Richard at Forstall to be witnesses, and it is probable they were possessors of this manor, though the private deeds reach out to our view, no higher discovery than the reign of Henry the fifth; for in the third year of that prince's reign, Joan Forstall passes it away by deed to Stokys, vulgarly called Stokes, and in that family was the interest of it many years clasped up, until at last the ordinary vicissitude of purchase brought it to be the demean of Randolph, who had an estate likewise about Burham near Maidstone. And from this name, about the beginning of king Edward the sixth, it went away by sale to Sir John Taylor, who in the twenty fifth year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to John Taylor, Esquire, ancestor to Thomas Taylor, Esquire, who is now invested in the possession of it, and from whom I confess I have received my intelligence concerning those who were the former proprietors of it.



Criols-court in this parish, was one of those seats which related to the patrimony of Bertram de Crioll, and he died seized of it, in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, and left it to his son John de Crioll, who deceasing about the beginning of Edward the third without issue, it devolved to Joan his sister and heir, who was married to Sir Richard de Rokesley; but he likewise determined in Agnes Rokesley, who was one of his two female co-heirs, and she by marrying with Thomas de Poynings entituled that family to the possession of that wide estate, which devolved to her in right of her mother, and from him did it descend to his successor Sir Edward Poynings, son of Robert Poynings, a man very eminent in the government of Henry the seventh. For this Sir Edward, in the first year of his rule, immediately after he had triumphed over Richard the third in Bosworth-field, was chosen one of his privy council to manage the public interest of the nation. Afterwards he most vigorously opposed James lord Audley, and his Cornish squadrons, being then in defection to Henry the seventh, in the tenth year of his reign. And this Sir Edward held it at his death, which was in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, though his office was not found until the fourteenth year of that prince, and then it being discovered that the whole stock and lineage of this family were extinguished, and that there were none who were legally begotten (for Sir Thomas Poynings was his natural son) that either in a direct or collateral line, could pretend a title to his estate, it escheated to the crown. And Henry the eighth afterwards passed it away by grant to William Taylor, whose successor Mr. Thomas Taylor passed it away to George Taylor, and he had issue Mr. John Taylor, who concluding in Anne his sole daughter and heir, she by marrying with Whitfield, annexed it to the demean of that name, from whom again, not many years since, it came over by sale to More, who very lately hath alienated it to Thomas Taylor, Esquire.

Mincing-court, vulgarly so called, but originally, and in old records stiled Minikens-court, is likewise circumscribed within the verge of Shadockherst. It was parcel

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of that income which did support in elder times the hospital of St. Jacobs in Tanington by Canterbury, which was founded to be a receptacle of leproous women, and confirmed by Hubert archbishop of Canterbury, about the beginning of king John; and to this convent did it relate, until the reign of king Edward the sixth, and then though it had not been torn off from the revenue of the above-said hospital, by the violent hand of Henry the eighth; yet it was alienated by that prince, and in the second year of his rule it was granted to Robert Tatteshall, Esquire, to hold of his manor of East-Greenwich, tantum per fidelitatem servitii, and from him immediately after it came over by purchase to Sir Edward Wotton. And when cardinal Poole visited Kent, in the year 1557, he was found invested in it, and from him did it by paternal delegation devolve to his successor Edward lord Wotton, who settled it upon his eldest daughter Katherine, upon her marriage with Edward lord Stanhop, son and heir to Philip earl of Chesterfield, and this lady not long since hath alienated her interest in it to Mr. Thomas Harfleet of Canterbury.

STALESFIELD, in the hundred of Feversham, was a limb of that vast revenue which fell under the jurisdiction and signory of the knights templers, and is registered under that notion, in that book kept in the exchequer, stiled Liber de Terris Templariorum. And in Mr. Robert Glover's church notes of Kent, there is in this church represented the portraiture of a chevalier mailed in armour, whose face is only visible, and that portrayed with a long beard, which induces me to believe, that it was the effigies of some eminent person of this order; for in all the sculpture and imagery of the knights templers, both ancient and modern, they are still delivered to posterity under that representation. And Peter Auger falling under the censure of a knight templer, in the fourth year of Edward the second, though valet to that prince, because he nourished a long and diffused beard, was absolved and discharged by his master, by satisfying the publick, that though he wore a long beard, he was no knight templer. But to advance in my survey; after that fatal tempest, which was conjured up by the magick of the court of Rome, and its emissaries, had, in the second year of Edward the second, shook this order into a total dissolution, this manor which lay clasped up in their revenue, was united by royal concession to the demean of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and there it dwelt, until the general suppression, in the reign of Henry the eighth, dislodged it, and threw it into the possession of the crown, where it lay involved, until king Edward the

sixth, in the fourth year of his government, by grant planted the propriety in Sir Anthony Aucher, who was afterwards slain bravely disputing the interest of the English nation at Calais, against the assaults of the French: and his successor, about the beginning of king James, alienated it to Salter, from whom it is now come down to Sir Nicholas Salter, who is entitled to the instant fee-simple of it.

Darbies-court in this parish gave seat and surname to a family, which was known to the world by no other denomination, and certainly was a family of generous account in this track; for in very ancient registers and rolls of Kentish gentry, I find this coat to be borne by this name, videlicet, Party per chevron embattelled, or and azure, three eagles counterchanged. And of this family was John Darby, Esquire, who was sheriff of London, in the year 1445, and built the south isle of St. Dionis Back-church, near Lime-street, where the windows represent to our view the above-mentioned coat, as the best index to the memory of so munificent a benefactor; but to proceed, before the beginning of Henry the fourth, the proprietor of this mansion was by sale conveyed from Darby to St Leger, where its abode was of as brief a continuance; for the male line failing in Thomas St. Leger, Esquire, who bought it, by Joan his daughter and co-heir married to Henry Aucher, Esquire, it came over to be the inheritance of that family, and in their revenue was constantly fixed, until the age and remembrance of our grandfathers, and then it was alienated to Sir Michael Sonds of Eastry, from whom by hereditary right it devolved to Sir Richard Sonds of Throuley, who in his life-time passed it away to his son and heir Sir George Sonds, now of Leeze-court in Shelvich, knight of the bath, to whom the possession of this manor at this instant is entituled.

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STAMFORD, in the hundred of Folkstone, is in it self a small obscure village, but made eminent by containing within the limits of it, Ostenhanger, a seat of as much account and eminence, as any in the county. The demean which related to it, was divided between the two noble families of Crioll and Auberville. Bertram de Crioll, was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-seventh year of Henry the third, and is written in the pipe-roll of that year, of Westenhanger, a name co-incident with the other. Sir William de Auberville lived at the Borough of Westenhanger, when he founded the abby of West-Langdon, in the time of Richard the first; he had Hugh de Auberville, who likewise (as appears by the Leger book of that convent, being a liberal benefactor to that cloister) was his son and heir, and he had issue Sir William de Auberville, in whom the male line determined, and he had only a female inheritrix, married to Nicholas de Crioll, whether of a younger house, or else a younger son to Bertram de Crioll abovementioned, I cannot discover. Bertram de Crioll, had issue Bertram de Crioll, who died possessed of a great portion of Ostenhanger, in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 48, and left it to Joan his daughter, married to Sir Richard de Rokesley, who upon the decease of her only brother John de Crioll, without issue, became his sole heir. This Sir Richard de Rokesley, was one of those eminent Kentish gentlemen, that accompanied king Edward the first into Scotland, and for his signal service performed at the siege of Carlaverock, was made a banneret by that prince; but he likewise expired in two daughters and co-heirs; Agnes one of them, was married to Thomas de Poynings; and Joan the other, was married to Walter de Pateshull. \* Upon the partition of the estate, Rokesley's interest in Westenhanger wholly accrued to Poynings, and he had issue Nicholas de Poynings, who was summoned to sit in parliament as baron, the thirty-third year of Edward the third; Michael Poynings, who was likewise summoned to sit in parliament as baron, the forty-second year of that prince; and thirdly Lucas de Poynings, who in the year abovesaid, was honoured with the same summons. Upon the division of the estate, Westenhanger was annexed to the demean of Michael de Poynings, and he had issue Thomas de Poynings, who was summoned to sit in parliament as baronet, in the sixth of year Henry the fourth; his son and heir was Robert Poynings, who in the twelfth year of Henry the sixth, with John Perry, were designed by authority, to take the subscriptions of those Kentish gentlemen who were summoned in, to renounce the title of the house of York, which it seems was then in secret agitation, to be set up against the house of Lancaster; and this Robert was oftentimes summoned to sit in parliament as baron in the reign of that prince. The last time I find him summoned, was in the twenty-third year of his government, and

his son and heir was Robert Poynings, who was likewise summoned to sit in parliament as baron, in the reign of the abovementioned monarch, and deceased the eighth year of Edward the fourth, and left his estate here to that worthy person his son and heir Sir Edward Poynings, of whom more hereafter. I shall now discover, how that division of Ostenhanger, which devolved to Nicholas de Crioll, by the heir of Auberville, was passed away. Nicholas de Crioll had issue John de Crioll, who in the nineteenth year of Edward the third, obtained a licence, to found a chantry in the chapel of St. John's, in Ostenhanger, and endow it with one messuage, forty-five acres of glebe, and six acres of pasture situated in Limn, as appears, Prima parte pat. de anno 19. Edwardi tertii memb. 4. And before, in the seventeenth year of that prince, was permitted by grant from the crown, to embattle, and make loop-holes in his mansion-house at Ostenhanger, as is manifest, secunda parte pat. de anno 17. Edwardi tertii memb. 34. And he left it secured and invested, with these new acquired franchises, to his son Sir Nicholas de Crioll, and he died seized of it in the third year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 40, and from him did it successively devolve to Sir Thomas Keriell or Crioll, who was slain at the second battle of St. Albans, in the thirty-eighth of Henry the sixth, whilst he asserted the quarrel of the house of York, and dying without issue-male, Thomas Fogge, Esquire, in his wife's right, who was one of his daughters and co-heirs, entered upon his estate here at Ostenhanger, and about the latter end of Edward the fourth, passed it away to his eldest brother Sir John Fogge of Repton, who died possessed

\* See Rot. pipæ de anno 17. Edw. 2.

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of it, in the seventeenth year of Henry the seventh, and bequeathed it by testament to his son and heir Sir John Fogge, who about the beginning of Henry the eighth, demised his concern here to Sir Edward Poynings; which Edward Poynings was one of the privy council to Henry the seventh, and lived here, when he so vigorously in the tenth year of that prince, opposed the proceedings of James lord Audley, who was afterwards defeated at Black-heath, and likewise was lord deputy of Ireland, and knight of the garter, and by his influence on that nation, was that eminent statute enacted, which ever since hath been adopted into his family, and called Poynings Law. He was likewise at the siege of Terwin, with Henry the eighth, and was there for his eminent service created knight banneret, and governor of that town. He died in the twelfth year of king Henry the eighth, and was found after a serious inquisition taken after his death, in the fourteenth year of that prince, to have neither any issue lawfully begotten, nor any collateral alliance, that could by any remote affinity entitle themselves to his estate, and so by escheat it became invested in the crown; but king Henry the eighth, out of his indulgent bounty, by royal concession, made it the inheritance of his natural son Thomas Poynings, who was a person of excellent and elegant composure, and eminent merit, and was made knight of the bath, at the coronation of queen Anne, in the twenty-fourth of that prince's reign, and afterwards having represented to the world signal demonstrations in a public joust or tournament, of a remarkable strength and courage, was in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, called to sit in parliament, as baron Poynings of Ostenhanger; but in the thirty-seventh of that prince's reign, deceased without issue, upon whose exit this manor reverts to the crown, and there lay couched, until the first year of Edward the sixth, and then it was granted to John Dudley, earl of Warwick, afterwards duke of Northumberland; upon whose attainder, in the first year of queen Mary, it became again parcel of the royal patrimony, and afterwards queen Elizabeth, about the beginning of her reign, passed it away by grant to her kinsman Sir Thomas Sackville, and he not long after, alienated it by sale to Thomas Smith, Esquire, vulgarly called Customer Smith, who much enhanced the beauty of the fabrick, which had been empai red and defaced with fire, with magnificent additions, from whom it is now transmitted by paternal descent to his great grandchild, the right honourable Philip Smith viscount Strangford, who hath made it his principal residence,

The manor of Heyton, lies likewise in Stamford, which was anciently possessed by a family of deep antiquity, which was known to the world by that surname, and bore for their cognisance in ancient armorials, gules three piles argent. Alanus de Heyton, called in some old records Alanus Vicecomes, because he was joined as an assistant to Ralph de Picot, sheriff of Kent, in the execution of his office, in the third,

fourth and fifth years of Henry the second, held a whole knight's fee of Gilbert de Magninot, in the government of that prince, but deceased without issue; so that Elveva his sister married to Deringus de Morinis son of Norman de Morinis, became his heir, from whom the manor of Heyton descended to his son Deringus de Morinis, who still writ himself in his dateless deeds, Dominus de Heyton, and so did † Richard Fitz-Dering his grandchild, who died possessed of it, in the forty-second year of king Henry the third, and left it to his son Peter Dering, who likewise held this manor almost all the reign of Edward the first, and from him did it descend to his son and heir Richard Dering, who was brother to Sir Robert Dering, who was one of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem; and this Richard, about the eighth year of Edward the second, passed it away to William Scot of Smeth, from whom by an uninterrupted and unbroken clew of many generations, was the possession carried down to those Scots, who were proprietors of it in that age, wherein our grandfathers flourished, and then it was demised by sale to Smith, which family it still confesses for possessors.

STANSTED, in the hundred of Wrotham, represents to our remembrance an ancient family called Grapinell, who were once owners of this place, and flourished here

† It is probable this was the Richard Fitz Dering, who was with Richard the first, at the siege of Acon.

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under the scepter of Henry the third, and Edward the first; but going out in daughters and co-heirs, Margeria one of them, by marrying with William de Inge, who was a judge, in the reign of Edward the second, united this manor to the inheritance of this family, and he died seized of it, in the fifteenth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 42, and left it to his only daughter and heir, in an old pedigree called Isolda, but more truly Joan; for in the inquisition taken after the death of Eudo la Zouch, to whom she married, which was in the twentieth year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 31, it is found that he held this manor in right of his wife Joan, sole heir of William de Inge. And from this Eudo did Thomas la Zouch baron of Haringworth descend, who died possessed of it, in the sixth year of Henry the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 17, and so did his son Henry lord Zouch, who was the last of this name who was possessed of this place at his decease, which was in the twenty-sixth of Henry the sixth. After the Zouches the Colepepers were by purchase from them entitled to the possession, and Richard Colepeper was found to hold it at his death, which was in the second year of Richard the third, and from this family, about the beginning of Henry the seventh, it passed away to Thomas Leigh, whose son John Leigh gave it to his natural son Richard Leigh, in the year 1575, and he not long after alienated it to Bing of Wrotham, from which family it is very lately carried away to William James of Ightam, Esquire, one of the justices of the peace of this county, a person who for his affection to learning and antiquity, cannot be mentioned without an attribute.

Soranks in this parish, was the seat of a family, which borrowed its surname from hence, and had the repute of a manor, in the reign of Edward the third. For Roger de Sorancks held this manor (as is evident by the Book of Aid kept in the exchequer) in the twentieth year of Edward the third, by knight's service of the archbishop of Canterbury. But after the reign of that prince, it was not very constant to the interest of this name; for about the beginning of Richard the second, I find it in the possession of Thomas Mortimer, lord of the manor of Mortimers in Cowling, and he in the twentieth year of the abovesaid monarch, passed it away to William Skrene, and when this name was worn out at this place, the family of Wood was ingrafted in the possession, and rested there until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then it was by Thomas Wood passed away to Robert Barefoot, in which family the title was as transient; for Thomas Barefoot, this man's son, in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, alienated it to Henry Fanshaw, who almost in our fathers remembrance conveyed the fee-simple unto Launce.

Stansted had the grant of a fair obtained by William de Inge the judge, in the ninth year of Edward the second, to be held yearly, for the space of three days, at the assumption of the Virgin Mary, as appears. Cart. 9. Edwardi secundi Num. 40.

STAPLEHERST, in the hundred of Twyford, was, as appears by ancient deeds

and inquisitions, as to some part of it, folded up in the large patrimony of Fremmingham, whose capital residence was at Fremmingham, or Farningham, where I have treated more largely of them; but when the male line of this family determined in John de Fremmingham, Joan his only sister married to John Isley, Esquire, son of Isley was found to be his heir, in the second year of Henry the fourth, and in her right Roger Isley, son and heir of this John, entered upon it, and from him the land here, by a successive thread of descent, was wafted down to the noble, but unfortunate Sir Henry Isley, of whom more presently; but another parcel of this manor did acknowledge the signory of Pimpe of Nettledsted, and William Pimpe died possessed of it, in the year of our Lord 1375, as part of his knight's fee called Pimps, and in his line did the title flow constantly along, until it devolved to Reginald Pimp, Esq. who about the twelfth year of Henry the seventh, demised it by private deed to John Isley, Esquire, from whom it came down to his grandchild Sir Henry Isley, who being entangled too fatally in the ruinous design of Sir Thomas Wiat, was in

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the second year of queen Mary attainted, and his interest in this manor confiscated to the crown, which was granted out of it again, that same year, to Sir John Baker, ancestor to Sir John Baker, baronet, who is still entituled to the property which Isley had formerly in this place.

Boxley Abby was formerly concerned in some demesne, likewise, here at Stapleherst, as appears by an inquisition taken in the third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 134. which upon the suppression of that abby, it was, with the manor at Boxley, relating to that convent, by Henry the eighth, granted to Sir Thomas Wiat, who being attainted, in the second year of queen Mary, it escheated to the crown, and then it was by that princess, the same year, granted to her attorney general Sir John Baker, whose successor, Sir John Baker of Sisingherst now enjoys it, as couched in his manor of Stapleherst.

Newsted is a manor in this parish, which was annexed to the free chapel erected at this place, by Hamon de Crevequer, and invested with ample privileges, which donation of his, and all the franchises united to it, was confirmed (as appears by the first book of composition kept in the register's office at Rochester) in the forty-first year of Edward the third: But when the statute, in the first year of Edward the sixth, had overturned all chantries, this manor was swallowed up in the revenue of the crown, and then the abovesaid prince, by his royal concession, planted it in the patrimony of Sir Edward Wotton, ancestor to Thomas lord Wotton, of Bough-ton Malherbe, who settled it in marriage on Katharine Wotton, his eldest daughter and co-heir, espoused to Henry lord Stanhop, and she, by her feoffees in trust, hath demised the fee-simple to Mr. Robert Oliver, of Leybourn.

Loveherst is another manor in this parish, was parcel of that estate, which by its income supported the priory of Leeds, and upon the suppression, was by Henry the eighth granted to Sir John Gage, in the thirty-fourth year of his reign, and he, in the thirty-sixth year of that prince, demised it to Thomas Colepeper, Esquire, who not long after alienated it to Thomas Wilford, Esquire, from whom, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, it passed away by sale to Mr. John Baker, in whose descendants the title is yet resident.

Engeherst presents itself next to our view; it is now vulgarly called Henherst, in ages of an higher ascent Engeherst, for some old deeds without date bounding some land in this parish of Stapleherst, make it situated juxta terras Osberti de Hengherst supra dennam de Engherst; and from this den or valley, did that antient family, called Engherst or Hengherst, take the first extraction of its name, who bore, as appears by several seals, for their paternal armory, barry of six pieces, and having continued in the possession of this place for many descents, at last the inheritance was transmitted to Henry Hengherst, and he, in the twenty-third year of Henry the sixth, by his feoffees in trust, settled it on his kinsman John Nash, and in his family I find it in the reign of Edward the fourth, and Henry the seventh; and here for want of clearer intelligence, I must leap to the reign of queen Elizabeth, and then the fee-simple was invested in Roberts, and from this family, about the latter end of that princess, it went away by purchase to Moodye, who in our fathers memory alienated it to Samuel Ovenden, by whose daughter and co-heir Elizabeth Ovenden, it is now come to own the heirs of her late husband Mr. Patrich Tindall.

Spilsill-court is the the last place of account in this parish; it was (as appears by very antient deeds) the residence of a family of that name, which before the end of king Edward the second, was crumbled into decay, and then the Stangraves succeeded in the possession: for Robert de Stangrave at his decease, held some estate at or in Spilsill, in the twelfth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 52. But about the latter end of Edward the third, this family was likewise mouldered away, and then it came to own the signory of Maynie, descended from Walter de Meduana or Maynie, a man of that repute, as appears by the red book in the exchequer, fol. 84. that he held twenty knights fees in this county; but Mayneys, situated in Bredgar, was the antient seat of this name, who having possessed for so many successions and descents this seat, did not many years since transplant their interest in it

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by sale to Sharpeigh, by whose daughter and heir it is now become the inheritance of Mr. George Thompson of London.

SWALCLIFF, in the hundred of Blengate, was given by Eadbald, king of Kent, as Thorn, the chronicler of St. Augustins, informs me, to the cloister of St. Mildred, at Minster, in Thanet; and was, when her body was translated, by king Canutus, to the abby of St Augustins in Canterbury, brought over along with it, and united to the patrimony of that cloister: and the monks of that convent, granted it away to be held in fee, by a family which took its denomination from thence, and were called Swalclive, and they held it in the twentieth year of Henry the third as Testa de Nevill informs me, and paid an auxiliary contribution for it, at the marriage of Isabel, that prince's sister; but before the end of Edward the first, this family was expired, and then the family of St. Lawrence was settled in the possession. Thomas de St. Lawrence held it, as appears by the Book of Aid, kept in the exchequer, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at making the Black Prince knight, and died possessed of it, in the twenty-second year of that prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 9 And from him did it descend to his grandchild Thomas St. Lawrence, who settled it in marriage with Katharine his daughter and heir, matched to Sir William Apulderfield, who determining in daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth, one of them, espoused to Sir John Phineux, lord chief justice of the King's-Bench, brought it to confess the signory of that family; but, he deceasing without issue-male, Jane, his only daughter and sole inheritrix, being matched to John Roper, Esquire, this manor became by this alliance, inoculated into his patrimony, and was resident in this name until the beginning of king James; and then it was conveyed to Mr. Benedict Barnham, by one of whose four daughters and co-heirs, its right and title devolved to Soam of Suffolk, who not many years since, alienated his concern in it to Perry, who hath lately transmitted it by sale to Gould.

In the year 946, King Eadred gave land at Swalclive, to Heresigus, one of his servants, and he again gave it to the abby of St. Augustins, conditionally, that a place of sepulchre might be reserved for him within their cloister.

SNAVE, in the hundreds of Aloes-Bridge, Ham and Newchurch, was as high as I can discover, a portion or member of that patrimony, which confessed the signory of Haut; and so continued, until Joan, daughter and co-heir of Sir William Haut, being made the wife of the unhappy Sir Thomas Wiatt, a man of an unstained, though an unsuccessful virtue, this by female right became parcel of his demeasne; but when he and his patrimony were demolished, by that impetuous gust of misfortune, which sunk them both into a heap of ruins, in the second year of queen Mary, this, upon his conviction of high treason, being escheated to the crown, that princess, in the third year of her government, passed it away to Sir Henry Sidney, knight of the garter, and lord deputy of Ireland, whose successor, the right honorable Robert earl of Leicester, not many years since, conveyed it to Sir George Stonehouse,

Snavewick, in this parish, was anciently wrapped up in the demeasne of the abby of St. Augustins, but being pared off in the general suppression, by the rough hand of Henry the eighth, it was in the thirty-fifth year of his reign, granted for life only, to Sir Walter Henley: but upon his decease, it returned to the crown, and lay there until the late king Charles, about the beginning of his reign, granted it to Mr. Patrick Black, a Scotchman, though it was by the crown granted in lease, long before, to Sir Edward Yates of Berkshire, who conveyed the fee-simple in reversion to Mr. Robert Austin, now of Hall-place, in Bexley.

SWANSCAMP, in the hundred of Acstane, hath contracted an eminent character of reputation, since Sueno or Swain fixed here his camp, when he invaded England, to expiate by a plenary revenge, that blood, which in so prodigal an effusion, was by Etheldred let loose, from the veins of his Danish subjects, universally in this nation; and certainly it was this Swain that erected the castle here, to preserve a winter station for his ships, and though it now lies gasping in its own rubbish, yet there are some characters and signatures remaining, which evidence, and declare to us, that there was once a fortress there, where there is nothing now but dismantled ruins.

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The tradition of the country is, that that valley which interposes between the hill, which ascends up to Northfleet, and that which winds up to Swanscamp, was once covered with water, and being locked in on each side with hills, made a secure road for shipping, which invited the Dane to make it a winter station for his navy; and the same report will tell you likewise, of anchors which have been dugged up about the utmost verge of that marsh, which is contiguous to the Thames, and certainly, if we consider the position of this valley, which is nothing but a chain of marsh=land, interlaced with a stream called Ebbs-fleet, which swells and sinks with the flux and reflux of the adjacent river, and the dimension of their ships, then at that time in use, which were not of any extraordinary bulk, this tradition is not improbable.

Near this place, Stigand the arch-bishop of Canterbury, and Egelsine, abbot of St. Augustines, assembled the Kentish men into an army, pretending it was better to die like men in asserting and vindicating their native liberties, with swords in their hands, then like slaves to prostitute themselves to the insolence of the conqueror, by a cheap and tame submission with halts about their necks; which had so great an influence and impression upon their spirits, that they resolved their franchises and themselves should find one tomb together, rather than they would give up both, to the sword and will of an imperious victor; and indeed soon after they managed their stratagems with that success, that William, surnamed the Conqueror, advancing with his Normans into Kent, to reduce Dover-castle, which was then made good against him, he and his army dropped into those ambushes, which the Kentish inhabitants had strewed for him, where he had indisputably perished, had he not by charter fortified and confirmed those immunities, they then contended and struggled for, and which remain unviolated, either by any foreign or domestic eruption, even until this day.

The Manor of Swanscamp itself, was, as far as record can guide us to discover, the inheritance of the Montchensies, called in the Latin Repertory de Mont-Canisio: and Hubert de Montchensey (as appears by Dooms-day book) was the first of that name of any eminence, who was lord of the fee; and after him his son William de Montchensey, by paternal right held it, and so died in possession of it, in the year 1287; from whom it descended to Dionis, his daughter and heir, and in relation to her husband, Hugh de Vere, who became by this addition of estate, thus accruing, baron of Swanscamp, and sat, under that notion, in the parliament, which was summoned, in the first year of Edward the second: but he dying without issue, William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, claimed it in right of his wife, daughter and heir to John de Montchensey, second brother to William de Montchensey, who was father-in-law to Hugh de Vere above-mentioned; from whom it descended to his son Aymer de Valence, who dying without issue, in the seventeenth year of Edward the third, Isabell his sister, matched to Lawrence de Hastings, became his heir, who in her right was earl of Pembroke, and baron of Swanscamp; and left it to his grandchild, John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, who dying without issue, in the thirteenth of Richard the second, in the fifteenth year of that prince, Reginald Grey, and Richard Talbot, in respect of marriage, were found to be his heirs; and upon the partition of the estate, this was united to the demesne of Talbot, who had before a considerable interest in Swanscamp, by descent from his ancestor Richard Talbot, who had married Elizabeth, one of the two co-heirs of Joseph Comin's, earl of Badzenoth, and Joan his wife, one of the sisters and co-heirs of Aymer de Valence, earl of Pembroke, and lord of Swanscamp, in which family, after it had rested until the latter end of Henry the sixth, it was conveyed to Sir Thomas Brown, of Bechworth castle, whose son Sir William Brown, in the twelfth year of Edward the fourth, surrendered them into the hands of Edward the fourth, for the use of his mother Cicely, dutchess dowager of York; upon whose decease it returned to the

crown, and lay there until the first year of q. Elizabeth, and then it was granted to Ralph Welden, Esq; great grand-father to colonel Ralph Weldon, the instant lord of the fee.

Alcharden, alias Combes, is another place in this parish, worthy this survey. It was, many hundred years since, the inheritance of a family called Cumbe or Combe, who continued resident in the possession, until the reign of Edward the fourth, and then it went away from them by sale, to Swan of Hook-house, in Southfleet, in which family it was fixed until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was convey=

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ed to Lovelace, who not long after, passed it away to Carter, and he alienated it to Hardres, from whom, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, the vicissitude of sale carried it off to Fagge, who in the tenth year of king James, transmitted it by sale to Hudson, whose descendant, not many years since, demised it by sale to Mr. Richard Head of Rochester.

Ince-Grice is the last place considerable in Swanscamp. It related, before the gene=ral suppression, to the priory of Dartford; but being torn off by king Henry the eighth, it was by Edward the sixth, in the fifth of his reign, granted in fee-farm to Martin Muriell: but the fee-simple remained in the crown, until queen Elizabeth, in the fifth year of her rule, passed it away to Edward Darbishire and John Bere, who not long after jointly conveyed it to Jones, who in our fathers memory alienated it to Holloway, whose son and heir, Mr. Thomas Holloway, hath lately demised his interest in it, to captain Edward Brent of Southwark.

STAPLE, in the hundred of Eastry, hath two places memorable. First, Crixall, which was anciently written Crickleaddshall, when in ages of a higher ascent it confessed the family of Brockhull for its owners, which were lords of it but until the twenty-eighth of Edward the first, and then it was settled upon a daughter: but whether she brought it or not by marriage to Wadham, which family I find, about the latter end of Edward the third, to have been possessed of it, I cannot discover, and where the light of record is dim, I must acquiesce in silence William Wadham, as I trace out by an old pedigree of Fogg, lived in the reign of Henry the fourth, Henry the fifth, and Henry the sixth, under the sceptre of which princes he managed the office of justice of the peace, for the county of Somerset, and left his estate here, to his son and heir Sir Nicholas Wadham, who determined in a daughter and heir, matched to Sir William Fogg, by which alliance this manor came to be ingrafted into the inheritance of that family, and rested there until the first year of Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away by sale from Sir John Fogg, knight, to Ralph Banister. In times of a lower descent, that is, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, I find it, by court-rolls, possessed by Tucker, who about the latter end of that princess, alienated his concern in it to Smith, who in our fathers remembrance, transplanted the title by sale into doctor Fotherbie, dean of Canterbury, whose son, Mr. Charles Fotherbie, continues proprietor of it.

Secondly, Grove-place offers itself up to our notice, as being the habitation of a knightly family, called Grove, who in old deeds are sometimes written, at-Grove, and sealed, as appears by the labels affixed to their evidences, with three escallops upon a chevron. In the reign of Henry the sixth, I find it devolved by descent to Sir John Grove, who was a great benefactor to the church of St. Peter's, in Sandwich, where he lies buried, with the arms above-mentioned upon his shield: but not long after, this family determined in a daughter and heir, who linked this seat to the inheritance of St. Nicholas, who about the latter end of Edward the fourth, conveyed it to Quilter, in which name it was resident, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away to Linch, and hath remained ever since incorporated into the revenue of that family; so that at present it is come down to Mr. John Linch, a noble confessor for the interest of the church, and protestant religion.

There is a family in this parish called Omer, which as appears by old court-rolls, tombs, deeds, and other evidences, have been constantly resident almost four hundred years.

SEASALTER, in the hundred of Whitstaple, did belong to the priory of Christ-church, but by whom it was given, the records of that convent are silent; only I find that it was part of that revenue which supported their diet and table, and likewise I discover that pope Gregory the ninth, in the tenth year of his papacy, by his



bull, appropriated the parsonage to the priory above-mentioned, and likewise was granted for the better improving their livelihood and subsistence. If you will see under what notion it passed, in the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, Domesday Book will inform you, that it was valued upon the terrier, at two carucates of land, and upon the appraisement, was rated at five pound. This manor, upon the resigna=

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tion of that estate, which related to the convent aforesaid, into the hands of Henry the eighth, was settled by that prince on the newly erected dean and chapter of Christ-church, and there it remained, until these calamitous times.

Ellenden, in this parish, belonged to the abby of Feversham, and was (as the ledger book of that convent informs me) given to the monks of that cloister, by John Ellenden, and here it was incorporated and fixed, until the public dissolution unhinged, and unrooted it, and planted it in the crown; and afterwards king Henry the eighth, in the thirty-fifth year of his government, granted it to Mr. Thomas Arden, miserably afterwards assassinated by his wife at Feversham; and he the same year conveyed it to John Nedeham, from whom it came over to his son and heir John Nedeham, gentleman, and he, in the thirty-second year of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Mr. Michael Beresford, of Westerham, who not long after passed it away to Sir George Newman, doctor of the civil law, and knighted in the sixteenth year of king James; and from him, by successive right, it is now descended to his son and heir, George Newman of Rochester, Esquire.

SEALE, in the hundred of Codsheath, was a manor which belonged to the crown, until the first year of king John, and then it was passed away by grant, to Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albemard; and Hawis, his daughter and heir, by marrying with William Mareschall, earl of Pembroke, incorporated it into his demean; but Gilbert Mareschall, this man's successor, deceasing without issue, Roger de Bigod, earl of Norfolk, in right of Mawde his mother, who was sister and heir general to the abovesaid Gilbert, was settled in the possession of this manor, and he in the eleventh year of Edward the first, by gift or donation, transmits it to Otho, lord Grandison, a man certainly of great power in those times; for, as it appears, Pat. 4. Edwardi primi, he had a certain agreement woven of sundry articles, and made between Henry the third, and the king of Castile, deposited into his custody, in the fourth year of Edward the first; and in the fifth year of that prince, as appears, Pat. 5. in scedula, he had the government of Jersey assigned to his care, during life. After this family of Grandison went out, which was about the beginning of Richard the second (for Thomas de Grandison died possessed of Seale, in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, Parte prima Num. 62.) the noble family of Brian, of Holoway, in Devon, was invested in the possession, and Sir William Brian or Briene, for so he is stiled on his tomb, died possessed of it, in the year 1295, and lies buried in Seale church, mailed in armor, with a huntsman's horn at his head; upon which the conjecture of the country is, that he was a great hunter, when the truth is, it was placed there, to signify or denote the tenor of some part of his land, which was in cornage. But to return; the next family which succeeded Brian, in the inheritance of Seale, was the ancient family of Fiennes, and this, as I find by some court-rolls, was in the reign of Henry the fourth; and James Fiennes, second son of William Fiennes, Esquire, was, the first of March, in the twenty-fifth of Henry the sixth, summoned to the parliament at Bury, as baron of Say and Seale; but this place, after this newly atchieved honor, continued not long in this name; for William, lord Say, in the second year of Edward the fourth, passed it away to Geffrey Boleyne, grand-father to Sir Thomas Boleyne, who was made knight of the garter, and treasurer of the king's house, in the fifteenth, created viscount Rochford, in the seventeenth, and lastly raised to the earldom of Wiltshire, and Ormond, in the twenty-first of Henry the eighth; but his unfortunate son, George viscount Rochford, being beheaded and leaving no issue, it devolved to queen Elizabeth, in right of queen Anne her mother, one of the sisters and co-heirs, and she in the first year of her reign, passed it by grant, to her kinsman Henry Cary, whose grand-child, Henry Cary, earl of Dover, alienated it by sale to Richard Sackvill, earl of Dorset, who passed it away in our fathers memory, to Henry Smith, vulgarly called Dog-Smith, and he not many years since deceasing without issue, bequeathed the fee-simple of it to St. Thomas's hospital in Southwark, and eleven parishes besides in Surry.

Hall-place, in Seale, is a second place of account; it was in the thirty-sixth year of Edward the third, as an old rental discovers to me, (and farther none of the an=

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cient evidences do reach) the patrimony of Thomas Champneys, and he makes it over in part to Sir William Wroth of Enfield, and he, in the second year of Richard the second, alienated all his right and interest in it to Thomas Lovell, but some part remained unsold, until the nineteenth of the abovesaid prince, and then it was wholly invested by sale from Robert Champneys, in the aforesaid Thomas Lovell, and he, by his feoffees in trust, as namely John Osborne, John Arnold, Richard Marshall, and John Atsheath, conveyed it in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, to Thomas Theobald or Tebald, and Mawde his wife, and so by this purchase did it become the inheritance of this family, and made its abode here, until the twenty-fourth year of Henry the seventh; and then John Theobald alienated it to William Porter, which family, it is probable were concerned in it before; for in it the tenth year of Edward the fourth, I find John Alphey releases by deed, his right in Hall, to William Porter, Esquire; and from William Porter abovesaid, did the title flow down in the channel of paternal right, to Mr. Andrew Porter, who concluding in a daughter and heir, called Elizabeth, it is now, by marrying with her, become the patrimony of Mr. Peter Stowell, register of the diocese of Rochester.

Stidulfe is a third manor in Seale, which afforded both seat and surname, to a family so called. Robert de Stidulfe is mentioned in deeds, without date, to have held this, and much other land in Seale. In the thirty-sixth year of Edward the third, I find, Reginald Stidulfe, of Stidulfe, accounts with Thomas Champneis for land, held of this manor of Hall. And lastly, I discover, that William Stidulfe, about the eleventh year of Henry the sixth, by sale, conveyed it to William Quintin, whose son William, changed the name of Quintin into Oliver, upon what grounds I have discovered at Leybourn; and in this name was this manor lodged, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth; and then it was passed away to Richard Theobald, whose son John exchanged it with his kinsman Stephen Theobald, who dying without issue-male, left two co-heirs, Katharine married to Edward Michell, and Margaret, wedded to David Polhill, who shared his inheritance; and this, upon the division of the estate, augmented the revenue of Michell, and his descendant Mr. .... Michell, is now the heir apparent of it.

SEDINGBOURN, in the hundred of Milton, hath several places in its confines remarkable, whereof Bayford and Goodneston first claim our notice, the last of which had a castle, whose banks and ruins are yet visible; it anciently acknowledged the family of Nottingham, who likewise in elder times were possessed of Bayford for proprietors. Robert de Nottingham flourished in the reign of Edward the first, and dated several of his deeds in the beginning of that prince's rule, apud Castellum suum de Goodneston. Robert de Nottingham, his successor, was sheriff of Kent, the forty-eighth year of Edward the third, and held his shrievalty at Bayford, in Sedingburn, in which year he died, and was found to have held at his death, lands at Sharsted, Pedding in Tenham, a place called Newland, and another called la Herst, Higham in Milsted, Bixle in Tang, now called Bex, and lastly Goodneston and Babford, now named Bayford, in this parish, all which descended to his only son John Nottingham; whose only daughter and heir, Eleanor Nottingham, was married to Simon Cheney, second son of Sir Richard Cheney of Shurland, who brought all this spreading revenue, to acknowledge the signory of this family, and the coats of Cheney and Nottingham, viz. Azure six lions argent, a canton ermin and gules, two pales wavy argent, stand empaled in Milsted-church, in coloured glass. But this alliance, though it much enhanced by additional improvement the patrimony of Cheyney, yet could not so strongly entwine the interest of Bayford and Goodneston with his name; but that about the latter end of Henry the sixth, they were conveyed away by sale to Lovelace; for Richard Lovelace of Queenhith, in London, a younger branch of the Lovelaces of Bethersden, made his will the first of April 1465, and there ordained that his feoffees should make an estate of his manors of Bayford and Goodneston in Sedingbourn, which he had purchased of Cheyney, to John Lovelace, his son and heir, which accordingly was performed, and he invested in the possession of them; and from him did they by descent devolve to his grandchild Thomas Lovelace, of Kingsdown, who in the tenth year of

queen Elizabeth passed them away to Mr. Ralph Finch, from which family they went away by the same revolution, almost in our fathers memory, to alderman Garret of London, who had issue Sir John Garret, of the county of Hereford, whose widow dowager, the lady ..... Garret, by right of jointure, now enjoys the profits of both these manors.

Chilton is another manor in Sedingbourn, which had owners of this surname, who likewise held another manor of this name, in Ash, both which places William de Chilton held at his death, which was in the thirty-first of Edward the first; but after his exit, it did not long confess the proprietor of this family; for about the beginning of Edward the third, it was demised by sale to Corbie, and Robert Corbie was possessed of it at his decease, which was in the thirty-ninth year of that prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 9, and he had issue Robert Corbie, whose sole daughter and heir, Joan Corbie espoused Sir Nicholas Wotton, twice lord mayor of London, by whom this manor and much other land, came by a fruitful augmentation, to swell the inheritance of this family, yet I find the interest in Chilton was not solely lodged in Corbie; for by ancient deeds, I discover that an old family, called Maris, was concerned in some part of it likewise. John de Maris held a knight's fee in Wicheling, and much other land at Herietsham, the twentieth year of Edward the third, as likewise the manor of Ackmere, in St. Mary Crey, in castle-guard of Dover-castle: and his great grand-child William Maris, was sheriff of Kent, the twenty-first year of Henry the sixth, and was Esquire to Henry the fifth, and afterwards to Cardinal Kemp, and lies entered in Preston church, with so much of the inscription left, as may instruct the reader, that his ashes slumber beneath the tomb-stone: yet before his decease, he had alienated his share in this manor, to Nicholas Watton, Esquire, from whom the united interest of this place came down to Thomas lord Wotton, who not many years since, settled it in marriage, on Katherine his eldest daughter, married to Henry lord Stanhope, son and heir to Philip, earl of Chesterfield, lately deceased, who still enjoys the property of it.

In the year 1232, Henry, bishop of Rochester, as Thomas Rudborne, a monk of St. Swithen's, in Winchester, does relate, came on a sabbath day with much exultation out of Sedingham church, and desired the people to express their joy, because on that day, by the efficacious prayers of the church, Richard the first, formerly king of England, and many others, were ransomed from the flame and torment of purgatory.

In Sedingburn church there was a monument of Sir Richard Lovelace, inlaid richly with brass, who was an eminent soldier in his time, and Marshal of Calais; under Henry the eighth, with his portraiture affixed in brass, which the injuries of time, and the impiety of sacrilegious mechanicks, have utterly dismantled and defaced.

SELLING, in the hundred of Boughton, did in ages of the highest discovery, acknowledge the signory of the Putots, and William de Putot was in possession of it at his death, which happened in the thirteenth year of Henry the third. After the Putots, the lord Badelesmer were invested in the possession. Guncelin de Badelesmer was possessed of it, in the twenty-ninth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num 50. and left it with a spacious inheritance to his son Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, who having involved himself in a ruinous combination with some others of the mutinous nobility against Edward the second, lost both his life and estate in that unsuccessful defection, but this manor was restored to his son, in the second year of king Edward the third, and was known by the name of Bartholomew, lord Badelesmer; but did not long enjoy his new acquired inheritance; for in the twelfth year of the above-mentioned prince, he died without issue, and left his estate to be shared between four sisters and co-heirs, whereof Margaret, the eldest, was espoused to Sir John Tiptoft, and he in her right entered upon the possession of this place, and died possessed of it, in the thirty-third of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 39. from whom the title came down to John Tiptoft, created earl of Worcester, in the year 1450, and invested afterwards with the office and dignity of lord treasurer and lord constable of England; but asserting too eagerly the cause and quarrel of the

house of York, he was crushed and overwhelmed with that weight, with which

the partisans of the Lancastrian faction did endeavour to sink and oppress the supporters of that family, and was offered up a victim to the successful fury of Richard earl of Warwick, who being an apostate of the house of York, was the principal engine upon whom the designs and interest of the Lancastrian party then moved. Upon the untimely death and attain of this earl, which was in the year 1470, this manor was annexed to the revenue of the crown, and though Edward Tiptoft, this man's son, was the next year after his father's unhappy exit, restored by Edward the fourth, both in blood and dignity; yet I do not discover any restitution made of Selling; so that it rested in the crown, until Edward the sixth, in the fourth year of his reign, granted it to Sir Anthony St. Ledger, who immediately after passed it away to Sir Anthony Sonds, of Throuley, one of the justices of the peace of this county, and gentleman of the bed-chamber to this prince, and his father Henry the eighth, from whom it is now come down by paternal efflux of the title to Sir George Sonds, knight of the Bath, who is entituled to the present possession of it.

Oven-court, in this parish, anciently gave both seat and surname to a family, which was known by that denomination; but whether they were extracted from the Owens of Wales, and contracted this name of Oven, by vulgar acceptance, no record does manifest; certain it is they were, as appears by old rentals and other muniments, possessors of this place, as high as Henry the third.

The next family, which (after this was worn out) did step into the possession, was Drilond of Cookes-ditch, in Feversham, a name of generous extraction; for in the reign of Edward the third, John, the son of Stephen de Drilond, demises some land at Crouchfield, in Feversham, by a deed bearing date from the twenty-fifth year of that prince, to William de Makenade, and in that instrument he writes himself knight. After Drilond was extinguished, which was about the beginning of Edward the fourth, the Foggs became proprietors of it, and remained for divers years lords of the fee, until at last, the alternate devolution of purchase brought it to be the inheritance of Crouch, where it did not long fix, for in the year 1588, Giles Crouch alienated it to Michael Sonds, Esquire, afterwards knighted, from which family, in our fathers memory, it was conveyed away by sale to Franklin, from whom the same devolution hath brought it now to Lambe, who holds the instant signory of it.

Before I pass from Selling, I must inform the reader, that the greatest honour which this town acquired was, that it was the cradle of William Selling, bred up amongst the monks of Christ-church, who obtained licence from the chapter of that convent, to travel into Italy, and prosecute his studies at Bononia, where he arrived to that perfection of knowledge, that he was advanced to be prior of Christ-church, and was after sent by Henry the seventh, in whose eyes his worth was very visible, as his ambassador to the pope. Those incomparable books, which were placed in the library, which related to the convent, by his care and munificence, amongst which was Tully's invaluable Tractate de Republica, not long after his death, by an accident of fire, found an unhappy sepulchre in their own ashes. He died as full of fame as of years, in the year of grace 1494. And hath his epitaph registered by the industrious pen of Mr. Somner, in his survey of Canterbury.

SMERDEN, in the hundreds of Calehill, Blackborne, and Barckley, did anciently relate to the archbishop of Canterbury, and was part of that revenue which did keep up the grandeur and magnificence of that see, rescuing it from all cheapness and contempt, which induced John, then archbishop of Canterbury, this being so eminent a part of the spiritual patrimony, to obtain a grant of a market to be observed here weekly on the Monday, as appears, Pat. 6. Edwardi tertii Num. 47. But the principal place, which was always of secular interest within this parish, is Romden, which was the patrimony of an ancient family, called Hengherst, and in more modern times Henherst, who were entituled to large demeans at Woodchurch, Stapleherst, Yelding, and other places in this county; but made no long abode here at Romden; for William, son of Osbert de Hengherst, (so he calls himself in his deed without date) demised it to John de Calch, and in this family it continued until the latter end of Richard the second, and who after Calch succeeded in the in-

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heritance, because I can collect no further knowledge from original evidences, I confess I am ignorant, so that I am forced to leap over divers kings reigns, into that of king Henry the eighth, and then, in the twenty fourth year of that prince, I find that John, the son of Stephen Rogers, alienates it by sale to Stephen Drayner, and

it is probable Rogers purchased it of Norton, which family, as appears by the Feudaries book, held much land here at Smerden, and at, or near Romden. But to return; in Drayner the interest of this family was fixed, until the seventeenth of queen Elizabeth, and then William Drayner passed it away by sale, to Sir Roger Manwood, and he, in the eighteenth year of that princess, alienates it again to Martin James, Esquire, remembrancer of the exchequer, and from him, by the devolution of successive and paternal right, it is now come down to acknowledge the propriety of Mr. .... James.

SNERGATE, in the hundred of Aloe-bridge, celebrates the memory of an ancient family, stiled Alarar. Gervas Alarar was captain and admiral of the fleet of ships set forth and furnished by the cinque-ports, in the fourteenth year of Edward the first. Gervas Alarar was his grand-child, whose widow, Agnes Alarar, was in possession of it at her death, which was in the forty-second year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 1. But before the end of Henry the fourth, this family was shrunk into an expiration, and then Walter Moile, who was a judge in the reign of Henry the sixth, succeeded in the possession, and he by a fine, levied in the thirtieth year of Henry the sixth, demises to Hugh Brent, from whom about the latter end of Edward the fourth, it was conveyed away to Cheyney, and in this name it was fixed, until Henry lord Cheyney, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Henry Nevill, lord Aburgavenny, who in the twenty-ninth year of queen Elizabeth, dying without issue-male, Mary Nevill was found to be his sole inheritrix, and she by marrying with Sir Thomas Vane, knit this manor to his patrimony; and his son Francis Vane, created earl of Westmorland in the twenty-second year of king James, alienated it in our fathers memory to Jackman, who not long after, sold it to Sir Edward Henden, one of the barons of the exchequer, who upon his decease gave it to his nephew Sir John Henden, whose son and heir Edward Henden, Esquire, now enjoys the signory of it.

SMETH, in the hundred of Bircholt, hath in the limits of it Scots-hall, which is now, and hath been for divers descents, the inheritance of eminent gentlemen of that surname, whom I dare aver, upon probable grounds, were originally called Balioll. William Balioll, second brother to Alexander de Balioll, frequently writ his name William de Balioll le Scot, and it is probable, that upon the tragedy of John, earl of Atholl, who was made prisoner by Edward the first, and barbarously executed, in the year 1307, (whilst he endeavoured, more nobly than successfully, to defend the gasping liberty of Scotland, against the eruptions of that prince) this family, to decline the fury of that monarch, who was a man of violent passions, altered the name of Balioll, to that of their extraction and country, and assumed for the future the name of Scot. That the surname of this family was originally Balioll, I farther upon these reasons assert: First, the ancient arms of Balioll college, in Oxford, which was founded by John Balioll, and dedicated to St. Katharine, was a katharine-wheel, being still part of the paternal coat of this family; secondly, David de Strabogie, who was son and heir to the unfortunate earl abovesaid, astonished with an example of so much terror, altered his name from Balioll to Strabogie, which was a signory which accrued to him in right of his wife, who was daughter and heir to John Comin, earl of Badzenoth and Strabogie, and by this name king Edward the second, omitting that of Balioll, restored Chilham-castle to him for life, in the fifteenth year of his reign; thirdly, the earls of Bucleugh, and the barons of Burley, in Scotland, who derive themselves originally from Balioll, are known at this instant by no other surname, but Scot, and bear, with some inconsiderable difference, those very arms which are at present the paternal coat of this family of Scots-hall. Having thus traced out the name, I shall now represent a scale of those eminent persons, who have either directly, or collaterally been extracted from Scots-hall. Sir William Scot, who was knighted, the tenth of Edward the third, was

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lord chief justice, and knight marshal of England, in the reign of that prince. Sir Robert Scot was lieutenant of the tower, in the year 1424. Sir John Scot was comptroller of the house, one of the privy-council to Edward the fourth, and marshal of Calais. Thomas Scot, who was first bishop of Rochester, next of Lincoln, provost of Beverley, archbishop of York, lord chancellor of England, and privy councillor to king Edward the fourth, altered his name from Scot to Rotheram, as being the place of his education and nativity; but, it is probable, originally issued out from

this family. Sir William Scot, who was son to Sir John above-mentioned, was lord warden of the cinque-ports. Sir John Scot, his son, was knighted by the prince of Castile, for signal service performed by him, against the duke of Gueldres. Sir Reginald Scot was captain of the castle of Calais. Sir Thomas Scot was commander in chief of the Kentish forces, who assembled upon the plains by Northburn, to oppose the Spanish invasion, in the year 1588. All of which were, either directly or collaterally, predecessors (being of the same family,) to Edward Scot, now proprietor of Scot's-hall, Esquire, who was son and heir of Sir Edward Scot, who was made knight of the Bath, at the coronation of king Charles.

Thevegat is a second manor in this parish, which was in elder times, the inheritance of gentlemen of no mean account in this track. Robert de Passeley, or Passelew, (for they are promiscuously so written) was treasurer of England, under Peter de Rivallis, in the reign of Henry the third, as Matthew Paris, in the life of that prince, does record. Edmund de Passeley was with Edward the second, at Borough-bridge, in the seventeenth year, as the pipe-roll of that time discovers; and probably was instrumental in the defeat given there to the nobility, then in arms against that prince; and from him this manor did descend to John Passeley, Esquire, who in the reign of Edward the fourth, determined in Elizabeth, his sole heir, married to Reginald Pimp, Esquire, who likewise had the fate to conclude in a female inheritrix, called Ann, who was married to Sir John Scot, of Scot's-hall, and she united Thevegat to the revenue of that family; and from him is the right of it by descent transported to his successor Edward Scot of Scot's-hall, Esquire.

Smeth had the grant of a market procured to it by the archbishop of Canterbury, in the tenth year of Edward the third.

SHEPEBOURN, in the hundred of Wrotham, was the patrimony of an ancient family called Bavent, whose principal estate lay in Sussex and Surry. Adam de Bavent, in the twelfth year of Edward the first, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Shepbourn, and in the thirteenth year of that prince's reign, had, as appears, Pat. 13. Edwardi primi, Memb. 28. a grant of a market weekly to this place, to be held on the Monday, and a fair for three days space, at the feast of St. Giles; and this Adam de Bavent, or else his son, was one of those eminent Kentish gentlemen, who were embarked with Edward the first, in his expedition into Scotland, and was one of those who were created baronets, at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign. Roger de Bavent was summoned, in the fourteenth year of Edward the second, to sit in parliament as baron; after whom I find no more mention of this family, as possessors of this manor; for it is probable, the religion and muffled persuasion of those times, had so warped the piety and devotion of this family, that they settled on the priory of Leeds; for, by an old rental of that convent, I find it wrapped up in their demean, in the reign of Edward the third, and remained parcel of their income, until the general shipwreck, in the reign of Henry the eighth; and then it was in the thirty-sixth year of that prince, granted to Sir Ralph Vane, and Anthony Tutsham, Esquire, who not long after, having passed away his interest in it to Sir Ralph Vane, it hath continued ever since to acknowledge the absolute signory of this family, so that the right of it now rests in Sir Henry Vane, son and heir to Sir William Vane, secretary of estate to his late majesty.

Fairlane is an eminent seat in this parish, which likewise did confess the signory of the family of Bavent; but before the latter end of Edward the third, they had

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abandoned the possession of it, and then it came to confess the signory of Colepepers, who remained lords of the fee, until the latter end of Henry the fourth, and then it was transmitted by sale to Chown; in which family, after the proprietor had been constantly resident, until that age which almost was circumscribed within the verge of our remembrance, Sir George Chown, the last of this name at this place, desiring to contract his revenue solely within the confines of Sussex, alienated his estate here to Sir Henry Vane, comptroller of his late majesty's household, and principal secretary of state, who having much beautified and adorned the ancient fabrick with new additions, upon his late decease, bequeathed it to be enjoyed by his lady dowager.

STELLING, in the hundred of Lovingborough, was with Wadenhall, (which lies partly in this parish, and partly in Petham) parcel of the inheritance of the illustrious family of Haut; and William de Haut had Stelling and Wadenhall, in the first year of Edward the first, and this above-mentioned William, founded a chapel at Wadenhall, and dedicated it to St. Edmund, the Saxon king of the east angles, and in this family these manors continued, until the latter end of the reign of Henry the sixth, and then William Haut, lineally extracted from the above-said William, conveyed Stelling to Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham; and this being forfeited to the crown, upon the attainder of his grand-child, Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, this lay enwrapped in the royal revenue, until queen Mary, in the first year of her reign, granted it with much other land to Edward lord Clinton, who about the last year of that princess, alienated it to Mr. Henry Herdson, whose grand-child, Mr. Francis Herdson, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Mr. John Herdson, his uncle, who dying without issue, disposed of it by will, to his nephew, Sir Basill Dixwell, of Terlingham, in Folkstone; from whom, by descendent devolution, it is now come down to his heir general, Mr. Basill Dixwell, of Broom in Barham. But Wadenhall remained in the name of Haut, until by the steps of several descents, it was wafted along to Sir William Haut, one of whose two daughters and co-heirs, called Elizabeth, being married to Sir Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgebury, brought it to acknowledge the interest of that family; and he having exchanged it with Edward the sixth, it confessed the signory of the crown, until queen Elizabeth, in the forty-second year of her reign, granted it to Sir John Sotherton, baron of her exchequer, whose heir, in the memory of these times, gave up his right in it by the fatality of sale, to Mr. Benjamin Pere of Canterbury.

The advowson of the two parsonages, or rectories of Stelling and Upper Hardres, were granted to the priory of Tunbridge, in the twenty-sixth year of Edward the third, Pat. 3. part 2. Memb. 3.

SELLING, in the hundred of Street, hath several places in it, which cannot be declined without some memorial. Willmington and Somervill, are the first that occur, and they gave seat, and one of them surname, to a family of repute in that age, because I find they had land in other places in the county. Roger de Willmington, held the possession of them at his death, which was in the eleventh year of Edward the third, and left his estate here and elsewhere, to be shared between his four daughters and co-heirs, married to Ordmere, Bromming, Brockhull and St. Laurence; but upon the division of the estate, these accrued to St. Laurence, and in right of paternal devolution, John St. Laurence, son of Thomas St Laurence, held these at his decease, which was in the tenth year of Richard the second, and from him their right devolved to his son Thomas St. Laurence, whose sole daughter and heir Katharine, brought them to be the inheritance of Sir William Apulderfield; who about the latter end of Henry the sixth, passed them away to Ashburnham and Till; and the first of those having wholly settled his right in them by sale in Till, they rested in this family, until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then Peter Heyman, Esquire, having married the sole inheritrix of Till, they were transplanted into the patrimony of that family; and from him, the propriety descended to his great grand-child, my worthy friend Sir Henry Heyman, baronet, lately deceased.

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Haringe is a second place of consideration; it was, as high as any clew of record can lead us, the possession of the Gurneys. Hugh de Gurney, who is in the register of those who entered England with William, the Norman, held it under his scepter. In ages almost of the next step or descent, the Sharsteds had it; and Robert de Sharsted, who flourished under Edward the first, Edward the second, and died in the eighth year of Edward the third, was possessed of it at his decease; but this name was suddenly worn out, for in the time subsequent to this, Henry Brockhull, of Brockhull, in Saltwood, enjoyed it, who likewise had some interest in Willmington and Somervill, which his successor sold to Ashburnham; and here the propriety made its abode, until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then it was conveyed to Inglethorp; and to the demean of this name it was linked, until the beginning of Henry the seventh; and then it was wafted over by sale to Morton; and here the title lodged until our grandfathers memory; and then it was alienated to Willoughby; and Sir Francis Willoughby sold his concern in it to Ralph Hey-

man, Esquire; from whom it came over to his son and heir, Sir Peter Heyman, who some years since, upon the marriage of his second son Peter Heyman, settled it on him, whom yet it owns for proprietor.

Hodiford is the last place of any estimate. In elder times a family was settled here which borrowed its surname, as it did its residence, from this manor; for John Hodiford, or Hodinorth, was lord of the demesne; but when this name departed from this place, the Cardens were the next in order, who were possessors of the fee; from whom, by the vicissitude of sale, it was transmitted to Cobbe, where the title had not long been lodged, but it was by the like devolution, conveyed by James Cobbe, the last of the name who enjoyed it, to Thomas Godfrey, Esquire; a person to whom, by several engagements, both of learning and friendship, I stand now obliged.

SHELVICH, in the hundred of Feversham, was formerly the patrimony of Atleeze, a family of no contemptible value in this circuit, who laid the foundation of a house near the Leas, and from its situation extracted their surname; but the greatest honor which accrued to this house in elder times, was, that it was the cradle of Sir Richard Atleeze, who was sheriff of Kent, in the reign of Edward the third, and several times a member or burgess of those parliaments which assembled in that age; but dying without issue, Marcellus Atleeze, his only brother, became his heir, but he not long after made his exit, in two daughters and co-heirs, whereof Lucy, the eldest, was married to John Norton, Esquire, and Cicely, the youngest, was married to Valentine Barret, of Perry-court: but Norton, upon the division of the estate, was in his wife's right entitled to this manor; and in this family, after the title had for many descents resided, it was by an even thread of succession, guided down to Sir Thomas Norton, of Milton; who not many years since, passed away to Sir Richard Sonds, originally extracted from an ancient family, which about the reign of Henry the third, had their habitation at Sonds-place, at Darkin, in Surry, whose son and heir, Sir George Sonds, knight of the bath, by descent from him, claims the interest and signory of it, and hath, upon the old foundation of Leeze-court, erected a pile so set out with all the cunning and pomp of magnificence, that it is scarcely to be out-rivalled by a fabrick of that bulk, in any part of the English nation. Sir Richard Atleeze lies entombed in Shelvich church, under a fair grave-stone, with his portraiture in brass annexed, as likewise that of his lady, as fairly insculptured, with this epitaph affixed to both their figures; *Hic jacet Dominus Ricardus Atleese, miles, ac Domina Dionisia uxor ejus, qui quidem Ricardus obiit Anno Dom. 1394.*

Coperhams-Sole, in this parish, for several centuries of years, hath confessed the Belks to have been its proprietors; who it is probable extracted their name out of Denmark, where the name is yet spreading, and the family noble and numerous. Stephen de Belk is mentioned in Testa de Nevill, a book kept in the exchequer, to have paid respective aid for land, which he held in this track, at the marriage of Isabel, sister to Henry the third, in the twentieth year of that prince's reign, which is enough to justify the antiquity of this family in this track.

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Shepeards Forstall was for many descents the possession of a family called Ruck, one of whom lies entombed at Rye, and was an eminent person, in the reign of Henry the eighth, being bow-bearer to that prince; and bore for his coat armour, as it appears affixed to his grave-stone, sable, a plain cross argent, between four flowers de lis, or. The last of this name which held this place, was Nicholas Rucks, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, dying without issue, gave it to his nephew Mr. Nicholas Oliver, who hath lately passed it away by sale, to the college of All-souls, in Oxford.

Lords is the last place of account in Shelvich. In the reign of Edward the second, and Edward the third, it had owners of that surname; but ever since the latter part of Richard the second, it hath constantly acknowledged the family of Giles, until this present, to have been its successive proprietors. One of this family, called Alexander Giles, was steward to the abbot of Lesnes, in the reign of Edward the third, and I have seen a release under his hand and seal, given to one John Walden, of Erith, in the twenty fifth of the abovesaid prince, for some services due from that person of the convent abovesaid.



SEVINGTON, in the hundreds of Charts and Longbridge, was, in ages of as high as any record can step to, the Barrie's, a family of great antiquity in this track. Sir Roger de Barrie is in the register of those, who were engaged in Ireland, under Henry the second, where he was the first, as Mr. Camden reports, which manned and brought the hawk to hand; and grew up to that repute, that he was called by the Irish Barriemore, or the great Barrie. William de Barrie, this man's successor, was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, for this county, in the time of king John, and lived at the Moat in this parish, where many of his successors, who were lieutenants of Dover-castle, and conservators of the peace in Kent, had their residence; the last of whom was Robert Barrie, whose female heir brought this manor to Radcliff, and he not many years since conveyed the Moat to Alcock, by whose daughter and heir it is now united to the demean of Bois.

SEVENOKE, is like a fountain which streams into several places of note, which we cannot pass by without some consideration. The first is Blackhall, which was the possession of a family called Totihurst; the first of whom I find possessed of it was William de Totihurst, and he flourished here, as appears by the ancient court-rolls, a great part of the reign of Edward the third, and Richard the second. The next whom I find by the same evidences settled in the inheritance, is Thomas Totihurst, and he held it in the reign of Henry the fifth, and Henry the sixth, and had issue Robert Totihurst, who was, as appears by an inscription upon his tomb, servant to cardinal Bouchier, and died possessed of this manor, in the year 1512, and transmitted it to his son Thomas Totihurst, Esquire, justice of the peace of this county, who about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated it to Sir Ralph Boswell, great grand-father to Sir Leonard Boswell, who dying without issue, his sister the lady ..... Boswell, widow to Sir William Boswell, as heir general to her brother, is now entered upon it.

Brabourne is the second place of account. The first whom I find possessed it, was Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albemarle. Falcatus de Brent, who so vigorously asserted the cause, and quarrel of king John against his barons, and afterwards merited very much of his son Henry the third, at the battle of Lincoln, where a considerable part of those forces, which Lewis, the Dauphin of France had transported into England, to support the confederacy of the seditious barons, was dissipated and discomfited. But afterwards, all national animosities being charmed into slumber by a general peace, he desiring still to improve the flame of war, since from that he expected both heat and light, seized on the castle of Bedford, which was not wrung from him without the expence of much blood and treasure; to expiate which crime, his estates here and elsewhere, was in the fifth year of Henry the third, forfeited to the crown, as being the price of so great an insolence. And then the abovesaid monarch granted it wholly to Baldwin de Beten, earl of Albemarle; and Hawis, his daughter and co-heir, brought it to her husband William Mareschall, earl of Pembroke; but Gilbert Mareschall, this man's successor, dying without

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issue, Roger de Bigod, earl of Norfolk, in right of Mawde his mother, who was his sister and heir, entered upon it, and he in the eleventh year of Edward the first, gives it to Otho, lord Grandison. After this family was worn out, I find, by an ancient court-roll, one Walter de Pevenley or Pemley, possessed of it, in the reign of Edward the third, and he, it is possible, erected the house, which in old deeds is written Pevenley or Pemley-court. But, before the beginning of Henry the sixth, this family was extinguished and gone, and then the Ashe's were the succeeding proprietors, a family which before were lords of much land in this track, and in ancient deeds were written de Fraxino, from their habitation, near some place planted with those trees; and it is probable derived their descent from Thomas de Esse, who was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the fourth year of king John, as appears by the pipe-rolls of that time; and certainly to this name did a considerable part of the fabrick of the house owe its first original, as appears by the coat in divers of the windows; videlicet, azure, three chevrons argent. In fine, after this seat and manor had for many years been resident in this family, it was, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, alienated to Mr. Ralph Boswell, whose great grand-child dying without issue, his sister, the lady Margaret Boswell, is now become the heir general of this place.

Rumpsted, and in very old evidences written Rumpshot, was the inheritance of a family, which was known by that surname. It is superfluous to inform the world how many, by old deeds, are represented to have been possessors of this place, amongst whom Sir William de Rumpsted is most eminent, who flourished here, in the reign of Edward the third, and, as the constant and successive tradition of the inhabitants of this parish is, was foster-father to William de Sevenoke, who was found a desolate and forlorn orphan in the hollow body of an oak, received both reception and education from the charity and benevolence of the above-mentioned person, in whose lineage the propriety of this place did not long after settle; for by an old court-roll, I find it in the reign of Henry the sixth, in the tenure of Nissell; but this family not long after determining in a female heir, she by marrying with Bere, brought it to acknowledge itself to be one of the interest of this family, but staid not long in the name; for about the beginning of Henry the eighth, it was made by purchase the possession of Peckham, from whom, not many years after, by the same fatality, it went away to Bedell. Nicholas Bedell, in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, demised it to John Stacy of Hellenden, and John Stacy, in the fourth and fifth of Philip and Mary, conveys it to Richard Lone, and his successor, Mr. Richard Lone, hath very lately, by sale, transmitted his interest here to Thomas Lambert, formerly of West-Combe, in Greenwich, Esquire.

Knoll is the last place of account in Sevenoke. It had, in times of elder inscription, the same owner with Brabourne, and Seale, not far distant, as namely, Falcatus de Brent, Baldwin de Betun, earl of Albemarle, William Mareschall, earl of Pembroke, and Roger de Bigod, earl of Norfolk, who in the eleventh year of Edward the first, granted it with Seale, and much other land, which devolved to him in right of Mawde his mother, who was sister and heir to her brother Gilbert le Mareschall, earl of Pembroke, to Otho de Grandison, and in his descendants did it continue, until the beginning of Richard the second, and then it was conveyed by Sir Thomas Grandison, to Geoffrey de Say; yet I do not find that the possession of this place entirely planted in Grandison, for an inquisition taken after the death of Reginald de Cobham, in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 62. Parte prima, represents him to have had some share or concern in it; yet however it were thus broken into parcels, the inheritance of this manor was wholly, after this, placed in Geoffrey de Say, as appears by some court-rolls, which commence from the reign of Richard the second; but he determining in daughters and co-heirs, Joan, one of them, upon the division of his estate, brought this as an addition to the patrimony of her husband Sir William Fiennes; and in this family, when the possession had had a respite, until the reign of Edward the fourth, it was by Sir William Fiennes passed away by sale to Thomas Bouchier, archbishop of Canterbury, who added much of pomp and magnificence, by a new supplement or structure to the ancient pile or fabrick, and dying bequeathed it to the see of Canterbury, as a con-

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venient palace for his successors; but when William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, in the reign of Henry the eighth, saw that the grandeur of this mansion was looked upon, both with an eye of emulation and envy, by the laity of those times, he, to allay that murmur and regret, in the twelfth year of the abovesaid prince, exchanged it with the crown; and here it rested, until Edward the sixth, in the second year of his reign, granted it to Edward Seymour, duke of Somerset, protector of the realm, in the minority of that prince; who being convicted of felony, in the fourth year of that king, it escheated back to the crown; and then it was in that year, by a new grant, settled on John Dudley, duke of Northumberland; but he being intoxicated with the fumes of ambition, broke out into such treasonable and seditious practices, against the right and title of queen Mary, that they could not be expiated, but with the loss of his life, and forfeiture of his estate; and then this seat, upon his unsuccessful exit, returning to the crown, it was by the abovesaid princess granted to her cousin Reginald Poole cardinal, for his life, and a year after, as he should by testament dispose. After his death, it reverts again to the crown, and then queen Elizabeth, in the third year of her reign, grants it to Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester, and he the same year resigning it back into the hands of his sovereign, it was by lease made over to John Lennard, of Chevening, Esquire; but the fee-simple was by royal concession invested, in the seventeenth year of queen Elizabeth, in Thomas Sackvill, lord Buckhurst, and his grand-child Richard Sack-

vill, earl of Dorset, almost in our remembrance, conveyed the fee-simple (reserving it yet still in lease to himself and his heirs, paying such a rent-charge, as is there specified, for ninety and nine years) to Mr. Henry Smith, vulgarly called Dog-Smith; who upon his decease, not many years since, settled the propriety of it for ever upon St. Thomas's hospital, in Southwark.

The honour of Sevenoke was granted by queen Elizabeth, to her kinsman Henry Carey, lord Hunsdon, in the first year of her reign, from whom it devolved to his grand-child Henry Carey, earl of Dover; he passed it away by sale to Richard Sackville, earl of Dorset, who alienated his interest in it to Mr. Henry Smith, who upon his above-mentioned decease, gave it with Knoll, which both were exchanged, and so united to the royal demean by William Warham, to the hospital of St. Thomas, in Southwark.

Kepington is the last place considerable in this parish, which was wrapt up in that demean, which owned the signory of the lords Cobham, of Cobham, as appears by an inquisition taken in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 62. Parte secunda, and after a decursion of several descents, came by the heir general of this family, to be possessed by Brook, whose descendant, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Burges, and by his sister and heir it came over to Hanger, who alienated it to Cowper, and he not long since to Mr. Thomas Farnaby.

SPELHERST, in the hundreds of Somerden, Codsheath, and Watchlingstone, hath many places in it of repute. First, Grome-bridge, which is a chapel of ease belonging to Spelherst, and is dedicated to St. John; it is in old registers written Gromen-bridge, and Gormen-bridge, from some Saxon, who was anciently owner of it, as Godmanchester in Huntingdonshire, upon the same account, in old orthography, bears the name of Gormonchester, a Saxon having been possessor of it of that denomination. This manor, in elder times, confessed the dominion and title of the noble family of Cobham. Henry de Cobham, and Joan his wife, obtained a market to be observed weekly on the Thursday, and a fair three days yearly; videlicet, the vigil, the day of St. John Port-latine, and the day after, as is manifest from an old charter, which I have seen, whose date commences from the fourteenth year of Edward the first, the market and fair were kept, where now the new chapel is erected by the piety and expence of that worthy patriot John Packer, Esquire, late one of the clerks of the privy seal. After the Cobhams were departed from the possession of this place, the lords Clinton became, by purchase, proprietors of it; and John de Clinton, who was often summoned to sit as baron in parliament, in the time of Richard the second, died possessed of it, in the twenty-second year of that prince,

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Rot. Esc. Num. 16. from whom the title flowed in this family, until the latter end of Henry the fourth, and then it was passed away to Waller of Lamberherst, where, and in Sussex, they were before masters of very ample possessions; for Thomas Waller, and Katharine his wife, granted to Thomas Waller, of Lamberherst, his father, Richard Brenchley and John Brook, all his lands, messuages, and tenements, in the villages and parishes of Rotherfield, Witheham, Wadhurst, Lamberherst, Little Horsted, Alfricheton, and Bucksted, together with the moiety of the advowson of the church of Little Horsted, as appears, Claus. 11. Richardi secundi in Dorso Memb. 35. Richard Waller, Esquire, was sheriff of Kent, the sixteenth year of Henry the sixth, and kept his shrievalty at Grome-bridge, and was before sheriff of Surry and Sussex, in the twelfth year of that prince. This is that renowned soldier, that in the time of Henry the fifth, took Charles duke of Orleans, general of the French army, prisoner at the battle of Agincourt, brought him over into England, and held him in honourable restraint or custody at Grome-bridge, which a manuscript in the heralds-office, notes to be twenty-four years; in the time of which his recess, he newly erected the house at Grome-bridge upon the old foundation, and was a benefactor to the repair of Spelherst church, where his arms remain in stone-work over the church porch; but, lest such a signal piece of service might remain entombed in the sepulchre of unthankful forgetfulness, the prince, to convey the memory of this glorious action to posterity, assigned to this Richard Waller, and his heirs for ever, an additional crest, videlicet, the arms or escocheon of France, hanging by a label on an oak, with this motto affixed, Hæ Fructus Virtutis. This Richard was great grand-father to William Waller, of Grome-bridge, Esquire,

sheriff of Kent, the twenty-second year of Henry the eighth, and he was father to Sir Walter Waller, who was grand-father to Sir William Waller, now possessor of Winchester-castle, and father of Sir Thomas Waller; which Sir Thomas, almost in our fathers memory, passed away Grome-bridge to Thomas Sackville, earl of Dorset, whose grand-child Richard, earl of Dorset, not many years since conveyed it to John Packer, Esquire, father to ..... Packer, Esquire, now possessor of this place.

There was a chantry founded at Grome-bridge, in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the third, by William Russell, and Hawis his wife, as appears by the first book of compositions in Registro Roffensi.

Hollands, in this parish, next calls for a view. It was, in ages of a very high date, the patrimony of a noble family of that surname, and are in the chartularies of this parish, recorded to have been great benefactors to the church of Spelherst, and were allied to Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, who married with Joan, daughter of Edmund of Woodstock; but, before the beginning of Henry the sixth, this family was worn out, and vanished, and then the Wallers stepped into the possession, in which family the right of it did many years reside, until it was in our fathers memory alienated to Thomas Sackville, earl of Dorset, from whose successor it passed away by sale to Lindsey, and from him, not many years since, the like revolution carried it off to Caldicot.

Ferbies is another seat of no vulgar consideration in Spelherst, if we consider that it gave surname to a family of important account in this track, who had their ancient residence at this place, and sealed, as high as Edward the third, with a fess ermin, between three goats heads erased, in labels affixed to their deeds, which was the paternal coat-armour of John de Fereby (for so is the name written in ancient muniments) who flourished in the reign of Edward the second and Edward the third. But this man's posterity being desirous to transplant themselves to Pauls Croy, where they had before purchased lands, called Hokinden of Dynley, about the latter end of Richard the second, conveyed that estate they had here, about the beginning of Henry the sixth, to Waller of Grome-bridge, and continued for many years folded up in the revenue of that family, until very lately it varied its possessor, being by purchase made the inheritance of alderman Chiverton, of London.

Rust-hall, in this parish, had likewise proprietors of that surname, one of which family called John Rust, was mayor of Feversham, in the reign of Henry the sixth, and there lies entombed, and about that age, this family surrendered their concerns here by sale to Waller, in which name it resided, until the forty-second

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year of queen Elizabeth; and then it was conveyed by Richard Waller, Esquire, to Mr. George Stacy; who not long after passed it away to Bing, in which family the possession is at this instant fixed.

Ewherst is the last place which must be mentioned, and indeed it is worth our recording, because this and Read in Marden, was the ancient patrimony of Read, many descents before. Sir Robert Read, lord chief justice of the common pleas, in the reign of Henry the seventh, transplanted himself to Chiddingstone, by marrying with the co-heir of Alphew, yet still remained possessor of this place, which he transmitted with Katharine, one of his four daughters and co-heirs, married to Sir Thomas Willoughby, and after the title had been united to this family, by the links of some descent, it was by sale not long since transferred to Knight.

SIBERTS-WOULD, vulgarly called Shepeards-well, lies in the hundred of Bewborough, and hath two places in it worth our notice. The first is West-court, which was given (as the records of Christ church testify) to Alfric the abbot, by king Etheldred, in the year 944, and conveyed not long after by Scotlandus the abbot, his successor, to the archbishop of Canterbury, and hath been ever since as a limb or branch of that see.

Upton-court is a second place of repute. Several old dateless deeds discover to us, that it was in elder times the patrimony of a family called Upton; from whom it is probable, that the Uptons of Feversham, who for many years have flourished there under a fair estimate of antiquity, were originally descended; but before the end of Edward the third, this family was crumbled away at this place, and then the Goldsburghs or Goldsboroughs, were invested in the possession, and remained masters of

this seat, until the beginning of Henry the seventh, and then this name began to moulder away into decay and oblivion, and surrendered their interest here by sale to Guldford, in which name it found an abode, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was conveyed to John Bois, Esquire, ancestor to John Bois, of Fredvill, Esquire, now lord and proprietor of it.

SWINKFIELD, in the hundred of Folkstone, was originally, and as high as any evidence will leave us any track or print to walk by to a discovery, the possession of the noble family of Crioll, who held here two little manors called Bonington, alias Bointon, and Northcourt, which were both given by Nicholas Keriell, or Crioll, in the third year of Richard the second, to one John Phineux, Esquire, for that protection and shelter, which he by a magnanimous and vigorous assistance supplied him with, even to the saving of his life, at the battle of Poitiers, and being thus fastened to this family, the interest of both these places continued intermingled with their inheritance, until they came, by successive descent, to be possessed by John Phineux, Esquire, extracted from a son by a second wife of Sir Joseph Phineux the judge, who determined in a daughter and heir, married to Sir John Smith, who in her right was invested in the property of both these places, from whom they are now come down to his grand-child Philip Smith, viscount Strangford.

There was a præceptory here at Swingfield, which belonged to the knights hospitalers, of the nature, capacity, and condition of which I have spoken before at Little-Peckham, which upon the suppression of their order here in England, was by Henry the eighth, in the thirty third of his reign, granted to Sir Anthony Aucher; who not long after passed it away to Palmer, descended from an ancient family of that surname in Sussex, so that it is now the inheritance of Sir Henry Palmer, of Wingham, baronet.

In the twentieth year of Edward the third, John Monins held land here, and paid respective aid for it, as the Book of Aid informs me, at making the Black Prince knight. I should not have mentioned this record, but to shew, that this noble and eminent family (I am bold to call them so, since the above-mentioned John Monins is stiled in the former record, Esquire) can put in its claim to as high and illustrious descent, as most of the families of this county can justly and primitively entitle themselves to.

SNODLAND, in the hundred of Larkfield, was given to the priory of St. Andrews, in Rochester, by Egbert, king of the West-Saxons, in the year 838, and is an appendage to Halling, being settled by Henry the eighth, upon the suppression of the former convent, on the dean and chapter of Rochester.

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The Courtlodge, by the church, was, as high as I can by the guide and direction of the evidence trace out, the Palmers, who, as appears by very ancient deeds, sealed with a chevron, between three Palmers scrips. William le Palmer, who was owner both of this and Rye-house, in Otford, flourished here in the reign of Edward the third, and stood depicted in the church-window, with the above-recited arms on his tabard or surcoat, until some rude hand defaced the signature. Another of his name lies entombed in Snodland church, whose epitaph, alluding to his name, is registered by Weaver, amongst his printed monuments, of the diocese of Rochester; and after this name was extinguished at this place, the Leeds's were the next family, who by purchase entituled themselves to the possession of it, and I remember amongst some church-notes of this county, collected by the eminent Robert Glover, Esquire, there is mention of one William Leeds, who lies interred in Snodland church, with his arms, viz. a fess between three eagles, affixed to his grave-stone; but it seems the date, portraiture, and coat, being insculped in brass, were by sacrilegious hands torn off, for now there is no appearance of them, nor of this family neither, who not many years since, dispossessed themselves of their interest in this place, and by sale gave it up to Whitfield of Canterbury.

There is a second seat in Snodland, called Holoway-court, and in the Book of Aid, mention is made of one Henry de Holoway that held it in elder times, about the beginning of Henry the third; but upon a serious perusal of the evidences, and monuments, which did relate to this mansion, I found it, as high as they reached, that is, to the reign of Edward the third, to be the inheritance of the Tilghmans; and several very old panes of glass are coloured with that coat of arms, which the Tilghmans are entered with, in the last visitation of Kent, and in this name was

the possession for many descents permanent, till some forty years since, or more, it was by sale conveyed to Clotworthy, extracted from the Clotworthies of Devon, who by testamentary donation, transmitted the interest of it to his sister's son, Mr. Thomas Williams.

STONE, in the hundred of Feversham, was, when it flourished most, but a chapel of ease to Tenham; but it is grown up to some repute, since Simon de Langton, archdeacon of the church of Canterbury, brother to Stephen de Langton, the archbishop, gave to the monks of Christ-church, in Canterbury, in the year 1227, omnes decimas majores & minores, de Copton & Eylwarton, infra limites capellæ de Stone. Now this Copton and Eylwarton were manors anciently given to the monks of Canterbury, by Edmund, son of queen Edgiva, ad victum eorum, for the supply of diet, in the year of our Lord 980.

Wildemersh, in this village, deserves a remembrance, in that it was part of the patrimony of the ancient family of Donett; for it was in the enjoyment of John Donett at his death, which was in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third. But not long did it fix there; for James Donett, his successor, died without issue-male, and left only a daughter and heir called Margery, who being married to John St. Leger, this in her right went into the possession of that family; from whom the ordinary revolution of sale, conveyed it to Richard Dryland, from which name, by the like channel, the inheritance flowed into Sir Anthony Aucher, predecessor to Sir Anthony Aucher, of Bourne; and here, for ought I yet can collect, is the fee-simple of it settled.

STONE, in the hundred of Acstane, had formerly a castle, which acknowledged the Northwoods for its founders, as their arms insculped in the old stone-work, now dismantled, did easily demonstrate. In the twentieth year of Edward the third, John de Northwood paid respective aid at making the Black Prince knight, for his manor and castle, and although it now lies wrapped up in its own ruins, yet the shell or skeleton of it, within which Sir Richard Wiltshire laid the foundation of that fabrick now extant, represents to the eye some symptoms of its former strength and magnificence. From Northwood it passed away by sale to Butivant, corruptly called Bonivant, and from this family a fatality like the former carried it down to Chomley; from him, by as quick a current, the fee-simple was transported to Chapman, whose widow Elizabeth Chapman, being re-married to Joseph Preston, he in her right, as I find by some court-rolls, was possessed of it; but her son Thomas Chapman, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, concluded in Anne

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his sole heir, who by marrying with Mr. William Carew, devolved the right on his family; from whom, in right of that alliance, it is now descended to his successor Mr. Henry Carew.

Littlebroke, in this parish, did first own a family of that surname, as is evident from ancient dateless deeds, wherein Laurence de Broke is represented to have been possessor of it; but this family before the end of Edward the third, had deserted the possession, and transplanted it by sale into Northwood; and John Northwood, about the latter end of Richard the second, passed it away to Roger Apylton; which Roger lies buried (as the date on his tomb informs us) in Crayford-church, in the year 1400. And from him does Sir Henry Apylton, baronet, not only claim his descent, but his interest in this manor also.

The manor of Cotton \* is embraced within the precincts of Stone likewise. It was, as high any private or publick record can conduct us on to a discovery, the possession of a family who extracted their surname from hence, and had the appellation of Coton or Cotton. John de Cotton held this manor in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and paid a respective supply for it at making the Black Prince, knight, and from their identity of armorals (this family sealing with a chevron, between three griffins heads erased) I guess it is probable the noble family of Cotton, of Lanwade, in Cambridgeshire, was originally extracted from hence. But about the entrance of Henry the eighth, I find this family dislodged from this place, and the propriety transplanted into Killingworth, of Sutton at Hone, in whom the title had not been long preserved, when a devolution like the former conveyed it to Sir Richard Wiltshire, who going out in a daughter and heir, by her it came to Sir

Richard Wingfield, from which family, in our fathers memory, the fee-simple was carried off by sale to Evans, and by the heir general of this name, it is not long since come to confess the signory of the ancient family of Massingbeard.

The manor of Stone itself was (as the records of the church of Rochester intimate) given to Godwin, then bishop of that see, and the priory of St. Andrews in that city, by king Etheldred, in the year nine hundred.

STOKE, in the hundred of Hoo, was given to the priory of St. Andrews, in Rochester, by Eadbert, king of Kent, in the year 762. And upon the suppression, being surrendered to the crown, it was by Henry the eighth settled on his newly erected dean and chapter of Rochester. But here are two places which are of secular interest. The first is Malmain, which yielded both seat and surname to a family which fell under that denomination; for I find John de Malmain, son of Henry, died possessed of it, in the tenth year of Edward the second, and in this family it remained, until the latter end of Richard the second, and then it was conveyed to Iden, a family of generous rank in elder times about Rolvenden, and here it lay couched in the demean of this family, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away to Joseph Park, who dying without issue-male, settled it on Elizabeth, his sole heir, married to Joseph Roper, Esquire, from whom by paternal succession, the inheritance came down to his descendant Christopher Roper, baron of Tenham, who left it to his second son William Roper, Esquire, who not long since hath conveyed it to ..... Jones, of the Inner Temple, Esquire. Tudor's is the second, which anciently confessed a family of that appellation to be its original possessors, whose name was in all probability primitively Theodore, for I have seen an ancient roll of Kentish arms, wherein Tudor, of Stoke, bears the same coat with Owen Theodore, vulgarly called Tudor, viz. azure, a chevron between three helmets argent. But to proceed; when this family dislodged from this, for want of intelligence I confess I know not; only in the reign of Henry the eighth, I find it possessed by Woodward, in which family the title remained invested until the entrance of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to Wilkins, from whom, by a quick alienation it went away, and resigned up its interest by sale to Bright, and in the revenue of his descendant is the property of it yet wrapped up.

STOURMOUTH, in the hundred of Blengate, was a piece of that large revenue, which owned the signory of Hussey. In the fifth year of Henry the third,

\* This manor of Cotton was granted to William Cecill, lord Burleigh, and Sir Francis Walsingham, for a thousand years, in the fifth of queen Elizabeth; afterwards Heron, Harrington, and Manning successively enjoyed it upon the same conditions, and the heirs of Manning are now entituled to it.

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Henry le Hussey obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Stourmouth, and his grand-child Henry le Hussey died possessed of it, in the sixth year of Edward the third, but alas! neither the nobleness of the name, nor wideness of the franchise could keep this family from departing from this place; for about the latter end of Henry the fourth, I find it in the tenure of the eminent family of Apulderfield; but settled not long here, for Sir William de Apulderfield, about the middle of Edward the fourth, concluded in Elizabeth Apulderfield, who was his sole daughter and heir, who by marrying with Sir Joseph Phineux, lord chief justice of the King's-bench, in the reign of Henry the seventh, made it his demean; but the title of this place did not long fix here; for, he dying without issue-male, Jane his only daughter became his only heir, who by marrying of Joseph Roper, Esquire, of St. Dunstan's, in Canterbury, linked it to the demean of this family; from whom, in a continued current of descent, the propriety of it is now flowed down to William Roper, a cadet or younger branch of this stem.

SHORNE, in the hundred of Shamell, was, as high as the reign of king John, the patrimony of the noble family of Nevil. Jordanus, and in some old deeds written Jollanus de Nevil, was his son and heir, who held this manor in the thirtieth year of Henry the third; but after him I can track no farther mention of this family at this place; for in the fifty fourth of Henry the third, as appears by the pipe-roll of that year, I discover Roger de Norwood to be the lord of the fee; this was that Roger

de Norwood, who disdaining to have his lands held in that lazy and sluggish tenure of Gavelkind, changed it into the more active one of knight's service, in the fourteenth year of Henry the third, still reserving to himself, by that licence by which he obtained a grant of the first, to reserve the ancient rent whereby his lands held, even in the time of the Conqueror; and he in the thirteenth year of Edward the first, died possessed of this manor, and all its perquisites at Oisterland, in Cliff, and other places, and left it to his son and heir Sir John de Norwood, who together with his eldest son Sir John de Norwood, accompanied that triumphant prince Edward the first, in his victorious design undertaken against the Scots, in the twenty-eighth of his reign. The manor of Shorn, holding by this tenure, viz. to carry a white banner forty days together at their own charge, whensoever the king should commence a war in Scotland, as appears by an inquisition taken after the death of Roger de Norwood, in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 23. Parte secunda. And this was customary, not only in England, but elsewhere; for Mr. Selden, in his title of honour, observes out of Prelusius's discourses upon the state of Poland, in the year 1530, Albert, marquiss of Brandenburg, and marquiss of the Teutonic or Dutch order in Prussia, received his investiture into that Duchy, per vexilli traditionem, by the delivery of a banner from the hands of Sigismund, king of Poland, and his brother George, at his being enstated in that signory by this ceremony, and was suo & fratrum nomine vexillum contingere, in his own, and the name of his brother, to place his hands upon the banner; and when the above-mentioned banner was delivered to an heir, who had not his title and right free from the claim of an ambiguous and perplexed competition, he was only admitted ad contactum extremitatum vexilli ejusdem, to touch the utmost extreme parts of this banner. The tenure which was annexed to this investiture, was this, to assist the king of Poland with an hundred horse, whensoever he should personally advance into the field against an enemy.

But to return; Joseph de Norwood was the last of this name, whom I find settled in the inheritance of Shorne, and he enjoyed it at his decease, which was in the second year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 35. But before the latter end of the reign of that prince, it was removed from the possession of Norwood, and by sale placed in the noble and ancient family of Savage, of Bobbing-court; but not long after Sir Arnold Savage determining in Eleanor, his sole inheritrix, who was first married to Sir Reginald Cobham, by whom she had no issue, and after to William Clifford, Esquire, she by this alliance united it to the patrimony of this last family, and after the Cliffords were divested of the possession, the family of Brook, barons of Cobham, succeeded in the inheritance, the last of whom who enjoyed it, was Henry lord Cobham, who being attainted in the reign of king James, the propriety of it was purchased of the crown, by Robert earl of Salisbury, who passed it away to Sir Joseph Lewson, father to Sir Richard Lewson, of the county of Stafford, who desiring to circumscribe and collect his scattered interest which lay dispersed in

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several parcels in this county, into the closer circumference of Staffordshire; alienated this manor, almost in our remembrance, with all its adjuncts at Oisterland, in Cliff, and other perquisites and out-skirts, to Mr. Woodier of Rochester, in whose lineage and name the title of it at this instant lies treasured up.

Ockington in this parish, was a limb that made up the body of that revenue, which anciently did swell into so vast a bulk and dimension in this track, and acknowledged for proprietors the noble family of Cobham, as appears by an inquisition taken in the sixth of Edward III. Rot. Esc. Num. 45, where Stephen de Cobham was then found to have been possessed of it at his death, and from him was the title in a successive stream of descents wafted down to the reign of Henry VII. and then it was by sale transplanted into Sir Henry Wiat, where it flourished, being supported with the sap and verdure of so noble a family, until the fourth year of Edward VI. and at that time, it was by sale torn off from this name, for then Sir Thomas Wiat alienated it to Sir Anthony St Leger, and he passed it away to George Brook, lord Cobham, about the seventh year of Edward VI. whose great grand-child Sir William Brook, knight of the Bath, dying in the year 1643, without issue-male, it descended to Sir John Brook, restored to the barony of Cobham, by the last king, in the year 1644, as being reversioner in entail.

Roundal, though now shrunk into neglected ruins, was in elder times the first seat of the noble family of Cobham, from whence upon its decay they were transplanted



to Cobham-hall, and was the cradle of men very eminent in their respective generations; of whom take this brief prospect. \* Henry de Cobham is enrolled in the list of those Kentish gentlemen who were concerned with Richard I. at the siege of Acon. † Reginald de Cobham accompanied Henry III. in his expedition against the Welsh, in the forty-second year of his reign. Sir Henry, Sir Reginald, Sir Stephen, and Sir Henry de Cobham, who lies buried here at Shorne, are in the catalogue of those Kentish knights, who supported the cause and quarrel of Edward I. at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign. Joseph de Cobham was frequently summoned to sit in parliament as baron, in the reign of Edward III. Richard de Cobham was made knight banneret by Edward III. for his exemplary service performed against the Scots, as appears, Pat. Edw. tertii parte secunda memb. 22. This manor escheating to the crown upon the attainder of Henry lord Cobham, in the second year of king James, it was by that prince granted to Lodowick, duke of Lenox, who upon his decease bequeathed it to his nephew James, duke of Lenox, who being lately dead, Esme, duke of Lenox, his only son, is now heir apparent of it.

STOWTING lies in a hundred which borrows its name from this place. In the reign of king John, sundry ancient records which have an aspect upon that prince's time inform us, that Stephen de Haringod was lord of this manor, and had the grant of a market to be held weekly at this place on the Tuesday, and a fair to be observed yearly for the space of two days, viz. the vigil, and day of assumption of the Virgin Mary, as is manifest, Cart. 16. Rot. Num. 43. and died possessed of it in the forty-first of Henry III. But after this man's exit, I can track no more of this stem or stock to have been proprietors of it. The next family which was successively entitled to the possession, was the noble family of Burghurst or Burwash, the first of which, whom by some old deeds I discover to have held this place, was Batholomew de Burwash, who received the order of knighthood by Edward I. for his noble and generous assistance given to that prince at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty eighth of his reign; and he had issue Stephen de Burwash, who obtained a charter of free-warren to his manors Stowting, Sifleston, Ditton, and Burwash, in Chiddington, in the first year of Edward III. and died possessed of this manor and hundred, in the third year of that prince's government, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 41. and from him did it descend to his grand-child Bartholomew lord Burwash, who in the forty-third of the abovesaid monarch, conveyed this manor with much other land to Sir Walter de Paveley, knight of the garter; in which family the possession was constant, but until the beginning of Richard II. and then it was passed away by sale to Trivet; from whom the same fatality, about the fifteenth

\* Ex veteri rotulo penes Edward Dering, Militem  
& Bar. defunctum.

† Rotulus Pipæ de Scutagio Wallia.

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year of that prince, brought it over to Sir Lewis Clifford, and by descent this devolving to his successor Lewis Clifford, he in the twelfth year of Henry the sixth, conveyed it by a fine then levied to William Wenlock, who not long after alienated his right in it to Richard Beauchampe, baron of Aburgavenny, who had issue Richard Beauchampe, in whom the male line determined, so that Elizabeth, his only daughter and heir being married to Edward Nevill, brought this manor and barony of Aburgavenny to be united to the family, and continued linked to the demean of this name, until it was by descent brought down to Henry Nevill, baron Aburgavenny, who about the latter end of Henry the eighth, passed it away to Sir Thomas Moile, whose daughter and co-heir Amy Moile, united it to the inheritance of her husband Sir Thomas Kempe, whose son Sir Thomas Kempe settled it on his brother Reginald Kempe, and from him it descended to his only son Mr. Thomas Kempe, who dying without issue, it came to be shared by his two sisters and co-heirs, married to Denny and Clark; and they not many years since, by mutual concurrence and assent, alienated their joint interest here to Jenkins of Aythorne.

STOCKBERY, in the hundred of Milton, celebrates the memory of the illustrious family of Crioll, who lived here in reputation amongst the eminent gentry of this county, and in the recital of their possessions in this parish, their mansion was called a castle, and divers of their old deeds bore test at their castle of Stockbery. Sir Nicholas de Crioll was the first that brought this family into repute and emi-

nence; for he was one of those who accompanied Edward the first, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, in his fortunate attempt upon Scotland, when after a per- tinacious siege he reduced the castle of Carlaverock, a piece in the repute of those times, held almost inexpugnable; and for his signal service in that expedition, was created knight banneret, and died possessed of this place, in the thirty-first of Ed- ward the first; and in this name and family did the title of this place, by an uninter- rupted current of descent, stream down to Sir Thomas Crioll, knight of the garter, eminent for several services performed under the scepter of Henry the sixth, who being unfortunately beheaded at the second battle of St. Albans, whilst he endeavour- ed to support the title of the house of York, in the thirty-eighth year of Henry the sixth, determined in daughters and co-heirs, one of which was married to Edward Bouchier, who cast this manor into his possession, and he in her right died seized of it, in the fourteenth year of Henry the seventh; but after this it was not long con- stant to the interest of this family; for in the twenty-third year of the abovesaid prince, Robert Tate died seized of it, by right of purchase. And in the de- scendants of this name was the possession involved, by a long series of years, until those times which almost fell under our cognizance, and then this manor was con- veyed to Sir Edward Duke of Cosington, in Alresford; whose lady dowager, in right of jointure, hath now the enjoyment of it.

The manor of Gillested in this parish, did formerly relate to the noble family of Savage, and was wrapped up in those lands to which John de Savage, grandchild to Ralph de Savage, who was with Richard the first, at the siege of Acon, obtained a charter of free-warren, in the twenty-third year of Edward the first; and Arnold Savage, son of Sir Thomas Savage, died possessed of it in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, and left it to his son Sir Arnold Savage, whose daughter and heir Elizabeth Savage, was first married to Reginald Cobham, by whom she had no issue, and after to William Clifford, Esquire, second brother to Robert Clifford, who was often knight of the shire, in the reign of Henry the fourth, whose posterity in right of this alliance were possessed of this place, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated to Knight, ancestor to Mr. William Knight, upon whose decease his sole daughter and heir, Mrs. Frances Buck, widow of Mr. Peter Buck, of Rochester, lately deceased, is now entered upon the possession of it.

Cowsted is another place of account in Stockbery. It was in times of an elder in- scription written Godsted, as giving seat, and yielding a surname to a family so called. William de Codested, alias Godsted held it at his death, which was in the twenty- seventh year of Edward the first, and had issue William de Codested, who was like- wise in possession of it at his death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, and had issue Richard de Codested, who was in the enjoyment of it in the nineteenth

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year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 43, which was the time of his decease; and from him it descended to John de Codested, stiled by the vulgar, John de Cow- sted, who bare for his arms gules, three leopards heads argent, which was assumed by Higham, who about the beginning of Richard the second, married with the sole heir of this family, and in this name it remained, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was partly by sale, partly by marrying with a daughter of this family instated upon Petit, in which family the title of this place was fixed and perma- nent, until those times which came within the precincts of our grand-fathers remem- brance devolved it to Osborne; but Edward Osborne, not many years since, de- termining in Mary his sole heir, she by espousing of William Fagge, hath united it to that revenue, which now confesses his descendants for proprietors.

STODMERSH, in the hundred of Downhamford, was ennobled anciently, by being parcel of the revenue of the Saxon kings of Kent, and rested in their demean until Lotharius, one of the Kentish kings, made Godd his heir, and as Thorne re- cords in his annals, settled it on the abby of St. Augustins, and remained successively interwoven with the patrimony of that convent, until the public suppression, in the reign of Henry the eighth, rent it away; and then that prince, in the thirty-seventh year of his reign, granted it to John Masters, and he upon his decease settled it on his son Mr. Thomas Masters, and he dying without issue-male, left it to his daughter and co-heir Elizabeth Masters, who by marrying with Mr. William Courthop, united the propriety of it to his inheritance, and he had issue Mr. Thomas Courthop, who,

in right of this alliance, is now entituled to the instant possession of it.

STROUDE, in the hundred of Shamell, was granted in the eleventh year of Henry the third, by the same prince, magistro & fratribus militiæ templi Solomonis, that is, to the knight's templers, who had here an eminent mansion, which from its being of their possession, hath ever since acquired the name of the manor of Temple. After the suppression of this rich and magnificent order, in the second year of Edward the second, upon what pretences, and colourable insinuations, I have discovered in my description of Temple Ewell, this manor was united to the crown. And though a principal part of the lands, which related to this order in this county, before their dissolution, was by that act of parliament called, Statutum de Terris Templariorum, settled on the knights hospitallers; yet this was lodged in the royal revenue, until the twelfth year of Edward the third, and then he conferred it by grant on Mary countess of Pembroke, who about six years after, bestowed it on the abbess and sisters minorities of the profession of St. Clare, at the abby of Denny in Cambridgeshire, to which place she had removed them from Waterbeach, where they were first planted by her. And here did this manor reside, until another tempest, more fatal and ruinous then the former, arose in the reign of Henry the eighth, which like a whirlwind ravished it away from the revenue of the church, and then that monarch, in the thirty-second year of his reign, made it the property of Edward Elrington, Esquire. But it seems the title of church-land is stuck so thick with the curses of the first donors, that it becomes like a moth received into a garment, which like an ungrateful guest, commonly destroys the house which entertained it, and so it was here; for in the same year it was granted, the abovesaid person alienated it to George Brook, lord Cobham, whose unfortunate grand-child Henry lord Cobham, was enwrapped in that obscure and mysterious design of Sir Walter Rawleigh, which was muffled up in such a complicated veil of that magical mist called reason of state, and other intrigues of wrested policy, that it remains dark and perplexed, until this day; indeed the crimes of this unhappy gentleman, were by the mercenary tongues of some lawyers, who were in pension to the interest of those, who then steered the helm of state, and who like some trumpeters, knew how to sell their breath to the best advantage, aggravated and multiplied to that bulk and dimension, that he was convicted of high treason, in the beginning of king James, and though he lost not his life, he did that of his estate, here at Stroude, which was by the abovesaid prince conferred by grant on Robert Cecil, earl of Salisbury, principal secretary of state, in respect he had married with Elizabeth Brook, sister to this unfortunate lord, from whom it descended to his son, the right honourable William Cecill, captain of the band of pensioners to his

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late majesty, and earl of Salisbury, who in our fathers memory, passed it away to Mr Bernard Hide, Esquire, one of the commissioners of the custom-house, to the late king Charles, and he upon his decease gave it to his third son Mr. John Hide, who not many years since alienated it to James, duke of Lenox, from whom after some brief possession, it was conveyed to Mr. Blague, whose son Mr. Isaac Blague, by descendant right, is now entituled to the propriety of it.

The chapel of St. Nicholas, in Stroud, was by Gilbert Glanvill, bishop of Rochester, with the consent of the prior of Rochester, William archdeacon of the same see, and likewise of the parish priest of Friendsbury (within the precincts of whose village, church, and congregation, it was in elder times circumscribed) erected, and improved into a mother-church, and that for these two reasons. First, it was divided by too great distance from the church of Friendsbury. And secondly, the inhabitants began to multiply to that number, that it was probable that in decursion of time, the above recited church would be in no capacity for the reception of so great a conflux; and therefore it was judged convenient by the authority of that age, to establish Stroud into a parish, independant to Friendsbury, and assign to it only a church-yard, for the sepulture of their dead, but likewise a competency of tithes (excepta solummodo decimatione bladi, that is, I conjecture, the tithery of grass only excepted,) for the support of the incumbent for the time being, as the records of the church of Rochester informs us.

SHOREHAM, in the hundred of Cods-heath, hath several places within the verge of it, which may deserve our notice. The first is Preston, which was the seat of an eminent family, called Buckland, who bore for their cognisance, argent an eagle

sable, beaked and ungued, or. Alan de Buckland was a noted person in the time of king John, and being lieutenant of Dover-castle, that prince directs a command to him, and William de Brewer, who was joined in commission with him, to surrender Dover-castle to Hubert de Burgh for his service. Sir Thomas de Buckland of this place, had Buckland in Maidstone, and Buckland likewise in Ludsdowen, and flourished in the reign of Edward the third, and in several deeds, to which he was witness, subscribes himself Miles. In brief, after this family had continued possessors of this mansion, until the latter end of Henry the sixth, it devolved to Thomas Buckland, who dying without issue-male, Alice his only daughter and heir, by marrying with Thomas Polhill, of Polhill-street, in Detling, cast it into the inheritance of that family, from whom it came down to Mr. .... Polhill, who being not many years since deceased, his widow Mrs. .... Polhill, is now in the enjoyment of it.

Palstres alias Planars, and Sepham, are two ancient seats, likewise situated within the confines of Shoreham, and had both owners of that surname. William de Planer, as appears by deeds without date, held the first, and so did John de Planar, in the reign of Edward the first, and died possessed of it in the forty seventh year of that prince's reign, and in this family did it continue, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was conveyed to Sepham, of Sepham, an eminent family in this parish, who bore for their coat armour, argent, three cinque foils pierced, sable, and were descended from William de Sepham, who died possessed of this place, in the fifteenth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 12, and having continued lords of both these manors, of one by descent, and of the other by purchase, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, Mr. John Sepham, who had in the fifth year of that prince, made an acknowledgment for them to the then archbishop of Canterbury, of whom it seems they both held, passed away Sepham to William Martin, and Palstres to Cobbe, in which families after they had remained, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, they were both demised to Mr. Francis Sandbach, by whose sole heir Alice Sandbach, they came to be the possession of David Polhill, ancestor to Mr. David Polhill, who upon the late death of his grand-father Mr. David Polhill is invested in the tenure of them.

Vielston, now by vulgar acceptance of the name, called Vilson, is another seat of eminent account in Shoreham. It primitively gave seat and surname to a family,

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which radically was as deeply planted in antiquity, as any family which then flourished on this part of the county: some of the old evidences now in the hands of my cousin Mr. Thomas Petley, reach as high as the government of the reign of Henry the third, and then Hamon de Vielston demises several parcels of land to Sepham, of Sepham, Timberden, of Timberden Farm in this parish likewise, and several others of obscurer account, whose names are too tedious to recite, by deeds not circumscribed with any date, which argues him to be a man in that age illustrious, both for descent and demeanour. In times which approached nearer to ours, John de Vielston, who paid respective aid at making the Black Prince knight, for his manor of Vielston, was eminent, and was sheriff of Kent, in the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth years of Edward the third; and he left issue John Vielston, who deceasing without issue, John Ross, his sister's son, about the latter end of Richard the second, became his heir, and he had issue John Ross, who died about the latter end of Henry the sixth, without any posterity, so that he bequeathed it to his kinsman John Berd; who in the fourteenth year of Edward the fourth, sold it to John Palmer; from whom it went away by sale in the eighteenth year of the abovementioned prince, to Richard Page, where it made its abode, till the nineteenth year of Henry the seventh; and then Edmund Page, this man's son, cast it by sale into the inheritance of Richard Wood, who in the fourth year of Henry the eighth, alienates the fee simple to Robert Blague, and he in the sixth year of that prince demises it to William Petley, of Halsted, and he upon his decease bequeaths it to his second son Mr. Thomas Petley, from whom in a direct line is my cousin Mr. Thomas Petley descended, in whom (by original derivation from him) the interest and right of this ancient seat is at this instant invested.

The castle of Shorham was, if not built by, yet certainly very anciently in the possession of the family of Aldham, of Aldham St. Cleres, in Kemsing, one of which name was castellan of this place, in the eighth year of Henry the third, and

was ancestor to Sir Thomas de Aldham, who flourished in the reign of Edward the second, and Edward the third, in whom the male line ended, so that his three daughters married to Francis St. Clere, Martin de Peckham, and John de Noveburgo, or Newborough, of Newborough, in the county of Dorset, became his co-heirs, and this castle upon the distinction of his estate into parcels, was annexed to the demeane of Newborough; in which family, after the title had, as in a constant channel, flowed until the reign of Henry the eighth, it was diverted by sale into Polhill, in which family and name, the propriety hath ever since, until this instant, been fixed and permanent.

SOUTHFLEET, in the hundred of Axstone, did belong to the priory of St. Andrews, in Rochester, and was given to that convent by Hamo de Heath, in the year of our Lord 1346, which was not long before his decease, and I find by an old manuscript which represents to us the liberties and franchises which were settled upon this cloister, that the prior had by prescription, a charter of free-warren, to his manor of Southfleet; yet though it were fortified with this privilege, it could not be secure from that tempest which arose in the reign of Henry the eighth; which like a whirlwind ravished it away from the patrimony of the church, and lodged it in the revenue of the crown, where it dwelt until the thirty-seventh year of queen Elizabeth; and then it was by concession from that princess, passed away to William Peter of Writtle, Esquire, who was son to Sir William Peter, secretary of state to king Edward the sixth; queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth; and he immediately after alienated it to alderman Garret, of London, whose successor, in our fathers remembrance, conveyed it by sale to Sir William Sidley of Scadbery, from whom it is now come down by a chain of descent to his grand-child Sir Charles Sydley baronet, the present lord of the fee. \*

Pole, vulgarly called Poole, is another manor in Southfleet, and was in elder times the inheritance of a family called Berese, for I find by a fine levied in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the third, that Richard de Berese sells this manor under the notion of a carucate of land to Reginald de Cobham, of Roundall, in Shorne; and

\* Hook in Southfleet, hath been for some centuries of years, the seat of the Swans, who in the reign of Richard the second, as appears by their own deeds, writ gentlemen.

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from him did it by a continued thread of succession, devolve to John Cobham, Esquire, in whom the male line of that name ended, and he died seized of it in the ninth year of Henry the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 10. and left it to Joan his sole inheritrix, who, by Reginald Braybrook her third and last husband, had issue Joan her only daughter and heir, who brought this manor and a liberal revenue besides, to her husband Thomas Brook, of the county of Somerset, Esquire, grand-father to Thomas lord Brook, who about the beginning of Henry the seventh, passed it away to Sir Henry Wiat, one of the privy council to that monarch; from whom it descended to his noble but unfortunate grand-child Sir Thomas Wiat; who in the second year of queen Mary, forfeited this and his life together; so that from thenceforth, it was clasped up in the income of the crown, until queen Elizabeth, in the twenty-fifth year of her reign, restored it to his widow the lady Joan Wiat, and George Wiat, Esquire, his son and heir, father to Sir Francis Wiat, who upon his decease, left it to his widow dowager the lady ..... Wiat, who is now in possession of it.

Scadbery, in Southfleet, hath been for some centuries of years, the possession of the family of Sidleys, who were in times of very high ascent, seated in Romney Marsh; for there are some lands there, which at this day they call by the name of Sidley, and Sidley's Marsh. In this manor there is a room, whose sides are covered with wainscot, and on one of the plates or pannels, which appears to be exceeding ancient, the arms of Sidley are carved in emboss-work, viz. a fess wavy between three goats heads erased, and these letters underneath, W. and S. with the year of our lord affixed in figures, whose date commences from 1337. And although the structure of this house, hath like a snail shifted its ancient shell, yet in all its mutations, and vicissitudes, which must certainly have very much disordered the fabrick, when it was cast into a new mould and frame, ravelled and discomposed the materials; yet this pannel of wainscot, hath been, like a relique, religiously preserved, to justify not

only the antiquity of the seat, but of the family of Sidley also, which is presumed to have been resident at this place, before the above-mentioned calculation; from whom Sir Charles Sidley, baronet, claims the original of his title to this mansion, and his extraction or pedigree likewise, untwisted, into many descents, and now at last wound up in him.

SHOULDON, in the hundred of Deal, hath two remarkable places which are situated within the limits of it. First, Hull presents itself to our view: it was formerly under the signory of the illustrious family of Ratling, or Retling, in Nonington. Thomas de Retling paid respect to this, and divers other lands of ancient inheritance, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, at the making the Black Prince knight, and left it to his son Sir Richard de Retling, whose widow the lady Sarah Retling, and afterwards wife of John de St. Laurence, died possessed of it, in the tenth year of Richard the second, and left it to John Spicer, who had married Joan, daughter and heir to her first husband; but he concluding in a daughter and heir, by this his first wife called Cicely, who was heir to her mother Joan Spicer, she by marrying with John Isaac, united it to the propriety of that family. But before the twenty-first of Henry the sixth, he had fixed the inheritance in John Bresland, in whom it was not long resident; for he suddenly after altered his right, and about the beginning of Edward the fourth, put it over by sale to Phineux, of Swink-field, whose successor Robert Phineux, by as quick and early a vicissitude, placed the possession, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, in George Monins, Esquire, whose successor, in that age which was circumscribed within the pale of our fathers remembrance, passed it away to Crayford, of Great Mongeham.

Secondly, Cotmanton puts in its claim for some memorial likewise, even in this respect, that it was the demean of the noble family of Crioll or Keriell, who were of some considerable repute in this track, as appears by the book stiled Testa de Nevill kept in the exchequer, where they are represented in the twentieth year of Henry the third, to have held land in this skirt of the county, and in ages of a modern aspect, that is, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, I find John de Crioll gave a pecuniary supply at the making the Black Prince knight; but before the end of Edward the third, he was departed from the possession of this place, which by sale was resigned up to Roger Digge, and he died in the possession of it, in the third year

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of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 19. And in this family it continued, until the reign of Henry the seventh, and then it was alienated to Barton, descended from the ancient family of Barton, of Barton-hall, in the county of Lancaster; from whom the like mutation, about the latter end of Henry the eighth, carried it off to the family of Brown; and from them it passed away by sale into the possession of Richardson, upon whose going out, the family of Smith, by a devolution like the former, not many years since, stepped into the inheritance of it.

SUNDRICH, in the hundred of Codsheath, was the possession (as high as any light, collected from antiquity, can waft us to a discovery) of an ancient family called in Latin-records de Insula, and in English Isley. John de Insula obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands at Sundrich, in the eleventh year of Edward the second, and he had issue John Isley, who married Joan, daughter to Sir Ralph de Fremingham, and by her had issue Roger Isley, Esquire, who in right of his mother, became heir to his uncle John Fremingham, Esquire, who deceased without issue, in the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, and this Roger Isley had issue William Isley, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-fifth year of Henry the sixth, and he had issue John Isley, Esquire, who was justice of the peace, and sheriff of Kent, in the fourteenth year of Edward the fourth, and deceased in the year 1484, as appears by an inscription affixed to his monument, yet extant (notwithstanding the late general shipwreck of the remains of antiquity) in Sundrich-church, and he had issue Thomas Isley, Esquire, father of Sir Henry Isley, who was sheriff of Kent, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth, and again in the fifth year of Edward the sixth; but being unhappily entangled, in the disastrous attempt of Sir Thomas Wyatt, was upon the frustrating of that design, and the dissipation, and discomfiture of those forces who were to support it, in the second year of queen Mary, convicted and attainted of high treason, and executed at Sevenoke; upon whose tragedy this manor with all its appendages escheated to the crown; but was the same year re=

stored to his son William Isley, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent, part of the seventh year of queen Elizabeth; after whose decease, the title of this place, which had so many centuries of years like an inmate dwelt in this name and family, ebbed away to another proprietor; for in our fathers memory it was alienated by sale to Brooker, who not many years since, passed it away to Mr. John Hide, second son to Mr. Bernard Hide, one of the commissioners of the custom-house to his late majesty.

Brook-place in Sundrich, so called from its contiguous situation near some rill of water, did acknowledge for many descents, the signory of Isley, the last of whom who died possessed of it, was William Isley, Esquire, who held it at his decease, which was in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 34. After whose exit, it came to John Isley, Esquire, who not long after, passed it away to John Alphew, and he determining in two daughters and co-heirs, one of them by marrying with Sir Robert Read, lord chief justice of the common pleas, in the reign of Henry the seventh, linked it to his patrimony; but he likewise went out in four daughters and co-heirs; Katharine, one of which, was married to Sir Thomas Willoughby, lord chief justice likewise of the common pleas, and so he in her right was possessed of this place; from whom it came down to his successor, Thomas Willoughby, Esquire, who about the the latter end of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it by sale, to Mr. Hoskins, of Oxted, in Surry, descended from an ancient family of that name in Herefordshire, whose successor Mr. Charles Hoskins, being lately deceased, the fee-simple rests now in his son and heir.

Hethenden or Henden is another manor in Sundrich, which was folded up in the demean of the powerful and illustrious family of the Clares, who were earls of Gloucester and lords of Tunbridge, by whose heir general it devolved to Audley; and this family by the same fatality, languishing into a female inheritrix, she by marrying with Stafford, cast this manor into his revenue, and in this name was the propriety resident, until Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, was unfortunately attainted, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, it was by escheat, annexed to the demean of the crown, and made its abode there, until king Henry the eighth, in the thirty-fifth year of his reign, granted it to Sir John Gresham, and he died possessed of

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it, in the first year of queen Elizabeth, after whose decease it remained constant to the interest of this family, until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was alienated to Sir Thomas Hoskins, of Oxsted, in Surry, in the descendants of which family the signory and propriety is at this instant remaining.

The Roman foss, or way which extended or stretched out itself from Oldborough, in Igtham, to Baston, in Heys, and afterwards to Woodcot, in Surry, did cut through this parish; for not many years since, in digging near Come-bank, a seat so called, which did formerly relate to the Isleys, and is situated in Sundrich, were discovered many Roman urns of an antique shape and figure, from whence we may probably collect thus much, that there was formerly erected some fortress, at or near Combe bank (its situation being fitted for such a design) by the Roman generals, to secure their forces in their march to Noviomagum or Woodcot, against any impression or eruption of the Britons.

STURREY, in the hundred of Blengate, was a manor by a prescription of many generations wrapt up in the patrimony of Apulderfield, a family whom we shall have occasion often to mention throughout the body of this survey, and here it continued till this name met with its tomb in a daughter and heir, known by the name of Elizabeth, who was married to Sir John Phineux; and although he likewise concluded in a female heir, married to John Roper, Esquire, who drew along with her a great portion of the estate, yet this still remained fixed in this name and family, even till our fathers memory; and then John Phineux, Esquire, died, and left this, and other vast possessions to his daughter and sole heir Elizabeth Phineux, who brought them over to her husband Sir John Smith, eldest son of Sir Thomas Smith, and grand-father to Philip Smith, viscount Strangford, who by right planted in him by so worthy a predecessor, does entitle himself to the interest and possession of it.

Mayton in this parish, though now of no great importance, yet formerly gave both seat and surname to a family that passed under that appellation, from whom by sale the inheritance was transplanted into Diggs, where for some descents, with=

out any interval, it made its abode, till it was by Leonard Diggs grand father to Sir Dudley Diggs, sold to Goodhugh, by whose daughter and heir it became the demean of Baggs, which name likewise going out here into a daughter and heir, she by marrying not long since to Farmer, has made it to own him for its instant proprietor.

SUTTON, by Walmer, lies in the hundred of Cornilo, and was the inheritance of a good old family, called Stroude. Peradventure it assumed its denomination from the shore not far distant, and was sometimes, in the Saxon denomination, called Strond, and as often Stroude. John de Stroud held it, as the Book of Aid denotes, in the reign of Edward the first, and when this family was worn out, the next who were invested in the possession, were the Criols, and Nicholas Criol or Keriell, held it at his death, which was in the third year of Richard the second, whose grand-child Sir Thomas Keriell, being an active champion of the cause and quarrel of Edward the fourth, against the house of Lancaster, was slain in the second battle of St. Albans, where the title of both parties was put to the bloody decision of a field, who leaving only two daughters and co-heirs, one marrying with John Fogge, Esquire, incorporated this into his revenue, from whom by purchase, the right was settled in Whitlock, where it tarried not long, but was by the like devolution transplanted into Maycot, from which name the same fate of sale carried it into the possession of Stokes, who in our memory by the like alienation, transmitted his interest here to Meryweather.

SUTTON, commonly called EAST-SUTTON, lies in the hundred of Eyhorne, and was formerly the Braybrookes. Henry de Braybrooke, one of the lord wardens of the cinque ports, had lands here; and in this track (as the Book of Aid, and the book called Feoda Militum, in the exchequer, do both inform us) his son was Gerard Braybrooke, and his grand-child was Reginald Braybrooke, whose heir Joan

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Braybrooke married to Thomas Brooke, of the county of Somerset; but whether this Reginald Braybrooke gave this manor to pious uses, or not, and principally to the abby of Leeds adjacent, I cannot positively determine. Upon the suppression it was granted (as being parcel of the demean of the convent of Leeds) by Henry the eighth, in the thirty-seventh year of his reign to John Tufton, Esquire, who passed it away by sale to Mr. Richard Argall, whose heir Elizabeth Argall, being married to Edward Filmer, Esquire, made it the possession of that family, and by a communicative right from him, does his grand-child Sir Edward Filmer, son to Sir Robert Filmer, lately deceased, now hold the possession and propriety of it.

SUTTON VALENCE, and CHART by SUTTON, both lie in the hundred of Eyhorne; the last of which contracted the appellation, from formerly owning William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, to be lord of the fee, who certainly instituted that castle, that now even in its relics and fragments with much of venerable magnificence overlooks the plain. And when Aymer de Valence his son concluded in a female heir Isabel, she was married to Lawrence lord Hastings, who in relation to her became not only earl of Pembroke, but lord of Sutton Valence also, and from him did it descend to his grand-child John Hastings, earl of Pembroke, the last earl there of that name, who transmitted his title of that place to Reginald Grey, and Richard Talbot, who flourished here about the reign of Henry the fourth, and they had this manor by testamentary donation, in the fourteenth year of Richard the second. In the next age subsequent to this, I find the Cliffords of Bobbing-court, to be the proprietors, and to this family was the inheritance in a constant union fastened, till Nicholas Clifford, Esquire, deceased without issue male, and left only one daughter and heir, called Mildred, who was first married to Harper; secondly, to More; thirdly, to Warren; and lastly, to Blount; but she had only issue by Harper and More; for in her right, Edward lord More, of Mellifont, in Ireland, and Sir Edward Harper divided the possession; but the first desiring to contract his whole revenue into Ireland, and the other to make this adjacent to his principal seat of Ruspar-hall in the county of Derby, Sir Edward Harper alienated this to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, and the lord More, Chart by Sutton to the same worthy person, grand-father to Sir Edward Hales, baronet, who not only enjoys the title of his ancestors dignity, but that of the possession in these places likewise.



Cheyneys-court, in this parish, hath been adopted into that name, since it for many descents acknowledged the jurisdiction and propriety of that family; and I could unravel a successive series of many of that name (but that it is superfluous) who were lords of the fee; it is enough, that Sir Thomas Cheyney sold it to Iden, which name suddenly after resolving into two daughters and co-heirs, one marrying with Brown, and the other with Barton, the last made it parcel of the patrimony of that family, and when some years it had been continued in the possession of Barton, it was in our memory by sale brought over to be the demean of Wollet. and it is now (but whether by purchase, or by the right of a female heir or not, I cannot ascertain myself) the property of Jordan.

SUTTON at Hone, lies in the hundred of Acstane, and gives denomination to the whole Lath wherein it is situated. It was long since a manor relating to the revenue of the knights hospitalers, who had here a mansion-house, called St. John's, where they often made their retreat, when they visited their other demean land, which lay circumscribed within the verge of this county; but their estate here was much inforced and improved by the addition of the manor of Grandison, which whether it came to them by purchase or donation from Thomas lord Grandison, who died the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, is uncertain. Upon the suppression of the Alberge of these knights of St. John of Jerusalem here in England, their revenue was assumed into the possession of the crown; and king Henry the eighth, bestowed it by grant on Sir Maurice Dennis St. John's; and to him does that magnificent and elegant pile, where now the countess of Leicester makes her residence, owe the first institution of its shape and beauty, though it has been since

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extremely enlarged by the additions, both of bulk and ornament by Sir Thomas Smith. But to proceed, St. John's was conveyed from Sir Maurice Dennis by his co-heir to Thomas Cranfield, whose grand-child Vincent Cranfield, has lately alienated his right to Mr. Hollis, of London, merchant.

Haly Sawters is another manor in Sutton in Hone, a place though now obscure in itself, and not represented to our remembrance, but by annals and record, yet in elder times it was raised up to a higher degree of estimate, when it had proprietors, whose nobility and title added both value and lustre unto it. The first of which register whom I trace in record to be entituled to the possession, was Laurence de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, and he died seized of it, in the twenty-second year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 47. from whom the title came down to his son John de Hastings, and he likewise was in the enjoyment of it at his decease, which was in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 70. After this family had deserted the inheritance, I find Richard Fitz Allen, earl of Arundel, to be invested in the possession, and he died in the tenure of it, in the one and twentieth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 2. From whom it devolved to Joan his daughter and co-heir, married to William Beauchamp, baron of Abergavenny, whose son Richard lord Beauchamp, dying without issue male, Elizabeth his sole daughter, married to Edward Nevill, baron of Abergavenny, in her right became his heir, and he in the sixteenth year of Edward the fourth, died possessed of this manor of Sawters. And here for want of light, both from public or private record; I cannot discover to my reader or myself, whether or not it passed away immediately from Nevill to Maio, whom I find about the beginning of queen Elizabeth to be planted in the possession, though the affirmation of some old people of this parish, who derived that knowledge they have of it from the tradition of their ancestors that assert it did. Thomas Maio, in the twenty-eighth of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Richard Paramour, and he presently after disposed of it by sale to Henry Brooke, who conveyed it to Robert Wroth, Esquire, and he to Edmund Hunt, Esquire, who alienated Haly and Sawters to Mr. William Hewson, in the thirty-fourth year of queen Elizabeth, whose son Mr. William Hewson of London, transmitted Haly with Sawters by sale, some few years since, to Mr. Edward Badbie.

Grandisons is the last place remarkable in this parish. It was the ancient inheritance of the noble and illustrious family of Grandison, before Otho de Grandison, who was governor of Jersey for life, by grant from Edward the first, in the fifth year of his reign, did transplant himself to Seale, which he had purchased in the thirteenth year of that prince. William de Grandison, this man's son, was likewise lord of

this place, to whom king Edward the second assigned the value of 44l. yearly rent out of this manor of Dartford, in exchange for the manor of Iden, and other lands in Sussex, and from this man did the signory of this manor accrue by descent to his grand-child Sir Thomas Grandison, who dying without issue, in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 62. left it partly to John de Northwood, who had married Agnes his sister and co-heir, and partly to Margaret his lady dowager, who died possessed of it in the eighteenth year of Richard the second; but after her exit, the title was not long permanent in Northwood; for in the twenty-first year of the abovesaid prince, Richard Fitz Allen, earl of Arundel, held it, and died that year possessed of it. And here I confess for want of light and just intelligence I must make a leap to the reign of Henry the sixth, and then I find it in the tenure of Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, and it is probable it devolved to him by the heir of Beauchampe. After his decease it became the possession of George duke of Clarence, who had married with Isabel his daughter and co-heir, by whom he had issue Edward Plantagenet, earl of Warwick, who was offered up on an early scaffold, to the waking suspicions, and weary jealousies, of those two politic princes, Henry the seventh, and Ferdinand of Castile, being invited to an escape, from his long duress in the tower, by the arts and stratagems of that eminent impostor, Perkin Warbeck; but indeed those who have calculated his action, and surveyed the whole scene of this tragedy, have discovered that this nearness to the crown, as being the last relick of the male line of Plantagenet, was the chiefest ingredient in the severe

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sentence of this unfortunate gentleman. After his expiration, this manor came over to be the patrimony of his sister, Margaret countess of Salisbury, who was married to Sir Richard Poole, by which marriage this manor was annexed to his demean, and he had issue by her Henry Poole, who with his mother was attainted in the reign of Henry the eighth, upon whose fatal shipwreck, Grandisons was in the thirty-fifth of that prince placed by grant in his brother Godfrey Poole, who not long after passed it away to Sir Thomas Moile, by whose daughter and co-heir it came to be the inheritance of Sir Thomas Kempe, and he about the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to Mr. Joseph Mabbe, who not long after transmitted it by sale to Sir Christopher Heron, who about the beginning of king James alienated his concern here to Cole, by whom not long after it was demised to Sir Thomas Smith, second son of Customer Smith, of Westenhanger; in the heirs and descendants of which name and family, the possession is still resident.

Hackstaple is likewise within the bounds of this parish; and was, as high as the reach either of private or publick evidence can bring down any light to our knowledge, the Killingworth's; and here, for an indivisible succession of ages, did the possession fix, and reside, until at last the common fate of families, brought this name here at Hackstaple to find its interment or grave in a daughter and heir; for George Killingworth had an only inheritrix, whose name was Elizabeth, and she was married to Christopher Eglesfield, gentleman, so that Hackstaple in her right, was intermingled with the demean of this family; and here some years did it by this conjugal knot appear fastened, till lately the possession received an alienation; for Francis Eglesfield of London, son to Christopher Eglesfield, some few years since sold it to Mr. Christopher Searle.

T.

TANINGTON is situated in the hundred of Bredge and Petham, and in times of a very ancient inscription, did own the name and acknowledge the signory of a family called Wallis. Richard de Wallis held it in the twenty-first of Edward the first, and as it appears by the pleas of that year, had a signal contest with the prior of Gregories, in Canterbury, about his right to the presentation of that church. After Wallis was worn out, it fell under the signory of a family called Mesingham, but it seems was not long resident in their possession; for about the beginning of Richard the second, Nicholas Mesingham releases to Thomas Chich all his interest and right in Tanington, and other lands situated in Hackington and other places, but here likewise was the possession as brief and inconstant; for before the expiration of the reign of Henry the fourth, I find it by purchase from Chich and Wallis, settled in the tenure of George Ballard; and he died seized of it in the eighth year of Henry the sixth, and in this family did it continue until

the reign of Edward the sixth, and then it was alienated by Nicholas Ballard, Esquire, to Sir James Hales of the Dungeon; from whom the right, by successive delegation, is now transmitted to Sir James Hales, the instant lord of the fee.

TERSTAN, in the hundred of Twyford, was involved in the revenue of the crown, until Eleanor, queen of England exchanged this and West-Farleigh with the monks of Christ-church for the eminent port of Sandwich; which exchange Edward the first (as appears by the records of that cathedral) by his charter fully strengthened and confirmed. Yet though it was propped and supported by that authority, yet it could not be so fastened and rivetted into the ecclesiastical patrimony, but that, that storm which arose in the reign of Henry the eighth, tore it away; and then that prince, in the thirty-fifth year of his rule, passed it away to Sir John Baker; from whom it is now devolved by successive right to his descendant Sir John Baker, of Sisingherst, knight and baronet; and he hath lately passed it away to Mr. Jasper Cleyton, of London.

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Barham-court, in this parish, represents to our remembrance, that it was once the mansion or ancient residence of the noble and illustrious family of Barham: this name was, in times of a very reverend inscription, written Fitz-Urse. Randal Fitz Urse was one of those four who were concerned in the assassination of that turbulent and ambitious prelate Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, who though peradventure for his violent invasion made upon the royal prerogative of his sovereign Henry the second, might have deserved the guerdon of an exemplary death; yet the manner of taking him off, carried with it so deformed an aspect in those times which were wholly consecrated and offered up to a superstitious adoration of his memory, and contracted so black a character on those who were interested in his extra-judicial ruin, that Randal Fitz Urse fled into Ireland, and there altered his name to Mac-Mahon, which in Irish imports as much as the son of the bear; upon his recess, Robert de Barham, his kinsman, entered on his estate here at Terstan, and from him did it descend by paternal devolution to his great grand-child John de Berham, who was by Henry, prior of Christ-church, created public notary of the diocese of Canterbury, in the year 1309, an office of as much eminence as it was of trust and concern, and which the abovesaid Henry received by commission to invest any with, whom he should discover to be fortified with abilities, proportionate to so illustrious an employment from Bassianus de Alliate Count Palatine, of Millaine; and he again was empowered and commissioned to grant it to any whom he should judge meet to receive it, by authority delegated and transmitted to him originally from the emperor, and it is probable that it was the abovementioned John de Berham, or his son, who paid an auxiliary supply for his lands at Terstan, as appears by the Book of Aid, at the making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; and in that roll kept in the exchequer wherein there is mention of all those of this county, who paid respective aid, in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, at the marriage of Blanch, that monarch's daughter, there is a recital of Nicholas Berham, who contributed a supply for his lands at Terstan, and from him by an uninterrupted line of succession was the title of this place conducted down to Thomas Berham, Esquire, who determined in a daughter and heir called Anne Berham, who by her intermarriage with Sir Oliver Boteler, descended from an ancient family of that name, in the county of Bedford, made this seat, which had been so many centuries of years in the tenure of this family, alter its propriety, and become the patrimony of another name; Sir Oliver Boteler had issue Sir William Boteler, knight and baronet, who fell a sacrifice to the late king's quarrel, whilst he vigorously asserted his cause and interest at Cropredy-bridge; but left issue the instant proprietor Sir Oliver Boteler, baronet, whose ancestors in Bedfordshire were descended from Thomas Pincerna, who flourished in the reign of king John, and did seal with a covered cup, with this inscription (as appears by the old deeds of this family) encircling the seal, Sigillum Thomæ Pincernæ and it is possible was chief butler to the abovesaid prince; from which eminent office of his, his successor assumed the surname of Boteler.

TENHAM contributes and affords a name to that hundred where it is placed, but is of more eminence and repute, since it was given to Christ-church in Canterbury, at the intreaty of Athelard, by Cenulfe, king of the Mercians, by the estimate of twelve plough lands; for the like proportion of land in balance to the ex=

change in Creges Emeline, that is the isle of Elmely by Crogdepe, that is the water which parts the royalty of Swale, between Tenham and Feversham. And in the patrimony of the church did it lie wrapt up till the suppression of all frieries, abbies, and other religious convents by Henry the eighth; and Thomas Cranmer finding that the spreading demerit of the church, was in danger to be torn off by the talons of avarice and rapine, he to mortify the growing appetite of sacrilegious cormorants, in the first of December, and in the twenty-ninth year of that prince's government, exchanged it with the crown, and thenceforth it was accounted a limb of the royal revenue, until king James by grant invested Sir John Roper in it, and presently after created him baron Roper of Tenham, (in gratitude it seems for that service he performed, in being the first who openly proclaimed him king in the county of Kent) and by successive derivation from him does his great grand child Christopher, now

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lord Roper of Tenham, not only possess the dignity, but the royalty of this manor likewise.

There is another seat in this parish, called Frogenhall, which in elder times had the repute of a manor, though since by disuse, that character is almost shrunk away from it. That it was a manor of the Frogenhalls, is most evident, for Richard Frogenhall was seized of it at his death, which was in the thirty-third year of Edward the third, and Thomas Frogenhall was his son and heir, who resigned up his interest in it, with Anne his daughter and heir to Thomas Quadring; and not long after by the same mutation, was the interest of it by this man, with his daughter and heir Joan Quadring, given up to Richard Dryland, Esquire, who likewise not many years after going out in a daughter and heir, called Katharine, she by being married to Reginald Norton, Esquire, by that conjugal union, united Frogenhall to the interest of that family, where after it had been some ages fixed, it was by purchase brought to be the inheritance of Greene, who (upon what exigent or occasion I know not) in the conveyance is called Greene, alias Norton; but in this name it made no permanent residence; for even in our memory, from Greene by sale the title and right of it was translated into Clerke.

Tenham had the grant of a market procured to it on the Tuesday, and a fair to continue yearly three days, at the assumption of the Virgin Mary, by Boniface, archbishop of Canterbury, as appears, Pat, 44. Henrici tertii Memb. 37.

TENTERDEN, in the hundred of Tenterden, had its denomination, as some vulgar fancies conjecture, from the tenderness of the soil adjacent to it; but indeed it was in elder and more true orthography, written Theinwarden, that is, the Thaness or Theins, Ward or Guard in the valley; for it was very probably subservient to that signory or dominion, which the governor of Andredswaltdt (so called by the Saxons, but Anderida by the Romans) did exercise, and pretend to, in this track of the county. Now if you will question where this castle of Anderida or Andredswaltdt was placed; I answer, it was upon Reding-hill, not far removed from this place, a fortress in those times of eminent value and reputation, though since by the multiplied onsets of time upon it, it lies forgotten in its own neglected ruins; yet though this be languished away both in fame and fabrick, Tenterden has sundry seats in it, which may make it eminent enough. First, Heronden resigns itself up to an inquisition, though now it be scattered into several parcels, yet anciently it was collected, as into one name, so into one possession likewise; and the ancient ordinaries in the herald's office do assign a coat to this name, something proportionate to it, that is, an heron rising upon its wing, and gaping for breath; but when time began to invade this family, and break it into parcels, one part of this seat was sold to Sir John Baker, predecessor to Sir John Baker, who is now the possessor of it; but the other parts of it staid longer in this name; for Heronden, not long since sold some part of it to Mr. John Austin lately deceased, and the remainder was passed by the same conveyance to Mr. Short.

Pitlesden is the second which requires our notice: it gave seat to a family so called, which remained in possession of it, till Stephen Pitlesden died and left a daughter and heir, whose name was Julian, who by marrying with Edward Guldeford, made this parcel of the revenue of that family, and here without any interruption was the inheritance planted, till John Guldeford Esquire transferred his right by sale, to Sir John Baker, one of the privy council to queen Mary, whose grand-child Sir John

Baker, knight and baronet, father of Sir John Baker, baronet, now of Sisingherst in Cranbroke, did some years since alienate the possession of it to Mr. Jasper Clayton, of London, mercer.

Lights Notinden and East-Asherinden, are two other manors in Tenterden, which belonged partly to a chantry, founded here by John Light, and partly to Brooke near Wye, and were, upon the suppression of the one, and dissolution of the priory of Christ-church to which Brooke related, granted by Henry the eighth, to Sir John Baker attorney general to that prince, Edward the sixth, and queen Mary; and from him are they now devolved by paternal right to Sir John Baker of Sisingherst, baronet.

### 338 <Tenterden> <Tilmanstone>

There is a place in this parish, called Finchden, which in our grand-fathers memory, was purchased by Sir Edward Hales, ancestor of the family of Finch; from which Mr. Edward Finch, now of Tenterden, is originally descended, which in times of an elder character, gave surname to a family called Finchden; one of whom called William de Finchden was lord chief justice of the King's-Bench, and in the time of Edward the third, and sometimes in the old law books, which have an aspect on his reign, is written Finchden, and sometimes contractedly Finch; and it's probable the name was originally Finch, only Den was added to it (which was customary and usual in elder times) because this family had their dwelling in some habitation, whose situation was near some valley.

Tenterden was governed by a Port-reve or Bayley, as the original patent informs me, from the thirty-sixth year of Henry the sixth, until the forty-third year of queen Elizabeth, and then it was by patent from the princess ordered to be governed by a mayor and jurates, and so it hath ever since continued.

I had almost forgot Elarinden, which is the last place of note in Tenterden, and celebrates itself to be parcel of the manor of Frid or Frith, in Bethersden, and was involved in that revenue, which did confess the signory of the noble family of May=ney, and was found to be in the possession of John de Mayney, at his decease, which was in the fiftieth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 39. and lay couched in that demeane, which related to this name, until the reign of Henry the sixth, and then it was passed away to Darell, and remained involved in the patrimony of this family, until the seventeenth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated by John Darell, Esquire, to Sir John Hales, one of the barons of the exchequer, and from him by a devolution of successive descent, is it now come down to Sir Edward Hales, of Tunstall, baronet.

TILMANSTON, in the hundred of Eastrie, has divers seats within the verge and boundaries of it, not only for the reputation and account, in respect of their own antiquity; but likewise in relation to those persons who were possessed of them. First, there is North-court and Dane-court, both were anciently under the dominion of one person, and continue interwoven still, though they have borrowed these several names in respect of their opposite situation. John de Sandhurst made a claim of liberties in North-court, the sixth year of Edward the first, Christian his daughter and heir was married to William Langley, of Knowlton, who in her right possessed this manor, and by a new inspection had the former liberties exemplified, the thirty-seventh year of Edward the third, Pat. 37. pars prima Memb. 21. and after that the possession of this place had by an even line or descent been drawn through this family, it did at last by an heir general devolve to Peyton, and by a derivative title from him, does Sir Thomas Peyton, of Knowlton, baronet, hold the instant enjoyment of it. But Dene-court was passed away by Langley to Fenell, and from him by the like transition, it came over to Thomas Cox, customer of Sandwich, and he by sale invested the interest of it in Fogge, ancestor to my noble friend Richard Fogge, Esquire, now possessor of Dane-court, a person to whom for that intelligence he has contributed to me in relation to the noble families of Crioll and Valoignes, whose heirs general married with Fogge, and who formerly by those alliances, annexed a vast revenue in this county to this name, I am signally obliged.

South-court in this parish was in times of eldest inscription, as appears by a survey of this parish, taken in the eighteenth year of Edward the third, and which lies now in the hands of Mr. Anneslow Gardiner, of Haling, in Croyden, Sir John de Tittesden; but certainly the possession was not long resident here; for not long af=

ter, I find the lord Martin, of Devon to be proprietor of it, from whom in the reign of Henry the sixth, the right of it was by sale conducted down to John White, after made Sir John White, a merchant of the Staple, at Canterbury, and when this name deserted the possession of this place, the next who succeeded in the subsequent series was Cox, from whom by purchase the right came into Fogge, and from that name, by the fate of sale, was it made the inheritance of Peyton, from whom by communicative derivation and descent, it is incorporated into the demean of Sir Thomas Peyton.

339 <Toniford in Thanington> <Tonge>

TONIFORD, in the hundred of West-gate, did afford both seat and surname to a family, which came under that appellation; and there is mention in the Book of Aid of John Toniford, who lived here about the beginning of Edward the third; but this family was worn out, about the latter part of that prince's reign. And the next in order, who was lord of the fee, was Sir Thomas Fogge, who flourished here in the reign of Edward the third, and Richard the second, and after it had been for sundry descents fixed in this name and family, the interest which they had here, was by purchase brought over to claim Vane for its possessor, where likewise the title was as unstable; for not many years are consumed, since it was alienated from their revenue, and made by sale the demean of captain Collins of Sedingbourn.

TONG, in the hundred of Milton, was anciently called Thewng and Thawng, which import as much in Saxon, as Thong in English; for the common opinion derived from a universal tradition, and that asserted and justified by an uninterrupted assent of elder times, is, that Vortiger the British king, gave Hengist and Horsa, as a symbol and pledge of his affection, so much land to erect a fortress, as could be environed and circumscribed by the hide of a beast cut into thongs, which accordingly was performed, and the castle thus established, in memory of the original donation, was in the Saxon dialect stiled Thwangcester or Thong-castle; and this story is made more probable and plausible, because Matthew of Westminster affirms that Aurelius Ambrosius by many provocations endeavoured to engage Hengist, and his Saxons to a battle at Tong, in Kent; and that there was a castle here, the fragments and remains of some fortifications near the mill, do easily evince; though they lie now gasping in so deplored an heap, that only the rubbish of its ruins are discernible; yet certainly in elder times it was a fortress of importance; for the moat of the castle is yet so wide and deep, that it contributes water enough to drive a mill. But to proceed; after the conquest, it constantly acknowledged this powerful and eminent family of Badelesmer, and Bartholomew lord Badelesmer obtained the grant of a three days fair at St. Giles, to be observed at Tong, as appears, Pat. 9. Edwardi secundi Num. 57. But when he, by his defection, in the sixteenth year of Edward the second, had forfeited this, and the residue of his patrimony to the crown, this, by the indulgent favour of Edward the third, was in the second year of his reign, restored to his son Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, who died possessed of it, in the twelfth year of the abovesaid prince, and left it to his brother Giles de Badelesmer, who dying without issue, it accrued upon the division of the estate to be the portion of Edmund Mortimer, earl of Marsh and Ulster, who had married with Elizabeth, widow of William Behun, earl of Northampton, and sister and co-heir of the abovesaid Giles, and he in the fifth year of Richard the second, was found in her right to have died possessed of it, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 43. and from him it descended to his grand-child Edmund, the last earl of Marsh, who being embarked in that war, which was commenced by Henry lord Percy, surnamed the Hotspur of the North, against Henry the fourth, made shipwreck of his estate here at Tong, which was seized on as an escheat by the crown, and lay involved in the royal revenue, until Henry the sixth, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, granted it to Sir Thomas Browne, of Beckworth-castle, both controller and treasurer of his household; but his son Sir George Browne, in the eleventh year of Edward the fourth, surrendered it back to the crown, for the benefit and use of Cicely, dutchess dowager of York, mother of the abovesaid prince. After whose decease it reverts and flows back into its ancient channel, and was esteemed a limb of the royal patrimony, until the first year of king Edward the sixth, and then it was by that prince granted to Sir Ralph Vane, as a guerdon of that eminent and signal service he performed in Scotland, when he was employed there with Sir Ralph Sadler, by king Henry the eighth; and he not long after conveyed his interest here

to Sir Rowland Clerke, and from him in the fourth year of the abovesaid prince, it passed away by sale to Salomon Wilkins, in which family it remained until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was alienated to Mr. William Pordage of Rodmersham, ancestor to Mr. Thomas Pordage, who still is in possession of it.

Cheeks-court is a second place of importance in Tong, it was anciently written Checks-court, as indeed affording both seat and surname to a family, which in very

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old deeds, and other monuments, is frequently named At Check, and sometimes de Checksell. In the reign of Edward the second, I find William de Ore entitled to the possession, but held it not long; for in the ninth year of that prince, I find the signory invested in Peyforer, who died that year possessed of it, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 43. But before the latter end of Richard the second, this family determined to Julian Peyforer, a sole heir, who brought it along with her to her husband Thomas St. Leger, of Ottringdon, Esquire, who concluding in two daughters and co-heirs married to Ewias and Aucher, his estate came, in the tenth of Henry the fourth, to be shared by those two families, who not long after passed away their right here and in Elmeley to Cromer, in which family the propriety remained until the beginning of king James, and then it was sold by Sir James Cromer to Allen.

THROULEY, in the hundred of Feversham, was the capital mansion of the Gattons; for Hamon de Gatton had it in possession at his decease, which was in the twentieth year of Edward the first, and Elizabeth Gatton was found upon the inquisition to be his sole heir, \* who married William de Dene, and so by this alliance it came to own the possession of that family; and this William had a charter of free-warren granted to his lands here in the tenth year of Edward the second, and after him Thomas de Dene held it at his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the third. And William de Dene, by right from him possessed the inheritance; whose daughter and co-heir, Benedicta Dene, being married to John Shelving, it went into the patrimony of that family, which shortly after determined likewise in daughters and co-heirs; one of which called Joan, was married to John Brompton, alias Detling, of Detling-court, and so it was made a limb of his demeanor; but here it stayed not long neither, for this name quickly sunk into a female heir, known by the name of Benedicta Brampton, alias Detling, who was married to Thomas At Town, who had much land about Charing; but Throuley being in his wife's right, incorporated into his revenue, he transplanted himself into this parish, and here erected a seat, which he adopted into his own name, and called it Town-place; but suddenly after, he concluded in three daughters and co-heirs; Eleanor married to Richard Lewknor, of Bodshead, in Challock; Benet married to William Watton, of Addington; and Elizabeth married to William Sonds, of Sonds-place, at Darking, in Surry, who divided Town's estate; and Throuley, with Town-place itself, upon the partition, fell to be the lot or portion of Richard Lewknor, who sold them to Edward Evering, from whom by Mary his daughter and heir, married to John Upton of Feversham, Town-place went into the possession of that name; and from Upton, by sale, it was carried over to Shilling, where after some few years the title had rested, it was by a revolution of the same nature and semblance, transplanted into Sonds; from which purchase Sir George Sonds, knight of the bath, now derives his right and inheritance, in the manor and signory of Town-place.

Wilderton, in Throuley was eminent formerly, for being marshalled under the revenue of Giles lord Badelesmer, father to Bartholomew lord Badelesmer, who by his opposing of Edward the second, at Leeds castle, forfeited this and his life together, to the offended justice of that prince; but when his sons, Bartholomew and Giles, lord Badelesmer, were by Edward the third, restored to their former dignity, and likewise to a principal part of his estate, this was folded up in that restitution; for when these abovementioned brothers deceased without any lawful issue, their sisters were found to be their co-heirs, and Margery one of them, being married to William lord Rosse, brought this to a piece of his revenue; from whom by sale it went into the possession of Lewknor of Bodshead, in Challock. And when this family was divested of it, the inheritance was by purchase settled in Evering, descended from the Everings of Everings-court, in Alkham, by Dover, where after it had some years found a continued residence, the name and title dissolved together; for Edward Evering left only Mary Evering, his sole heir, who marrying with John Upton

gentleman, that alliance fixed Wilderton in the possession of that name; and part of it was, in some years subsequent to this match, sold away to Arnold Terrey of this parish, but the residue is yet constant to the interest of Mr. Upton, of Feversham, a

\* Ex autographis Georgii Sonds, militis.

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person in whom the scholar and the gentleman, are so evenly mixed, as to form a composition of perfection, that it is yet a question, which of them is the most predominant.

There was a religious house in Throuley, which was a cell to St. Bertin's, at St. Omer, in Flanders; but when Henry the fifth perceived the ill consequences of having fraternities, and other religious cells and convents in this nation, which had in a manner their dependencies upon other states, contrary peradventure in interest and affection to this; he suppressed this, and many other of the like condition, and out of their ruins and revenue, he erected the magnificent monastery at Shene, whose first foundation entitles itself to his piety and munificence.

THURNHAM, in the hundred of Eythorne, was the patrimony of an ancient and knightly family of that surname, made more eminent by the production of Sir Robert de Thurnham, a person of considerable account, in the reign of Edward the first, which prince he accompanied to the holy war, having before his designing himself to that quarrel, disposed his estate to pious uses, whereof this at Thurnham was settled on the college of Lingfield, in Surry, and having thus disrobed himself of his secular inheritance, he with much vigor and alacrity assumed the crusado or vow to rescue the sepulchre of our Saviour out of the possession of infidels, which resolution he so nobly prosecuted, that he offered up his life as an oblation to the justice of that cause which he had before so generously asserted. After his decease this remained cloistered up in the patrimony of the college of Lingfield, until the general suppression, and then growing parcel of the royal revenue, it lay there until king Edward the sixth granted it to Sir Edward Wotton, whose ancestor Sir Nicholas Wotton was invested long before in some part of this manor, which did accrue to him in the reign of Henry the fourth, by Joan, sole heir of Robert Corbie, and from this Sir Edward abovementioned, was it entirely transmitted to his great grand-child Thomas lord Wotton, who having settled it in marriage on his eldest daughter Katherine Wotton, married to Henry lord Stanhop, she by sale hath lately given up her right to Mr. .... Godden of London.

Binbery is an eminent manor in this parish, which, as high as the testimony of any either public or private evidences can instruct me, did own the signory of Northwood. Roger de Northwood held it at his death, which was in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third, and so did his successor Roger Northwood, in the last year of Henry the fifth. But after this I do not find it long constant to the interest of this family; for about the beginning of Henry the sixth, I find by some ancient court-rolls that it was passed away to John Thwaits; and he in the eighth year of that prince, conveyed his right in it to William Gascoigne, in which family the title continued, until the beginning of Edward the fourth, and then it was transplanted by sale into Cut, or Cuts, and in this name the interest of this place was constantly lodged, until the beginning of king James, and then it was demised to Samuel Lennard, of West-Wickham, whose son Sir Stephen Lennard is at this instant by paternal right invested in the possession of it.

There was a disastrous accident happened here at Binbery, and it was this, as the tragedy is represented to us out of the old evidences of the lord Wotton. The lady Northwood, in the time of Edward the third, standing on the precipice or hanger of a hill to see a Fox digged out which had earthed himself there, the foundation being loose and sandy sunk under her, and the hanging hill shot down so much earth upon her, that she was stifled to death with the unequal pressure, ere they could disengage her from that weight, which crushed her into this early ruin.

Upon the brow of the hill, not far removed from this place, are the ruins of an ancient fortress called Godward-castle, which Mr. Darell in his tract, De Castellis Cantii, conjectures might borrow its name from Godardus a Saxon, whereas it is more probable it did extract its etymology from the goodness and eminence of its situation, as those intrenchments at Stowting derive their denomination from their tenable force and fortitude; and certainly this is adequate to reason and its own elevated



position, it being, so settled, that it did not only secure the way which led from the Roman colony at Newington, by Rainham, but it is possible was a speculative station

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much in use amongst the Romans, to survey the approaches of enemies, in the valley below.

Aldington Septuans, in Thurnham, was the cradle of an ancient family of that sir=  
name. \* Robert de Septuans is inserted in the register of those noted Kentish per=  
sons, who were engaged with Richard the first at the siege of Acon. † Robert de  
Septuans, his son, was embarked with Henry the third in his expedition against the  
Welch, in the forty-second year of his reign. Sir Robert de Septuans was his son and  
heir, who was honoured with that dignity by Edward the first for his exemplary ser=  
vice performed at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty-eighth year of that prince,  
and he was father to William Septuans, who was seized of it when he deceased, which  
was in the twenty-fifth year of Edward the third; but it seems it was not long per=  
manent in the tenure of this name; for immediately after the Gowers had it, and  
John Gower when he died was in the enjoyment of it, which was in the forty-third  
year of Edward the third; from whom not many years after, it was by purchase  
transported to John Brockhull, Esquire, and with the demean of this family did the  
right of this place many years appear to be interwoven, till Anne, daughter and heir  
of Henry Brockhull, married to Sir John Taylor, and then both the name and  
estate were swallowed up in this family, where the possession for sundry ages re=  
mained, till not many years since it was conveyed by sale to Sir Richard Smith,  
whose heirs alienated it to Freake, and he hath lately passed away the signory of it to  
Mr. Joseph Muns, of Bersted.

There was a castle anciently in Thurnham, which as Darel affirms in his tract  
de Castellis Cantii, had both its name and foundation, from Godardus a Saxon, being  
called Godard castle, which is so despicable an heap, that not the least crums or frag=  
ments continue of the ruins, which might signify to us the least symptom of its for=  
mer strength and grandeur.

TUNSTALL, in the hundred of Milton, did about the twenty-ninth of Henry  
the third, confess itself to be under the dominion of Walter de Grey, who was lord  
paramont of this place, but long did not remain invested in the signory of it; for in  
the forty-fourth year of Henry the third, I find John de Burgh, descended from  
Hubert de Burgh, in the possession of it; and he that year, by the favourable com=  
pliance of that prince, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manors of Norton  
and Tunstall; but before the latter end of Edward the first, this family had deserted  
the inheritance of this place, and then the next which succeeded proprietor of it was  
Thomas de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, who ending in daughters and co-heirs,  
Margaret one of them (being first married to John de Segrave, and afterwards to  
Walter de Mayney, descended from Walter de Menduana or Mayney, who held  
twenty knights in this county, in the reign of Henry the third) brought this to be  
the demean of her second husband, Walter de Mayney, a person on whom the  
beams of majesty reflected with so vigorous impression, that he was summoned to  
sit in parliament as baron in the reign of Edward the third; and in whom that  
prince reposed so great a confidence, that as Daniel represents to us in his chronicle,  
he and his son Edward the Black Prince, fought under his colours in a private habit  
against Monsieur de Charmy, a Frenchman, near Calais in Picardy, in the twenty-  
third year of his reign, and deceased full of fame and of years, in the forty-sixth of  
that prince; but determined in Anne Mayney his sole inheritrix, who by marrying  
with John Hasting, earl of Pembroke, united this manor to his inheritance; but he  
dying in the thirteenth year of Richard the second, Reginald Grey, and Richard  
Talbot were found to be his heirs, and they bring a pleading, in the fifteenth year  
of the prince abovesaid, against John le Scroope, who pretended some title to his  
estate; and having rescued it from collateral claim about the beginning of Henry  
the fourth, conveyed it to Sir Robert Knolles, who in the seventh year of that  
prince, passed it by fine then levied to Sir William Cromer, lord mayor of London;  
his son William Cromer, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent, in the twenty-third year  
of Henry the sixth, and was afterwards in the twenty-seventh year of that prince  
barbarously assassinated by Jack Cade, whilst he endeavoured to impeach that arch-  
incendary in his march towards London. He married Elizabeth, daughter of James

\* Ex rot. penes Ed. Dering mil. & baronetum defunctum.

† See rot. pipe de Scutagio Walliæ

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Fiennes lord Say and Seal, by whom he had issue Sir James Cromer, father of Sir William Cromer, who was sheriff of Kent the nineteenth year of Henry the seventh, and the fifth year of king Henry the eighth, and George Cromer, who was archbishop of Armagh, in Ireland. This Sir William had issue James Cromer, Esquire; from whom descended William Cromer, Esquire, his son and heir, who was sheriff of Kent, the ninth and twenty-seventh of queen Elizabeth, and had issue Sir James Cromer, of Tunstall, knight, sheriff of Kent in the second year of king James, in whom the male line determined; so that Francis his daughter, by his first wife, married to Sir Matthew Carew, Elizabeth his daughter, by his second wife, married to Sir John Steed, of Steed-hill, and Christian born likewise by that venter, married to Sir John Hales, eldest son to Sir Edward Hales, of Wood-church, became his co-heirs. Upon the partition of the estate, Tunstall was shared by Sir John Hales; from whom it is now descended to his son and heir Sir Edward Hales, baronet, who lately hath begun to erect, upon the ancient foundation, a fabrick of that stupendous magnificence, that it at once obliges the eye to admiration and delight.

Ufton is a place of repute seated in this parish; but it is raised up to a higher estimate, since we find it was anciently parcel of the patrimony of Shurland; for Robert de Shurland had a concession by charter of free-warren to sundry of his lands in Kent, amongst which, there is a recital of Ufton; afterwards, in times subsequent to this, by the heir general of Shurland, it was cast into the possession of Cheyney, and William de Casineto (for so this name is rendered in Latin records) or William Cheyney held it at his death, which was in the eighth year of Edward the third, and after for many descents it had lain included in the interest and propriety of Cheyney, it was by a daughter and heir put into the demean of Astley; from whom again the like flux of circumstances bore away the inheritance, and transferred it to Harlackenden, the instant lord of Ufton.

Gore-court in this parish, in times of elder derivation, was the seat of a family whose surname was At-Gore, and sometimes in ancient court-rolls written De la Gore, called so from their habitation, which was situated near some public way; Gare, Gate, and Gore, importing no more in the Saxon dialect than some common passage. But to proceed, Henry At-Gore held Gore-court when he deceased, which was in the thirty-first year of Edward the third, and for several generations was the inheritance united to his name till the common fatality of time, brought it to expire in Alice Gore, the heir general of this place, and of John Gore the last of the male line who enjoyed it; and she disposed of her concern in it to William Croyden, in which family after the possession had resided, it was alienated to Wood, descended from the Woods of Muston, in Hollingbourne, in whom the right of Gore-court continues still invested.

Tunbridge gives name to that we stile the Lowy of Tunbridge, and is a small territory within itself, called in old Latin records Districtus Leucæ de Tunbridge, and was formerly subservient to the dominion of those noble persons, who were lords of the fee. The first of which, was Richard de Clare, earl of Brionie in Normandy, to whom it was by William Rufus granted upon this emergent occasion. This Richard was an earnest abettor and supporter likewise of the designs of this prince, upon his brother's territories in Normandy, and so by consequence an active partisan of his, which made the breast of Robert duke of Normandy to boil with such animosity and passion against him, that the flame of his hatred kindled the flame of a war which could not be extinguished, but by the depredation of this earl's estate, and the utter subversion of his castle of Brionie, which was left an heap of flame and ruins, which caused William Rufus to resent his calamitous condition with so much regret and commiseration, that he granted him as much land here at Tunbridge, as would spread into a league both in the extent and longitude of it, and in the breadth and latitude of it likewise; and Gemeticensis reports that this Richard brought over the rope with which he was to measure it, in the same ship which transported him and his retinue. From this Richard, who founded the castle, the right of Tunbridge was by descent translated into his son Gilbert de Clare, the first earl of Hertford, and

here did the signory many years find a residence, till Isabel, sister and co-heir of Gilbert de Clare, by marrying with Hugh Audley, brought this to be the inheritance of that illustrious family, where it had not long remained, but Margaret, daughter and heir of Hugh Audley, by marrying with Ralph Stafford, made it a branch of their patrimony; nor did it depart from this family, till the vanity of Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, embarked him in the design, which the malice of cardinal Woolsey aggravated with those circumstances of hatred, by blowing of wild conjectures into the ears of Henry the eighth, who was naturally a jealous prince, and emulous of any new blooming glory, that he was stained with the black tincture of treason, which sunk him into an untimely sepulchre, and his estate by forfeiture into the possession of the crown. Edward duke of Buckingham being thus convicted, in the twelfth year of Henry the eighth, there was a great controversy started forth, in the thirteenth year of that prince's reign, as appears by our law-books, in the parliament then convened, whether or not there were ground enough in the crimes objected against him to establish an attainder upon; and it was carried in the affirmative that there was; upon which this castle, with all the manor of Dackhurst, alias Hildenborough, with all the appendant services and quit-rents united to them, did escheat to the crown, and remained there, until queen Elizabeth dissevered the manor of the castle from her interest, and made it by grant the possession of her kinsman Henry lord Hunsdon, whose son George lord Hunsdon, about the beginning of king James, passed it with his daughter and heir to Thomas lord Berkeley, who conveyed it to Sir John Kenedie, from whom not long after, by the same conveyance it fell under the divided signory of Ferrers, Gosson, and Johnson, and they by a mutual consent sold their interest in it to Sir Peter Vanlore, by whose three daughters and co heirs, married to Sir Henry Zinzin, Sir Alexander Sterling, and Robert Crooke, Esquire, it is now divided between those three families. Although the onsets of time, and the assaults of enemies together, hath thrown the beauty and strength into such a rude confusion, that it now lurks in its own rubbish; yet formerly it was eminent for being the scene of much feud and contention, between the kings of England, and the barons then in arms against them.

In the year 1088, Odo bishop of Baieux and earl of Kent, making a defection from William Rufus, to those barons who sought to support the title of his eldest brother Robert, placed one Gilbert in this castle, for the defence of it, which enforced that king to invest it with a siege, and compelled the castellan to a surrender, and afterwards having taken Odo himself, imprisoned him in this fortress, from whence he afterwards made a successful escape.

In the year 1215, Falcatius de Brent, during the military contests king John had with his nobility, by force wrung this castle from the earl of Gloucester, and maintained it for some time with signal evidences of magnanimity to the king's behoof and use.

In the year 1231, upon the decease of Gilbert, the then earl of Gloucester, seized the wardship of his heir, and entrusted the custody of this castle to Hubert de Burgh earl of Kent. This occasioned an eager and impetuous contest between the king, and Richard archbishop of Canterbury; the archbishop pretended, because the castle held of his see, therefore he, de jure, ought to have the custody of the heir in his wardship. To which the king replied, that the whole earldom held of him, and that he might commit the custody of the lands to whomsoever he pleased. This caused the archbishop, boiling with much heat and passion, to appeal for redress to Rome, where he managed this controversy with that vigorous dexterity, that the pope issued out a solemn determination on his behalf; but his decease in his journey homewards, superseded the execution of the papal sentence.

The abovementioned king Henry, in the year 1259, granted licence to Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester, to wall and embattle his town of Tunbridge, in these words in that charter, *Claudere Muro et Kernellare*, which latter word being made Latin out of the French *Charneaux*, imports that indented form of the top of a wall, which hath vent and crest, commonly called embattelling, very serviceable to the defendants within, not only to annoy the enemy, but likewise to shroud and secure themselves from the fury of any outward assault.

This mode of fortification was in elder times with much caution prohibited with=

in this nation, out of a jealousy that it might foment any inward sedition, and was therefore, amongst many other articles, inquirable before the escheator de Domibus Kernellatis. But the war breaking out not long after this, between the king and Simon de Montfort, to whose interest the earl of Gloucester was by a solemn combination closely united, the grant of the abovementioned king was made ineffectual, and not the least symptoms of the intended wall are at this instant visible.

In the year 1263, the war growing hot between Henry the third, and Simon de Montfort, the king sets down before Tunbridge-castle, and forces it to surrender to discretion; and therein found, amongst others, the countess of Gloucester. From whence I collect, that in those times it was esteemed, if not the only, yet at least a principal mansion, of those great lords of Tunbridge, the earls of Gloucester.

In the fifth year of Edward the first, there was a summons issued forth by Hugh de Bigod, earl of Norfolk, and governor of the hundred of Hoo, to enjoin Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester, to appear before him to assoil himself from such accusations as should be objected against him, which principally had an aspect upon the war waged by him and Simon Montfort against Henry the third. To which he alleged in his defence, that he ought not to answer, but before the king's justices of Eyre, upon which a commission was issued out, in the third year of Edward the first, to hear and decide the controversy, and Sir Stephen de Penchester, and John de Rigate, were the two justices appointed by the king for the final determination of it: and they, upon a serious winnowing of the whole matter in debate, did absolve the said Richard from the crimes with which he had been unjustly bespattered; and the rather, because as to the principal part of them, they had been before entombed in the pacification of Killingworth, made in the fiftieth year of Henry the third.

After this, I cannot find by that ancient manuscript, they stile the chronicle of Tunbridge, that there was any signal action commenced at this place, because the castle with all its perquisites, not long after, by the heir of Audley, coming into the possession of Stafford, they planted themselves at Stafford castle, their principal residence; and so this fortress being neglected and deserted, languished away insensibly into decay and ruin; only in the reign of Edward the first, I find that upon an inquisition or survey of the privileges of the earls of Gloucester, as they were lords of Tunbridge, it was concluded that the archbishop of Canterbury had nothing to do within the Lowy or League; that the earl had return of writs, creation of certain officers, an especial sessions in Eyre; all which by intermission are shrunk long since into disuse.

In the year 1264, to allay all emergent controversy for the future, Boniface the archbishop of Canterbury, and Richard, earl of Gloucester, decreed that there should be a perambulation made concerning their respective bounds; and it was not long after likewise concluded between the parties abovesaid, that earl Richard should hold his manor of Tunbridge, and other lands of the archbishop by the service of four knights' fees, and to be high steward, and high butler, which office was likewise to be transmitted to his successors, at the feast of the archbishop's inauguration, taking for their service in the stewardship, seven competent robes of scarlet, thirty gallons of wine, thirty pound of wax for his lights, livery of hay and oats to feed fourscore horse for two nights, the dishes and salt which should stand before the archbishop in that feast; and at their departure, the diet of three days at the sole expence of the archbishop, at four of their manors, in any of the four quarters of Kent, wheresoever they pleased to fix ad minuendum sanguinem; so they repaired thither with fifty horses only. To his office of chief butlership was allotted seven robes like the former, twenty gallons of wine, fifty pound of wax for furnishing out of lights, livery for sixty horse for two nights, the cup wherewith the archbishop should be served, all the empty hogsheads of beer, and for six tun of wine, so many as should be drunk under the bar also. The articles of which composition in times subsequent to this compact, were punctually performed between the successors of either party.

First, in the year 1295, between Gilbert, earl of Gloucester, and Robert Winchelsey; next, between the said earl, and archbishop Reynolds; then between Hugh Audley the earl of Gloucester, and the archbishop John Stratford; after that, be-

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tween Hugh Stafford, earl of Stafford, to whom the castle and manor of Tunbridge did devolve, in right of the heir general of Audley, and Simon Sudbury; and lastly, between William Warham the archbishop, and Edward Stafford the last duke of

Buckingham of that name, in whose untimely sepulchre these two great offices found their final interment, and he executed the stewardship in his own person, and the butlership by his deputed delegate Sir Thomas Bouchier, knight.

The priory of Tunbridge was founded by Richard de Clare, in the year of Grace 1191, and stored with canons regular, or canons of Augustins, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, which upon the petition of the founder, was confirmed by pope Celestin, in the same year it was erected.

In the year 1353, an unhappy fire seized upon it, which almost reduced the whole structure into ashes; to balance which disaster, the church of Leigh was appropriated to this convent, that by this additional support, this cloister thus defaced with flame might again recover its former, not only bulk, but splendor likewise.

Somerhill is now an eminent seat in this parish, and was certainly in elder times allotted, as a mansion, or place of residence by the earls of Gloucester to those gentlemen who were bailiffs of their great chase called South-Frith, one of whom was Richard de Philpot of Philpot's in Leigh, not far distant, who flourished here, in the reign of Henry the third, and is written in an old deed, Balivus Forest de Tunbridge sub Ricardo Comite de Clare. After him I find, one Nicholas Charles exercised this office, and flourished in it, in the reign of Edward the second; and when he went out, divers of the family of Colepeper and Vane, who were lords of much land here about Tunbridge, were successively invested in it, whose names it would be too tedious and impertinent to enumerate. But to return; that this seat was anciently destined and devoted to the uses above recited, is very probable, because it is situated on the verge and exterior margent of the forest, and so by its commodious position, had a peculiar aspect upon those affairs, wherein this chase and its jurisdiction was concerned. In fine, after it had been subservient and ministerial for many hundred years to the successive signory of the several families of Clare, Audley, and Stafford, it was in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, by that unfortunate person Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, who was crushed into an heap of ruins, by those dark and black engines which cardinal Wolsey, that subtle artificer of mischief, had raised upon him, was with much other land forfeited to the crown; and queen Elizabeth, about the middle of her reign, by royal concession made it the demean of her faithful servant Sir Francis Walsingham, principal secretary of state, who dying without issue-male, left it to his daughter and heir Frances, who was first married to the invaluable Sir Philip Sidney; secondly, to Robert earl of Essex: and thirdly, to Richard Burgh, earl of Clanrickard, created earl of St. Albans, August the twenty-third, in the year 1628, to whose son Ulike Burgh, lately earl of St. Albans and Clanrickard, she bequeathed this manor of Somerhill.

Hilden is another manor in Tunbridge, and was, as high as I can track any record, the possession of the noble family of Vane, who are written in very old deeds, A Vane, and was certainly their ancient seat, before, by marrying with the heir of Stidolfe, they became possessors of Badsell. Henry A Vane makes his will in the year 1456. He was the son of John A Vane, who flourished at this place, in the reign of Edward the third; but his predecessors enjoyed it, as appears by original evidences, many years before. From Henry Vane it came over to John A Vane, whose son John Vane, in the tenth year of Henry the seventh, conveyed it by sale to Dixon, descended originally from the Dixons of Scotland, gentlemen of no despicable account in that nation, and in their possession hath it, ever since the first purchase, been constantly settled.

Dachurst, alias Hildenborough, had the same possessors still with Tunbridge, and being forfeited, in the thirteenth year of Henry the eighth, by Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, its demean was in the fourteenth year of that prince, granted to William Skeffington, Esquire, in whose descendant the propriety is yet resident;

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but the manor itself rested in the crown, until not many years since it was conveyed by the state to colonel Robert Gibbons, of Hole, in Rolvenden.

Bardens and Hadloe are two little manors in Tunbridge, both which had owners of that surname. John de Barden held the first, as the Book of Aid informs us, and paid respective aid for it, at making the Black Prince knight, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, and the dateless evidences relating to Hadloe, do assure

us both of the antiquity and truth of the second. And in the tenure of the first did Barden remain, until the reign of Henry the fourth, and then changed its owner, and came entirely to be possessed by Hadloe, but remained not long in his name; for John Hadlow dying without issue, Alice his sister married to John Woodward, became his heir; and she in her widowhood, about the latter end of Henry the sixth, passed away Bardens to John Hopdey, and he in the thirty-eighth of Henry the sixth alienated his right to William Hextall; but Hadloe devolved to John Woodward, son of John Woodward abovesaid, and he in the thirty-seventh of Henry the sixth, demises all his interest in Hadloe to William and Henry Hextall; and he the same year by deed releases all his right in Hadloe to William; which William, not many years after, dying without issue-male, Margaret his sole daughter and heir, brought these two manors to be the inheritance of her husband William Whetenhall, Esquire, whose son William Whetenhall, Esquire, about the middle of Henry the eighth, passed away Bardens to Andrew Judde, Esquire, (who erected the alms-houses here at Tunbridge) and Hadloe to William Waller, Esquire. Judde died without issue-male, and left his estate to Alice his sole heir, married to Thomas Smith, Esquire, vulgarly called Customer Smith, and he upon his decease gave Bardens to his second son Sir Thomas Smith of London, in whose descendants the title yet is resident; but Hadloe descended to Richard Waller, son to William abovesaid, who about the forty second year of Elizabeth, alienated it to George Stacy, and he about the beginning of king James, demised it again to Bing, whose successor Mr. John Bing, in our remembrance, passed it away to David Polhill, Esquire, whose grand-child Mr. David Polhill, upon the late decease of that his grand-father, is now entituled to the possession of it.

Hollenden is the last place in Tunbridge to be taken notice of, which spreads its appendant demean into the parish of Leigh, and was in ages of a very high gradation, parcel of the patrimony of the ancient family of Fremingham; for in the fifty-fifth year of Henry the third, I find that Ralph de Fremingham obtained a charter of free-warren to several of his manors in Kent, in the register of which was Hollenden. In times of a more modern aspect, that is, about the reign of Henry the fourth, I find it by some old court-rolls to be the Cheyneys, and there are several parcels of land that relate to this manor, which are adopted into their name, and are called Cheyneys fields; and in this family did the manor continue, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated to Walle, to whose inheritance it continued united, until that age which fell within the circle of our fathers cognisance, and then it was passed away to Crittenden, which family at this instant is entituled to the signory of it. But part of the demean which is spread into Leigh, was about the beginning of Henry the seventh, conveyed to Stacy, whose successor almost in our remembrance alienated it to Turner, and he not many years since demised it to James Pelset.

TUYDLEY, anciently written TWIDLEY, lies in the hundreds of Wachlingstone and Twyford, and was not worth the consideration, were it not for Badsell, where a family who extracted their surname from hence, had long since their habitation, from whom by a daughter and co-heir the inheritance went into Stidulph, from whom the Stidulphs or Stidolfes of Surry are originally branched out; a noble family certainly, and of eminent genealogy, there being frequent mention in that book, which they call the survey of the Lowey of Tunbridge, taken in the fourteenth year of Edward the fourth, of this name and family; but when the successive mutation of time had crumbled the name of Stidolfe at this place into a daughter and heir called Agnes, upon her espousals with John Vane, Badsell became incorpo-

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rated into the interest and concern of that family, and by a communicative right issuing out from this alliance, does Mildmay Fane, now earl of Westmorland entitle himself to the instant propriety and possession of Tuydley and Badsell.

Kippings Cross, in Tuydley, hath been (as appears by several old dateless evidences and other monuments) for many hundred years the seat and inheritance of Kipping, who bore for their coat armour, as it appears exemplified and confirmed to Robert Kipping, of Brenchley, gentleman, the fifth of September, in the thirty-seventh year of Henry the eighth, Lozingee, or and azure, upon a chief gules, a lion passant or, langued and armed azure. But this family after such a vast continuance here and at

Brenchley, not many years since determined in two daughters and co-heirs; Dorothy the eldest, was married to Edward Darrell, Esquire, second son to Sir Robert Darrell, of Colehill, and Ann married to Mr. James Darrell, fourth son of Sir Robert abovementioned, and now secondly to Thomas Henshaw, of Kensington, Esquire, descended from the ancient family of Henshaw, of Henshaw, in Cheshire.

U.

ULCOMB, in the hundred of Eyhorne, was the patrimony of St. Legers (written in Latin records de Sancto Leodegario.) Sir Robert de Sancto Leodegario entered into England with William the Conqueror, and was of that high repute, that, according to the received tradition of this family, he with his hand supported that prince, when he first went out of his ship to land in Sussex; afterwards, when in the twentieth of that king's government, there was an universal survey taken of each man's particular demeanour, throughout the nation, who was of any account or eminence, which we call Domesday Book, there is a recital of the abovementioned Robert de St. Leger to have held lands at Ulcomb, which the evidences of this family do inform us, were taken from a pagan Dane whom he before had conquered, and who inhabited at this place. Guy de St. Leger, as Mr. Fuller discovers to us in his Ecclesiastical History, was appointed by William the Conqueror to be an assistant knight to Adelmere, one of the monks of Ely. Rafe de St. Leger is registered in the roll of those Kentish gentlemen, who accompanied Richard the first to the siege of Acon, and, as the inscription on his leaden shroud in the vault of this church does signify, was engaged in the holy quarrel fifteen years. Another Rafe St. Leger, and Hugh St. Leger, were recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the second year of king John. Sir Rafe de St. Leger, Sir Joseph de St. Leger, and Sir Thomas St. Leger, were with Edward the first at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, and for their signal achievements there received the order of the knighthood. Indeed in times subsequent to this there was scarce almost any noble and generous undertaking, but the annals of our English history represent a St. Leger concerned and interested in it. And for their collateral alliances by which they became united in consanguinity to several illustrious families, none in that particular have been more successful than themselves. Sir Thomas St. Leger second brother to Sir Rafe St. Leger, married Anne dutchess of Exeter, sister to king Edward the fourth, and so became twisted into the family of that prince, by a nearness of alliance, as he had before been taken into his bosom by a union of friendship, by whom he had only Ann his daughter and heir, who was married to Sir George Manners, lord Rosse; from whom the earls of Rutland are in a direct line branched out. Sir James St. Leger, this man's brother, married with Anne, one of the co-heirs of Thomas Boteler, earl of Ormond; from whom the St. Legers of the county of Devon were extracted; out of which stem was Sir William St. Leger, who was lord president of Munster in Ireland, one thousand six hundred forty and two. Sir Anthony St. Leger, father of Sir Warham, was lord deputy of Ireland, which place he managed with much prudence and magnanimity; his second son Sir Anthony St. Leger, father to Sir Anthony St. Leger, now of Wierton house, in Boughton Monchensie, died master of the rolls in Ireland; which office he discharged with a great deal of faith and no less integrity;

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thus have I in landscape portrayed this noble family, which in an undivided chain of descent was settled at Ulcomb, from the conqueror's time even till of late, and then Sir Anthony St. Leger alienated his right in it, which was grown reverend by a subscription of so many ages, to serjeant Clerk of Rochester, father to Mr. Francis Clerk, descended from Henry Clerk, who was second brother to Sir John Clerk, who took the duke of Longuevil prisoner at the battle fought between Bomy and Spours.

The church of Ulcomb belonged to Christ-church, in Canterbury, and being snatched away was restored by king Edmund in the year 941. And about 430 years since was made a collegiate church by Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, and the head thereof was called archpresbyter.

Boycot is another manor in Ulcomb, which afforded both seat and surname to a family of that denomination, as appears by several old deeds, some of which are without date, which remember Stephen de Boycot, John de Boycot, and Alexander Boycot, which last flourished here in the reign of Edward the third, and Richard the second;

and from him did it by paternal delegation devolve to John Boycot; and he had issue John Boycot and Stephen Boycot, one of which sold his proportion which accrued to him by the custom of Gavelkind to Richard Hovenden, and the other by the like alienation transmitted his interest in it to William Adam, from whom it came over by donation to Thomas Glover, as is specified in the deed of sale, by which the abovementioned person, in the first year of Henry the seventh, alienates it to Richard Hovenden. After Hovenden was crumbled away, it came by purchase to be the possession of Clerk, of Wood-church, the last of which name which was entitled to the inheritance was Humphrey Clerk, Esquire, who in the nineteenth of queen Elizabeth alienated it to Thomas Sands, and he in the twentieth year of the abovesaid princes, conveyed it to the lady Elizabeth Berkley, whose grand-child ..... Berkley, Esquire, is now proprietor of it.

Kingsnoth is the last manor in Ulcomb; it was part of that demean which related to the abby of Feversham, and continued united to its patrimony, until the public dissolution filed it off, and then it became the interest of the crown, until Henry the eighth, in the thirty-second year of his reign, granted it to Sir Anthony St. Leger, knight of the garter, lord deputy of Ireland, and one of his privy council, whose son Sir Warham St. Leger, in the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, conveyed it to William Isley, Esquire, who not long after passed it away to Anthony Sampson, who in the twenty first year of queen Elizabeth alienated it to James Austin; and he in the year 1599, sold it to Robert Cromer, who dying without issue male, Anne his daughter and heir brought it along with her to her husband Sir Arthur Harris, of Crixey, in Essex, who upon his decease gave it to his second son Mr. John Harris, and his son and heir Mr. Cranmer Harris, of Lincolns Inn, enjoys the instant inheritance of it.

UP-CHURCH, in the hundred of Milton, was in elder times in the register of those lands, manors, and hereditaments, which owned the dominion of the illustrious family of Leybourn. Roger de Leybourn, in the fiftieth year of Henry the third, had a grant to hold his lands at Hartlip, Reinham, ad Up-church, by the fourth part of a knight's fee, and from him did the clew of successive descent in a continued track transport it to his great grand-child Juliana de Leybourne, widow of John de Hastings (not father of Laurence de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, as some have erroneously printed, but his kinsman) and next of William de Clinton, earl of Huntington, whom she survived, and died possessed of this manor in the forty-third year of Edward the third, and as the inquisition after her decease informs us, without any issue or kindred who might supersede the interest of the crown, by pretending a direct or collateral title to her estate; so that king Edward the third by escheat became invested in this manor, as a limb of the estate thus acquired, who in the fiftieth year of his reign, settled it on the abby of St. Mary Grace on Tower hill, of his foundation and endowment; and having remained treasured up in the revenue of that cloister, until the general suppression, it was then plucked off, and by king Henry the eighth granted in the thirty-first of his reign to Thomas Green, Esquire, whose descendant in our fathers memory passed away his concern in it to Apsley.

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Ham, Sharpenash, and West-court are three little manors situated within the circuit of this parish, and were parcel of that patrimony, which related to the abby oŒ St. Augustins; which upon the dissolution of that fraternity (the vast demean which appertained to it, being more heinous in the eyes of Henry the eighth, than those crimes and offences, though peradventure of a complexion dark enough, which were charged upon the convent) he, I mean the prince abovesaid, ravished them away from the patrimony of the church, to incorporate and interweave them with the revenue of the crown where their title and property was not long lodged; for king Henry the eighth conveyed them by grant to William Hach, descended from Hach of Aller, in Devon, who not long after passed them away to Thomas Green, Esquire, written in his deeds alias Norton; where after the possession of them had some years continued, the interest of all these manors was, by the mutation of sale, transported into Aldersey, ancestor to captain Terry Aldersey, of Swanton-court, in Bredgar, now lord of the fee and signory of these above recited places.

W.

WALDERSHARE, in the hundred of Eastry, was in elder times the seat of



an eminent family called Malmains. ‡ John de Malmains is recorded in an ancient roll of those gentlemen which entered England with William the Conqueror, and engaged with him at the battle of Battle. John de Malmains, as Mr. Fuller in his Ecclesiastical History does represent to us, was standard bearer to the Norman footmen, and was joined by William the Conqueror as an assistant knight to Otho, one of the monks of Ely. Henry Malmains is registered in the bed-roll of those Kentish gentlemen who assisted Richard the first at the siege of Acon. John de Malmains is registered in the pipe rolls amongst those who were recognitores magnæ assisæ, in the reign of king John, a place of that latitude of trust and authority, that those who managed it were frequently selected out of the chiefest knights and most eminent gentlemen of the county. Sir Nicholas de Malmains was engaged with Edward the first at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty eighth of his reign, and for his worthy undertaking there received the dignity of knight-hood, and from him did Waldershare descend to Nicholas de Malmains, who died possessed of this and much other land in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 160, and from him descended Henry Malmains his grand-child, who dying about the beginning of Henry the fourth without issue-male, left his estate here at Waldershare, to Agnes his sole daughter and heir married to Thomas Goldwell, of Great Chart; yet had this Henry a kinsman called Thomas Malmains, son of John Malmains, who had a considerable share of this manor of Waldershare, which by his heir general devolved to John Monins, Esquire, who about the beginning of Henry the sixth, purchased all that demean and interest which Thomas Goldwell was entituled to here, and so became sole lord of Waldershare. This John Monins was descended from John Monins, who in the twentieth year of Edward the third held lands at Swinkfield, as appears by the Book of Aid, by the title of Esquire, and was allied to William Monings or Monins, (for in old records they are written so promiscuously) who was several times knight of the shire for Norfolk, as appears by the record in the tower, whose title is de Expensis Militum, in the time of Richard the second; and John Monins, this man's son, was a person of so eminent notice in this county, that he obtained an indulgence under the seal of Sixtus the fourth, bearing date 1474, to carry along with him a priest and a portable altar for celebration of divine offices in his necessary journeyings; and John Monins, this man's grand-child, and son of Robert, compounds with Thomas Hobbys, in the twentieth year of Henry the seventh, for ten marks as part of his fine to be excused from being made knight of the bath at the creation of Henry his son prince of Wales; Edward Monins, Esquire, was justice of the peace for Kent the latter part of the reign of Henry the eighth, and he was ancestor to Sir William Monins, who was made knight

‡ See more of this family of Malmains in the catalogue of sheriffs.

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and baronet the twenty-ninth day of June, in the ninth year of king James, by the name of Sir William Monings, of Waldershare, and from him is not only this title, but likewise the signory of this manor now devolved by paternal right to his son and heir Edward Monins baronet.

WALMER is a member of Sandwich, and so is in no hundred: it was one of those principal seats which owned the jurisdiction and signory of the noble and spreading family of Crioll, written frequently likewise Keriell. The first, whom I find to be possessed of it, was Matilda de Crioll, widow of Simon de Crioll, and she in right of dower was in possession of it at her death, which was in the fifty-second of Henry the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 34. The next of this name whom the beams of public record represent to me to be the possessor of it, was Nicholas de Crioll, who enjoyed it at his death, which was in the thirty-first of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 39. In ages of a nearer approach unto us, John de Crioll, in the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, died seized of it, and so did William Keriell in the first year of Henry the fifth, Rot. Esc. Num. 21, and left it to his son Sir John Crioll of Sarre in Thanet, who (as an old pedigree of this family informs me) was in eminent command under Henry the fifth in his successful expedition into France, having the conduct of several Kentish squadrons at the battle of Agincourt, and died laden more with honour than with years in the ninth year of Henry the sixth, and left Sir Thomas Crioll or Keriell knight of the garter, heir both of his estate and virtues; of whom, because our chronicles speak so much, I shall not be silent. He was governor of Gournay in Normandy, in the ninth year of Henry the sixth, under John duke of

Bedford, the regent; not far from which place, he defeated the earl of Britain, and in that discomfiture slew six hundred, and took two hundred prisoners. In the fourteenth year of Henry the sixth, the duke of Burgundy infested Crotoy with a siege, which being successfully raised by the lord Talbot, Sir Thomas Keriell assaults his rear with that courage, that he forced that duke to a disorderly retreat, leaving his canon and carriages behind him, as the reward of his valour and fortune. In the twenty-seventh year of Henry the sixth, he was sent over into France with fifteen hundred men as a fresh supply to buy up the sinking affairs of the English in that nation, with which he recovered many places, of strength; but overlaid with multitudes in an encounter at Formigny, by the earl of Cleremont and the constable of France, after he had with unparalleled testimonies of personal courage endeavoured to preserve the fortune of the day, he received a defeat; the enemy buying his victory at so dear a rate, that it almost undid the purchaser. Lastly his fate cast him into that civil contest which broke out between the two houses of York and Lancaster, and being satisfied with the justice of those principles upon which the first had engaged in arms, became an eager assertor of its claim to the diadem, and having embarked himself with Richard earl of Warwick, then the Atlas of that faction, in defence of it, at the second battle of St. Albans perished in the ruins of that field, and by an unstained, though a calamitous fidelity, became the great example of loyalty to the house of York. And he dying without issue-male, one of his daughters and co-heirs, by marrying with John Fogge, of Repton, Esquire, brought this manor upon the partition of the estate between Fogge and Bourchier, who married the other, to be annexed to the demean of that family, and upon his decease it descended to his son Thomas Fogge, serjeant porter of Calais, who dying without issue-male, Anne Fogge who was one of his two daughters and co-heirs, first marrying with William Scot, and afterwards to Henry Isham, brought this to be parcel of the inheritance of her second husband; but his son Edward Isham, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, concluding in Mary Isham his only inheritrix, she by espousing Sir George Perkins united it to his patrimony, and he settled the reversion of it after his wife's decease upon Mary his daughter married to Sir Richard Minshull † of Cheshire, created baron of Minshull 1642, (descended from that eminent soldier Michael de Minshul, who for his glorious service performed in the quarrel of Richard the first at the siege of Acon, had the assignment for ever of the crescent and star for the coat armour of this family.) And he and the lady Mary Perkins concurring in a joint sale, passed it away in the second of king Charles to James Hugison of Lingsted, whose son William Hugison, Esquire, by descendant right is entituled to the possession of it.

† Aregrim a Saxon held the manor of Minshull in Cheshire, as Doomsday Book testifies, in the time of the Conqueror ut liber homo.

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WALTHAM (in the hundreds of Bredge, Petham, and Stowting) was anciently a member of that revenue which acknowledged the interest of the knights templars, as appears by a survey taken of this manor, in the year of grace, one thousand one hundred and eighty, and registered in the book stiled de terris templariorum, which is preserved in the remembrancer's office in the exchequer; and in that survey, there is mention made of Ivo de Haut, who held lands at that time of Temple Waltham, lying at Petham not far distant, which justifies the antiquity of that name in this track. Upon the total suppression and extinction of this order here in England, on pretence of some prodigious crimes stuck upon it (which whether they were imaginary or real, must be discussed in that critical day, when the secrets of all hearts, and the bottom of all secrets shall be opened) this manor of Waltham, was in the seventeenth year of Edward the second, by grant invested in the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, commonly called the knights hospitalers, and here in this order it rested, until the reign of Henry the eighth; and then being dissolved, by that impetuous tempest, which like a hurricane, fell upon this and all other conventual orders in this nation, it was swallowed up in the revenue of the crown, and there lay couched, till the latter part of queen Elizabeth; and then it was, in the forty-second year of her swaying the English scepter, granted to John Manwaring, Esquire, from whom by Hope Manwaring, his daughter and heir, the interest went to Humphrey Hamond; upon whose decease, she was re-married to Sir Robert Stapylton, a person who hath erected his own everlasting tomb and epitaph, in those exquisite

translations of his, of Pliny's panegyric to Trajan, Juvenal's satyrs, and lastly, Strada's history of the wars, and other transactions of the Low Countries, who by purchase from his son-in-law Mr. Manwaring Hamond, holds the instant fee-simple of it.

Eshmerfield is another eminent manor in Waltham, and calls for some respective account; because in ages of a higher pedigree, it confessed itself in the revenue of the signal family of Crioll; for Bertram de Crioll possessed it at his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, and though he expired in a daughter and heir, yet it continued still in the tenure of a younger house, until Bennet, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Crioll, who was slain at the second battle of St. Albans, brought it to her husband John Fogge, Esquire, whose son Thomas Fogge, about the beginning of Henry the seventh, alienated his right and concern in it to Sir Thomas Kempe, in which family the inheritance remained until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it came to be possessed by Sir Thomas Kempe, this man's grand-child, who concluding in four daughters and co-heirs, this upon the partition of his estate devolved by one of them to Sir Dudley Diggs, and he not long after passed it away to Mr. Thomas Twisden, a younger brother of Sir William Twisden, whose heirs in our memory transplanted the propriety by sale into Sir John Ashburnham; to whose widow the lady Ashburnham it accrued upon his decease, as having been before by special compact made part of her dower, so that she at this instant hath the use of the emergent profits and income of it.

Whetacre is another small manor, that lies within the circle of this parish, not worth the memorial, were it not for a family which extracted its surname from hence; for I find Nigellus de Whetacre mentioned in the Book of Aid, to have held lands here, in the twentieth of Edward the third. In times of a lower date, that is, about the reign of Henry the sixth, I find the family of Hels or Hils, descended from the Hels, of Hels-court, in Woditon to be planted in the possession; and in this name was the interest of it constant, until the beginning of Edward the sixth, and then it was alienated to Prude, whose successor conveyed it to alderman Cockain of London, from whom the same stream of vicissitude carried it into Beacon.

WATRINGBURY, in the hundred of Twiford, was, in ages of a very high gradation, the patrimony of a family which enjoyed that surname, and held not only the manor of Watringbury itself, but Chart and Fowls, which lie within the precincts of this parish likewise; and bore for their coat-armour argent six lionceaux rampant sable; in assimilation, I believe, of the lord Leybourne his neighbour, who was a person of a vast power, and no less estate in this track; but before the latter end of Henry the third, this family was extinguished and vanished, and then the next family

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which stepped into the possession of these places, upon the extinction of this, was the noble family of Leybourne of Leybourne-castle. Thomas de Leybourne held it at his decease, which was in the first year of Edward the second, and transmitted them to his successor Roger de Leybourne, who died seized of them, in the beginning of Edward the third, and left only one daughter and heir, called Juliana Leybourne, who in relation to the vast proportion of revenue which accrued to her upon his decease, was stiled the Infanta of Kent; she was first married to John de Hastings, a kinsman of Lawrence de Hastings, who was earl of Pembroke, who dying without any issue surviving by this lady, upon his decease she chose for her second husband, William de Clinton, earl of Huntington; but by him likewise had no issue, as appears by the inquisition taken after her death, which was in the forty-third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 57. nor could there be any discovered, that by collateral affinity to this lady by her father's side could elude the escheat, by pretending a title to the estate, so that it devolved to the crown, as the common heir, jure patronatus, as the civilians call it, by right of patronage and protection; and king Edward the third, in the fiftieth year of his reign, granted Watringbury, Chart, and Fowles, which were parcel of the abovementioned revenue of Leybourne, to the abby of St. Mary Grace upon Tower-hill; in whose revenue they lay couched till the general suppression, in the twenty-ninth of Henry the eighth, and then they were by that prince, in the thirty-sixth year of his reign, granted to Giles Bridges, and Robert Harris, who immediately after passed them away to Sir Robert Southwell, from whom by as quick a transition they went away to Sir Edward North, and he

alienated them to Sir Martin Bowes, from whom they passed away to Sir John Baker, who suddenly after divested himself of his right to them, and sold them to Nevill de la Hay; where it is to be noted that these revolutions of the title fell out in less than thirty years. Nevill de la Hay had issue George de la Hay, who about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, passed away Watringbury to Wilkinson, and Chart and Fowles to Roger Twisden, Esquire; Wilkinson in our fathers memory conveyed Watringbury by sale to Sir Thomas Stile, knight and baronet, father to Sir Thomas Stile, baronet, the instant proprietor of it. Chert and Fowls, descended to Sir William Twisden, knight and baronet, father to Sir Roger Twisden, now possessor of them both, to whose papers I owe for the latter part of my intelligence concerning the successive possessors of these above recited manors.

I had almost forgot to inform the reader, that in the fourth year of Edward the second, Henry de Leybourne obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands at Watringbury; amongst which, Chart in this parish is particularly recited.

Westbery is another manor in this parish, which had anciently proprietors of that surname; the last of which name was John Westbery, who deceased without issue, and so transmitted his right in it by testament to Agnes Ellis his niece, and she in the twenty-third year of Henry the sixth, alienated her interest in it to Richard Fishbourne, in whom it was not long resident; for he in the thirty-third year of that prince, conveyed it by sale to Sir Thomas Browne, of Bechworth-castle in Surry, controller of the house, and privy councillor to Henry the sixth; from whom by an even stream of descent the title flowed down to his successor Sir Thomas Browne, who in the twenty-fifth year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Roger Twisden, Esquire, grand-father to Sir Roger Twisden, knight and baronet, in whom the present propriety of this place is resident.

Canons is the last manor in this parish. It is called so, because it anciently belonged to the prior and canons of Leeds; and, after it had for many ages rested in the demean of this convent, it was by the dissolution, in the reign of Henry the eighth, which like a general inundation broke in upon the patrimony of the church, swept away; but was by grant from that prince suddenly after settled on the dean and chapter of Rochester, and made a branch of their revenue.

Watringbury had the grant of a weekly market on the Tuesday, and a three days fair at the feast of St. John the Baptist, both procured to it by Hugh de Leybourne, in the fourth year of Edward the second.

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EAST-WELL, in the hundred of Wye, was anciently the possession of a family, which extracted its surname from hence. Matilda de Eastwell held it at her decease, which was in the fifty-second year of Henry the third, Rot- Esc. Num. 32. But soon after this, this family was faded away at this place, and then it devolved to be a limb of that revenue, which acknowledged the jurisdiction and possession of Bertram de Crioll, and he held it, in the twenty-third year of Edward the first; but his son John Crioll dying without issue, about the beginning of Edward the third, it came down to Richard de Rokesley, seneschall and governor of Ponthieu and Monstreul, as appears, Pat. 1. Edwardi secundi, in the reign of Edward the second, who had married Joan, sole daughter, and now heir of Bertram de Crioll; but the same vicissitude, not long after carried it off from this name; for he went out likewise in two daughters and co-heirs, one of whom called Agnes, by marrying with Thomas de Poynings, entombed the name in his family, and the estate here at East-well, and elsewhere, in his patrimony; but (as one ingeniously observes) the world itself, is but a great ball cast down into the air to sport the stars, and all the depopulations of kingdoms, and ruins of empires, is but their pastime; so I may likewise infer, that great families, from their tumblings and rollings, are but the mockery and disports of time, and so it appeared here; for Richard lord Poynings, successor to the above-said Thomas, died the eleventh year of Richard the second, and left his estate here to his sole daughter and heir, Eleanor married to Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, in whose right he became lord Poynings, and so Eastwell became linked to his revenue, and dwelt in his name, and supported the signory of Percy, until the fate of sale dislodged it; for in the twenty-third year of Henry the eighth, Henry earl of Northumberland passes it away to Sir Thomas Cheyney, William Walsingham, and William Fitz Williams, and they not long after conveyed it to Sir Christopher Hales,

attorney general to Henry the eighth, and he died possessed of it, in the thirty-third year of that prince, and left it to his son Sir James Hales, who not long after alienated it to Sir Thomas Moile, chancellor of the court of augmentations, who erected almost all that stupendious fabrick, which now so obliges the eye to admiration, and left it to Sir Thomas Finch, who had married Katharine his daughter and co-heir, a gentleman who merited a calmer fate, and a nobler tomb; for after many gallant achievements performed at Newhaven in France, he suffered shipwreck, in his return to England, and left it to his son Sir Moile Finch, who very much enlarged Eastwell-court, with both sumptuous, elegant and convenient additions, and left it in dower to his widow Elizabeth Finch, daughter and heir of Sir Thomas Heneage, first created viscountess Maidstone by king James, and after countess of Winchelsea, in the year 1628, by king Charles; from whom both the honour, and Eastwell descended to her son Thomas earl Winchelsea, and from him to his son, the right honourable Heneage Finch, now earl of Winchelsea, and viscount Maidstone.

Since I am so happily engaged to a discourse of this eminent family of Finch, I shall discover in landscape the deep antiquity of their first extraction. They were originally descended from Henry Fitz-Herbert, chamberlain to king Henry the first, who married the daughter and heir of Sir Robert le Corbet, and had issue by her a son named Herbert, and he was father to Herbert Fitz-Herbert, who by his first wife Lucy, daughter and co-heir of Milo, earl of Hereford, and lord high constable of England, had issue a son named Peter Fitz-Herbert, from whom the Herberts earls of Pembroke originally issued out, and by his second wife Matilda (after his decease, remarried to the lord Columbers) he had issue Matthew Fitz-Herbert, who was one of the Magnates or barons, at the compiling of magna charta, and was one of the powerful partisans of king John, at the making the accord between that prince and his barons, at Running Mead, between Windsor and Stanes; his son likewise called Matthew Fitz Herbert, was the fourth baron mentioned in the roll of that parliament, which was convened at Tewksbury. The alteration of this name into Finch, was about the tenth of Edward the first, at which time Herbert Fitz-Herbert purchased the manor of Finches in Lidde, of which being entire lord, as he was not of Netherfield, he assumed his surname from that, as many other families fell in that age, under the same mutation, and borrowed surnames from those places which were wholly under their possession and signory. In the eighth year of

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Edward the second; there was a supersedeas issued out, mentioning that Herbert Fitz-Herbert, called Finch, was a ward, in the twenty-eighth year of Edward the first, and so could not personally serve with the king in his wars in Scotland, and therefore was released of his escuage for all his estate in Kent and Sussex, which together with some of the ancient patrimony, and several knights fees at Netherfield in Sussex, and elsewhere, are not yet departed from this noble family.

WESTWELL, in the hundred of Calehill, was confirmed to the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, for a supply in their diet, in the year 1241. But it seems they were questioned, quo warranto they possessed this manor, and after a solemn decision, per patriam, it is affirmed and attested in the confirmation of the abovesaid prince, that it was enstated upon them by his predecessors, and continued afterwards unquestionably parcel of the demean of the cloister abovesaid, until it was resigned by the monks of Christ-church, into the hands of Henry the eighth, and was exchanged with Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, by the crown, in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, whose predecessors had a large share in it long before, but was again reassumed by queen Elizabeth in the vacancy of that see, and afterwards it rested in the crown until almost our memory, and then it was granted away to Sir Nicholas Tufton of Hothfield, father to the right honourable John, earl of Thanet, now proprietor of it. The parsonage anciently belonged to the archbishop of Canterbury, until Thomas Arundell the archbishop gave it, in the year 1397, to the monks of Christ-church, to counterpoise those vast expences which they were to be at in re-erecting the nave or body of the cathedral, (called Aulam Ecclesiæ by Eadmerus) which Simon de Sudbury plucked down, and had intended that it should, like a Phoenix, have rose more glorious out of its ashes; but was intercepted in his design by a sudden death, being beheaded by Wat Tiler, and the confluence of his impious and barbarous complices. This church thus appropriated, was confirmed to the monks

abovesaid, in the year 1400, by king Henry the fourth, and upon the suppression was re-instated upon the dean and chapter of Christ-church by Henry the eighth.

Ripley-court is a seat of good antiquity in this parish, and more eminent, because it afforded a surname to gentlemen of good rank in this track, of which number was Richard de Ripley, who died seized of this manor, in the thirtieth year of Edward the first, Rot. Esc. Num. 91, and in an old deed is called Miles Archiepiscopi, that is, he held this manor of the archbishop by knights service; but before the latter end of Edward the third, this family was vanished, and then the Brockhuls and Idens succeeded in the possession; the last of which was a family of great antiquity, and no less revenue, about Iden in Sussex, and Rolvenden in this county. For in the year 1280, as appears by a fine levied that year; John the son of Thomas de Iden, passes away lands to John de More. And of this family was Alexander Iden, Esquire, sheriff of Kent, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the sixth, who in the twenty-eighth year of that prince, slew Jack Cade, who had borrowed the disguised person of Mortimer, excited thereunto, as was the opinion of those times, by the suggestions of Richard duke of York, to fathom the peoples affections to that man, in the strength of whose title he intended in the future to claim the English diadem. But the attempts of Cade being disappointed by the formerly infatuated, but now disenchanted multitudes deserting of him, who began to resent his fraud and imposture upon their total dissipation, shrowded himself in some of those grounds which belonged to Ripley-court, and lay not far distant from Hothfield, and were then in the tenure of William Iden justice of the peace, and father of the abovesaid Alexander; where being discovered, he was by that worthy person, offered up a sacrifice to the justice of Henry the sixth. But I have digressed, I now return. After this seat had for so many descents been the residence of this family, and the cradle and seminary of many worthy persons, who had been subservient and ministerial to the honour and interest of this county, by their magnanimity and prudence; it went away from Iden by sale to Darell, and George Darell, in the last year of Edward the sixth, conveyed it to Baker, ancestor to Mr. .... Baker of Windsor, now proprietor of it.

Diggs court is another eminent seat in this parish, which was the mansion of the noble family of Diggs or Digge, who promiscuously writ themselves in elder times sometimes of Barham, and sometimes of Westwell, as appears by many of their an-

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cient evidences and other muniments yet extant. In the reign of Edward the third, there was one Adomarus de Digge, who frequently writ himself of Westwell; but whether it was he that was the judge, or not, I cannot positively aver. In fine, after this place had for many ages acknowledged the signory of this family, it came down to John Digge, in whom the male line ended; so that his female heir being married to Henry Aucher, annexed it to the revenue of that family, and from him hath the title by a thread of many years, been guided down to Mr. .... Aucher.

Dean-court may be registered likewise in the catalogue of the principal manors of this parish. It was in times of elder prescription the inheritance of Hussie, who likewise was entitled to the possession of Dean-court in Wingham, now the mansion of the Oxendens, by purchase from this family. Henry Hussie, a man of great power, as appears by that large estate he was lord of, both at Wingham, Lenham, Boughton, Malherbe, and elsewhere, died possessed of this manor, in the eighteenth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 36, and from him did it in an even and an undivided current glide along in this name, until the latter end of king Henry the eighth, and then it was passed away to Sackvill, who conveyed it to Milan, in which family the proprietor of this place is now resident.

Nash-court is the next place in Westwell, that calls for our survey; in old deeds I find a family that sometimes writ At Ash, and sometimes Nash, into which the former name resolved, who were possessors of it; in times of a lower step, that is, in the thirty-second year of Edward the third, as appears by the close roll of that year, Rot. Esc. Num. 94. Alanus de Hanekin held it; but before the latter end of Richard the second, this family had quitted the possession by sale to Brockhull of Calehill, and was not long after, that is, about the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, by Henry Brockhull, conveyed to John Darell, Esquire, sheriff of Kent, in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, and brother of Sir William Darell, under treasurer of

England, and in this name it was permanent, until the last year of Edward the sixth, and then it went away by sale to Sharpe of Nin-house in great Chart, and hath been now for five descents resident in that family.

Beamonston, vulgarly called Beamston, is partly situated in West-well, and partly spread into East-well; but the greatest part of the demean is circumscribed within the bounds of this parish. And in the twentieth year of Edward the third, as appears by the Book of Aid, was held by Thomas at More, at making the Black Prince knight. But before the fourth year of Henry the fourth, this family was extinguished; for at the marriage of Blanch, that prince's daughter, as appears by the roll of Blanch lands kept in the exchequer, John Amias was possessed of it, and paid respective aid for it, as having purchased it of At-More; and in this name did it reside, until the reign of Henry the seventh, and then it was conveyed by sale to John Moile, Esquire, father to Sir Thomas Moile, who left this, with much other land, to Katharine his daughter and co-heir, married to Sir Thomas Finch, in right of which alliance, it is now devolved to be the inheritance of his great grandchild Heneage Finch the instant earl of Winchelsea.

Perytown lies likewise within the limits of Westwell, and is registered in the catalogue of those lands that William de Alden died possessed of, in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third; and continued chained to the inheritance of this family, until about the twenty-seventh of Henry the sixth, it was passed away with much other land to cardinal Kempe, who settled it in the twenty-eighth year of that prince, on his newly erected college of Wye, and rested there until the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was resigned into the hands of that prince, and he in the thirty-eighth year of his reign, granted it to Thomas Cowarden or Caden, Esquire, and he not long after conveyed it by sale to Sir John Baker of Sisingherst, whose successor Sir John Baker baronet, hath this present year 1657, alienated it to Nathaniel Powell of Ewherst in Sussex, Esquire.

Woditon or Wolton, is the last place of any note in Westwell; it was originally parcel of the inheritance of a family called Wolton or Woditon. Ivo de Woditon held it in the year 1236, and left it to his son John de Wolton, who had issue Richard de Woditon or Wolton, a man of principal note, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, who held both this manor, and Woditon by Berham, which he held of the

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archbishop of Canterbury by knights service at making the Black Prince knight. And in this man's successors did the propriety constantly reside until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then some part of it was conveyed to John Hampton, and he about the beginning of Edward the fourth passed it away to Richard Rasel, who died possessed of it, as appears by his will in the twentieth of that prince; but there was some part remained unsold, until William Wilton dying 1540, ordered it by his deed to be passed away to feoffees in trust to discharge debts, which accordingly was performed and the remainder conveyed to Rasell, in the descendants of which name and family the entire propriety is at this instant remaining.

WEREHORNE, in the hundreds of Ham and Blackbourne, was partly under the jurisdiction of the church, and partly under the signory of temporal and lay proprietaries; that moiety of it which was of secular interest, belonged to a family called Bedford. Richard de Bedford obtained a grant of a market to it weekly on the Tuesday; and a fair of three days continuance at the feast of St. Matthew, as appears Cart. 52. Henrici tertii Memb. 12, which was renewed and confirmed to the abovesaid person, in the eighth year of Edward the first; and he in the seventeenth year of that prince died possessed of it, as is manifest, Rot. Es. Num. 20. But after him it was of no long date in the tenure of this family; for in the reign of Edward the second, I find it in the possession of Hugh de Windlesore or Windsor; but was not long chained to their patrimony neither; for about the beginning of Edward the third, it was alienated to Moraunt, of Moraunt's court, but about the beginning of Richard the second, Sir Thomas Moraunt (son of William Moraunt, sheriff of Kent the twelfth and thirteenth year of Edward the third, to whom that prince issued out a mandate, that but one bell should be rang in any steeple towards the sea-coast in Kent) determined in a female heir, who was married to James Peckham of Yaldham, sheriff of Kent, the third and twelfth of Richard the second, and was, as the private evidences of this family inform me, originally descended from Hugh de Peckham, who was

constable of the castle of Rochester under king John, in the first year of his reign; and he in her right became entituled to that interest Moraunt had in this place; and in this family it remained until those times which approached near the confines of our grandfathers remembrance, and then it was passed away to Ellis; from whence in opposition to the other moiety which was of spiritual concern it was called Werehorne Ellis, and from this family not many years since it was carried off by sale to Tufton, in right of which purchase the right honourable John earl of Thanet is now invested in the possession of it.

The other moiety which belonged to the church, was given in the year of grace 1010, by Elphegus, archbishop of Canterbury, to the monks of Christ-church, and was for the provision of their garments. And if you will discover how this was rated in the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, the record of Domesday book will discover. In Limwarled, says the note, & in hundred de Hamme habent monachi sanctæ trinitatis de vestitu eorum. 1. manerium de Werehorne, 1. sulling, & est appretiatum LXs This manor being by the monks and prior of the convent aforesaid surrendered into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, it lay couched in the demean of the crown, until the seventh year of king James, and then it was by grant passed away to Thomas Paget, and Thomas Twisden, who in opposition to the other moiety, which was of temporal interest, called this, Werehorn Twisden; and they not long after passed it away to Sir Thomas Tufton, grandfather to the right honourable John earl of Thanet, the instant possessor of it.

Tinton in Werehorne was a manor which anciently belonged to the priory of Horton near Hieth; but upon the suppression all its demean being annexed to the crown, this was lodged there until the beginning of king James, and then it was by that prince conveyed by grant to Sir William Sidley of the friery in Alresford, grandfather to Sir Charles Sidley baronet, the present lord of the fee.

Capell, in this parish, gave seat and surname to a family so called, whose demean lay spread into Ivie-church, Linton, Boxley, Horsmonden, Capell by Brechley, Capell in the Isle of Shepey, and this parish. John de Capell flourished here in the reign of Henry the third, who was (as appears by the ledger book of Boxley) an eminent benefactor to that convent; and from him descended Sir William at Capell, an eminent knight of this county, in the reign of Edward the third and Richard the

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second, who left it to his son Richard at Capell; and he dying without issue, in the fifteenth year of Richard the second, Sir John Orlanston, in right of his wife, who was his sister and co-heir, entered upon the inheritance at this place, and left it to his son Richard Orlanston, Esquire, who deceased without issue, in the seventh year of Henry the fifth; and so upon the division of the estate, William Scott, who had espoused Joan, one of the sisters and co-heirs, was planted in the inheritance of this place; and from whom it is now devolved to be the possession of Edward Scott, of Scots-hall, Esquire.

Ham is another eminent manor in this parish, which gives name to the whole hundred, and was as high as the ray of any intelligence will guide us to discover, folded up in the paternal demean of the ancient family of Orlanston. William de Orlanston obtained a charter of free-warren to his lands at Orlanston, Werehorne, and other places, in the fifty first of Henry the third, and being fenced in with this immunity, it came along by the steps of several descents to Richard Orlanston, son of Sir John Orlanston, who dying without issue, in the seventh year of Henry the fifth, as is manifest, Rot. Esc. Num. 16. Joan, one of his two sisters, married to William Scot, of Scot's-hall, and Margaret the second, married William Parker, of Parkers in this parish, became his two co-heirs; and upon breaking the estate by mutual division into parcels, this in the second year of Henry the sixth was annexed to the patrimony of Scot, and from him did the thread of successive descent transmit to Mr. Edward Scot, of Scots-hall, Esquire, who still by paternal right enjoys the inheritance of it.

Parkers is another manor which next summons our remembrance, which afforded a surname, as it gave an habitation to a family so stiled Edward Parker held lands in Werehorne, Westerham, and other places at his decease, which was in the ninth year of Edward the second, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 114, and in this name was the title and inheritance constant until the reign of Henry the eighth, and then I



find by several court-rolls one John Engham to be fixed by purchase in the possession; and in this family did it remain uninterrupted until the beginning of king James, and then it was by sale conveyed to Taylor, who not long after demised it to Collins; from whom not long since it came by purchase to Squire, and he not many years since passed it away to Dr. .... Kingsley, archdeacon of Canterbury, in whose descendants the propriety of it is still resident.

Hampton Coclescombe is the last place considerable in Werehorne, which gave name originally to a family which here had their habitation, and likewise were possessors of much land at Westwell, and other places; and having lived here many descents, the possession of this place at last devolved to John Hampton, who about the latter end of Edward the fourth passed it away to John May of Bibbrook; whose successor John May concluding about the latter end in a daughter and heir called Alice, married to John Edolph, it came to be the inheritance of that family; but did not long confess the signory of it; for this John Edolph deceased without issue-male, and left it to his sole daughter Elizabeth, married to William Wilcock, who expiring likewise in two female heirs, Martha married to Edward Ratcliff, doctor of physic, and physician to queen Elizabeth and king James; and the second married to William Andrews, they divided this manor as parcel of his inheritance. William Andrews in the twenty-ninth year of queen Elizabeth, demised his proportion to Rowland Bridges and Robert Philipson. And Edward Radcliff alienated that part of it which accrued to him in the forty-third year of queen Elizabeth to Edward Rolt and Andrew Mersh.

WESTERHAM gives name to the whole hundred wherein it is placed, and was in elder times the patrimony of a family called Camville, which was of some eminence in this track. William de Camville, and George de Camville entered England with William the Conqueror. Thomas de Camville was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ in the seventh year of king John; and Geoffrey de Camville was with Edward the first at the siege of Carlaverock in Scotland, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, and there received the order of knighthood, and here this family concluded; for afterwards I find this manor in the hands of the abbot of Westminster, who obtained a market weekly to be held at this place on the Monday, and a fair yearly upon the vigil, the day, and day after the nativity of our lady, as appears,

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Pat. 25. Edwardi tertii Num. 32, And here it remained with their revenue, until the suppression of that cloister in the reign of Henry the eighth; and then being rent away by that tempest, it was in the thirty-second year of that prince, granted to Sir John Gresham, which concession was again confirmed to the lady Beatrix Gresham, widow of Sir Thomas Gresham, his son, by queen Elizabeth, from whom it is now devolved to Marmaduke Gresham, Esquire, the heir apparent of the family.

Broxham is a place of eminent account in this parish. John de Insula or Isley, was lord of this manor, and obtained a charter of free-warren here, in the eleventh year of Edward the second. After the Isleys were gone out, the Ashways successively stepped into the possession. Stephen de Ashway obtained a licence to inclose a park here in the forty-first year of Edward the third, the characters and relicks of which are not so generally demolished and disparked by time, but that they are still obvious to a curious eye; yet this privilege could not fix it long in this family; for about the latter end of Richard the second, I find it by sale cast into the possession of Edward lord Clinton, who held it at his decease, which was in the first year of Henry the fourth, Rot. Esc. Num. 16. But here likewise the title was as volatile and transitory; for about the beginning of Henry the sixth, John lord Clinton passed it away to Thomas Squerie, who was lord of Squeries court in this parish, and was descended from John de Squerie, whom I find by some old evidences to have lived at Westerham, in the reign of Henry the third, and it is possible, either erected or very much augmented the seat called Squeries-court. The arms, viz. a squirrel brousing on a hasle nut, are depicted in very ancient coloured glass in Westerham church; but this Thomas abovementioned, dying in the seventeenth year of Henry the sixth, without issue-male, Margaret his eldest daughter married to Sir William Cromer, and Dorothy, his youngest, married to Richard Mervin, of Fontels, in Wiltshire, became his two co-heirs; and upon the division of the estate, Squeries-court and Broxham were annexed to the patrimony of Cromer, in which family they

made their abode until the reign of Henry the eighth; and then William Cromer, Esquire having by some delinquency forfeited them to the crown, that prince granted them to Thomas Cawarden or Carden, Esquire; from which family about the middle of queen Elizabeth's reign, they went off by sale to Beresford, who almost in our memory sold Squeries-court to Sir George Stroud, and he some few years since, alienated it to Thomas Lambert, Esquire, who hath lately demised it to Sir William Leech; but Broxham was conveyed to Mr. Thomas Petley of Vilston, whose grandchild Mr. .... Petley is the heir apparent of it.

Well-street and Gaysam in this parish, did anciently confess the two families of Atwell and Shelley for its proprietors. William Atwell held Wellstreet, as appears by an ancient court-roll, in the thirty-fifth of Edward the third, and Thomas Shelley in the forty-sixth year of the same monarch, settles Gaysam by testament on Thomas his son and heir, who in the eighth year of Richard the second, conveys it to his son Thomas Shelley, whose descendant about the latter end of Henry the sixth, demised it to John Potter; and his successor, about the beginning of Henry the fourth, purchased Well-street of the heirs of Cothull, and is in the list of five of this family, who lye buried in Westerham-church, and this branch of the name here, was descended from John Potter, who held lands at Dertford the twelfth of Edward the second, and whose posterity continued lords of these two places, until the beginning of king James, and then ..... Potter dying without issue-male, his only daughter and heir brought them to be the inheritance of Sir John Rivers of Chafford, who not many years since, demised his interest in Well-street, to Mr. Thomas Smith of Milk-street, in London, scrivener.

Valons in this parish was formerly the mansion of a family called in old dateless deeds de Valoniis, and in English Valons; but the greatest honor which accrued to it was, that Islip abbot of Westminster, bought it in the reign of Henry the seventh of Casinghurst, a family which had been possessed of it many descents before, and gave it to his servant William Middleton, who much improved it with building. And in his family it was resident until the latter end of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed to James Verseline, descended out of Flanders, who gave it with his daughter Anne Verseline, to Peter Manning, from which family not many years since it

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passed away to Mr. Randall Manning of London, whose son and heir Mr. Thomas Manning is now in the enjoyment of it.

WERD or WERTH, in the hundred of Eastry, is a parish if you consider it in its precincts, but narrow; if in position, low and unhealthful; or if again in its number of communicants, not considerable; but yet there are two places within the ambuts and boundaries of it which claim some consideration. The first is the manor of Sandowne, which was anciently the Perots, who held this manor, as the private deeds of this name and family inform me, as high as the reign of Henry the third. Thomas de Perot died possessed of it in the fourth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 31, and then it was found fenced in, and fortified with these privileges; it had infangthef and outfangthef, toll and theam, sac and soc, tumbrell and pillory, and other franchises of the like complexion; but after this, the tenure was but of a brief duration in this name; for the female heir of Perot brought this manor with much other land to Langley of the county of Warwick, and about the reign of Henry the fifth there was a match between this family and Peyton, of the county of Cambridge, which match at length brought this manor to descend to this family. For Edward Langley of Knolton, Esquire, deceasing about the beginning of Henry the eighth, without issue, Sir Robert Peyton, of Peyton hall, entered upon this and other lands as his heir at law; and he as signed it to his second son John Peyton, Esquire, from whom it is now descended to Sir Thomas Peyton, baronet, the instant proprietor of it.

Before I leave this discourse of Sandowne, I must inform the reader that the family of Peyton abovementioned and that of Ufford were primitively one, and bore the same paternal coat, were known by the same name, and were both deduced from the same root and original, only Peyton was the elder house. Now the ground on which the mutation of the name was established, was briefly this; † John de Peyton flourished in the reign of Henry the second, and left four sons; whereof the three eldest were named John, Robert, and John; to John the eldest, he gave his manor

of Peyton, lying extended into Stoke Neyland, Boxford, and Ramsholt parishes in Suffolk; to Robert his second son he gave his manor of Ufford, lying in Suffolk likewise, who altered his name from Peyton, and assumed that of Ufford, a name borrowed from that signory of which he was become newly possessor, and from him the name of Ufford was communicated to the earls of Suffolk and other persons of eminent repute in those generations wherein they flourished. John de Peyton the third brother, by deed without date, demises all his interest in Boxford to his eldest brother John de Peyton (by that name he there calls him) which justifies not only the antiquity but the seniority of this family of Peyton before that of Ufford. And from John de Peyton, the elder abovementioned, are the Peytons of Cambridgeshire, and Sir Thomas Peyton of Knolton, baronet, originally descended.

Lidde, in ancient records written Hlyden, is a second manor in Werd of considerable account, ever since it was given at the request of Janibert the archbishop, by king Offa, in the year 874, to the monks of Christ church (as the records of that church discover to me) under the notion of three sullings or ploughlands. And the instrument which confirmed this donation was signed with the marks, that is crosses, of Offa the king, Janibert the archbishop, Kenedrith the queen, three other bishops, five other abbots, duke Edbald, and eleven other principal persons or noblemen. And that this was the manner of signature in elder times, that is, the affixing of crosses to all public instruments and other original donations, is most certain; for sealing came into England with Edward the confessor, who being bred up in Normandy, in which province, and in France, the custom of affixing seals to deeds had been in use long before his time, introduced that custom and way of signature into this nation, as being more conspicuous and distinguishable than that of crosses, or those other ways of confirming of grants of land, either to the church or to secular uses, which was either *per collocationem gladii seu cultelli supra altare*, by the placing or laying a sword or knife upon the altar, whereby those which did make donations of land did tacitly insinuate that their honour was involved in their conscience, or else *per traditionem surculi vel stipitis*, which custom is yet observed in our copy hold land, where surrenders are made by delivery of a turf, twig, or white wand. But

† Ex autographis penes Dom. Tho. Peyton baronettum.

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sealing with coats of arms, was not brought in, until the reign of Edward the first, but were born by persons of honor on their tabards or surcoats; two examples of which I have seen, one of William Warren, earl of Pembroke, who in the second year of Henry the second, sealed with the figure of a chevalier on horseback; his caparisons, tabard, and shield, being all checque, the paternal coat of this family; the other was of Richard Curzon of Croxall in Derbyshire, who in the reign of king John, stands in a window portrayed in his surcoat, surmounted with a bend, charged with a martlet. And this was done in imitation of the heralds, who wore the arms of those princes they served on their tabards, as badges to distinguish them from the heralds of other princes, either in the time of war or peace. Indeed seals in higher ages, were of that sacred estimate, that being lost, they were decayed by the owners, lest they might be affixed to any surreptitious instrument, which might prejudice either their fame or estate. And in the interval of their absence or loss, the owners abovesaid were accustomed to seal with the seal of the bishop of the diocese, or else with that of the next adjacent abbot, all deeds and instruments, either of public or private interest. But to return; this donation of Offa's, though thus secured and strengthened, could not shelter this manor from the rage of that tempest, which, in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, like a whirlwind caught it up in the patrimony of the church, and dropped it into the revenue of the crown, where it lay until queen Elizabeth, in the beginning of her reign, passed it away by grant to William Lovelace, Esquire, serjeant at law, whose son Sir William Lovelace, not long after demised it by sale to Sir John Smith, grandfather to Philip viscount Strangford, who now enjoys it.

WICKHAM BREWS, in the hundred of Downhamford, distinguished from other places of that name, by the addition of the surname of Brews, which family were lords thereof. In the twentieth year of William the Conqueror, Odo bishop of Baion and earl of Kent, held this place of the gift of his half brother, which was that prince; and Trendle park, adjoining there, was a composition between the

archbishop and this man, for certain land of the said archbishop, to be inclosed and included within the said park at Trendley; which signifies thus much unto us, that Woodstock which boasts itself, to be the first inclosed park of England, was not so ancient as this at Trendley. In times of a more modern character, that is, in those which commence from the reign of Henry the third, it acknowledged the Brewses, barons of Brember in Sussex, to be its proprietors, who engrafted their own name upon it, which had sprouted out, and flourished upon it until this day. William de Brewosa or de Brewes held it, and was several times summoned to sit in parliament as baron in the reign of king Edward the first, and Edward the second, and died in the ninth year of the last prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 204. After this family had deserted the possession, which was about the beginning of Edward the third, it became the inheritance of many of the most eminent nobility of this kingdom. I shall represent them out of some ancient court-rolls in a compendious series. Edmund Plantagenet, earl of Kent, held it in the fourth year of Edward the third. William Longspey had it in the twentieth year of the abovesaid prince, and paid an auxiliary supply for it at making the Black Prince, knight. John earl of Kent died seized of it in the twenty-sixth year of Edward the third. Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, and Joan his wife, sister and co-heir of the abovementioned earl, were possessed of it in the thirty-fifth year of Edward the third. Lucy, wife of Edmund Holland, earl of Kent, was seized of it in the second year of Henry the sixth. After whom it devolved to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, and he held it in the third year of Henry the sixth. Joan, the wife of Sir John Grey, one of the sisters and co-heirs of the abovesaid Edmund, was invested in the possession in the fourth year of the abovesaid prince. Not long after this, it came to own the signory of the Tip-tofts, and continued fastened to their patrimony, until the tenth year of Edward the fourth, when John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, being impeached of close confederacy and combination with the abovesaid prince, then forced into exile, was by the parliament, then principally moulded out of the Lancastrian faction, attainted and beheaded, and his estate here confiscated to the crown, and there was lodged until the first year of queen Elizabeth; and then it was granted to Anthony Brown,

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viscount Montague, who in the year 1592 deceased, and left it to his son and heir Anthony Brown, viscount Mountague, and he settled it upon his second son Mr. Stanislaus Brown, who now is in the enjoyment of it.

EAST-WICKHAM is situated in the hundred of Little and Lesnes, and celebrates the memory of the noble family of Montchensey and was wrapped up in their demean. William de Montchensey held it at his death, which was in the fifty-second year of Henry the third, and left it to his sole daughter and heir Dionis, married to Hugh de Vere; but he dying without issue in the seventh year of Edward the second, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 51, the title and possession diverted to William de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, half brother by the mother's side to Henry the third, who had married Joan, sister and heir to William de Montchensey before named; from whom it descended to his son Aymer de Valence, who dying without issue, Isabell one of his sisters and co-heirs, who was affianced to Laurence de Hastings, summoned to sit in parliament by Edward the third, as earl of Pembroke, upon the apportioning the estate, entituled her husband to this manor; and from him was the title carried down, to his grandchild John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, who was in possession of it at his decease, which was in the thirteenth year of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 30, and Reginald Grey was found to be his heir; in which family it remained, until the beginning of Henry the sixth, and then it was passed away to William lord Lovell, who was often summoned to sit as baron in parliament, in that prince's reign; and from him it came down to his grandchild John lord Lovell, summoned to sit in parliament, as baron, in the second year of Edward the fourth; and he about the beginning of his reign, passed it away to John lord Howard, afterwards created duke of Norfolk, who being a close and eager complice of Richard the third, sunk in his ruins, in the battle commenced at Bosworth; and Henry of Richmond, having by that successful combat ascertained himself to the English scepter, seized upon this manor by escheat, in the first year of his reign, as relating to a person who had actually appeared in arms against him; and being thus united to the crown, it lay couched in its revenue, until the seventh year of Edward the sixth; and then it was granted to

Sir Martin Bowes; who not long after passed it away to alderman Oliff of London, who left it to Joan his sole daughter and heir, married to John Leigh, son and heir of Nicholas Leigh, of Addington, in Surry, Esquire, father to Sir Oliff Leigh, who much enhanced the magnificence of the ancient fabrick, with increase of building, and left it to his son Sir Francis Leigh, whose widow the lady Christian Leigh, in right of dower, is now in possession of the signory of it.

WEST-WICKHAM, in the hundred of Rokesley, is much ennobled by being anciently entituled to the possession of the eminent family of Huntingfield. Peter de Huntingfield held it, who was sheriff of Kent, the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth years of Edward the third, and is registered in the scrolls of those Kentish gentlemen, who accompanied Edward the first, in his victorious expedition into Scotland, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, when he reduced Carlaverock by a successful siege, for which his merit was repayed with the honour of knighthood: his son and heir was Walter de Huntingfield, who in the eleventh year of Edward the second, obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of West-Wickham, a market weekly on the Monday, and a fair yearly on the vigil and day of St. Mary Magdalen, as appears, Pat. 11. Edwardi secundi, Num. 23, and left it invested with these privileges to his son and heir Sir John de Huntingfield, who paid aid for three knights fees, which he held in this county, at making the Black Prince knight, and was a man of that eminence, that he was summoned to sit as baron in parliament, the thirty-sixth year of Edward the third, and several other times, during the reign of the above-named prince. William de Huntingfield, this man's son, was summoned likewise many times to sit as baron in parliament about the latter end of Edward the third, but died without issue, so that Joan and Alice Huntingfield his cousins, married to Copledike and Norwich, were his heirs; and by an old deed, I find that one John Copledike held this manor by right of partition, the last year of Richard the second; but it was not long after this fixed in the patrimony

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of this family; for in the seventeenth year of Henry the sixth, Thomas Squerrie died possessed of it, and left it to his son and heir John Squerrie, who dying without issue in the fourth year of Edward the fourth, Dorothy, one of his two sisters and co-heirs, entituled her husband Richard Mervin, upon the division of the estate, to the propriety of this manor; and he not long after passed it away to Richard Scrope, who in the seventh year of Edward the fourth alienated it by fine to Ambrose Creseacre, who not long after transmitted it by sale to Henry Heydon, Esquire, to whom the principal part of the ancient pile now visible, owes its erection, and from him did it devolve to that eminent scholar and soldier, justice of the peace, and captain of the trained bands of this county, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, Sir Christopher Heydon, who about the latter end of that princess, passed it away to Sir Samuel Lennard, father to Sir Stephen Lennard, who is entituled to the present propriety of it.

WYMINGSWOULD, in the hundred of Wingham, contains within the circuit or limits of it an ancient seat called Nethersole, from its situation near some pool or descending pond; and was as high as the time of king John, and Henry the third, the possession of a family which was represented to the world under this surname; for, as it appears by the original deeds and evidences which fortify the title of this mansion, Richard de Nethersoll flourished here about the government of the above-said monarchs, and from him was it by a perpetual succession, chained together by an uninterrupted link of descent, brought down to the days of Henry the eighth, and then I find by a roll of the Nethersolls, in the hands of Mr. Nethersoll of Canterbury, not long since deceased, that it was the inheritance of one John Nethersoll, Esquire, one that retained to the court of Henry the eighth, and a person whom that prince did by especial indulgence license, even in his presence, for some distemper in his head occasioned by some accidental circumstances, indutum esse pileo, to be covered with a cap, which certainly both in elder and modern times, was a symptom either of honour or liberty. For the snatching off the cap or pileus of Tarquinius Priscus by an eagle, and the placing it on his head again, was by the augurs interpreted as a presage of his future possessing the Roman diadem. When slaves received their manumission they were said to be ad pileum vocati, their liberty was demonstrated to be compleated by putting on a cap. The Gladiators anciently, for their magnanimity or personal courage expressed in mutual conflicts between them=

selves in public theatres, were rewarded as a guerdon of their victory vel palma, rude, seu pileo. The Lacones being made free denisons of Sparta, more to exemplify their atchieved liberty, never went into the field against the common enemy but pileati; amongst the Africans the placing of the pileus or cap upon the top of a spear was a tacit citation or summons to liberty, and an intimation to shake off the fetters of tyranny. Erasmus in his Chiliads calls the cap spectatae virtutis insigne, and from this he conjectures, that the putting on of caps on the heads of judges, doctors, and masters of art, when they were invested with the abovementioned degrees, derived its first original, which custom is still in force in our publick comitia, or commence=ments at the two universities of Cambridge and Oxford, and likewise in our courts of judicature at the creation or investiture of serjeants at law; but to return into that track from whence this discourse hath made me straggle. As the seat was anciently folded up in the revenue of Nethersoll, so it is still, mauger all the vicissi=tudes of chance, wrapped up in that propriety which relates to the descendants of this name and family.

WINGHAM gives name to the whole hundred where it is placed, and was in elder times one of those eminent manors, which augmented the revenue of the archbishops of Canterbury, and being by an unjust detention ravished away, it was by the indulgent piety of king Edmund restored in the year 941. If you will see how it was rated in the time of the conqueror, Domesday Book will give you this prospect of it. Wingham (says that record) est manerium archiep. & T. E. R. de=fendebat se pro XI. Sullings, & nunc pro XXX & valet Clb. I find nothing me=orable of this manor after this, but that it was exchanged in the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, by Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, for other lands, with the crown; and continued with the royal demean until the middle of king James, and

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then it was conveyed by sale to the city of London, which city, not many years since, passed it away to the instant owner Sir William Couper, knight and baronet.

Wingham had the grant of a market procured to it in the seventh year of Henry the third, by the mediation of Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury. The college of Wingham was founded by John de Peckham, archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1278, to be a college or seminary of secular priests, the head of which fraternity was called Præpositus. This upon the suppression being with its whole revenue invested in the crown, king Edward the sixth, in the seventh year of his reign, granted the college to Sir Henry Palmer, descended from an ancient family of that sirname in Sussex, ancestor to Sir Henry Palmer, baronet, now proprietor of it.

Wenderton is an ancient seat in this parish (eminent for its excellent air, situation and prospect) which for many hundred of years had owners of that sirname, one of whom, called John Wenderton, is famous in Fox's Martyrology for the penance im=posed upon him by William Courtney, archbishop of Canterbury, at his castle of Saltwood, in the year 1390, for being refractory in the discharge of some services which were due to his manor of Wingham. The last of this name which enjoyed this seat was John Wenderton, who in the first year of Henry the eighth passed it away to William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, and he upon his decease, which was about the year 1533, gave it to his brother Hugh Warham, and his suc=cessor Hugh Warham, about the beginning of king James, transplanted his right in it by sale into William Manwood, Esquire, and he, about the beginning of king Charles, conveyed it to Vincent Denne, gentleman, who left it to his nephew Mr. Thomas Denne of Gray's-Inn, who dying without issue, settled it by will on his brother John Denne of the Inner Temple, Esquire, who likewise deceased without issue, and bequeathed it to his four maiden sisters. Roger Lukyn gentleman, who married one of them, purchased the remainder of the other three, and so is be=come now sole proprietor of it.

Twitham, in this parish, gave seat and sirname to an eminent family in this track. Alan de Twitham is recorded in the register of those remarkable Kentish gentlemen, who supported the cause and quarrel of Richard the first at the siege of Acon; and having continued many descents possessors of this manor, the name at last deter=mined in a female heir called Isabel, who by marrying with Richard Oxenden united Twitham to the demean of that family, where the title hath ever since made so constant and uninterrupted an abode, that it is still the inheritance of Mr. Henry

Oxenden of Brookplace.

Brookplace is the last place of estimate in this parish, which in elder times was wrapped up in the inheritance of Wenderton, and having continued many descents interlinked with this family, the name and title found one sepulchre together; for Jane Wenderton, the heir general of the family, by marrying with Richard Oxenden, gentleman, fixed it in his inheritance, and he much enhanced this ancient seat with additional improvements, and from him the right of descent hath now made it the patrimony of Mr. Henry Oxenden.

WHITSTAPLE gives name to the whole hundred which surrounds it, and was a branch of that ample patrimony, which encreased the revenue of Alexander de Baliol, earl of Athol, and he held this and a place called Grafton in this parish, as likewise a wood called Northwood, not far distant, in the reign of Henry the third, and left it to his son and heir John earl of Athol, who having with an unsuccessful zeal endeavoured to support the sinking interest of the kingdom of Scotland, against the violent eruptions of Edward the first, which like an impetuous inundation, sought to bear down all the glory of that nation, into an irrecoverable ruin, was in an unfortunate encounter made captive by that prince, and being attainted of high treason, and executed, his estate here by escheat devolved to the crown, and was by Edward the second, in the ninth year of his reign, granted to Bartholomew lord Badelesmere; but he having again lost it by his revolt and defection, in the sixteenth and seventeenth years of that prince, it revolved to the crown and continued there, until king Edward the third, in the second year of his reign, restored it to Bartholomew de Badelesmer his son, who died in the twelfth year of the abovesaid prince, and left it to his

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brother Giles de Badelesmer, and he deceasing without issue it accrued, by Mawde, one of his sisters and co-heirs, to be the inheritance of John Vere, earl of Oxford, and he held it at his death, which was in the thirty-fourth year of Edward the third, and to this family it remained by the links of many descents successively fastened, until at last that revolution which is made by sale cast it into the possession of Phineux; the last of which who enjoyed it was John Phineux, Esquire, who concluded in a daughter and heir called Elizabeth, who by marrying with Sir John Smith of Ostenhanger, united it to his estate, from whom by the devolution of descent it is now come to confess for proprietor the right honourable Philip viscount Strangford, his grandchild.

Secondly, there is Chestfield, which was the mansion of a family which bore that surname, and although I can trace none higher by any public record than James Chestfield, who paid respective aid for it at the making the Black Prince knight, as is manifest by the Book of Aid collected in the twentieth of Edward the third, yet it is upon possible conjectures to be argued that they were far more ancient here, because they assumed their denomination from this seat. From Chestfield about the latter end of the government of Richard the second, it came over by purchase to Henry Reyner; but whether he issued from Borden, or the Reyners of Borden from him, I cannot discover; but it is very probable he determined in four daughters and co-heirs married to Edmund Meade, Joseph Badkin, John Reynolds, and John Springle, who concurred in one united consent, and by one common conveyance demised their interest in it to John Roper of St. Dustan's; from whom Edward Roper, Esquire, now of Well-hall in Eltham, claims the instant demean and signory of it.

The third is Grimgill, so vulgarly called, but originally and more properly Greenshield, for so it is in records of an elder aspect always written. It was the seat of a family that was known by that appellation, and although the breviat of the private evidences which relate to it, discover to us owners of the name no higher than John Greenshield, who flourished here about the entrance into the reign of Henry the sixth, and who was father to Henry Greenshield, whose will is registered at Canterbury, and which bears date from the last of Edward the fourth; yet it is more then probable that they were eminent here long before, because the above-recited John and Henry Greenshields, were lords of no despicable or narrow fortune not only here, but about Sandwich and Wodnesborough likewise; from Greenshield, by sale the propriety passed over to Quekes, of Quekes, in Birchington, who suddenly after being extinguished in a daughter and heir, all his interest in Grimgill, was with her transported in marriage to Crispe, originally extracted out of the county

of Gloucester; and Nicholas Crispe, Esquire, held his shrievalty here, which was in the second year of queen Elizabeth; from Crispe, it was by purchase conveyed into the revenue of Paramour, where after it had for several years been fixed, it was very lately taken off from this family, and by sale made the possession of Mr. Twiman of Canterbury.

Fourthly, here was Condies-place, which was the residence of John Condie, who had in the reign of Edward the third contracted upon himself, (which is yet indelibly fixed upon his memory) a character of high account, because he had made an eminent enemy of the king's captive in Congressu Bellico, those are the words of the record, in a personal combat; for which he had thirty pound per annum settled upon him out of the king's profits of the Staple at Canterbury, by charter or grant from Edward the third, dated the seventh day of July, in the fourteenth year of his reign. Now if you will know, where this memorable action was commenced, the same record will inform you that the scene of it was laid at Swine, in Normandy; but to proceed, this man not long after he was thus adorned with these trophies of honour, paid that debt to nature, which we all owe, and left Condies-hall to his son William Condry, who dying without any lawful issue, Margaret Condry, one of his sisters, became his co-heir, who by her marrying with Robert Grubbe, made Condies-hall parcel of his demean; but he likewise in the age subsequent to his determining in females, Agnes, one of his co-heirs being married to John Isaack, of Blackmanbery in Bridge, did much swell and improve his patrimony, with that additional estate she united to his, and here in this name was the possession for sundry descents resident, even till our fathers memory. But here for want of intelligence, I can

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proceed no farther; and indeed the place being fallen from its original name by disuse, and that repute it was under, when it was possessed by so noble proprietors, is now only fit to find the common sepulchre of oblivion.

WICHELING, in the hundred of Eythorne, was folded up in the patrimony of the noble family of Cobham, of Sterborough, issued out from the Cobhams, of Cobham-hall, and of this family was Reginald de Cobham, who was frequently summoned to sit in parliament as baron, in the reign of Edward the third, and from this worthy person did this manor by successive devolution come down to Thomas lord Cobham, of Sterborough, who deceased in the eleventh of Edward the fourth, and left his estate here and elsewhere, to Anne, his sole daughter and heir, married to Edward lord Borough, called to sit in parliament as baron, of Sterborough and Gainsborough, in the reign of Henry the seventh, and from him both the title of baron and of this manor flowed down successively to his grandchild Thomas lord Borough, who passed away the inheritance to Edward Filmer, Esquire, whose grandchild Sir Edward Filmer, in relation to that purchase, challenges the instant right and revenue of it.

WILLESBOROUGH, in the hundreds of Chart and Longbridge, has nothing to make it memorable, but that it was a principal piece of that revenue which in this county related to the noble and ancient family of Brent; of which was Falcatius de Brent, a man whom our English history pencils out under a character of the most perfect courage and magnanimity, though disordered with some wild sallies and excesses; which peradventure may be attributed to the evaporations of youth, which is always volatile and airy, rather than to any settled and contracted habit of vicious distempers, and mutinous passions which was lodged within him. But to proceed, when Willesborough had by a successive thread of many ages been guided along through several descents down to John Brent, he died and left John Brent his heir, who expiring without issue, Margaret his eldest sister became the inheritrix of all his possessions, and she being married to John Dering, Esquire, of Surrenden Dering, this place by female right became transplanted into the patrimony of that name and family, and Sir Edward Dering, about the year 1635, conveyed it to Robert Scot of Canterbury, Esquire, whose son and heir Thomas Scot, of Canterbury, Esquire, is now proprietor of it.

WILMINGTON, in the hundred of Dartford, resolves itself in two manors which exact a peculiar cognisance, and the first is Rue hill (so it was anciently written though now by vulgar acception it is called Rowe-hill.) It was in ages of a higher



track, the patrimony of an illustrious and generous family called Gise, who were in those times as eminent for the largeness of their possessions, as they were for the antiquity of their extraction; and from hence were the Gises of the counties of Hereford and Gloucester originally sprouted out. Anselmus de Gise had a charter of free warren granted to his lands at Rue hill in Wilmington, in the twenty-second year of Edward the first; but it appears the possession of this place, invested and fortified with this grant, was not long after united to this family; for John Gise this man's grandchild sold it to Nicholas Brember, who in the twelfth year of Richard the second, being blasted with an impeachment of high treason, fell an oblation to the fury of those lords, who upon pretence of asserting the public liberty, sought to fetter up the majesty and prerogative of their prince, within those narrow restraints, and limits which they prescribed to empale it in, and pare off the power of the crown (which like Sampson's locks being shaved, kings remain like other men.) Upon this attain Rue-hill resolved into the revenue of the crown, and king Richard the second, in the fourteenth year of his reign, granted it to Adam Bamme of London; and in his lineage was the inheritance of it sundry generations wrapt up, till in our grandfathers memory it was alienated to Brett; from whose successor the same alteration rolled the possession not many years since into Smith.

The second is Highlands which was parcel of the demean of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and upon the dissolution of their alberge here in England, was granted about the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth to Sir Thomas Moile, and Sir Maurice Dennis; the last of which passed away his concern in it to Sir Thomas Moile, by whose daughter and co-heir called Amy Moile, it came to be possessed by

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Sir Thomas Kempe, who left it to his son and heir Sir Thomas Kempe, who conveyed it to his brother Mr. Reginald Kempe, who in our fathers memory passed it away to Laucelot Bathurst, Esquire, father to Sir Edward Bathurst, who is the instant proprietor of it.

WODNESBOROUGH lies in the hundred of Eastrie, and spreads itself into many places of no despicable account. First there is Shelving, which was as high as any evidence, can waft us to discover, the demean of Hougham, of Hougham by Dover, a family rooted in as deep antiquity as any in this track. Robert de Hougham is enrolled in an ancient register of those Kentish gentlemen, who supported the cause and quarrel of Richard the first at the siege of Acon. Sir Robert de Hougham, his son, died possessed of it in the second year of Edward the first, and left Robert Hougham his heir, who determined in daughters and co-heirs; so that Benedicta Hougham, one of them, being married to John Shelving, this became his demean, where he erected a house, upon which he fixed his surname, and called it Shelving, which in those times was of considerable repute, though since by the frequent impressions of age, it is shrunk into decay and obscurity: from Shelving one moiety of it by sale was transmitted to St. Leger, and so continued distinguished in the interest of it, till both Shelving and St. Leger did by a mutual concurrence pass away their joint right in it to Dynley, where it had not long been seated, but the like fatality transferred the possession of it to White, and here the title of it was as unfixed and unstable also; for from this family by purchase it was carried into the revenue of Knight, who in our memory altered his interest in it by sale to Mr. Solomon Hougham of Sandwich, primitively issued out in a collateral line from Sir Robert Hougham, upon whose late decease his son and heir Mr. Richard Hougham is now possessor of it.

Ringleton does secondly exact some remembrance. It was anciently the interest of Perot; for Thomas Perot held it at his death, which was in the fourth year of Edward the third; but when this name was extinguished in a daughter and heir, William Langley by marrying with her entituled himself to the possession of this place, in which family the inheritance for sundry generations was settled, till the vicissitude of time by sale conveyed it into the demean of John White, who was originally a merchant of the Staple, and did by several acts of exemplary munificence, evidence himself to be a liberal benefactor to Canterbury. But long it was not fastened to the possession of this name; for his successor alienated it to Butler of Heronden in Eastrie, from which family Ringleton by the same mutation was brought to own the possession of Neame, and his son Daniel Neame sold it to Spencer of

Sandwich, whose successor Nicholas Spencer dying without issue, his sister, who was married to Hughs descended from Hughs of Middleton Stony, in the county of Oxford, who was branched out from the Hughs of North Wales, by a relative right deduced from that alliance, has planted the present possession in the patrimony of that name and family.

Thirdly, upper Hamwold may fall under a disquisition, because it was wound up in the estate and property of Greenshield, whose principal residence was at Greenshield in Whitstaple, corruptly called Grimgil, where I have spoken more largely of this family; only this I shall add, that Henry Greenshield, who died in the last year of Edward the fourth, was a munificent benefactor to the poor and other indigent and necessitous people of the town of Sandwich, to whom he bequeaths by his last testament very liberal donations for their relief and support. After this family of Greenshield was mouldered away at Hamwold, I find the Elis's invested in the possession, but whether by alliance or purchase I cannot discover. After they went out, the family of Francis was by purchase from them, seated in the inheritance, to whose interest it was not many years united, for from them it passed away by sale to Wilson, where the title was not less violatèd, and cursory; for from Wilson the like alienation translated the right of it into Parboe, whose widow Mrs. Parboe does now enjoy it, as being made part of her jointure when first she married with Parboe.

Fourthly, Grove and upper Hamwold are two little manors circumscribed likewise within the limits of Wodnesborough; and were in the thirty-second year of Edward the third the inheritance of Peter de Goldesburgh, or Goldesborough, but the title

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made no long abode in this name after this man's exit; for both, about the latter end of Richard the second, were conveyed to Langley, of Knowlton, from whom as sudden a devolution, about the latter end of Henry the sixth, passed them over to Sir John White, of Canterbury, a merchant of the Staple, and he died possessed of them in the ninth year of Edward the fourth, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 25. After this family was worn out, I find Stokes planted in the possession; from which name about the latter end of Henry the eighth, they came over by purchase to one Nicholas Mois, gentleman, and when that family deserted the possession, which was in our grandfathers remembrance, a fatality proportionate to the former, made them both parcel of the patrimony of Everard, by whom not many years since, they were alienated to James, to the inheritance of which family they remain yet linked and united.

Fifthly, Poltmans vulgarly called Poultmans, yield both seat and surname to a family of some estimate in this track, who had a castellated mansion, invested with a moat, and continued lords of this habitation, until Peter Poltman by descendant right came to be possessed of it, and he about the fifteenth year of Richard the second conveyed it by fine to Langley of Knowlton, in whom the propriety was settled but until the latter end of Henry the sixth, and then it was passed away by sale to Sir John White, who dying seized of it in the ninth year of Edward the fourth, by testament ordered it to be sold for the improvement of acts of charity, and pious uses, and was according to the tenor of his will conveyed by sale to Boteler of Heronden in Eastry, and there it made its abode until our fathers remembrance, and it was passed away to Benskin, in which family the title is yet permanent.

WODITON, in the hundred of Kinghamford, hath three places in it of considerable estimate. The first is Gedding, which king Cedwall and Keneldrith his queen, in the year of Grace 593 gave to Theodore archbishop of Canterbury, and the convent of Christ-church in Canterbury, free (as the original donation informs me) as Adesham, and was by them afterwards assigned to the sacrist or sexton of Christ-church, for his livelihood and subsistence, an office in elder times of no contemptible account in the repute and vogue of the monks of that cloister; for the sacred utensils of the church were not only committed to his care and custody, but he was likewise to make preparation for the celebration of the mass, and the performance of other divine and sacred offices, and because he might be more active and vigorous in the management and execution of his trust, these under-officers were to be subservient and ministerial to him, whose catalogue follows.

1 Custos de Wexhouse.

2 Primus serviens Ecclesiæ ad

pulsandum.

3 Vigil Ecclesiæ.

4 Plumbarius Sacristæ.

5 Duo Clerici Altaris beatæ

Mariæ.

6 Duo Clerici Tumbæ & Martyrii.

7 Quatuor servientes Ecclesiæ ad

pulsandum.

8 Vitriarius, & Garcio ejus.

9 Ostiarius Chori.

10 Serviens Feretri.

11 Aurifriga & lotrix Ecclesiæ.

For which last (the rest being of easy understanding) I conceive it was one that either wrought the church vestments, or hangings, and the like, in gold, or that refreshed them, when they were dim or tarnished. But to proceed, this manor being with the remainder of the revenue of the priory of Christ-church, surrendered into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, who afterwards in the thirty-first of his government granted it to Mr. Edward Foch of Hells court in this parish; from whom it descended to Thomas Foch of Monkton, in the Isle of Thanet, Esquire, who deceasing not many years since, gave it to his second son major John Foch of London, and he hath lately passed it away to his elder brother Thomas Foch, Esquire.

Hells is a second place of note, which for divers descents, until the reign of Henry the fourth, confessed no other proprietors, but Hells, of Hell-court, in Ash; and then, they abandoning the possession, it came to be enjoyed by Merywether, and remained linked to the patrimony of this name, until the latter end of Henry the eighth, and then by a female inheritrix it came to confess the signory of Foch, in

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right of which alliance it is now the inheritance of Thomas Foch, Esquire.

Wickham Bushes is another manor which has its situation within the limits of Woditon, and was, as the light of the most ancient evidences does guide us to believe, the patrimony of Guldeford; for Henry de Guldeford, (as the Book of Aid discovers to us) did hold it by knights service, of Geffrey de Say, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; but in a descent or two after, this family was shrunk away from the possession of this place, and then the ancient and illustrious family of Digge, of Digge's-court, in Berham, was the next which succeeded in the propriety and inheritance, and to this name was the title of this place, by a successive series of many generations fastened, till in our fathers memory it was by sale rent off, and by that alienation united to the revenue of Coppen, in whose demean the interest of it at this day continues included.

WOODCHURCH, in the hundred of Blackbourn, was the habitation of a family of as deep root in antiquity as any in this track, who extracted their surname, as well as borrowed their first original, from this place. Roger de Woodchurch is the first who does occur, who in the ancient evidences and the deeds of this place, which are not cloistered within any date, finds a frequent mention, and from him (as appears by an old pedigree of this family) did it devolve to his grandchild Sir Simon de Woodchurch, who is in the register of those eminent persons who accompanied Edward the first in his victorious and triumphant expedition into Scotland, where his victories entailed upon his memory the character of Malleus Scotorum, but in this Sir Simon, the name, though not the male line determined, for he by marrying with Susan, heir of Henry le Clerke, of Munfidde, brought a large inheritance to own the signory of Woodchurch; and his successors, in gratitude to a family which had added so much of splendor, and annexed so plentiful a revenue to this name, altered their paternal appellation from Wood-church to Clerke; and so in all their deeds subsequent to this match, have written Clerke, alias Woodchurch ever since. But as all families have their descent and period, as well as gradation and ascent, so had this; for after this manor had for so many hundred years continued in this family, which had been productive of men which had been planted in places of the greatest eminence, by which they were obliged to perform service to their country, it came

at last to Humfrey Clerk, Esquire, who about the year 1594, passed it away by sale to Walter Harlackenden, Esquire, by whose daughter and heir called Deborah Harlackenden, it was united to the revenue of Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet; upon whose late decease it is now descended to his grandchild Sir Edward Hales, baronet, who is entitled to the instant signory of it.

Pleurinden, in this parish, is a branch of that estate which fell under the signory of the ancient and knightly family of Engham, very frequently in old deeds and other monuments written Edingham, and sometimes Hengham. In a deed wherein there is mention of a match between ..... one of the co-heirs of Sir Stephen de Penchester, and Henry de Cobham, and wherein some land is conveyed over to Cobham, there are these persons recorded to be testes to it, William de Savage, William de Oure, Otho de Grandison, and Roger de Hengham. The deed is very ancient, and though not confined to any strict or precise date, yet commences from the reign of Edward the first, and from this Roger did Vincent Engham, Esquire, lineally descend, who in the ..... year of queen Elizabeth, passed it away by sale to Roger Twisden, Esquire, grandfather to Sir Roger Twisden, baronet, in whom is fixed the instant proprietor of it.

Tounland is another manor in Woodchurch, which had anciently owners of that surname. Rafe de la Thun died seized of this manor and other lands in Woodchurch the forty-third year of Henry the third. After him I find Richard de Tunland possessed of it in the reign of Henry the third, and Edward the first; and had issue Thomas de Tunland, who died seized of it in the fifth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 13. and left it to his son and heir John de Tunland, who was an eminent benefactor to the priory of Leeds, to which convent he added this manor to improve their revenue at the time of his decease, which was in the forty-seventh year of Edward the third, and here it remained until the dissolution, and then it was granted by Henry the eighth to Thomas lord Cromwell; and after his attain

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in the thirty-second year of his reign, being escheated, it was in the thirty-fifth of Henry the eighth regranted to Sir Thomas Moile, chancellor of the court of augmentation, and he in the thirty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, passed it away by sale to William Goodwin, and Thomas Ancos, and they not long after alienated their right in it to Lucas; in which family it continued but until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was conveyed by sale to Thomas Godfrey, whose son James Godfrey, in the tenth year of queen Elizabeth, transferred it by the like devotion to Mary Guldford; and she again, in the eleventh year of that princess, demised it to Richard Guldford, and he not long after sold it away to Shelley of Michaelgrove, and John Shelley, as I find by a court roll relating to this place, held it in the eighteenth of queen Elizabeth, and in the descendant of this name and family is the inheritance of it, if I be not misinformed, at this instant placed.

Henherst is the last place considerable in Woodchurch, which was the possession of a family of that denomination, of whom I have spoken at Stapleherst, where they enjoyed another manor of this name, and of which family this here was but a cadet or younger slip, and was written sometimes Henherst, and as often in old deeds Engherst, and continued owners of this place, until the reign of Henry the seventh, and then it devolved to Sir Thomas Hengherst, who was the last of that name which held this place, for he dying without issue-male, Humphrey Wise, who had married with his daughter and heir in her right was invested in the inheritance of it, but he deceasing likewise without issue-male, his sole inheritrix united it by marriage to the revenue of her husband Mr. Robert Masters, great grandfather to Mr. Edward Masters of Canterbury, in whom the propriety of this place is at this present continued.

Henden likewise is an appendage to Woodchurch, from whence certainly the name of Henden originally streamed out, though it be brought down to our times in so crooked and perplexed a channel, that we cannot discover it in all the wanderings and digressions of it, though the family was made more conspicuous, by Sir Edward Henden, one of the barons of the exchequer to the late king Charles; who for his clear speculation and insight into the deepest and most mysterious intrigues of the municipal law of England, was commonly called the picklock of it. But this is a diversion. The ancient properties of Henden, represented to us by the eldest re=

cords, were the lords Burwash, very frequently written Burghurst, and Bartholomew lord Burwash had a charter of free warren granted to Henden, in the eighteenth year of Edward the third. And when this family had deserted the possession of this place, the next which successively held it were the Capells, of Capells-court, in Ivie-church, and Richard Capell died seized of it in the fifteenth year of Richard the second; and here, after it had been for some generations fixed, the name resolved into a daughter and heir, who was married unto Harlackenden, and so it became twisted into the revenue of that family, and so remained till Deborah Harlackenden, the heir general of Walter Harlackenden, a branch of this stock, by being married to Sir Edward Hales, knight and baronet, grandfather to Sir Edward Hales, now of Tunstall baronet, wound it up in the demean and interest of that honourable family.

The borough of Harlackenden is situated in this parish, and has been for many hundred of years the patrimonial demean of that name and family, as appears by a tomb in the church of Woodchurch, whose inscription signifies that one of them lies interred there a little after the conquest; and though the character be in the proportion and shape of it very much like that which was in use in the reign of Henry the fourth, and Henry the fifth, and so makes the truth of it disputable, yet to this 'tis answered, that there was an old tombstone there before, with the same inscription upon it, insculped peradventure in a Saxon character, or such an one as was proportionate to that time in which that person died, who lies there entombed; which being decayed, his successors, to perpetuate and enforce the memory of so ancient a predecessor, fixed this stone upon his grave, and, to make the memorial more obvious, did cause the epitaph to be engraven in such a letter as was customary in the time of that prince, in whose reign it was laid upon the ashes beneath. In Grey's-Inn hall, by particular inspection, I have observed the arms of this family, viz. Azure, a fess ermin between three lions heads erased or, to be painted in an upper window, which appears to be of very venerable antiquity, and this justifies those fair attributes of noble,

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ancient, and illustrious, which may with very good reason be entituled to this family, of which is Thomas Harlackenden, Esquire, who, by inherent right transmitted to him by a never-ebbing stream of so many multiplied descents, is the instant proprietor of this borough.

Edingham, vulgarly called Engham, is the last place of account within the verge of Woodchurch, and was, in times of elder date, before they transplanted themselves to Singleton in Great Chart, the mansion of the Enghams, who as they placed here their seat, extracted from hence to their surname; a family doubtless of profound antiquity, and no less reputation, as may appear by those large possessions which they were interested in, in several parts of Romney Marsh, written in old records, sometimes Edingham, and by contraction Engham, and very frequently Hengham. And it is very probable from the identity of the name, that Rafe de Hengham, the eminent lord chief justice, in the reign of Edward the first, was of this family. † Sir Audomer (or Aymer) de Engham was justice of Chester, in the second year of Edward the third, and was issued out originally from this family, and it is possible Audomar or Odmer de Hengham, who lies buried in Christ-church at Canterbury, in the year 1411 was his son, and what much enhances the honour of this family, he is written in the Latin inscription affixed to his tomb Audomarus Hengham, Armiger; and in this name was the inheritance of this place conducted along through many generations of the Enghams, even until our grandfathers memory, and then it was by sale alienated to Baker, who is now the possessor of that seat which formerly made the name of Engham so conspicuous in this county.

WOLWICH has been in elder times written WOLNEWICH, is in the hundred of Lesnes, and was the property of Gilbert de Marisco, who stands first in the inventory of those who were its former possessors, and he held it about the beginning of Edward the first, and assumed this name de Marisco, from that estate which he enjoyed in the Marsh beneath this town; and it seems his fortune was of no narrow dimension, for he held this manor under the notion of half a knight's fee, in the above-mentioned prince's reign of Warren de Montchensie, baron of Swanscam. After him Sabina de Windlesor possessed it about the seventeenth year of Edward the second, by the fourth part of a knight's fee also, of the barony of Montchensie at Swanscamp. And then next successively to her did John de Pultney hold it in the

twentieth year of Edward the third, as this lady had held it before by the fourth part of a knight's fee, and of the honour of Montchensie in like manner; from whom it passed away to William Chichley, a kinsman of that eminent prelate, Henry Chichley, archbishop of Canterbury. And this man had issue John Chichley, who deceased without issue male, and left only Agnes his heir married with John Tatersal, who flourished here in her right much of the reign of Henry the sixth, and some of Edward the fourth, and then alienated the interest of this place to Boughton, in which family the interest of it remained, till by sale it was divided from it, and united to the patrimony of Heywood, where it seems the title was supported with no constant possession; for shortly after, almost in less then our fathers memory, the right of it was by the former fatality translated into Sir Nicholas Gilbourne, father to Henry Gilbourne, Esquire, to whom this manor gives up the right of its present possession.

It appears that the commissions of sewers which are now yearly issued for to make a diligent inspection into those banks and the defects of them, which protect and secure the adjacent marshes from the incroachments, and eruptions of the Thames was of authentic and ancient use; for a commission went out (as is manifest by Pat. 17. Edwardi secundi) for repairing a very great breach the waters by an inundation had made into the marshes which lie extended between Wolwich and Greenwich.

WROTHAM gives name to the whole hundred where it is seated, and is registered in the list of those manors which formerly encreased the revenue and supported the dignity of the archbishops of Canterbury; and if you will see how it was rated in the time of the conqueror, consult Doomsday Book, and that speaks thus, Wrotham est manerium archiepiscopi & T. E. R. defendebat se pro VIII sullings & est appretiatum 24lb. and continued treasured in their patrimony until the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth, and then it was exchanged by Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canter=

† Pat. de anno secundo Ed. tertii parte secunda memb. 33.

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bury, with the crown, and lay clasped up in the kingly revenue until the sixth year of Edward the sixth, and then it was granted to Sir John Mason, who partly passed it away by sale, and partly gave it in dower with his daughter married to Robert Bing, Esquire, whose successor Mr. George Bing (reserving to himself the propriety of this manor which his son and heir Mr. George Bing hath lately conveyed it to William James Esquire) demised it in lease for ninety-nine years to Sir Robert Darrel of Calehill, who conveyed the demise to Henry Bing, serjeant at law, Esquire, whose widow Katherine Bing, being declared his executrix, not long since passed away her interest in it to ‡ William James, Esquire, of Eightham, descended from an ancient family called Haestretcht, near Utrecht; to which family William Camden, Clarenceux king of arms, through mistake and inadvertency assigned argent, a cheveron between three mill rinds sable, as the paternal coat of this family; whereas, had he made a serious review, he would have discovered that the original coat of Haestrecht, was argent two bars crenellee gules, three pheons in chief, sable.

Wrotham had a market procured to it by Walter Reynolds, archbishop of Canterbury, in the eighth year of Edward the second.

Wingfield is a second manor in Wrotham which in times very ancient acknowledged the propriety of Quintin, a family though not of signal, yet of no cheap account in this tract; and was by Gilbert Quintin and Joan his wife, in the thirty-first year of Edward the third, passed away by fine to James Peckham, from whom by a clew of several generations it was conducted down to Reginald Peckham, Esquire, who about the beginning of king James conveyed it to Nicholas Miller of Horsnells Crouch, Esquire, who deceasing without issue bequeathed it to his nephew Sir Nicholas Miller; upon whose late paying that debt we all owe to nature, it is now Humphrey Millers, Esquire.

Yaldham or Aldham is another seat of considerable account in Wrotham, especially since it celebrates the memory of Thomas de Aldham, who by a pious assistance supported the arms and cause of Richard the first, when he was engaged at the siege of Acon; and from him it descended to Sir Thomas de Aldham, who determining in three daughters and co-heirs, Margery, one of them, by marrying with Martin de Peckham, descended from John de Peckham (who likewise fills up the catalogue of

those Kentish gentlemen, who by their signal courage made themselves considerable under Richard the first at the siege of Acon) did augment his patrimony by the union of hers at this place to it. And from him hath an undisturbed channel of many descents flowing through sundry worthy persons of very remarkable repute in their respective generations, brought it down to confess the signory of Reginald Peckham, Esquire.

Barsted is the last manor in Wrotham which accrued to James Peckham, by marrying with the sole heir of Sir Thomas Moraunt, and hath lain ever since wrapped up in the demean of that family, so that at present it is part of the patrimony of Reginald Peckham of Yaldham, Esquire.

Ford in this parish has been for some centuries of years the possession of Clerk, very frequently written in old evidences le Clerk. John Clerk son of John Clerk, was the second baron of the exchequer about the beginning of the reign of Henry the sixth, from whom in a lineal succession Sir William Clerk did descend; who when this nation was engaged in the flame of the late civil contention, offered up his life to the commands of his late majesty, in that signal conflict which was commenced between Sir William Waller and the royal party at Cropredie Bridge; and, which is more remarkable, after he had received a mortal wound, as if he had a greater care of his friend's security than of his own, poured out his last breath in this expression, 'Look to Sir William Butler, for I saw him fall.' After whose decease the right of this mansion being included in the jointure of this lady dowager, she, in relation to that first settlement, now holds the possession of it.

‡ See more of this family at Eigtham, where I have rendered an account how they altered the name of Haestrecht to James.

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Pleckston was formerly a borough appertaining to Wrotham; but by an ordinance of the lords and commons assembled in parliament, bearing date from the year of our Lord 1647, it was enacted, there should be a collection throughout this county, towards the erecting a parochial church at this place, and the establishing a congregation proportionate to it, which was effected accordingly; so that now it hath the repute of a parish, separate and distinct from Wrotham, and contains within its limits the manor of Sore, which was in times of a more ancient complexion parcel of the patrimony of the Colepepers of Preston, in Alresford; for Walter Colepeper, died possessed of it, in the first year of Edward the third, from whom an uninterrupted flowing of descent, wafted the title down to Sir Thomas Colepeper of Preston, who passed it away to Nicholas Miller, Esquire, of Horsnells Crouch, in Wrotham, and he upon his decease, disposed of his right in it to his nephew Sir Nicholas Miller of Oxenhoath, upon whose late decease, it descended to his son and heir Humphrey Miller, Esquire.

WORMSELL, is a small despicable parish, in the hundred of Eyhorn, and was ever esteemed an appendage to the manor of Boughton Malherbe, and had ever the same proprietors, as namely, Gatton, Dene, Corbie, and lastly Wotton; in which last family it remained until the latter end of Henry the eighth; and then it was passed away to Dynley, where it rested until our fathers memory; and then it was conveyed to Sydley, so that it now owns the propriety of Sir Charles Sydley baronet.

WOULDHAM lies in the hundred of Larkefield; and was given to Ernulf, bishop of Rochester, by Ethelbert, king of Kent, in the year 762, who for this and other his munificent donations, by which he so much enlarged, and multiplied the revenue of the see of Rochester, is represented to us at this day, by the records of that church, under the character and portraiture of pious Ethelbertus; but the steeple, and much of the fabrick of the church, owe their original to the charity and beneficence of Stephen Slegge, who was sheriff of Kent in the twenty-seventh year of Henry the sixth, and bequeathed by his will in the thirty-sixth year of that prince's reign, a 100 marks, to be disbursed and expended on the church and steeple of Wouldham.

Rings is a small manor that spreads itself partly into Wouldham, and partly into the parish of St. Margarets not far distant, but was eminent formerly, because it was the demean in part of the noble family of Cosington, of Cosington, in Alresford, the other moiety acknowledging the signory of Carter; Cosington sold his proportion

to Whorne, of Whornes-place in Cuckston; and Carter alienated his to Laurence, who not long after, by a mutual deed of conveyance, passed away their joint interest in it to Hadds of Meriam-court, in Wicheling, who was scarce settled in his new purchase, but he by sale transplanted his right in it into Thomas Roydon, of Roydon-court in Peckham, who was one of those, who in the thirty-first year of Henry the eighth, altered, by act of parliament, their possessions from the nature and tenure of gavelkind to that of knights service. From Roydon, this place (as appears by the private evidences of Mr. John Marsham) by the former alienation, was carried into the demean of Brockhull, of Addington Septuans, in Thurnham, where the possession was not long resident; for Henry Brockhull conveyed it away to Sir John Lewson of the county of Stafford, whose son Sir Richard Lewson, desiring to circumscribe his revenue within the more close circumference of Staffordshire, sold his concern here to John Marsham, Esquire, originally extracted out of Norfolk, to whose name, those learned pieces which he hath made public, as namely his accurate disquisitions upon Daniel, and his elaborate preface, prefixed to the monastick survey, stiled *Monasticum Anglicanum*, shall stand in future ages, both urn and epitaph.

Starkeys is another place wholly involved within the limits of Wouldham, but formerly it was not known by this name; for in times of elder aspect I believe it could scarce entitle itself to any mansion though it had the repute of a manor, and under that notion is it mentioned to be held by Sir John Buckland, in the twentieth year of Edward the third, as appears by the book called *Feoda Militum* kept in the exchequer, where it is stiled the manor of Little Wouldham. After this family was

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worn out the Newmans were the next who, by purchase from them, became possessors of the fee, but stayed not long in the tenure of it; for in a descent or two after, Henry Newman alienated the inheritance to Humphrey Starkey, one of the barons of the exchequer, in the reign of Henry the seventh, who erected here that house, which ever since hath been adopted into his name; he was descended from the Starkies of Wrenbery and Oulton in Cheshire, and lies entombed under a fair monument, in the parish church of St. Leonards, Shoreditch, in London, which the injuries of time, and impious mechanicks together have much empaired, but it seems the name of the house could not entail it on his posterity, for his successor sold it to Sir John Rainsford, a man of great demeanour about Lose, East and West Barming, and of no less authority with Henry the eighth; who not long after conveyed it over to Dambe; from whom the fate of sale, brought the inheritance to Sir John Lewson, whose son Sir Richard Lewson, upon those motives which incited him to alienate Rings, which was to contract his whole demean into Staffordshire, transferred his right in this likewise, to Joseph Marsham, Esquire, formerly one of the six clerks; of whose learning and merit I have spoken, when I treated of Rings.

Beaulies-court is the last place of note in this parish to be discoursed upon: it was formerly in records written Sellers, and gave surname to a family known by that appellation; for John at Seller (under that orthography he is recorded in the Book of Aid) held this place by knights service of the bishop of Rochester, in the twentieth year of Edward the third; and the arms of this family, stand depicted in an old pane of glass, yet remaining in Wouldham-church, videlicet, argent a saltire between four mullets gules, and is now quartered by Beaulie; for when this name concluded in a female heir, she by her marrying with Beaulie, united this seat and the propriety of it to their patrimony; who, for some additions they augmented the house with, changed the name of Sellers into Beaulies-court, and by a right brought down to him by a chain of sundry generations from the former alliance, does Mr. Thomas Beaulie, now of London, merchant, claim his present interest in it.

WYE gives name to the whole hundred wherein it is placed, and is in Latin record frequently called *Vaga*, or wandring, and in the British dialect it imports as much, from whence they imposed the name of Wye, on a noted river in Herefordshire, from its crooked and perplexed digressions. It was a manor which belonged to the crown before the conquest, and king William the first, gave it to Battel-abbey. I recite the donation, because it reserves the earl of Kents Deniers, or *tertium Denarium*, a singular testimony of grounding and conferring the dignity, and justifies the unparalleled title it hath, of being called *Regale Manerium de Wye*, the royal



manor of Wye; for the signory of 22 towns lying cross the country from hence to Battell pertain unto it.

Aldons, Dods, West-Sture, Bromsford, Shotenton, with the manor of the vicarage were given by John Kempe, first archbishop of Canterbury, and lord chancellor of England, and after cardinal to the college of Wye, which he had erected and dedicated to St. Martin and St. Gregory; which, upon the suppression, were settled in the patrimony of the crown, till queen Elizabeth granted them to her kinsman Henry Cary, baron of Hunsdon, whose grandchild Henry earl of Dover, not many years since, conveyed them to Sir Thomas Finch, earl of Winchelsea, whose son Heneage, earl of Winchelsea, has the instant signory of them.

Ollantigh was a place of no account, till cardinal Kemp instituted here an oratory or chapel, which is yet annexed to the house, but the mansion itself was built by Sir Thomas Kempe, made knight of the Bath, at the marriage of prince Arthur, eldest son to Henry the seventh, and in this name the possession continued, till Sir Thomas Kempe, this man's successor, deceased without issue-male, and left four daughters and co-heirs, married with Diggs, Cutts, Chichley, and Skipwith; who all by mutual consent did divest themselves of their right to this place, and by sale transmitted it to Sir Timothy Thornhil, whose grandchild Mr. Henry Thornhil (though

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not without much struggling and contest, there being lately another title derived from Reginald Kempe, brother to Sir Thomas set up against his) does hold the instant propriety of it.

Wilmington is an ancient seat in this parish, which had formerly the reputation of a manor, and was parcel of the revenue of the noble family of Corbie; for Robert de Corbie did enjoy it at his death, which was in the thirty-ninth year of king Edward the third; and after this family was dislodged from the possession, the Chivalers came in and enjoyed the inheritance; for William Chivaler held it at his decease, which was in the first year of Richard the second, after whom John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, possessed it about the year 1461, who dying without issue, John Howard his kinsman was invested with the title of duke of Norfolk, as being descended from the lady Margaret, daughter of Thomas de Brotherton, first duke of Norfolk, in the first year of Richard the third, and with this title he had the inheritance of Wilmington, which did not remain united any long space to his name; for in the year 1486, he found an untimely sepulchre with his master Richard the third in the ruins of Bosworth-field, where he offered up his life to the cause of that prince, as a grateful expiration of those favours which he had received from his bounty, after whose decease this place by escheat was swallowed up in the revenue of the crown, where the possession slumbered, till king Edward the sixth, about the second year of his reign, granted it to Edward Paget, Esquire, in which family it resided until our fathers memory, and then it was conveyed to Barrow.

Bilting is another place in Wye of no vulgar estimate. It lies partly in Godmersham, and partly in this parish, and was for many hundred years the patrimony of a family which bore that surname, and remained linked to their demean, until the ninth year of queen Elizabeth; and then William Bilting deceasing without issue, Arthur Franklin, and Richard Vidian were found to be his heirs, and upon the division of the estate into parcels, this swelled the estate of Franklin with a new addition, and continued in that name, until not many years since partly by sale, and partly by marriage it was settled upon Mr. William Cowper of Maidstone, upon whose late decease it is now devolved by successive right to his descendant Mr. .... Cowper, now in his minority.

Perry court is the next place which obliges us to a consideration. It was wrapped up in that demean which related to the college of Wye, and was purchased by cardinal John Kempe of Thomas Aldon (whose ancestors had held it many descents before) in the twenty eighth year of Henry the sixth, and by him annexed to the college abovementioned, of his own institution and foundation; but the public dissolution in the reign of Henry the eighth having snatched it away, it was by the grant of that prince made the inheritance of Mr. John Buckler; who about the beginning of Edward the sixth, passed it away to Sir William Damsel employed as agent from that prince to the crown of France, and he going out in four daughters

and co-heirs, one of them by marrying with Burston made it upon the disunion of the body of the estate into parcels, a limb of his patrimony; and remained so, until our fathers remembrance, and then it was conveyed to Moil of Buckwell, and was not many years since conveyed by Robert Moile, Esquire, alienated by sale to Sir Thomas Finch, afterwards earl of Winchelsey, father to Heneage Finch, earl of Winchelsey, now proprietor of it.

Raymonds is the last place of account in Wye, which afforded a seat, and gave a surname to a family so called, and were eminent in this parish many hundred years since, as being stewards to the abby of Battle for lands near this place, and it is probable this place was the original seminary or fountain from whence the Raimonds of Essex, Norfolk, and other counties in this nation, deduced their primitive extraction. But to advance in my discourse; this family of Raymond having long since abandoned the signory of this place, it hath been for sundry descents the inheritance of Beck, and is still entituled to the propriety of one of this name and family,

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Y.

YALDING, in the hundred of Twyford. It was in old Saxon orthography written Ealding, from the watry situation of the meadows. It was made eminent by being parcel of the inheritance of the earls of Gloucester, whose surname was de Clere, under whose signory it remained till Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hereford, who deceased in the eighth year of Edward the second, and left Margaret de Clare his sole heir, who was married to Hugh de Audley, who became, in right of his wife, lord of the propriety of Yalding, and earl of Gloucester likewise; but enjoyed neither no considerable space of time; for he died in the twenty-first year of Edward the first, and left no issue male; so that Margaret Audley became his heir, who by marrying with Rafe, earl of Stafford, cast it into his patrimony; and he at his death, which was in the forty-sixth year of Edward the third, in her right, was found to be possessed of it; and in this family did the inheritance fix itself till the reign of Henry the eighth, and then Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, descended in a direct line from the abovesaid Rafe Stafford, having by his own improvidence and miscarriage laid himself open to the malicious assaults of cardinal Wolsey, he by blowing of wild conjectures into the ears of king Henry the eighth, blew up the fire of his rage into that height and fury, that nothing could extinguish it but the blood of this peer poured out by an untimely effusion upon the scaffold; upon whose unfortunate decease his estate by forfeiture and escheat devolved to the crown; and king Henry the eighth suddenly after granted Yalding to his kinsman Henry Somerset, earl of Worcester, whose father Charles Somerset he in the seventh year of his government, by a new creation, had adorned with that title; from whom not long after it was by purchase incorporated into the patrimony of Nevill, baron of Aburgavenny, whose successor is John Nevill both in the barony, and in the inheritance of Yalding.

Woodfold is a place not to be declined without some consideration; because it was a place formerly of no contemptible repute; for Anselmus de Quintin, originally issued out from the ancient family of Boupton in Wiltshire, held it in the twentieth year of Edward the third, by the fourth part of a knight's fee, (as the Book of Aid testifies) at the making the Black Prince knight, and here after the possession divers years had resided, it shrunk away from this family, and by purchase was carried into the inheritance of Burton, where likewise it was some generations settled, till the same vicissitude, made it as inconstant here, as it had been to the former family, and by sale transported the right of it to Vane, a younger branch of Vane, earl of Westmoreland, in whose name and posterity the patrimonial interest of it continues still wrapt up.

Lodingford is another manor in Yalding, which belonged to the priory of Bermondsey, and upon the suppression of that magnificent cloister, was annexed to the revenue of the crown, but made no long abode there; for Henry the eighth granted it to Thomas Wood, Esquire, and he not long after alienated it by sale to George Fane, Esquire, ancestor to the right honourable Mildmay Fane, now earl of Westmoreland, the instant lord of the fee.

Yalding had the grant of a market to be observed there weekly, procured to it by Hugh de Audley; and a fair to continue three days yearly, viz. the vigil, the day of St. Peter and Paul, and the subsequent to it, as appears, Pat. 12. Edw. secundi N. 57.

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The Description of the ISLANDS.

ELMELEY is an island not far removed from Feversham, but yet is situated in the hundred of Milton; it was in elder times parcel of the demean of Peyforer. Fulk de Peyforer held it at his death, which was in the fifth year of Edward the first, from whom it was transported by descent to his son Fulk de Peyforer, who likewise was in possession of it at his decease, which was in the ninth year of Edward the second; but before the latter end of Edward the third, this name and family was shrunk into a daughter and heir called Julian, who by marrying with Thomas St. Leger, annexed the interest that family had in this island to his inheritance, and from him the like vicissitude carried it off to Henry Aucher, who had espoused Joan his co-heir; but before the latter end of Henry the fifth, his right in Elmeley was by sale transplanted into Cromes of London, who likewise before had purchased some portion of estate which the heirs of \* Hastings had in this island by a right deduced from Mayney; for Sir Walter de Mayney, knight of the garter, died the forty-ninth year of Edward the third, and left only a sole daughter and heir called Anne, who by marrying with John Hastings earl of Pembroke, brought Tunstall and much other land here in Elmeley and elsewhere, to be the patrimony of that family; but to proceed, Elmeley being thus entirely made the demean of Cromer, continued linked to this family many descents, until Sir James Cromer, the last of this name, almost in our memory died and left three daughters and co-heirs surviving (for Martha the fourth died unmarried) to share his estate. Frances was married to Sir Matthew Carew, Elizabeth married Sir John Steed, and Christian married to Sir John Hales; and so these three dividing Elmeley the descendants which claimed from Carew and Steed, have very lately by sale conveyed theirs, and so by consequence the sole interest of this island unto Sir Edward Hales of Tunstal.

GRAINE island lies in the hundred of Hoo, and had still the same owners with the manor of Malmains in Stoke, not far distant. Nicholas Malmains held it at his death which was in the twenty-third year of Edward the third, and from him did the title stream in this family until the beginning of Henry the fourth, and then it went away by sale to Iden of Ripley-court, in Westwell, and in this family did the possession dwell, until the beginning of Henry the eighth, and then it was alienated to John Parks gentleman, and he not long after dying without issue-male, Elizabeth his sole inheritrix, who was married to John Roper of Bedmancore in Lingsted, Esquire, united it to his patrimony, and from him is it now descended to his successor Christopher Roper, the instant baron of Tenham.

HARTIE lies in the hundred of Feversham, and did anciently acknowledge the dominion of the abbot and convent of Feversham, until John, abbot of that place, in the tenth year of Henry the eighth, obtained a licence from the crown to alienate it to Thomas Colepeper, Esquire; but here its abode was of no long moment; for about the latter end of Henry the eighth it was transmitted by sale to Sir Thomas Cheyney, whose son the lord Henry Cheyney, about the middle of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Richard Thornhill, which Richard was father to Mr. Samuel Thornhill, grandfather to Sir Timothy Thornhill and Sir John Thornhill, and great grandfather to colonel Richard Thornhill, eldest son of Sir Timothy, which colonel Richard is lately deceased, and Charles Thornhill Esquire, son and heir of Sir John now surviving, whose great grandfather Mr. Richard Thornhill, abovementioned, purchased Mere-court in the twelfth year of queen Elizabeth, and Potts-court, Bradherst, Queen-court in Ospringe, Pitstock and Hartie, in the thirteenth year of that princess, of Sir Henry Cheyney, and made his son Samuel joint purchaser with him.

OXNEY island is an hundred within itself. The first place of eminence which offers itself to a survey, is Witresham, which anciently belonged to the monks of Christ-church, and was given to that cloister, in the year 132, by Edsin bishop of

\* Sir Robert Knolles, feoffee in trust for Grey, and Talbot, passed away 1000 acres in Elmeley to Sir William Cromer 7. Hen. 4.

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St. Martins without Canterbury; but upon the suppression of that convent in the reign of Henry the eighth, this manor with all its appendant immunities was granted to Henry Crispe, Esquire, whose son Nicholas Crispe, held it the sixth of queen Elizabeth, and after him James Hales, Esquire; and he in the thirteenth of that princess alienated it to Freak, in which family it remained until the beginning of king James; and then it was conveyed by Sir Thomas Freak, to Sir Thomas Bishop, and he in the sixteenth year of the abovesaid prince, gave it in marriage with his daughter Mrs. Jane Bishop, to Edward Alford, Esquire; and she in right of that original settlement does now hold this manor.

Palstre is another manor in Witresham, which represents to us the memory of John de Palstre, who was anciently lord of the fee; but before the end of Edward the third, this family was vanished; and then the Charles's, a family of generous rank at Addington, were settled in the possession, and Richard Charles held it, in the fifth year of Richard the second, and so did Nicholas Charles, who died possessed of it in the eleventh year of that prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 16. And from this family, by Alice one of the co-heirs, it devolved to William Snath, and he concluding in a daughter and heir, she by marrying with Watton, brought it to be united to the patrimony of this family. And here it made its residence until the reign of Henry the sixth; and then it was passed away to Robert Rudston, Esquire, who being embarked in the reign of queen Mary, in the design of Sir Thomas Wiatt, although he did not forfeit his life, yet he did his estate, which by the special indulgence of that princess, was granted back to him, in the second year of her reign, in which this was involved, which remained with this family until almost our time; and then it was passed away to Sir Edward Henden, one of the barons of the exchequer, who dying not long since without issue, gave it to his nephew Sir John Henden, father to Edward Henden, Esquire, the instant lord of the fee.

Owlye is another manor in Witresham, which anciently was written Ovely, as having owners of that surname, who stayed not here until the beginning of Richard the second, but were extinguished, and left the possession to Ao Odiarne, a family anciently of good note. After whom I cannot (because the private evidences are embuzzled) discover what families were successively planted in the possession. Only I find it about the latter end of Henry the eighth, in the possession of Mayney of Biddenden, in whom the interest continued, until some few years since it was alienated by Sir John Mayney of Linton, knight and baronet, to Peter Ricaut, Esquire, who hath lately alienated his right in it to Mr. Menell, of London.

Ebeney was given to the monks of Christchurch in Canterbury, by king Athulfus, at the particular entreaty and instigation of Ceolnoth the archbishop, in the year 832, to the reparation of their cloister and cathedral. The words registered in the latin record are these, anno Domini 832, Rex Athulfus instinctu Ceolnothi Archiepiscopi dedit Ebeneyam ad opus monachorum, libere sicut Adisham. But when the impieties of the monks, who had cloistered up religion itself in a lazy cell, grew so clamorous, that they called for vengeance upon their seminaries, that storm arose in the reign of Henry the eighth, which by the dissolution of their convents, expiated their irregularities, this manor was surrendered to the crown, and the abovesaid prince, in the thirty-second year of his government, granted it to Sir Walter Henley serjeant at law, who dying without issue-male, his three daughters, namely Elizabeth married to William Waller, Esquire, Hellen first married to Thomas Colepeper, of Bedgebury, Esquire; secondly to Sir George Somerset; and thirdly to Thomas Vane of Burston, Esquire; and Anne married to Richard Covert of Slaugham, as his co-heirs, entered upon his inheritance, and then this place, upon the division of his estate, increased the demean of Richard Covert, Esquire, from whom by the devolution of a descendant right, the title is now lodged in his successor Mr. .... Covert.

Woodrove in Ebeney, acknowledged in elder ages a family for proprietors, known by the name of Mocking, who had a revenue likewise about Milton, Stockbury, Hartlip and Shepey, of no despicable bulk. John Mocking, son of William Mocking, flourished under the scepter of Edward the first, Edward the second, and

held this manor at his decease, which was in the eleventh year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 75. And in this family did the possession fix, until the reign of

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Henry the fourth, and then it began to ebb away from this name, and flow by the conveyance of sale into Guldford; and in a very old schedule which enumerates the manors, which related to John Guldford, who lived under the government of Henry the fourth and Henry the fifth, this is registered in the catalogue; and from him did it come down to Sir Edward Guldford, whose daughter and heir Joan, brought it to be the patrimony of John Dudley, duke of Northumberland, and he gave this manor with no small demean at Halden, in dower with Mary his daughter, married to Sir Henry Sidney, lord deputy of Ireland, and knight of the garter, a person of that value and eminence, that he that would discover him represented in his best features and proportion, must view him in his worthy and signal undertakings in Ireland, where he will find him better portrayed, than he can be by any faint or drowsy attributes, that drop from my humble and unequal pen; and from him did this manor in right of this alliance, descend to his grandchild the right honorable Robert earl of Leicester, who not many years since passed it away to Sir Edward Hendon, one of the barons of the exchequer, who upon his decease gave it to his nephew Sir John Hendon of Biddenden, and he not long since alienated it to Mr John Austin of Tenterden; from whom it it lately devolved by death, to be now the possession of his second brother Mr. Robert Austin, of Hall-place in Bexley.

Brocket is another manor in Ebeney which had possessors, as appears by ancient deeds, of that name, who likewise were written in evidences Brocket; but whether the Brockets of Brocket-hall in the county of Hartford, were descended from these, or these from them, I cannot discover; but the greatest honor which this obscure manor hath acquired, is, that ever since the reign of Henry the fourth, until the thirtieth year of Henry the eighth, it acknowledged the noble family of Guldford, and then it changed its proprietors; for that year it was by John Guldford, Esquire, conveyed to Sir John Hales, baron of the exchequer, from whom it is now come down to own the propriety of his descendant, Sir Edward Hales of Tunstall, baronet.

The island of SHEPEY, comes next to be treated of; it is called by Ptolomie Toliatis, in Latin Insula Ovium, in Saxon Sceapige, all agreeing in their verdict, that it was so named from its plenty of sheep. It is environed with the mixed waters of the Thames and Medway on the west, the Swale or Genlade on the south, and the main ocean beats on the east and north; more celebrated for the fertility of the soil, than salubrity of air, which is gross and thick, causing aguish infirmities, that keep long residence, when they get possession.

Quinborough, or rather originally Kingsborough, as Konigsberg in Prussia, is now corruptly called Quensborough, acknowledged king Edward the third for the founder, who (having married Philippa, daughter of William earl of Henault and Holland, and his occasions often calling him to pass into her father's dominion, whose aid and assistance he required in the great enterprise, for the recovery of his undoubted right to the diadem of France) erected this strong and stately fortress for defence of the mouth of the Thames, and his own secure accommodation. And because the situation of this place was unhealthy, he (to allure inhabitants) in the year 1366, enobled the town with a charter of incorporation, wherein he indulges by grant ample privileges and immunities unto it, as namely to hold two mercates weekly, one on the Monday and the other on the Thursday; and two fairs yearly, one at the feast of St. James, the other on the twenty-fourth of March, and to make choice of burgesses to send to parliament. The principal architect and surveyor of the work, was William Wickham, after bishop of Winchester, who had been formerly employed in that kind, at the re-edifying Windsor-castle, when his good patron, John de Vuedal, was constable there. This man used to inscribe on the edifices thus erected, this inscription, This made Wickham, whereby some conceived, he arrogated to himself the cost and payment of the structure, and informed the king thereof; but his ingenious exposition satisfied that prince, when he shewed him that by his inspection and insight into those matters, he had obtained both his ecclesiastical and secular promotions, being made bishop of Winchester, first keeper of the privy seal, and then of the king's conscience, his last gradation or ascent being to be lord chancellor of England. When king Edward had perfected this castle, he instituted

a chief governor, who was for the future, to carry the title of constable, like as at Dover-castle, and elsewhere. The catalogue of those who succeeded in that com=

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mand, I have set down. The care and cost of king Henry the eighth, in the year 1536 to repair this place, when he erected fortresses for defence of the sea coast, drew this eulogy from the pen of Leland.

Castrum regius editum recepit  
Burgus, fulmina dira, & insulanos  
Tutos servat, ab omni, vel omni.

Constables of Quinborough Castle.

JOHN FOXLY, a valiant soldier and faithful servant to king Edward the third, was the first constable of Quinborough castle, which office he received the thirty-sixth of Edward the third.

50. Edw. 3. John of Gaunt  
8. Rich. 2. Robert de Vere  
16. Rich. 2. Arnold Savage of Bobbing-  
court  
20. Rich. 2. William Scroop  
1. Hen. 4. Sir Hugh Waterton  
4. Hen. 4. Sir Jo. Cornwallis, lord Fan=  
hope, knight of the garter  
10. Hen. 4. Thomas Arundel, archbishop  
of Canterbury  
1. Hen. 5. Gilbert Umfreville  
28. Hen. 6. Humfrey Stafford, duke of  
Buckingham  
1. Edw. 4. John Northwood, Esquire  
.. Edw 4. George, duke of Clarence  
1. Rich. 3. Thomas Wentworth  
2. Rich. 3. Christopher Collins  
1. Hen. 7. William Cheyney  
2. Hen. 8. Sir Francis Cheyney  
3. Hen. 8. Sir Tho. Cheyney of Shurland,  
knight of the garter  
1. Reginæ Sir Robert Constable  
Elizab.  
Sir Edward Hobbie  
Philip, earl of Pembroke  
and Montgomery, baron  
of Shurland, and knight  
of the garter.

MINSTER is the next place of account in this island, and is contracted from the Latin word Monasterium, from whence this town hath its appellation, and may challenge the third place amongst our English nunneries. For Sexburga, daughter to Ercombert king of Kent (to whom and the Virgin Mary, the church of this parish is devoted and dedicated) in the year 664, erected a religious house at this place, and liberally endowed it, for the sustentation of veiled virgins. The second was founded by Eanswith, daughter of Eadbald king of Kent, at Folkston. And the first had its institution at Liminge, likewise in this county, by Eadburga, and erected to the honor of the Virgin Mary and St. Mildred. But the antiquity of this cell, and the sanctity attributed to it by elder times, could not so skreen or rescue it from the heat of war, but it was thrice sacked and dismantled by the barbarous ir= rruptions of the Danes, within less then an age, which by usual account is said to be thirty years. The first misfortune happened to it in the year 832, when thirty-five sail of them arrived here and rifled it. The second and third time, was in the year 851, and then again in the year 855, by the armies of them who wintered their ships within this island. Besides these depredations the complices of earl Godwin, and his sons, in the time of their proscription and exile, which was in the year 1052, landed in this island, and miserably harrassed it, by filling all places with ruin and

devastation. Indeed religion when it glitters with a splendid and full revenue, is like the pictures of the ancient saints, apparelled in rich garments, which some have been enticed to rob, not out of ill will to their sanctity, but love to their shrines, and beauty of their cloaths; persecution and the robes of humility were the attire of the primitive church, and when she is dressed up in gaudy fortunes, it is no more than she merits; yet sometimes it occasions the devil to cheat her of her holiness; and impious men, by an unjust and injurious sacrilege, to cheat her of her riches. But I have digressed: I now return into the track of my discourse, and must inform my reader, that although the glory of this cloister was so bowed down and broken with these misfortunes, that it appeared almost sunk in its own calamities; yet by the piety of subsequent ages, it buoyed up again; but was more especially by the indulgent charity of king Henry the fourth, who in the first year of his reign, confirmed their old privileges, and to those added by patent many new. And in this

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condition it continued until the general dissolution or deluge, and then it was by Henry the eighth, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign granted to Sir Thomas Cheyney; and his son Henry lord Cheyney, having in the beginning of queen Elizabeth, exchanged it for other lands with that princess; she regranted it to Sir Edward Hobby, who had married her kinswoman Margaret, daughter of Henry lord Hunsdon, and his son Sir Edward Hobby, about the middle of king James, passed it away to Mr. Henry Richards, and he upon his decease bequeathed it to Gabriel Livesey, Esquire; and he, almost in our remembrance, conveyed it to Sir John Heyward, who settled it upon his two feoffees in trust, Sir Francis Buller of Cornwall, and serjeant Clerk of Rochester, for such charitable uses, as they should think proportionate to that conveyance.

The manor of Northwood, is situated in this parish, which was the inheritance of Jordanus de Scapeia, for so he is written in old dateless deeds, and he had issue Stephen de Northwood, who was the first whom I find in record, to have assumed this appellation, and he was father to Sir Roger de Northwood, who lies buried in Minster church, with an inscription affixed to his monument, which seems by its modern character, to have been corrupted; it is this, hic jacet Rogerus Northwood, Miles, sepultus ante Conquestum. Indeed his figure is fairly insculped in brass, with that of his lady Bona, lying by him, who was sister and heir of William de Wauton. The vulgar upon a credulous error every where affirm, that all those who are thus buried, were entered after the conquest; when it is certain that many were entombed in this posture, many years before the conqueror, that had obliged themselves by vow, to defend the cross and sepulchre of our Saviour, against the fury and assaults of infidels. Sure I am, the tomb next to this appears to be far more ancient, and of so venerable a form, that its like doth not occur in any other place; there is not any letter of inscription left, only the coat is a sure testimony, that it was one of the ancestors of the family of Northwood. But to proceed, John Norwood, one of this house, as the private records of the family testify, feasted Henry the fifth, at the Red-Lion in Sedingbourne, and the wine amounted upon the whole account but to 9s. and 9d. wine being then rated but at a penny the pint. William Northwood, another of this name and family, did signal service at the battle of Agincourt, and afterwards at the battle of Verneuil, which was managed by John duke of Bedford, regent of France. He was kinsman of John Northwood, who was the last of this name at this place: for he about the latter end of Edward the fourth, alienated it to William Warner, Esquire; whose son and heir William Warner, about the beginning of Henry the eighth, demised it to Sir Thomas Cheyney, and his son Sir Henry lord Cheyney, having exchanged it for other lands with queen Elizabeth, it remained with the crown, until king James, in the second year of his reign, granted it to the right honorable Philip Herbert, earl of Montgomery, and afterwards earl of Pembroke.

Newhall is another little manor in Minster, which Fulke Peyforer died seized of, in the ninth year of Edward the second; and from him it devolved by descent to be the patrimony of his great grandchild Fulk Peyforer, and his sole heir Julian carried it away to Thomas St. Leger of Ottringden, whose two female co-heirs being married to Aucher and Ewias, shared his inheritance, and about the reign of Henry the fifth, passed it away by sale to Cromer, whose successor William Cromer, having about the latter end of Henry the eighth, by some misdemeanor, forfeited it

to the crown, it was granted to one Stephen Graine, in which family it remained until the beginning of queen Elizabeth, and then it was alienated to Small; from which name, the same vicissitude not many years since carried it off to Luck; who transmitted his right in it to Mr. Henry Newton, who hath lately demised it to Mr. Josias Gering of London.

Rishington is the last place of account, which is circumscribed within the limits of Minster. It was in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, wrapped up in the patrimony of Savage; for at that time John de Savage obtained a charter of free-warren, to several of his manors in Kent, in the number of which this is registered for one; but in the reign of Edward the third, the possession was departed from this family, being purchased by Philippa, wife and queen to Edward the third, and settled upon the hospital of St. Katharines, near the Tower, in whose demean it hath

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lain involved ever since. In the fourteenth year of the reign of Richard the second, John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, the king's uncle, was lessee to that hospital, as appears, Rot. Esc. Num. 113. Which I mention to discover to the reader, that even in those times, persons of the greatest eminence did not disdain to be tenants for an estate to an hospital.

East-church is the next place which comes to be considered; which though obscure in itself, yet is made eminent by Shurland, which is a limb of this parish, and anciently did own a noble family which bore that surname; the last of which was Sir Robert de Shurland, who was one of those Kentish bannerets, which were made by king Edward the first, at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, and to whom the former prince, as a farther symbol or testimony of his merit, granted a charter of free-warren in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, to his manor of Shurland; not long after which he deceased, and lies entombed under an arch in the south wall, with his portraiture insculped in a marble, in Minster church, whose tomb is become the scene of much falshood and popular error; the vulgar having digged out of his vault, many wild legends and romances, as namely that he buried a priest alive, that he swam on his horse two miles through the sea to the king, who was then near this island on shipboard, to purchase his pardon; and having obtained it, swam back to the shore; where being arrived, he cut off the head of his said horse because it was affirmed, he had acted this by magick; and that riding on hunting a twelvemonth after, his horse stumbled and threw him on the scull of his former horse, which blow so bruised him, that from that contusion he contracted an inward impostumation, of which he died; and in memory of which, a horse's head is placed at his feet; which fictitious story, is rent into the disunion of so many absurd circumstances, that I shall represent to the reader, the foundation on which this fabulous narrative was formerly established, which is no more than this. Sir Robert de Shurland abovementioned, being lord warden of the cinque-ports, and a man of eminent authority under Edward the first, obtained grant of privilege by charter, to have wreck of sea upon his lands confining on the sea shore, near Shurland; now the extent of this royalty is evermore esteemed to reach as far into the water, upon a low ebb, as a man can ride in, and touch any thing with the point of his lance, and so you have the explication of this marvel; and the couching either of whole creatures, or part of them, at the feet of worthy personages, is most frequent both now and in elder times; that these inanimate representations might be the symbols or hieroglyphicks, to intimate to posterity these virtues which were resident in them when alive. But to proceed, the abovementioned Sir Robert de Shurland, having improved his reputation with many noble and worthy actions, left that only to perpetuate his name to posterity, having no issue-male to continue it; for he left only one daughter and heir, married to William de Cheyney of Patrickbourn Cheyney, who was son and heir to Sir Alexander de Cheyney, who is in the inventory or list of those knights bannerets, who were ennobled with that dignity, by Edward the first, at the siege of Carlaverock, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, and in right of this marriage, died possessed of it in the eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 58. And from him did it come down to his great grandchild, Sir John Cheyney, who was knight of the garter, and frequently knight of this shire, in sundry parliaments, under the government of Henry the fourth, in the first year of whose reign, as our chronicles inform us, he was sent ambassador to several foreign princes, to represent to them the reasons or motives which induced



him to assume the English diadem, and in the first and second year of that prince, he was chosen speaker of parliament. Sir William Cheyney, another of this family of Shurland, was first a judge, and secondly lord chief justice of the King's Bench, in the reign of Henry the fifth; but the greatest honour this manor achieved, was when it came to be possessed by Sir Thomas Cheyney, who was knight of the garter, lord warden of the cinque-ports, constable of Quinborough castle, and one of the privy council to Henry the eighth, and he had issue Sir Henry Cheyney, created Henry lord Cheyney of Tuddington by queen Elizabeth, who having exchanged this manor of Shurland with that princess, it remained with the patrimony of the crown, until the second year of king James; and then it was by royal concession from that prince, made the inheritance of Philip earl of Montgomery, and after of Pem=

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broke, upon whose late decease it is now come to confess the signory of his second son Mr. James Herbert.

Kingsborough is another manor in this parish, whose name tacitly intimates to us, that it was involved formerly in the revenue of the crown, and was the place which the inhabitants frequented, not only for the holding of a court, for the choice and election of the constables of the island; but likewise here assembled to nominate and appoint those wardens or bailiffs, that were to take cognisance or charge of the passage called Kingsferry, which divides the island, and the main land of the coun= ty; this manor, after it had for many generations lain folded up in the royal demean, was by queen Elizabeth, granted to Mr. Henry Cary, who about the beginning of king James, passed it away to Swaleman, whose descendant is still entituled to the propriety of it.

Leisdon next offers itself up to our view, which was parcel of that estate which acknowledged the noble and ancient family of Grey, of Rotherfield in Sussex, for its ancient owners. The first which made this family eminent was John de Grey, who was frequently summoned to sit in parliament as baron, in the reign of Edward the third, and died possessed of this manor in the thirty-third year of that prince, Rot. Esc. Num. 38. And so did Robert Grey his successor, in the second year of Henry the fourth. After his exit, I do not find it long constant in the signory of this name; for about the beginning of Henry the sixth it was alienated to Lovell; and by virtue of this purchase, Sir William Lovell held it at his death, which was in the twenty-third year of Henry the sixth. After this family had abandoned the possession, the Cheyneys of Shurland were by purchase planted in the inheritance, and remained settled in the fee-simple of it, until Sir Henry lord Cheyney exchanged it with queen Elizabeth.

Nuts called so vulgarly, but in the ancient court-rolls named Notts, as being the inheritance of a family called Nott, is a little manor in Leisdon, which after it had for many descents acknowledged no other proprietors, but this family about the beginning of Edward the fourth, was rent from them by purchase, and transplanted into Bartholomew, a family which were owners anciently of much land about Ling= sted, Throuley, and other places in that track, and continued masters of this lord= ship, until the reign of Henry the eighth; and then it was conveyed to Sir Thomas Cheyney; whose son Sir Henry Cheyney, about the beginning of queen Elizabeth, passed it away to Sampson, a family which had been possessors of Sampson-court, not far distant, many hundred years; and were descended from William Sampson, who was frequently summoned to sit in parliament as baron in the reign of Edward the first. From Sampson it was again in our fathers memory carried off to Osborne, in the descendants of which family the right is still fixed.

Werdon is the last place of account in this island; it was in times of an elder in= scription involved in the inheritance of Savage of Bobbing, and in the twenty-third year of Edward the first, Sir John de Savage obtained a charter of free-warren to his manor of Werdon; but before the middle of Edward the third, this family had sur= rendered their interest here to Fremingham; for John de Fremingham died seized of it, in the twenty third year of Edward the third; but whether it devolved with other land by the heir general of Fremingham to Isley or not, is uncertain, because those private evidences which relate to this manor, extend no higher then the reign of Ed= ward the fourth; and then I find the propriety of it in Norton, in which family af= ter the possession had resided until our times, it was conveyed to Edmund Tooke of

Dartford, Esquire, barrister at law, now proprietor of it.

THANET lies, if not all, yet most part of it, circumscribed within the hundred of Ringleslow; it is stiled in Greek by ancient authors Thanatos, in Latin Thanetum, and in the Saxon it is curtailed into Thanet, which an old manuscript which I have seen, deduces from two Saxon words Thane and Yete, which in that language then implied as much as the lords entrance; but for my particular, I believe that the Saxons, when, upon the donation of it to them by Vortiger, they first entered into this island, finding that Thanetum was a Latin name imposed upon it by the Romans, who had but newly then deserted the protection of this island, newsoftened the name by contracting it, and then quilted it into the alphabet of their

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own language, and called it Thanet; and that this is probable, I shall evince from circumstances, punio in Latin signifies to punish, from whence the Saxons stiled that place by Maidstone, where they punished malefactors Pinandun Hoath. So Castrum was a name used by the Romans to signify or express any castle or fortress, which the Saxons upon their admission into this island, finding it to be imposed upon all places of strength and importance, adopted it into their dialect, and from the word Castrum extracted the word Ceaster. I could instance in many other particulars, but that I should both weary my reader, and clog this discourse with superfluities; I shall therefore from the untwisting the name, descend to the description of the island.

Serre, now vulgarly called Sarre, is the first place of note which offers itself up to view; it was anciently a parish, until peradventure the unhealthiness of the soil; (for it now confines upon marshes where formerly glided that gullet of seawater, now wholly stifled with sand, which made Thanet an island, as may plainly appear by an ancient map, printed by the original, and now extant in the book called Monasticum Anglicanum) or else from the insalubrity of the air, which being polluted with those black and foggy vapours which ascend from a loose and foggy earth, very frequently leave a venomous tincture upon the blood and spirits of those inhabitants, who are subject to the impression of such pernicious exhalations, forced those who dwelt in Serre, to abandon so sickly a habitation; and so the parish by degrees, began to languish away into that solitude, we see it is shrunk into at present. The church was dedicated to St. Giles, but at present lies entombed in such forgotten ruins, that scarce the least remains are visible. The manor itself was one of the ancient seats of the noble family of Crioll. Betram de Crioll augments the register of those Kentish gentlemen, who were with Richard the first at the siege of Acon in Palestine. Bartholomew de Crioll, another of this name and family, was lieutenant of Dover-castle under the abovesaid prince. Simon de Crioll was with Edward the first, at his prosperous siege of Carlaverock, and for his generous assistance there, received the order of knighthood, and from him it came down to Sir William Crioll, father to Sir John Crioll, who held it in the beginning of Henry the sixth, as appears, Pat. 9. Hen. 6. par. prim. memb. 19. And from him was it transmitted to his son Sir Thomas Keriell, knight of the garter, a man of that worth and eminence, in that time he lived in, that I might seem something to obscure his glory, if I should not represent to the reader, some of those honorable achievements, which he performed in France, the relation of which I have omitted in my description of Stockbury and Walmer. In the ninth year of Henry the sixth, he being governor of Gournay in Normandy, issued out of that place, and harrassed not only that province, but fought with the earl of Bretagne, who was sent to oppose his eruptions, and after a sharp combat gave him a remarkable discomfiture, killing about six hundred, and capturing two hundred soldiers. In the fifteenth of Henry the sixth, he seized upon the duke of Burgundy's carriages and cannon, leaving Cretoy (a fortress then in possession of the English, and not long before distressed by the abovesaid duke) furnished with victuals for six hundred men, for the space of a twelvemonth. And lastly, in the twenty-seventh year of Henry the sixth, he was sent over into France, with a supply of 1500 men to recruit the English army, where he did as much with so small a quantity of men, as could be expected from human courage, and having reduced some places of strength, he encountered the earl of Clermont at a place called Formigny, where being overlaid with multitudes, after he had given most signal testimony of his valour, and discharged all those duties which might have secured and preserved the honor of the English nation, and the glory of the day, by which he

declared himself to be not only a prudent man, but an expert commander, he was defeated. But to proceed; after the family of Crioll went out from the possession of this place, which was before the latter end of Henry the sixth, John White, Esquire, became lord of the fee, and held it at his death, which was in the ninth year of Edward the fourth; but after his decease it was not long resident in this name; for in the reign of Henry the seventh, and Henry the eighth, I find it the inheritance of Bere, and was fixed in this family, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth; and then it was passed away by sale to Rush, ancestor to Sir Francis Rush, who not many years since concluding in two daughters and co-heirs, one of them by marrying with Sir

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George Wentworth, of Wentworth Woodhouse in Yorkshire, third brother to Sir Thomas Wentworth, late earl of Strafford, hath made it his instant patrimony.

Downebarton is the next place which occurs, and challenges our survey. There was a family surnamed Exeter, that had large possessions at or near this place, and were planted in the tenure of them many centuries of years; in the fourth year of Henry the sixth, Margaret, widow of John Exeter, held land at Downebarton in right of dower, as appears by an inquisition taken after her death, which commences from that time. But the principal honor this place anciently received, was, that it was a manor which fell under the signory of the archbishops of Canterbury, as is manifest by an inquisition taken in the twenty-first of Richard the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 7. which represents to posterity what lands and manors Thomas archbishop of Canterbury held at that time; nor did it depart from the revenue of this see, until the twenty-ninth year of Henry the eighth; and then being exchanged with the crown by Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury, it was granted away to Henry Crispe, Esquire; in which family it was fixed until those times which were circumscribed within the verge of our fathers remembrance, and then it was conveyed to Paramour, from which name, not many years since, the vicissitude of purchase carried it away, and hath now made it part of the demean of Daniel Harvey, of Combe-nevill, in Kingston upon Thames, Esquire.

Quekes in Birchington was the ancient seat of an ancient family which bore that surname, and it had for many descents acknowledged itself to have related to that name; it devolved by paternal descent to John Quekes, who about the beginning of Henry the seventh, expired in a daughter and heir who was married to ..... Crispe, extracted from the Crispes of Oxfordshire, who had flourished there many generations before, (as appears by an old pedigree, now in the hands of Sir Nicholas Crispe of London) under the notion of gentlemen of the best rank; nor did this family wither by being thus transplanted, and inoculated upon a foreign stem, but rather did gather new sap and verdure, which made it so exceedingly sprout forth, that Henry Crispe, Esquire, who was sheriff of Kent in the thirty-eighth of Henry the eighth, and was afterwards honoured with knighthood, did shoot up to that power, and grew so tall in title, that he was in the dialect of those times called *Regulus Insulæ*, or the governor of the isle of Thanet; and from this worthy person, is Henry Crispe, Esquire, heir to Sir Henry Crispe, not long deceased, and now proprietor of Quekes, originally descended.

West-gate in Birchington was wrapped up in that vast demean which was entituled to the possession of the noble and powerful family of Leybourn, of Leybourn-castle. William de Leybourn, son of Roger de Leybourn, held it at his death, which was in the third year of Edward the second, Rot. Esc. Num. 56. and left it to Roger de Leybourn, from whom, with the rest of his diffused patrimony in this county, it came to his only daughter and heir Juliana de Leybourn, first married to John de Hastings, brother or kinsman to Laurence de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, and then to William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, but survived them both, and dying without issue in the forty-third year of Edward the third, she made God her heir in this manor, and gave it to the abby of St. Augustins, and in the patrimony of that cloister did the title of this manor lie locked up, until the general dissolution, in the reign of Henry the eighth, unloosened it, and then linked it again by a new augmentation to the demean of the crown; and then the abovesaid prince, in the thirty-fifth year of his reign, granted it to Sir Thomas Moile, who not long after passed it away to Bere, a family of good account in this island, as being descended from Richard de Bere, who was one of the *recognitores magnæ assisæ* for Kent, in the second year of

king John, as appears by the pipe-roll of that time; and from this name, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth did it by purchase come over to Denne, of Denne-hill, in Kingston, whose successor Mr. Thomas Denne of Denne-hill, reader formerly of the Middle-temple, and recorder of Canterbury, dying lately without issue-male, his four daughters (Thomazin married to Sir Nicholas Crispe, Bridget married to Sir John Darrell of Calehill, Dorothy married to Mr. Roger Lucan, and Mary married to Vincent Denne, Esquire) became his co-heirs, and this upon the division of his estate, augmented the patrimony of Sir Nicholas Crispe.

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Dandelion, in the parish of St. John's, was the seat of a family in elder times called Dent-de-lyon, as appears by divers ancient deeds, some without date, some as high as Edward the first; but about the government of Henry the fourth, the name was melted down, and made more soft and easy, and transplanted into Dandelion, as appears by several deeds of one John Dandelion, which commence from that king's reign, and the reign of Henry the fifth, and he had issue John Dandelion, who about the beginning of Edward the fourth, determined in a daughter and heir, married to Petit of Shalmesford, near Chertham, and lies buried under a fair marble in St. Johns, with a plate of brass (if the barbarity of these times, have not ravished it away) affixed to it, designing the time of his death; and by a right fortified and made firm, from this alliance, does this ancient seat now acknowledge the signory of Mr. Henry Petit.

Nash-court, in the parish abovesaid, was anciently the possession of the Garwintons, of whom I have spoken at Bekesbourn, where was their capital mansion, and went along with the interest of this family, until William Garwinton, the last of this name, dying without issue, in the eleventh year of Henry the fourth, bequeathed this and much other land to Richard Haut, who had married Joan his nearest kinswoman and heir general of the family; and he left it to his son Richard Haut, who left only one daughter called Margery, who was his heir, and she by marrying with William Isaack made it parcel of his inheritance; and in memory of this alliance, the windows of this mansion, are in several pannels of glass adorned with the arms of Haut and Isaack, and near them are placed the arms of William Warham, archbishop of Canterbury, impaled with those of his see; for of him, and his predecessors did this mansion hold. After Isaack was gone out, which was about the latter end of Henry the eighth, the Lincolnes by purchase became lords of the fee, and held it until the midst of the reign of queen Elizabeth; and then it was passed away for some courtesies obtained by the heir of this family, to Sir Roger Manwood chief baron of the exchequer; and his son Sir Peter Manwood alienated it in our fathers memory to Cleybrook, from whom it descended to his son Mr. William Cleybrook, who upon his decease left it to his widow Mrs. Sarah Cleybrook, re-married to George Somner slain at Wye-bridge, in the year 1648, and now lastly to Mr. James Newman, and after her decease the reversion to his kinsman Mr. Alexander Northwood and his heirs.

Dene and Hengrove are two manors circumscribed likewise within the precincts of St. Johns, and were involved in the spreading demean of the powerful family of Leybourn, as appears by a solemn inquisition taken after the decease of William de Leybourn, who died possessed of them in the third year of Edward the second, and from whom they came to his grandchild, Juliana sole heir of Roger de Leybourn, who having no issue, in the forty-third year of Edward the third, either by John de Hastings, or William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, constituted the abby of St. Augustins, her heir to both these places, (a more certain inheritor than any loose unthrift in the devout estimate of those times) with this clause annexed, that the brotherhood of that convent, should pray for the souls of John de Hastings, Laurence de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, John de Hastings, his son, and lastly for that of William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon; which grant of hers was confirmed (as appears by Thorne the chronicler of St. Augustins, lately printed) by Edward the third, in the year 1363, and it is probable that those two chapels, which the fabulous tradition of the island is, were erected at the two abovesaid places, by two virgins, were built by the beforementioned Juliana, for two chauntry priests, to celebrate mass for the souls of her two deceased husbands. But to proceed; upon the suppression of the abby of St. Augustins, by Henry the eighth, these two manors being united to the demean of the crown, the fee-simple was lodged in the

royal patrimony, until king James in the beginning of his reign, granted them to Mr. William Salter, who demised them to Mr. Manasser Norwood, whose grandchild Mr. Alexander Norwood, for ought I know, is yet the proprietor of them.

Salmeston is the last place of account in St. Johns, and did belong, as appears by a quo warranto, cited at large in the late printed chronicle of Thorne, to the abby of St. Augustins, in the year 1362, and remained treasured up in the demean of that convent, until its final suppression, in the reign of Henry the eighth, and then being rent

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away from the church, it was by a new settlement enstated again upon the church, being granted by the abovesaid prince, in the twenty-ninth of his rule, unto Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, and is at present held in lease for life, by the lady Mary St. Leger, widow of Warham St. Leger, who had it in exchange when he passed away the manors of Bersted and Leeds castle, to Sir Thomas Colepeper of Hollingbourne.

Fleet is a place of account which is situated partly in the parish of St. Johns, and partly in St. Peters, and was the inheritance, in ages of a very high extraction, of a family who were written in Latin records de Fleta, and were planted here, as appears by their dateless deeds, about the reign either of king John, or Henry the third. And when in times of a more modern inscription, they began to seal with coats of arms, appendant to private muniments and evidences, I find the paternal coat of this family, to have been chequee ..... upon a canton, a lion rampant ..... which still lies registered in all old ordinaries and alphabets of arms, and other ancient rolls and records of the Kentish gentry; but as all families have their ebings and vicissitudes, so had this; for in our fathers memory, one of this family expired in a daughter and heir, who was married to Philipott; and in our memory another of this name concluded in two females, married to Smith and Pomflet, and so the ancient patrimony of Fleet, being thus crumbled into parcels, is now divided between these three families.

Dane-court is another seat of good antiquity, and is placed likewise in St. Peters; it afforded both seat and surname to a family called Dane, who bore for their coat armour gules four flower de lis, or. But the custom of gavelkind having split this family into two branches, and consequently rent the estate into two parcels, one of these branches withered away, before the end of Henry the fourth, and went out in a daughter and heir called Margaret, married to John Exeter, and she by paternal right held some lands here at Dane-court, at her decease, which was in the fourth year of Henry the sixth. But the other branch of this family, flourished something longer; for about the latter end of Henry the sixth, John Dane, the last of this family at this place, determined in a sole daughter and heir, who was married to Denne of Den-hill, who had in her right Dane-court, but possessed not long his new acquisitions, for about the latter end of Edward the fourth, I find it the Norwoods; from whom in the channel of successive interest the title flowed down to Mr. Alexander Northwood, who hath lately alienated all his concern in it to Mr. .... Smith.

Ellington is an ancient seat in the parish of St. Lawrence, which was the residence many ages since, of a family called Ellington, some of which lay buried under very ancient gravestones, in this church of St. Lawrence, with inscriptions too upon them, as Mr. Sprackling not long since deceased informed me; but the injuries of time and barbarous hands, have now so violated those remembrances, that even the memory of this family, were it not for private evidences which still preserve life in it, would have found a tomb in oblivion, as well as their ashes; but to proceed, after this family had been fixed here for many descents, about the latter end of Edward the fourth, it vanished away from this place, being succeeded in the possession by Thatcher, a family of high antiquity, as to the name, both here in Thanet, and at Canterbury. For in the crown office, I discover, as the record is cited by Mr. Somner in his survey of that city, page 77, that a disastrous accident brought an untimely fate to one of this name; for Simon the son of Adam de Colynham, and Henry the son of Henry Thetcher, in the seventeenth year of king Edward, son of Edward the king, that is (Edward the second, son of Edward the first) were sitting in a place beneath the ground, at Monksdane, near Canterbury, and were preparing of lime stones, quos per infortunium terra supercidit, ita quod corpora eorum conquassabantur, unde moriebantur incontinerter, says the Latin roll; that is, the earth sunk in upon

them, and crushed them into the disorders of an early sepulchre. But to return, as this seat had rested in this name, until the beginning of queen Elizabeth; it was passed away to Spracklin, and remains part of the demeane of Mr. .... Spracklin, fellow of Peterhouse in Cambridge at this instant.

Manston is another ancient seat in St. Laurence, which was the inheritance of Manston for many generations. Richard de Manston, as I find by the bundles of  
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uncertain years, kept in the pipe-office, was one of the recognitores magnæ assisæ in the time of king John; from whence we may conjecture, that even in those times of so high an ascent, this family was under no narrow or contemptible character or reputation. In latter times, that is, in the fourteenth year of Henry the sixth, I find William Manston was sheriff of Kent, and held his shrievalty, at this place; and he had issue Nicholas Manston, who married with Eleanor, only daughter of Edmund Haut, Esquire, and had issue Julian his sole heir, who was married to Thomas St. Nicholas of Thorn, in the parish of Minster in Thanet, which seat accrued to his grandfather, by the heir of Sir John Goshall. This Thomas St. Nicholas died in the year 1474, and by his last will recorded in the prerogative at Canterbury, he disposes his body to be buried before the image of St. Nicholas, in the chancel of Thorn at Minster, and Roger St. Nicholas was his son and heir, who determined in a daughter and heir called Elizabeth, married to John Dynley of Worcestershire; whose successor, about the latter end of queen Elizabeth, conveyed his right in Manston, Powcies, (which likewise was annexed to the revenue of St. Nicholas by the heir of Goshall) and Thorne in Minster, to Sir John Roper, afterwards created baron of Tenham, by king James, whose great grandchild, the lord Christopher Roper, does still enjoy Manston and Thorne, but Powcies is lately passed away by sale to Edward Monings, of Waldershare, baronet.

Upper-court is a third place in St. Laurence, which may exact our notice, because it augmented the demeane for many generations, of the illustrious family of Crioll, of whom I have spoken before in Sarre, and remained parcel of their inheritance, until the latter end of Henry the sixth; and then it was passed away by Sir Thomas Crioll, to John White, Esquire, and he died possessed of it in the ninth year of Edward the fourth; but before the latter end of Henry the seventh, the possession of this place had deserted this name, and was cast by sale into the revenue of Bere, and was constant to their signory, until almost the times which bordered upon our fathers remembrance, and then it was by sale conveyed to Johnson, in which family it is at this instant resident.

Nether-court is the last seat in St. Laurence, which calls for our remembrance; it was in times of an elder inscription wrapt up in the inheritance of the ancient and knightly family of Goshall, of Goshall in Ash, and continued in their possession until the reign of Henry the fourth, and then this family going out in a daughter and heir, she by espousing St. Nicholas, made it come to acknowledge the signory of that family, and was permanent in their name, until the latter end of Henry the seventh, and then a vicissitude proportionate to the former, made it parcel of the demeane of John Dynley, of the county of Worcester, Esquire, who married with Elizabeth, sole heir to Roger St. Nicholas, and remained united to their interest until the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, and then the right this family held in it, was by sale transplanted into Maycott; from whom, not long after, the same devolution brought it to Lucas, where after some small abode, the title discarded that name, and came by purchase to own John Anthony for proprietor; and he in our fathers memory passed it away to Mr. .... Johnson, in whose descendants the jurisdiction and possession of this mansion remains still concentrated.

Minster is an eminent manor which anciently belonged to the abbey of St. Augustins, being fenced in, and invested with several franchises, and signal immunities; and when king Canutus translated the body of St. Mildred to Canterbury, and deposited it in a peculiar shrine in the chapel of St. Augustin's abbey, a draught of which is represented to the readers view, in Somners survey of Canterbury, this manor with all those appendages (which like so many limbs, made up the body of that demeane, which supported the cloister of St. Mildred, as namely the manors of St. Johns, St. Peters, and St. Laurence) was translated by that prince likewise, and united by his confirmation, to the abbey of St. Augustins. But how both Minster

and those other manors abovesaid, came originally to be the ecclesiastical patrimony, shall be now my task to discover.

Egbert or Egbricht, the third christian king of Kent, after Ethelbert had by a tacit consent or connivance, permitted one Thunner, to paddle in the blood of his two kinsmen; or, as William of Malmesbury will have it, his brothers called Ethelbert and Etheldred, persons of a pregnant hope (who like two early stars, as soon as they

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began to glitter and shine, fell suddenly into umbrage, and were hid and eclipsed, with their ruins;) he to assoil his hands from those stains, this murder might seem to have bespattered them with, and to make some recompence or expiation for so barbarous and clandestine an assassination, made an Herodian-oath, that he would give Domneva, mother of these slaughtered innocents, whatsoever she would demand of him; and she, biased and warped by the advice of the monkish counsellors of those times, asked of him as much ground to endow an abby with, as a tame deer, which she had nourished, could run over at a breath; to which the king had immediately consented had not one Timor opposed their design, saying, it was too great a boon for her to ask, or for him to grant, upon which the earth opened, (says Thorne, the fabulous chronicler of St: Augustins) and swallowed him up, and became both his grave and executioner; and the place where he sunk in, was (as the abovesaid author asserts) until the reign of Richard the second, which was the time he lived in, called Timors-leap Well. The king amazed with this stupendous accident, assented to her demand, and the deer being let loose ran forty-eight ploughlands over, before it desisted.

And thus Domneva, by the aid and concurrence of the king, erected within the precincts of Minster, a monastery for veiled nuns, over which she constituted Mildred the first abbess, who was daughter to Wolfehere king of Mercia; and she gathered to her assistance an assembly of seventy virgins, who being desirous to renounce the world, were here veiled for nuns, by Theodorus then archbishop of Canterbury. And it seems this Mildred was a virgin of that austere, regular, and inculpable life, in the vogue and verdict of those cloudy times, that her name is registered in the calender of English saints, and had that title attributed to her, both whilst her body lay at Minster, and after its translation to St. Austins. He that will survey the bed-roll of her miracles recorded at large (one of which was, that when the Danes in the reign of king Etheldred, harrassed this island, and put this cloister at Minster into a heap of flame and ruins, her body remained entire, amidst the embraces and scorplings of that devouring and ravenous element) let him read Thorne lately printed, and the book called Nova Legenda Angliæ; and when he hath done, he will find that wise men will laugh, not in applause, but in contempt of such religious romances. But I return to Minster, which, as I said before, being transplanted into the patrimony of St. Augustins by Canutus Hugh, the abbot of that cloister, to rescue this town from that decay which menaced it, upon the removal of the body of St. Mildred, in the year 1116, obtained from Henry the first, a charter to hold a market weekly at his manor of Minster, which by disuse and intermission, shrunk into neglect and oblivion; but the greatest blow which was given to it, was the final suppression of the abovesaid abby; and then it was rent from that convent, and came to own the signory of the crown, and was lodged in its revenue, until the ninth year of king James, and then it was with the appendant manors of St. Johns, St. Peters, and St. Laurence, granted to Sir Philip Cary, and John Williams, Esquire, whose sons and heirs Sir John Williams, and John Cary, Esquire, do now divide the inheritance of it.

Sheriffs-court, in this parish (but more anciently stiled in old records Sheriffs-hope) was the possession of Reginald de Cornhill, who had the custody of this county so long, that it was almost hereditary to him; so that he lost his own name, and assumed that of le Sheriff; from whence this place borrowed the appellation of Sheriffs-hope; but this could not so fence-in the title or chain the possession to this family, but that about the beginning of Edward the third, it came to confess the Corbies for proprietors; and Robert de Corbie held it at his death, which was in the thirtieth of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 9, and had issue Robert Corbie, in whom the male line was wound up, so that Joan his daughter and heir, by marrying with Sir Nicholas Wotton, twice lord mayor of London, annexed it to the demeanor of that family, and from him did the title by an unintercepted current of descent,

glide down to Thomas lord Wotton, who settled it in marriage upon his eldest daughter Katharine Wotton, married to the lord Henry Stanhop; and she, not many years since, conveyed it by sale to Mr. Henry Paramour, lately deceased, brother to Mr. Thomas Paramour, now lord of the fee.

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Monkton is a manor, that almost from the first infancy of christianity in this island, was wrapped up in that demean, which was under the signory of the monks of Christ-church in Canterbury, and, as the book of Christ-church informs me, was given to that church by Ediva or Edgiva, mother of Edmund, and Eadred or Edred, both kings, in the year 961. And if you will see how it was rated in the conquerors time, the pages of Doomsday-book will inform you. Monkton (says that register) est manerium monachorum sanctæ Trinitatis (that is Christchurch) & est de cibo eorum, & in tempore Edwardi Regis, se defendebat pro XX sullingis, & nunc se defendebat pro X & VIII, & est appretiatum XIIlb. This upon the surrender of the patrimony of Christ-church by the monks of that cloister, into the hands of Henry the eighth, in the twenty ninth year of his reign, was by him not long after, enstated on his new erected dean and chapter of Christ-church, and continued until these times, annexed to their revenue.

Monkton had liberty to keep a market weekly, which was obtained by grant from Henry the sixth, in the seventeenth year of his rule, by John Salisbury then prior of Christ-church.

Stonar is the last place to be taken notice of in this island, and although it be a parish now without inhabitants, and a member of the cinque-ports belonging to Sandwich, and hath not enough left of its former buildings, to direct you to its original situation; yet was it formerly a haven-town, and had a fair held there yearly five days together, before the feast of the translation of St. Austin, which was granted to this place in the year 1104. In the reign of William Rufus, about the year 1090, there arose a suit in law, between the Londoners and the abbot of St. Augustins, (to whom this manor was given, with the residue of that revenue, which belonged to the nunnery at Minster by king Canutus, upon the translation of the body of St. Mildred to that cloister) as touching the right of the haven of Stonar, wherein by the favourable aid of the prince, the citizens (as Spot, chronicler to that abby, reports) had the overthrow. But the utter ruin and subversion of the town, happened in the year 1385, about the ninth of Richard the second, at which time the French with 18 sail of gallies, designing to infest the maritime parts of Kent, landed and laid this town of Stonar in ashes, which ever since hath found a sepulchre in its own rubbish, and accuses the bad government of Sir Simon de Burley, the then lord warden of the cinque ports, and constable of Dover-castle, as chief author thereof. For when his demands were utterly refused and denied, and not suffered to have the inestimable ornaments and riches of St. Thomas Becket's shrine, and the jewels of St. Augustins removed to Dover castle, upon pretence of safe keeping them there, then he grew slack and remiss in securing the sea-coast, and isle of Thanet, so that when the abbot of St. Augustins had raised a considerable strength of his tenants about Northburn, and, bending towards the island, endeavoured to have passed over at Sandwich, Sir Simon de Burley would not permit him, so that he was constrained by a long and tedious march all night, to go about by Fordwich and Sturry into the island, and made such vigorous resistance, that the enemies fled to their gallies, without doing any farther prejudice to the islanders. Then Sir Simon procures the king to send out his mandate under the great seal of England, requiring all that had lands, or belonged to Sandwich, to be commorant there, and to find competent arms, according to the quality of their estates and faculties, upon pain of imprisonment, and forfeiture of all they had to lose; and sends in the king's name to the abbot to remove with his forces from Thanet, to the guard of Sandwich, as a place of more importance; but the abbot (saith Thorne that continued the chronicle of Spot) neither astonished with the power of the enemy, nor seduced with the inticements, or terrified with the menaces of the traitor Burley, remained in the island to defend his own and his tenants possessions. After this, there is nothing observable at this place, until the suppression of the abby of St. Austins, and the resignation of its revenue, into the hands of Henry the eighth, when this manor with the rest of their demean, having improved the patrimony of the crown, it was in the fourth and fifth of Philip and Mary, granted to Nicholas Crispe, Esquire, from



whom it is now descended to Mr. Nicholas Crispe his successor, the instant lord of the fee.

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There was in elder times a guard assigned for the security of the passage between Sandwich and Stonar; for I find that Edward the second granted William Turke for life in the seventh year of his reign, the passage between Stonar and Sandwich, and the perquisites and emoluments emergent from it; which grant was in the eighteenth year of that prince, renewed by patent, and invested for life, with all its adherences, in Ralph St. Laurence of the isle of Thanet. And then again in the thirteenth year of Edward the third, I find that prince grants John Giboun, marmorario suo, (those are the words in the Latin record, but what they import in English, I confess I am ignorant of) the profits of the passage between Sandwich and Stonar, for the defence and protection of it.

I shall wind up this discourse, with informing the reader, that the chiefest scenes both of war and peace, have laid in or near this island. Rutupis or Richborough on the opposite shore, was an eminent fortress of the Romans, and the first presidary station that antiquity represents them to have erected within Britain. When Hengist arrived with his Saxons, to support the harrassed and afflicted Britons, against the eruptions of the Picts, he first landed in this island, and when his forces were broken by Vortimer at the battle of Alresford, he made Thanet his retreat and shelter; when Austin the monk arrived here in England with the light of truth, to dispel the mists of paganism and infidelity, and disseminate the christian religion amongst the Saxons, he found his first reception in this island. How often the Danes made Thanet a winter station for their natives, when they made their barbarous impressions on the maritime coasts of this nation, I think our chronicles do sufficiently inform us. And lastly, when Lewis the Dauphin was called in by the mutinous English barons, to assert their quarrel with additional supplies against king John, he laid the first scene of that war in this island, which he afterwards scattered on the face of this unhappy nation.

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<C.F. August 2011>